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Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD

OF

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOLUME II.

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THE

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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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OUR CHARITIES.

THE importance and magnitude of the Masonic Charities must be our excuse for again returning to the subject. It cannot be too widely known to the outer world, as well as to the brethren, that the practical work of the Order is assuming gigantic proportions. Some theorists, indeed, who, it is needless to say, are not Masons, have ventured to question the propriety of relieving the distressed and the afflicted. The views of Malthus and his followers are not, however, regarded as of any importance by the Fraternity. We are not likely, in these days, when great practical results can be shown as the sum of the labour of years, to turn aside from the watchwords of the Order to study crude theories which have never had much fascination for the English people generally. We notice that during the past ten years £148,949 has been subscribed for the maintenance of the Institutions for Boys and Girls, and in the same period £66,500 has been contributed towards the support of the Benevolent Institution. These facts speak for themselves, and they go far to prove that English Masonry is intensely practical, and truly benevolent. During these eventful ten years hundreds of friendless children have been fed, clothed and educated, and thousands of aged or unfortunate brothers have received help which has never had the effect of pauperising the recipient. We observed, with some regret, that although, at his installation, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales laid great and very proper stress upon the watchwords of the Order, yet at the banquet which followed, the Masonic Charities were not included in the programme of the toasts. The omission probably was a mere slip, but it was an unfortunate one. The eyes of the world were fixed upon the distinguished persons who were gathered around His Royal Highness, and a few words in response to the toast of the Charities, detailing their action, and summing up the magnificent results which we have referred to above, would have been carried to the ends of the earth. It is, however, useless to dwell upon this little slip, however acutely some of the most active workers in the cause of Masonry may have felt it at the time. We are satisfied to dwell upon the fact that our Charities possess such enormous inherent vitality that they do not require to be advertised. Masons are not incited to give by the fascinations of a prosperous balance sheet, and, unlike some of the donors whose names figure in the lists of ordinary benevolent institutions, they care little or nothing for the false glory of publicity. Yet when a legitimate opportunity occurs for the display of the results of years of active work and anxious thought, they are not so priggish as to desire to hide their light under a bushel.

We ought, in justice to two zealous and worthy officers, to notice that the marked increase in the revenues of the Girls' School and the Benevolent Institution has been coincident with the appointment of Bro. Little to the Secretaryship of the former, and Bro. Terry to that of the latter. These gentlemen have spared no efforts to improve the Charities to which they have devoted their energies, and, for our part, we regret that some honorary mark of distinction has not been conferred upon them in recognition of their zeal. Some of our brethren had suggested that these officers should be representatives of Grand Lodge, and we confess that we were somewhat surprised that, on the appointment of officers in April last, they were passed over. It is indeed argued that no paid officer should have a seat in Grand Lodge. The rule may be a wise one, but in so far as it is practically adopted it strikes a blow at one of the cherished principles of Masonry—Equality. Every Mason is, theoretically at least, on a footing of perfect equality with his brothers. But if the practice of Grand Lodge is to be regarded as a fundamental rule for the guidance of its business, we shall be constrained to confess that our equality has its limits, and we shall be compelled to regard paid officers somewhat in the light of servants, and, therefore, of inferiors. We think it rather unfortunate that Grand Lodge should have imposed any limits upon its freedom of action. It is unfortunate, to say the least of it, to raise a question as to the status of any member of the Order, but when eminent Masons are excluded from honorary rank because they are salaried officials, the policy which has prompted such exclusion is likely to produce some little discontent. The assumption, that an energetic Secretary, such as Bro. Little or Bro. Terry, can be adequately remunerated by mere money payment, is purely gratuitous. Enthusiasm and zeal for the cause such men have at heart can only be fairly recognised by such honorary rewards as Grand Lodge has to bestow, and with the greatest deference and respect for our chiefs, we venture to express a hope that a rule which is likely to cause some heart-burning may be re-considered.

THE THERAPEUTÆ AND JEWISH ASCETICS.

(FROM THE FRENCH OF J. L. LAURENS.)

WHILE the Essenes were fervently enthusiastic, they were, nevertheless, very scrupulous in their choice of adepts; very formal, and even austere in their ceremonies of initiation, terrible in their receptions. With them the door must be closed against low and vulgar folk, firmness and a certain energy were indispensable, and it was necessary these qualities should have been exhibited ere any one was admitted into their order. It was only owing to a strict observance of this delicacy, and to exercising such discretion in the choice of members, that the Essenes so rarely saw vice enrolled among them. By such wise and salutary precautions it was that virtue found itself invariably the sole companion of virtue. It was this elevation of thought which rendered them so strong, and enabled them to exercise so firm a control over their passions, that they became immovably stedfast amid all human vicissitudes, inaccessible to fear and the common frailties of man. Such is the picture which Josephus and Philo have handed down to us of this sect.

But it matters not to what height of moral dignity a man may arrive, what is only the work of this world can never attain that stability which is only to be met with in institutions of divine origin. In spite of the purity of man's intentions, human weakness becomes, sooner or later, apparent, even in the most finished of his works. Time, that absolute master of this world, impresses its penetrating and distinctive mark on whatever is submitted to its control. Soon the zeal of the Essenians diminished, the spirit of proselytism took the place of scrupulous care in initiating members, and the desire to increase the number of initiates introduced a blind facility, which opened the door to the enemies of the pure system of the Essenes. Already a diversity of views was at hand, and threatening the very foundations of that respectable body, and the original unity of principles disappeared before the tumult of

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pretensions and self love. This is what gave rise to so strange a revolution.

Those among the Jews of Egypt, whom the spirit of commerce had kept in the great cities, had made themselves famous by their knowledge of calculation, and by their commercial ventures. To the administration of corn at Alexandria, and of the tolls on the Nile, they united every kind of business and of trade. Their love of wealth had stifled in them every feeling of sensibility and delicacy, their possession of various monopolies, and the most crying exactions had become familiar to them. Public hatred aroused itself against them; soon the complaints of the people burst forth with violence, and they thus incurred the indignation of Ptolemy Philometor, who drove them from all those employments which they had so seriously damaged by conduct irregular and even indecent. Proscribed by a prince whose protection had been so serviceable to them, detested of the people, all the sources of their fortune were exhausted, public odium and misery became their lot. In this time of humiliation and distress, impostnre and hypocrisy, the common resources of wickedness and knavery, seemed to them the readiest means for recovering what they had lost by their misconduct. Witnessing the virtues of the Essenes, jealously eager to share with them that consideration and respect to which the latter had earned so just a title, they resolved to adopt their system, and even to surpass them in reputation. A life in common and retired, macerations, continual praying and all those external practices which delude people who are ready to be deluded, all these were put in force by those hypocrites whom history has named Therapeutæ, and whom Josephus and Philo, and after them M. Pinquet, has confounded with the Essenes properly so-called, but improperly, for the two widely differ from each other. The latter were purely philosophers, whose aims were directed towards moral perfection, and only looked to outward practices to a just and proper extent, while the former, entirely strangers to spiritual thoughts and moral perfection, assumed an outward austerity only, so that they might the better impose on those credulous people whose suffrages they hoped to secure.

What rendered the Therapeutæ celebrated was their manner, till then unknown, of interpreting the Bible—an interpretation which contained the most extraordinary, and even preternatural revelations, and all those reserves which have given rise to that cabala, the source of those errors and illusions, whose sole merit among men has consisted in flattering the imagination, and in extending the dominion of hope, that grand moving force of the world, without which man would only find nothingness in the current of his ideas. Magicians, astrologers, and, above all, daring impostors, the Therapeutæ, brought back the remembrance of that famous science, the aim of which is the creation of that metal which has caused so many crimes, and stifled so much virtue; of, in one word, that science, the end of which is a grand problem that has occupied all speculative philosophers, and which still troubles the deluded minds of men destined to nobler occupations.

But far from studying that science by fixed and regulated principles, the Therapeutæ confined their secret operations to the mysterious use of vague words, to prayers superstitiously contrived, and to strange customs, which, by the magic clothing with which they know so well to embellish them, were capable of attracting and deluding the multitude, so naturally prone to credulity. Such was their sole aim, and it is not surprising that they were much sought after. People are always sure to excite admiration, and bend the minds of others to their own purposes, when to intense effrontery they can unite the art of knowing how to impose by the hope of something which excites others' cupidity, especially when that hope is sustained by means of illusions the cause of which is hidden. Thus the Therapeutæ succeeded in eclipsing the Essenes, and in causing the esteem in which their virtues and philosophy were held to be lost sight of. Some of these latter, deceived by fictitious appearances, found themselves happy in being associated in the labours of the former. Error was preferred by some men, either weak-minded or naturally disposed to corruption, and the defection of the Essenes would have been complete if truth had not made its stern voice heard, and had not rejected, with the energy of conviction, these dangerous innovations of error and of vice. Hence that schism between the Essenes and those of their brethren who had lent a ready ear to the silly, but seductive, teachings of the Therapeutæ; hence that rivalry between the two Orders, which, by nourishing their differences, shocked the wise and temperate maxims of the one, and made them almost forgotten, while, on the other, it conferred a certain reputation on the errors of the other.

Those revolutions which unceasingly agitate the world, those passing changes which unite and divide men, eventually confounded the Essenes with the Therapeutæ, so far as their establishment of sects, but it is certain that the philosophy of the Essenes triumphed over all these agitations. There is no doubt it preserved itself in all its purity, for the truth is unchangeable. Probably that philosophy which the Essenes had derived from the priests of ancient Egypt, those usages, and practices which formed its allegorical emblem, these have survived all those political disorders which have so long desolated the world, which have been dissolved and renewed at the same time, those different associations which are destined to perpetuate its remembrance, and hand down knowledge of it.

The Therapeutæ disappeared in a manner of which history renders no account. They were succeeded by the Ascetics, that is, by a kind of Jewish monks, who, though devoted to a purely contemplative life, preserved amongst them opinions which suffice to prove they had received from the Egyptian priests and Essenes that spirit of true philosophy which neither new dogmas nor even superstitions had been wholly able to denaturalise. Christian monks succeeded in turn to the Jewish Ascetics. The Bishop of Siout, according to M. de P——, author of "A Voyage in Egypt," showed the traveller Vansleb the ruins of a Coptic monastery, where, he said, three hundred and sixty monks were devoted to seeking, without rest, for the "philosopher's stone."

I shall not stop to inquire if the assertion of the Bishop of Siout is correct—it is, in fact, very unimportant to learn what was the nature of the occupation followed by these three hundred and sixty Coptic monks. But what is, historically, more important to know is, that these Coptic monks, who exist in Egypt even in the present day, are the immediate successors of the Egyptian priests and Essenes. This connecting link having been established so clearly, it is evident the spirit and philosophy of these priests and Essenes are not lost, seeing that these different bodies have been continued by an unbroken succession till the present day.

SOME STATISTICS OF FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

ACCORDING to *Le Monde Maçonnique*, the Grand Orient of France has just published a calendar for the past year, from which it appears that there are 308 Lodges and other Masonic bodies which owe it allegiance. These are Lodges 260, Chapters 35, Councils 11, Consistory 1, Grand Council 1. They are distributed as follows: In Paris there are 41 Lodges, 6 Chapters, 2 Councils, and the Grand College of Rites. In the Department of the Seine are 8 Lodges, and in the other Departments 70 Lodges, 19 Chapters, and 6 Councils. Algeria comprises within its limits 9 Lodges, 1 Chapter, and 1 Council. In the French colonies are 8 Lodges, and 3 Chapters, while in foreign countries there are 24 Lodges, 6 Chapters, 2 Councils, and 1 Consistory, which are under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of France.

SPENCER'S GREAT LIBRARY.

SECOND NOTICE.

THE first authors who expressed clear ideas upon Freemasonry, says Dr. Findel, were *Lessing* in "*Ernst und Falck*," *Herder*, *Fichte—Einsichten des 19ten Jahrhunderts*, *Krause*, *Fessler*, *Funkhänel*, *Marbach and Seydel*. The works of all these authors are, we believe, presented to us in due order by Messrs. Sotheby, and even all the editions of their works. *Krause's Drei Urkunden*, *Mossdorf's*, *Matthelsungen and Lessing's Encyclopedia* are all become scarce, and the valuable *Materialien of Schröder* is a bargain of the past. In lot 183 we find, with surprise, the author's own copy of the *Acta Latomorum* and its reputed third vol. the *Histoire de la fondation du Grand Orient*, the former having proof etchings in various stages of preparation. Of *Monitors* and *Manuals* published in the U.S. there is a goodly show, comprising *Hardie's*, *Town's*, *Townshill's*, *Webb's*, &c. That first scarce and valuable edition of the *Signsdstern* in lot

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164, appears with 1 vol. wanting (erroneously catalogued, we are informed, as 2 wanting). Bro. Spencer informs us that a *complete* series of these rare vols., each a work in itself, has never passed through his hands. *Hall'sistell's Early History*, lot 220, now seldom to be picked up at half-a-guinea. The *Memoir of Sir James Burrow* (the generous knight whose memory is yet green in India), together with his *Addresses*, has not been sold for many a day. A useful book of reference is the *Calendrier pour les Hauts Grades* (lot 222), and we note a fine copy of *Rschellini de Schio's* Theory of Masonry, with its beautiful and erudite plates in lot 225. In lots 226 and 233 the investigator may learn something of the so-called *Egyptian Rite of Misraim*, in lot 236 that of *Memphis*. Two useful works of *Rodarte'* in lot 229, and Dr. Kloss' valuable histories in lot 232, next meet our eye, but we must not pass without notice a rare tract, interesting to Irish Masons, in lot 230. The scarce writings of that unprincipled charlatan, *Finch*, crop up next, and then we come to the unrivalled series of our *Constitutions*.

Comment upon these is needless, in booksellers' retail price-lists we have seen some of them figuring at £3 3s, £2 10s and £3 3s, perhaps indifferent copies at even that, whereas these are selected from those which have passed through Bro. Spencer's hands. The *Masonic Benefit Society* (lot 254) we do not remember to have heard of before, though there are some tickets, we believe, connected with it, among the scrap books at the end of the sale. The old folio, *Rules and Orders of the Antients*, we never saw before this occasion; they are real historical mementos of a dissidence which, we trust, may never recur in this country. The *MS. Bye Laws and Songs of White's Lodge, Gibraltar* (held by the Royal Tyrone's), show the members to have been of a free and easy sort, in a manner which can find no parallel at the present day. Our American brethren will doubtless make a bid for the early *Constitutions of Worcester (Mass.)*, and for that of S. Carolina (lot 278), of which Charlestown, S.C., would seem to be the legitimate home. Lot 281 is composed, we should imagine, of works as rare as any in the list—a series of the early *Statutes of the G.O. of France*. We regard it as a great prize. Hardly less so is the quarto, *Constitutions of the Hague*, 1735. The following lots, down to 292, are all rare—seldom brought together on one shelf. What shall we say of lot 294—Editions of the *Pocket Companion*? Singly, they are for the most part scarce enough, and as a series, certainly have never been matched before. Another curious *Collection of Masons' Marks* is in lot 316. *Fisch's Initiation à la Philosophie de la F.M.* (lot 326) was discontinued after the first vol. It contains highly-illuminated plates of the insignia of the first degrees of almost every rite, and would have been the greatest Masonic Manual of Ritual ever produced. The accounts of the *Grand Masters' Lodge*, of the *Lodge of Friendship*, and of the *Lodge of Emulation*, with their interesting biographies and historical notes, are not generally procurable, having been printed for circulation among the members only.

Lot 338 begins the collections of *Masonic Speeches, Charges*, &c. from 1744, including a sermon to the African Lodge, Boston, relative to which Lodge there is other matter elsewhere. Of the enthusiastic *Lodges in Paris*, during the reign of Napoleon I., there is a series of historic mementoes. *Bye-laws* (lot 365) are interesting, and, of course, exceedingly scarce. There is a capital series of *the Proceedings of the Grand Orient of France* from 1802, with lists of Grand Officers, &c. from 1822. About twenty volumes, with a large collection unbound, of *Proceedings of Grand bodies* in the U.S.A. next follow, and lot 386 is an unrivalled (except by Grand Lodge, London) collection of the communications of the Grand Lodge of England, including many pieces of both Ancients and Moderns before the Union, from 1795. These ought to go to the library of some foreign Grand Lodge. A very rare book is in lot 412—*Hoy's Templaria. The Round Church of Little Maplestead*, and *Burne's Knights Templars*, are now both scarce, the latter valuable. Lot 418 ushers in the chemico-theosophic mystic books of the mediæval Rosycrucians, with *Baruch's* rare and curious *Domus Dei*, 1611. Various editions appear of the *Fama*, *Andreæ's Chemical Wedding*, &c. The tracts which follow are well known to Rosicrucian bibliophiles, though many of them by repute only. Lot 428 (two bound in one), from the library of the Duke of Sussex, is, if possible, scarcer than the foregoing, and a better printed, handsomer work: even so lot 430. We note next works of *Starkey, Fludd, Böhmen, Heydon, Richard the Englishman*, and the *paradoxical discourses of the great Van Helmont, Gemma Magica, Aula Lucis*, the *Golden Fleece, Key to the Art of Zoroaster*, Herr Mogenis' Spagyric Apocalypis, spagyric fountain and magical firestaff arrest attention and excite our covetousness, though dissertations on the meaning of comets make us smile. The gem of the following lots is 450; this is very seldom met with in a complete state, and we have seen it, without the allegorical introduction, realise £3 3s. It consists of numerous folio coloured plates, which show, in a remarkable manner, the sources whence compilers of the "hauts grades" derived their symbolism, only that the latter appear devoid of a hidden meaning, which we believe we can detect in those under review. It concludes with rude out and mystical metrical commentary of the great *Emerald tablet*, which few men living know to be the sum of a knowledge of natural philosophy, in which the ancients were certainly not behind the moderns. Amongst ancient commentators on this tablet were men who understood animal magnetism, and who anticipated Darwin in expounding the "origin of species."

In lot 454 we find one of the books of the most famous Compagnia della Lesina, which flourished at Venice early in the 17th century, whose object was the reformation of morals by means of a Masonic speculative system, the details of which were, we believe, not disclosed. Many curious details concerning the customs of the Jews and the speculative application of their Temple and Tabernacle may be picked up from Godwyn's and Gregory's works, in lots 455 and 456. The controversy upon the *Eastward position in worship* (lot 457) comes à propos at the present time; in these tracts, 150 years ago, it was exhaustively discussed. Masonic symbolism dug out of the hieroglyphics and secret writings of the ancients is expounded in the following lots (458 to 477.) Many of these works are extraordinarily scarce, and will fetch a capital price, without reference to Masonic bidders, especially *Taylor's* and *Ouseley's Eleusinia*, *Newton's 3 Enigmas*, *Higgin's Celtic Druids*, *Dalloway's Discourses*, and *O'Brien's Round Towers*; not less useful and interesting are *Schumacher's Works* (lot 458), *Costa Repos*, *Mesmonicus*, *Mystères de l'antiquité* (lot 461), *Hammer's Alphabets*, *Spineto's Hieroglyphics*, *Portal's symbolic colours*, and *Egyptian symbols*, *Wathen's Ancient Egypt*, *La Masse et ses mystères*, and *Griffith's natural system of Architecture*.

We must conclude this review in our next issue.

FREEMASONRY.

ITS ORIGIN, ITS HISTORY AND ITS DESIGN.

FROM THE NEW YORK HERALD.

THE public ceremonies which are to be inaugurated during the ensuing week, by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of New York, will very naturally attract the attention of what Freemasons call, in a technical and not offensive sense, "the profane world," to the history, the character and the objects of the Masonic institution. But there needs no occasional event, however interesting may be the circumstances connected with it, to secure to the Masonic Order a valid claim to public consideration. To say nothing of its antiquity—for it is by far the oldest secret organisation in existence—nor of the humanitarian objects which it professedly seeks to accomplish, its universality alone clothes it with a peculiar interest that does not appertain to associations more circumscribed in their relations. Computing, as it does at this day, in the United States alone, a population of half a million of active members, Freemasonry boasts, as did the Emperor Charles of the extent of his Empire, that there is not a civilized country of the world, whether Christian or not, in which its Lodges are not to be found. From frozen Siberia to torrid Africa, and across the wide continents of both hemispheres, the institution is actively in operation. Everywhere substantially the same in its organization, its members governed by the same laws, and inspired by the same principles, it presents the remarkable spectacle of an association which, under no contingency, has been subjected to change of character by the influences of the language, the political government, or the religious belief of the people among whom it has been introduced. In Protestant England, in Catholic Italy, in Mohammedan Turkey or in Brahmanic India—under the shadow of the Cathedral of St. Paul, or the Basilica of St. Peter, or the Mosque of St. Sophia, or the thousand temples of Benares—Freemasonry is, for all practical purposes, one and the same institution. No external pressure has ever succeeded in affecting the identity of its form and organization. In the most bigoted hierarchies it has maintained its principle of toleration; in the most despotic autocracies it has inculcated freedom of thought and speech, and in the most liberal republics it has preserved the dogma of obedience to constituted authority.

This universality of its identity has authorised that doctrine of its ritual which declares that "in every land a Mason may find a home and in every clime a brother." The links of a Catholic brotherhood do, indeed, form a continuous chain that girdles the whole earth. Hence, the Rev. Salem Town, one of the most learned and distinguished members of the Fraternity in New York, has said, in reference to this cosmopolitan character, that "were he to travel into a foreign country he should consider his Masonic relations the surest safeguard, aside from divine protection, that could be thrown around him." When such an institution becomes the subject matter of investigation there are two prominent topics that arrest the attention of the inquirer—its history and its design—where and when did it arise, and what are the objects for which its existence has been continued. Each of these topics we propose succinctly to discuss.

The question of the origin of Freemasonry as a Mystical Association has, for more than a century and a half, attracted the attention of many scholars of Britain, Germany, France, and America, and a body of treatises and essays on the subject have been published, the extent of which would surprise any one not familiar with Masonic literature. At the present day, the historians of Freemasonry, who are engaged in the discussion of this question, may be divided into two schools, which may be appropriately distinguished as the mythical and the authentic. The former of these is the older, for the latter has become prominent only within the last three or four decades. Masonic opinion is, however, very steadily, and, indeed,

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rapidly, moving in the direction of thought that has been adopted by this latter school.

The differences between these two schools are very strongly defined, and are, in some respects, entirely antagonistic.

The mythical school of Masonic history was inaugurated, about the beginning of the last century, by James Anderson and Theophilus Desaguliers, both doctors of divinity, and who had been mainly instrumental in elaborating what has been called the revival of Masonry by the establishment, in 1717, of the Grand Lodge of England. Dr. Anderson was a man of acknowledged learning, the minister of a Scotch congregation in London, and a writer of some reputation. Dr. Desaguliers was recognised as a distinguished scientist and a popular lecturer on experimental philosophy. But it is Anderson who is really to be considered as the founder of the school, since he first promulgated its theories in the "Book of Constitutions," which he published in 1723, by order of the Grand Lodge.

Unfortunately for the interests of truth, Anderson was of a very imaginative turn of mind, and instead of writing an authentic history of Freemasonry, he accepted and incorporated into his narrative all the myths and legends which he found in the manuscript records of the operative Masons. According to him Masonry began with Adam, and, extending through the line of antediluvian patriarchs to Noah, was by him communicated to his descendants of the new world. Being transmitted successively through Abraham, Moses, Joshua, and David, it at length reached Solomon, who, by the aid of the Freemasons, built the Temple at Jerusalem. After the death of Solomon the institution was patronised by his successors and by the Kings of Babylon, Assyria, and Egypt, until it was finally transmitted into Europe.

The Masonic writers of England who immediately succeeded Anderson, have not insisted on that part of his narrative which traces Freemasonry to the Garden of Eden. But they more fully developed his theory of the establishment of the Order at the Temple of Jerusalem, the division of the Craft into Lodges, with degrees and officers, and, in short, an organisation precisely such as now exists. This scheme was accepted, and continued to be acknowledged as the orthodox historical creed, by the Fraternity during the whole of the last, and the greater part of the present century. It was incorporated into the ritual, much of which is founded on the assumption that Freemasonry is to be traced, for its primitive source, to the Temple of Jerusalem. The investigations of the more recent or authentic school have very nearly demolished this theory. Scholarly men, at least, among the Craft no longer concede even its plausibility. Yet the influence of its prevalence for so long a period is still felt, and, perhaps, while the organisation continues in its present form will never be wholly overcome. The Temple still holds its place in the Ritual as the type of every Masonic Lodge, and its Master is recognised as the representative of the King of Israel, while important events, transmitted, it is said, by oral tradition, are commemorated as having occurred during the construction of the edifice. But all of this is now explained, not historically, but symbolically. And so important, and, indeed, essential to speculative Masonry is the Temple of Solomon as a symbol, that to eradicate it from Masonic symbolism would be equivalent to destroying the identity of the institution. The ground floor, the middle chamber, and the holy of holies are familiar places in every Lodge, and the brazen columns of Jachin and Boaz, which stood at the porch of the Solomonic Temple, are still indispensable decorations to every room or building which is exclusively devoted to Masonic purposes.

The theory of the origin of Freemasonry that is now beginning to be most generally accepted by intelligent members of the Order is, that of the authentic school of Masonic history. This school might rather be called the iconoclastic, and indeed its disciples have not unfrequently been denominated the iconoclasts of the Order, because of the sturdy and effectual blows they have inflicted on the extravagant images of the legendary or mythical school.

The leaders of the authentic school in England are Hughan and Woodford, in Scotland Lyon, and in Germany Findel. If a prodigality of credulity has been the weakness of the mythical school, their rivals may be charged with having sometimes exercised an excess of the credulity. They decline to accept any statement whose authenticity is not supported by some written or printed record, and a few of them have gone so far as to circumscribe the history of Freemasonry within the narrow limits of that period which commences with the revival, or, as they prefer to call it, the foundation of the Grand Lodge of England, in the beginning of the eighteenth century. Others, however, have been more liberal, and now, as a general rule, their theory of the origin of Masonry has been accepted by the more intelligent members of the Fraternity, while the fanciful and legendary speculations of the old writers are gradually giving place to the well supported statements and the logical deductions of the authentic school. By most of the leaders of this school the complex question of the origin of Freemasonry is being solved in the following way:

There existed in Rome from the first days of the kingdom, and all through the times of the republic and of the empire, until its final decay, certain guilds or corporations of workmen, which are well known in history as the Roman colleges of artificers.

Numa, who is said to have founded these guilds, established only nine, but their number was subsequently greatly increased. From the Roman writers who have treated of the form and organization of these colleges we learn enough to show us that there was a great analogy in their government to that of the modern Masonic Lodges, and this especially in their character as a secret society and in the initiations and esoteric instructions to which candidates for admission, and the younger members were subjected. Of these guilds the one to which Masons particularly refer is that which consisted of architects or builders. The authentic school of Masonry does not claim, as the mythical most probably would have done, that the Roman colleges of architects were Lodges of Freemasons. They simply contend that the facts of history exhibit a regular and uninterrupted derivation of the Freemasonry of this day from these Roman guilds, although the course of the succession was affected by various important changes. But these changes have not been sufficient to altogether obliterate the evidence of the relationship. This relationship is thus indicated. From a very early period, the Roman people were distinguished by an active spirit of colonization. No sooner had the victorious legions subdued the semi-barbarous tribes of Spain, of Gaul, of Germany, and of Britain, than they began to establish colonies, and to build cities. To every legion which went forth to conquer and to colonize, was attached a guild or college of architects, whose members, taken from the great body at Rome, marched and encamped with the legion, and when a colony was founded, remained there to cultivate the seeds of Roman civilization, to inoculate the principles of Roman art, and to erect temples for worship, and houses for the accommodation of the inhabitants.

When in time the corrupted empire was threatened with extinction by the invasion of its Northern enemies, the legions were recalled to sustain and defend the central power, but the guilds of architects and builders most frequently remained in the towns and cities which they had assisted to erect, and where they had acquired a citizenship that they had probably lost at home.

In the course of time the proud mistress of the world became extinct as a power of the earth, and the colonies which she had scattered over the continent became independent kingdoms and principalities. The descendants of the Roman colleges of artificers established schools of architecture, and taught and practiced the art of building among the newly enfranchised people. A principal seat of this body of architects was at Como, a city of Lombardy, where a school was founded, which acquired so much reputation that the Masons and bricklayers of that city received the appellation of Masters of Como, and architects of all nations flocked to the place to acquire the correct principles of their profession. From this school of Lombard builders proceeded that Society of Architects who were known at that time by the appellation of Freemasons, and who, from the tenth to the sixteenth century, traversed the continent of Europe, engaged almost exclusively in the construction of religious edifices, such as cathedrals, churches, and monasteries. The monastic orders formed an alliance with them, so that the convents frequently became their domiciles, and they instructed the monks in the secret principles of their art. The popes took them under their protection, and granted them charters of monopoly as ecclesiastical architects, and invested them with many important and exclusive privileges. Dissevering the ties which bound them to the monks, these Freemasons (so-called, to distinguish them from the rough masons who were of an inferior grade, and not members of the corporation) subsequently established the guilds of stonemasons, which existed until the end of the seventeenth century in Germany, France, England, and Scotland.

These stonemasons, or, as they continued to call themselves, Freemasons, had one peculiarity in their organisation, which is necessary to be considered if we would comprehend the relation that exists between them and the Freemasons of the present day. The society was necessarily an operative one, whose members were actually engaged in the manual labour of building, as well as in the more intellectual occupation of architectural designing. This, with the fact of their previous connection with the monks, who probably projected the plans which the Masons carried into execution, led to the admission among them of persons who were not operative Masons. These were high ecclesiastics, wealthy nobles, and men of science, who were encouragers and patrons of the art. These, not competent to engage in the labour of building, were supposed to confine themselves to philosophic speculations on the principles of the art, and to symbolising or spiritualising its labours and its implements. Hence there resulted a division of the membership of the brotherhood into two classes, the practical and the theoretic, or, as they are more commonly called, the operative and the speculative. The operative Masons always held the ascendancy in numbers, but the speculative Masons exerted a greater influence by their higher culture, their wealth, and their social position.

In time there came a total and permanent disseverance of the two elements. At what precise period this event occurred we cannot say, but it was somewhere between the middle and the close of the seventeenth century. At the beginning of the eighteenth century there were several Lodges in England, but for a long time there had been no meeting of a general assembly. In the year 1717 Freemasonry was revived and the Grand Lodge of England established by the four Lodges which then existed in London. This revival took place through the influence and by the exertions of non-operative or speculative Masons, and the institution has ever since preserved that character. Lodges were speedily established all over the world—in Europe, America and Asia—by the Mother Grand Lodge at London, who, for that purpose, issued provincial deputations or patents of authority to introduce the Order into foreign countries. No important change has taken place in the organisation of the association since that period. As soon as a competent number of Lodges had been established in any independent State a grand Lodge was at once constituted: and now in every kingdom of Europe, with two exceptions, in every State of the American Union, in the Dominion of Canada and other British provinces, and in each of the South American republics there is a Grand Lodge exercising sovereign Masonic power, while in some colonies, which have not attained political independence, provincial grand lodges have been invested with slightly inferior prerogatives.

This brief sketch of the origin and progress of the Institution prepares us for a still briefer review of its design.

It is evident from what has been said that the Freemasonry of the present day is a philosophic or speculative science, derived from and issuing out of an operative art. In denominating it a science, we should be more precise were we to say that it is a science of symbolism. This science of symbolism, once so common as to have been deeply studied by the ancient philosophers and by the modern Gnostics, Rosicrucians and Alchemists, is now maintained and culti-

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vested in all its perfection by only two institutions—the Roman Catholic Church and the Order of Freemasonry. One of the authoritative definitions of Freemasonry is that it is "a science of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols." But a more correct definition would be that it is "a system of morality developed and inculcated by the science of symbolism."

Its original descent from an association of builders has given to its symbolism a peculiar character. All the labours of operative or stone masonry, its implements and its technical language, have been seized by the speculative Freemasons and appropriated by them as symbols, each of which teaches some important moral or religious truth. The cathedrals which their predecessors erected, some of which still remain as proud monuments of their surpassing skill in architecture, have been replaced, for esoteric reasons, by the Temple of Solomon, which has become, with one exception, the most important and significant of the symbols of the Order.

As all these symbols are applied to religious purposes, and receive a religious interpretation, we must conclude that Freemasonry is a religious institution.

It is not a religion. It makes no such claim. It does not profess to offer the renovating efficacy or the spiritual consolations which make religion so necessary an element in the healthful life of man. But it does inculcate some religious truths, without any attempt to define theological dogmas. It demands of its initiates a trusting belief in God and in the immortality of the soul, and its ceremonies and its symbols impress these truths with all the moral consequences that a belief in them implies. It recognises all religious truth, and tolerates, but does not accept, sectarian dogmas. It repudiates nothing but atheism. Around its altar, consecrated to the Grand Architect of the Universe, men of all creeds may kneel in one common worship, each holding in his heart with all tenacity his own peculiar faith, the brotherhood around neither asking nor condemning by word or look. Incidental to its organization as an association of men engaged in the same pursuit we find other characteristics common to it with all similar human associations, but which it possesses and practises with greater perfection because of its universality and its numerical extension.

Such is its social character. In the Lodge all artificial distinctions of rank and wealth and power are for the time suspended, and Masons meet together on the great level of equality. The prince and the peasant, the bishop and the layman, sit together and join hand in hand in the same symbolic labour. It is but the other day that the heir apparent of the British crown was seen kneeling at the feet of one of his subjects, and giving to him his oath of Masonic allegiance and fealty.

So, too, it is eminently a benevolent institution. There is no other institution that has built and endowed more asylums for the aged and decayed, or hospitals for the sick, or houses for orphans, or done more to clothe the naked, to feed the hungry, or relieve the poor, and in granting eleemosynary aid to the distressed brother or his destitute widow. It hallows and sanctifies the gift by the silence and secrecy with which it is bestowed.

Such is Freemasonry—venerable in its age and beneficent in its design. And when in a few days its disciples shall appear in the performance of one of its religious commemorations, in all the gorgeous display of its paraphernalia, its banners and its symbols, every one of which is deeply significant to those who have learned the lesson of some great religious or moral truth, let the people who look on the scene know that they are beholding a venerable relic of the olden time, which yet has no decay, but whose age "is as a lusty winter," combining with the good old conservatism of the past, all the practical utilitarianism of the present.

ALBERT G. MACKEY.
Secretary General Supreme Council,
S. M. Jurisdiction.

Obituary.

BRO. W. BULLEY, OF BIRKENHEAD.

THE funeral of Bro. William Bulley, an old and respected resident of Birkenhead, who died on Wednesday 16th June, took place on Saturday, the 19th ult., at Flaybrick-hill Cemetery. Bro. Bulley was one of the oldest Freemasons in the hundred of Wirral, and at the time of his death was Junior Grand Warden of the province of Cheshire. He also held many other high offices in the Order. By the members of the "mystic tie" he was greatly esteemed for his many amiable qualities, and his funeral was attended by a large number of the brethren. The funeral cortège left the residence of the deceased in Clifton Park shortly before two o'clock, the chief mourners being deceased's two sons, his brother, Mr. Henry Bulley (chairman of the Oxton Local Board, and a well known Freemason). Mr. Hoffman, &c. Amongst the Freemasons present were Bros. J. M. Radcliffe P.M. 605, T. E. Hignett P.M. 537, J. P. Platt P.P.G.W. 537, Thomas Platt P.P.G.D., Dr. Spratley P.P.G.D. 537, Dr. Wilson P.M. 537, E. J. Haddon W.M. 605, Matthew M'Nerney S.W. 605, T. Leighton P.M. Sec. 605, Robert Gracie P.M. 477, Donald Fraser W.M. 477, F. K. Stevenson P.M. 537, Ellis Davis P.M. 605, Samuel Jones P.M 477, Thomas V. Evans 292, William Clements 605, T. C. Thorburn, of the Joppa Mark Lodge 11, L. Ellis W.M., and A. Lowe, of Rock Ferry, Edward Parsons 537, N. Hall 537, W. Worrall and — Griffiths, Chester, F. Sanderson, John Lamb, &c. The interment took place in the Church of England portion of the cemetery, the service being performed by the Rev. John Henderson. At the grave the sons of the deceased placed three or four beautiful wreaths of flowers upon the coffin, and sprigs of acacia were also deposited upon the lid by nearly all the Freemasons present.

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.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE distribution of prizes took place, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh P.G.W. President of the Board of Stewards for the Anniversary Festival, at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Wood Green, on Wednesday, 30th June, when a numerous attendance of the Stewards, brethren and ladies were present. This gathering, despite the disadvantage of bad weather, was a great success, and those who were present must have been proud to see the Institution in so flourishing a condition. Throughout the building cleanliness was predominant.

The following programme, consisting of recitations, dramatic selections and vocal and instrumental music was given, and listened to with feelings of great pleasure:—

Overture—Piano Duet	"Favourite Airs."	
Latin	"Virgil," Extract from *Æneas and Latinus*	J. Jones.
Part Song	"The Merry Spring Time."	
Shakspere	"The Seven Ages of Man."	J. Jones.
Glee	"Lightly tread, 'tis hallow'd ground."	
German	Speech of King Frederick William III. of Prussia on the declaration of War against France in 1813.	R. N. Carter.
Piano Duet	"La fille de Madame Angot."	
French	"Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," scene from.	J. and F. Lane*
Glee	"Lordly Gallants."	
Latin	"Virgil," Extract from *Æneis and Turnus*	G. Shaw.
Part Song	"Farewell to the Forest."	
German	"Das Lied von der Glocke."	W. Beaumont.
Part Song	"You stole my Love."	
English	"Poor Richard's Wisdom," Advice to Old and Young	W. Bruford and F. Hawes.
Reading	"Death of Dean Swift."	Sweet.
Song	"Ye Mariners of England."	Oates.
Glee	"Here's a Health unto Her Majesty."	
English Recitation	"Victor Galbraith," by *Longfellow*	V. Lang.
Do. Do.	"A Child's Work," (by Angus M. Mackay, 5th Master)	E. J. Robinson.

Concluding with the National Anthem.

Mr. W. H. Holmes was the Musical Instructor.

Between the programme the noble chairman distributed the prizes. Several of the pupils who, by close attention to their studies, had qualified themselves for competitive examination, received the Cambridge Scholarship. The chairman announced that the first young gentleman on the list, in addition, had presented to him £2, and £1 each to the remainder. The names of those successful were as follow:—E. Moss, Lane, Hustler, Cloud, Walkington, Burkitt, Hawes, Bruford, Smith, and F. D. Lane. The noble chairman, who was supported by Bros. C. Horsley, Hunt, Dubosc, Rosenthal, W. Pass, Spiers and Roebuck, then rose, and said, It was one of the most pleasant recollections in Freemasonry to be present on so important an occasion, one that would never be forgotten by him. He had a proposition to make, and he hoped it would meet with the concurrence of all; and that was to thank the masters and the committee for the admirable manner in which this noble Charity is conducted. He had inspected many buildings and various institutions, but he had never seen one like the Boys' School; so well conducted, with such order and cleanliness. He then addressed the boys, in terms that it is hoped will never be forgotten by them, as to the advantages of study. He would like to be a schoolboy again, for that period was the happiest of their lives. He hoped they would work with energy to compete; for competition would give them energy to be successful, and if they were unsuccessful this year they might be in a prominent position the next.

Bro. Roebuck then proposed, and Bro. Rosenthal seconded, that a vote of thanks be accorded to Lord Balfour, not only for his able presiding this day, but also for his kindness in occupying the position of President of the Board of Stewards. The noble chairman suitably responded, and the company adjourned to refreshments, which were served under the supervision of Bros. F. Binckes, Pass, Webster, &c.

The following programme of music was performed, during the day, by the pupils' band:—

1. Grand March	*Blue Beard*	10. Valse	*Belle of the Ball*
2. God Bless the Prince of Wales		11. Ballad	*Auld Lang Syne*
3. Quick March	*Fal lal la*	12. Polka	*Mulligan Guards*
4. Ballad	*Blue Bells of Scotland*	13. Quick March	*British Grenadiers*
5. Polka	*Ladies*	14. Valse	*Model*
6. Hymn	*Russian*	15. Selection—Ours	*M. S. B.*
7. Quadrille	*Medley*	16. Galop	*Mazeppa*
8. Ballad	*Mrs of Hartech*	17. God save the Queen	
9. Varsoviana	*Silver Lake*		

The whole of the pieces were capitally played, and reflected great credit on Mr. W. J. Ison, bandmaster.

THE SURREY MASONIC HALL LIMITED.

ON Wednesday, the 14th July, this Hall is to be designated, and "The Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge" will be consecrated, by Lord Skelmersdale M.W.D.G.M. P.G.M. Lancashire, and other Grand Officers. The following are the officers designate:—M. S. Lanham W.M., W. Ramsey S.W., T. L. Green J.W. Bro. E. Clark P.M., of 19 Buckingham Street, Strand, is the architect, and H. A. Dubois P.M. 1423, P.G.D.C. Middlesex, is the Secretary.

* Lane, at the conclusion, received an extra prize for elocution.

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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 Constitution and General Statutes for the Government of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Freemasonry in and for the Continent of America, also a Complete History of the Rite from its Establishment in America down to the present time, together with translations of Original Manuscripts. Illustrated. Issued under the auspices of the Sovereign Secretary, 33 and last degree, as compiled and amended June 1874. New York: The Excelsior Printing Company, 81, 83 and 85 Centre Street, 1874.

THIS is a handsome volume, bound in maroon and gold, with the portrait of the M.I.S. Grand Master, General of the A. and P. Rite, Alexander B. Mott, M.D., New York, and various other dignitaries of the Rite; also engravings of the seals, jewels, and decorations. It is printed in superior style, on good toned paper, with a red border, and altogether does great credit to the Excelsior Printing Company. Attached to the Constitution is a History of the Rite, and a selection of the names of above 1,500 members, many of them of high Masonic position. Archæologically we differ with the writers in some historical details, they conclude their labours thus: "In conclusion, we cannot refrain from stating that, to the Masonic Fraternity, we have presented in this volume much valuable information, heretofore unwritten, which, we trust, will be of service and accepted by the Craft, and, although our beloved Rite is comparatively young in America, it has all the sterling merits that recommend it to the brotherhood. Its vigour, beauty, and connecting links render it unsurpassed, and its authenticity is undisputable. It is the only Rite in this country that possesses a *bond fide* Charter, vivé by the Grand Orient of France, the head and highest Masonic authority in the old world."

Veritas. Revelation of Mysteries, Biblical, Historical and Social, by means of the Median and Persian Laws. BY HENRY MELVILLE. Edited by F. Tennyson, and A. Tudor. London: Published for the Author, by A. Hall and Co., 25 Paternoster Row. 1874.

THIS work is written, perhaps purposely, in such an obscure style, that it takes no little pains to follow the author and unravel his meaning. It is a large sized work, with numerous well executed maps and illustrations, and encloses a smaller pamphlet of the working of the laws. The difficulty of mastering the author's views is perhaps one reason why the late Bro. Melville's discoveries have been so unfavourably received; added to this, the author has enthusiastically ridden his hobby to death. Bro. M. imagines that he has discovered in the triple tau, and double equilateral triangles of a Royal Arch Mason, the keys to unlock the symbolism which the ancient hierophants mapped out upon the Celestial Atlas; we do not believe these are *Craft* Symbols at all, but may have been introduced as such by the Ashmolean Astrologers. Nothing is now better authenticated than the fact that the Cosmogonical account of Genesis and the fall of man are the tradition of old Babylonian Hierophants, and as they did really record such matter in Hieroglyphics, of which the initiates only had the key, it is quite conceivable that Bro. Melville may have discovered the key to unlock the hieroglyphical symbolism of the old Celestial Atlas; but he has made the mistake, we think, of carrying his theory beyond all the bounds of reasonable criticism. The work is dedicated to Mrs. Maria Lane, of Frank Fief, Jersey, widow of the late General Lane, who did so much for Bro. Melville, and we sincerely hope a few members of our brotherhood will push the sale of the work, for the sake of the widow of Bro. Melville, who is quite dependent upon its sale; so we have understood.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

WE cannot commend too highly the new serial in *Blackwood*, "The Dilemma." It has reached its third part already, so that enough has been written to show the character of the story. The principal personages, as we have previously remarked, are admirably drawn, and especially the young Subaltern Yorke, whose bold, yet secret aspirations to the hand of Miss Cunningham receive a, to him, unexpected check in the present instalment. "A Sketch of Canada as it now is," and the conclusion of the "Abode of Snow," are among the most important of the other contents, save and except Colonel Grant's Letter on recent African Discoveries. The growing influence of Canada is a subject of congratulation, not only to herself, but to the mother country. The feeling of loyalty in the colony becomes stronger every year. Her most pressing need is immigrants—but of the right sort—hardy, willing to work, and with something to back them at their first start, and these should be forthcoming from among us. We are over thickly populated, and competition in the labour market becomes therefore keener and keener every day. We think a home in Canada—or be it said, rather in the Dominion, for our North American Colonies are now united into one grand dependency—must be preferable in the eyes of a true Briton to a home in the United States or other foreign country. He does not so completely sever himself from all his old associations. He still lives, and in the fulness of time, no doubt, will prosper, under the same old flag. For other reasons this description of Canada is likely to prove of great service. We have a glimpse at the Afghan Border, in this concluding portion of the "Abode of Snow," and sorry are we to part with a writer whose sketches have been so interesting and so instructive. Following this are a series of reviews of current literature, and then comes Colonel Grant's letter, in support of the late Captain Speke's claim to be the true discoverer of the sources of the Nile. Colonel Grant adduces a number of reasons to show this, and that Dr. Livingstone, for whom a writer in the last issue of the *Quarterly* claims this honour, was never nearer the region traversed by Speke and himself, than when, in company with Mr. Stanley, he inspected the northern extremity of Lake Tanganyika. Colonel Grant, of course, does full justice to the labours of Dr. Livingstone. To students of geography the letter cannot be otherwise than interesting.

We have so often spoken of the merits of the serial fiction in *Tinsley's*, as being above the usual standard, that we may safely leave our readers to follow their progress. But this is not the only conspicuous feature in this magazine, the poetry is invariably fluent and graceful, and of poetical contributions, not the least deserving are the "Troubadour Songs" of Dr. Maurice Davies, of which one—"The Persuasive Parrot," closes this number. In his *Social Status Quo*, too, he writes chattily, and his criticisms are generally sound. "The Last Sixpence," and "Mabel," are both pathetic stories, but the latter is painful in its *denouement*, and, seemingly, without assignable reason. Why might not Mabel and her husband, Ernest Grey, have lived happily ever afterwards? The tale, as told, is more dramatic, perhaps, though truth is often stranger than fiction, but we fancy real live people, as a child would say, would have taken such crossings in life somewhat less demonstratively and less violently. Of the other articles, Mr. W. W. Fenn's "Speaking Walls," and the account of Prince's, are worth reading. We transcribe "To a Robin," by D. G. Potter; it reads so prettily.

Dear Sweet Robin, perched upon a tree,
To me so near;
You seem to love, yet, being free,
You seem to fear.

Who gave you intimation kind
That mortals love—
Reciprocate where love they find
Like souls above?

You sing—as heralding some theme
We should conceive
With greater ease than what a dream
Makes men believe.

We cannot yet translate your words,
Though centuries old;
But one great truth your life affords
As rich as gold.

It is that Nature, sometimes hard,
Gave high behests
Of love she never will discard
On which faith rests.

It is interesting to watch the steady progress of Jabez Clegg towards fortune in the "Manchester Man," the first of the current serials in *Cassell's Family Magazine*. But the progress, though steady, is far from being uneventful, and Jabez evidently has many serious difficulties to overcome ere the position intended for him is achieved. But pleasant as are this and Mr. Gift's "Pretty Miss Bellew," we value those papers, which are of purely domestic interest far more highly. A Navy Surgeon's "Cure for Sea-Sickness" will be specially welcomed by those who are about holiday seeking on the Continent. "How to keep things Bright," is an important element in kitchen economy. "Savoury Dishes" contain some very sensible suggestions for what may be described as seasonable feeding. The ladies will find much to interest them in "Chit-chat on Dress," while the items which "The Gatherer" has picked up by the way, are readable and sensible. The other contents are equally attractive, but the interest attaching to them is somewhat more ephemeral.

Belgravia takes a high rank, and justly so, among our light periodicals. The serial fiction is invariably good, as evidence of which we may draw our readers' attention to Miss Braddon's "Hostages to Fortune," which has been current for some months past. "Hugh Melton," concluded in the present number, is another case in point, as also is "Sea-Bank Farm," of which we have eight chapters, and in which is manifest a considerable power in depicting characters, both male and female. But it is not to the fiction only that praise is due. The short tales and articles are always lively and interesting. Mr. Sala, for instance, is a writer whose style is justly popular, and his contribution this month—"Left behind at Signora,"—is written more *suo*; need we say more to show our appreciation of its merits? The author of "Tom Bulkley of Lissington" describes in his paper, headed "Tommy Atkins," the daily routine of life of a private soldier in the British Army. The picture is well drawn, and Tommy now-a-days, at all events, is not the least happy of mankind. He lives well, works hard, and has just leisure enough on his hands to enjoy himself like a reasonable being. Of course "Tommy Atkins" is not always a reasonable being, and not unfrequently comes to grief through his own folly. But there is no just cause or impediment to his getting on well. He is respected by his officers, if not always by the British public, and only a little more is needed to reconcile him perfectly to the condition of life he has chosen to follow. "Predatory Instincts," and Mr. Compton Reade's "Art in the Universities," are both articles worthy of commendation.

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 balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 67 Barbican.—*Advt.*

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, Bezique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 1os per pack, 8s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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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REPORTS OF LODGE PROCEEDINGS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—A correspondent in your last issue reminds us that to publish Lodge proceedings is unconstitutional. The point, I venture to think, is debateable. Of this, however, there is no doubt, most of the reports are a great deal too circumstantial. We are pretty frequently doomed to read repetitions such as these: "The Lodge was opened," "The Lodge was called off," "the candidate was entrusted and retired," "The Lodge was closed," &c., &c. To publish our proceedings with all details is, to say the least, impolitic. A general outline is, I think, sufficient for the initiated; and the outside public, who may perchance peruse any of the reports, ought not to be presented with a too lucid description. The idea seems to prevail that to make a report interesting it must occupy a large portion of space. We may, however, take it for granted that, in nine cases out of ten, lengthy accounts are never read. Whereas, a concise statement in general terms is much more likely to be perused, and, besides, possesses the merit of being in accordance with the constitution.

A propos of reporting: I noticed, in the last number of the *Sunday Times*, under the heading of "Crime and Disaster," that the United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, hitherto held at the Duke of Edinburgh Tavern, Brixton, has been removed to the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell Road, and that Bro. P. S. Latham was the preceptor: Poor Brother Latham! Is it a crime or a disaster to be preceptor of a Lodge, or does the announcement refer to the calamity of its removal from its former quarters?

Perhaps reporters, professional or amateur, will take note and be cautious.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK MASONIC HALL.

THE stockholders of this Company, which proposes to build a Masonic Temple in St. John, met in the Masonic Hall, Ritchie's Building, on Monday 7th June, and elected Directors. The architect submitted a front elevation, and gave very full details as to the interior arrangements of the building. It is to be erected on the lot on Germain-street, which lies immediately to the north of Trinity Church. This lot, which has been purchased by the Company from the trustees of the late Benj. Smith, for 18,000 dols., is 100 feet on Germain-street, and extends back 200 feet. It includes what is now known as Smith's Alley. The Company propose to erect a Masonic Temple upon this lot, with a front of 83 feet on Germain-street and to extend back 100 feet. This will leave an alley of 17 feet to the north of the building, or 9 feet wider than the present one. This alley is to go clear to the rear of the lot, a distance of 200 feet. Behind the Temple, and 100 feet from Germain-street, will be a cross alley 20 feet wide, leaving a block 80 feet by 83 in the rear of the lot, of which, while the Company propose to retain the freehold, they intend to lease, for a period of 21 years, to a party who will erect a building there, for warerooms and a clothing manufactory.

The Masonic Temple itself will be four stories in height, built of brick, with handsome stone trimmings, and a flat roof, with a tower on the south-west corner. The entrance, twelve feet wide, will be under this tower, and on the second story will be the Grand Secretary's suite of offices and reception parlour. There will be four stories of Germain-street, extending back the full depth of the building, with ware rooms or show rooms above on the second story, corresponding in size with the shops below. The first two stories will be each 14 feet in height. The two upper stories will be each 30 feet in height. The first of these, which is the third story of the building, will contain a large hall, about 50 by 80 feet, which will be for the meetings of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Blue Lodges holden under it in the city. In the same story will be a hall devoted to Royal Arch Masonry and to the Grand and Subordinate Councils of Royal and Select Masters and appendant Orders. The fourth story will contain a hall devoted to the Chivalric degrees; the Knight Templars will also have armories in connection with this Hall for their paraphernalia and accoutrements. The remainder of the stories will be fitted up into apartments for the degrees, conferred under the authority of the Supreme Council, of the thirty-third or last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Royal Order of Scotland, and for the Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, and Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. These apartments will be elaborately fitted up, in accordance with the rituals of these high Orders. The building is to be a substantial and handsome structure, both externally and internally, and worthy of the Order to whose purposes it will be devoted.

It is expected to cost 70,000 dollars, exclusive of the land, but the Company has been incorporated with a capital of 100,000, which they propose to have fully subscribed, and as there are three thousand Masons in the Province, and this will be a Provincial affair, no difficulty is anticipated in realising that amount. In fact, the Masons residing in St. John and adjacent parishes, if they took stock to the extent of 100 dollars each, or five shares, could raise the full amount of the capital, for there are about a thousand members of the Order in this vicinity. The sum of 25,000, is already subscribed, although little or no effort has yet been made, and any deficiency here will be easily made up, for leading Masons in other parts of the Province will contribute largely to the building, and indeed the whole Craft throughout the Province will feel that their interests are identical with the successful completion of this New Brunswick Masonic Temple. The Directors elected at the late meeting of stockholders were John V. Ellis, Robert Marshall, B. L. Peters, Edward Willis, James Domville, James McNichol, Henry Duffell, E. E. Kenny and W. H. A. Keans. The architects of the Temple are Messrs. McKean and Fairweather, and they are now busily engaged with the working plans. The tenants of all the buildings in this large block have been notified that their leases will terminate on the 1st May 1876, when active operations will be commenced on the Temple. It is thought the completion of the New Brunswick Masonic Temple will occupy about two years from that date.

THE DRAMA.

"The Ticket of Leave Man" at the Olympic—The French Opera Company at the Gaiety.—Close of the "Hamlet" Season at the Lyceum.

THERE is always a trump card in reserve in Mr. Neville's hand; in the event of the failure of any of his new pieces he can always revive *The Ticket of Leave Man*. It is difficult to understand how this piece has so long retained its popularity, it is certainly a well constructed and effective drama, no less could be expected from the hands of Mr. Tom Taylor, who, amongst our dramatic authors, is probably the best judge of stage effect. But, many other dramas, equally well written and equally realistic, have long since been consigned to oblivion. Its exceptional success must be attributed to the remarkably brilliant way in which it was at first played. Nearly every character in the piece was made a study in itself, and no playgoer is likely to forget the Bob Brierly of Mr. Neville, the Hawkshaw of Mr. Horace Wigan, the Melter Moss of Mr. Vincent, or the Jem Dalton of Mr. Atkins. Although the drama has been revived several times in the last ten years, it has generally been arranged so that the principal characters have been played by their original exponents, and the present is the first occasion on which any wholesale change has been made in the cast. Mr. Neville, of course, still plays Bob Brierly, the part in which he established his reputation, and a flavour of which has hovered about all his subsequent creations. Mr. R. Soutar is still the "Trotters," and, although Miss Farren was not the orginal office boy, an honour which belonged to Miss Raynham, she has played the part oftener probably than any one else. But Mr. G. W. Anson now represents the brutal Jem Dalton, and contrives to add new interest to the part which was so well played by Mr. Atkins. Mr. Eldred makes a successful first appearance at this theatre as Melter Moss, but he can hardly hope to efface the memory of Mr. Vincent's marvellous make-up and acting in the same part. In playing a character like that of May Edwards, Miss Fowler is attempting something for which she is unfitted, both by nature and training; she is a good actress in light comedy, but is out of place in melodrama. However, the revival is quite successful, and will, no doubt, run as long as the manager may think necessary.

The most notable incident in the doings of the French company at the GAIETY has been the appearance of M. Tournié. His début in England was made under circumstances which were to some extent disadvantageous to him; for some time past flaming rumours have been in circulation concerning his abilities, and it was impossible that his performance could surpass the promises made on his behalf. It is greatly to his credit that, under these conditions, he has so well satisfied all expectations, and any disappointment felt at his performance must not be attributed to want of ability on his part. M. Tournié appeared as the Zampa of Hérold's opera, a part which Mr. Santley played at the Gaiety some years ago. He possesses a clear, pleasant voice, and a good presence, and has considerable dramatic ability; his singing, however, is not free from that tremolo which is so common amongst French singers, and which is rather distressing to English ears. M. Tournié made a good impression, and will no doubt become a great favourite. We must again call attention to the admirable way in which this company works together. Although they are playing under the embarrassments of a strange theatre and a foreign audience, there is a completeness and finish about their performances which would not be expected, and certainly would not be seen in most English theatres.

On Tuesday night last, *Hamlet* was played at the LYCEUM for the two hundredth time, a length of run to which this drama has never before attained. Although the performance cannot be said to have lost any of its attractions, Mr. Irving has wisely determined not to prolong the run at the risk of wearying the public, and accordingly Tuesday was the last night. It was natural that, at the close of such a successful experiment, Mr. Irving should wish to address a few words to his many faithful supporters; and in a sensible, graceful speech, he thanked his audience for their favour, alluded tenderly to the lamented death of Mr. Bateman, and gave a slight sketch of future intentions at the LYCEUM. Next season *Macbeth* will be produced, Mr. Irving, of course, playing the chief character, and afterwards Mr. Tennyson's just published drama, *Queen Mary*, will be played, with the valuable help of Miss Kate Bateman. All playgoers will wish success to a management which has done so much to elevate the tone of the English drama.

In the days when the Dramatic Fête was celebrated at the Crystal Palace, it was one of the most enjoyable events of the year. A more pleasant exercise of charity did not exist, but in course of time the occasion was abused, and little of the money spent found its way into the proper channel, and, therefore, the Fête was discontinued. It is, however, revived this year, and will be held to-day at the Alexandra Palace. Selections from popular plays will be given, in which all the leading actors and actresses of the day will assist, and the objectionable features of the old Fêtes will be discontinued.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, DON GIOVANNI. On Monday, L'ETOILE DU NORD. On Tuesday, LOHENGRIN. On Wednesday, SEMIRAMIDE. On Thursday, FIDELIO. On Friday, LE NOZZE DI FIGARO. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA. On Monday, LA TRAVIATA. On Tuesday, LOHENGRIN. On Thursday, 25th appearance of Mdlle. Marguerite Chatpny. At 8.30 each evening, except on Tuesday, when the Opera will commence at 8.0. On Monday morning, at 2.30, OTHELLO. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, HAMLET.

HAYMARKET.—THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS, BRIGHTON and THE 200.

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. On Monday, TAMING OF THE SHREW.

LYCEUM.—This morning, at 2.30, RICHELIEU.

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 NEMESIS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, MEG'S DIVERSION and BLUE BEARD. (Last Night.) On Monday, LADY OF LYONS.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

CHARING CROSS.—At 8.0, THE YOUNG WIDOW. At 8.40, CATTARINA. At 10.46, A CURE FOR THE FIDGETS.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 9.15, THE DETECTIVE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, MARGATE SANDS and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 8.0, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day and during the week, NATIONAL MUSIC MEETINGS. On Monday, AMERICAN FETE, FIREWORK DISPLAY, &c. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, Fête in aid of the Royal Dramatic College. On Monday, DAVID GARRICK. On Tuesday, NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE FETE. On Wednesday, BAND CONTEST. On Thursday, GRAND CONCERT, FIREWORK DISPLAY, &c. Open daily. HENGLER'S CIRCUS, &c.

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ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0 only.

BRO. WILLIAM HICKMOTT, of Maidstone, one of the successful candidates at the last election of Annuitants of the R.M.B.I., desires, through our columns, to convey his heartfelt thanks to the Governors and subscribers for their kind support.

NOTICE.

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H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's-inn Fields, London, on Saturday, the 10th day of July 1875, at 12 o'clock precisely, on the general business of the Institution, to place candidates on the list for election in October next, and to declare the number of girls then to be elected.

Also to consider the following Notices of Motion:

By T. W. White, Esq.:

"That the rank of Honorary Vice-Patron be conferred upon T. S. Howell, Esq., V.P., in acknowledgment of his long and valuable services as Honorary Medical Officer."

By Griffiths Smith, Esq.:

"That the rank of Honorary Vice-President be conferred upon Peter Matthews, Esq., in recognition of his valuable services as Honorary Dental Surgeon for many years."

And to elect Two Trustees.

2nd July 1875. H. WENTWORTH LITTLE, Secretary.

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VOLUME I.

OF

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On Tuesday, 27th July 1875, and following day,

AT 13 WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THE Collection comprises scarce Lodge Lists of Cole and Pine, early Grand Lodge Calendars and Proceedings, the only extant copy of the Constitutions of 1723, Spencer's M.S. Constitutions, Rituals of the "Antients," unique Caricatures, early Summonses, Certificates, &c. from the Libraries of the late Duke of Sussex, Dr. Oliver, Dr. Morison, and others; every work being upon Freemasonry, its symbolism, or history, and was formed for a complete Masonic Library, by that well known Masonic Bookseller.

The books may be viewed two days prior, and catalogues had at the auction rooms as above.

The sale will commence at 1 p.m. each day.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

ON Friday, in the House of Lords, an interesting conversation on the subject of training naval cadets, in which the Earls of Camperdown, Shaftesbury, and Lauderdale, the Duke of Somerset, Lord Hampton, and others took part, was followed by a debate on the second reading of the Ecclesiastical Fees Redistribution Bill, to which the House ultimately agreed. Soon after, an adjournment took place till Monday, when the Endowed Schools Act (1868) Continuance Bill was read a third time. The Duke of Richmond then moved the second reading of the Public Health Bill, a proposition to which, after a brief discussion, their Lordships assented. Lord Waveney having asked a question relating to the Militia, and the Earl of Cadogan having replied, the House soon after rose. There was only a brief sitting on Tuesday. On Thursday, the Pollution of Rivers Bill was discussed in Committee almost clause by clause, and other Bills having been advanced a stage, the House adjourned.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, Mr. Disraeli having offered a few remarks as to the state of public business, Mr. Stacpoole, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, moved an amendment to the effect that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, requesting

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that proper steps might be taken for providing a suitable residence in Ireland for Her Majesty. The debate that followed was, in all respects, satisfactory, save in this, that Dr. Kenealy's speech was, as might be imagined, in singularly bad taste. The amendment was withdrawn. A motion, concerning the Opium Trade, was then proposed by Mr. M. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Pease. Several members took part in the debate, but Lord G. Hamilton, on the part of the Government, resisted the proposition, and it was defeated by 94 to 57. The House then went into Committee of Supply, and several votes were agreed to. The second reading of the Employers and Workmen Bill occupied the early part of Monday's sitting. Nearly all the speakers, among whom were Mr. Lowe, Lord Elcho, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Forster, and Mr. Burt, congratulated the Home Secretary on the character of this measure, Lord R. Montagu being almost the only dissentient. Mr. Cross gratefully recognised the compliments which had been paid him by both sides of the House, and the Bill was read a second time. The National Debt (Sinking Fund) Bill passed its third reading, soon after which the House went into Committee on the Land Titles and Transfer Bill. An amendment to clause 41 was resisted by the Attorney-General, and, on division, the Government carried their point by 86 to 46. Progress was then reported, the House resumed, and soon afterwards adjourned. There was a morning sitting on Tuesday. On the motion that the House resolve itself into Committee of Supply, Mr. Lowe interposed, in order to call attention to the position of Civilians in India, but he did not press his motion. Lord Elcho then asked a question of the Secretary for War as to the Army Reserve and the approaching Autumn Manœuvres. Mr. Hardy having replied, the House set to work, and passed several votes. At the evening sitting, Mr. Holmes having risen to make a motion on the subject of Army and Navy Expenditure Audit, a count out followed. On Wednesday, Mr. Butt took the sense of the House on the second reading of the County Boards (Ireland) Bill, but he failed to carry his measure at this stage by 182 to 125. On Thursday, Physical Education occupied the first portion of the sitting: the subject being introduced by Mr. Butler-Johnstone. After a short discussion on Governor Eyre's pension, the House went into Committee, when Lord Sandon moved the Education Vote for England and Wales. The speech was a long and able one, and drew encomiums from several members. The Vote was agreed to, as also was the vote for the Science and Art Department. On the House resuming, Mr. Sclater-Booth moved the second reading of the Poor Law Amendment Bill, but the debate was adjourned.

Hurlingham offered one of the most brilliant scenes of the season on Saturday, the attraction being a contest at Polo, between the Horse Guards Blue and the 12th Lancers, for a cup, presented by the Prince of Wales. Besides their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their two sons, the Princes Albert Victor and George, and the Duke of Cambridge, there were present the *élite* of the fashionable world. The contest was exciting. Only an hour-and-a-quarter were allowed to determine which of the gallant regiments should prove the victor, and it was only after a tremendous contest, in which Fortune seemed to divide her favours with a pretty even hand, that, at last, by a supreme effort, the Blues secured a goal. Time did not admit of any further play, so the cup was awarded to the gallant representatives of the Household Regiment, and was handed to the Hon. C. Fitzwilliam by the Princess. On this occasion the weather was all that could be desired, but on Thursday, when the Prince was to have given a garden party at Chiswick, nothing worse could be well imagined, reminding us of the old Fete days in the Chiswick gardens, when a gleam of sunshine at intervals during the pouring rain was generally looked upon as quite a godsend. In consequence of this over *pouring* obstacle to *al fresco* enjoyment, the party is postponed till Monday. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh embarked, at Woolwich, on board the "Osborne," for a visit to Russia. They will spend a few days at Copenhagen, *en route*, and then go on to St. Petersburgh, where their visit will extend over several weeks.

On Monday there was a grand field day at Aldershot, some 20,000 men being inspected in the Long Valley by H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief and the Prince of Wales. There were present on the ground the Empress Eugenie, the Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Sultan of Zanzibar, Mr. G. Hardy, the Secretary of State for War, and many of the nobility and gentry. The force was divided into two army corps, under the command of Major-General Sir H. De Bathe and Major-General Sir John Douglas respectively. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, on reaching the centre of the line, were received with a Royal salute, the bands playing the National Anthem, and the effect being very imposing. The force then marched past, the Horse Artillery of the first corps leading, followed by the Cavalry, then Artillery, and lastly the Infantry, and then Sir J. Douglas's corps in the same order. A few simple movements, the nature of which were easily comprehended, even by civilians, were then executed, after which the whole line advanced and gave a Royal salute. The Royal party afterwards made a move to the Queen's Pavilion, and having lunched, returned to town by 5 p.m. The Prince Imperial was on duty with Colonel Warde-Ashton's Battery of 16-pounders, to which he is attached, and H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught was employed on staff duties as Brigade-Major. The military *attaché* of the French Embassy, and a German Officer of Hussars were on the ground in full uniform.

The same day one of the most attractive matches in the cricketing season was commenced at Lord's. Oxford and Cambridge met to test their relative strength in this national game, and after one of the toughest contests on record, the former secured the victory by six runs only. The weather, the first day, was anything but favourable, but the ground, about the wickets, had been protected by tarpaulin, thus securing a tolerably firm foothold for the batsmen, but not so for the unfortunate bowlers. Play was not commenced till two o'clock, when there may have been some 5,000 spectators assembled. Oxford won the toss, and elected to go in, the result of their performance, till stumps were drawn, being 188, for the loss of only seven wickets. Of these, A. J. Webbe made 55, T. W. Lang 45, A. W. Ridley 21, W. W. Pulman, not out, 19, and F. M. Buckland 22. On Tuesday, play was resumed shortly after 11, and the Oxford innings closed for 200. Cambridge then took its turn, and put together 163, or 37 less than their opponents. To this total, F. G. Greenfield contributed 12, A. F. Lucas 19, G. H. Longman 40, W. Blacker 19, Hon. E. Lyttleton 10, [illegible] successful in their second attempt, being 6h 0m for 174. Of these, Webbe made 21, Pulman 30, Briggs 12, Boole 21, and W. H. Game 22, H. G. Tylecott, not out, 12, and W. Ford-Kelcey 11. This left Cambridge 174 to win, towards which, before stumps were drawn for the day, 4 were made. On Wednesday, of course, the excitement was very great, and as the innings of Cambridge progressed the chances seemed strongly in their favour, 168 of the required number having been obtained, with two wickets yet to fall. But fate had ordained it otherwise; the score was not increased, and thus Oxford proved victors by the small number of six. In the second innings of Cambridge, F. G. Greenfield 18 runs, Longman 23, Hon. E. Lyttleton 20, Sims 39, W. S. Patterson 18, C. M. Sharpe 29, and H. A. Hamilton 11, were the double figures. Thus Oxford has carried off, this year, nearly all the honours, having beat her rival on the river, at athletics, and at Lord's. Next week there will be another grand attraction at Lord's. Eton and Harrow play their annual match on Friday and Saturday next, and lovers of excitement will find ample to satisfy their craving if they visit the renowned headquarters of the M.C.C. on either or both of these days. Those, however, who prefer scientific cricket should visit Lord's on Monday or Tuesday, when the Gentlemen and Players meet for the second time this year. Let us hope the weather will be more auspicious than it was on Thursday, the opening day of the same match at the Oval.

Of other noteworthy events during the past week, we have to record the visit to Dublin of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Ellis and Mrs. Ellis. The Lord and Lady Mayoress of York had previously crossed the Irish Channel. It is almost needless to add, that the civic dignitaries of London and York received a hearty welcome from the Lord Mayor of Dublin. The good people of Dublin, also, were very enthusiastic at the arrival in their city of these important functionaries, who were cheered to the echo as they passed in state through some of the leading streets of the Irish capital. We may add, also, that the American team of riflemen, who came over from the United States a short time since for a friendly trial of skill with an Irish rifle team, have proved victorious in the struggle by 38 points. The conditions were 15 shots at each of the three ranges,

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800, 900, and 1,000 yards. At the first range the Irish headed their opponents by one point, the aggregate score being, Ireland 338, America 337. At the 900 yards, however, the latter took a decided lead, scoring 327 to the Irish 291, thus beating them by 35. The contest was very close at 1,000 yards, but here again America increased her lead, though to a very slight extent, the scores being 302, while Ireland was close at her heels with 299. Thus the total of the scores at the three ranges were America 967, Ireland 929, majority for the former 38. We believe the American team have accepted an invitation to Wimbledon. They will be sure to meet with an enthusiastic reception, and we trust a farther opportunity may be offered them of showing their skill with the rifle against an English or a Scotch eight. A Canadian team have already arrived, and as probably some Belgians will put in an appearance at the annual meeting of the National Rifle Association there ought to be no difficulty in arranging terms for another International match.

There is a dearth of political news, Royal and Imperial visits being almost the only matters to record, save that hostilities are being carried on in Spain, but apparently without result. But if there is little worth mentioning in politics, there is one terrible calamity which cannot be passed unnoticed. The fearful inundations which have destroyed a great part of Toulouse, and caused such fearful loss of life and property both in that city and in its neighbourhood, are almost unexampled. The scene, as described by the correspondents of the various daily papers, must have been heart rendering, and the floods rose so rapidly, there was no time to organize measures for preserving life, much less property. St. Cyprien, a suburb of the famous old city, is entirely swept away. Some hundreds of lives have been lost, while the damage to property is incalculable. The chief loss will fall, of course, upon the crops, and it is estimated that the number of people who will have to be provided for during the next few months will fall little short of 60,000, of whom one half belong to Toulouse and its immediate neighbourhood. President MacMahon deserves the highest credit for the promtitude with which, on the news of the disaster reaching Paris, he set out for the scene of the disaster in order personally to superintend the labours for rescuing life and property. The Assembly has already voted a credit of two millions of francs towards relieving the immediate necessities of the sufferers, and, doubtless, subscriptions will flow in from all quarters. Now is a grand opportunity for Germany to prove to the world, by the readiness of her contributions towards these poor sufferers, that the illwill, bred of the late war, is political only. If she is generous now, she will do far more to secure peace and the goodwill of France than ever she can hope to do by large armies and overbearing diplomacy. We gladly note that our French brethren were among the first to send aid to the sufferers, and we trust that London will not fail in her duty towards a nation who was, not so many years since, our firm ally. Nor should we forget to mention that His Holiness the Pope has remitted 20,000 francs towards the relief fund, and has expressed, through the Papal Nuncio at Paris, the grief which he feels at the disaster that has overtaken one of the most fertile parts of France.

A meeting of the Board of Stewards for the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Monday, the 28th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, the R.W. Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh P.G.W. in the chair. Bro. F. Binckes, the Hon. Secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. Final arrangements were then made. Bro. J. Rucker P.G.D. proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the noble chairman. The meeting was then dissolved, and Bro. Webster, &c., proceeded to ballot for places. There were present Bros. J. Rucker, Taylor, Palmer, Parsons, H. Massey, Webster, Montague, J. Abrahams, Cox, H. M. Levy, Barfield, Sabine, Bingeman, Braun, Lane, G. Verry, Hose, &c.

The Chairman of the Officers and Clerks Committee, Bro. Thos. Beard P.M. 101, entertained the members at a banquet, at the Alexandra Palace, on Friday evening, where the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, G.J.W., and the Lady Mayoress, Mr. Alderman Sydney, Sir Robert W. Carden, Bros. E. Hart, Pannell, Roberts, Harris, &c., were present.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

THE 77th Anniversary Festival will be held at the Alexandra Palace, on Wednesday, 7th July 1875. The general arrangements, as approved by the Board of Stewards, Wednesday, 2nd June 1875, are as follows:—

The Stewards to be divided into two bodies:—

1. Distinguishing colour of dinner tickets, badges, &c. *Pink*.
2. Ditto " " " " *Blue*.

(The distinctive colours will be maintained through all the details.)

1. Stewards, Ladies and Brethren, with *Pink* tickets, will meet in the large Saloon on the *right* of entrance—marked **A**.

The Ante-room to be reserved for the use of the Stewards of the *Pink* Division.

2. Stewards, Ladies and Brethren, with *Blue* Tickets, will meet in the large Saloon on the *left* of entrance—marked **B**.

The Ante-room to be reserved for the use of Stewards of the *Blue* division.

The badges for each division will be distributed in the respective rooms by a Steward entrusted with their charge; the ground colours being respectively Crimson and Purple.

Wands will be borne by Special Stewards only.

On the arrival of the Chairman, he will be received by the Officers of the Board and conducted to the room at the west of Saloon **A**, where presentations, if any be necessary, will be made.

The Chairman may then—should he either approve or desire it—be introduced formally to the company assembled in Saloon **A**; pass through Stewards' Ante-room, and be similarly introduced to the company assembled in Saloon **B**.

At a given signal the Stewards and their friends in Saloon **A** will pass up the staircase—on reaching the corridor on first floor, turn to the *right* and enter the Banquet Room by the two doors lettered **C** and **D**, and take their seats at the tables numbered 2 to 9 on the *left of the Chair*.

That done, the Stewards and their friends in Saloon **B** will proceed similarly, turning to the *left* on reaching the corridor, and enter the Banquet Room by the two doors lettered **A** and **B**, and take their seats numbered 10 to 17 on the *right of the Chair*.

The company seated, the Chairman will enter, accompanied by the House Committee of the Institution, the Officers of the Board, and the Grand Officers, for all of whom seats will be provided at the long table.

A Private Drawing Room at the western end of the Banquet Hall, known as the "Western Tower Saloon," will be reserved for the exclusive use of Ladies.

The General Drawing-Room, in which the Evening Concert will be given, will be the large Saloon on the Ground Floor letter **B**—colour, *Blue*.

In the Saloon on the Ground Floor—letter **A**, colour *Pink*, Light Refreshments—Tea, Coffee, Lemonade, Ices, &c., will be served throughout the evening after the Banquet.

The Room on the Ground Floor—in which the Chairman was received—will be reserved as a Smoking Room.

Hats and coats will be taken charge of by attendants at the rooms right and left of entrance—*Pink* Tickets on *right*—*Blue* Tickets on *left*.

Special trains will be provided, leaving the Palace Station for King's Cross at 9.30 and 10 p.m.

For those driving to the Festival, accommodation for horses and carriages will be found in the Palace Stabling, &c., on payment of one shilling per horse.

The Institution at Wood Green, distant one mile from the Palace, will be open throughout the day for inspection by visitors to the Festival.

The following are the regulations as to Masonic Clothing and Jewels:—

Full Masonic Craft Clothing and Jewels to be worn.

By Special Command of H.R.H. The M.W. GRAND MASTER—

No Masonic Clothing or Jewel of any kind shall be worn either on going to, or returning from, that portion of the Palace set apart for the Festival—nor during the Festival in any balcony, or place, in sight of the Public.

Brethren will clothe after entering the Saloons **A** and **B**.

Stewards are particularly requested to be most careful in enforcing the rigid observance of these regulations.

By order,

FREDERICK BINCKES,

Hon. Sec. Board of Stewards.

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The R.W.P.G.M., Viscount Holmesdale, M.P. has arranged that the Provincial Grand Festival of Kent be holden at Gravesend, on Tuesday, 6th of July next. The arrangements of the Committee at Gravesend, for the Festival, are: Breakfast to Provincial Grand Officers, past and present, and W.M.'s, P.M.'s and Wardens of Lodges, at the Clarendon Hotel, at 10 o'clock; Lodge at the Milton Hall at 12; Church Service at the Parish Church at 1.30; Banquet at the Assembly Rooms at 4. Application has been made to the Railway Company to grant Return Tickets at a Single Fare.

The "Hall by the Sea," Margate, is now open, under proprietorship of Bro. Sanger, and under direction of Mr. Arthur Reeve. Several additions have been made to the rare specimens of birds and animals, including four elephants. The dens are illuminated at night. There is a very excellent concert, the Bros. Wills, Mr. Brooks, Miss Eliza Ward, and a capital band, under the direction of Mr. E. Crosse. A ball is given every evening, at 8.30. An anticipatory ball is given at the Assembly Rooms, Margate, under the management of Bro. Edwin Villiers. Bro. Jarvis is the M.C.

A committee has been formed for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Bro. Thos Meekham P.M., in recognition of his services as one of the Masters of the Ceremonies, for many years, at the Licensed Victuallers' School and Asylum Balls, the Protection Society Ball, &c.

The fifteen sections were worked by Bro. Crawley, Preceptor, in the Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction, meeting at the Approach Tavern, Approach Road, Victoria Park, on Friday last, assisted by Bros. Ashburner, Henry Lloyd, Cronch, Crane, Gross, Wallington, Allen, Christian and Horsley. There was a good attendance of brethren. Young members are recommended to pay a visit to this Lodge, where they will receive that instruction so ably given by the worthy Preceptor.

On Tuesday, the 22nd ult., Bro. Frostick, of Westgate-on-Sea, who had been initiated in the Old Concord Lodge, and, by the courtesy of the W.M., was passed and raised to the 3rd degree in the Union Lodge, No. 127, entertained the W.M., officers and brethren at the King's Head, High Street, Margate, at a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Smith. The meeting was a very agreeable and social one. Some very eloquent and appropriate speeches were made, by Bros. Frostick, J. Compton P.M., Teakins P.M. and Hennah.

Bro. Captain Boyton will cross the Firth of Forth in his life saving dress, and with the aid of a paddle and a sail, on the 17th inst.

A grand concert will be held in St. George's Hall, Langham Place, on the evening of Thursday, the 15th instant, for the benefit of the widow of the late Bro. Richard Limpus. Our late respected brother was the founder of the College of Organists, and had held the position of honorary secretary and treasurer from its commencement to his death. It was mainly owing to his exertions that the Benevolent Fund attached to the College was established, and not only so but through his efforts it is that the College has attained its present high position. Bro. Limpus was a man of eminence in his profession, and had filled the post of Organist to St. Michael's, Cornhill, for over five-and-twenty years. He was also Prov. G. Organist for Middlesex. His death occurring prematurely, it was out of his power to make provision for his widow. Hence, the subscription lists which have been opened under the auspices of the College of Organists. Hence, too, the concert fixed for the 15th instant, when many distinguished artistes have freely offered their services. We trust both the testimonial and the concert may be productive of good.

MASONIC ORIGIN OF "BROTHER JONATHAN."

THE Grand Secretary of Ohio claims to have discovered the origin of "Brother Jonathan," and glories in his discovery, because it is connected with Freemasonry. The hero of his romance is Jonathan Belcher, a Boston boy, the son of a merchant, who obtained his father's consent to visit Europe. The author says:

"In the spring of 1700, in his twentieth year, young Jonathan bade good-bye to his indulgent parent, and the ambitious youth sailed for the port of Liverpool [more likely Bristol or London]. On reaching London, his social position and graces gave him *entrée* into the refined society of the city, and the universities [what universities?], and to the court of King William III."

"This monarch had been privately initiated into Masonry by the venerable architect, Sir Christopher Wren, and became enthusiastic in what now was termed the royal art, so much so as to preside in a Lodge specially erected for him in the regal apartments of Hampton Court, where he and his favourites spent many festive hours."

"Young Yankee and old Architect affiliated admirably; Young Curious and Old Curiosity became consorts at once."

Young Jonathan in Holland, during King William's visit there "was a card among the burgomasters; he also visited the Electress at Hernhausen, where she studied philosophy in the garden, and became a great favourite of herself, her son, and grandson, afterward George I., and II., who, by the bye, were both Masons."

"Six years were spent in travels, the most impressive of the experiences of which were those of Holland, and in fraternal relations with the young Elector of Hanover, and in England with Sir Christopher Wren. * * *

"In 1702, the year Jonathan became a Mason, the King having fallen from his horse in Bush Park, died, and the court were in mourning. Of those in the funeral array, none attracted more attention, as, clothed with a Masonic collar and jewel, he left Kensington Palace for the sepulture of royalty in the chapel of Henry VII., Westminster. The people eagerly pointed out the American. 'That is Bro. Jonathan, so familiarly called by the old King.'

"The aged Christopher Wren never attracted so much attention as on the funeral occasion of King William, who had received the Masonic degrees at his hand" [at a period when there were no degrees].

Glory to the Grand Lodge of Ohio and its Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, who was inspired with a *revelation*, out-revealing the Revelation of a Square! For the first time we are informed procession, attended by Sir Christopher Wren and brother architects, clothed in Masonic paraphernalia. And to substantiate the fact of Brother Jonathan's Masonization in 1702, the R.W. Ohio brother cites from a letter of Jonathan Belcher, addressed to a Boston Lodge in 1741, as follows:

"It is now thirty-nine years since I was admitted in the ancient and honourable society of Free and Accepted Masons."

Hence, he was made a Mason in 1702, and hence Bro. Jonathan was entitled to wear the Masonic collar and jewel, and to march in Masonic procession in company with Sir C. Wren at Bro. William's funeral in 1702. This wonderful discovery I have already seen reprinted in a Masonic paper, and ere this communication appears the Bro. Jonathan story will probably appear in other papers, without any challenge. It is a pity to spoil such a fine story; but I am of opinion that Masonic history is already overloaded with such stories, and can do very well without new additions. Briefly then, the letter of Gov. Belcher, above referred to, does not state "thirty-nine years since," but *thirty-seven years since*; hence, Jonathan Belcher was not initiated until 1704, or two years after the funeral of William III.

I must here relate a very curious fact in connection with the romance of King William's initiation in a private Lodge, as above stated. The Rev. Bro. A. F. A. Woodford is undoubtedly the most accomplished scholar, and one of the most assiduous Masonic students, now contributing to the Masonic press in England. At my interview with that distinguished brother last year, Bro. W. informed me, that some few years ago he was invited to deliver a Masonic address before a Lodge in the town or neighbourhood where he officiated as pastor of the Episcopal church. To prepare himself for the required task, he took up Anderson's History of Masonry, and the story of King William's initiation in a private Lodge in his palace made him pause. "I asked myself," he said, "Is there any foundation for this statement of Anderson? And upon careful enquiry I came to the conclusion that it was apocryphal; this inquiry impelled me to continue in my researches, and was the cause of my becoming a Masonic Student."—*Bro. Jno. Newton.*

We extract the following items from the *Ottawa Weekly Citizen*:—

Arrangements are being made for a grand Masonic moonlight excursion down the Ottawa, on the steamer Pearl-ve. The date has not yet been fixed: the mere fact of its being a Masonic Excursion will ensure its success.

At a meeting of the Builders' Lodge, held last evening, the following were elected as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. S. Rogers W.M., T. Kean S.W., W. Mills J.W., W. D. Wilson Treasurer, W. Rae Secretary, McCarthy Tyler.

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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, 3rd JULY.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Dale-street, Manchester.

MONDAY, 5th JULY.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)
57—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel Assembly Rooms, Preston.
153—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
251—Loyal, Freemasons' Hall, Queen Anne's Wall, Barnstaple.
303—Benevolent, Masonic Hall, Teignmouth.
385—Harmony and Industry, New Inn, Over Darwen.
422—Yarborough, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Gainsborough.
431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Suffolk-street, Sheffield.
597—St. Cybi, Marine Hotel, Holyhead.
804—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Havant.
890—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Market Place, Ashbourne.
977—Powey, Masonic Rooms, Fowey.
1000—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1060—Gundolph, Kings's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1067—Wilton, Red Lion Hotel, Blackley, near Manchester.
1119—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors.
1160—Prudence, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth. (Emergency.)

TUESDAY, 6th JULY.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
87—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
108—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
252—Harmonic, Freemasons' Hall, Stone-street, Dudley.
266—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
288—St. David's, Masonic Hall, Parade, Berwick.
421—Loyal Lodge of Industry, Freemasons' Hall, South Melton.
696—Canalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorkshire.
1134—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
1322—Waverley, Church Inn, Hurst Cross, near Ashton-under-Lyne.

WEDNESDAY, 7th JULY.

Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at Alexandra Palace.
183—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch Lane, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
164—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, London Hotel, Sidmouth.
168—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
262—Bedford, Private Rooms, Abbey, Tavistock.
289—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.
290—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
357—St. John's, Lamb and Lion, Wigton.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
645—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
679—Earl Ellesmere, Church Street, Eccles.
1144—Milton, Ryecroft Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
R. A. 300—Perseverance, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
R. A. 306—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, St. George's-street, Leeds.
M.M. 30—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.
M.M 66—West Lancashire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.

THURSDAY, 8th JULY.

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
130—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
218—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
324—Royal Preston, Royal George Hotel, Fulwood, Lancashire.
647—Portsmouth, Masonic Hall, Highbury-street Portsmouth.
690—Elias de Derham, Masonic Hall, The Canal, Salisbury.
850—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
738—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
884—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
1065—Derby, Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, Manchester.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.

FRIDAY, 9th JULY.

177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1278—Bartlett Cantis, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 249 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
176—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Melcombe Regis, Weymouth.
697—Union, George Hotel, Colchester.
1067—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
R. A. 177—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
R. A. 942—Bank Terrace, Harpurhey, Arms Hotel, Accrington.
R. A. 965—Alexandra, Midway House, Levenshulme.
K. T.—St. Joseph, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
K. T.—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
Rose Croix—Palatine, Palatine Hotel, Manchester.

SATURDAY, 10th JULY.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—5—Waterford, Masonic Hall, The Mall, Waterford.
,, 122—Patrick, Masonic Hall, Bargonnon, co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY—20—True Blue, Kilbeigh, co. Meath.
,, 171—Duke of Clarence, Dublin.
,, 219—St. Albans, Private House, Main-street, Newtownlimavady, Derry.
,, 881—Chase, Thompson's Hotel, Chapel.
,, 815—True Blue, Aston-street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—21—Temple, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
,, 70—Waringstown, Tullylaw-lane, Down.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
,, 138—Londonderry, Londonderry.
,, 248—Ravenmoon, Court House, Enniscorthy.
,, 411—Derwhan, Masonic Hall, Drogheda, co. Louth.
FRIDAY—178—St. John, Castle-street, Lisburn, co. Antrim.
,, 218—Magherafelt, Court House, Market-street, co. Derry.
SATURDAY—13—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—29—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—3—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 86 Constitution-street.
THURSDAY—8—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—66—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lodge Canongate, Kilwinning, Edinburgh, No. 2.—The annual meeting for the election of Office Bearers for year 1875-6 took place on the evening of 24th ult., and there was a numerous attendance of the brethren, including Bros. J. Schopp R.W.M., W. N. Fraser of Tornaveen P.M., Dr. Middleton Dep. M., J. Laurie Grand Secretary, W. Officer S.S.C., W. G. Roy S.S.C., A. W. Clarke, Dr. Carmichael, C. G. C. Christie, &c., &c. The Office Bearers elected for the ensuing year were as follow:—Bros. Johan Schopp R.W.M., Dr. Middleton D.M., H. E. Jonas S.M., R. Anderson S.W., L. Spanier J.W., Thos. Drybrough Treasurer, B. Petillean S.D., Robert Muller J.D., Capt. L. Archer Poet Laureate, &c., &c. The members of committee appointed were:—W. N. Fraser of Tornaveen Chairman, D. Crawford S.S.C., D. S. Buchanan, Dr. Carmichael, C. O. Nauman, C. W. M. Muller, James Scrymgeour. The Lodge was thereafter called from labour to refreshment, and the brethren proceeded, according to ancient custom, to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Baptist. Deputations were received from the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel) No. 1, Canongate and Leith L. and C. No. 5, St. John, Fishemow No. 113, Edinburgh Defensive Band No. 151, Trafalgar, Leith, No. 223, and many visiting brethren attended. A very happy evening was spent, enlivened by a variety of excellent songs, and by able performances on the organ, kindly rendered by Bros. Davidson and Frost. Ultimately the Lodge was recalled to labour, and closed in due form.

Faith Lodge of Instruction, No. 141.—A meeting was held at 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria Street, S.W., on Tuesday, 29th June. Present—Bros. Shand W.M., Hunt S.W., Stiles J.W., Leggott S.D., Mason J.D., Foote I.G., Cottebrune P.M. Preceptor, Bassington Secretary. Past Masters—Bros. Bull, Swallow, Scott, Dunham and Robinson, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened in due form, with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed, Bro. Belfrage candidate. The first, second and third sections of the first lecture were worked by the brethren, under the direction of Past Masters Scott, Swallow, and Cottebrune respectively. The W.M. called off from labour to refreshment, and afterwards called on from refreshment to labour. The Lodge voted a donation to a distressed brother. Bro. Hunt S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. at ensuing meeting, and after a cordial vote of thanks to the W.M., to be recorded on the minutes, for his able and efficient conduct in the chair for the first time, the Lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer, and in perfect harmony. The ceremony of installation will be worked in this Lodge, by Bro. Cottebrune, on Tuesday next, 6th July, at 8 o'clock.

Lodge of Lights, No. 148, Warrington.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, on Monday evening last. The W.M. Dr. Bowes, P. Prov. G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmoreland, was supported by Bros. W. H. Robinson S.W., Thos. Tunstall J.W., John Harding I.P.M., Joseph Pickthall S.D., John R. Young J.D., C. E. Hindley I.G., R. G. Stringer P.M., W. Sharp P.M. Treasurer, W. Richardson P.M., W.M. 1250, Charles Skinner, Peter Jones, Thos. Jones, Thos. Grime, Geo. A. Clark, John Pierpoint, J. H. Patten, Thos. R. Carter, Thos. Thos Pattison Org., C. Ekkert, Jno. Armstrong, James Bayley, Thos. Jones, Jas. Paterson, J. J. Thompson, James Hannah Tyler. Visitors:—Bros. R. Rigby W.M. 758, John Fothergill P.M. 1129, P. J. Edelsten W.M. 1134, D. W. Finney P.M. 148, W. S. Hawkins P.M. 1250, E. Aston S.W. 758, Jas. Warburton J.W. 758, W. E. Wass I.G. 758, W. Mac Clellon 758, and W. Tongue 978. The Lodge was opened in due form with prayer, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and declared to be correctly recorded. Bro. James Paterson having claimed preferment, and his claim being efficiently proved, he was entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Paterson re-admitted and passed by the W.M., who also delivered the lecture on the Tracing Board of the Second Degree; the working tools were presented by the S.W., Bro. W. H. Robinson. The Lodge was closed in the second degree. Three gentlemen were proposed as fit and proper persons to be received into the Order. Bro. Robert Gibbons, who was elected an annuitant of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at the recent meeting, was unanimously elected as honorary member of the Lodge. Hearty good wishes were tendered by the visitors, and the routine business having been completed, the Lodge was closed in solemn form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

Lodge of True Friendship, No. 160.—The installation meeting of this old and distinguished Lodge took place in the Lodge room, at the Old Ship Inn, Rochford, on Thursday, the 24th inst., when Bro. Joseph Reece, the W.M. elect, was duly installed for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Worshipful Brother W. Piesse P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G.W., W. Bro. Albert Lucking P.M. No. 160, W.M. No. 1000, and Prov. G.A.D. of Ceremonies, acting as Director of Ceremonies. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follow: Worshipful Bro. J. A. Wardell I.P.M. P.M. No. 1000 P.P.J.G.D., Bro. Rev. H. J. Hatch S.W. and Chaplain, Bro. Frederick V. Jellings J.W., Worshipful Bro. H. Wood P.M. No. 160 and P.P.G.O. re-elected, for the 20th time, Treasurer, Worshipful Bro. Geo. Burgess P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G.D. re-appointed, for the 20th time, as Secretary, Brother Wm. Allen S.D., Brother Thos. W. Gower J.D., Worshipful Bro. Albert Lucking P.M. No. 160, and Prov. A.G.D.C., Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Arthur Harrington I.G., Bro. J. Allen re-elected Tyler. The Lodge being closed, the brethren, about 26 in number, sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Brother H. D. Brown, of the Old Ship Inn,

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Rochford. The following Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers, Past Masters, and Visitors were present: Bro. Joseph Reeve W.M., W. Bro. J. A. Wardell I.P.M. No. 160, P.M. No. 1000 and P.P.J.G.D., W. Bro. W. J. Allen P.M. No. 160 and P.P.G.A.D.C., W. Bro. H. Wood P.M. No. 160 and P.P.G.O., W. Bro. Geo. F. Browning P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G.W., W. Bro. Geo. Burgess P.M. No. 160 and P.P. J.G.D., W. Bro. Fredk. Wiseman P.M. No. 160., W. Bro. Wm. Pinsey P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G.W., W. Bro. Edward Judd P.M. No. 160 and P.P.G.R., W. Bro. A. Lucking P.M. 160 W.M. 1000 and Prov. A.G.D.C., W. Bro. E. E. Phillips P.M. Lodge of Honour, Bath, No. 379 and S.W. No. 1000, Bro. J. C. Mason J.D. Prince Frederic William Lodge, No. 753, Bro. W. C. Bell S.D. St. Peter's Lodge, No. 1024, Bro. Edwin Bonner I.G. Eastern Star Lodge, No. 95, Bro. J. H. Spencer, Mount Lebanon Lodge, No. 73, Bro. G. F. Jones, Priory Lodge, No. 1000. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the brethren spent a very enjoyable evening, which was enlivened by some very excellent songs given by Bros. H. Wood, Hatch, Bonner, F. Wiseman, Gower, Joslin, Mason, J. Harrington and others.

Sincerity Lodge, No. 169.—The members of this Lodge met at St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, in large numbers, to witness the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Alfred Latimer, and the attendance was augmented by the presence of many visiting brethren. Amongst those attending were—Officers of Sincerity: J. E. Curtois W.M., A. Latimer S.W., F. Waldo How J.W., R. H. Rae Sec., T. S. Bayly Treasurer, J. E. Moon S.D., T. W. Lemon P.G.C. J.D., W. Tester I.G., C. Croydon S., Past Master I. Latimer I.P.M., R. Robinson Rodd, J. Sadler, J. Dampney, and J. Head; Members—G. H. Evans, H. Horton, G. R. Barrett, A. Ralph, J. Lewis, H. C. Fitzgerald, J. P. Latimer, Elliot Square, E. Holberton Edlin, and T. W. Hussey. Visiting brethren—R. Rodda 105 P.P.G.R., C. Rodda 105, W. Laxon 1905, J. K. Lord P.M. and T. 1247, J. May P.M. 223, E. Martin I.P.M. 1212, F. A. Thomas P.M. 1247 P.G.S.D., H. S. Hill 223 J.D., R. Franklin P.M. 1 (Ireland), W. Harries S.W. 1205, J. W. Cornish P.M. 223, &c., &c. The Lodge having been opened by the W.M., with that promptness which has distinguished his year of office, and the minutes (containing a grant to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at the forthcoming Festival, of which Bro. Curtois had previously intimated his intention of acting as Steward) having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bros. Eldin and Laxon as joining members, and for Messrs. Holmes and Coombes, as candidates for initiation, and it proving unanimous in their favour, the last named gentlemen were admitted to light, the ceremony being performed by the W.M. in his wonted correct and impressive style. This pleasing duty having been concluded, the W.M. said as that would be the last occasion on which it would be his good fortune to address the whole of the brethren present, in the position he then occupied, he thought it would not be out of place if he addressed to them a few remarks as to the events which had signalised the past year, which had been a most auspicious and eventful one for the Craft generally, and especially for the brethren of the Province of Devon, for, in the first place, they had had the opportunity of attending the great, grand, and glorious reception which the Masons of Devon and Cornwall had given his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, when he opened the New Guildhall at Plymouth, such a spectacle as few Masons up to that time had witnessed, and again many had had the proud privilege of being present at a yet greater, grander, and more magnificent assembly of Freemasons when his Royal Highness was installed in the high and dignified position of M.W.G.M. It had occurred to him that such occasions as these should not pass unnoticed, or without some permanent memento of them being in the Lodge; with this object the members who had attended Grand Lodge on the 28th of April last, had a photograph taken, which, as enlarged, he begged to present to the Lodge. In conclusion, he thanked his officers for the zealous and efficient manner in which they had assisted him during his year of office in the duties of his important situation. The photograph having been unveiled, Bro. Rodd, the senior Past Master, paid a high tribute to the zeal, ability and courtesy that had characterised Bro. Curtois' conduct in the chair during the past year, holding him up as an example for others to imitate, and proposed a resolution, not only recognising his important services, but thanking him for his very elegant and timely gift. This was seconded by Bro. Latimer I.P.M. in the most cordial terms, and the motion was carried by acclamation. Bro. Rae P.M., Secretary of the Lodge, then gave notice of his intention to move, at its next regular meeting, that a P.M.'s jewel, or some other tangible recognition of his services, be presented to the W.M., and in so doing took occasion to remark that, in Lodge Sincerity, such a presentation meant more than it did in many other Lodges, where jewels were regularly voted whether the W.M. had worked well or not; but there could be no doubt that Bro. Curtois had worked as unexceptionally as his year of office had been distinguished by events which it was impossible should occur again in the lifetime of the brethren present. The Lodge was then passed and raised to the higher degrees, and Bro. Latimer was duly installed according to ancient custom in the chair of K.S., the work being performed in a faultless manner by the retiring Master, who had won the admiration of all by his highly successful realisation of the beauty and impressiveness of the ceremonial, and a spontaneous burst of hearty applause greeted him on his taking his seat. The newly installed W.M. invested his officers as follow:—J. E. Curtois I.P.M., T. Waldo How S.W., J. E. Moon J.W., T. S. Bayly Treasurer, R. H. Rae Secretary, Rev. T. W. Lemon S.D., G. Jackson J.D., C. Croydon I.G., Col. Fitzgerald D.C., Horton O., T. W. Hussey and J. Fouracre Stewards. At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren adjourned to an adjoining room and partook of a cold collation. The speeches following were hearty, cordial, and brief. "The Queen," and "The Prince of Wales, G.M. of England" having been honoured, the W.M. gave in terms fully appreciative of their high qualities, "The P.G.M. and the D.P.G.M., of Devon, Provincial Officers past and present." W. Bro. I. Latimer made the response highly eulogising R.W. Bros. Hayshe and Metham for that work and example which would outlive them many a year. The toast of the evening, "The newly installed W.M." was given in a few complimentary sentences by Bro. Curtois, and Bro. A. Latimer, in his response, spoke of the confidence he felt owing to the presence in the Lodge of such efficient Past Masters and officers. Bro. Curtois and the W. Bro. from Ireland responded for "The Past Masters, and Bro. Rodda, in a suggestive speech, for "The Visitors." At the suggestion of P.M. Rodd the officers of "Sincerity" Lodge were toasted, the respondents being Bros. Rae, How, and Moon, and with "Our newly initiated brethren" and "Our poor and distressed brethren, wherever depressed; speedy relief to them" a very pleasantly spent evening was brought to a close.

Downshire Lodge, No. 594.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 24th June, at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool. The attendance of the brethren was very large and influential, comprising several P.G. Lodge officers and other leaders in local Lodges. Bro. J. W. Baker, P.M 241, very ably fulfilled the duties of installing master, placing Bro. T. Dilcock in the chair of W.M., in a manner which was eminently satisfactory. The W.M. invested the following as his officers:—Bros. S. G. Ibbs P.M. D.C., H. Hunt I.P.M., E. P. France S.W., J. Le Comber J.W., R. Ing P.M. Treasurer, J. L. Houghton Secretary, J. H. Martin S.D., T. Boswell J.D., W. G. Veale Organist, J. Whitfield Organist, J. Pedersen S.S., Gilbert Maxwell J.S., and P. Larsen Tyler. Before the closing of the Lodge, a very handsome drawing room clock was presented to Bro. S. E. Ibbs, one of the P.M.'s of the Lodge, by the brethren, as a token of their appreciation of the valued services he had performed in connection with the many important offices he had most efficiently filled during his membership, extending over many years. The presentation was made by Bro. R. Ing P.M., and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Ibbs. The brethren subsequently banqueted at the Palace Hotel, Birkdale, where a most sumptuous repast was served by Bro. Clark, the manager, who deserves the greatest credit for the admirable nature of the dinner and the manner in which it was served. A very handsome jewel was presented during the evening to Bro. H. Hunt I.P.M., as a mark of esteem of the brethren. Speeches and songs engaged the attention of the brethren, and about nine o'clock they returned to town, after spending one of the happiest days ever held in connection with the "Old Downshire."

Devonshire Lodge, No. 625.—Lodge meeting held on 23rd of June, at the Norfolk Hotel, Glossop. Present—Bros. George E. Cox W.M., Joseph M. Stafford S.W., John Hardman J.W., William H. Irlam S.D., Joseph Collier J.D., John Nield Steward, David Davis Winterbottom Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. John Hall, William Dawson. Visitors, Bros. Robert Taylor P.M. Secretary 287. Business transacted:—The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. R. J. Lees and Mr. J. T. Armitage was ballotted for, and approved. Bro. J. Hadfield was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The ceremonies were delivered in a very impressive manner by the W.M., and all the officers were perfect.

St. John's Lodge, No. 795.—A meeting of this summer Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead. Bros. C. W. Moule W.M., J. H. Sadler as S.W., C. Gammon P.M. Treasurer, H. H. Hodges P.M. Secretary, J. R. Foulger P.M. S.D., G. A. Terry I.G., C. Nowell Tyler; Past Masters T. A. Carr, C. N. Harvey; Bros. J. J. Ewer and R. Turner. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. D. W. Bell, 90, was elected a joining member. Messrs. A. P. Leite, W. H. C. Sharpe and T. Slater were initiated into the Order, by the courtesy of the W.M., by Bro. T. A. Carr P.M. Three brethren were proposed for initiation. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Lewis. Bro. Moule W.M. presided. The usual toasts followed. The visitors were:—Bros. Dr. Ramsey Prince of Wales's Lodge, Nos. 259 and 778, and E. Harfield P.M. 185.

Mid Sussex Lodge, No. 1141.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 21st of June, at Assembly Rooms, Horsham. Present—Bros. J. O. McCarogher W.M., W. G. Sharp S.W., Alfred Agate J.W., E. Taylor Secretary, W. Linstott Treasurer, Geo. Bishop S.D., T. Harms D.C., T. W. Thorpe Steward, C. Hilton I.G., W. Randall Tyler. Past Masters Bros. W. Challen, H. Figg, T. Oliver, Visitors, Bros. E. Booty, Royal Clarence Lodge, Brighton; W. Read W. M. Howard Lodge, Arundel, No. 56. Business:—Installation of W.M., appointment and investiture of officers.

Egerton Lodge, No. 1392.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 23rd June, at the Stanley Arms, Bury. In all likelihood there will be no summer vacation this year—in fact the present meeting was of an extra character—in consequence of the amount of business to transact and the aim of the officers to keep their work well under hand. At this meeting there were present Bros. Richard Pilkington W.M., William Brown S.W., Jos. Metcalf J.W., William Burgess S.D., Wm. Hutchinson J.D., Thos. Shaw I.G., Geo. Brown Tyler, Wm. Shaw Treasurer, Jos. Barlow Secretary and P.M., J. W. Crossley P.M.; Visitor, Bro. J. Randle Fletcher P.M. 191, and nearly a score of other brethren. Mr. John Agar, watchmaker, &c., was initiated into Masonic mysteries by the W.M., the charge being given by Bro. Shaw I.G. There were two propositions for initiation. The Lodge was afterwards opened in the second degree, when Bro. Fred. Wilkinson was crafted by the W.M. A substantial supper was afterwards discussed by 28 brethren.

Hamer Lodge, No. 1393.—On the afternoon of Tuesday,

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22nd June, the periodical installation in connection with the Hamer Lodge, No. 1893, took place at the Clarence Hotel, Everton-road, Liverpool, when Bro. Henry Jackson was placed in the chair of W.M., having been elected to that office by the unanimous vote of the members. The other officers invested were Bros. R. H. Evans I.P.M., J. M'Carthy S.W., E. Datch J.W., C. Tyrer Treasurer, T. Large Secretary, T. Sammons S.D., R. Price J.D., R. Leason I.G., J. Price D.C., T. Brown S.S., C. Phillips J.S., and H. Hindle Organist. The brethren dined in the evening at the "Harrington," Harrington Street.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—A meeting was held at the Westbourne Restaurant, Craven Road, Bayswater, on Monday, the 28th June. Present—Bros. Gellion W.M., Stiles S.W., Savage J.W. Alais S.D., Longhurst J.D., Death I.G., Read P.M. Preceptor and Secretary, and Bros. Cole, Cragg, Dykes, Bullock, Aitchison, Urry, and Crattenden P.M. The Lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed. Bro. Cole candidate. The first and second sections of the first lecture were worked by the brethren, under the direction of Bro. Savage J.W., and the third and fourth section of this lecture were also worked by the brethren, under the direction of Bro. Read Preceptor. Bro. Stiles S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. at evening meeting. The Lodge was closed in due form and perfect harmony.

Sir Watkin Lodge, No. 1477.—On Monday, the 21st of June, Brother Horatio Lloyd P.M. P.S.G.W., Cheshire, county court judge for North Wales and Recorder of Chester, was installed W.M. of the Sir Watkin Lodge, No. 1477, at Mold. In consequence of the general respect and esteem in which Judge Lloyd is held, a dispensation had been obtained for holding the Lodge in a large room in the Market Hall, where a large number of members and visitors could be accommodated. Since the present W.M. has been appointed county court judge for the Principality, he has taken up his residence near Mold. The Sir Watkin Lodge has only been established about a year and a half, during which time Bro. J. Salmon P.S.G.B. North Wales, and P.G.S.D. Cheshire, has been the W.M. Upon this occasion the retiring officers of the Lodge were Bros. J. Corbett J.W., S. Beresford Sec., Rev. Edwards Chaplain, Alderman Potts S.D., J. Williams J.D. G.E. Org., J. E. Birch I.G. There was an excellent attendance of members of the Lodge and of visiting brethren. Among the latter were Bros. A. F. Watts P.M. (Abergele), W. Johnson W.M. 721 (Chester), Robert Jones 241 (Merchants' Lodge, Liverpool, and G. Bradley 1,836 (Wrexham), R. J. Simcox W.M. P.G.S. 1143 (Denbigh), E. B. Smith W.M. 1433 (Oswestry), J. O. Robinson W.M., J. M'Hattie S.W., T. Wood P.M., S. Spencer P.G.S. 425 (Chester). The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Salmon, the retiring W.M., in an exceedingly appropriate and solemn manner, the W.M. elect being presented by Bro. Dr. Spratley (Liverpool). The installed W.M. then appointed as his officers, Bros. J. Corbett S.W., A. Potts J.W., J. Williams S.D., J. D. Birch J.D., and Rowlands I.G. The Secretary, Organist, and Chaplain were reappointed. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the W.M. presented P.M. Bro. J. Salmon with a handsome and valuable P.M.'s jewel, accompanying it with an expression of thanks to him, on the part of the Lodge, as one of its founders and chief workers. The brethren retired for refreshment to the Star Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served. The W.M. presided, and the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The health of Sir W. W. Wynne M.P. R.W.G.M., and the rest of the Officers of the P.G. Lodge, was responded to by Bro. Simcox. "The W.M. and Officers of the Sir Watkin Lodge," and "The immediate P.M. and Installing Master" were responded to by Bros. H. Lloyd and Salmon. On Tuesday, the 22nd June, a large party of ladies and gentlemen—the latter being members of Masonic Lodges in North Wales, Shropshire and Cheshire, but principally belonging to the Sir Watkin Lodge, Mold—visited Wynnstay Hall, the seat of Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn M.P. R.W.P.G.M. By the kindness of the worthy baronet, the apartments were thrown open to the visitors, and the inspection of the paintings, sculptures, tapestry, &c., afforded a fine treat to the excursionists. A banquet was served in the park, near the gate leading to the village. Afterwards, Bro. Edwards, chaplain, presented Bro. Salmon P.M. P.G.S.B., in the name of the Sir Watkin Lodge, with a valuable gold chronometer watch and a lady's gold chain and locket. In doing so, the reverend brother said that Bro. Salmon had been everything to that Lodge while it had existed, and had conducted its ceremonies in a manner second to none in the Province. (Loud applause). Bro. Salmon, in acknowledging the gift, said he had but done his duty; and he would have experienced great difficulty in getting through the work had it not been for the services of a younger but more able Mason than himself—he alluded to Bro. J. Worrall P.M. P.Z. P.G.S.B. He had great pleasure in presenting Bro. Worrall, in the name of the Lodge, with a handsome tea and coffee service. (Loud applause). Bro. Worrall, in thanking the Lodge for the presentation, congratulated it on having so distinguished a Mason and so respected a judge as Bro. Horatio Lloyd for their W.M. The party afterwards visited the various localities of the park and neighbourhood, returning to tea in the evening, and leaving at a comparatively early hour.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—A meeting was held at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road, Kings Cross, on Friday, the 25th June. Present—Bros. Kingham W.M., Shand S.W., Dawkins J.W., Shankland S.D., Read J.D., Carter I.G., Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, Stiles Secretary, and Bros. Scales, Jones, Michael, Reepe, Caret, and Tittenborn. The Lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Caret offered himself as a candidate for passing, and having duly qualified himself, was entrusted and withdrew. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Caret passed to the degree of F.C. The W.M. called off from labour to refreshment, and afterwards called on from refreshment to labour. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the ceremony of initiation ably rehearsed, Bro. Carter candidate. Bro. Dawkins J.W. unanimously elected W.M. at ensuing meeting, in consequence of the S.W. stating his inability to attend. The Lodge was closed in due form, and perfect harmony.

Chislehurst Lodge, No. 1531.—A meeting of this Lodge, lately consecrated, was held on Saturday, the 26th ult., at the Bull's Head Hotel, Chislehurst, Bro. J. Coutts P.G.P. W.M. in the chair, Bros. G. S. Guest S.W., W. Kipps J.W., F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex Treasurer, J. Griffin P.M. Secretary, H. Gloster S.D., J. Mason J.D., W. Hardman I.G., J. Fox W.S., Hutchings D.C., S. Abbott P.M. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the consecration meeting were read and confirmed. The following brethren were balloted for and accepted as joining members:—J. Mason 1423, J. Hutchings 147, Fox 1275, Hunt 79 and Abbott P.M. 192. Messrs. E. Kipps, J. R. Hooker and R. C. Crick were initiated. The Lodge was then closed, and a 1878 summonses banquet followed, after which the brethren [illegible] down. The visitors were Bros. C. Mallet S.D. 141 and 1326, and J. W. Reed 13.

THANET CONCLAVE, No. 121, MARGATE.

THE consecration of this Royal and Imperial Conclave of Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine will take place on Wednesday, the 21st July, at the Freemasons' Hall, Margate, at one o'clock precisely. The M.P.S. Designate, Sir Knight Mannering W. Bolton, and the Eminent Kns: Designate, Sir Knight T. Morant Compton, will be installed by Col. Fras. Burdett, the Grand Viceroy, assisted by Sir Knight R. Wentworth Little, G. Treas., and Sir Knight H. A. Dubois, A.G. Treas., and other officers of the Grand Council and Senate. A banquet will afterwards take place, at 4.30, at the King's Head Hotel, Margate, where Sir Knights of this illustrious order can obtain tickets. We understand that so many as twelve M.M.'s of high repute, residing in Gravesend, Rochester, Sheerness, Dover, Broadstairs, Ramsgate, Guildford, and Woking, are candidates for installation, and this new Conclave is likely to become one of the most numerous and flourishing in the Order.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 28. SATURDAY, 10th JULY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

AN OLD SONG RE-SET.

OUR attention has been drawn to sundry remarks in a recent issue of the *Universe*, which appears to be a thorough-paced exponent of the extremest ultramontanism. We say "appears," for we know absolutely nothing of the journal, or the influence it exerts on public opinion. We imagine, however, it finds readers among that narrow-minded section of Roman Catholics who are nothing if not bigoted; who, professing Christianity, daily and even hourly violate all the fundamental principles of the Christian faith; to whom the love, truth, and honour which the Divine founder of that Holy religion sought ever to inculcate in the minds of its followers, are as unknown as is Christianity itself to the aborigines of central and unexplored Africa; who, proposing to throw light on holy things, are themselves in the profoundest depths of ignorance as to the true meaning of holiness. This being so, it will not unnaturally be urged, Why trouble yourselves to resent an attack from a journal so worthless? Masonry is strong, and all the canting jesuitical venom of the political priest and his minions can do it no injury. Be it so, but the attack in this case has not been levelled directly at our Order, but in the first instance, at a most respectable organ of Christian Roman Catholicism, an organ which has exhibited what is now-a-days described as "the courage of its opinions." No long time since, this journal —which bears the very honourable title of *Catholic Opinion*, and is doubtless far more universal in its influence on the Catholic mind than its pretentious contemporary, the *Universe—Catholic Opinion*, we say, not long since, took the *Universe* to task for disloyally suggesting that in future the health of the Prince of Wales, "should be omitted from the list of toasts at Catholic dinners." It argued, "as loyal subjects of the Queen, we drink the health of the Prince of Wales as the heir apparent to the throne of England, not in his capacity as Grand Master of the Free-reasons." And it followed up this distinction by pertinently asking, "Is our contemporary (the *Universe*) anxious that Mr. Gladstone should have some grounds for his accusation of the disloyalty of Catholics?" These reasons must carry weight, and, indeed, naturally suggest themselves to every high minded English gentleman, be he Roman Catholic or Protestant. But what is natural in the sight of men of honour, is contemptible, nay, even beneath contempt, in the eyes of the *Universe*. It rejoins — "Our answer is that 'we deeply regret' that a contemporary, long supposed to be friendly to the Pope, should thus show a mixed allegiance. The Prince of Wales is not a sovereign, he is only a subject; he does not in any way represent our Queen; he *may* never reign, and we owe to *him*, as yet, no allegiance whatever." From this we are justified in drawing these two conclusions. 1st. The loyalty, if any, which the *Universe* feels towards its sovereign is a mere lip loyalty, 2nd. It would be loyal enough to the Prince of Wales—according to its feeble idea of what loyal means—if, while yet remaining patron of a "society which encourages murder"—so the *Universe* describes Masonry—he became our sovereign to-morrow. Our first deduction is reasonable. How can any man, or body of men, be loyal to their sovereign who honour not her family, and foremost among them, her eldest son and heir? Literally true is it, perhaps, that neither Catholics nor Protestants owe any allegiance to the Prince of Wales, "who is only a subject," and "who *may* never reign." But this is only a quibble, which none but a Jesuit or an Ultramontane would have disgraced himself by indulging in. It is clear *Catholic Opinion* makes no secret of its dislike for Freemasonry, or it would hardly have drawn a distinction between the Prince of Wales as "heir apparent to the throne," and the Prince of Wales as "Grand Master of the Freemasons." Nevertheless, it feels and declares it is incumbent on all loyal subjects of the Crown to respect the Queen's son and heir, and English subjects will cordially endorse this view so creditable to *Catholic Opinion*.

But, says the *Universe*, "there is no use in *Catholic Opinion* pointing out how to try and serve God and Mammon." This means, if anything, that an English Catholic who serves an Ultramontane Pope serves God, while he who honours the Queen's son serves Mammon. This monstrous doctrine may have found support in some countries in what are known as the dark ages, and even then the practical common sense of the unlettered English revolted against such absurdity. We can more easily imagine than describe the wrath of some grim old Anglo-Norman or Plantagenet Sovereign on hearing this laid down. Still more easy is it to conceive of the disingenuous *ruses* by which the *Universe* would have sought to evade the consequences of its treason. But, fatuous indeed must this journal be if it imagines that a nineteenth century Englishman, who is not an idiot, will "swallow"—to use a vulgar, but expressive word—such nonsense. But this is not all. "The Prince of Wales," we read, "(as the Pope's journals in Rome say) has disgraced himself by heading a society which encourages murder. The Pope says that Freemasonry, in a certain country (meaning England), under its own name, 'does guilty battle with the Church;' and his Holiness emphatically adds, that the 'nefarious character of the sect being known, there is no honest man who does not *turn from it with horror*.'" A careful analysis of these two sentences seems desirable. What must first strike the impartial reader is, the knavish cowardice of the *Universe*, who *dares* not venture to say directly that the Prince of Wales has disgraced himself by joining the Freemasons, but throws the *onus* of the statement on "the Pope's journals in Rome." But reading between the lines, and having regard to the hope expressed in a subsequent paragraph, that the editor of *Catholic Opinion* "will 'read, mark, and inwardly digest' the letter of the Pope to the Bishop of Orleans," from which the above assertions of his Holiness are extracted, there is but one inference for us to draw. The *Universe* fully accepts, as gospel, what "the Pope's journals in Rome say," and as fully endorses what the Pope affirms. Now we need not be very squeamish in dealing with such statements as these. We will not disgrace ourselves by taking shelter under the wing of a contemporary, or of any journals in England or elsewhere. We lay it down as indisputable, that to say that the Freemasons are "a society which encourages murder," is a *lie* told deliberately, and with malice prepense. "The Pope's journals in Rome" know it for a *lie*, and the *Universe* which approves this statement is aware it is approving a *lie*. There have been Freemasons who were criminals. There have been Christians who were criminals. As reasonably may we argue that Christianity "encourages murder," because there have been Christian murderers as that our Order is "a society which encourages murder" because there have been Masonic murderers. But it were worse than useless to argue with bigots or the exponents of bigotry. We have, perhaps, done the *Universe* too much honour in noticing its malicious attempts at aspersing the character of Freemasonry. But ours being a mysterious brotherhood, to which the bulk of society is a stranger—though

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any reputable person is admissible to its ranks—it cannot so well stand by and meet every accusation that is hurled against it with a *Virtute med me involvo*. As in the dark ages, already referred to, those who knew more than their neighbours were looked upon as magicians, necromancers, witches, so now among the vulgar, Masons may be pointed at as murderers, revolutionists, atheists, as guilty, in fact, of all the crimes denounced in the written and unwritten laws of God and man. But such accusations as these, if they are to have any weight, must come from those who are acquainted with our secrets, or, in other words, from renegade brothers, whose treachery alone must deprive them of all credence. Who we are, may be easily learned—in Britain, at all events—for the names of all members are registered in accordance with the law. What rules of conduct, moral and religious, are enjoined on Masons, may be gathered from our published Constitutions, which any one may purchase for eighteen pence. And, we repeat, any reputable person may learn our harmless secrets by seeking admission into our ranks. No one need fear a refusal whose character will bear investigation. These are elements in the case of Freemasonry which are entirely overlooked by our accusers, and remove us entirely from the category of those secret societies and organisations, such as the Vehmgericht of the middle ages, of which we read in Sir Walter Scott's *Anne of Geierstein*, the Inquisition, and others, whose sole purpose has been the destruction of all law and order, or, perhaps we should say rather, the substitution of an odious civil and religious tyranny for civil and religious freedom. Let the *Universe* "read, mark and inwardly digest" these remarks of ours, and if there is a grain of sense in its composition it cannot but retract its base insinuations, and still baser calumnies.

PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

MOST of our readers in the course of their experience, have doubtless met with enthusiastic brethren who take it for granted that a Mason can do no wrong. These enthusiasts are thoroughly convinced that the vast majority of those who join the Order are the most benevolent, the most moral, and the very noblest members of society. The theory in their minds, like some religious theories of "conversion," is that the instant a man has been received into the mystic circle he becomes a new being. The ignoble become noble minded, the hard hearted become sensitive, and the man of lax morals becomes a pattern of all the virtues. An enthusiastic over-estimate of the Order such as this, although it embodies a great deal of truth, is certain to do harm. We have never undervalued enthusiasm, and indeed we regard it as a great moral force, but when a brother, bent, at all hazards, upon blowing the trumpet of fame for the Order, ventures to describe the whole of his confraternity in terms which would be flattering if applied to the saints, we cannot but think that such commendation is sure to excite antagonism. The enemies of Masonry, on the watch for holes in our garments, will assuredly take up such a challenge as this. They will tell us that there are mean and ignoble Masons, mercenary Masons, they may add indeed, by way of capping the sweeping assertions of the enthusiast, that Masons generally are no better than other people, and are not to be distinguished from their neighbours for any of the special graces of character. Possibly a calm and clear thinker might be disposed to admit the general truth of some of these charges, but he would join issue with reference to the latter, and, on fairly reasonable grounds; he might urge, that Masons are a carefully selected community, that whereas society is necessarily composed of persons of all classes and dispositions, the ranks of the Order are filled only with men whose characters will bear a close inspection. Granted that men of the middle classes, for example, are generally speaking good citizens, the Mason, as such, gives an additional guarantee to society for his good behaviour, in the fact that he has become a member of a fraternity which rigidly punishes any infringement of a code which for high and pure morality will bear comparison with any system of ethics which has yet attracted the attention of men.

In saying thus much for the Order we should not unfairly beg the real point in dispute. In fact, we are willing enough to admit that there are indifferent Masons in the Order. A community of saints is quite unknown in this sublunary sphere. Wherever men are banded together for any noble object, there will be people who will seek admission to their ranks for purely selfish purposes. We are not, indeed, ignorant of the fact that the self seekers who employ Masonry for purposes of their own are to be found in every social grade. We should be the last to assert that the Order is more frequently degraded for purposes of trade than for objects which appear less sordid, but which in reality are not one whit more reputable. The rich man, who desires to get into a circle which may be entered by the agency of Grand Lodge, is unfortunately to be found occasionally in our midst. Some men make Masonry an engine for obtaining power and distinction, and while in pursuit of this object they are often willing to simulate a benevolence they do not feel. Thackeray has remarked, over and over again in his wonderful fictions, that rich people will do far more unkind things than persons of low degree. A poor man would blush to be seen squabbling over the expenditure of a few shillings. He would be ashamed to depart from his word, or to permit any one to think that he had done so. Some of our brethren who are by no means rich are the most active in all works of benevolence. They seek no reward for their labours, and would be astonished if they received any. But it has sometimes happened that a rich man has made his Masonic professions chime in with his personal interest. He does not indeed display the emblems of the Order over his door, or on his carriage, but there are other ways of trading on Masonry, and not a few candidates for social position have first qualified themselves by joining a Lodge. Some of our brethren have painful personal recollections of men of this class, who are all things to all men in the Lodge room, but who greet a brother when they meet him in the street with the cut direct. The great man, who is seeking to make his way into society, forgets the humbler member of the fraternity when it is convenient to do so, and only wakes up to a general and cordial recognition of his Masonic associates when his personal interests are directly at stake. We do not hesitate to characterise men of this stamp as unworthy members of the Craft. They may be eloquent advocates of the claims of the charities, but they have no heart in the cause, and merely display a fictitious activity to suit their own convenience.

An insincere professor is, indeed, a very unpleasant person, and it is gratifying to know that, although they are not uncommon, they are yet few and far between. A man whose zeal for Masonry keeps time with his personal interests, who is constantly making his voice heard while he has private objects of his own in view, but who is silent the moment he has accomplished his purpose, deserves to be received, when he appears among his brethren, with withering contempt. We have known Masons who were always ready with honied phrases, but who invariably forgot the homely adage that "fair words butter no parsnips." They were willing to patronise everything; our Schools, our Benevolent Institutions, anything, in fact, which might be converted into a Masonic ladder to lift them above the crowd. But when this height was gained they could afford to ignore the Charities, could turn their back upon their toiling brethren, and were utterly oblivious of the fact that they were indebted to the Order for all their poor social distinctions.

The cynic who decries Masonry is sure to point to men of this stamp when he is seeking to drive his adverse arguments home. He reminds us of the persons who have pushed themselves to the front by means of the fraternity, and concludes by asking us whether our professions of purity are not a mere sham; whether our Order is not, after all, a gigantic organisation, based on selfish interests, and trading upon sacred principles which deserve a better fate than to be thus perverted. Our answer to these unfair insendoes is clear enough. We frankly admit that there are men in our midst who are grossly selfish, in spite of their professions of benevolence and charity, but we urge that they are rare exceptions. We challenge denial when we assert that the Order, as a whole, is perfectly pure, that its devotion to charity and general benevolence is no mere sham, and that Masons as a body are true men, who have done, and are still doing, their best to make toleration, peace and goodwill universally current in the world.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

77th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

THE Third Great Festival of the Year, that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, took place at the Alexandra Palace, on Wednesday last, and may, without hesitation, be pronounced one of the greatest successes of this important Masonic year. The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master of England, and Provincial G.M. of Somerset, presided, and was supported by Lord Burleigh, the Earl of Shrewsbury, R. B. Webster (Hon. Treasurer), Sir Henry Edwards, J. Rucker (Vice-President), J. M. P. Montague Worrell, Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C., J. Boyd P.G.P., Cottebrune P.G.P., R. P. Albert A.G.P., T. Cubitt P.G.P., Roebuck, Cooper Smith P.G.J.W. Oxon., Read P.G.P. Oxon., Rev. Dr. Brett, Bros. Webster, J. A. Spencer, S. Smith, Stoner, J. Wright, McRae, C. Horsley, T. J. Sabine, G. Verry, A. C. Burrell, S. Rosenthal, W. Parsons, C. Pegler, C. Mootrie, Hopekirk, Bubb, Larkin, Pulsford, Davies, W. Pass, Wilkins, Farthing, Levy, Hodges, S. Jones, Watts, Morton, Leggat, Dr. Ramsay, Abrahams, Foxall, Richards, Condor, Hon. C. Barke, Rutherford; F. Binckes, Secretary Boys' School; R. W. Little, Secretary Girls' School; Jas. Terry, Secretary Royal Benevolent Institution, and about 240 Stewards from the several Provincial and Metropolitan Lodges.

The banquet, which was served in a most satisfactory manner by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, took place in the large dining-room of the Palace, and vast as the space is that was set apart, not a vacant chair was to be found. This is the first time, in the history of Masonic gatherings of this description, that arrangements have been made for the ladies to be present at the dinner; on previous occasions the rule having been that the ladies should dine by themselves, and not join the gentlemen until the business proceedings of the day had been disposed of. However, if we may judge by the result of this day's Festival, the claim thus established will not be readily surrendered by our fair friends.

After grace had been sung, the Chairman rose and said: It was the first time in his Masonic career that he had presided at a Masonic gathering of this novel character. He welcomed the ladies very cordially, and proposed that which had been the first toast from time immemorial. The Queen commanded their respect in every possible manner, in every possible place, and by every possible title; but now it was doubled, for Her Majesty was both their Patron and their Queen.

The National Anthem was then sung.

The Chairman then said:—Brethren, the next toast on my list is the "Health of M.W.G.M. his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G." Not only was he entitled to their respect as Prince of Wales, but as the Grand Master of English Freemasons. All those brethren who were present at the Albert Hall saw one of the greatest sights that Masons in any part of the world ever witnessed. All came to present their homage, and to welcome his Royal Highness to the chair. He was sure the wish of every brother then present was that his Royal Highness might long live to rule over the Craft, and conduct its affairs in happiness, in peace, and with success. (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, R.W. Pro G.M. of Staffordshire, rose and said: He hoped the brethren would fill a bumper to the health of his old friend and schoolfellow, his old college companion, his brother in politics and his brother in Freemasonry, the Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon. (Great cheers.)

The Earl of Carnarvon, in responding, said it was extremely pleasant to be praised by one who was himself praised. In this instance it was by an old college friend. He thanked this great meeting for the kindly way, nay, even friendly manner, in which they had drunk his health. Masonry was a compact body, composed of different orders and different degrees, but two great principles prevailed, the principle of election and the principle of appointment by the free vote of the craft. Both Master and Pro. Grand Master had great powers invested in them. The officers who represent them were the Grand Officers, who had all the light and pulse of the Craft. He would couple with the toast he was about to propose—viz., the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale R.W.D.G.M., the Provincial Grand Masters, and Present and Past Grand Officers—the name of one who had but lately attained the purple of office, his friend Sir Henry Edwards.

Sir Henry Edwards briefly responded.

Miss Josephine Sherrington then sang the Shadow Song from Dinorah in a manner that completely electrified the audience, who most enthusiastically demanded an encore, which was graciously conceded by the accomplished artiste.

The noble Chairman rose again. He said there was an old saying that after the nightingales came the crows. (Laughter.) After the air they had been listening to his voice would sound very much like a crow's. He was about to propose the toast of the evening—that which had brought them there that day—"Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." (Loud Cheers.) In this as in every institution we naturally look back to the past, and if we compare the past with the present how very wide will that difference be. I must ask you to go back with me as far as the year 1739, and you need not be afraid that I shall give you a record of every fact that has occurred between then and now; but I ask you to remember what the year 1739 was in England. Politically it was very different from the present. We were on the eve of a civil war, and of an internal disturbance. In matters of education, though there were great writers and great thinkers, whom we still delight to read and to honour, there was little education in the class at least for whom this school is provided, and, Masonically, it was an important year, because just at that time the Pope had thought it worth while in England to fulminate the bull against Freemasonry; and English Freemasonry itself did not number, I suppose, within the four seas, one-half of those whom I see collected in this room. In that year, 1739, I find that a resolution was proposed during the Grand Mastership of one who, strange to say, bore my own name, the Lord Carnarvon of the day, from which grew out, some years afterwards, first the Girls' School, and secondly the Boys' School. That resolution is now matter of Masonic history. It was subsequently acted upon as I have said, and this institution was established. In those days it was but a small affair; there were but six scholars, and they were to be clothed, and brought up, and nurtured, and educated; but in the inevitable default of the necessary accommodation, it was provided that they should be brought up in any neighbouring school that would offer a good education. Since then, however, great is the difference! Buildings have been erected which we all know, and the present school, for the sake of which we are assembled together to-day, numbers within its walls no less, I am told, than 177 boys. Those boys are brought up, and clothed, and educated, entirely free of expense to their friends; they receive what may be termed a thoroughly good commercial education, they go forth subsequently into life, and I believe, from all that I have heard, they do honour to themselves generally, and to the institution which has sent them forth. Year by year this school has passed under examination—first of all under the Syndicate of Cambridge, and periodically by the University Local Examinations—and it may be a matter of satisfaction to all those who take an interest in this Institution to know that since the day when these buildings were erected, now some 18 years since, so satisfactory has been the health of those boys, that I am informed that during the whole of that period there have been but three deaths. In this time the school and the Craft have gone on steadily advancing together, and this is an illustration in fact of the way in which the Craft itself is worked in this country. It has undertaken useful works; by those useful works it stands; and through those useful works it has spread far and wide its great reputation for usefulness and for charity. I have to say one word on the subject of that which, after all, affects all these questions more closely than anything else, and which though it may sound dull, is yet of vital consequence—I mean the question of finance. I have not myself had the opportunity of looking into or of examining closely the financial condition of this institution. All that I can say is to be derived from those who are more conversant with it; and whilst on the one hand there is much that is satisfactory, I am bound also to point out to you that, like all human things, it even yet admits of amendment. You have, no doubt, done much; large sums are subscribed on every gathering such as this. You have erected magnificent buildings; you have even, as I am informed, paid off the debt upon these buildings; and you gave an education to these boys at what seems to me comparatively a very low figure, viz., £45 a year, and I am told further that even that £45 a year has been gradually reduced, as expenses have been brought down during the last few years. All this you have done, all this is matter for honest pride and satisfaction, but I have also to remind you that this Institution has no endowment, and that the money which is subscribed on these occasions has hitherto, as I understand, been only just sufficient to pay the way of this great Institution. And, more than that, I may repeat what was said by one who formerly spoke in this place, and spoke, I think, on that point with considerable truth when he stated that the subscriptions proceed too frequently from a certain given fixed number of individuals, and are not so largely taken up and supported as they should be by the whole body of the craft. In this, as in other matters of charity, I desire that the pyramid should have as broad a base as possible—should rest on that base, and should not rest on a tiny bottom. Nothing but a large amount of subscriptions from a great number of individuals can make the base of your pyramid broad, and nothing but breadth of base is a security for such an institution as this. And now I have said enough, and perhaps I should not have said so much had I not myself absolutely felt bound on such an occasion to do so. I have said quite enough for so festive an occasion as this. I can only commend the charity to you, and to your sympathies, by commending it to all

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those who have in former times supported it so nobly and liberally. I commend it further to those brethren who as individuals have sympathised with it, but have not yet given any visible and tangible evidence of that sympathy; and lastly, and certainly most potentially, I commend it to those who can do more for it than any brother here present, the ladies, who have sat down with us to-day.

After this toast, which it is needless to say was received with enthusiasm, was disposed of, Brother Binckes, Secretary of the Institution, announced that the recipients of the prizes—viz., Francis Dalrymple Lane (for good conduct) and Richard Newton Carter (elected by his schoolfellows)—were not present to receive their rewards. Bro. Binckes explained that the Festival had been postponed a week; it was now the holidays, and the boys could not attend. He hoped, however, that this public acknowledgment would make amends for the disappointment. He then commenced, amidst the greatest excitement, to read out the Lists of Donations, which amounted in the aggregate to the munificent sum of £12,700, with thirty-nine lists yet to be received, and triumphantly asked the brethren whether the result was not an answer to those who had prognosticated that the introduction of ladies to our banquets must end in failure?

After several other toasts, the ladies and brethren adjourned to the Concert-room, where the various songs were most artistically rendered; indeed, the musical arrangements, which were under the direction of Madame Thaddeus Wells, gave the most unqualified satisfaction.

We append the List of Patrons and Stewards, with the several amounts collected or subscribed by them which have been received up to the time of our going to press:—

PRESIDENT.

Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh P.G.S.W.

ACTING PRESIDENT.

		AMOUNT.
Bro. John A. Rucker, P.G.D. and P.G.Std., P.M. 66, V.P.		31 10 0

ACTING VICE-PRESIDENT.

Bro. J. M. P. Montague, D.P.G.M. Dorset, Friends in Council Lodge, 1360.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

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.

Name of Lodge.	No.	Patron or Steward.	
Grand Stewards'		Binckes, P. (P.G. Std.)	131 5 0
Grand Masters'	1	Smith, Thomas Taylor, S.D.	15 15 0
Antiquity	2	Pearce, Stephen, S.D., G. Steward	58 8 0
Fidelity	3	Barland, Thomas, W.M.	33 1 6
Royal Somerset House and Inverness	4	Veley, Arthur Curtis, J.W., P.Pr.G.W., Essex	52 10 0
St. George and Corner Stone	5	James, Henry	54 12 0
Friendship	6	Eaton, Capt. H. F.	10 10 0
Royal York of Perseverance	7	Adlard, Fredk., P.M. and Treas. P. Pr. G.A.D.C. Essex	35 14 0
British	8	Morgan, C. J., S.W., G.S.	23 2 0
Albion	9	Marsh, W. R., W.M., P.M. 933	65 0 0
Westminster and Keystone	10	Burton, J. J., P.Pr.G.D.C., Cambridge	30 19 6
Enoch	11	Garratt, Lewis B.	32 1 6
Fortitude and Old Cumberland	12	Clever, Joseph, W.M., and W.M. 171	70 7 0
Tuscan	14	Bothamley, H. H., W.M., G.Std.	
Old Dundee	18	Huggins, Herbert George, W.M.	49 7 0
Emulation	21	Megry, T., P.M., P.G.Std., and Vice-Pres. of the Institution	121 16 0
Neptune	22	Gray, C. W., P.M.	43 1 0
Old King's Arms	28	Lane, William, W.M.	38 17 0
Britannic	33	Bayley, John Clowes	29 19 0
Gibon	49	Williams, Alfred, W.M.	101 1 6
Constitutional	55	Bingemann, John, W.M. Compton, John, P.M., Vice-Pres. of Inst.	246 15 0
Royal Naval	59	Healey, John, P.M.	63 0 0
Peace and Harmony	60	Whitfield, H., S.W., G.Std.	30 9 0
Jubilee	72	Brighten, W. G., P.M.	40 8 6
Mount Lebanon	73	Wilkins, I. J. Hooper, W.M.	144 18 0
St. John's	90	Griffin, Josiah, P.M.	44 8 6
Regularity	91	Sarr, Watson, J.D.	49 7 0
Burlington	96	Wilson, William, W.M.	37 16 0
London	108	Smith, W. H.	50 8 0
Prudent Brethren	145	Leggott, John Henry, I.G.	258 5 6
Honor and Generosity	165	Smith, William P.	47 5 0
St. John's	167	Hollis, Henry, P.M.	39 18 0
Phœnix	173	Vine, Francis Robert, W.M.	78 4 6
Caveac	176	Lemann, Geo. Keene, P.M.	50 18 6
Manchester	179	Tyrrell, Richard, W.M.	29 18 6
St. James' Union	180	Parsons, William C., W.M.	120 14 0
Universal	181	Norfolk, W. J., W.M.	30 9 0
Unity	183	Shaboe, Rev. D., P.M., P.Pr.G.C., Middlesex	
Industry	186	Seex, J., P.M., J.W., 1426	72 9 0
Joppa	188	Abrahams, Israel, P.M.	
Lion and Lamb	192	Jones, Edward, S.D.,	143 5 6
Jerusalem	197	Cusins, William Geo., J.W.	34 13 0
St. Andrew's in the East	222	Starkey, William J., P.M.	50 8 0
Nine Muses	235	Emanuel, Emanuel, P.M.	21 0 6
Unions	256	Davis, R. Robert, W.M.	39 18 0
Prince of Wales'	259	Sutton, E. Cover Vain	36 15 0
Bank of England	263	Peters, Colonel	
Salisbury	435	Rosenthal, S., Vice-Pres. of Inst., P.M., P.Pr.G.W. Middlesex	52 10 0
Zetland	511	Barfield, A., P.M. & Treas.	44 2 0
Fitzroy	569	Adams, Herbert J., P.M. V.P.	69 16 0
Canonbury	657	Johnasson, J., J.W., V.P.	140 14 0
Crystal Palace	742	Bertram, John, P.M., V.P.	
Belgrave	749	Painter, John, W.M.	28 8 6
William Preston	766	Braun, Augustus, W.M.	36 15 0
Royal Alfred	780	Stewart, Hamilton	27 6 0
New Concord	813	Cusworth, Thomas J., J.W.	53 17 0
Victoria Rifles	823	Trower, Alfred	52 10 0
Ranelagh	834	Barker, Charles, W.M.	17 17 0
Royal Albert	907	Farnfield, William H., P.M. Miller, F. Hastings	34 13 0
Victoria	1056	Wrenn, William, P.M.,	100 0 0
University	1118	Brodie, G. B., M.D., Sec.	47 5 0
Excelsior	1155	Hose, Samuel J., S.W.	35 14 0
Southern Star	1168	Wright, Joseph, W.M.	133 17 6
Perfect Ashlar	1178	Harmsworth, J. H., P.M.	31 10 0
Eclectic			64 1 0
Upton	1227	Levick, George, M.D., W.M., P.M. 127	64 1 6
Grosvenor	1257	Cox, John C., W.M.	60 11 6
Star	1275	Woodman, W. B.	
Burdett Coutts	1278	Verry, George Ward, Sec. and P.M. 554	70 7 0
Royal Standard	1296	Moxon, H. J., S.D.	
St. Marylebone	1305	Smith, Thomas, W.M.	63 0 0
Blackheath			116 11 0
Sphinx	1329	Vockins, James H., W.M.	31 10 0
Stockwell	1339	Klench, John M., W.M.	31 10 0
St. Clement Danes'	1351	Berry, Daniel, W.M.	69 16 6
Clapton	1365	Lutwyche, William, W.M.	26 5 0
Friends in Council	1383		367 10 0
Hyde Park	1425	Tatham, H. H.	
Prince Leopold	1445	Green, Frank, W.M.	35 3 6
Mount Edgcumbe	1446	Burrell, A. E., W.M.	227 6 0
Islington	1471	Bowyer, Edgar, W.M.	
Marquess of Ripon	1489	Stephens, W.M., P.M., 1365	135 0 0
Chiselhurst	1531	Kipps, William, J.W.	28 16 0
Caveac R.A. Chap.	176	Stride, Walter J., P.Soj.	
Joppa R.A. Chap.	188	Levy, H. M., M.E.Z.	

BERKS AND BUCKS.

Union	414	Strickland, W. H., W.M.	29 18 6
Hope	574	Bance, John, P.M., P.Pr.G.Pur.	36 15 0
Buckingham	591	Winkfield, John T. C., P.Pr.G.J.W., P.M.	31 10 0
Grey Friars	1101	Greenfield, Jas., W.M.	73 10 0
Wycombe	1501	Palmer, John, S.W., V.P.	115 10 0

BRISTOL.

St. Vincent	1404	Norris, John Freeman, S.D., Pr.G.Std.	114 9 0

CHESHIRE.

Cestrian	425	Lloyd, Horatio, Pr.S.G.W. Dutton, Chas., P.Pro G.S.W. Williams, J. Eyton, P.M.	63 0 0
Zetland	537	Marwood, Thomas, P.M.	10 10 0
Independence	721	Matthews, William, J.W., Prov.G.Std.	10 10 0

DERBYSHIRE.

Tyrian	253	Marsden, W. H., W.M., Pr.G.Sec., P.Pr.G.D.	78 15 0
Royal Sussex	353	Diamond, Hugh E., W.M.	57 13 0
Repose	802	Low, Charles, J.W.	10 18 0
Okeover	1324	Wright, Fitzherbert, V.P.	123 18 0

DEVONSHIRE.

St. John's	70	Dubosc, Henry sen., P.M.	63 1 0
St. George's	112	Jones, Samuel, P. Pr. Gd. Deacon	137 11 0
Sincerity	189	Curteis, J. Edward, W.M.	89 5 0

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DORSET.

Name of Lodge.	No.	Patron or Steward.			
St. Cuthberga	622	Bart, Henry Chas., P.Pr.G.A.D.C., P.M.	633	3	0

DURHAM.

Berwick	1389	Maddison, Frederick, S.W.	372	19	6

ESSEX.

Chigwell	458	Motion, R. W., P.M., P.Pr.G.J.W.	68	5	0
Bagshawe	1457	Tanner, Joseph, P.M., P.Pr.G.S.D. 101, 453			

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Prince of Wales	861	Reade, Joseph, W.M., Pr.G. Purs.	42	0	0

HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT.

Economy	76	Levander, H. C., P.Pr.G.D.			
New Forest	819	Whitbread, Col. J. W. C., P.M., P.Pr.G.S.B.			
Phœnix	257	Lillywhite, Jno., W.M.	102	1	0
Peace and Harmony	359	Coles, Harry, P.M., Pr.G.D. Cers.	96	12	0
Panmure	723	Hacker, H., Pr.G.J.D.P.M.	151	14	0
		Duke of Connaught	21	0	0

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Hertford	408	Carter, Thos. S., Pr.G.S.D., W.M.	12	12	0
Watford	404	Foord, E. T., P.Pro.G.S.B.	51	9	0
Gladsmuir	1385	Venables, Frederick, J.D.	55	10	0
		Cutbush, William, P.M.			
Halsey	1479	Purrott, John, S.D.	10	10	0

KENT.

Freedom	77	Hicks, Wm., Pr. G.S.B., P.M. 77, 430	23	2	0
Sydney	829	Smith, Thomas, P.M. 913	157	10	0
Erasmus Wilson	1464	Wilson, Erasmus, P.M., P.G. Std., S.W. 2	26	5	0

LANCASHIRE—EAST.

Anchor and Hope	87	Brookbank, G. Parker, P. Pr. G.D., P.M.	42	0	0
		Walker, James, W.M.			
		Ashworth, Edmund, jun.			
Hope	54	Barker, A., S.W.			
Scotia	62	McClure, J. W., P.Pro.J.W.	10	10	0
Harmony	298	Beswicke, William, Sec.	10	10	0
		Butterworth, Robert, P.M., P.R. G. Purs.			
		Briggs, William			
		Holroyd, James, V.P. of the Institution			
		Mills, Charles.			
		Oakden, Thomas, W.M.			
		Prince, W.H. P.Pr.G.D.			
		Roberts, William			
		Taylor, James			
Humphrey Chetham	645	Matier, C. F., P. G. W. Greece, W.M.	115	10	0

LANCASHIRE—WEST.

Lights	148	Sharp, William, P.M.	12	12	0
Merchants'	241	Broadbridge, Geo., P.Pr. G.D. Cers., 1390	126	0	0
Fortitude	281	Moore, J. D., M.D., P.G.S.B. 1051	11	11	0
Hartington	1021	Bagot, Henry, Pr. G. Std. P.M., Hon. Sec.	47	5	0
Hindpool	1235	Cornfield, George, P.M.	47	5	0
Lindsay	1395	Leader, William, P.M.			

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLANDSHIRE.

Commercial	1331	Waite, Robert, P.M. 279 & 1331, P.Pr.G.J.W.	181	13	0

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Pelham Pillar	792	Marshall, William, W.M.	63	0	0
		Roberts, William Horatio, Pr.G.D. of Cers.			
		Hadfield, John, P.M.			
		MacSheen, Richard, S.D.			
		Jewitt, Capt. Thom.			
St. Alban's	1299	Sutcliffe, John, P.P.G.W. Vice-Pat., 600, 792, P.M. 764 and 1294.	10	10	0
Isle of Axholme	1462	Ace, Daniel, D.D., P.Pr.G. Chaplain.			

MIDDLESEX.

Royal Union	382	Woodward, Edwin C., W.M.	22	1	0
Carnarvon	706	Edlmann, Herbert, P.M.	19	19	0
Bard of Avon	778	Ramsey, William. F., M.D., S.W.	23	2	0
Enfield	1237	Thompson, J. H., W.M.	94	10	0
Burdett	1263	Kelly, Frederick. W.M.			

MIDDLESEX—Continued.

Name of Lodge.	No.	Patron or Steward.			
Acacia	1309	Walters, Frederick, V.P., Pr. G.Purst.	63	0	0
Lebanon	1326	Shackleton, John B., S.D.			
		Mayer, Bernard			
		Pratterets, William			
Era	1423	Wolff, S., J.D.	15	15	0
Campbell	1415	Cole, Wentworth, J.D.			
Thames Valley	1465	Brette, Rev. Dr. E., W.M., Pro. Grand Chap.	94	10	0
Felix	1494	Knyvett, F. S., W.M.	12	12	0
Francis Burdett	1503	Wiggington, Col. Wm., P.P.G. Dir. of Cers. Worcester, W.M.	16	16	0
Royal Middlesex R. Arch. Chap.	1194	Solomon, Alfred	87	16	0

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

St. Peter's	442	Griffin, Robert H., W.M., P.Pr.A.G.D.C.	113	8	0

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Tyne	991	Potter, Col. Addison, Prov. G.J.W., P.M.	110	5	0

NORTH WALES AND SALOP.

Salopian of Charity	117	Bagnall, Jno. Briscoe W.M.	21	0	0
Salopian	262	Peele, Edmd. Croswell, Pr. G.D., W.M.			
St. Oswald	1124	Wood Ephraim, P.M. Pr. G.D.C.	10	10	0
Square and Compasses	1336	Bury, John Oswell, P.M.	52	10	0
Sir Watkin	1477	Beresford, Samuel, Sec.	5	5	0
		Corbett, John, J.W.			

OXFORDSHIRE.

Alfred	340	Long James	10	10	0
Apollo University	357	Williamson, R. Isherwood, Pr.G.Purst., Dep.S.W.	112	13	0
		Bird, Reginald, P.Pr.G.S.W., P.M. 3, W.M. 152			
		Prince Leopold	10	10	0
		Boš Jules, P.Pro.G.Sup. Wks., S.W.	20	15	0
Churchill	478	Smith, H. R. Cooper, W.M., Pr.G.J.W.			
Cherwell	509	Potts, John, P.Pr. G.Sup. Wks., S.W.	15	15	0

SOMERSETSHIRE.

		Right Hon. Earl Carnarvon	52	10	0
Royal Sussex	53	Doherty, General, H. E., C.B., P.P. S.G.W., P.P. G.S.D. Wilts, W.M. 906, P.M. 53	213	10	0
		Payne, E. T., Pro. G.Treas., P.P.G.S.W., &c., 835, 973.	72	16	0
Perpetual Friendship	135	Else, R. C., P.M.Pr G.Soc., P.Pro.G.S.W.	171	7	6
Royal Somerset	973	Inskip, E. T., P.Pr.G.W., W.M., P.M. 625			
Mark Provincial Grand		Richards, W.	30	9	0

SOUTH WALES—EASTERN DIVISION.

Afan	833	Tennant, Marmaduke, P.M., P.Pr.G.W.	236	5	0

SOUTH WALES—WESTERN DIVISION.

Prince of Wales'	671	Phillips, J. Bevan, P.M., Pr.G.J.W.	130	4	0

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Menturia	418	Taylor, Thomas, P.Pr.G.W.	221	0	0
		Crapper, J. S.			

SUFFOLK.

Royal St. Edmund's	1008	Lucia, W. H., Pro. G. Sec.	64	1	0
Stour Valley	1224	Martyn, Rev. C. J., P. Pro. G. Chap., Vice-Patron of Institution	38	17	0
White Rose R.A. Chap.	1008	York, J. Neal, P.M., P.Z., P.Pr.G.S.W.			

SURREY.

Frederick of Unity	452	Dickinson, Arthur J. (*F.G.S.*), W.M.	22	11	6
St. Andrew's	1046	Moody, Charles, P.M.	5	5	0

SUSSEX.

Derwent	40	Duke, Charles W., P. Pro. G.D., P.M.	68	5	0
Yarborough	811	Horsley, Charles, P. Prov. G. Reg., Middlesex, P.M.	44	2	0

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WARWICKSHIRE.

Name of Lodge.	No.	Patron or Steward.			
Athol	74	Fenn, Joseph, P.M.	80	17	0
		Smith, T. H., M.D.	15	15	0
Grosvenor	938	Zair, John, Jun., P.G. Dir. Cers., P.M.	283	10	0
		Howkins, Thomas, P.G.A. Dir. of Cers. P.M. 488 and 938			
		Handley, Edward			

WILTSHIRE.

Royal Sussex of Emulation	355	Chandler, John, P. Pro. G.W. 663, 1296	91	7	0

YORKSHIRE—NORTH AND EAST.

Minerva	250	Thompson, John, P.Pro. G.S.B., P.M.	36	15	0

YORKSHIRE—WEST.

Probity	61	Edwards, Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry, Bart., R.W.Pr. G.M., V.P.			
		Scarborough, George			
		Tasker, William, P.M.			
Britannia	139	Hayes, Simeon, W.M.			
		Short, W., P.M., P.P.G.J.D.			
		Morris, T. S.			
		Tysack, W. A.			
Unanimity	154	Simpson, Edward, S.D., Vice-Pat. of the Inst.			
Harmony	275	Shaw, Bentley, W.P. Dep. Prov. G.M., Vice-Pres.			
Huddersfield	290	Harrop, W., W.M.			
Brunswick	296	Chaindry, J. F.			
Hope	302	Farrar, Hanson, Treasurer Broughton, B., P.M., V.P.			
Alfred	306	Seanor, Saml. Exley, W.M.			
Integrity	380	Wordsworth, John, V.P., P.Pro.G.W.			
St. James	446	Rhodes, C. T., J.W.			
St. John's	827	Tattersfield, Joseph			
Phœnix	904	Fawcett, John, S.W.			
		Perrot, Clement, Hamil, P.M.			
St. Oswald	910	Tew, Thos. William, P.M., Dep. Pro. G.M.			
		Simpson, John, P.M.			
Shakespeare	1018	Longley, William			
Sincerity	1019	Newton, George			
Excelsior	1042	Beedle, Joseph, P.M.			
Saville	1281	Crossley, Frederick, P.M., Pro. G.S.B.			
		Crossley, John Edward, P.M.			
Friendly	1513	Watson, J.H.			
Marquis of Ripon, R.A.Ch.	387	Pegler, Chas.			
Prov. G. Mark Lodge		Cooke, William, Prov. G. Mark Secretary			
		Total Collected in the Province	815	1	0

INDIA.

Presidency of Bombay		Leith, E. Tyrrell, P.Dist. G.W.	21	0	0
		Hay Andrew	10	10	0

MARK DEGREE.

Royal Sussex	75	Sabine, T. J., P.M. and P.M. 22, P.G.A.D.C.	514	0	0

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

Palestine Chapter of R.C	Venn, Henry		21	0	0
Grand Total			**£12,704**	**7**	**6**

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary of the Institution, Hon. Secretary.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of Hertford, of which the R.W. Bro. T. F. Halsey M.P. is the Grand Master, will be held at the Town Hall, St. Albans, on Wednesday, the 28th instant, at half-past one o'clock precisely. A banquet will take place in the Town Hall at four p.m.

Obituary.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. Donovan, of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278. Bro. Donovan was Editor of the *East London Observer*, and was justly esteemed as an energetic and conscientious Mason.

FREEMASONRY IN ECUADOR.

WE are indebted to a writer in *Le Monde Maçonnique*, who signs himself "Un Equatorien," for the following interesting details of the rise, progress, and position of our Order in this country.

It was during the war of independence that Freemasonry penetrated into Ecuador. I am able to affirm that, in 1821, just one year before the battle of Pichincha, which sealed the independence of this Republic, there was, at Quito, a well organised Lodge, known as the *Ley Natural*. When the Grand Orient of Peru was constituted, this Lodge placed itself under the jurisdiction of that power, and its name figured in the list of Lodges of that Orient down to a very recent period. Nevertheless, during my sojourn at Quito, I could glean no knowledge whatever of this Lodge. It is probable it had ceased to exist for a long time previously, owing to causes of which we shall speak presently. At Guayaquil, there had been both a Lodge and a Chapter. These bodies disappeared for a period of some ten years, when, in 1856, the Lodge *Philanthropie des Guayas* was organised. At that time there reigned at Guayaquil a remarkable ardour for Freemasonry, and every day the Lodge saw its numbers increasing, but this ardour was unable to revive the zeal of the people of Quito. In those days Ecuador was chiefly influenced by liberal views. The Lodge of Guayaquil was a democratic one. On the other hand, the Masons of Quito showed a decided tendency to maintain the aristocratic character of the ancient, or, to speak properly, false Masonry, and to turn it to political purposes. Unable to plant this system in a liberal country, they preferred not to extend the influence of their temple. The Lodge of Guayaquil had, in its own ranks, to contend against analogous tendencies, promoted chiefly by those who possessed the high grades, but the democratic or Masonic element proved victorious in the struggle. In 1860, when, at the close of the civil war, the conservative party triumphed, its chief, M. Garcia Moreno, sought initiation in the Lodge of Guayaquil. The latter had serious reasons for distrusting this gentleman. The violent and haughty character of the man was certainly not in keeping with the ordinances and prescriptions of Masonry. Moreover, M. Garcia Moreno had proscribed many members of the Lodge of Guayaquil; he claimed to enter the Lodge as a Master, but where all are brothers, there unquestionably was no place for him. By way of reply to the conditions demanded by the Lodge, he authorised the Jesuits to return to the country. And when, in 1869, by the aid of the Ultramontanes, he had managed to get complete possession of the chief power in the state, then M. Garcia proscribed very many Ecuadorians, and framed a decree directing that every person denounced as a Mason should be tried by court martial. Hence, at this present time, there are no longer any Lodges in Ecuador.

MASONRY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

ACCORDING to the *Graaf Reinet Herald*, a movement is on foot towards the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge for South Africa. The initiative has been taken by the Jaffa Lodge, No. 864, Cape Town, which has submitted the question to all the Lodges in the Colony, and we presume that, in course of time, some decision will be arrived at. Meantime, the *Graaf Reinet Herald* wisely cautions the craft against any precipitate action, and urges the various Lodges to consider well and seriously before they commit themselves by supporting a movement which must sever all connection between them and the Grand Lodges of England and Holland. It pertinently asks, "Are the Lodges in South Africa prepared to withdraw the allegiance they now owe to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England, and H.R.H. Prince William Frederick Karl W.M., Grand Master National of the Netherlands?" If so, to whom will they offer it.

Among other Masonic items of news, to which the *Graaf Reinet Herald* has recently opened its columns, we learn that Bro. G. G. F. Hurford P.M. has been elected W.M. of the lodge "Midland," No. 882, Graaf Reinet, Cape Town, f[illegible]ing year, and that Bro. G. G. Munnick P.W[illegible] W.M. of the Lodge "Veereniging,"

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SPENCER'S GREAT LIBRARY.

THIRD NOTICE.

LOT 478 begins a rich series of Masonic poems and song-books. From lot 484 we learn that a pantomime called *Harlequin Freemason* was produced at Covent Garden Theatre in 1781, and can imagine our ancestors having been mightily diverted over broad hints and farcical ceremonies. We wonder, by the way, what references to our mysteries are contained in *The Generous Freemason or the Constant Lady* (lot 3), and whether we were the butts of Squire "Noodle" and his man "Doodle." *Les Francs-Maçons, Comédie* (lot 76), would seem to be of the same genus, and *The Mason of Buda* (lot 489). *Freemason's Companions, Choristers, Assistants, Healths, Museums, Friends, Melodies, Budgets, Glees, Anthems, Minstrels, &c.*, abound in bewildering variety. Our gay and festive predecessors seem to have been eminently vocal, though we fear *quality* was not so conspicuous as *quantity* in their effusions. On the scarce Lodge lists and Calendars which follow, we offer no remark, they are so scarce as to be worth their weight in gold to a Masonic library. Curious particulars relative to the doings of the followers of Schrepffer and Cagliostro, also to the sectaries of Von Knigge, Zinnendorff, Schwedenberg and the Illuminati may be gleaned from lots 520 to 523. Lot 527, Anthologia Hibernica, Vol II., should contain Clinch's valuable essays on Masonry and the Doctrines of Pythagoras.

The scrapbooks and albums, with their interesting data and autographs, speak for themselves, as do also the MSS. portraits and symbolic engravings.

Whilst upon this topic we would say a word upon the fine library collected by Bro. Carson, of Cincinnati, U.S.A. Though not to be compared with Bro. Spencer's, in point of Calendars, Constitutions, sectarian, poetical, Rosicrucian, and mystic works, or of portraits and engravings, it yet contains more of the extremely scarce revelations of the early part of the last century, and excels it in other matters of less importance. Bro. Carson is publishing, in parts, for private circulation, at his own expense, a valuable "catalogue raisonnée" of the whole, his critical analyses of contents and learned remarks upon the Masonic value of the various books, render his catalogue a standard of reference, which will be quoted through all time. We abridge from his remarks which relate to certain lots in Bro. Spencer's catalogue.

(Lot 528) "A most valuable periodical, interesting generally as to continental Masonry. History of Freemasonry in the Netherlands, with 225 historical documents from French, Italian, English and Dutch. Editors Melton and de Wargny. Complete sets exceedingly scarce."

(Lot 212, Light on Masonry, original edition). "This book is extremely scarce, and commands a high price."

As to the Bucks (see Lot 30), Bro. Carson informs us, "they were a convivial Order, with signs, tokens, ceremonies, &c. In 1720 there were 18 Lodges of the Society in London and elsewhere." Of the pompous *discourse* which heads this lot, Bro. Carson echoes the immortal Captain Cuttle's eulogy, "there's wisdom for you!"

(Lot 196, Chemin-Dupontès), "learned and exceedingly interesting, quite scarce, the Memoire sur l'Ecossisme poged to form 12th and 13th cahier of the Encyclopédie. A scathing review of the grades of the Ancient and Accepted Rite."

(Lot 513, Almanach Pittoresque), "1841-48, all that was published, difficult to obtain."

(Lot 80, Considerations Filosofiques), "A very excellent and interesting work, in which the whole subject of Freemasonry, historical, doctrinal and moral, is fully discussed, *pro* and *con*, by way of dialogue. The bulls of Clement XII. and Benedict XIV., also a sketch of the Kts. Templars, are introduced. Also catalogue of books on Freemasonry. The latter is satirical, thus the first book in it, is *Dispute between a Freemason and a Theologian*, 81 vols. folio. Price, 222 livres. Very scarce."

(Lot 243, Cole's Constitutions, 1729). One of the rarest of Masonic books. Mr. Hughan, of Truro, possesses a copy, which he supposed unique, until he heard of this" (Bro. Carson's.)

Whilst amongst these, we notice one gem in the possession of Bro. Carson, which we believe is unknown in this country, the reprint of Anderson's Constitutions of 1723, by *Benjamin Franklin* at *Philadelphia*, in 1734.

(Lot 245). "Scarcer than the first edition."

(Lot 65, Corps complet). "Complete body of Masonry, adopted by the G.L. of France (1770). Very scarce."

(Lot 409, Cross Templars' Chart). "Original edition, very scarce."

(Lot 80, Essai sur les N. N.) "Displays much erudition, it is exceedingly scarce."

(Lot 203 and 234, Des Etangs). "His rituals are entirely original, different from the regular ones practised, they were used in the Lodge des Trinosophes and many others."

(Lot 16, Le F. M. dans la Republique). "Called forth by the decree of the Council of Berne, 1745, forbidding Masons in that Canton."

Relative to (lot 879) Proceedings of the G.O. of France, Bro. Carson gives a most instructive sketch, too long for us to reproduce. The metamorphoses of the great seal, from the lilies to the eagle, and back again to the lilies, with spots and blanks intervening, thence to a globe, are dwelt upon.

(Lot 194, Hardie's Monitor.) "Compilation of Historic matter and imperfect list of Lodges in the U.S. It is scarce."

(Lot 29, Les plus Secrets Mystères.) "Original edition, curious and interesting; the author's theory is that Masonry was instituted by Godfrey de Bouillon in Palestine in 1320."

(Lot 396 Gürtler's Templars) first edition. "Was made the text for an excellent article in the Retrospective Review.

(Lot 397, Dupuy.) "A vast amount of curious documentary evidence."

(Lot 409, Jacob, Recherches.) "Contains an interesting chapter on the Secret Tribunals of Germany."

(Lot 406, Nicolai Accusations, *and in other lots.*) "Has become exceedingly scarce."

(Lot 20, Le Maçon Demasqué.) "*Solomon in all his glory* is an English translation of this. It is rare and curious, quite different from other ritualistic productions of the period."

We could go on gleaning interesting matter from Bro. Carson's List, but our space compels us to close, with the regret that we have not been able to do full justice to the subject, a task which Dr. Kloss of Frankfort or Dr. Morison of Paris would have competently dealt with, but which probably, of all living men, Bro. William James Hughan, of Truro, could alone perform satisfactorily.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

REPORTS OF LODGE PROCEEDINGS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In reply to M.M.M., in No. 26 of the *Chronicle*, allow me to remind him that he has misquoted the words of the Book of Constitutions as to printing reports in the Masonic journals. They are: "without the consent of the Grand Master or Provincial Grand Master;" and that, as the Masonic journals are under the patronage of the Grand Master and Provincial Grand Masters, no other sanction or consent is necessary, the editors of the journals being responsible that nothing unmasonic shall appear in print in connection with Lodges.

MAGNUS OHREN, P.M. and P.Z.

Lower Sydenham, Kent, S.E.

THE COMING MASONIC YEAR.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—As we have fairly entered on our Midsummer holidays and as no serious Masonic business will be transacted much before the month of September, a question naturally suggests itself, what shall we do in the meantime to further the ends of Masonry. There are various ways in which we may subserve the interests of the Craft. We have become so popular of late, our Order has extended its ramifications in so many new directions, that we may certainly look forward to a still more considerable accession of strength. We shall increase and multiply even more rapidly than in recent years, for once the ball is set rolling there is no saying to what magnitude it may attain ultimately. There is thus ample time for reflection between now and the resumption of Masonic meetings as to those who may honour us with their candidature. It must not be overlooked that mere numbers are not the principal elements of strength.

We should exercise the strictest supervision as to those who seek admission into our ranks, just as did the Essenes, who were scrupulously careful about whom they received as brethren. Then again, the time is approaching when we must begin to think about the election of new officers. And here may we devote our leisure to studying the merits of likely candidates. The character of a Lodge is fashioned by that of its rulers. If the are men possessing sound common sense and breadth of view, we may look for a good Lodge. But if the officers are feeble, or possess but little influence, we may anticipate that the Lodge will be correspondingly weak. These are points to which a few thoughts during our holidays may be fairly devoted.

Yours "Q."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

WEEKLY CITIZEN, OTTAWA.—Thanks for exchange. Lately we have received two copies of each number, we presume through a mistake.

APEX.—We witnessed the contretemps, and are sorry that it occurred. However, we do not think your long letter will mend matters. Your friend might have been less imperious.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, ROMEO E GIULIETTA. On Monday, RIGOLETTO. On Tuesday, L'ETOILE DU NORD. On Wednesday, DON GIOVANNI. On Thursday, LA TRAVIATA. On Friday, FAUST E MARGHERITA. At 8.30 each evening.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, FAUST. On Monday, LOHENGRIN. On Tuesday, IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA. On Thursday, IL DON GIOVANNI. At 8.30 each evening, except on Monday, when the Opera will commence at 8.0. On Monday morning, at 3.0, IL GLADIATORE. On Wednesday evening, at 8.30, OTHELLO.

HAYMARKET.—Monday, LOCKED OUT, ALONE and THE WEDDING MARCH. This Evening, BRIGHTON and THE FIRST NIGHT.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, PAINLESS DENTISTRY, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and FUN IN A FOG. (Last night.)

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 NEMESIS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, VERY SUSPICIOUS. At 8.15, THE LADY OF LYONS and THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 8.15, THE DETECTIVE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, MARGATE SANDS and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 8.0, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT.

COURT.—At 8.0, BOOK III, CHAPTER I. At 9.0, A NINE DAYS' WONDER.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, NATIONAL MUSIC MEETING. FETE OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE ATHLETIC CLUB. On Monday, FETE OF THE CATHOLIC ABSTINENCE LEAGUE. On Wednesday, READING by Mr. H. IRVING. On Thursday, FIREWORK DISPLAY, Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, CONCERT. On Monday, Fête in aid of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum. On Tuesday, OUR BOYS. On Wednesday, FIREWORK DISPLAY. Open daily. MENGLER'S CIRCUS, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—The CASTAWAY, New Ghost Scenes.—AUSTRALIAN MEATS and How to Cook them.—ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.—THE BESSEMER BOAT and the GIANT ELECTRIC MACHINE. Many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

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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 July 1875, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution, to confirm the recommendation of the General Committee that nine boys be elected at the Quarterly General Court, to be held on Monday, the 11th October next, from an approved list of fifty-seven candidates. The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock at noon precisely.

By Order

FREDERICK BINCKES,
Secretary.

3rd July 1875.

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On Tuesday, 27th July 1875, and following day,

AT 13 WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THE Collection comprises scarce Lodge Lists of Cole and Pine, early Grand Lodge Calendars and Proceedings, the only extant copy of the Constitutions of 1722, Spencer's MS. Constitutions, Rituals of the "Antients," unique Caricatures, early Summonses, Certificates, &c. from the Libraries of the late Duke of Sussex, Dr. Oliver, Dr. Morison, and others; every work being upon Freemasonry, its symbolisms, or history, and was formed for a complete Masonic Library, by that well known Masonic Bookseller.

The books may be viewed two days prior, and catalogues had at the auction rooms as above.

The sale will commence at 1 p.m. each day.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

ON Friday, in the House of Lords, the Earl of Camperdown brought the subject of Promotion and Retirement in the Royal Navy under their Lordships' notice, the Earl of Malmesbury stating, on behalf of the Government, that it was being carefully considered, with a view to reducing all grievances to a minimum. The Ecclesiastical Fees Redistribution Bill passed through Committee, and other measures were advanced a stage. On Monday, Lord Carlingford put a question relative to National Education in Ireland, to which the Duke of Richmond replied. On the report of amendments on the Sale of Food and Drugs' Bill, a discussion arose on certain of the clauses, but, in the end, the report was agreed to. On Tuesday, the House went into Committee on the Public Health Bill, which passed this stage after a brief debate. On Thursday, Earl Beauchamp moved the second reading of the Friendly Societies Bill, which was agreed to after a brief discussion, Lord Aberdare and the Earl of Morley being the principal speakers. The Marquis of Salisbury having replied to a question of Viscount Midleton respecting the Uncovenanted Civil Servants in India, and other business having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

The House of Commons, on Friday, devoted the first part of the sitting to a motion by Mr. Edwardes, that before establishing the proposed Naval College at Dart-

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mouth the claims of other places should be considered. Mr. Edwardes urged the claims of Weymouth, Mr. Ashley those of Poole, and Mr. Baillie Cochrane those of the Isle of Wight. Mr. Childers raised the question whether there should be any college on shore. Mr. G. Ward Hunt urged the Government proposal. Mr. Goschen supported the motion, which, however, was defeated by 147 to 135. The narrowness of the majority caused much cheering. Discussions then ensued on the Civil Bill Courts in Ireland, on the Declaration of Paris, on Civil Service Co-operative Trading, and Overseers of Metropolitan Parishes, after which the House went into Committee of Supply, and passed a large number of votes for the Public Service. On Monday, the greater part of the evening was devoted to the Committee on the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment (No. 2) Bill, after a preliminary discussion, raised by Sir H. James, Attorney-General of the late Government. On reaching clause 17 the chairman was ordered to report progress, and the House resumed. There was a morning sitting on Tuesday, the greater part of which was passed in Committee of Supply, the remaining Civil Service Estimates being agreed to. In the evening Mr. B. Cochrane made a motion relative to the progress of Russia in Central Asia, after which the appearance of Mr. Whalley, who rose to move for returns about the Jesuits in England, so terrified the House that a count out occurred. On Wednesday, Mr. G. O. Trevelyan's Bill for equalising the suffrage in counties and boroughs was defeated, on the second reading, by a very large majority, the numbers being for the Bill 166, against it 268. On Thursday, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. Disraeli announced that, at an early date, he should propose a vote of certain moneys to defray the expenses of the Prince of Wales's approaching visit to India. The cost of conveying His Royal Highness and suite thither and back again is estimated at £32,000, the cost of entertaining him in India is set down at £30,000, and will be defrayed by the Indian government, while the personal allowance to the Prince is estimated at £60,000. The Marquis of Hartington, as leader of the Opposition, promised the assistance of his side of the House in furthering the views of the Government, but sundry radicals, among whom were Mr. Macdonald and the irrepressible Mr. Taylor, of Leicester, who specially claimed to speak the mind of the working classes, objected to the proposal *in toto*. We do not imagine the House, or the country, look with any favour on the carping criticisms of these representatives of the people. Every man would wish that His Royal Highness should traverse India in right regal fashion, as becomes the heir apparent to the British crown, and this cannot be done without cost. Mr. Hanbury then made a motion relative to the East African Slave trade, but after a speech from Mr. Bourke, who represented the Government, it was negatived without a division. Mr. T. Brassey then brought forward the highly important subject of armoured vessels, pointing out that England ought to be well furnished with vessels of the best and most powerful character, and that the country would certainly not grudge the needful expense. Mr. Reed, as a late chief naval constructor, Mr. Goschen, ex-first lord, and Mr. Ward Hunt, the present first lord of the Admiralty, offered their views severally, all admitting in general terms the justice of Mr. Brassey's proposition. Shortly afterwards the House went into Committee of Supply on the Navy estimates, but after a brief discussion progress was reported, and the House having resumed, the remaining orders of the day were disposed of.

The Garden Party of the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Chiswick, which was to have been held on Thursday of last week, came off on Monday. The Queen was present, with several other members of the Royal family and the *élite* of the fashionable world. The Sultan of Zanzibar was among the invited, but his Highness having left London for a tour in the provinces was prevented from being present. Among the places which the Sultan has thus far honoured with a visit are Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester, in which towns he was received with great enthusiasm. His Highness is evidently anxious to cultivate a strong feeling of friendship with England, to whom he looks for assistance in developing the resources of his country. We doubt not his wishes will meet with the success they deserve.

The latest attractions at the Alexandra Palace have proved a success, so far as regards the number of visitors. As regards weather, however, the directors have been singularly unfortunate. The Dramatic Fête was held on Saturday, and drew largely, both as to numbers and from the pockets of those who attended it. All the eminent *artistes* of the day were present, and the entertainment provided was in keeping with the general character of the fête. Fun and frolic reigned supreme. All that was needed to complete the success was just a slight consideration on the part of Phœbus Apollo. On Tuesday, the temperance people mustered in their thousands, and amused themselves, as is their custom, with kiss in the ring and other debaucheries. The price of ginger beer and other effervescing drinks, we imagine, is "riz" considerably in the neighbourhood, owing to the vast consumption of these inebriating liquors. We must note that, on this occasion, the weather was all that could be desired. On Thursday, the last of the series of Italian Opera Concerts was held, the principal *artistes* including Madame Adelina Patti and the most eminent members of the Royal Italian Opera. The weather was most unfavourable, and the effect of the fireworks, which were undoubtedly on a grand scale, was not as imposing as usual. On Wednesday, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys held its annual Festival here, our respected Brother the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M. presiding. The meeting was a great success, for the details, we must refer our readers to another portion of our columns. To-day will be held the sixth of the series of Popular Concerts, while the principal event set down for next week will be the Hound Show, to be held on the 14th and 15th, under very distinguished patronage.

At the Crystal Palace has been held during the past week the National Music meetings, the last meeting being fixed for to-day, when the distribution of prizes, by Madame Lind-Goldschmidt, will take place. Monday is the grand fete of the Catholic Total Abstinence League, under the patronage of Cardinal Manning. On Wednesday afternoon, at 3 p.m., Mr. Irving will give his only reading this season. The programme will include a scene from Othello, "The Dream of Eugene Aram," "The Feast of Belshazzar," and a scene from Hamlet. On Wednesday the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, will hold an evening fête and special exhibition, the gates being thrown open at 8 p.m. The last concert of the Welsh Choral Union is fixed for Monday, at St. James's Hall. An admirable programme is announced. On Wednesday evening Madame Christine Nilsson will give her grand annual concert at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington. Among the artists who will take part in it are Mdlle. Titiens, Mdlle. Anna de Belocca, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Campanini, Signor Foli and Herr Behrens. Next week will see the last, for the present season, of Signor Salvini, whose benefit was arranged for yesterday evening. On Monday there will be a morning performance at 3 p.m., in which, at the request of a number of his patrons, Signor Salvini will appear as Il Gladiatore. On Wednesday evening he will play Othello, and on Friday Hamlet. Next week, also, will see the close of the season at both opera houses. At the Royal Italian the benefits of Mdlle. Zaré Thalberg, Madame Adeline Patti, and Mdlle. Albani, are fixed for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday respectively. Six special performances will be given at Her Majesty's, when the regular season is ended. Particulars will be announced in due course. Several of the theatres are already closed, the companies having betaken themselves to the provinces for their autumnal holiday.

The great event in the Cricketing world has been the match at Lord's between the Gentlemen and Players. The previous match at the Oval was eminently unsatisfactory, for the game was left drawn, owing to the weather being so unsettled. The "Profs" were winning hand over hand, when the rain put an end to all further progress. But at Lord's nothing interfered to mar the play. The Gentlemen went first to the wickets, and were disposed of for 152, Mr. Longman heading the score with a brilliantly made 70, while Mr. Ridley carried his bat out for 45. In this first innings the Players made 169; Jupp 25, Greenwood 51, Daft 28, Oscroft 28, and Pooly not out 11, being the principal contributors. In their second innings, however, the Gentlemen scored fast and furiously, over a total of 200 having been recorded before a single wicket fell. Mr. W. G. Grace played in his very best form, and those who have had the pleasure of seeing him at the wicket know well enough what that means. He ran up 152 in somewhat over three hours, and then carelessly ran himself out. Messrs. Webbe 65, Longman 41, Hornby

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58, G. F. Grace 12, Lord Harris, not out, 39; Messrs. Green 25 and Francis 18 helped to swell the total to 444, thus leaving the Players 428 to win. Of these, however, they only contrived to put together 165, so that the Gentlemen were victorious by 262 runs. Jupp with 18, Lockwood 67, Greenwood 16, Oscroft 27, and M. M'Intyre not out 26, played in fine form, but their efforts were unable to avert defeat. It should be noted that A. Shaw, whose bowling is usually so effective, was hurt, and consequently disabled from playing in the second innings. Yesterday was the opening day, at Lord's, of the annual Eton v. Harrow match, which, next to the 'Varsity contest, is the most attractive of all the matches played at the St. John's Wood Ground. We shall give particulars next week.

Quite an alarming panic occurred at a meeting held in the Camberwell Hall, by Messrs. Sankey and Moody, the American revivalists, whose return to America will shortly take place. A tremendous rush was made to get in, and the noise caused much shrieking and fainting. Mr. Moody did his best to calm his audience, and after a long time peace was restored, and the service concluded.

On Wednesday evening, the Earl of Dufferin, who is Governor-General of the Dominion, and on leave from his post in this country, was entertained at a banquet at the Albion, by the Canada Club. His Lordship, in replying to the toast of his health, and prosperity to the Dominion, spoke very hopefully of the growing importance of this vast British dependency. The prevalent feelings in Canada were enthusiastic loyalty towards the British Crown, and a firm belief in a grand future for "this Canada of ours," as the Canadians proudly love to describe their country. The resources of the country are immense, and those Englishmen who find their struggles to get on at home unsuccessful, or less successful than they could wish, will find a hearty welcome from the people. Idle loafers, however, will do well to stay away. Men ready to fight lustily the stern battle of life, and possessing enough to keep them going at the first outset, these are the fellows that are needed, and we should council all such to select Canada in preference to the United States, for in the former case no transfer of allegiance is rendered necessary.

It is not often we have to chronicle so grand a feat as that of Captain Webb, who on Saturday swam all the way from Blackwall Pier to Gravesend, accomplishing the distance in something under four and three-quarter hours. The steamer "Falcon" was chartered to accompany the brave fellow, and the well-known Professor Beckwith, from the bows of a small wherry, gave the swimmer the benefit of his experienced counsel. As Captain Webb passed the various important spots on his course he was loudly cheered, especially by the boys of the Marine Society's ship "Warsprite," and those on board the training ships "Chichester" and "Goliah." Great enthusiasm manifested itself when he reached the pier, and the feat he had undertaken was accomplished. Captain Webb is a young man, 27 years of age, and possessing a grand frame. He is not a quick swimmer, but his *forte* is endurance, and after all it is far better that a man, especially a sailor, should be able to hold on for hours than that he should be able to swim a short distance at a high speed.

We are glad to see the subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers by the recent terrible inundations in the South of France are pouring in in such splendid fashion. It is only a few days since the lists were opened, and already considerably over £8,000 are announced on the Mansion House list alone. This includes £200 from her Majesty, £525 from the Corporation, and other large sums from such well-known firms as Coutts and Co., Rothschilds, &c. Nor are the efforts at relief confined only to the metropolis, as in most of our large manufacturing and commercial centres contributions are being made to the fund.

From Spain we hear of several severe engagements between the Carlists and Alphonsists. It is difficult to make out which of the two is getting the upper hand. According to the Madrid telegrams the Alphonsists are carrying all before them, while the London Committee of the Carlists tell a very different tale. In France, the truth of the adage, "it never rains but it pours," is being very disastrously illustrated. Scarcely have we recorded our grief at the calamitous inundations with which Toulouse and the whole valley of the Garonne have been visited, when there is announced a tremendous storm in the north-west of Normandy. This happened on Wednesday, and among the most serious consequences of which we have heard thus far is the almost complete inundation of Lisieux and its environs. Several houses have been destroyed, and seven lives are reported to have been lost. So heavy, indeed, has been the rainfall in this part of France, that great fears are being entertained of floods in the valleys of the Seine, Marne, and Saone. There has been a landslip on the Northern Railway, near Chantilly, the consequence being a serious interruption in the regular traffic. Nor is France the only country that has suffered in this respect. There have been inundations in Hungary, round about Pesth, the result being a heavy loss to the vine-growing community. Among the public characters who have played an important part in the world's history and have passed hence, must be mentioned the ex-Emperor Ferdinand, who died a few days since, at a very advanced age. It was he who, in 1848, abdicated in favour of his nephew, Francis Joseph, the present Emperor. Ex-Queen Isabella has had a narrow escape; returning to Paris from a suburban visit, the horses of her carriage, when it was passing Neuilly, took fright at the roaring of a lion. The coachman did his best to stop them, but his efforts were in vain, and very speedily the carriage was upset. The only person injured was La Duchesse de Valence. The Queen was very cool and self-possessed, and was the first to go to the assistance of the injured lady. Another imperial personage has had a narrow escape. The train carrying His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince of Germany from Vienna, had a slight collision with a goods train, near the St. Valentin Station. The Prince's valet was injured, and a workman, belonging to the station, was killed.

From *the Navy*, we gather that Bro. J. L. Toole, the deservedly popular comedian, laden with bright laurels of triumph freshly gathered in America and Canada, will shortly reappear among his multitude of friends of the United Kingdom. Since he left our shores, some small passing clouds, naturally enough, have met his view; but his first successes have proved the prelude to ever expanding triumphs in each succeeding performance. Bro. Toole possesses so many happy qualities, that he won the well-merited title of the "English gentleman actor" among our American cousins, while Canada now heartily endorses the sentiment. Our comedian has everywhere been received as well with tokens of genuine esteem as with hearty laudation. Both President Grant and the highest officials in Canada have extended to him the hand of friendly welcome, with expressions of personal regard. A Canadian contemporary recently addressed to its readers the following passage, which we reproduce with pleasure for the perusal of Bro. Toole's admirers and friends in this country:—

"Mr. Toole, who has won such fame on both sides of the Atlantic by his performances, has been the delight of thousands of the best classes of our citizens. Accomplished artists, such as Mr. Toole, are not, like blackberries, found in every hedge; and with this conviction only too forcibly impressed upon us, we cannot but lament the early departure of this brilliant and accomplished comedian, who will, on his arrival, be greeted not only by his Bro. artistes, but a numerous circle of private friends."

The *Illustrated and Dramatic Sporting News* has given a life-like portrait of Bro. Schubert, of the Industry Lodge, No. 186. This talented Bro. is a nephew of Charles Schubert, famous as a composer and violoncellist, and his mantle has fallen worthily on his talented nephew, who possesses the faculty of artistic instrumentation on the violoncello. Herr Schubert is the founder of the Schubert Society, of which Sir Julius Benedict is the president, which has been established for the purpose of preparing rising young artists, both vocal and instrumental, so that they may have a chance of appearing with credit at high class concerts.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—Observations on terrestrial magnetism are, of course, classed amongst the most valuable and important that can be made, and a very valuable "Memorandum on Determination of Elements and use of Magnetical Instruments," has been drawn up by Professor J. C. Adams and Captain Evans, the hydrographer. The elements to be determined are declination, inclination, and intensity; and, as is well observed, the determination of any of the elements anywhere within the Arctic regions will be valuable: if made within the limits of former voyages, by affording the means of determining the approximate amount of the secular changes by comparison with earlier observations; if made beyond the limits of former explorations by materially adding to our knowledge of the distribution of magnetic force over the earth's surface, and thereby contributing towards the perfection of the theory of terrestrial magnetism.—*Naval Science for July.*

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MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

SECOND NOTICE.

One of the chief merits in the *New Quarterly* is that its fiction is not serial. It follows that we are not troubled over and anon to refresh our memories about the latest incidents before plunging further into the story. Mrs. Cashel Hoey's novel, "Dark Cybel," is made up of very slight materials, but it is well written. There is an air of reality about the personages and events which ensure our attention throughout. There is nothing in the shape of nonsense or sensationalism introduced. We feel that what happens might have happened, and, indeed, has happened many times over, and we are grateful, accordingly, that this fiction so closely resembles truth. Hardly less, if at all, less worthy of praise, is Mrs. Lynn Linton's "By the Law." The frequent antagonism between law and equity is well set forth in this tale. The law is with Lambert Dynevor, or Lambert Moss, as he really is, while equity is on the side of Dion Dynevor. But the burden of proof that Lambert is not his mother's son, but somebody else's, rests with Dion, no evidence that can be substantiated being forthcoming. Lambert succeeds to his mother's property, and Dion lives to vegetate on a few hundreds. Those interested in great historical characters, will find two articles to their taste, namely, "Affonso Henriques and the Rise of Portugal," by the Rev. F. Arnold. Both these papers are carefully written, and, as regards the latter, there is no trace of partisanship evidenced by the writer. In "The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse," the merits of town and country life are prettily evenly balanced, almost too evenly indeed. That careful weighing of every *pro* and *con* is very wearisome when judgment on the merits is withheld. With many of Mr. Buchanan's strictures on "The Modern Stage" we feel disposed to agree, but Mr. Buchanan lays down the law—or rather his views—somewhat too authoritatively, much as though he said—these views, being my *dozy*, are orthodox; all other people's views, being others' *dozies*, are heterodox. Nor is the case against the stage strengthened by the silly rant in which he indulges at the expense of that much-abused, yet very harmless official, the Lord Chamberlain. This indulgence makes one believe that Mr. Buchanan courts the applause of "the Gods." Be it so, but the applause of "the Gods" is not worth much. As to the critics, they will doubtless protect themselves from Mr. Buchanan's attacks. Doubtless these gentlemen will do what they are so well able to do—take care of themselves.

Of *Belgravia*, with the exception of the short biographical sketch of Mr. J. H. Houldsworth, accompanying his portrait, a sensible criticism on "the Noble Animal at the Royal Academy," and a further chapter of "Frank Raleigh of Watercombe," the contents are made up of summaries of recent doings in Cricket, Yachting, Rowing, Polo, &c., &c. To those who have not leisure to watch the progress, month by month, of their favourite in the cricket field, on the river, or elsewhere, these summaries are very useful. They are admirably compiled, and give a far better general idea of a man's performances than can be gleaned from a hasty glance at the various contests he has engaged in. "Our Van," which contains an omnium gatherum of sport, wit, and humour, is livelier even than usual. One or two of the anecdotes with which it is garnished will bear quotation. Such are the following: "A firm wrote from Germany to their agents in London, inquiring as to the credit of Coutts and Co. and (we will call the other gentlemen) A. B. and Co.; the answer was concise but true, viz., that both the firms in question were good, Coutts and Co. good for *anything*, A. B. and Co. good for *nothing*." Again, "a young lady at last year's Eton and Harrow Match at Lord's, asked, respecting a young Eton friend of hers, 'Why do they not play Mr. S. in the Eleven?' 'Oh!' was the reply, 'S. has not been playing with a *straight* bat lately!' 'Then why in the world does he not buy one?' was the innocent reply. Again, "At one of the Bishop of Rochester's visitations, a Kentish parson gave a little proof of his wit, when a neighbouring divine told him that he could'nt well pay attention to the address, from the annoyance of a certain small animal that was biting him. 'Simply a verification of the text,' rejoined our friend, 'The wicked *flea*, and no man pareneth.'" One more as to a subscriber to *Bailly* itself, of five years' standing, but who had never paid a subscription. When applied to, "his answer," we are told, "was not destitute of point: 'I paid your account,' he said, 'in August 186—. If you doubt my word, ask Mr. Commissioner ——.'" A reference to the public prints of the day named, showed us that it was on this very date that our friend had taken the benefit of the Act."

In *Cornhill*, besides the opening chapters of the new serial, "The Hand of Ethelberta," by Mr. Thomas Hardy, a well written sketch of the late Mr. Frederick Walker, A.R.A., an excellent article on "British Birds and Bird Lovers," "Venetian Popular Legends," "Art and Morality," and "The Sceptic, a Tale of Married Life," will be most attractive reading. "Penelope and other women of Homer," and "Horace's Two Philosophies," are scholarly performances.

No doubt it is within the recollection of our readers that the career and correspondence of the notorious Count Cagliostro, have been the subject of comment in these columns. Those interested in the history of this personage will find a well told narrative of his life in *All the Year Round*. Nor is this the only "Remarkable Adventurer" of whom we read in this periodical, for what is known of the "Count Saint Germain" is also recorded in a manner equally effective. A short tale, "The Hostess of the Raven," is very forcibly sketched and there is an admirable description of "A very low Restaurant in Paris."

Among the contents of the *Leisure Hour* and *Sunday at Home* should be mentioned papers on "Ventilation," "The Divers in South America," "Some Natural History Anecdotes," and "Recollections and Adventures of an Aeronaut" in the former, and in the latter, "A day at Norfolk Island," "Jewish Life in the time of our Lord," and "The Jews in Russia and Poland." We have, by the way, received the complete volumes for 1874 of these excellent periodicals. The nature of their contents is so generally known and appreciated that it is needless for us to mention any particular articles, or class of articles, as specially worthy of commendation. Let it suffice, if we suggest that we know of few, if any, periodicals which are better suited for presentation to the young of either sex. Every variety of subject is discussed in the pages of the *Leisure Hour*, while *Sunday at Home*, as its title betokens, is confined to one class of literature only. But each contains matter that cannot fail to entertain and instruct the youthful reader. Nor, for the matter of that, need adults hesitate about consulting their pages. We repeat, these volumes are among the most sensible gift books we know of.

The most interesting contribution to *Le Monde Maçonnique*, are sundry excerpts from an address by Bro. A. Arnal, to a newly initiated member of the Lodge of Besançon. We hope, if space permits it, to give a rough translation of this admirable address in some future number.

THE "KNOWING" MASON.

HOW strange, and yet how true, is the saying that the "world does not know itself," there is no mind capable of comprehending the vastness of this great machine. Every branch of business, no matter how great or how small, is but little known outside of its own world or sphere; every sect or denomination is more or less the same. The labourer or mechanic is not known by the great world of commerce, the merchant by the railroad men; the abilities of an underwriter are only known to the insurance world, so with every branch represented. The farmer, banker and railroad kings, all jog along in their own spheres and knew comparatively nothing of each other. Yet one could not well get along without the other. We all mingle together and make a busy world, all working to advance science, and get the "almighty dollar." Yet we find once in a while a man who knows it all; he will tell you all about every sect and denomination, about every branch of business represented on the globe; how ships are built and navigated; how millionaires made their fortunes; how railroad kings became rich. He will also tell you how he suggested to Franklin to fly his kite and control the elements of Heaven; how he suggested to Fulton to build a steamboat; he was the saviour of the country by being Lincoln's advisor; that he is the gem of the starry heavens, and salt of the earth; and finally he will tell you all about Masonry, when it began and when it will end. He has invested 25 cents. (most likely his all) in an "Exposure," and can tell you how the whole thing is done from the first to the thirty-third degree. He knows how Morgan was murdered, and who did it; will tell the atrocities of the Order, the heinous and blood-thirsty crimes that are committed by all Masons, and so freely he will tell you the folly and wickedness of any secret Order, where anybody can't know everybody's business. He proclaims (perhaps) that he has been a Mason and renounced it, but this he fails to get his own congregation to swallow. Trace this great apostle back, and perhaps in some little Lodge you will find he has been balloted for and rejected! But let him study and learn all that is going on in this world that is public and open, and he will then be old enough and perhaps wise enough to be a Mason. But I fear he is too much like a good old lady we once knew, who was very curious to know what was in a box, but couldn't get it open; she said she "knew well enough what was in the darned thing, but wouldn't open it for fear it would smell bad!"—*Masonic Tidings*.

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	—	—
Glasgow and South Western	315½	19,101	17,857
Great Eastern	763	49,082	48,977
Great Northern	523	54,811	54,155
Great Western	1,525	106,979	101,187
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	67,266	65,196
London and Brighton	376½	35,668	32,848
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	21,449	21,317
London and North Western	1,586½	181,698	180,057
London and South Western	626½	41,561	41,733
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,933	2,301
Manchester and Sheffield	209½	31,355	30,946
Midland	970½	110,227	108,757
Metropolitan	8	9,537	8,471
" " District	8	5,274	4,606
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	591	521
North British	839	47,086	42,071
North Eastern	1,400½	134,752	125,383
North London	12	6,893	6,856
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,097	10,085
" " Canal	118	1,540	1,588
South Eastern	350	41,340	39,917

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, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 27 Bartlett, E.C.

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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.

—:o:—

SATURDAY, 10th JULY.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall.

MONDAY, 12th JULY.

Quarterly Meeting, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.
45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)

40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High Street, Hastings.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
98—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
108—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
181—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
189—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Mumps, Oldham.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
666—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
804—Derwent, George and Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, Derby.
863—Meridian, National School room, Millbrook, Cornwall.
941—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
946—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1266—Bayons, Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.
1373—St. Hubert, Freemasons' Hall, Bridge-street, Andover.
1396—Morning Star, Queen's Hotel, Newton Abbot.

TUESDAY, 13th JULY.

187—St. John's, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
131—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Truro.
160—True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
271—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Instruction.)
484—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Newton-in-the-Willows.
496—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
605—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
626—Lansdowne Lodge of Unity, New Hall, Chippenham.
723—Panmure, Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
772—Pilgrims, George Hotel, Glastonbury.
814—Parrett and Axe, George Hotel, Crewkerne.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, Gosport.
996—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot.
1288—Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, Surrey.
1402—Jordan, Masonic Hall, Torquay.

R. A. 1055—Derby, Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, Manchester.
K. T.—Almeric de St. Maur, Palatine Hotel, Manchester.

WEDNESDAY, 14th JULY.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldwych Lane, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
84—Doyles Lodge of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne.
196—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
197—Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Bury.
206—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
323—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
329—Brotherly Love, Clough's Inn, Yeovil.
330—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
681—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
696—Benevolence, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
706—Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.
731—Arboretum, Arboretum Hotel, Derby.
857—Worthing Lodge of Friendship, Sussex Hotel, Worthing.
882—Zetland, Albert Hotel, Salford.
906—Royal Albert Edward, Crown and Anchor Inn, Weston, near Bath.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
1016—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1052—Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.
1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley.
1436—Falcon, Kirkgate, Thirsk.

M.M. 142—Constantine, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.

THURSDAY, 15th JULY.

1279—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park.

42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Bury.
56—Howard, Town Hall, Arundel.
71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
94—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
195—Hengist, Belle Vue House, Bournemouth.
201—Ancient Union, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
208—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
283—Amity, Swan Inn, Hasling-den.
311—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye, Sussex.
314—Faith, Bull's Head, Radcliffe.
315—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
340—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton le-Dale.
361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.
390—Limestone Rock, Swan Hotel, Clitheroe.
426—Shakespeare, Town Hall, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.
429—Cornubian, Freemasons' Hall, Hayle, Cornwall.
456—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter.
462—Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Accrington.
531—St. Helens, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool, Durham. (Instruction.)
535—St. Cuthbert's, Parson Lane, Howden.
536—Lodge de Ogle, Black Bull Hotel, M[illegible]peth.
559—Kingdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth, Northumberland.
787—Beauvepen, Lion Hotel, Bridge-stre[illegible], Belper.
816—Royds, Spring Gardens Inn, Ward[illegible], near Rochdale.
940—Philanthropy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Salford.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-Springs.
1283—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.

R. A.—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

FRIDAY, 16th JULY.

1279—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1407—Metropolitan, 209 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

185—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
305—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
465—Fidelity, Pontefract Arms Hotel, Towcester.
516—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
960—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Lowestoft.

SATURDAY, 17th JULY.

148—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Maltham, Yorkshire.
308—Prince George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, near Todmorden.
418—Surrey, Public Hall, Reigate.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.
453—Chigwell, Castle Hotel, Woodford.

IRELAND.

SATURDAY—13—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.
MONDAY—154—Prince of Wales' Own Lodge, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 270—St. George's, Kenilworthy, Wexford.
" 307—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 321—Tullamore, Court House, Tullamore, King's County.
" 431—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
TUESDAY—6—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
" 23—Truth, Masonic Hall, Arthur Place, Belfast.
WEDNESDAY—317—Tyrrawley, 4 Dillon Terrace, Ballina.
THURSDAY—12—Meridian, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 93—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 129—Industry, Dunfeeran, Donegal.
" 332—Castleblaney, Castleblaney, Monaghan.

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-street.
R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—48—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 226—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 143—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY—R. A. 53—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45. — This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Monday the 5th of July, at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green. Present:—Bros. Isaac W.M., Pearcy S.W., Stock J.W., Killick Secretary, Read S.D., Lake J.D., Killick I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Masters:—Bros. Beckett, Preceptor, and Frost, and a numerous assemblage of brethren. Business:—Lodge opened in the usual manner, the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Emery Walker initiated. Bro. E. Sailman passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Beckett worked the 1st Section of 2nd Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bros. E. Walker and E. Sailman were unanimously elected members. The W.M. gave great satisfaction by the able manner in which he fulfilled his duties, this being the first time he had acted in this Lodge. Bro. Pearcy was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge closed punctually at 10 o'clock, and adjourned until next Monday evening.

St. John's Lodge, No. 178.—At the annual meeting held on the 24th June, at Freemasons' Hall, Castle Street, Lisburn, there were present, Bros. Richard Niven W.M., Robert McCartney S.W., John McBride P.M. as J.W., John Higginson P.M. Secretary and Treasurer, Wm. J. Gilliland S.D., Robert McComb P.M. J.D., John Vernon I.G., James Stewart Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. William Johnston I.P.M., William Wilson, Mercer Rice, Robt. M. Silly, Alexander Boyd, Matthew McKnight, Robert Addy, Arthur Croker, and William J. Knox sen. Members present—James Pryde, Samuel J. Nelson, John Flynn, James Simpson, Adam McClelland, William J. Knox jun., Robert McCall, Dr. Jefferson, and Robert McKee. Visitor — Bro. Bernard Good, "Friendly Brothers," 609 Belfast. Business transacted:—The Lodge having been opened in due form in the 1st degree, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bro. H. P. Rhodes, 140, Cromlin, was balloted for and accepted as a joining member. Some routine business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed in ancient form. The members then adjourned to the refreshment room, where a sumptuous supper was served in excellent style. The chair was occupied by Bro. Niven W.M., and the vice chair by Bro. McBride P.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and after spending a really enjoyable evening, the brethren separated at an early hour.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on 7th July, at White Hart Tavern, Aldwych Lane. Present:—Bros. Turquand W.M., Chapman S.W., Walker J.W., Blackhall S.D., Horsley J.D., Crask I.G., Gottheil P.M., John Ross, Holland, Blinkhorn, Fullke, Barnett, Botibol, Colmer, and several other brethren. Visitors—Bros. Crump, Tyrian Lodge, No. 618, N. V. Hegerty No. 1364, Crosbie No. 1364. Business:—The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Colmer as candidate. The 1st and 2nd sections of lecture worked by Bro. Gottheil, assisted by the brethren. The brethren separated after having pleasantly spent the two hours appropriated to the business of the Lodge.

Mariners' Lodge, No. 249.—The installation meeting of this Lodge, one of the strongest in the West Lancashire Province, was held in the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 1st inst. There was a large assembly of the brethren, notwithstanding the early hour at which they were summoned. Bro. J. Hayes, the retiring W.M., presided at the commencement of the business proceedings, and after the transaction of some formal business he installed his successor, Bro. H. P. Price as W.M., the whole

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of the ceremony being performed in an exceedingly impressive and masterly style. The following were the officers who were subsequently appointed, elected, and invested:—Bros. J. Hayes I.P.M., J. Lloyd S.W., the Rev. Philip Hains J.W., Dr. J. K. Smith P.M. Treasurer, M. Davis Secretary, W. Hamilton S.D., W. Forster J.D., W. Garlick I.G., J. J. Rose P.M. D.C., W. G. Veale Organist, F. Barnett S., and W. H. Ball Tyler. Before the close of the business, a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. J. Hayes I.P.M., as a token of the esteem of the brethren after his valuable services in the chair during the year. The more serious business of the day being over, the brethren and the ladies proceeded to Woodside Ferry, where 'bus and rail conveyed them to Hoylake, and a pleasant cross-country walk brought them to West Kirby, one of the most pleasant rural retreats in that neighbourhood, the place selected for the annual picnic. The party comprised about 200 ladies and gentlemen, and at the start it seemed as if bright and pleasant weather were to attend the annual "cut" of the "Mariners." Several sharp showers during the afternoon, however, interfered with the comfort and pleasure of the day, although these slight interruptions were quickly forgotten in the ample round of amusements which formed the principal portions of the programme. Races, games, dancing, &c., were on the cards, and every one seemed to enjoy the whole of the items. The only part of the arrangements which were unsatisfactory was the catering at the West Kirby Hotel, in which there was ample room for improvement. The large party started for Liverpool shortly after nine o'clock, and arrived safely, about half-past ten o'clock.

Royal Forest Lodge, No. 401.—The anniversary meeting was held on 24th June, at Hark to Bounty Inn, Staidburn. Present—Bros. Thos. G. Parker (P.G.W. West York) W.M., C. H. Rowlandson S.W., Edward Parker J.W., Joseph W. Sladen S.D., H. Harrison J.D., John Higson I.G., J. Livsey Tyler, John Slaiter Secretary. Past Masters—Bro. G. Lofthouse A.D.C. for East Lancashire. Visitors—Bros. Wm. Ainsworth P.M. 269, Wm. Roberts S.W. 369, W. Whewell P.M. P.P.G.S.B. 369, Thomas Clough 269, P.P.G.R. of East Lancashire, Edward Diggle 126 and 1504 S.D., Chas. Sutcliffe P.M. 126 and 1064. Business transacted:—The initiation of Mr. James Seed; the installation of Bro. T. G. Parker as W.M. for the ensuing year; the installing officer being Bro. Clough. The appointment by Bro. T. G. Parker W.M. of his officers for the ensuing year as above given, and his investing them with the jewels of their rank.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—St. John's Day meeting, held on 24th of June, at Masonic Hall, Drogheda. Present—Bros. Jeffers W.M., Whitty S.W., Flinn J.W., Glenny S.D., Griffin J.D., Hannan (Clerk) Chaplain, Preston *pro tem* I.G., Browne Tyler, Clarke P.M. H.K.T. Secretary and Treasurer; P.M.'s Bros. Daly, Harbinson, Dyas. Visitors, Bros. Ratcliffe P.M. 244, Horan 77 (who kindly presided at the harmonium). Business transacted:—Letters of apology read from several members for non-attendance. Mr. Alfred Hamilton Ormsby was initiated, and subsequently Bro. Charles William Ormsby was passed to Fellow Craft degree. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment. The usual half-yearly banquet being served shortly after 7 o'clock, grace was said, both before and after refreshment, by the Rev. Bro. Hannan Chaplain. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and alternated with appropriate music. Instrumental accompaniments were effectively rendered by Bro. Horan, Grand Organist to Provincial Grand Lodge of Down, while Bros. Daly P.M., Preston, Daly jun., Ratcliffe P.M., and Knaggs, each assisted Bro. Horan by their vocal attainments in producing a musical "régalade" of no mean order. The entire company joined in the choruses. Several excellent Masonic speeches were delivered, and having spent a most enjoyable evening the company broke up shortly before 12 o'clock, the brethren departing in peace, love and harmony.

Carnarvon Lodge, 804, Havant, Hants.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Town Hall, on the 5th inst. There was a good muster of the members, all the officers being at their posts. There were also several visitors present, it being the installation of Bro. J. Lintott S.W. the W.M. elect; the ceremony being performed by Bro. Hanson, the retiring Master. There being a candidate for initiation, the ceremony was ably performed by the W.M., with honour to himself, and with the greatest satisfaction to the brethren. The banquet was held at Bro. Purnell's, the Dolphin Hotel, to which about thirty attended and spent a very pleasant evening. The following brethren were appointed officers:—H. F. Cox S.W., G. E. Purnell J.W., J. Weeks P.M. Treasurer, J. N. Hillman P.M. Secretary, H. R. Tripp P.M. M.C., T. P. Hall S.D., G. Carter J.D., Lemman I.G., Southwood and Liddell Stewards, W. Blackmore Tyler.

Clones Lodge, No. 881, Ireland.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday 6th July, at 7.0 p.m. Present—Bros. Edward L. Elliott W.M., John H. Montgomery S.W., John Robinson J.W., E. G. Fitzgerald P.M. Secretary, John Elliott P.M. Treasurer, James Martin P.M. S.D., J. W. Preslie J.D., Rev. Thos. R. Conway Chaplain, W. M. Fitzgerald I.G., William Heaney Tyler. Past Masters Bros. E. G. Fitzgerald, James Martin and John Elliott. Visitors—Bros. Alex. Dixon P.M. 11, and member of 141 Dublin; Thos. Higgins P.M. 473 Enniskillen. Business—Bro. F. C. Fitzgerald M.D. was passed to the 2nd degree. The Lodge was then lowered to the 1st degree, when business of a routine nature was transacted. Bro. J. Houston proposed, and Bro. J. Elliott seconded, that the name of Mr. James Armstrong, the Diamond, Clones, be placed on the books the usual time for ballot. The Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form, after which the brethren adjourned for refreshment, when the usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

Lodge Meridian, No. 893, Millbrook.—The brethren of this Lodge met in their new room, at Millbrook, on Monday 28th June, for the purpose of installing the Worshipful Master-elect, the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe P.G. Master of Cornwall. V.W. Bro. Wm. Veale P.M. P.P.G.J.W. introduced his lordship, and V.W. Bro. E. J. Worth P.M. P.P.G.J.W. impressively conferred the obligation. His lordship invested his officers for the year as follow:—Bros. J. H. Filmer I.P.M., E. J. Worth P.P.G.J.W. S.W., Captain H. O'Neil P.M. P.P.G.S.B. J.W., Wm. Veale P.M. P.P.G.J.W. Treasurer, the Rev. T. W. Wintle Chaplain, J. Henwood Secretary, W. H. Bickford P.M. P.P.G.S.D. S.D., W. Harris P.M. J.D., W. H. Clarke, P.M. I.G., W. Coath P.M. D.C., W. Cawse and S. Hutchings Stewards, and A. Fisher Tyler. His lordship then presented Bro. Filmer I.P.M. with a very handsome jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him by the brethren for his zeal and ability in conducting the business of the Lodge during his year of office; and in doing so his lordship expressed the very great pleasure he felt in being able to give so good an account of his immediate predecessor in the chair. Bro. Filmer, very feelingly returning thanks, said:—Right Worshipful Sir, allow me to express my gratitude to your lordship for the very kind expression you have used towards me in conveying the feelings of the brethren, as well as of your lordship, in presenting me with this costly Past Master's jewel, which I accept as a token of brotherly love and esteem, and which shall be treasured by me as one of the best and most valuable gifts I possess. Kindly excuse my emotion, for your handsome present has taken me by surprise, and I am at a loss to adequately convey my feelings on this occasion; suffice it to say that I look on this occasion as one of the proudest moments of my life, feeling deeply, as I do, the honour you have done me. During the time I had the pleasure of being Worshipful Master, it was very gratifying to see our numbers greatly increase, and my heartiest wish is, may the prosperity of the Craft still more increase and flourish under the auspices of our illustrious brother, the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, so that my words may be verified that Lodge Meridian will be the largest in the Province. Allow me to embrace this opportunity of tendering "one and all" my sincere and hearty thanks for the kindness and courtesy I have received at all times, as well as for the great assistance I have been rendered from Past Masters, which I shall always remember with pleasure.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1012, Bury.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st inst., at the Derby Hotel. Present—Bros. Henry Heys I.P.M. (Ramsbottom), W. P. Woodcock S.W., Joseph T. Newbold J.W., John Halliwell P.M. Chaplain, George Spurgeon J.D., John B. Jackson P.M. D.C., James Barrett Steward, T. H. Sherborne I.G., James Thorman Tyler, Henry Maiden P.M. 191 P.P.G.S.B. E.L. Secretary, Joseph Handley P.P.G.T. E.L. Treasurer; P.M. Bro. William Handley. Visitors, Bros. G. A. O'Neil W.M. 191, Robert Whittaker P.P.G.D.C. East Lancashire 678 (Farnworth), H. Percival P.M. 274 (Newchurch), Walker W.M. 37 (Bolton), Edmund Milnes 1253 (Manchester), Ireland 1129 (Rochdale), Horridge 344 (Radcliffe), T. W. Probert S.D. 191, T. Barker J.D. 42, and a good muster of other brethren. Mr. George Ashworth, solicitor, Waterfoot, Rossendale, Mr. George McCann, spirit merchant, Bury, Mr. W. H. Hoyle, manufacturer, Mossfield, Bury, and Mr. James T. Milnes, manufacturer, Oaklands, near Bury, were unanimously balloted, and subsequently admitted to Masonic light. The initiations were performed respectively by Bros. Henry Maiden, J. B. Jackson, John Halliwell, and Joseph Handley, in a very excellent manner, and Bro. J. T. Newbold very appropriately explained the E. A. working tools. After a call to refreshment had been observed, and various toasts honoured, the Lodge was resumed in the third degree, when Bro. Harry Woodcock was duly raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by Bro. G. A. O'Neil (brother to the late W.M. of Lodge 1012, whose place, along with that of the late Bro. Battersby S.D., is still vacant), in an exceedingly impressive manner. On the Lodge being closed down to the first degree, a presentation was made to the Lodge by Bro. Henry Heys, of a chaste set of working tools, in silver, and, on the motion of Bro. J. Halliwell, seconded by Bro. J. T. Newbold, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Heys, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, for this handsome token of his esteem for the Lodge.

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 1125, Tiverton.—At the last regular stated Lodge, the locale chosen for the summer banquet was Dulverton, situate about 12 miles from Tiverton, just within the boundaries of the adjoining province of Somerset, and the day named was the 1st July. Accordingly, on Thursday morning last, a party of the brethren started by brake, and other conveyances, for a charming drive along the banks of the Exe and Barle for their destination. The richly-wooded scenery of the narrow and winding vale through which they passed were its most picturesque and luxuriant aspect, and was the theme of constant admiration, although familiar to many present. The course then diverged from Dulverton-road to Pixton-park, permission to visit which had been kindly accorded by the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. G. Master, and the Dowager Countess, who is at present residing there. Here the brethren alighted from their vehicles, very pleasantly passed an hour or two in exploring the beauties of the park and gardens, under the courteous guidance of the steward and head gardener, and watching the graceful movements of the deer, Bro Gill giving additional interest to the short tour by observations on the flora and topography of the district. An adjournment took place to the Lion Hotel, Dulverton, where a very excellent and well-appointed dinner was provided by Bro. King. The company comprised Bro. Parkhouse W.M., Bro. Mills P.M. P.G.O. Secretary, Bro. Davey P.M., Gill as S.W., Crabb as J.W., Partridge, Sharland, Payne, H. Melhuish, J. Melhuish, Martin, Colsby, Wood, Bartlett, Snell, Sheppard, Vaughan, King, Arbery, Capron and others. The post prandial speeches were of the shortest description, and the brethren returned to Tiverton in the evening highly delighted with their day's outing.

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Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 5th July, at the Moira Rooms, Freemasons' Hall. Present—Bros. Edward Frowin W.M., C. S. Jekyll S.W., W. A. Tinney J.W., E. Stanton Jones P.M. Secretary, H. Tinney I.G., J. Gilbert Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. C. Coote, J. Weaver, J. M. Chamberlin, J. Read, and many other brethren. Visitors—Bros. Dr. Stabell, Bergen, Norway, W. J. Hill St. James 177 (Scotch), F. de Leslie No. 84, J. Blyth 174, G. T. Turner and L. R. Royers 902. Business:—Lodge opened at half past 2 o'clock, minutes read and confirmed. This being the election meeting, the unanimous choice of the brethren fell on Bro. C. S. Jekyll S.W. The Lodge jewel of the highest value was voted to the retiring W.M., in approbation of the efficient manner in which he has carried out the duties of the Master's chair.

Beaminster Manor Lodge, No. 1367.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Thursday, the 1st instant, at the White Hart Hotel, Beaminster. Present:—Bros. R. Leigh W.M., E. G. Legg S.W., T. Wetton J.W., E. Holland Secretary, J. Andrews Treasurer, S. Cox S.D., E. Toleman J.D., W. H. W. Toby D.C., F. W. Good and J. S. Webb Stewards, J. Hine I.G., F. Long Tyler; Past Masters:—Bros. J. Hine, J. S. Webb, W. H. W. Toby and James Andrews I.P.M. Bro. R. Leigh was duly installed. The annual banquet was held the same evening under the presidency of the W.M.

Truth Lodge, No. 1458.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday the 3rd of July, at Royal Archer Hotel, Dale Street, Manchester. Present:—Bros. Henry Smith W.M., Charles Pearson S.W., Charles Joel Kent J.W., J. Kinder P.M. Secretary, Thomas Tyers P.M. Treasurer, James Batcheldor S.D., James Branton J.D., Robert Caldwell P.M. D.C., R. Fallows I.G. Past Masters, Bros. Jno. W. Turner, Caldwell, Tyers, and Kinder. Business:—Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Mr. Henry James Oldham, initiated by Bro. J. Kinder P.M. in a very able manner, the W.M. Bro. Smith giving the charge. Bro. P.M. Turner withdrew two of his motions, he was also unsuccessful in carrying one for increase of subscription; on a division respecting the raising of initiation fee to seven guineas, Bro. Pearson carried his amendment for six guineas. The Lodge was closed at 6.45.

Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540.—A warrant having been granted by M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, the consecration of this Lodge took place on Friday, the 2nd instant, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. The usual ceremonies were most impressively rendered by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who had been selected for the purpose by the M.W.G.M., with the assistance of Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford P.G.C. as Chaplain, and Bro. R. Wentworth Little P.M. P.G.S. Middlesex, and Secretary Girls' School, as D.C. The installation of the W.M. and the appointment of Officers followed:—Bros. T. J. Sabine P.M. 73, Treasurer 1423 and P.G.S.B. Middlesex, W.M., J. C. Mason S.W., E. S. Stidolph J.W., W. Hudson P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.M. P.G.P. Middlesex Secretary, Kemp S.D., E. Hudson J.D., H. Paige I.G., Hawks D.C., Rev. A. Hatch Chaplain, A. P. Steadman W.S. Votes of thanks and honorary membership were accorded to Bros. J. Hervey, R. Wentworth Little and Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, for their admirable rendering of the ceremonies, and the Lodge having been closed, an adjournment to banquet, which was provided by Bro. Spencer, took place. The new Lodge has every reason to congratulate itself on its successful inauguration, and may confidently look forward to a long and honourable career. The numerous visitors were highly pleased with everything, and especially with the very impressive manner in which the ceremonies had been carried out.

National Rifle Association—Among the valuable prizes at the forthcoming Wimbledon meeting is one for £20, contributed by the well-known firm, Messrs. Felice and Sons, of Albemarle-street, proprietors of the popular "Specialité" Sherry.

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THE DRAMA.

The Dramatic College Fête at the Alexandra Palace—The Lady of Lyons at the Globe Theatre.

THE Dramatic College Fête, on Saturday last, was in some respects a great disappointment. From a pecuniary point of view the result was, no doubt, a success; but we were sorry to see that so few leading members of the profession were present, and that some most objectionable features of the old fêtes were still prominent. Mrs. Stirling, always prominent in any enterprise for the good of her fellow artists, once more lurked in her charming robber's cave, over which was inscribed: "Abandon cash all ye who enter here," an injunction which she tried hard to be carried out to the letter. Signor Salvini recited passages from Alfieri's tragedy of *Saul* with all his well-known force and fervour; Mr. H. Paulton officiated as showman to a wonderful aquarium, which included, amongst its attractions, that renowned sea-serpent of which so much has been heard and so little seen. This aquarium far surpassed its prototype at Brighton, in the oddity, if not in the number of its occupants. Mrs. Howard Paul gave her really good imitations of Mr. Sims Reeves. Selections were played from "Our Boys," "The Ticket of Leave Man," "Patient Penelope," and "Nicholas Nickleby." Richardson's Show was there, in which was performed an extraordinary drama, involving more dagger, blood and thunder, than were ever before seen on any stage. In fact the attractions of the fête were numberless, but "the trail of the serpent" was there also. It was not necessary, in the interest of a genuine charity, that a second-rate burlesque actress should sell to gentlemen, with more money than brains, a strawberry, which she had bitten, or a flower, which she had kissed, at the rate of half-a-guinea each. The dramatic profession is more subject to imputation than any other, and it was performances of this kind which threw discredit on the fêtes at the Crystal Palace, and caused them, eventually, to become resorts for many ladies of questionable character, and for some about whose character there could not be any question at all.

Miss Lottie Wilmot, with what may be called a scratch company, is now playing *The Lady of Lyons* at the Globe. The literary merit of Lord Lytton's play will always ensure for it a certain amount of favour in spite of its forced sentiment and its clap-trap; but we do not think that any peculiar interest is added to this occasion of its production by the brilliancy of the acting. Mr. John Nelson's is hardly the first name which would occur to us in seeking for a Claude Melnotte: Mr. McIntyre is a very heavy villain as Beauseant, and Mr. T. Mead, who plays Colonel Dumas, has hardly yet recovered from his ghostly experiences at the Lyceum. Miss Wilmot is a pretty and intelligent actress, but her physical powers hardly enable her to cope with such a part as Pauline, which requires great command of force and passion.

NEW MASONIC HALL, PARSONSTOWN.

THIS new hall has been dedicated and opened during last month. It is for the use of the brethren of St. Brendon's Lodge, 163. According to the local papers, some eight months since the committee obtained possession of a house in William Street, and having removed the top floor and all the partitions, found at their disposal a room which measured about 31ft. long by 17ft. wide, and 15ft. high to the braces of the roof. They then instructed Mr. A. B. Milne, C.E., to prepare plans for its conversion into a hall suitable for the meeting of their Ancient Order, and under his direction and superintendence the various works have been carried out. Throughout the whole there has been an endeavour to keep to the mediæval spirit which caused all work to exhibit its construction, and to make the constructive features ornamental—not to hide any work or material, but to let it tell its own story of its quality and use. All the exposed woodwork, as the ribs, consoles, pilasters, door and door-case, are simply stained and varnished, thus showing out the natural grain and beauties of the timber, while machine mouldings stuck on, and all imitations of any kind have been carefully avoided.

Under the supervision of Mr. R. J. Sheppard, the Secretary of the Building Committee, the Masonic details were carried out. The ribs, consoles, and entire gasfitting and heating arrangements were supplied by Messrs. Wallace and Co., of Wilmer-road; Messrs. Brooks, Thomas and Co., Dublin, executed the painting and decorating, attended to by Mr. Morris; and the carpentry and joinery, inclusive of benches and chairs, was the work of Messrs. Carroll and Dillon, all of which, we are informed, was satisfactorily executed.—*Irish Builder*, 1st July 1875.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 29. SATURDAY, 17th JULY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

A WATER PARTY.

RESIDENTS on the quiet banks of the Thames at Richmond or Kew are accustomed, at this season of the year, to receive a large influx of visitors resolutely bent on enjoyment. They are not indeed of the class who care to inspect the rare botanical treasures of the latter named place, nor are they at all disposed to ramble in Richmond Park, and eat sandwiches under the shadow of its noble elms. These people are of the well-to-do classes, who know how to dine, who have acquired the art of spending what dear old Charles Lamb called "a shoemaker's holiday" in the most agreeable fashion. A stranger who should stand on Kew Bridge about eleven o'clock on any morning in July might wonder what Royal craft was moored in the stream. He would hear the agreeable "tooting" of Dan Godfrey's band stationed on the ample deck of a noble-looking vessel, gay with the bright dresses and brilliant bonnets of the ladies. If our stranger desired accurate information, the youngest inhabitant might possibly be able to tell him that the frigate-like craft is the so-called "Civic Barge," and the people on her decks good substantial citizens with their wives and daughters. He might learn that the dear old craft had made a score or so of trips up the river this season, and that the City Companies, who know what it is to dine well, the Corporate Authorities, and, perhaps a Masonic Lodge or two, had figured amongst her passengers. A trip on board the "Maria Wood" is, indeed, regarded by many people as the very acme of pleasure. Some of our acquaintances, who are great men amongst the Fishmongers or the Goldsmiths, boast of having "gone up the river" every year for the last decade. For our own part we should vote a repetition of any pleasure, however sublime it might be, as rather slow, but the "Maria Wood" is a unique craft of her kind, and if the caterer does his duty, or rather, if cash be no object, one may spend a whole day on board in the most gentle of all imprisonment without running any risk of being drowned. As no guest has ever yet voted the civic barge a prison, or has run any risk of a watery grave through her agency, she does not come under Dr. Johnson's definition of a ship. If she grounds at low water in the upper reaches of the stream, the most nervous lady on board never feels the least alarm, and her stability is so great that the paddles of the most troublesome of river steamers never have the effect of disturbing her equanimity. Many of our Masonic friends are no doubt fully acquainted with the merits of the old craft, and indeed we may venture to say that she never makes a pleasure trip without carrying a goodly sprinkling of the fraternity. Masons are supposed to be skilled in the art of dining out, but doubtless at this season most of our brethren would rather partake of a cold collation on board "the Barge" than they would sit down to a more ambitious spread at the "Star and Garter," or the "Trafalgar." Let us imagine that we are favoured guests of some Civic Company, and that we have stepped upon the deck of the old craft in time to partake of a late breakfast. The "providitors" are at their posts to receive us as we reach the gangway; we dive down to the spacious saloon, with appetites sharpened by our journey from town, and at once make serious inroads upon the good things placed before us. The barge casts off from her moorings at twelve o'clock, and proceeds slowly up the stream with her gay freight, who drink their coffee and discuss their ham and tongue to the accompaniment of delicious music. A gentle breeze enters the windows, and plays around us as we pass along amid some of that characteristic scenery which has so often excited the admiration of our transatlantic brethren. We pass green banks and gay gardens gemmed with flowers, and bright sunny villas, the abodes of wealth and fashion. Noble trees almost dip their foliage into the stream, which scarcely ripples under the bows of the slowly gliding craft. All is gaiety and animation. The old gentleman opposite tells you that this makes his twentieth annual trip, and that he never enjoyed himself so much in his life as on this occasion. He has made the same remark for the last twenty years, and it is therefore evident that he is rapidly reaching a climax, and will, some day or other, sink under the influence of his highly wrought feelings. Your next neighbour is a distinguished Mason; you always meet him where Masons most do congregate, and he tells you that he is here by virtue of his position as Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Frying-pan Makers, who are the hosts of the day. The Worshipful Company never dines or goes up the river without its beadle, and that worthy, arrayed in gorgeous robes, his venerable head roofed with an enormous cocked hat, stands behind the master's chair, the observed of all observers. He looks uncommonly like a fossil man, and you imagine he has been dug up from some deep limestone formation, and decked in gay habiliments merely to give an air of respectable antiquity to the whole affair.

Breakfast over, the younger portion of the guests at once commence the mazy dance, under the influence of the magic strains of the band. The thoughtful providitors have provided neat gilt programmes of the dances, and the young ladies book their engagements under the ample awning of the barge as coolly as if they were about to foot it merrily on the boards at Freemasons' Hall. Staid gentlemen of middle age, whose dancing days are over, retire to the attendant shallop to smoke a morning cigar over a quiet glass of soda and brandy, and discuss the politics of the week. The shallop, indeed, is a great favourite with the lovers of the fragrant weed, who, reclining at their ease and watching the cool stream as the boat glides over its clear depths, or rather shallows, or following in imagination the blue smoke wreaths that curl up into spiral rings in the still air, may dream to their heart's content. A cold collation at three o'clock is the great event of the day, and at this the guests assemble with appetites by no means impaired by the previous inroads they have made upon the breakfast. One can feed quietly off cold lamb and a salad, washed down with hock or iced champagne, or more luxuriantly, but perhaps not more agreeably, off the numerous good things under which the table groans. There is more dancing after dinner, and when tea has been handed round the ladies are called up to the cuddy to participate in a lottery concocted by the Master, and at his own personal expense, where all the lots are prizes. One wishes one were a member of the female persuasion as one sees the exquisite cut scent bottles, the expensive Russia leather purses, and the other treasures disappear into the pockets of the fortunate winners. This little ceremonial over, the barge turns her bluff bows homeward, and amid the sounds of music and the measured tread of active dancers she takes up her old moorings off Kew Bridge long before the shadows of night have descended upon the river.

THE RETIRING MASTERS OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

IN our recent article on the Boys' School we mentioned, as one of the subjects in connection with it which had

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excited in us the strongest feelings of regret, that changes in the educational staff were again imminent. We pointed out that in the preceding Report, for the year 1873, it was stated, "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." A year elapses, and we are told, "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." We remarked how damaging to the interests of this Institution such frequent changes must be, and we urged upon the Committee the desirability of selecting such new masters as would make the recurrence of similar changes in the last degree improbable. Elsewhere we publish a letter from the "Four Retiring Masters," and we have received from various quarters several other communications, all bearing on the unfortunate differences which have arisen as to the management of the School. We have no intention whatever of passing judgment on the contents of these documents. We are strictly impartial in the matter, and are only anxious that the interests of the boys should not suffer in the course of this turmoil. Moreover, the present time, when the grand success of the recent Festival is yet fresh in the minds of our readers, appears to be very favourable for bringing under notice some of the most important statements connected with these disputes.

We note, in the first instance, that the report to the Cambridge Syndicate, of the examiner, Mr. Finlaison, as regards the progress in study made by the boys is generally satisfactory, while as regards the discipline of the school it is overwhelmingly so. On the former point Mr. Finlaison remarks, firstly and generally, "I have great pleasure in certifying that the average educational condition of the boys, having regard to their ages and duration of residence in the school, is satisfactory—in some respects very much so—notwithstanding that I may feel it my duty to call attention to some points in which improvement is desirable." Then dealing *seriatim* with the subjects of study the examiner say, "In Scripture I had some very fair answers," notably from certain boys, while "in the second class the average was decidedly good." He thinks it would have been better had they taken up fewer books of the Old and New Testament and learned them more thoroughly, while he cautions them against answering at random. Again, "in Catechism," he say, "I was extremely well satisfied throughout. The boys appear to have got a very good text book, and to have made a very good use of it. Some boys also showed very considerable thought." In English Grammer "some fair essays were written, but, as a whole, the grammatical portion of the paper was weakly answered." Then, "the spelling and writing were unquestionably good throughout the school." In History, sundry boys answered remarkably well, "but the bulk of the school would do better to pay more attention to the leading principles of history." "In Geography, the map drawing was very good indeed," but greater attention is recommended "to geographical descriptions of countries." As regards Latin, "the average translation was fairly good, but the relative strength of the second class, as compared with the first, was not so great." "The French paper was very well answered throughout the school." "The German, which I examined *viva voce*, exhibited a satisfactory average." "The answers in Euclid were very fairly done, both *viva voce* and in writing." In Arithmetic the average merit was fair; but by no means remarkable. "The Algebra was not quite so satisfactory," and more attention to this subject is suggested. "The junior classes appear to possess fully as much information, and that of as sound a character as their ages would warrant one in expecting." Now nothing is easier than to praise or blame wholesale, but it will be remarked that Mr. Finlaison has passed judgment on the school with the nicest discrimination. He has not hesitated to point out faults, while giving every credit to what is admirable. This makes his judgment valuable, nor can it be denied that his opinion is, on the whole, very satisfactory to the masters and the manner in which they have performed their duties. As to the other point, the conduct of the boys, the examiner is stronger in his praise. "The conduct of the boys," he remarks, "was so uniformly good and highly disciplined that it is plain that no ordinary pains has been taken with them in this respect." On the strength of this report, the Head and Assistant Masters have every reason to congratulate themselves.

The next point to which we must call attention is the unenviable position of one of the subordinate officials of the school—to wit, the Matron. We presume no one in his senses would allow that any such official should have it in her power to thwart the views of the Head Master. We care not what school is in question, whether it be Eton, with its tutors and dames, or a small preparatory academy, with a head master and one or two ushers, it is clear the success of the school, both as regards moral and religious training, depends absolutely on the exercise of a supreme authority by the head master, subject of course to the laws and limitations imposed on him by the governing body. Without such a regulation, the management of a school would become a farce. We are convinced the Committee are too fully alive to the importance of their own duties and of those of their Head Master to sanction in any way the interference with the latter of any person properly subordinate to him. Into the complaints raised by the Assistant Masters against the Matron we shall not pause to enquire. They are *ex parte* to begin with. The Matron may be in a position to meet them, or they may be incontrovertible. At all events it is no business of ours to pass judgment on the merits. But be they right or wrong, the fact of such charges being bandied about between the Masters and the Matron is not creditable to the Institution. We judge of the excellence of a piece of machinery when we find the parts of which it is composed work harmoniously together. Here there seems to have been not only no harmony, but absolute discord, to what cause attributable remains to be decided.

Our respected Bro. Binckes says that all the statements in Bro. Tew's phamphlet, to which we recently referred, can be answered satisfactorily. The Rev. Bro. Perrott is anxious for a complete investigation into his conduct. The four retiring Under Masters give chapter and verse for their several allegations, and the Matron, no doubt, is ready with a complete answer to all that has been urged against her. We are no advocates for stirring muddy water; but if the Committee take no further steps, injustice to some of those concerned must be the result. It is clearly a case in which the Committee must exercise a very great amount of discretion. Equally clear is it that the Committee owe it as a duty to the supporters of the Institution that everything of a polemical character between the Head Master and his subordinates should be put down with a firm hand. There must be no war between masters and servants, or the boys will suffer. The one authority before which masters and servants must equally bow is that of the Committee.

THE RICHMOND COMMANDERY IN THE NORTHERN STATES.

THE presence of this Commandery in Boston for the purpose of sharing in the centennial celebration of the Battle of Bunker's Hill has been made the opportunity for a grand display, not only of Templar Masonry, but of a truly Masonic enthusiasm between the brethren of the Northern and Southern States. The Northern papers give most glowing descriptions of the reception accorded to the Richmond Knights by the Boston Commanderies, and speak, with a natural pride, of Masonry being among the most powerful of the many agencies at work to re-unite heartily, as they are governmentally, the two sections of the United States, the North and South, a few years since engaged in so terrible a struggle. The enthusiasm of the Bostonians for their Southern guests was immense, and as hearty as it was grand, while the latter are deeply sensible of the fervour and patriotism with which they have been greeted in Boston and other Northern cities.

The Richmond Commandery, No. 2 of Virginia, reached the Providence depôt, Boston, on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 16th ult. The officers accompanying them were E. Sir Wm. E. Tanner, Commander; Sir Wm. T. Allen, Generalissimo; Sir L. L. Bass, Captain-General; Rev. Sir George C. Vanderslice, Prelate; Sir O. M. Marshall, Treasurer; Sir George R. Pace, Recorder; Sir John E. Laughton jun. Senior Warden; Sir J. T. Keesee, Junior Warden; Sir John J. Wright, Standard Bearer; Sir Chas. T. Binford, Sword Bearer; Sir J. Thompson Brown, Warder; Sir Thomas Angel, Sentinel. With them also

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were R.E. Sir W. B. Isaacs, Gr. Commander of Virginia, and E. Sir F. A. Reed, Commander of Old Dominion Commandery of Alexandria. At the depôt the Richmond Knights, seventy-six in number, were met by the De Molay Commandery, and escorted to Park Square, where the public honours were given, after which the two bodies formed into procession, with the other Boston Commands, in the following order:—

Brown's Brigade Band.
Boston Commandery, 275 Knights, General Sir S. C. Lawrence, Commander.
Brockton Band.
Palestine Commandery of Chelsea, 130 Knights.
Lynn Brass Band.
St. Omar Commandery of South Boston, 76 Knights.
Salem Band.
Joseph Warren Commandery of Boston Highlands, 110 Knights.
Fall River Band.
William Parkman Commandery of East Boston, 76 Knights.
Metropolitan Band.
Cœur de Lion Commandery of Charlestown District, 100 Knights.
Hall's Brass Band.
De Molay Commandery of Boston, 200 Knights.
Sheriff Sir John M. Clark, Em. Commander, accompanied by a detachment of Hugh de Payen Commandery of Melrose, acting as a color-guard.
Kozmich's Band of Richmond, Va.
Richmond Commandery, No. 2, of Virginia, 76 Knights.
Col. Sir William R. Tanner, Em. Commander.

Thus the procession included over a thousand Templars, all in complete regalia, while the several bands swelled the column to over 1,100. Having passed through the principal streets of the city, the procession at length reached Faneuil Hall shortly after six o'clock, the enthusiasm on the line of march being very great, and this was intensified when the column reached the residence of Sir Curtis Gould, on Columbus Avenue, and every member of the visiting Commandery was presented, by a party of young ladies, with a beautiful bouquet. At the Hall, the Eminent Commander of the De Molay Commandery delivered an address of welcome on the part of the Masonic fraternity, while Alderman John T. Clark welcomed the Richmond Knights to the city of Boston. E. Commander Sir W. E. Tanner appropriately acknowledged this address, after which R. E. Sir Charles Stott, Gr. Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, expressed the welcome of the Gr. Commandery, and to this, Grand Commander Sir W. B. Isaacs, of Virginia responded. An impromptu banquet followed, after which the Knights marched to American House, where, later in the evening, the De Molay and Richmond Commanderies enjoyed a substantial repast.

On Thursday the Battle of Bunker's Hill was commemorated, Masonry taking a very conspicuous part in the ceremonial. Among those present were M.W. Grand Master Percival C. Everett, wearing the Masonic apron originally worn by General Warren as Master of his Lodge, and M.W. Past Grand Master Dr. Winslow Lewis, who wore the apron formerly belonging to the Marquis De Lafayette, with a number of officers of Grand Lodge, together with the Grand Senior Wardens as representing the Board of Directors of the Masonic Temple, and a large number of invited guests, including M.W. Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, Grand Master of Maine, and head of the Supreme Council of the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States, M.W. Bro. Gen. Israel Hunt, Past Grand Master of New Hampshire, and R.W. Bro. Wiston, who was Grand Marshal of the Masonic processions when the corner stone of the Bunker Hill monument was laid some fifty years ago. The De Molays joined the Richmonds at American House at 8.30 a.m., and conducted them, amid the plaudits of a vast crowd of spectators, to the site of the old redoubt near the Monument, and here further addresses of welcome were delivered and acknowledged, the principal part of the day's business not being overlooked. The fraternisation of the Northern and Southern brethren was made as complete as possible. The guests were then marched off to the Green Dragon building occupying the site of the Old Green Dragon Tavern where the first Lodge of Masons in Boston were wont to hold their sittings, and from this point the guests witnessed the Grand Centennial procession. Further speech-making followed, and in the evening the Richmond Knights visited the Globe Theatre. The week closed with a grand banquet given by the De Molay Commandery at American House, under the presidency of Em. Commander Sir John M. Clark, Sheriff of the County, there being considerably over three hundred guests. Before leaving Boston for Providence and New York, E. Commander Sir W. E. Tanner was presented with a handsome jewel of gold, the gift of the ladies of Boston, made in the form of a Maltese Cross 2½ inches square with the monogram O.V.M. representing Virginia and Massachusetts, with a legend in commemoration of this visit. They then left for Providence, where the reception they experienced was equally cordial, while at New York a delegation of the Palestine Commandery, of which the M.W. Bro. Ellwood E. Thorne, Grand Master of New York State, is Commander, awaited their arrival. After breakfast they were conducted over the new Masonic Temple, and on the Thursday following left, under escort of the Palestine Commandery, for Jersey City, whence they took train home again for Richmond.

So magnificent a reception was in every way worthy of Masonry, and will doubtless do more than anything else to cement and extend the feelings of brotherly love between the Northern and Southern States.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

The following returns have been made since the publication of our last list:—

Royal Standard, No. 1298, per H. T. Mozen S.D.			£20	19 0
Joppa, Royal Arch Chapter, No. 188, per H. M. Levy M.E.Z.			26	4 0
do.	do.	per I. Abrahams	22	5 6
Bardett, No. 1293, per F. Kelly W.M.			10	10 0
Sir Watkin, No. 1477, per John Corbett J.W.			5	5 0

Eclectic, No. 1201, should be £21, not £64 1s, as published in our last.

A Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Major Creaton V.P. P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. R. W. Little, Secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, also those of the General Quarterly Court of the 10th of April, which were confirmed. It was then announced that Miss Davis had resumed her position of Head Mistress, while Miss Moss returned to the post previously held by her. In pursuance of a notice of motion by Bro. T. W. White, the rank of Vice-Patron of the Institution was conferred on Bro. I. S. Howell, in acknowledgment of his long and valuable services as Honorary Medical Officer. It was also proposed by Bro. Griffiths Smith that the rank of Honorary Vice-President be conferred on Bro. Peter Matthews, in recognition of his valuable services, as Honorary Dental Surgeon, for many years. The two propositions were carried unanimously. The M.W. Pro Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon and the R.W. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M. were elected trustees of the Institution. The names of thirty candidates were placed on the list for the next election, there being six vacancies. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, and the meeting was adjourned. There were present Bros. H. Browse, J. Symonds, Peacock, J. R. Webster, T. W. White, Griffiths Smith, Harriss, H. Massey, and H. M. Levy.

The regular monthly meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, 14th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bro. Major Creaton V.P. P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry, Secretary to the Institution, read the minutes of the former meeting, also the Report of the Finance Committee, which were confirmed, and the Secretary announced that in two years 22 annuitants had been elected, and they had the sum of £3,500 to be invested, showing the prosperous state of the Institution. Several deaths were announced, and petitions were handed in. On the various qualifications being found correct, the names were placed on the list. Mr. G. Lee Hill was elected Clerk in the Office in place of Mr. Jones, the late Clerk. A sum of £10 was voted, to be given for the purpose of entertaining the inmates, the same as was done on a previous occasion; the date to be fixed hereafter.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—These twin remedies exercise, in a manner peculiar to themselves, such an effect on the Liver and excretory organs of the body, that the presence of inspissated Bile or any foreign, effete or morbid material in the stomach and bowels is rendered almost impossible. It is scarcely possible to over estimate the benefit conferred on mankind by such results, for if used in the commencement of bilious disorders and intestinal irritations, the removal of the exciting cause would reduce to a minimum, if it did not altogether avert, the suppression of typhoid and enteric Fevers, which are in the present day so rife amongst all classes of the community, especially during the hot and sultry summer months.

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THE MASTER OF A LODGE—HIS DUTIES.

(*From the* CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS.)

IT has often occurred to us that the nature of the engagements, both expressed and implied, which are entered into by the Master of a Lodge, is, in general, but indifferently understood or appreciated. It is reasonable to presume that any man of ordinary understanding, who has gone through the subordinate offices, will, by the time he reaches the chair, be able to perform his part in the ceremonies of the Lodge with accuracy and propriety. If not, he must be a cypher, "if he can do nothing, but say nothing, he shall be nothing here." But we have a right to expect more than the getting by rote a few phrases. The Master should possess, and should be able to impart, some knowledge of the meaning and origin of our ceremonies, which, unless explained, may seem frivolous or tedious formalities. They are, it is true, calculated to awaken rational curiosity, and are fraught with meaning: Masonry, still bearing the impress of its Asiatic origin, teaches its moral precepts by symbolical actions. But explanation is needed to convey that meaning, and "THE MASTER" is not only supposed to be a master of men, but a master of work. The vulgar and illiterate may stand amazed at what they cannot comprehend: but Masonry is not confined to the vulgar and illiterate; men of high intellectual acquirements in our society, anxious not merely to share in its benefits, but to be instructed in the boasted philosophy that is "veiled in its allegories and illustrated by its symbols." Why, then, should we tolerate that ignorance which is the result of mere apathy? Surely it is worth while to know somewhat of a subject which engages the attention of many estimable and intelligent persons. And the means of that knowledge are in our reach. Masonry has now broken through the restraint which the timid jealousy of our predecessors had imposed upon it. We have shared in the irresistible progress of the age, and we now have Masonic treatises, magazines and journals, all devoted to the explanation of Masonic history, antiquities and principles. We attract more attention than heretofore, as appears not only by the multiplicity of our authorized publications, but by the host of spurious and despicable rituals and pretended exposures which feed the credulity of the vulgar.

To become Master of his Lodge is the legitimate object of every young brother who takes any interest in our Society. The very questionable policy of our present regulations seems to be to open to each in succession the way to the Mastership—almost, if not altogether, as a matter of course. Now, our younger brethren may rest assured, that although in deference to a usage, which it is too late, perhaps, to abolish, we may place a careless or ignorant Mason in the chair, invest him with the badge of authority, and address him with the external forms of respect, we cannot command for him the deference and consideration which will be sure to follow the enlightened and expert. He will be like the figure-head of a ship—placed foremost, and gaudily decorated; but, after all, it is a mere effigy, not contributing in the least to the management of the vessel. In small, as in great things, *knowledge* is power—intellectual superiority is real pre eminence.

An ignorant Master, may, however, find some charitable friend to prompt him—some expert craftsman to explain for him what he could not explain for himself. All that is but little creditable to the Master's ability, and cannot, one would think, be gratifying to his good opinion of himself, yet it is not necessarily injurious to the institution. But what shall we say of those who regard the office of Master of a Lodge as no more and no less than the presidency of a convivial club, which is to have no more effect upon our conduct in life than as it may enable us to pass a pleasant evening occasionally in sociable company? This is not so uncommon a case. The prevalence of this notion of Masonry (especially among the higher classes of society) has in a measure paralyzed its powers in doing good, and made it at best the empty image of what it *ought* to be, and *might* be, if well understood and thoroughly practised. We are often taunted with making too much of Masonry; but the truth is, we greatly underrate both its objects and capabilities, and are, therefore, too ready to admit men among us whom we can hardly expect to bestow a single thought upon either. The avowed enemies of Masonry have striven hard, but in vain, to injure it. Our worst foes have been those of our own household, who have tarnished the brightness of Masonic purity, and lowered the standard of Masonic excellence.

Let us hope, however, that as juster notions have begun to prevail, the office of Master will cease to be a mere name, and will resume its ancient utility and importance.

The Master's rights do not take effect until his installation. Once installed, his authority becomes absolute in his own Lodge, although due checks are provided by the Constitutions of Freemasonry against the arbitrary exercise of it. It is presumed that his brethren have elected one in whom they may confide, and that his conduct will be neither capricious nor tyrannical; therefore, by the immemorial Masonic law, obedience is his right, and he must be obeyed accordingly. By electing him, his brethren have given him, so far as they are concerned, an indefeasible right to preside in the Lodge during his term of office; therefore, they cannot remove, suspend, nor censure him, nor vote him from the chair, nor prevent him from taking it. They cannot compel him to open, close, or adjourn the Lodge. He does all this at his own pleasure, as our ancient forms of opening and closing sufficiently prove; and here, let us remark, how practically useful are these ancient forms, which are frequently hurried over, as too familiar. Every Master should insist upon those being strictly observed and accurately repeated in his Lodge, without abridgment or alteration. They remind each officer of his duty, and all of the due subordination which so peculiarly distinguishes the society.

There are certain matters which the Master must decide on his own responsibility, and on which he should not put any question to the Lodge—namely, all points of order, ceremonial, Masonic law and discipline, in which we include the arrangement of Lodge business. These he must determine according to his own conscientious notions of what is right, no matter how urgently he may be pressed to the contrary: if he does not, he is unworthy of his station. And his decision on each question should be at once and cheerfully submitted to. There must be no altercation, protesting, disputing or remonstrating between the Master and the craftsmen. Even the ordinary marks of approbation or disapprobation are unmasonic and irregular. As, in a court of justice, the opinion of the judge, though not always assented to as correct, is invariably treated with deference, and presumed to be right until it has been set aside by superior authority, so it should be with the decisions of a master in his Lodge. And it is for the common benefit of all of us to uphold the authority unimpaired; because the temporary inconvenience which may result from an error of the Master's judgment, or even from an occasional abuse of his powers, is of far less moment than the preservation of the harmony and order which it is one of our chief ends to attain.

But the Master is always amenable to the Grand Lodge, and any well-grounded complaint against him may be preferred there. Then, indeed, it becomes *his* duty to submit, with ready and cordial acquiescence, to the ultimate decision of the supreme Masonic power.

It is true that mutual forbearance is so much inculcated, and good feeling so widely prevails among us, that in the hands of a judicious ruler all goes on with easy and undeviating regularity. But we can assure them that in a well regulated Lodge there is ample scope for the exercise of intellect; and that the Master will soon find that he requires even more than a knowledge of Masonic laws and usages to acquit himself creditably of his responsibility. He should know his own limits, so as not to encroach upon the rights of his brethren, of which we candidly warn every Master. If he falls short of his own bounds, or oversteps them, he will find clear heads and keen tongues to remind him, respectfully, but unmistakably, of the fact. The Lodge will soon feel what sort of hands hold the helm; and, as they are bound to acquiesce in his opinion, as their Master, he must show equal deference to theirs when the question is to be settled by their votes. He may speak, and he may vote in the deliberations of the Lodge, but he must not let his conduct become liable to the imputation of partiality; for he is still entrusted with the duty of taking a division, or of a ballot; and though a division or ballot often takes place on questions of no great moment, yet it sometimes happens that the credit and character of individuals are vitally affected by the determination of the Lodge. Also, the peace and harmony of the Lodge, as well as its dignity, are to a great extent in his keeping.

One of the ancient privileges of a Master, was the right to summon his Lodge for "meetings of emergency." And should the Master die, or be suspended or expelled, the Wardens might convoke the Lodge, since there then would be no Master, and they, as well as he, are entrusted with the government of it.

As it is not only the Master's privilege, but also his duty to rule the Lodge, none are permitted to enter it as visitors but by his permission, since he is responsible for the conduct of the assembly. At a communication of the United Grand Lodge of England, held near the close of the year 1856, this subject was discussed, and the resolution unanimously passed was—"That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that it is in the power of the W.M. and Wardens of any private Lodge to refuse admission to any visitor of known bad character. But irrespectively of character, whoever claims to be present at a Masonic meeting must, if a Mason, be perfectly well aware that he is bound to satisfy the Master and brethren as to his qualifications. The investigation into them cannot be too strict, and it should never be entrusted but to a sagacious as well as competent examiner. The Master has the right to demand all the evidences of the visitor's right to admission—the production of his certificate—the proof of his being what he asserts himself to be, and any other test that he can devise. It is of course disagreeable to reject any one professing to be a brother, but it is better that many true Masons should go away disappointed from our doors than that one unauthorised person should gain admittance there.

It is hardly necessary to remind any one, however inexperienced, that the Master is as much Master during the entertainments of the Lodge as at any other time; and is bound, accordingly, to check any irregularity, and to prevent any abuse. For this reason it is advisable our entertainments should take place "in Lodge," as it is called; for the Master can thus exercise a salutary restraint over the meeting; and the closing of the Lodge (which should always take place at an early hour) is a signal for the members to retire.

One of the charges, to the observance of which each Master solemnly pledges himself at his installation, is to guard against all manner of intemperance and excess. Now, of all the charges brought against Masonry by its opponents, none is more frequently made than that of its leading to intemperance. We know that some cases have occurred where individuals have brought discredit on the Masonic Society, by indulging at our social meetings propensities which they certainly never acquired from our precepts, nor from the example of those we most look up to and respect. The world will not, however, draw those nice exculpatory distinctions; it will judge of us, not by the conduct of the many, who retire from the Lodge festival, as from a private party, early, and after temperate and harmless enjoyment, but by that of the few, who, in defiance of our principles, and in spite of our example, will remain at table after the Lodge has closed, and the meeting lost its Masonic character. This is an evil, and one which we cannot always prevent. We cannot turn men's hearts; we may advise, and we may act upon our own principles, but advice is not like medicine, which will produce an effect whether taken voluntarily or forced down a man's throat. We may point to the Sacred Law, that Great Light which should be the guide of the Mason's path in life, and remind our brethren of its precepts, but surely we cannot expect that Masonry will effect what genuine religion has not yet been able to accomplish. People

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say, why do you suffer such persons to disgrace your Society? why do you not rather expel them? Simply because we cannot set up an inquisition to punish men because they want common sense or common prudence, or because we cannot get them to adopt our views of propriety. But though the world often unjustly imputes to Masonry the faults of individual Masons, for that very reason let each Master, each true Mason, be vigilant. Let each sweep before his own door, the street will soon be clean. Excess in even allowable things is transgression. "No deviation," says the excellent Bishop Hall, "is the silken thread running through the pearl chain of all virtues."

We have said the brethren must, in all lawful things, obey their Master. He, on his part, should have no object but the advantage, welfare and comfort of his brethren. He should be careful to preserve uniformity, and to hand down unaltered to our successors what we have ourselves received. Masonry is universal,—it knows no limit of country, or language, or time; therefore, its essential points must be strictly observed; if not, it will lose its universality, and, to the same extent, its utility. Ceremonies must indeed change from time to time, and from country to country, but the essentials of the institution—its universal language and reciprocal obligations—must be carefully preserved from all addition or diminution; we must adhere to the form in which we have learned them; we have no right to change even the antiquated phraseology to please the fastidiousness of modern taste. It was well said, "you may polish an old coin, to make it more legible; but if you go on polishing it, it will soon be a coin no longer." And the Master should take care that every newly-admitted or newly-raised brother shall be fully instructed in all the essentials of the degree he has received—that he shall know to whom and to what he is bound. He has come to seek the light of knowledge, and it is his right to receive it, full and pure, from him whose duty it is to impart it—the Master in the chair.

But it is not by learned researches—by groping in the darkness of the past—that we can best serve the institution, and do good in our own generation. It matters little to us whether the rites of Masonry can be traced to patriarchal times; to the exploded mysteries of heathenism; to the Jewish temple builders; or, as some suppose, merely to the artificers whose labours covered Europe during the middle ages with such wonderful monuments of skill and perseverance. It is with the *morality* of the Society, not with its literary curiosities, but with the utility of it, that we have essentially to do. It professes to be founded on the two sublime and simple precepts, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and thy neighbour as thyself."

Masonry may be older, or newer—we know not, and shall probably never know when it originated, or how; but these were the rules prescribed by the All-wise and All-merciful for the rational creatures of His hands, before the foundations of the world were laid. Throughout all the globe we inhabit—throughout the vast immensity of creation, obedience to these commands, universal as the presence of Him who has ordained them, constitutes the moral happiness of rational beings.

Living Faith, and Active Benevolence, are the real foundations of Freemasonry. Masters of Lodges, keep that fact in the view of your brethren, your words and style may be rude and unpolished, but if your hearts be in them they will awaken admiration and sympathy.

It is generally supposed, by those who do not object to Masonry as a positive evil, that it is at least a harmless charitable association; but, in truth, the real spirit of Masonry is not confined to the relief of a brother's physical wants, or the preservation of a brother's life in peril—of which we have all heard many interesting instances. Such occasions seldom occur; but every day affords opportunity to promote our brother's temporal good by lawful and honourable means; to help him, by enabling him to help himself; to extend our sympathy to his troubles, and our charity to his failings and imperfections; to make peace between friends; to warn one of his danger, another of his errors—to be patient, tolerant, and forgiving toward all.

And it is because Masonry brings into exercise qualities of which all acknowledge the excellence, that it has its vitality, universality, and importance. A bitter enemy of Masonry, through the public press, asked, "Who has sanctioned this combination, that it thus be permitted to spread over the world, and act as it liketh, at all seasons and in all places? It may exist in the Government, or the seat of justice, in the jury-box, in the legislature, in the army, in the navy, and even among our own dependents; it may plot or cabal against us, or for us; we are powerless in its meshes; they may, in spite of us, plot together against us? How insignificant is the power of the confessional when compared to this."

It is pleasant to think that, so far as regards the diffusion of our Society, this anxious alarmist is perfectly right. The meshes, as he calls them, of Masonry do, in truth, envelop the world. From St. Petersburgh to Tasmania, from Hong Kong to London, from Peru and La Plata to California and Canada, they include men of all estates and conditions; and whether you go to ask a favour from a prince, or to get a horse shod by the blacksmith, you may find a "Brother of the Mystic Tie" in him you seek. So mote it ever be! Yet, we do not see, and we do not believe, that any one is a whit the worse for Masonic plots and cabals—plans for infernal machines have never, that we know of, been submitted to the Board of General Purposes.

But this Fraternity, powerful as it is, is so only for good. It is powerless for evil. Direct it to a good end, then every true Mason will lend his aid; the arms of the Society will stretch over the globe to assist you, and the "meshes" of the net work will—

"Feel in each thread and live along the line."

But try to turn it to evil—the strong chain of Brotherhood drops short—it ceases to enfold the evil-doer, while it re-unites more firmly than ever around the rest. Other associations have died away in thousands, in all ages, because their ends were evil, and their purposes narrow. But Masonry, though cursed and denounced, ridiculed, reviled and persecuted, and, alas! too often perverted, abused, degraded, and prostituted, is still founded on Truth and the immutable laws of the Sovereign Architect of the Universe; and, therefore, it is the bond of a great and powerful association, spread over the whole habitable world, honoured and protected by Princes and Statesmen; and what is of greater importance to us, cultivated and cherished by a multitude of wise and pious, conscientious and honourable men—the approbation of a single one of whom outstrips the discredit of a whole priceful of drunkards, swindlers and impostors.

We take part in Masonry because we have experimentally found it to do good, and because we think that if it fails to do so the fault is in ourselves, not in it. And therefore, in turning its capabilities for good to account, and checking its tendencies to evil, we are all accountable to the Creator for the use we may make of this, as of every other opportunity afforded us to serve our fellow-men.

THE DRAMA.

"One Hundred Years Old" at the Olympic—Recent Announcements.

It happens, occasionally, that an actor fails, in the ordinary course of his profession, to attain that position to which he considers himself entitled, and attempts, by means of special performances, or other extraordinary means, to bring himself prominently before the public. This course has been adopted, to some extent, by Mr. Odell, who has won a certain amount of public favour in eccentric comedy and burlesque, but who, apparently, believes himself possessed of greater ability and higher art than those which he has hitherto had opportunities of exhibiting. On Saturday last, Mr. Odell gave a morning performance at the Olympic, at which was produced an adaptation of "*Le Centenaire*," a play by MM. Dennery and Pigou, successfully brought out in Paris a short time ago. The Paris correspondents of our daily papers have made all London familiar with the plot of the piece, and it is therefore unnecessary that we should recapitulate it, but we must remind our readers that the success of the piece was chiefly owing to the admirable acting of M. Lafont in the title rôle. It is this part which Mr. Odell attempted on Saturday, a part differing widely from any which he has played before: it would be as unjust as unkind to institute any comparison between the performance of M. Lafont and that of Mr. Odell, but, judging Mr. Odell's impersonation on its own merit simply, we must pronounce it to have been a failure. In make-up and appearance the actor was perfect; his picture of extreme old age was admirable; but when we looked for the expression of an active mind imprisoned in an infirm body, for the evidence of that love for his grand-daughter conflicting with a stern regard for the honour of his house, which is the leading characteristic of *Le Centenaire*, we were obliged to own ourselves disappointed. Mr. Odell is deficient in both pathos and power, as might have been expected by any one who had watched his career. The only other character we need notice is that of Camille, played by Miss Louise Willes, a lady new to London, whose grace and intelligence give promise of a bright future. We should deeply regret to damp the laudable ambition of any actor, and especially of one like Mr. Odell, with really good stuff in him, but we must express our conviction that at present he is overtasking his powers, and flying at too high game.

On Monday next Mr. and Mrs. Billington will appear at the Globe in a piece written expressly for them, called "Rough and Ready."

"Self," a new drama by Messrs. Oxenford and Horace Wigan, will speedily be produced at the Mirror.

Mr. Hare will shortly close his first season at the Court, and will then make a provincial tour. The theatre will be re-opened in September, with "A Nine Days' Wonder."

THE SURREY MASONIC HALL.

On Wednesday, 14th July, the new Masonic Hall for the South of London was formally dedicated to Freemasonry, by the Most Worshipful Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master of England and Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire. The Hall is situated in the Camberwell New Road, close to the Camberwell Station of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway. It is built in the classic style, from the designs of Bro. E. Clark (Pain and Clark, Buckingham Street), by Mr. John Oliver, of Coldharbour Lane. The new building is fitted with every convenience for the assembling of Lodges, and for the wants of the brethren. In addition to a large Lodge Room and Banqueting Room, there is an extensive Public Hall, which may be secured for public entertainments. Lord Skelmersdale was supported by a large company of Freemasons, both from London and the Province of Surrey. At the conclusion of the ceremony of dedication of the Hall, Lord Skelmersdale consecrated the Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge, and Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, Secretary of the Girls' School, installed Bro. M. S. Lathan as its first Worshipful Master. The brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet.

Card House Playing Cards.—Most Quality, picked 1s 8d per pack, 16s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 10s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Euchre, &c., Mogul Quality 2s3 per pack, 2s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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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QUESTIONS.—WAS WREN A FREEMASON?

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—At page 168 of the *Freemasons' Magazine* and *Masonic Mirror*, for 3rd Sept. 1859, we read:—"The Post Boy, No. 5245, from Saturday, March 2nd, to Tuesday, March 5th, 1723, states:—'This evening the corpse of that worthy Freemason, Sir Christopher Wren, Knight, is to be interred under the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral.'" Is it true that Wren was really a "Freemason" before his death? and if so, when and where did he become one? At page 595 of the *Graphic*, for 19th Dec. 1874, we are told that the Duke of Edinburgh is a Mason, but I fear that is a mistake; consequently, if the latter scribe is not infallible as regards a living celebrity, I feel justified in doubting the veracity of the former respecting a dead one.

Yours, &c. W. P. BUCHAN.

OUR BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys,
Wood Green, N.

SIR,—We ask, in justice, to be allowed to say a few words upon our share of the pamphlet which was issued in Yorkshire in reference to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. That pamphlet has been condemned by one of your contemporaries, on the ground that it is calculated to injure the interests of this Charity. We wish to show that our letter was written with the express object of protecting those interests, neutralising a threatened action of the Secretary, which would have been far more fatal to this Institution than Mr. Tow's publication. The facts are as follow:—

Some time since a letter arrived here from the Secretary, containing the most outrageous charges against the pupils, calling them a "disgrace and a nuisance to the neighbourhood," and declaring his intention of bringing the matter before the next meeting of the House Committee. We knew these charges to be untrue, but we foresaw that were they allowed to go unchallenged, and to be made public without being refuted, the result would be injurious, not only to our characters individually, but to the school at large. If the pamphlet is to be condemned because by exposing real abuses it would alienate subscribers, what is to be said of the Secretary who makes a series of charges against the school which it is his duty to serve and guard, charges which he cannot prove, but which, if true, are calculated to drive away every subscriber from this charity, and who chooses the time just before the annual festival for such action? The Secretary made similar charges last year; an investigation was demanded then, an investigation has been demanded now, and neither has been held. Though it may suit the Secretary to make these charges against one with whom he is unfriendly, he should not have expected us to allow our characters to suffer at his hands without protest. We know them to be groundless; all visitors to this institution with whom we have conversed have expressed in high terms their admiration of the state in which they found it; the examiner of the Syndicate of Cambridge, after three or four days passed in the building, only a week or two ago, publicly declared himself gratified at the discipline observable among the boys; at the distribution of the prizes Lord Balfour complimented the Head Master and his staff upon the excellent condition of the institution; in the report of the Cambridge Local Examination this shows the greatest number of passes in the London Centres, all these facts show the school to be in an efficient state; moreover, the Head Master has documentary disproof of all the Secretary's charges, and is prepared to prove, by a reference to facts which are absolutely undeniable, that the state of the school is highly satisfactory, and contrasts most favourably with its condition two years ago. There was, therefore, only one course open to us on the receipt of the Secretary's letter; we wrote a letter to our Principal, denying these statements, and sent a similar letter to the Committee, demanding, both for the sake of the school and of our characters, a full investigation; and, our patience being fairly exhausted with all we had seen, we took the liberty of showing the obstacles with which Mr. Perrott and ourselves had constantly to contend. The Committee, in reply, called upon us to prove the statements contained in our communication, especially those affecting one of the officers resident in the building.

Before the Committee again met they had received Mr. Tow's Report, and were probably angry at some of the statements affecting the administration of the funds, *for which we were not at all responsible*. Be this as it may, we found that the charges affecting the boys were quite hushed up, and as far as our statements on other matters were concerned, our judges, it seemed to us, had turned our prosecutors—at least, we left the room so thoroughly dissatisfied with their proceedings that we at once, though with extreme regret, sent in our resignations.

On calling us in to accept our resignations, the Chairman was pleased to state that we had been guilty of a base conspiracy. Before any one makes so grave a charge he should be, at least, prepared to show some probable gain for which the conspiracy is entered into. Now, Sir, we came to the Institution last Christmas, from different parts of the country; we were entirely unacquainted with one another, had none of us ever heard either of the Rev. Mr. Perrott or Mr. Binckes, and most of us had before been ignorant of the very existence of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. We were not appointed only by the Head Master, but by the Head Master and the Secretary jointly, and we heard that the former was soon to leave, so that, had we consulted our own interests, we should certainly have fallen in with the powers that be; because, however, in the interests of justice and of the Institution, we have spoken out plainly, that which we believed has been too long suppressed, we are disbelieved and branded as conspirators.

We came here at a time of great difficulty, we have worked hard for six months, and just when we have been here long enough to restore fully the discipline, rudely disturbed by former disputes, and to become attached to the pupils, instead of enjoying the fruits of our labours, we are compelled to leave the Institution. Intentionally, or unintentionally, this is an instance of great injustice, both to us and still more to the boys, who must suffer materially by this constantly changing of masters.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

THE FOUR RETIRING MASTERS.

P.S.—Since the above was written the Report of the Cambridge Examiner has appeared. Speaking of the discipline, he makes the following unqualified statement: "The conduct of the boys was so uniformly good, and highly disciplined, that it is plain no ordinary pains have been taken with them in this respect." This is the opinion of an *unprejudiced* observer, after four days' experience, and is somewhat different from that of Mr. Binckes,—that the pupils are a "disgrace and a nuisance to the neighbourhood."

REPORTS OF LODGE MEETINGS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am glad that the subject of public Reports of Meetings has been broached, and think the correspondence in your columns likely to be productive of good. There can be no harm, but rather the contrary, in the publication of judicious reports, and it is only when details of an unnecessary character appear in newspapers that any objection can be made against them. Annual banquets and installations, with names of officers, may be reported with benefit, providing a Masonic discretion be exercised in the compilation of the reports, but names of candidates, with hints as to the ceremonial, must surely be regarded as antagonistic to the spirit of the Constitutions. I have forwarded to you a copy of the *Cumberland Pacquet* for 6th July, containing two lengthy reports of installations, which, however, are so judiciously arranged as to be free from the slightest objection, and calculated to place the Craft in a fair position before the public eye.

I am, Sir,

Yours fraternally,

T. B. WHITEHEAD.

8th July 1875.

REVOLVING STORMS.—Cyclones, or revolving storms, are atmospheric disturbances by virtue of which large masses of air are endued with a rapid rotary motion round an axis more or less vertical, revolving in a direction contrary to the hands of a watch in the northern, and in the direction of the hands in the southern, hemisphere; while at the same time these masses of air are carried forward with a considerable velocity in a parabolic orbit. These storms, in fact, bear a strong resemblance to whirlwinds of dust raised by the wind with which we are all familiar, which, like cyclones, move bodily forward at the same time that they revolve rapidly about an axis. All the great oceans, with the single exception of the South Atlantic, are the scenes of their activity. In the North Atlantic they rage between the 10th and 50th parallels of latitude, and the 50th and 100th meridians from Greenwich; the Indian Ocean from the coast of Australia as far as Madagascar, between the 6th and 40th parallels of southern latitude. In the Persian Gulf and Bay of Bengal they are to be found extending northwards from the 10th degree of latitude; in the China Sea, between the latitude of 12° or 15° as far north as 50°, but generally not beyond the longitude of 140° E.; and the Northern and Southern Pacific Oceans are not exempt from their ravages. They take their origin for the most part between the 5th and 20th degree of latitude in the regions of maximum temperature, and move in directions more or less inclined to the equator in a north-westerly or south-westerly direction, and describe a parabolic path sometimes not distinguishable from a straight line, and after reaching the apex of their parabolic path, which in the North Atlantic Ocean is generally situated about latitude 30°, they describe the second branch of their orbit towards the north-east or south-east. In the North Atlantic Ocean this branch sometimes reaches the coasts of Europe.—*"Naval Science" for July.*

THE OLD MASONIC CONSTITUTIONS.—On perusing the several manuscripts through, I came to the conclusion that they were neither more nor less than the rituals of the the pre-1717 Masons. Of course, the secret words, tokens, &c., were withheld from the written rituals, nor can we learn the precise fashion of riding the goat in the 17th century, but nevertheless these manuscripts were *rituals*, and they were kept out of reach of the uninitiated. Even Anderson informs us that, when he requested the brethren to give him their manuscripts from which to compile a constitution for the Grand Lodge, the old Masons were so shocked with the idea of printing them, that they went to work and destroyed their manuscripts. They destroyed, no doubt, manuscripts of the same character as that of Dowland's and the rest of the series.—*Bro. Jacob Norton.*

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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 Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Greece. Athens: Freemasons' Hall. MDCCCLXXII.

We shall be pleased to hear what progress this Grand Lodge is making. The English translation of the Constitution consists of twenty-two pages. From Part Fourth, page 19, we learn, "The Grand Lodge of Greece does not found Lodges in foreign States where a regular and independent Grand Lodge exists, and which is in correspondence with it. It does not recognise any Lodge under foreign jurisdiction existing in Greece. The Grand Lodge of Greece practises and recognises no degrees of Masonry but those of Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason—denominated St. John's Masonry." In this respect, therefore, it agrees with the English Grand Lodge, and more especially with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which has so carefully preserved genuine Craft Masonry, whilst adopting the apocryphal notions of foreigners in their higher degrees so-called. The first General Assembly and the first Council of the Grand Lodge are elected for two years, after that for three years. This Council of the Grand Lodge consists of twenty-one members, elected by the General Assembly out of its own members, including the Grand Master, the Deputy and Substitute Grand Masters, and governs, when the Assembly does not meet, all the general affairs of the Masonic Order of Greece. Part Third informs us that "The central direction and government is exercised by the Grand Lodge, whose seat is the capital of the State. The Grand Lodge consists of representatives of all the Lodges of the Confederation, of the Council of the Grand Lodge, of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Substitute Grand Master." All the officers and members of this Grand Lodge take an obligation "on honour and conscience" to respect its laws. Part First gives the object and purpose of Freemasonry, and the qualifications necessary for its mysteries, in this differing little from the opinions prevailing in this country. We notice, however, that "Every balloting shall be visible, on whatever subject, either essential or personal."

Will our Greek brethren inform us what they are doing? The Order, we understand, has two Past Senior Wardens in England, Bros. C. F. Matier P.M. and John Yarker P.M., a Past Junior Warden in Scotland, Bro. Hunter, P.G.M. of Aberdeenshire, and a Greek as representative with the Grand Lodge.

The Constitutions are prefaced as follows: "We, Grand Master Mason of Greece: In conformity with the proceedings, under date 15th July 1872, whereby the Grand Lodge of Greece assembled and adopted, after mature deliberation, the fundamental Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Greece, as promulgated on the 1st April 1867, and printed in obedience to a decree, dated 9th February 1868, signed by the then Deputy Gr. Master, Bro. N. Damaskinos, acting Gr. M.M. of Greece, and a copy of which is hereunto annexed:

"We, the aforesaid Grand Master Mason of Greece, have decreed, and do hereby decree:—Art. I.—The aforesaid Constitution and Statutes thereupon enacted, to be in force and to be confirmed by these presents. Art. II.—The Statutes and General Regulations, now actually in operation shall, unless contrary in any respect to our fundamental Constitution, continue in force, until formally and authoritively revised, repealed, or annulled. Given at the Grand Lodge of Greece, in the City of Athens, this second day of August, in the year of our Lord 1872 and of Light 5872.

"Rhodocanakis, Grand Master.

"By Command of the M.W. Grand Master Mason of Greece, His Imperial Highness the Prince Rhodocanakis, Dep. Gr. Master."

The New Shakespearian Dictionary of Quotations, by G. Somers Bellamy. London: Charing Cross Publishing Company. 1875.

The writer of a dictionary, as Dr. Johnson has remarked, is fortunate if he escape the contempt of his readers. The work of compilation is dreary drudgery, which is enlivened by no prospect of fame, and little chance of adequate reward. If a man does not take up this work *con amore*, he is likely to meet with grave disappointment. The public do not readily buy works of reference, and our libraries are already so well stocked with this class of literature that there is no opening for a new aspirant in that direction. The writer of the work before us has very ably accomplished an exceedingly difficult task. His aim has not been to give a concordance of the works of Shakspeare, but the key of reference to numerous striking and beautiful passages. There are over four thousand quotations in his pages, and the subjects are so arranged that a lover of the great bard will readily find his favourite "beauties." A digest containing the sub-heads of the classification adopted throughout the work refers us to the page upon which we may find the key to the passage we are seeking. As an example, we may suppose that the reader desires to find the sublime soliloquy on sleep, which occurs in Henry IV. We turn to the sub-head of the work, and, under the word sleep, we find a digest and references to pages 208-209, where we immediately find the one, "Sleep, gentle sleep," and the accurate reference to Henry IV., pt. 2, Act III., scene 1.

Again, we had a faint recollection of a speech on "Boasters," which occurs in one of the historical plays, but could not find the passage. The sub-head of the work before us gives, under the word Boasters, a reference to page 17, and there we find that the passage we are seeking is in Henry V., Act III., scene 6.

The addenda gives us a selection of saxioms, proverbs, and other sayings, with their references, which will not be considered the least valuable part of the work. We heartily recommend Mr. Bellamy's book to our readers, and we venture to predict that it will be well received by the public.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

Friday.

At the meeting on Thursday of the proprietors of the London Joint Stock Bank, the net profit for the half-year was stated to amount to £142,002, out of which a dividend was declared at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, leaving a balance of £32,002 to be carried forward. The guarantee fund, with its accrued interest, amounts to £522,713. With reference to the dishonoured bills held by the bank, amounting to £89,076, the Chairman stated that it would be a matter of great difficulty to make even an approximate calculation of the dividends which would be recovered from the 22 estates upon which the bank has claims, but there was no doubt that a considerable amount would be recovered, and a few of the estates might give 20s in the £. He added that these failures had had the effect of curtailing all speculation, but that the elements of prosperity in sound trade were made apparent in an unusual degree.

The report of the Union Bank of London states that the net profit for the half-year, including £32,185 brought forward, amounted to £165,748, from which a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum has been declared. The directors at the meeting stated that the £100,000 which was set aside as provision for bad and doubtful debts would be amply sufficient.

The report of the London and South Western Bank Limited exhibits an available balance of £11,077, and recommends the payment of a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, free of income tax for the half-year, leaving £4,430 (including £1,346 rebate) to be carried to profit and loss new account.

The half yearly report of the Consolidated Bank Limited, presented at the meeting on Wednesday, showed an available total of £53,196, from which a dividend was proposed at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, leaving, after appropriating £6,320 to the reserve fund, a balance of £5,876 to be carried forward.

The directors of the Halifax Joint Stock Bank Limited have declared an interim dividend of 7½ per cent. for the half-year ending June last, and the directors of the West of England and South Wales District Bank one at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, free of income tax.

The half-yearly report of the Manchester and County Bank Limited shows, including £5,030 brought forward, a net profit of £59,936, out of which it is proposed to add £5,000 to the reserve fund, raising it to £350,000; to pay a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum; and to carry forward £4,585. The directors state that, with the assistance of a surplus arising from the ample provision made in previous years for bad and doubtful debts, they are enabled, out of the surplus profits of the past six months, to fully provide for exceptional losses through the recent failures without touching the reserve or reducing the dividend.

The report of the directors of the Manchester Joint Stock Bank Limited announces a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, leaving, after the addition of £5,012 to the reserve fund, £3,013 to be carried forward.

The report of the Bank of Egypt states that the net profits for the half-year amounted to £17,242, making, with £3,486 brought forward, an available total of £20,728. The directors recommend the payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum and a bonus of 10s per share, leaving £3,428 to be carried forward.

At the meeting of the Union Bank of Australia, held on Monday, the directors' annual report, which was adopted, showed a net profit of £106,471, out of which a dividend of 7 per cent., and a bonus of 6s per share were declared for the half-year, being at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum, and leaving £6,471 to be carried forward.

The South Eastern Railway dividend has been fixed at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, leaving £10,000 to be carried forward. At the corresponding period of last year the dividend was at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, and £5,000 was carried forward.

The Metropolitan Railway Company announce that the accounts, subject to final audit, show a balance on the half-year sufficient for a dividend on the ordinary stock at the rate of 3¼ per cent. per annum, carrying forward a balance of about £2,000. At the corresponding period of last year a dividend at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum was declared, and about £700 carried forward.

A dividend on the ordinary stock of the London and Greenwich Railway Company at the rate of £1 7s 6d per cent. for the half-year has been declared. The available balance was £17,607.

The directors of the London and St. Katharine Docks Company intend to recommend, at the general meeting of proprietors appointed to be held on the 29th inst., that a dividend at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, free of income tax, be declared for the past half-year, carrying £15,617 19s 2d to the reserve fund. The distribution at the corresponding period of last year was at the rate of ¼ per cent. per annum, and £16,156 was carried forward. The reduction in the dividend is doubtless due to the contraction of trade.

The report of the General Credit and Discount Company Limited, to be submitted to the meeting on the 22nd inst., states that from a considerable number of the recent failures the company escaped harmless, but was not so fortunate in others. The directors consider, however, that after paying the usual interim dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the half-year, a sum of £60,000 brought into the account from the reserve fund will be sufficient provision for the exceptional and ordinary bad debts up to the present time. The liabilities on deposits, loans, &c., on the 30th June were £3,000,117, and the acceptances against securities £297,405.

At the general meeting, held on Tuesday, of the Eastern Telegraph Company Limited, a dividend was declared of 2s 6d per share, making, with the three previous payments, a total distribution of 5 per cent. for the year

The half-yearly report of Foster, Porter and Company Limited states that, including £11,033 brought from the last account, the available sum is £26,750, from which it is proposed to declare a dividend at the usual rate of 12½ per cent. per annum, free of income tax, leaving £13,625 to be carried forward.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This evening, at 8.0 (last night of the season), L'ETOILE DU NORD.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA, DRURY LANE.—This evening, IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA. On Monday, LES HUGUENOTS. On Tuesday, LUCREZIA BORGIA. On Wednesday, LOHENGRIN. On Thursday, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. On Friday, LE NOZZE DI FIGARO. At 8.30 each evening, except on Wednesday, when the Opera will commence at 8.0.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, LOCKED OUT, ALONE and THE WEDDING MARCH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, PAINLESS DENTISTRY, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and THE BONNIE FISHWIFE.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FAMILY JARS and THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

STRAND.—At 7.15, AN EARNEST APPEAL. At 7.45, WEAK WOMAN and NEMESIS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MONEY.

GAIETY.—At 8.0, FRENCH OPERA.

GLOBE.—This evening, at 7.0, CHISELLING and LONDON ASSURANCE. On Monday and during the week, ROUGH AND READY.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

QUEEN'S.—CLANCARTY, &c.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. At 9.15, THE DETECTIVE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, MARGATE SANDS and CHILPERIC.

CRITERION.—At 8.0, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT.

COURT.—At 8.0, BOOK III, CHAPTER I. At 9.0, A NINE DAYS' WONDER.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This Day, SUMMER CONCERT. On Monday, BALLOON ASCENT, &c. On Tuesday, BALLAD OPERA, ROB ROY. On Wednesday, VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE COMPETITION. On Thursday, FIREWORK DISPLAY. Open daily. AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, SCOTTISH FETE, CONCERT, &c. On Monday, Fête of the Odd Fellows. On Tuesday, THE TWO ROSES. On Wednesday, GREAT FIREWORK DISPLAY, SUMMER EVENING CONCERT, &c. On Thursday, PIGEON RACES, Mr. SOTHERN, &c. Open daily. HENGLER'S CIRCUS, &c.

POLYTECHNIC.—The CASTAWAY, New Ghost Scenes.—AUSTRALIAN MEATS and How to Cook them.—ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.—THE BESSEMER BOAT and the GIANT ELECTRIC MACHINE. Many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 8.0 and 9.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.—Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, at 8.0. Thursday and Saturday, at 3.0.

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CAPTAIN BOYTON.

CAPTAIN BOYTON will exhibit his Life Saving Dress, and give his usual interesting entertainment at the Crown Baths, Kennington Oval, S.W., on Wednesday next, the 21st instant.

The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to the funds of the Masonic Boys' and Girls' Schools.

Members of the Craft are earnestly invited to attend.

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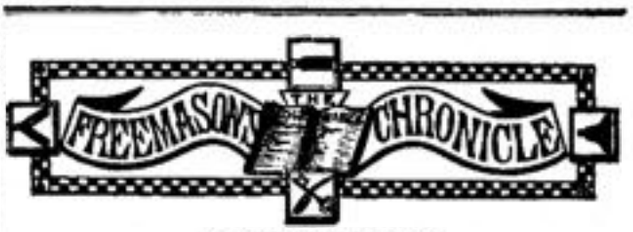
On Tuesday, 27th July 1875, and following day,

AT 13 WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, W.C

THE Collection comprises scarce Lodge Lists of Cole and Pine, early Grand Lodge Calendars and Proceedings, the only extant copy of the Constitutions of 1722, Spencer's MS. Constitutions, Rituals of the "Antients," unique Caricatures, early Summonses, Certificates, &c. from the Libraries of the late Duke of Sussex, Dr. Oliver, Dr. Morison, and others; every work being upon Freemasonry, its symbolism, or history, and was formed for a complete Masonic Library, by that well known Masonic Bookseller.

The books may be viewed two days prior, and catalogues had at the auction rooms as above.

The sale will commence at 1 p.m. each day.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

IN the House of Lords, on Friday, Earl Stanhope moved that an address be presented to Her Majesty, praying her to relinquish in future her prerogative of creating Irish Peerages. The Lord Chancellor dealt with the matter from a legal point of view. Earl Granville saw no difficulty, if there were a pretty general *consensus*, in settling the question in accordance with the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee. Earl Grey supported the motion, but threw out a suggestion as to the form of the proposal. The Marquis of Salisbury handled the matter practically. Earl Stanhope expressed his willingness to amend his motion in accordance with Earl Grey's suggestion, and the motion, thus amended, was in the end agreed to, the Duke of Richmond, with a slight modification only, accepting the proposal in its new form. On Monday, Lord Penzance brought forward the recent passage between Belgium and Germany, and this brought the Earl of Derby on his legs, for the purpose of explaining matters. Dover Harbour and the Autumn Manœuvres were discussed on Tuesday, Earl Granville asking the intentions of the Government as regards the former, and Lord Waveney instituting certain queries as to the latter. On Thursday, the Friendly Societies Bill passed through Committee with one important amendment, carried in opposition to the Government.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, the Report of Amendments to the European Assurance Society Arbitration Bill having been agreed to, the standing orders were suspended, and the Bill was read a third time. On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. Heygate submitted a resolution as to Consular Chaplains to the effect that the withdrawal of the Parliamentary Grant towards their maintenance was inexpedient. A long debate

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followed, the principal speakers being Sir H. D. Wolff, Mr. Bourke, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the end the motion was negatived without a division. Mr. G. Duff then drew attention to the Report of the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the endowed schools and hospitals in Scotland, and hoped the Government would bring in a Bill next Session based on the recommendation of the Commissioners. The appointment of Sir A. Slade, as Receiver-General of Inland Revenue, having been made the subject of comment, the House went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates. Mr. Cross's Labour Bills engrossed the chief attention of the House on Monday. An amendment to Clause 3 of the Employers' and Workmen's Bill, proposed by Mr. Mundella and supported by Mr. Lowe, was also defeated by a majority, there being 162 for and 182 against the proposition. This Bill having passed through Committee, the House passed to the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Bill. On Clause 4 of this sundry amendments were proposed, but the Government generally held to their views, though evincing a very conciliatory spirit. Progress having been reported, the House went into Committee on the Militia Laws Consolidation and Amendment Bill, progress being reported on Clause 32. At the morning sitting on Tuesday, the Committee on the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment (No. 2) Bill was resumed. On the House reassembling, at nine o'clock, Mr. Sullivan brought forward a motion relating to the Science and Art Department (Dublin), but it was withdrawn. Mr. P. Taylor then moved for returns of crime and punishment in the Navy, but was defeated by 101 to 63. On Wednesday, the Municipal Elections (Cumulative Votes) Bill was lost on the second reading, Mr. Cross moving the previous question. The Allotment Extension Bill, moved by Sir C. Dilke, was got rid of in similar fashion, Sir R. Knightley moving the previous question, and, on division, proving victorious by 164 to 116. The debate on the second reading of the Waste Lands (Ireland) Bill was adjourned. On Thursday, the question of the visit of the Prince of Wales to India occupied the greater part of the evening. The proposition of the Government was opposed, in the first instance, by Mr. Fawcett, on the ground that no part of the expenditure should fall on the revenues of India. But the Government carried the day, by 379 to 67. It is pleasant to record that no members were more enthusiastic in support of the votes for His Royal Highness's expenditure than Messrs. Gladstone and Bright. In Committee of Supply, the sums asked by Ministers were readily voted, but not without divisions, Mr. Macdonald leading the Opposition. Sir C. Dilke's motion for a more complete representation of the people was rejected by 190 to 120.

On Tuesday, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales gave a second garden party at Chiswick, at which, in addition to various members of the Royal Family, there were present his Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar and H.R.H. Humbert, Crown Prince of Italy. The previous afternoon their Royal Highnesses went to Norbiton, and there formally opened the Children's Branch of the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution. On Wednesday evening there was a grand fête at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, under the presidency of the Duke of Teck. H.R.H. the Duchess of Teck and the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz arrived about half-past ten, by which time the gardens were well filled, in spite of the abominable weather.

On Monday, the freedom of the City of London was publicly presented to his Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar. This interesting ceremony was conducted at Guildhall, whither the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs went in state, attended by their officers. The freedom was contained in a large and beautiful casket, and His Highness evidently appreciated the honour conferred upon him. After the conclusion of the ceremonial, the Sultan accompanied the Lord Mayor to the Mansion House, and there partook of a sumptuous *déjeûner*. The guard of honour on the occasion was furnished by the 93rd Highlanders. Dr. Badger interpreted, as usual, the views of His Highness.

The Eton and Harrow match ended in a draw, the latter having 63 runs to the good and four wickets yet to fall. The weather on Saturday proved a satisfactory contrast to that of the day previous, when Eton made 66 runs without the loss of a wicket in the 35 minutes during which it did not rain. This number was increased to 202 before all the Eton team were disposed of. The Hon. E. Lyttelton made 59, E. Harding 26, W. E. Forbes 47, and Wakefield 22. Harrow, however, could only manage 110, Chater heading the score with a well played not out 30, while Cochrane, Clough-Taylor, and Grundy contributed 19, 10, and 22 respectively. Thus Harrow had to follow on, which, thanks principally to Tyssen, Chater, Kemp, and Meek, they did most effectively. The first two named were well set, when the stumps were drawn, the former having put together 39, and the latter 35; Kemp made 35, Meek 16, and Wilkinson 11.

As regards its principal feature, the Hound Show, the Alexandra Palace was most unfortunate. It rained without intermission during both days, the consequence being that except judges and others whose duty took them thither, there were hardly any visitors to what, had the weather been decently fine, would certainly have proved a great attraction. There were 149 entries, ranged in fifteen classes, the prizes varying from £2 to £10, and exceeding in the aggregate some £250. The judges were Messrs. H. Villebois, J. H. Barton, and Leicester Hibbert, and these admirably performed their arduous duties. Among the winners may be mentioned the names of the Duke of Beaufort, the Earl of Portsmouth, the Quorn Hunt, the Old Berkshire, the West Norfolk, and others. Had there been some sunshine, the scene would have been a very lively one, but no amount of enthusiasm would have quite reconciled the most ardent lover of field sports to the sloppiness of the ground, the leaden dulness of the sky, &c., &c. At times, indeed, it rained cats and dogs, the latter, no doubt, out of compliment to the hounds, who supplied all the music on the occasion—at least, the outdoor music. On Monday the fates were more propitious. The Licensed Victuallers fared better than the hounds. There was a bright warm sun the whole day through, and the fireworks were not, as is common, a failure. The publicans poured in in their thousands, and no doubt the funds of the Asylum will have considerably benefited. To-day is the Scottish Fête, first seen in London some five or six and twenty years since, in Holland Park. There is a long list of noble patrons, and we trust everything will pass off well. On Monday next is the grand gathering of the Odd Fellows, while, beginning from Wednesday, are a series of Concerts, to be given every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday during the season. At the Crystal Palace, the principal events of the week have been the meeting of the Catholic Total Abstinence League held, under the presidency of Cardinal Manning, on Monday, and Mr. Irving's Shaksperian and other readings on Wednesday afternoon.

One of our grand annual events is now in progress. The International Rifle Association are holding their grand meeting, and for another week there will be rifle matches and contests of every description. We shall know, not many days hence, who is the Queen's prizeman of the year, and which is the stronger, the House of Lords or the House of Commons. Then there will be an international Enfield Match, and the contest for the Elcho Shield. A good half score of public schools will contend among themselves as to which of them shall hold the Ashburton Shield, and the best sportsman of each team will afterwards exhibit their individual prowess in firing for the Spencer Cup. As for the host of other competitors, All Comers, the Alexandra, the Albert, the Alfred, &c., we should only be puzzling our readers if we enumerated them. In one respect we certainly do not envy even the most fortunate winner his winnings, or the most enthusiastic volunteer his enthusiasm, if they have camped on the Common under the present somewhat trying conditions. This is infinitely beyond "a modest quencher" which Mr. Jupiter Pluvius has been so plentifully offering us since the morning of Tuesday. In fact, it occurs to us that we have not experienced so wet a summer since 1860, the first or second year of the Volunteer Movement.

The Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society was held this year at Taunton, opening on the 10th instant, and closing yesterday. That the usual excellence of the display has been fully maintained, that the various classes of cattle, &c., were well filled, and that certain breeders will be found prominent among the prize winners, that follows almost as a matter of course, and equally so that Mr. H. Jenkins, the Society's able Secretary, should have carried out the usual arrangements without a hitch.

We cannot say we feel seriously discomposed at hearing that Messrs. Moody and Sankey have taken their farewell, and that the two revivalists are, or will soon be, on their return home to America. We have a great respect for all

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who labour strenuously in spreading the grand truths of religion among the lower classes, and the thanks of the public are due to them for the good they may have done. But the whole thing has struck us as having something of a Cheap Jack performance about it. Nor do we approve of unqualified persons, who fancy they have a "call," taking upon themselves to instruct others. Previous training is as necessary in order to enable a man to teach religion as to teach Latin and Greek, or French, German, Hebrew, Mathematics, &c., &c. Our faith, moreover, is in the silent worker, more than in those who advertise their performances from every housetop. There is a large army of men and women, who are constantly moving about among our poor and criminal classes. Their quiet work is worth a thousandfold the spasmodic efforts of whole regiments of Moodies and Sankeys, well-intentioned and earnest though these latter may be. The cultivation of religion and sound morals as a *duty*, not as the result of a factitious or momentary enthusiasm, is the labour on which we set the highest value. Moreover, the agents of these revivalists were becoming just a *leetle* too obtrusive in their house to house visitations. For these reasons, we repeat, we do not regret very seriously the departure from among us of Messrs. Moody and Sankey.

The Mansion House Relief Fund for the sufferers by the inundations in France is gradually swelling to a handsome total, and we trust the efforts of our respected brother the Lord Mayor and the committee that is working with him will be a grand success. The proposition that the funds being raised in other large commercial centres should be tacked on to, and so form part and parcel of the London fund, seems reasonable enough. The subscription would then be more national in its character. All the committee and the public must strive to secure is that the fund shall be worthy both of France and of England. As regards the Carlists, they seem to be in a bad way just now. The Alphonsist commanders have shown much energy in their recent operations, but the real results are not as yet clear. The Carlists have so often been beaten, past all hope of recovery, and so often have they proved themselves wonderfully vigorous in their hopeless condition, that we may be excused for withholding our belief from all the Madrid reports of decisive victory. To us in England it matters little which wins, Alphonsism or Carlism. Our chief anxiety is that a struggle so long continued, and which has caused such loss of life and property, should come speedily to a termination. Whether this "consummation devoutly to be wished" has been achieved is not beyond all question. In the French Assembly, M. Rouher, the great advocate of the Imperialists, has delivered a very effective speech, proving to the dissatisfaction of M. Gambetta that there is still a large amount of vitality in the Bonapartist cause. Less likely things may happen than a restoration of the Imperial *Regime*, more especially if the rumours be true that the Left is becoming less and less cohesive. But we shall avoid prophecy, no less as regards the future of France than as regards that of Spain.

Lodge Sukkhur, No. 1508, meets at Sukkhur, Up. Scind, on the last Saturday in every month. The following are the officers for 1875:—W. Bro. W. Scott I.P.M., J. Tate W.M., J. Ramsay S.W., H. F. Brayson J.W., J. C. Jowett S.D., J. D. Hodgson J.D., T. Rutherford I.G., W. Larkins Tyler, W. Handy Secretary, J. H. Boyce Treasurer.

An emergency meeting of the newly consecrated Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540, will be held on the 30th of July, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, for the purpose of initiating brethren previously proposed, and to admit five brethren as joining members.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex, of which the Right Worshipful Bro. Robert John Bagshaw, Esq., is the Provincial Grand Master, will hold its meeting at the Corn Exchange, Rochford, on Tuesday next, for the transaction of general business. The Grand Lodge will be opened at two o'clock. A banquet will take place punctually at four o'clock.

On Wednesday next, Bro. Capt. Paul Boyton gives his entertainment at the Crown Baths, Kennington Oval, the proceeds are to be given to the Royal Masonic Boys' and Girls' Schools. This object, we trust, will ensure a good attendance of the brethren.

The popular and respected proprietor of Cremorne Gardens, Bro. John Baum, took his annual complimentary benefit on Monday last, which, to judge by the numbers present, was a great success. The entertainments consisted of elegant and artistic ballets, flying performance of Lu Lu, palmistry by De Vere, and dancing by the general company, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. There was a maypole on the lawn, and a grand display of fireworks concluded the evening's entertainment.

FREEMASONRY IN CORNWALL.

From the Western Morning News.

THE meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Callington on Thursday, 8th July, was favoured with very fine weather throughout the day. The town been as yet unprovided with a railway was invaded by a multitude of vehicles for the conveyance of the brethren. The P.G.M. drove over to Callington a select party of brethren from Cotbele, where they had been sharing his hospitality in that ancient ancestral mansion. Among the brethren present at the meeting were the following officers:—The R.W. Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe P.G.M., Sir F. M. Williams Bart. M.P. D.P.G.M., Reginald Rogers P.D.P.G.M., the V.W. Bros. Col. J. Peard P.P.S.G.W., H. G. Colville P.G.S.W., Dr. J. Sedgwick Past G. Chap. of England, E. T. Carlyon P.G. Sec., R. Rich P.P.G.J.W., G. Kerswill P.P.G.J.W., E. J. Worth P.P.G.J.W., T. C. Chergwin P.P.J.S.W., J. G. Mason P.P.G.S.W., J. Cardew P.G.S., W. D. Pearse P.P.G.S.W., F. J. Hext P.P.G.J.W., J. Kempthorne P.P.G.J.W., the Rev. A. H. Cumming P.G. Chap., Vicar of St. Paul's, Truro, the Rev. G. L. Church P.P.G. Chap., the Rev. A. H. Ferris P.G. Chap., the Rev. W. H. Bloxsome P.P.G. Chap., W. Bros. E. Commins P.G. Reg., J. B. Kerswill P.P.G.S.B., Captain O'Neill P.P.G.S.B., R. John P.P.G.D.C., R. A. Courtney P.G.D.C., G. Rosevear P.G.S. Wks., T. Taylor P.P.G.S.D., H. Cochrane P.G.S., E. Poor P.G. Purs., W. Rookes P.A.G. Purs., J. Paul P.P.G.S.D., W. F. Parsons P.P.G.S., W. N. Abbots P.G.S., P. Giles P.P.G.S., J. Beawotherick P.P.G.S., J. Hocking jun. P.P.G.J.D., E. M. Cock P.G.S., W. H. Bickford P.P.S.G.D., S. Holloway P.P.G.S.D., J. Polkinghorne P.P.G. Tyler, J. Grigg P.G.S., E. D. Anderton P.P.G.S. Wks., F. Dinnis P.P.G.S., W. Guy P.P.G.D.C., H. Steele P.P.G.D.C., G. W. Trenery P.P.G.S.B., E. T. Pearce P.P.G.J.D., C. Trewithick P.G.A.D.C., W. Tonkin P.M. 977, C. Spear P.M. 557, B. Truscott W.M. 1136, H. Sargent P.M. 789, N. Heerwood P.M. 1164, J. P. Creber W.M. 1164, G. Bate P.M. 557, J. Colling P.M. 557, J. H. Tonkin P.M. 282, J. Harris P.M. 557, I. Dawe W.M. 970, W. Foxwell P.M. 1071, J. Dampney P.M. 1071, J. Hill P.M. 970, J. Gerry P.M. 510, J. Hawkins P.M. 789, J. H. Filmer I.P.M. 893, J. T. Brooking P.M. 1071, W. J. Harris P.M. 893 W. Coath P.M. 893, J. Sims P.M. 589, R. Hooper P.M. 510, F. Thorne P.M. 789, M. Dennis P.M. 557, S. J. Goodman W.M. 1071, G. Hawke, J.W. 1071, J. Seccombe P.M. 510, W. Giles P.M. 406, T. White P.M. 510, T. Gill P.M. 967, J. Hallcombe W.M. 967, T. Rowe W.M. 121, E. Scantlebury I.P.M. 856, C. Truscott P.M. 496, A. T. Grant P.M. 318, M. Little P.M. 75, W. Polkinghorne P.M. 1151, W. Loye W.M. 496, T. Oliver jun. W.M. 131, T. C. Polglase P.M. 75, J. Chegwidden W.M. 510, W. H. Dunstan P.M. and W.M. 75, J. H. Mitchell P.M. 589, W. H. Gray P.M. 557, T. B. Richards W.M. 557, G. Barnes P.M. 1164, T. Hatherley I.P.M. 1074, R. Edgcumbe 1071, and the following from the adjoining Province of Devon—V.W. Bros. I. Latimore P.G.J.W., S. Jew P.P.G.T., R. Rodda P.P.G. Reg., T. S. Bayly P.P.G.T., W. Bros. E. A. Davies P.P.G.S. Wks. P. B. Clemens P.P.G.O., J. Baxter P.M. 954, G. E. Alexander P.P.G.O., R. Metherell P.M. 666, J. B. Gover P.P.G.A.D.C., T. Goodall I.P.M. 954, J. Rendall W.M. 1247, J. G. Richards P.P.G.D., and Admiral Sir Henry Keppel.

The Provincial Grand Chapter assembled at ten a.m. The P.G.M. presided, supported by R.W. Bros. the D.P.G.M., Reginald Rogers P.D.P.G.M., H. G. Colville S.G.W., R. Rich J.G.W. *pro tem*, and his officers. The minutes of the Prov. G. Lodge, held at Bodmin July 7th, 1874, were read and confirmed. The roll was called and the following Lodges reported represented 131, 318, 330, 331, 450, 496, 510, 557, 589, 699, 789, 893, 970, 977, 1071, 1136, 1164. It was suggested that as it was early some of the other Lodges would probably be represented during the day whose members had not yet arrived. The Treasurer's report, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Tweedy P.G.T., was read by Bro. Chergwin. It showed at present an available balance of £47 2s 11d, and with this Bro. Chergwin stated might be reckoned about £100 that would become available in January next. The report was received and adopted. The Prov. Grand Secretary's report was also read and adopted, which showed an increase of three Lodges in the Province during the past year, viz.:—The Fort Lodge, 1528, at Newquay; Duke of Cornwall Lodge, 1529, at St. Columb; The Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, 1544, at Camborne. An addition to the number of members in the Province of 177 initiates and 54 joining members during the year, made the total number of members returned for the present year 1,240, an increase of 99 over the number of members returned for the previous year.

The Prov. G. Master had a few remarks to make to the Lodge, and he thought that was the available time to make them. He said the attendance of the brethren that day was much larger than he expected, when he considered the difficulty of access to that neighbourhood from most other parts of the Province; and he thanked the brethren for thus supporting him. He felt that in meeting the claims of Lodges, the convenience of brethren in the Province generally must be considered. In selecting Callington on the present occasion he had, however, been influenced by a desire to fulfil a promise made by his respected predecessor—the late Mr. Augustus Smith—that Callington should be visited. He thanked the brethren of the Province generally for the sympathy they had manifested towards him in his late domestic bereavement—the loss of his Countess. His lordship exhibited much emotion in referring to the subject. He then

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referred to the success of the visit of his Royal Highness the Grand Master, their Duke of Cornwall, to Plymouth, and stated that the Prince expressed himself exceedingly pleased at the fine display of Masonry made on that occasion in the Plymouth Guildhall. His Royal Highness, although accustomed to receptions, was unmistakably struck with that one. Since then there had been a still larger gathering of Masons at the installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, in London. That, also, was certainly a very fine gathering, and he was much pleased to find that there was a large attendance of Cornish brethren in that great assembly. Much credit was also due to Bros. John and Courtenay for the facilities they had afforded to the attendance of the brethren. Progress was satisfactorily shewn by the three new Lodges that had been founded in the Province during the past year. He hoped it would not be long before they were consecrated either by himself or the D.P.G.M. He was much pleased at the gradual progress that was also being made in the Province in withdrawing Lodges from holding their meetings at places of public entertainment. A private room was no doubt in every way the best for a Lodge room. In some instances that could not be at once obtained, from the expense that would be incurred; but the opinion of the brethren generally was tending that way. Meridian Lodge at Millbrook, and Peace and Harmony Lodge at St. Austell had both, during the past year, obtained that requisite; and he had to thank the D.P.G.M. for consecrating the new Lodge room of the latter. At present he felt it was more necessary than ever for the brethren generally to be exceedingly careful in selecting candidates for the extension of the Order. Now Masonry was becoming fashionable and popular, nothing was more likely than for unsuitable persons to desire to join their ranks from motives very wide from Masonic motives. To join from an idea that it would be useful in their businesses and with a view to putting the square and compasses over their doors. W.M.'s should be asked to be specially careful of what candidates they allowed to be admitted to their Lodges. He had no desire to encourage a diffusion of black-balling. On the contrary, he thought where there was an objection against a candidate, it should be communicated to the W.M., in order that he might procure the withdrawal of the proposition prior to the contemplated day of election. It should, however, be understood that it was not merely W.M.'s who were responsible. On the contrary, every brother who took part in the election would be responsible, and should think before he voted. He thought an excellent test in admitting a candidate was to consider whether the voter would like to see that candidate W.M. of his Lodge. Bro. Hughan was unfortunately not able to attend. They were much indebted to that brother for his successful exertions, which had involved considerable hard work and energy. To him, with others, they were indebted for the return of one brother last and another this year, as annuitants on the Institution for the relief of Aged and Decayed Masons, from which they each received £36 per annum. It was the duty of the Province to do more for the great Masonic Charities. It had, however, done a great deal during the past year for a very meritorious local charity, the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, and he had received a letter from its honorary secretary, Bro. L. P. Metham, expressing his grateful thanks for their assistance. Bro. Metham felt sure that in the whole not less than £1,500 would be the total of the Masonic contributions, about one-fourth of the money expended in making the improvement by which the charity could now accommodate two hundred children instead of one hundred as before. Of that money £150 had been contributed by the Province.

The report of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund was then presented and read by Bro. Chegwin, and adopted. It showed a decrease in the subscriptions of £17 12s less than last year, but an increase on the capital stock of £210 16s 3d over last year, making it £2,200 over last year, of which £1,999 1s 6d was invested.

The sum of £100 or less was voted to be taken from the funds of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund, to be dealt with by the subscribers at the next Provincial Grand Lodge, and a vacancy was declared in the Annuity Fund. The Committee of Relief presented their report. It recommended that £8 be given to an indigent brother of 510 Lodge, and £10 to an indigent brother of 967 Lodge. These recommendations were ultimately adopted.

The brethren adjourned at noon in procession, in full regalia, with banners and emblems displayed, and headed by the local volunteer band, to the parish church, where an excellent sermon was preached to the brethren and townsfolk, from 1st Peter, 11th chapter, 17th verse—"Honour all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, honour the King"—by W. Bro. the Rev A. H. Cumming P.G. Chap. The church was crowded, and a large number of persons, including several of the brethren, were unable to obtain admission. At the close of the service a collection was made of £11 14s. The brethren then returned in procession as before to the schoolroom.

The P.G.M. announced the result of the election for the vacancy in the Annuity Fund to be for the brother of Lodge 330, 508 votes, and for the brother of Lodge 699, 40 votes, and the former brother elected; the result of the election for a grant to the widow of a brother of 318 Lodge to be for granting £5, 23 votes; £6, 5 votes; £10, 450 votes; and the £10 accordingly granted.

A long report was read from V.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, showing the admirable working of the system of the loan of votes in the Province during the past seven years it had been in use since recommended by him when P.G. Sec. During that time the Province had obtained, by carrying their candidates, the value of £2,300 from the charities. Bro. Hughan also pointed out how greatly the Province was indebted in those successes to the R.W. the P.G.M.

The Treasurer, Secretary, and Auditors for the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund were re-elected.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer and Auditors were re-elected.

The collection at the church was distributed, one-fifth to the vicar of the parish, two-fifths to the Callington Dispensary, two-fifths to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund.

The following votes were made to the London Masonic Charities:—Ten guineas to the Boys' School, ten guineas to the Girls' School, ten guineas to the Aged and Decayed Masons' Institution, and £25 to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed the following brethren his officers for the ensuing year:—Sir P. M. Williams Bart. M.P., D.P.G.M.; T. Chegwin, 131, S.W.; J. Peter, 557, J.W.; the Rev. A. Cummings, 131, P.G. Chap.; the Rev. J. Lethbridge, 789, P.G. Chap.; W. Tweedy, 331, Treas.; J. P. Lyne, 510, Regis.; E. T. Carlyon, 331, G. Sec.; W. Middleton, 131, S.D.; H. Cochrane, 1136, J.D.; W. H. Dunstan, 75, S. Wrks.; C. Trevithick, 1272, D.C.; J. Sims, 689, A.D.C.; C. Truscott, 496, S.B.; W. W. Dymond, 577, O.; F. Dennis, 75, Purs.; W. Rooke, 131, Asst. Purs.; —Dymond O.; the following Stewards:—A. Grant, 318; T. Gill, 967; J. H. Filmer, 893; W. Polkinghorne, 1151; J. Hill, 970; J. Hawkins, 789; and R. Penwarden, 510, Tyler. It was voted that the sermon preached at the church should be printed. Thanks were voted to the rector for the use of the schoolroom and his church.

In the afternoon over 120 of the brethren dined at Golding's Hotel. The P.G.M. presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drank and replied to, and vocal and musical accompaniments given by a glee party, consisting of Bros. J. Rundle, T. Goodall, J. Congdon, and Dymond.

WHAT FREEMASONRY HAS DONE.

FREEMASONRY has been the conservator of pure and sound religious morals in times of almost universal degeneracy. We do not claim too much for it when we say that, in the Fourteenth Century, more especially in Germany, and in Northern Europe generally, when corruption and licentiousness had invaded the Church of God; when vice in its grossest form, and immorality in its most revolting aspects, were sanctioned by those who ministered at the sacred altars of religious worship, Freemasonry entered its solemn and oft-repeated protests against the corruptions and profligacy of the time. The sturdy operative Masons, moved by these strong and vigorous words, engraved with their own honest hands upon the solid rock, which they wrought for building purposes, figures, words and sentences that stood out in mute rebuke of the unbridled licentiousness of the very priests themselves, who were the moral and religious instructors of the people! And many of those silent, but stern rebukes remain till the present time, in attestation of the high and healthful tone maintained by the Craft in mediæval times. In the meantime, the lives and examples of the Fraternity were in exemplification of a higher and purer morality than was found, at the time referred to, in the Church itself.

Thousands upon thousands of men at the present day, and all around us, in every day walks of life, are made better by their Masonic vows than they could be in absence of those restraints. They are better husbands, better fathers, better brothers, better in all the social relations of life, than they would be if they were not Masons.

Freemasonry has administered an untold and incalculable amount of relief and comfort to widowhood and orphanage, and to distressed Masonic brethern. These deeds have been done in secret. Darkened homes, where the shadow of death has been left brooding have been visited by Masonic charity. Tears have been dried up, bleeding hearts have been soothed, bread has been dispensed by the noiseless hand; guardian angels have been scarcely less silent and unostentatious in their visits to the homes of poverty and want, and scarcely less lavish and unselfish in their offices of love and mercy, than the Masonic Fraternity in dispensing charity and scattering its rich benediction upon the destitute and suffering poor. As the withered flowers spring up under the refreshing influences of the dew, gently distilled in the silence of the night, so many a withered and broken heart, pining in poverty and want, has been refreshed and invigorated by the noiseless visitation of Masonic benevolence.

The Masonic Fraternity, like the Great Author of every good and perfect gift, becomes the husband of the widow and father of the orphan; and the day of eternity alone will disclose the amount of benevolent work performed in time by this Universal Brotherhood.

The Temple is not yet finished. Masonry has not yet accomplished its mission in the world. Let us work on. Work, work! This is the law. The time is short. It is past high noon with many of us. The sun goes down. Soon we shall lay by the implements of our Masonic work; and soon our offices of friendship and brotherly love and relief will cease.—Craftsman.

BRO. DANIEL COX, THE FATHER OF FREEMASONRY IN AMERICA.—In 1730, Bro. Daniel Cox was appointed the *first* Provincial Grand Master of the *Provinces* of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, by the Grand Lodge of England, and it was by his authority that a Lodge of Freemasons was warranted in the same year, in Philadelphia, whereby this city became the "Mother-city of Freemasonry in America." We are glad to observe that our Brethren of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey are about to honour the memory of our earliest American Grand Master, by having prepared an accurate steel engraving of Grand Master Cox, at an expense of 275 dols. A copy of this engraving is to be appropriately framed, and presented to the living representatives of Bro. Cox, as a mark of the esteem of the fraternity of the present day for the Father of Masonry in America, and also in appreciation of the courtesy extended to the committee having the matter in charge, in enabling them to successfully accomplish their labours. Bro. James H. Stevens, Past Senior Grand Warden of New Jersey, is chairman of this Committee.—The Keystone.

It is one thing to make a man a Mason by initiation, and another to constitute him one in heart and brains. This latter work is, in part, that of the Masonic press, and 'tis a pity printing was not invented prior to the lecture of the second degree, so that we might have had *eight*, instead of seven, liberal arts and sciences.

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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.

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SATURDAY, 17th JULY.

140—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham, Yorkshire.
308—Prince George, Staining Hotel, Bottoms, near Todmorden.
416—Surrey, Public Hall, Reigate.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.
453—Chigwell, Castle Hotel, Woodford.

MONDAY, 19th JULY.

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.
356—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
382—Royal Union, Checquer's Hotel, Uxbridge.
840—Scientific, Victoria Hotel, Wolverton.
872—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
925—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Heaton Norris.
1062—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1073—Greta, Court Buildings, Keswick.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
R. A. 210—Faith, Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton.
K.T.—Stuart, Freemasons' Hall, Watford.
K. T.—Prince of Peace, Bull Hotel, Preston.

TUESDAY, 20th JULY.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
78—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1441—Ivy, Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark-bridge Road.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex, Corn Exchange, Rochford.
87—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull.
126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Barnsley.
226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
448—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
462—Frederick Lodge of Unity, Station Hotel, Sutton.
510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Lokeard.
696—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
1006—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day Stamer, Cornwall.
1093—De Sterland, Fountain Hotel, Elm Town, Sheerness.
1304—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Widnes, Lanc.
M.M. 804—Carnarvon, Town Hotel, Havant.

WEDNESDAY, 21st JULY.

General Committee, Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at 6.
188—Confidence, White Hart, Aldercop Lane, at 7.30 (Instruction).

139—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury.
157—Amity, Masonic Hall, Poole.
219—Duke of Atholl, Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton.
243—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
260—Naphthali, Masonic Rooms, Market-place, Heywood.
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, Rossendale.
285—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shipton Mallet.
289—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
299—Exhibition, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction).
301—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester.
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
324—Moira, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth, near Rochdale.
368—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction).
515—Berkhampstead, King's Arms, Berkhamstead.
537—Faith, Drovers' Inn, Openshaw.
591—Parkingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
610—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
679—St. David's, Black Lion Hotel, Aldershaw.
681—Sherwood, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Chesterfield.
834—Merit, Church Inn, Whitefield, near Bury.
962—Stag and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1046—Walton, St. Lawrence Boy's School, Croplands Street, Kirkdale.
1101—De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Hotel, Ardwick.
1212—Elme, Masonic Hall, Horne Park, Stoke, Devonport.
1345—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Erdes.
1501—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe.
R. A. 344—Beauty, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe Bridge.
M.M. 174—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 22nd JULY.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High Street, Deptford.

78—Imperial George, Appleton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Great Yarmouth.
142—Unity, White Hart Hotel, Kingswood.
215—Commerce, Commercial Inn, Hedingden.
219—Yorkshire, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
315—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
365—Unity and Friendship, Bull's Head Inn, Smallbridge, near Rochdale.
420—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
704—Huyton Lion, 24 Hope Street, Liverpool.
949—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
R. A. 110—Cable, Swan Hotel, Colne.
K. T.—Peace of Malton, Cross Keys Inn, Barnsley.
1450—Astbury, Junction Hotel, West Gorton, near Manchester.

FRIDAY, 23rd JULY.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1275—Bolton Castle, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1293—Metropolitan, 20 Fenchurch-street. (Instruction.)

1195—Arkwright, Walker's Bath Terrace Hotel, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.
R. A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.

SATURDAY, 24th JUNE.

A. 111 Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—494—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
TUESDAY—R. A. 233—Tree Elm, Anne Street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—9—Mucos, Masonic Hall, Dungannon, Tyrone.
" 141—Excelsior, Bishop Street, Tuam, Galway.
" 350—Cappagh, Masonic Hall, Omagh.

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.—205—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Royal Shamrock Lodge No. 32.—A meeting was held on the 6th of July, at St. Olaves Place, Waterford. Present—Bros. Thomas Atherton W.M., Thomas Andrews S.W., Samuel H. Perry Secretary and J.W., James W. Andrews S.D., Edward G. Brooks J.D., Thomas Triggo Steward, Robert Whalley sen. D.C., David Atherton I.G., James Richardson Tyler, John Sunderland P.M. Treasurer. Past Masters, Bros. H. Waugh, H. D. Palmer, P. Whalley. Visitors, Bros. Elwin and Price Lodge 5 Waterford, Hiscox 1420 London, Nelson 297 Waterford, and about thirty brethren. Business transacted—This being the night appointed for the celebration of the Festival of St. John, the Lodge, after having been duly opened in first degree, was called off from labour to refreshment, when the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given and responded to, the W.M. called Bro. S. H. Perry forward, and presented him with a valuable silver tea service, accompanied by the following address, handsomely illuminated:

"To Samuel H. Perry, Esq., Junior Warden and Secretary of Masonic Lodge, No. 32, Waterford.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—Your brethren of the Royal Shamrock Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, desire to testify their regard and esteem for you, and therefore take advantage of your marriage to bear this testimony to your many good qualities, and the very efficient manner in which you have discharged the duties assigned to you.

"During your connexion with us your conduct, always regulated by true Masonic principles, your zeal for the welfare of our ancient Order, your exertions to promote the harmony and brotherly love which have always characterised the Craft, and the ability and care with which you have filled the important offices to which you have been elected, have won our esteem and regard, and called forth the praise and thanks of your brethren.

"We beg your acceptance of the accompanying tea service, as a tribute from the members of this Lodge to your sterling worth as a man and a Mason, and while it is no measure of your deserts or of our appreciation of them, we beg you to accept it in the same fraternal spirit in which it is offered. Wishing you and Mrs. Perry every happiness this world can afford; we pray the Great Architect of the Universe abundantly to bless you both, to smooth your steps in the rugged paths of this life, and, finally, to bring you to that better world, where all will be joy and peace and love, in the presence of the Most High.

"Given at our Lodge Rooms, Olaves Place, Waterford, and sealed with our seal, this 6th day of July 1875, and of Masonry 5875.

"Thomas Atherton W.M.,
Thomas Andrews S.W.,
John Sunderland P.M. and Treasurer,
"On behalf of the brethren of Royal Shamrock Lodge, 32."

Bro. Perry having replied in appropriate terms, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren enjoyed themselves with speech and song, parting, at a late hour, in peace, love and harmony, after a most enjoyable evening.

The Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, 12th July, at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green. Present—Bros. Pearcy W.M., Stock S.W., Halford J.W., Read S.D., Isaac J.D., Day I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Master Bro. Beckett Preceptor. Business—Lodge opened in the usual manner, and the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. Bro. G. Walker passed to the degree of F.C., and Bro. Lake raised to the degree of M.M. The Lodge resumed to the first degree, and the W.M. worked the first section of the first lecture, and Bro. Beckett the fifth. The sum of 21s was unanimously voted from the funds to be given to the Mansion House Fund, for the relief of the sufferers by the inundations in France. Lodge closed pantedly, in due form, and adjourned until the 19th instant.

Temperance Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 56.—A meeting was held on the 13th June, at the Masonic Hall, Todmorden. Present—Bros. John Ratcliffe W.M., Frank Muttall S.W., Wm. Barrowclough J.W., Wm. Lord S.D., Wm. Marsden J.D., John Bolland D.C., Wm. Pilling Tyler, R. W. Waterson Secretary, John Watson Treasurer. Past Masters Bros. Pilling, Marshall, Watson, Wadsworth, and Bradshaw. Business transacted:—Installation, revising the bye laws, &c. Bro. Barrowclough, of the Rope and Anchor Inn, provided a splendid supper, of which the brethren partook.

Vitruvian Lodge No. 87.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the "White Hart," College Street, Lambeth. There were present Bros. E. Thurkle W.M., B. Clegg S.W., C. Walter J.W., C. S. Jelly I.P.M., J. G.

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Bond P.M. Treasurer, W. Stuart P.M. Secretary, H. T. T. Ross S.D., A. Timothy J.D., C. Nott I.G., Bentley Tyler, also Past Masters Whiting and Hopkins, and about forty brethren. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the summons calling the meeting read. During the evening Bro. T. H. Gantlett was raised to the third degree, and Bro. J. Shillton passed to the second. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Pimlett, Edwards, Thorp, Plows, and Schleicher, which proved unanimous in their favour, and they being in attendance were accordingly initiated in the ancient mysteries. Bro. H. Mandsley P.M. 87, and P.G.S.D. of the Grand Lodge of England, was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Lodge. The Lodge then closed in perfect harmony.

Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145.—Most of our Lodges, excepting the summer ones, are now closed until October next, but the brethren, not liking their Masonic associations to entirely drop during the vacation, organise picnics and summer outings. The Prudent Brethren Lodge held a summer banquet at the Alexandra Palace, on Tuesday, 12th July, where an assemblage of the brethren and visitors, numbering sixty-two, met, under the presidency of Bro. John Boyd P.M. and P.G.P., supported by Bros. T. Cubitt P.G.P., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., T. Bull P.M., G. S. States P.M. and P.G.S., Moore P.M., E. H. Thiellay, Haslett, Leggatt, &c. The W.M. was unavoidably absent through indisposition, a fact that was regretted by every member of the Lodge. The brethren occupied a spacious room, where a very sumptuous and récherché dinner, a la Russe, with dessert, was provided by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, whose catering gave unqualified satisfaction. The table presented a very beautiful appearance, being profusely decorated with flowers. Grace having been sung, by Miss Bessie Stroud, Miss Heath, and Bros. Farquarson and Carter, Bro. J. Boyd proposed the usual loyal toasts, and to that of the R.W. the Earl of Skelmersdale and the rest of the Grand Officers, said:—He was pleased to see two of the Grand Officers among them, viz., Bros. T. Cubitt and C. A. Cottebrune; the former brother returned thanks. Trio, "This Wagic Wove Scarf" was then sung. Bro. J. Boyd then proposed the toast of the W.M. All regretted his absence, but he hoped at the next meeting he would be able to be with them, in restored health. Bro. J. Boyd, in proposing the toast of the Visitors, said how pleased he was to see so many friends and familiar faces, and as the list was rather a lengthy one, he would couple with it the name of Bro. H. Dicketts P.G.S., who returned thanks. Bro. Moore, in proposing the toast of Bro. J. Boyd, alluded to his great Masonic qualifications; he had served the office of W.M. in the Lodge for two years; he was, in fact, the Father of the Lodge. They had seen how ably he had presided, and whatever Masonic or other capacity his services were required in, they were always readily given. (Cheers.) Bro. J. Boyd having left the chair, it was occupied by Bro. Bull P.M. The toast of the Masonic Charities was responded to by Bro. Leggatt, who, as representing the Lodge as a Steward for the Boys' School, had collected the highest amount of the London Lodges. The toast of the Officers found a very able exponent in Bro. E. Thiellay, who also expressed his regret at the absence of the W.M. Bro. J. Last P.M., in one of his genial and expressive speeches, hoped they would not separate without drinking the health of Bro. T. Bull P.M. They had seen what he had done while in the occupation of the chair; his study for the good of the Charities, combined with his other good qualities, and he hoped the brethren would give a hearty response to the toast. (Cheers.) Bro. Bull having replied, coffee was served, and the brethren separated, after enjoying a very agreeable evening. Bros. Farquarson, Carter, Miss Bessie Stroud, Miss Heath, Bros. Talbot, Chever and Brand singing some very excellent songs. Among those present were Bros. G. S. States P.M., Manby, Perry, Mumford, Jacobs, Bortch, Reis, Daw, Leggatt, Masters, King, Ponsford, Turry, Downing, &c. The visitors were Framjee Hormusjee (a Parsee), Bros. T. Cubitt P.G.P., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., Reiss, Ireton, J. Sadler, Hunt and H. M. Levy.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, 14th July, at Bro. Chard's, The White Hart, Abchurch Lane. Present—Bros. Chapman W.M., Tarquant S.W., Blinkhorn J.W., Abell S.D., Crocker I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Master Gottheil Preceptor. Visitor, Bro. A Gedson S.W. 1479. Business—The Lodge was opened to the second degree. Bro. Holland was a candidate. The three sections of the second lecture were worked by the brethren, under the direction of the worthy Preceptor, Bro. Gottheil. Bro. Tarquant was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Lodge of United Strength, No. 228.—The summer festival of this truly united Lodge, was held under the happiest circumstances of weather and place, on Tuesday last. The house selected was Bro. Stone's, the Ship Hotel, Shepperton, in the midst of the most charming scenery. The brethren flocked down by rail, road and river, and made in all a party a third larger than was looked for; but the embarrassment of the W.M., Bro While, at having so striking a proof of his popularity, was speedily relieved by finding that Bro. Host was equal to the occasion, with an ample banquet for all, though one room was not large enough for the dinner party. Bros. P.M. James Terry and Daniel Tallerman (known among his familiars as "the Baron") exerted themselves in every way to provide the company with amusement, and this was mostly found on the river, by the brethren and the ladies, in boating and fishing. At the dinner the W.M. presided, supported by Past Masters Crump Secretary, Winsland Treasurer, James Terry, Bottrill, Davies, Senior Warden Griggs, Junior Warden J. Hill, the other officers being Halford, Pearey and Flaws. The usual toasts were given, and the warm acknowledgments of the party were made to the W.M., the P.M.'s and to the officers for the happy day at this quiet limit of the world. With the J.W.'s greeting, ending with "happy meet again," the party separated to find their various ways to London. It should be mentioned that a large party started in the morning from the "Old Gate" at Clerkenwell (St. John of Jerusalem), and Bro. Gay provided an excellent luncheon for his brethren and their friends, and told them that supper would await them if they arrived within hours.

Abercorn Lodge, No. 299, Ireland.—The half-yearly dinner was held at the Beresford Arms Hotel, Armagh, on Wednesday evening the 7th inst. The following brethren were present:—As guests—Bros. Captain Evans, Dr. Whitla, George C. Cochrane, Dr. Fraser, Rev. Thos. Ellis, W. C. Magowan, E. V. Forshall, S. Call. The members of the Lodge—Bros. J. G. Winder J.P. D.P.G.M., Dr. Gray P.M. W.M. pro tem, Geo. H. Smith P.M. Secretary, A. Nelson P.M., Wm. Hardy P.M., J. W. Clements, Dr. Davison, Dr. Marks, J. A. Watson, Rev. F. G. M'Nally, Thos. White, W. J. Black, S. M'Kimm, T. W. Cowan, Dr. Leeper, J. Lonsdale, M. Bronte, J. A. Parris, and R. Gillespie. The brethren being seated about seven o'clock, grace was invoked by Bro. Rev. F. G. M'Nally, chaplain to the Lodge, and the practical discussion of Bro. Tranter's bill of fare then commenced. *Non nobis domine* having been sung by the musical brethren present. The W.M. (Dr. Gray) gave the usual loyal toasts from the chair, which were duly honoured. "The Grand Master of England and Ireland" were each toasted in true Masonic style, and saluted according to ancient custom. Amongst the several other toasts given was that of "Our Visiting Brethren," to which response was made by Bros. Evans, Cochrane, Ellis, Whitla, Forshall, and Fraser. Bro. Winder D.P.G.M., after acknowledging the pride and pleasure it always gave him to dine with "299," and take part in its proceedings, called for a flowing bumper for a toast he had only to name to ensure it enthusiastic reception amongst Irish Masons. He gave the health of Bro. Geo. H. Smith P.M., who, he said, was not only the Secretary of "299" since its formation, but its most energetic patron. Bro. Smith had originated and triumphantly carried "299" to its present high position in the province, and, as a member of the Lodge, he felt proud in congratulating his brethren on having for their guiding star such an acquisition as Bro. Smith. Bro. Winder then presented Bro. Smith with a valuable P.M.'s jewel, the gift of his brethren in "299." The toast, and Bro. Winder's remarks, were most cordially honoured, after which Bro. Smith acknowledged the compliment and presentation in an address of much feeling and eloquence. He assured those present that his connection with the Order and its members in Armagh was dear to him, and that he knew how well that good feeling was reciprocated. By a happy coincidence, the occasion of their kindness was not only the first anniversary of the "Abercorn Lodge," but his own birthday. Bro. Clements sang "Many happy returns of the day." Several glees and songs were given during the evening, by Bros. Marks, Clements, M'Nally and Nelson. Bro. Dr. Marks presided at the piano.

Beadon Chapter, No. 619.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Thursday, 9th inst., at the Horns Tavern, Kennington. Comp. Green Z., Williams H., W. Smeed P.Z. as J., Augurs S.E., E. Coste S.N., Wyer P.S., Carrington 1st Asst., Capt. G. Smith P.Z., D. H. Jacobs, &c. The Chapter having been opened and the minutes confirmed, Bros. B. White, Beadon Lodge, 619, R. F. Tayler and E. Wilton, both of Southwark Lodge, 879, were duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by the M.E.Z., Comp. W. Smeed P.Z. delivering the addresses. The Chapter was closed, and he companions partook of a capital banquet, provided by Comp. Eaton. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Comps. W. Smeed, D. H. Jacobs, and Capt. G. Smith contributing to the harmony, the latter Companion giving a very excellent recitation.

Star in the East, No. 650.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 12th of July, at the Pier Hotel, Harwich. Present:—Bros. James Durrant W.M., George Gard Pye S.W., Jonathan Dunlop J.W., Samuel Dutton sen. Secretary and Treasurer, Samuel Dutton jun. S.D., fal. Howard D.C., J. T. Henderson Steward, Wm. Basham I.G., Richd. Barlow Tyler. Past Masters Bros. R. T. Dickson, W. O. Ward, S. H. Wymark. Visitors, Bros. A. Matthews, R. Wilson, C. F. J. Barker, W. Downes, G. L. Jackson, R. Gay, Thos. M. Naylor, C. Lenie, J. Warren and W. Cockle. Business:—Bros. Thos. H. Jennings raised to M.M., W. Walker passed to F.C., Mr. W. Shaw initiated. The work was ably performed by Bro. Durrant W.M.

Fawcett Lodge, No. 661.—This Lodge held its general meeting on Wednesday, the 14th July, at the Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour. Present—Bros. John Barrett Wells W.M., Geo. Stokold acting S.W., W. Stratford J.W., H. W. Richardson Secretary, John Richardson Treasurer, Samuel Cockburn S.D., Joseph Potts J.D., W. Foster P.M. D.C., J. Scorfield, and J. Clare Stewards, Geo. Grieves I.G., T. Taylor Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. H. B. Wright, J. Ayrd, R. Candlish. Business—Bro. T. H. Smarthwaite was initiated, Bro. Francis Carry was passed, and Bro. J. B. Turnbull raised. A ballot was taken for Bro. Geo. Wm. Emmerson of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481, as a joining member, who was unanimously elected.

St. John's Lodge, No. 673, Liverpool.—The installation meeting in connection with this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 6th inst. The brethren were summoned to meet at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, and there was a large attendance. Bro. M. Corless, the retiring W.M., presided at the opening; and after the transaction of some formal business the chair was taken by Bro. H. Nelson P.M. 673, W.M. 1505, who proceeded to instal Bro. Joseph K. Diggon as the W.M. of St. John's for the ensuing year. The whole of the ceremony was very ably performed by Bro. Nelson, who received a special vote of thanks for his excellent working. The following were the officers invested by the W.M.:—Bros. M. Corless I.P.M., J. Hocken P.M. D.C., Thomas Roberts S.W., Henry Burrows J.W., R. Pearson P.M. Treasurer (re-elected for the tenth time), S. John-

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son P.M. P.G.S. Secretary, D. Jackson S.D., W. Brackenbury J.D., L. Herman I.G., J. Sadden S.S., T. Palshaw J.S., R. Holmes Organist, and W. H. Ball Tyler. Previous to the conclusion of the business, a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. M. Corless I.P.M., as a mark of respect and esteem after his year's labours in the chair. The installation picnic subsequently took place at the Great Eastern Hotel, New Ferry, at which about 200 ladies and brethren were present. An excellent banquet was provided by "mine host," and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M. and other brethren. The menu card and toast list was quite a model in its way, and reflected great credit on the taste of Bros. Barrows and Matthews. The weather was very delightful, and the whole of the afternoon's amusements were enjoyed with the greatest zest. The picnic was one of the most pleasant held for a long time, and the party returned to town at a seasonable hour.

De Warren Lodge, No. 1302.—This Lodge held its annual meeting on Monday, the 5th July, at Private Rooms, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, at 3 p.m. Present—Bros. W. Asquith W.M., Jeremiah Whitaker S.W., George Normanton P.M. P.P.J.G.D. J.W., William Cooke P.M. Secretary, John Frith P.M. Treasurer, Thomas Braithwaite J.D., John Seed P.M. D.C., W. Swift and C. W. Stead Stewards, George Holmes I.G., J. Greenwood P.M. Tyler; P.M. Bro. W. H. D. Horsfall. Visitor, Bro. J. Menzies W.M. 61. Business:—Lodge opened in 1st degree, minutes of last meeting read and confirmed; Mr. Thomas Edwin Hirschcliffe balloted for, unanimously accepted, and initiated by the W.M. A motion to increase the initiation fee to £10 10s was passed the second time. The Lodge opened in 2nd degree. The W.M. elect was presented to the Installing Officer (Bro. G. Normanton P.M.), took his obligation of fidelity to the Lodge, and answered the usual questions. Lodge opened in 3rd degree, M.M.'s retired. Board of Installed Masters formed, and the W.M. elect placed in the E., according to ancient usage and custom. Board of Installed Masters closed, brethren re-admitted, and saluted. Officers invested as follows:—Bros. Jeremiah Whitaker W.M., George Normanton P.M. P.P.J.G.D. S.W., Frederick Whitaker P.M. P.P.J.G.D. J.W., John Seed P.M. Treasurer, William Cooke P.M. Secretary, Thomas Braithwaite S.D., George Holmes J.D., William Sutcliffe D.C., Charles W. Stead Organist, John Gardiner I.G., William Swift and Seth Patchett Stewards, John Greenwood P.M. Tyler. The Secretary, on behalf of the Lodge, then presented and invested Bro. Asquith, the retiring W.M., with a new P.M. apron, collar, and silver jewel, as a mark of their appreciation of his earnestness in discharging the duties of his office during the past twelve months. Unfortunately, while this was taking place, a message was awaiting Bro. Asquith, announcing the death, that afternoon, of his father, at Dewsbury. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, which reflected great credit on the new manager of the White Swan Hotel Company. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, that of "the sister Lodges in Halifax" being replied to by Bro. Menzies W.M. Lodge of Probity, No. 61, and Bro. F. Whitaker W.M. St. James's Lodge, No. 448.

The Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—An emergency meeting was held on the 10th July, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, E.C. Present—Bros. N. B. Headon W.M., J. H. Townend S.W., J. Seex J.W., G. W. Blackie as S.D., Chas. Taylor as J.D., W. H. Catchpool I.G., W. Steedman Tyler, Edward Moody Secretary. Bro. James Stevens I.P.M. Visitors — Bros. J. Lake 1471, Taylor Secretary 902, J. C. Pickard, Royal Mother of Solomon Lodge, Jerusalem, Wray, Robert Burns 25; and Bros. Farmer, Hicks, Lewis, Rolfe, Kebble, Barker, Potter, Goodman, McNiven, Measures, T. W. Headon, Boulton, White, Cox, Rowe, Hooker, Bristow, Liscombe, Davis, Baber, Keeble, J. R. Hartley, Tulldge, J. Hartley, E. H. Davis, Pendick, Lockitt, Clark. Business transacted:—Raised Bros. White, Bristow, Hicks, Farmer, Measures, and McNiven; passed Bros. Rowe, Lord, Goodman, Liscombe, and Beaskin; initiated Messrs. Julian, Hartley C.C., Lockitt, and D. J. R. Clark. The whole of the ceremonies were worked by the W.M. Several candidates were proposed. Supper at conclusion. Bro. Pickard, Royal Mother of Solomon Lodge, Jerusalem, responded for the visitors. Lodge opened at 3.15, closed at 9.30.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—The first summer banquet in connection with this Lodge, which, although it has only been one year in existence, numbers 45 members, and has on its list many propositions for joining at the next meeting, was held on Friday, 9th July, at the Rye House, Hoddesdon, Herts. The weather was unpropitious, it raining all day, yet, despite this drawback, the brethren and ladies arrived by rail and road. Bro. Jas. Willing jun., the W.M., and the Stewards, determined that there should be no lack of attention on their part to secure the comfort of the visitors, in which endeavour they were most successful. The attractions of this beautiful place which, on account of the rain, could not be seen to such advantage as on a fine day, consist of its beautiful grounds, its historical associations, so suggestive of the celebrated Rye House Plot, its very old and valuable pictures, statuary, and relics, all of which are graphically described by the attendants. Another great feature of this establishment we must not omit to mention, that is, the facility it affords to those who are inclined for an aquatic excursion, as its supply of boats will serve the requirements of the most fastidious. When all these various attractions had been duly brought under the notice of the brethren and their lady friends, an adjournment took place to a very commodious room, where a capital dinner and dessert was provided by Bro. W. H. Teale, the worthy host. Bro. J. Teale personally superintended. Bro. Jas. Willing jun., the W.M., presided, and it is but justice to say that to his genial presidency, assisted by the officers of the Lodge and the Stewards, that every lady, brother and visitor thoroughly enjoyed themselves. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal toasts were given. Bro. Michael, the S.W. proposed, in eulogistic terms, the toast of the W.M. He informed the Brethren that the success of the Lodge (he being one of its founders) was mainly due to him, and in proposing his health he hoped all present would do honour to it, he was one whom all respected for his many good qualities. (Cheers). Bro. James Willing responded to the toast, and in the course of a very eloquent speech said he was pleased to hear the commendations passed on him by Bro. Michael, and at the hearty response which was given by those present; any services that could be rendered by him to the Craft in general were at their disposal. He was proud to say the Metropolitan Lodge was flourishing. Bro. Ralph and Mr. R. Douglass responded for the toast of the Visitors in very happy terms. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Officers, alluded to their Masonic qualifications, but he had more particularly to thank Bro. Time P.M. and Secretary for his arduous and indefatigable exertions, not only in the Lodge, but also in contributing to the day's successful proceedings. The next toast was that of the Stewards, and that found very able exponents in Bro. J. Douglas I.G. and Bro. Scales. The Ladies was next given, after which the toast of the Press. Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. 188 returned thanks. The ladies and brethren in the adjoining room enjoyed the pleasure of quadrilles, polkas, &c. A band provided by the W.M. discoursing some very excellent music. Tea and coffee was then served, and the visitors returned to town, after passing a delightful day, in spite of the weather, all present expressing to the W.M. their congratulation at the success of the first summer banquet. Among those present were Bros. Michael S.W., Williams J.W., H. G. Time, Child S.D., Kingham J.D., J. Douglas I.G., C. Scales W.S., Salisbury, Cook, Gilbert, Rapkin, Reed, Ralph, R. Douglas, J. Levy, Shand, Hatton, Trimmings, H. M. Levy, &c.

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Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts. 1875 £	1874 £
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Glasgow and South Western	315½	18,785	16,976
Great Eastern	763	51,273	51,103
Great Northern	523	54,966	52,283
Great Western	1,525	108,447	104,591
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	69,137	67,552
London and Brighton	370¼	33,702	33,248
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	22,073	21,938
London and North Western	1,586½	180,471	180,933
London and South Western	626½	39,896	40,436
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	—	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	30,628	29,276
Midland	970½	112,936	111,865
Metropolitan	8	9,714	8,744
" " District	8	5,269	4,347
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	601	513
North British	839	46,300	42,224
North Eastern	1,400½	125,492	122,357
North London	12	7,148	6,945
North Staffordshire Railway	191	9,690	9,821
" " Canal	118	1,540	1,579
South Eastern	350	38,455	37,043

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VOL. II.—No. 30. SATURDAY, 24th JULY 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

WHAT NEXT?

THE honours that have been showered on Masonry of late years are great beyond conception. We will not say they are wholly undeserved, for Masonry can point to certain institutions and to certain times in its history as evidence that its aims are very different from what the blatant orators and the ready writers of a certain narrow sectarianism would have the world believe. But recent events, and the pertinacious attacks on our Order made by the Ultramontanes, have gone a long way towards developing our popularity, to such an extent indeed that the gentler sex, who hitherto have been rigidly excluded, not only from our Lodges, but from our banquets likewise, are beginning to interest themselves in our favour. The last Festival of the Boys' School was graced with their presence for the first time, and the idea of introducing them, we believe, originated with Bro. Binckes, the energetic Secretary of that Institution. In fact, he enjoyed a double credit in connection with that festival. The list of subscriptions handed in showed the greatest aggregate sum on record that was ever collected, and the ladies were present. But now a further honour is in store for us. The Baroness Burdett Coutts, with whose name and fame our readers are as familiar as with any household word, has announced her intention of presenting to the Lodge No. 1278, which bears her name, three chairs for the W.M., S.W. and J.W. respectively. The occasion will be honoured in a highly becoming manner. The formal presentation will be made at a meeting of the Lodge, on Thursday next, the 29th instant, the members present being, by dispensation from His Royal Highness the M.W.G.M., in full Masonic Craft clothing. They will also bring with them their ladies, and this will be the first occasion in England at which any ladies have been present when Lodge "furniture," as such, has been in the room. In France, there are, we know, Lodges of Adoption, while in the United States, the various public processions in which Craft, Royal Arch, and Templar Masonry figure, sometimes separately, sometimes together, have familiarised the American ladies with the insignia of our Order, and with the titles of our officers and chief dignitaries. But in England Masonry has been far more secret in its operations, so far, at least, as any outward display of Masonic emblems is concerned. There was nothing visible, for instance, in connection with the recent Installation of the Prince of Wales to the outer world, for the brethren arrayed themselves inside the Hall. In fact, the few occasions on which any Masonic display is to be seen are limited here to Masonic funerals, meetings of Provincial Grand Lodges, and occasionally the laying the first stone of some public building. Thus the presence of the ladies is quite a new feature, and not inappropriately perhaps. If the apron is an emblem of freedom, and has been adopted for that reason as the most important of our clothing, it is also the emblem of domesticity, so to speak. Women of every class and age wear one of these during, perhaps, some portion of the day, from the lady with her elaborate *tablier*, to the simple peasant with her plain white *apron*. Our zeal, however, must not outrun our discretion. We are afraid some of our readers may think it ungallant in us to caution them against seeking to establish too great an intimacy between Masonry and the fair sex. The old saying which describes a milksop as "tied to his mother's apron-strings" may suggest to us not to be tied too closely, in things Masonic, to the pretty apron-strings of the ladies. Their presence lends an additional charm to Masonry, but this ultimate charm of all must not predominate. Let us still be Masons first, and then admirers of beauty in the banqueting hall afterwards.

THE RETIRING MASTERS OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

WE publish elsewhere a communication from Bro. Binckes, in which that gentleman takes us to task for, and, in one passage, with less than his usual courtesy, impeaches the complete impartiality of our article last week on "The Retiring Masters of the Boys' School." He suggests, at the outset, that we should have done better had we followed the example of the *Freemason*, and left the subject unnoticed, except so far as inserting his circular, asking us to suspend judgment till his reply to Bro. Tew's pamphlet should have appeared. We note, in the next instance, that he considers we have shown a bias in dealing with the unhappy differences which have arisen between the late Head Master and the Committee, and this in the face of our disclaimer—"We have no intention of passing judgment on the contents of these documents. We are strictly impartial in the matter." He enters with some violence of language into a defence of the Committee, displaying a vigour, both defensive and offensive, in every way worthy of the vigorous official we know him to be.

Now, as to the policy or impolicy of referring, in a public journal, to what was already too notorious, we shall have no difficulty, we imagine, in justifying ourselves in the eyes of our readers generally. True, we did not imitate the conduct of our contemporary, and publish Bro. Binckes's letter, but we gave a very substantial reason for not doing so. In our short leader of the 26th ult., on "The case of the Retiring Head Master of the Boys' School," occurs the following: "As we have not thought it worth while to print Bro. Tew's report, it is needless to insert Bro. Binckes's explanation." As we neither published nor made extracts from the report, we did not deem it just to print the letter it had called forth from Bro. Binckes. The Secretary thinks we might have done so, in acknowledgment of his appeal to the principle *audi alteram partem*. Hear both sides first, and then judge. Now it is no business of ours to pass judgment, but we are not thereby precluded from criticising, either the facts or the decision, only we must take care, in doing so, to avoid anything like partisanship, and this, we think, we have manifestly done. What we have said has been governed by certain general principles, the justice of which are, in our opinion, beyond question. We have remarked that the Committee announce in two consecutive reports that changes in the educational conduct of the School have been thought expedient. Does anyone doubt the impolicy of frequent changes in the management of such Institutions? Do they help to raise the tone of a school, or to improve its character as a place of education? If they do, we are wrong in our objection, but the general tenour of all experience is on our side. Changes, again, may be costly in other ways. If we remember rightly, the accounts for the year 1873 contain an item of £250, as compensation to the late Head Master, and we do not imagine the Rev. Bro. Perrott can be discharged from his office without receiving a like, if not an equal, *solatium*. Here, at once, we have an admirable reason why the matter should be publicly criticised. The funds of the Institution

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are damaged to the extent of some £500, more or less, within the brief space of two years. This, in short, is the pecuniary fine inflicted on the School because the governing body proves to have been unfortunate in its selection of Head Masters. Thus, on moral, educational, and financial grounds, a frequent change of Masters, is, in our opinion, impolitic. Surely there is no bias in affirming a proposition so simple, so self-evident? Then, as to the report of Mr. Finlaison. We may, first of all, set Bro. Binckes's mind at rest as to there having been any foul play on the part of him or them who sent us a copy of it. It did not come from any one connected with the Secretary's office, and we presume it was sent us in order that we might either print it *in extenso* or quote from it. Considerations of space alone induced us to adopt the latter alternative. But does Bro. Binckes seriously consider it an act of partisanship in us to have quoted from this report? Should we not rather have been guilty of partiality towards the Committee if we had suppressed what was favourable to their opponents? We quoted fairly, that is, we took the blame and the praise equally, just as they came. At the distribution of prizes, on the 30th ult., the Lord Balfour of Burleigh thanked both the Masters and the Committee, and spoke highly of the admirable discipline and demeanour of the boys. To have quoted from a satisfactory report without giving credit to the Masters for their conduct of the School would have been an act of gross unfairness to them. There would seem to be far more of bias in Brother Binckes when he impugns that part of Mr. Finlaison's report in which the latter praises the general conduct of the boys, on the grounds that they would be sure to carry themselves with propriety before a stranger, and that four days are insufficient for Mr. Finlaison to have formed a trustworthy judgment. The questions at issue between the Rev. Bro. Perrott, Bro. Tew, and the "Four Retiring Masters" on the one hand, and the Committee, the Secretary, and the Matron on the other, we have refrained entirely from discussing. We have pointedly refused to touch upon the matters raised by Bro. Tew. The complaints of the Assistant Masters against the Matron we have passed by without a word of comment. We said last week, and we say again this, "They are *ex parte* to begin with. The Matron may be in a position to meet them, or they may be incontrovertible. At all events, it is no business of ours to pass judgment on the merits." We have not the slightest doubt the Committee and the Secretary believe themselves to be right, but the retiring Head and Assistant Masters must be excused if they are not of the same mind as regards themselves. The Committe have sat in judgment on these latter, and passed sentence. This it was fully competent for them to do, but the masters appeal, either directly or indirectly, against this verdict—and this they have an unquestionable right to do. The Committee say of them, We are not satisfied with their conduct, and we have thought it expedient, in the interest of the Institution, over whose welfare we have been called upon to preside, to dispense with their services. They urge, on the other hand, We have striven to do our duty and we believe we have been successful. The noble Chairman, at the last examination, thanked us, and the Examiner has praised the school, both for the general excellence of the training and for the discipline and bearing of the boys. In order to have shown any partiality towards one or other of these views, we must have said either to the Committee: We think you are in error in your conduct towards the Masters; or to the Masters, We do not think your conduct of the School has been satisfactory. We have done neither. We have said a frequent change of Masters is undesirable—an undeniable proposition. A Head Master, if he is to do good service, must be responsible to the governing body alone, all other masters and resident officials being subordinate to him—another undeniable proposition. As for Bro. Binckes's long and faithful services to the Institution, we shall not esteem him or them the less that we think he has utterly misconstrued our article of last week. With the rest of Masonry, we deplore that differences connected with the Boys' School have arisen, but we cannot shut our eyes to the fact of their existence. Those whose conduct has been impugned must be less than men if they do not seek, by every means in their power, to set themselves right in the eyes of the world. The matters to which we have been referring are matters of general notoriety throughout the Craft, but they are still, as it were, *sub judice*, and we have very carefully observed the well-known rule of journalism, not to pass judgment till both sides have striven to justify themselves. Our opinion, however, would be utterly without value if we did not express it freely, at the proper time, and irrespective of all party influences. If this squabble goes further, as we are assured it will, then, if the Rev. Bro. Perrott and his late subordinates are proved to have been guilty of misconduct in their several offices, we shall not hesitate to justify the action of the Committee, but if the Rev. Brother and his assistants succeed in proving that the Committee's conduct towards them has been harsh, unjust, and unreasonable, we shall not hesitate to speak our mind freely. At present we have said nothing to warrant Bro. Binckes's somewhat discourteous refusal to accept our disclaimer of last week—"We are strictly impartial in the matter."

We need say nothing, we think, as to the propriety of laying down certain general propositions in connection with what is known everywhere throughout the Craft. We have not made these differences public, nor do we see how the interests of Masonry can suffer by referring to them in our columns. Facts are sometimes very disagreeable, but it is seldom wise to ignore them.

THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE,

CABALA AND NECROMANCY CONSIDERED AS THE FALSE SYSTEM OF FREEMASONRY.

(From the French of J. L. Laurens.)

In regarding Solomon as the founder of Freemasonry, and in attributing to him a knowledge of all the speculative sciences, we establish, as has already been shown, the important fact that these sciences form the principal system, and the purpose which Freemasons propose to themselves. This view, which has its supporters, is a natural result of that supposed relationship which men of grave thought have brought themselves to recognise between the idea of the Temple of Jerusalem and Freemasonry. Such an inference, in fact, would suggest itself, even if it had not already an existence in an infinity of writings and oral traditions.

If the search after the philosopher's stone could be one of the objects of Freemasonry, its founders would have placed in its very bosom the germ of its own destruction, and the virtues which we still see illumine it would form a striking contrast, if, indeed, they were not a wretched make-believe. What could we hope from a body of men which, under a false exterior of wisdom and philanthropy, confined their labours to searching in the midst of a mysterious obscurity for that vile metal which is destructive of every noble principle, and which, as regards the happiness of mankind, should have remained buried in the depths of the earth? What claims would they possess to public esteem? By what secret means would they have attracted to themselves the good will of so many princes, who admire in them only the splendour of their wisdom?

We know too well that the study of the cabalistic art, and the search for the philosopher's stone, has much occupied men, who were dazzled by the seductive hope of amassing wealth, or who were led astray by an ardent thirst for pleasure. We know, too, that utter failure has always been the result of these long and difficult researches. Misery and despair at having wasted their time and means in a laborious search, such have been the fruits they have gathered. And it is in the full tide of this illusion that most of these men have taken upon themselves to write upon these sciences, either to extort from public curiosity some trifling compensation for the loss of their time, or to conceal, amidst the number of their dupes, their shame and spite. The list of writings is immense. Some have remained in manuscript, and they are sought for by reason of their rarity; very many are in print. Germany, above all countries, is inundated with this class of book, nearly all written in Latin, and in a mystic sense and style, and, consequently, almost incomprehensible. When an outcry is raised against this dark obscurity, the answer seriously given is always that each of those books has its particular key. To seek out this key, this is the special study of mankind, and to have found it is to have attained the desired end. But what man has ever been fortunate enough to discover the key of these barbarous writings? He must

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be the phœnix himself. There is no rule, no sign, no data, for looking for this key; we must seek it blindfold, and chance alone will ever place it within our reach. Hence it is that the philosopher's stone has been described as *ars sine arte, cujus principium laborare, medium mentiri, et finis mendicare.*

It is then in a vast collection of rhapsodies, in manuscript or printed, and all written in mysterious and most obscure language; it is in a crucible, incessantly heated by a continuous fire, that man, already unhappy enough in being troubled by a mad longing after vain illusions, is obliged to labour, with all a madman's strength, in order to pursue a shadow which is always moving further and further off, which escapes him when his life, spent in sorrow and anguish, passes away, and which ends usually in the indolence of misery, if it does press forward to seek by rascally means a disgraceful and ephemeral support.

As it is necessary to call in the aid of examples, in order to sustain patience in a career in which people are only nourished with vain hopes, the mystagogues have been careful to announce as possessing the philosopher's stone, men who, at their death, left behind them the remembrance of some peculiarity, or of something ambiguous. All the works of the alchemists are filled with wonders and fables of this kind, which, from constant repetition, have acquired a certain degree of credit with the credulous.

It were too hazardous an undertaking to sketch here the history of all the people of this class. More than one biographer has made them known to us, and to him I refer those who have a desire to study such curious legends. But among those whom the seekers after the philosopher's stone hold up to themselves as leading models, I cannot forbear lingering for a brief time over N. Flamel, as much because he enjoys a wonderful reputation among the hermetic philosophers, and because the world attributes to him certain much vaunted monuments of his skill. This Flamel was, towards the year 1409, a scribe, at the mortuary *Des Innocents*, at Paris, and the alchemists maintain that he discovered the philosopher's stone, and they announce with emphasis that he died extremely rich, the grand art having produced him, they say, a fortune of one hundred and fifty thousand crowns, a very large sum at the beginning of the fifteenth century, and starting from this text, so attractive to all lovers of the marvellous, the different pretended hieroglyphic figures attributed to this individual are set forth as veritable documents, which seekers after the truth must follow, in order to arrive at its happy discovery.

As the question is to disabuse men's minds of this ideal, in order to do so, and to throw some light on the matter, be it our business to communicate the result of certain researches of ours regarding this Flamel. Monsieur Salomon, in his library of Chemical Philosophers, adepts, as well authenticated truths, all the marvels which are credited to Flamel, as well as the cause of his rapid fortune, and the proofs which he invokes in support of his opinion; these he finds in the pretended hieroglyphic figures which may be still seen in the Cemetery of the Innocents. But these figures, so extolled by enthusiasts, do not present a type sufficiently suggestive of any character that is reconcilable with hermetic science, still less do they strike those who weigh them well, with that overwhelming force which has enlisted the support of M. Salomon. Those figures which may be applied to religion, even more directly than to the purpose of the philosopher's stone, seem to have been traced rather as ornaments, and not as the expression of an idea foreign to the spot where they placed. Other monuments of the same kind bear figures nearly similar, and thus the proof of M. Salomon are not sufficient evidence to give rise even to a simple presumption. It would be necessary, indeed, to have a considerable amount of imagination in order to suspect that the author of these figures had been anxious to hand down to posterity ideas relating to the philosopher's stone, or indeed, to any other similar science.

Naudé, librarian to Cardinal Marazin, does not hesitate to describe Flamel as a mere rascal, who being in correspondence with the Jews and Lombards after their expulsion from France, and having robbed them right and left, in order to conceal the true source of his wealth, and to preserve an outward decency, pretended to have discovered the philosopher's stone. "But," judiciously remarks the president Hénaut, "would he not have kept secret his discovery quite as much as his treasures which, after all, had only been filched from the Jews, whose condition was such as to cause him no further embarrassment." If Flamel had really found in his discovery of the philosopher's stone a secret source of wealth, what need was there for him to announce it to the public and to posterity? And assuming that some motive impenetrable to ordinary sagacity had induced him to make it thus public, why should he have chosen the obscure medium of a hieroglyphic style in preference to that of writing, which he followed professionally? Borel, author of *Le Trésor des Antiquités gauloises*, who is one of the most zealous believers in the philosopher's stone, without assigning any other reason for the rapid rise to fortune of Flamel, maintains that he was indebted for his great wealth, neither to the Jews, the Templars, nor to the hospitals, "seeing that 'says he,' he administered the property of none of them."

We cannot, in justice, share the opinion of Naudé, for it rests on facts of sufficient gravity to require proofs, but we must doubt the view of Borél, for it attributes the fortune of Flamel to the philosopher's stone. It is wise to distrust that spirit of enthusiasm which is a veritable blindness, and which seems to influence this latter author.

The marvellous always finds people ready to believe, and thus Flamel has found believers and apologists. The Abbé Villain, in his *Essai sur l'histoire de saint Jacques de la Boucherie*, not having been favourably impressed with the sentiments of credulity in speaking of N. Flamel as an alchemist, the critics attacked the views to which he had given expression in his work, and defended the believers in the philosopher's stone discovered by Flamel, and in reply, and in order to justify his statement, Villain published, in 1761, a critical history of N. Flamel, and of Pernelle, his wife, in which he destroyed all the assertions of the alchemists in relation to Flamel, proving, by authentic documents, and even by the will of Pernelle, that the property of this scribe of Les Charniers, at the time of his death, only amounted to the small sum of £3,398 14s 2d of our money. This, then, is what all these magnificent facts come to! but—

"*L'homme est de glace aux vérités,*
Il est de feu pour le mensonge."

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

THE Benevolent Fund Festival was held at the Alexandra Palace, on Wednesday, 21st July, under the presidency of the R.W. Bro. Wm. Romaine Callender, M.P., Dep. G.M.M.M. The banquet was served by Bros. Bertram and Roberts in a very satisfactory manner. On the removal of the cloth the following list of toasts was duly proposed and responded to:—

1.—The Queen and Mark Masonry.
2.—H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family.
3.—The Right Honorable the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M.M.M., and the Past Grand Masters, viz.:—
The Right Hon. the Lord Leigh.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.
The Viscount Holmesdale, M.P.
W. W. B. Beach, Esq., M.P.
Rev. George Raymond Portal, M.A.
The Right Hon. the Earl Percy, M.P.
4.—The R.W. Deputy G. Master, Chairman of the day, and the Grand Officers present and past.
5.—Success to the Mark Benevolent Fund and the Masonic Institutions.
6.—The Board of Stewards.
7.—The Ladies.

In the course of the evening the following lists were announced as having been received:—

NAME OF STEWARD.	LODGE.		DONATION.
Roebuck Wm.	Old Kent		£ 8 17 6
Verry G. W.	Temple	No. 173	11 8 0
Attwood J. G.	Macdonald	„ 104	12 12 0
Richards Wm.	Carnarvon	„ 119	6 6 0
Wellsted W. H.	Humber	„ 182	12 5 6
Duffield Jno.	Union	„ 32	5 5 0
Lancashire T. J.	Skelmersdale	„ 141	5 5 0
Handley Joseph	Alfred	„ 136	10 0 0
Chambers Richard, Horrocks Nathaniel	Wilke	„ 142	10 10 0 10 10 0
Robberds H. T.	St. Andrew's	„ 34	10 0 0
Sutcliffe Jack	Remigius	„ 117	10 10 0
Griffiths Francis M.D., Collinson Thos., Bedford Henry Hale, White Wm.	Britannia	„ 53	5 5 0 5 5 0 5 5 0 5 5 0
Trollope Thos. Jno.	East Sussex	„ 168	15 8 0
Callender, R.W. Bro. W. Romaine, M.P., *Chairman*			25 0 0
			174 17 0

One more list has yet to come in.

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SPENCER'S GREAT LIBRARY.

Odd Notes.

KNOWING from experience that many a quaint and interesting memento has been mimed at sales by auction, through the practice of lumping up insignificant-looking soiled tracts in parcels, we had the curiosity, by the permission of the auctioneers, to examine for ourselves certain lots thus catalogued. Our readers who are collectors in bibliography will not be displeased at the result of our curiosity, which we now present.

Lot 338.—The speech by *Dunckerley* has been withdrawn, but we found the following:—Speech at a Lodge in Halle, with fine engraved title and tail-piece, 1744.—Speech at a Lodge in Hamburg, engraved title, 1794.—Speech at the Lodge of the three Hammers, Frankfurt, 1752.—Speeches at Lodges in Berlin 1753, 1754, 1755, and 1756, with quaint head and tail-pieces.—Speeches at the Lodge of the Three Crowns in Konigsberg, 1760-61.—Speeches at the Lodge Jonathan in Brunswick, 1761.—Speeches at the Military Lodge in Berlin, 1775.—Moser on Toleration of Freemasonry with reference to the Peace of Westphalia, 1776.—Speeches in the Lodges Minerva at Leipzig, and of the Three Globes at Berlin, 1777, with fine vignettes, and others.

Lot 339.—Speeches. Lodge of Three Stars at Rostock, one of them in honour of the Great Frederick, with vignette, 1762.—The Friend of Man—a speech. Wetzlar, 1769.—Social and Brotherly Love; a speech to Masons at Carlisle, 1769.—Speeches in Lodge Minerva at Leipsig, 1772, 1777 and 1778, in the Lodges of Honesty, Absalom and St. George, at Hamburgh, 1773.—Speech by W. Hutchinson, on laying the foundation stone of Rookby Bridge, by the Barnard Castle Lodge, 1773.—Speech on reception of the deputation from the Grand Lodge of Sweden, by the Grand Lodge, Royal York at Berlin; *this is of historical importance*, 1777.—Speech on unveiling the bust of the Great Frederick, in the Grand Lodge, Berlin, 1777.—Various Odes on the Peace, and Music, 1770.—Acte de Bienfaisance and speech on the King's Return, Grand Lodge of Berlin, 1779, and others.

Lot 340.—Scott. Oration at Newcastle, 1777.—Oration in Lodge Frederick, at Glogau, 1778.—Installation, Lodge Centre des Amis, 1797.—Consecration of the Temple, G.L. of three Globes at Berlin, 1801.—Sermon by Rev. H. Orme to Prov. G. Lodge, Louth, 1804, and General Objections to Freemasonry, answered by the same.—Address by Bro. Harris to Lodge Vectis of Peace and Concord, at Newport, Isle of Wight, 1808.—Sermon to the Zetland Lodge, Hongkong.—A parcel of curious scraps, published by Finch, and others.

Lot 341.—Sermon preached at Truro, 1779.—History of the Grand Mother Lodge of the Three Globes, Berlin, 1775.—Discourse by Manhouse to the Lodge of Unanimity, No. 202, *with author's autograph*, 1798.—Sermon at Peterbro', by Rev. S. Oliver, 1802.—Lawrie's History of Freemasonry, annotated by Dr. Krause, 1810.—Haswell Sermon to Prov. G. Lodge, 1800.—Orme Sermon at Louth, 1804, and others.

Lot 342.—Sermon to the African Lodge, Boston, 1789.—Dutch translation of Cardew's speech to the Prov. G. Lodge, Truro, Rotterdam, 1787, *curious*; speech in Lodges at Stendal, 1781; Installation, Lodge de l'Ocean Français at Paris, 1798.—Erection of monument to Oltbof by the Masons of Pomerania, 1795.—Wedekind, on the Festivals of St. John in Masonry, 1818.—Centenary of Lodge Three Swords, at Dresden, 1840, and others.

Lot 343.—Discourse to the Altman's Lodge, 1799.—Sermon to Lodge of Unity, Plymouth, 1792.—Sermon by Simpson, at Newcastle, 1797.—Sermon by Haswell, at Tynemouth, 1800.—Sermon by S. Oliver, at Cambridge, 1803.—Charge by Haswell, at Neath, 1804.—Dedication of Freemasons' Hall, Durham.—Three Sermons by Percy, cloth gilt.—Dedication of Temple, and Speeches to Lodges in Stralsund, and others.

Lot 344.—Address of Lodge 201 (Ancients), 1799.—Pamphlets on Masonic Disputes at Rostock, and Hinrichs on Masonic Despotism.—Appeal to all Freemasons in Protestant Germany to erect an everlasting monument to Fame at the present time, by a Protestant Clergyman, 1819.—Collection of Sermons, 1820 to 1841, in one vol., and others.

Lot 345.—Installation Lodge of St. Napoleon, 1805.—Inauguration of new Temple of the G.O. of France, 1802.—Proceedings of the Order of Harodim Kilwinning, 1806.—Bylaws Lodge de l'Abeille Impériale, 1809.—Proceedings of Sovereign Metrop. Chapter, Paris, 1807, of Lodge Triple Unité, 1811, Lodge des Trinosophes, 1824, Lodge des Neuf Sœurs, 1807.—Masonic Congress at Strasburg, 1846, of Lodge Phénix, and Parfaite Union, and of Chapters Athenée, and d'Arras, of Lodges St. Therèse, Fidoles Ecossais, Amis de Vesta, Chevaliers Croisés, Sept Ecossais réunis, 1805 to 1836, and others.

Lot 346.—Proceedings of 13 well known French Lodges and others.

Lot 347.—Dawson's Sermon, 1812, and 26 others.—Wood's Sketch of the Knts. Templar.—Oliver's Account of the Schism, 1847, and others.

Lot 348.—Discourse in the Loge d'Anacreon, 1814.—Proceedings of the Loge d'Anacreon, 1811.—Proceedings of L. Point Parfait, 1816, and of Lodges Commandeurs de Mont Thabor, Rose du parfait silence, Indivisibles Ecossais, Cœurs unis, Thémis, Trinosophes, Paix immortelle, 1809, and others.

Lot 349.—Sermons by Oliver, and others.—Masonic Offering to the Duke of Sussex.—Carlisle's Manuals (high grades) parts 2 and 3.—Ahiman Rezon (a fine copy), 1764, and others.

Lot 350.—(*Fenn's Light of Masonry has been withdrawn*).—There remain a volume of Sermons by Dr. Oliver, bound and tooled.—Masonry and Oppression, with special reference to the State of Prussia, 1816.—Gravell. What use is Masonry? 1809.—Voice of a Prussian Citizen, by Koppe, 1815, and various others.

Lot 351.—Installation of the Duke of York, 1823.—Reports of Committee on power of a D.G.M. and of Special Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, Virginia.—Centenary of Lodge Minerva, in Leipzig, 1841. Carlisle's Manual, third part.—Sundry Grand Lodge papers. *Two of these dated* 1814. Various Sermons, and others.

Lot 353.—Fête to Odilon Barrot. Eulogy on General Norton.—Transactions Grand Lodge of New York, 1840-1-2.—Address by Sir James Barnes, Bombay, 1840.—Le veritable Lien des peuples.—Transactions Sup. Council of France.—United Fête of French Lodges.—First Séance of the Society du Reveil de la Nature (in the G.O. of France), and tableau historique des Fêtes (of the same), pour eight années, and others.

Lot 355.—Moore's Address.—Gryll's Masonic Prayers.—Hints for Freemasons.—Sermons and Addresses various, and others.

Lot 356.—Masonic Funeral Services, &c., for King George of Hanover—the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg—William IV.—Duke of Athol—Duke of Sussex—General Foy—G. H. France—Sir John St. Aubyn — *Neander* — Richard Carpenter — General Worth — John Asplatt—*Goethe*, with others in Goethe's Lodge Amalia at Weimar, and in Lodges Point Parfait, Wellington at Deal, Fruchthorn at Lübeck, &c.

Lot 357 (*Convention of Delegates*, withdrawn).—26 Sermons by Dr. Oliver and others, in 1 vol.—14 Tracts by Dr. Oliver, and others, in 1 vol.—28 select tracts, including 4 on Washington as a Freemason, in 1 vol., and others.

Lot 358.—What time is it?—30 tracts in English and German.—Proceedings of the College of Freemasons of the Church, 1846 and 1847.—Various selected numbers of various Masonic Journals.—Jacques de Molai, &c., MS., and other pieces.

Lot 359 consists of 6 volumes of pamphlets, bound up for his private use by the late Dr. Oliver.

Lot 360.—Pamphlets on disputes in which the Grand Lodge and St. John's Grand Lodge of New York have been mixed up from time to time.—The Freemasons' Monthly Magazine for 1841, half-bound, all that was published, with book-plate and notes of the Hon. T. Fitz Walter Butler, and other works.

Lot 361.—*Lists of Members of the following Lodges*, &c.:—Mars et Themis, M.S. 1785; Amis intimes, Paris, 1787, 1788, 1789 and 1790; St. Jean, Paris, 1788; Parfaite Estime et Société Olympique, Paris, 1788; Zèle, Paris, 1788; St. Jean de Jerusalem, Nancy, 1792 and 1809; Constance couronée, Paris, 1808; Constance éprouvée, Paris, 1808; Amis réunis, Tours, 1809; Centre des Amis, Paris, 1804, 1806 and 1811; Amis de la Constance, 1805 and 1812; Paix immortelle, 1806; Admirateurs de l'Univers, 1813; Point Parfait, Paris, 1810 and 1813; Harmonie universelle, 1813; St. Napoléon, 1813; Anacréon, 1811, 1813, 1815 and 1817; Ecole de la Sagesse, Metz, 1813 and 1814; Chapter des Amis triomphans, Paris, 1815; Loge de Jerusalem, Paris, 1816; L'age d'or, 1818; Concorde, Martinique, 1825.—Address to the F. and A. Masons of North Munster, by Michael Furnell.—List of the Supreme Council for Ireland for the years 1842, 1844, 1846, 1848, 1850 and 1851, and others.

Many of the above Lodges bore a part in lamentable political struggles, and historical names of men eminent in every department are found in their contemporary lists. It is a pity that these have not been sorted and bound in order of date.

Lot 362.—*By Laws* of Lodges.—Parfaite Union, 1763.—Zèle, 1778.—Frères unis, 1775.—Neuf Sœurs (with symbolic frontispiece, 1778 and 1779).—Réunion des Arts, 1779.—Amis réunis, 1783.—L'Amitié, 1787.—Frères intimes, 1787.—Centre des Amis, 1793.—Des Artistes, 1798.—Amis philanthropes, Bruxelles, 1798.—Ocean Français, 1799.—Institution for Sons of Freemasons. London, 1827.

Lot 363.—Contains, amongst other matter, a nice set of French pocket rituals.

Lot 389.—Eight By Laws of Lodges, &c., from 1802.—Masonic Journal of Marietta for 1852 and 1853, with vol. 1 of new series. 3 vols. half-bound, and others.

Lot 571 contains an antique painted tracing board, and an old ivory snuff-box, curiously enriched with Masonic emblems, the property of a defunct Lodge of last century.

To the student, curious in history, and especially in the vicissitudes of Masonry in France and Germany there is much which is very precious in what we have described. Each lot will probably be sold for a trifle, owing to the loose way in which it has been catalogued.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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—oOo—

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is much to be regretted that you have not thought proper to imitate the prudent reticence of your contemporary, the *Freemason*, in refusing publication to highly coloured *ex parte* statements, in reference to recent occurrences in this Institution.

The circular I issued on receipt of Bro. Tew's extraordinary "report" was not a "reply," as it is termed by the Head Master, with his accustomed accuracy. In that circular will be found the following passage: "I simply now, in the interests of the Institution, and in my own name, and on behalf of others, beg you to suspend your judgment, until a reply can be given to the *ex parte* statements to which your attention has been drawn." Of this circular I forwarded you a copy, and though it contained nothing of a controversial character, you declined to publish it. On the other hand, your contemporary, regarding it merely as an appeal, "*audi alteram partem*," inserted it.

Is it consistent with common fairness to give publicity to renewed gross accusations against Committee and officials pending the issue of a reply to the charges alleged in Bro. Tew's "Report?"

Is it justifiable to throw the weight of your editorial opinion into the scale, as you have evidently done in the leading article in your last number, "The Retiring Masters of the Boys' School," founding that opinion on a letter signed by them, which they ought to be ashamed of having written, so utterly at variance with truth are some, and so preposterously absurb are other, of the statements therein contained?

I admit that you say, "We have no intention whatever of passing judgment on the contents of these documents," but no one can fail to detect the bias throughout the article.

I contend that it is manifestly wrong to encourage young men, in the position of the "retiring Masters," to air their fancied grievances in the columns of a newspaper; that it is utterly subversive of discipline, and most mischievous in every respect. Supposing their grievances to have an established foundation, the proper tribunal before which they should be brought is the governing body of the Institution. To that tribunal they did appeal, and anything more ridiculous than their appearance—anything more contemptible than the evidence (it is a burlesque of terms to use the word) they adduced in support of their grave charges was never witnessed or listened to. Before a decision could be given, they sent in their resignations. Why? They know, within themselves, there could be but one result. They say, through Mr. Perrott, "because they were not satisfied with the way in which their evidence was received;" in their own names, they say, we left the room thoroughly dissatisfied with their (the Committee's) proceedings." Doubtless they were "dissatisfied," on perceiving that the Committee, with every desire to be impartial, detected at once the animus by which they were actuated, and the weakness of the trumpery testimony by which they sought to bolster up their case.

They ask, "What is to be said of the Secretary who makes a series of charges against the School which it is his duty to serve and guard, charges which he cannot prove, but which, if true, are calculated to drive away every subscriber from the Charity, and who chooses the time just before the Annual Festival for such action?"

The rich vein of insolent pomposity displayed in this question, and it pervades the whole of the letter under consideration, is most amusing—but what are the facts? "The Secretary" not only has not brought "a series of charges," but has not made any charge against the School, which he is solemnly warned "it is his duty to serve and guard." I had for some time noticed a change in the demeanour of the boys. I had noticed many departures for the worse from former habits and conduct. I was painfully aware of the increased destruction of books, &c. and of clothing, and had expressed my opinion on these matters in the proper quarter, as, with all deference to the collective wisdom of "the four," I contend I was perfectly at liberty to do.

Tolerably accurately gauging the real condition of affairs, I was not altogether surprised, though much mortified, at receiving representations from residents in the neighbourhood of the misconduct of our pupils. The words which, with so much pertinacious perversity, *I* am charged with using, were not my words, but were *quoted by me* in a letter to the (then) Head Master, as the description given by a gentleman who had called upon me, and I informed him that it would be my duty to submit the representations I had received to the next meeting of the Committee, *together with any statement or explanation he might be disposed to favour me with.* So much for this accusation.

"The Secretary made similar charges last year." Every one is familiar with the word which expresses the opposite of truth. *The Secretary made no such charge.* A charge of specific misconduct was made by a member of the Committee; but the witnesses were difficult of access, and it was deemed better not to commence an investigation, unless the proofs of misconduct could be adduced. I was, myself, most anxious for enquiry, but it was decided otherwise.

It is idle to pursue the subject further. The familiarity displayed by "the four" with occurrences which took place long antecedent to their appointment affords *prima facie* evidence of a concocted plan of operation between the (fortunately) late Head Master and his assistants. This has exhibited itself in a systematic attack upon the Secretary and the Matron. "Throw mud enough, and some will be sure to stick" has been their rule. This is exemplified in a second pamphlet, addressed to the "Yorkshire Vice-Presidents," presumably under the same auspices as the first. In this appear, set out in full, the whole of the allegations against the Matron. If they are thought worthy of serious consideration—disproved as they most of them have been—and more or less satisfactorily accounted for, as others have been—there is no difficulty whatever in giving answers to them seriatim. Should this be demanded and conceded, matters will assume a very different complexion from that under which they have been presented by presumptuous subordinates, coached up by an unscrupulous superior, in a history of events of which they could have no personal knowledge.

On the Report of the Examiner, I shall only observe that there has been a breach of trust somewhere. A copy was sent to me a few days ago by Mr. Finlaison, in compliance with official instructions to the Secretary of the Syndicate. That Report is the property of the Committee, who alone can order its disposition. It has not yet been presented to the Committee. It is issued on the distinct condition—"If this Report is published, it must be given *in extenso*." Spite of this, I read *extracts* from it in your columns, and "the four" also quote from it. The customary clever tactics—the usual questionable morals.

On the evidence afforded in the Report as to the educational condition of the School, I shall offer no remarks, because it is a document not yet fairly in court. On discipline and conduct, I shall merely observe generally that the demeanour of boys before an examiner for three days, or before a company assembled on an occasion such as the distribution of prizes, affords no test of general behaviour.

What I have witnessed I believe in. Whatever defects there may be, I do not blame, or in any way censure, those whom I have always regarded as my young friends, and for whom I have laboured cheerfully. *Spero meliora.*

Before this can appear in your columns, my "reply" to Bro. Tew and the late Head Master will be before the public, who will form their own conclusions on the various points at issue. Unfortunately, fresh matter suggests itself, and I could amplify my statements almost indefinitely, supporting them with irrefragable testimony.

Mr. Perrott's circular, of 25th June, shall have due notice, and his "crucial" questions shall be "crucially" answered. We shall see what is the value of the "veracity," with reference to which he "dare not be silent."

As regards "self-commendation" and "scurrility," I have found our late Head Master so perfect an adept in the one, and so inflated by the other, that I am content to leave him in the full enjoyment of both.

I shall conclude, deeply regretting the painful necessity of thus being compelled to vindicate my conduct, after fourteen years of faithful service, with a protest against the "ill-weaved ambition" which prompted the late Head Master to boast of "having the honour to *preside* over the Institution," which at once affords an insight into his character, and a clue to the sad chapter of our history in which he has figured so prominently.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.

London, 19th July 1875.

REPORT OF LODGE MEETINGS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Having just returned from the Continent, I take the first opportunity of thanking Bro. Magnus Ohren for correcting my letter that appeared in No. 26 of THE CHRONICLE. I being dull of hearing led to the mistake, which I regret.

Yours fraternally, M. M. M.

OUR FREEMASONRY.—SIR C. WREN, &c.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It will, I suppose, be useless to refer our redoubtable Bro. Buchan to my "Speculative Freemasonry" (page 110), where he will find a quotation from Aubrey's *Natural History of Wiltshire* (page 277). "This day, May the 18th, being Monday, 1691, after Recation Sunday, is a great Convention at St. Paul's Church, of the Fraternity of Adopted Masons, when Sir C. Wren is to be adopted a brother, and Sir Henry Gooderic of the Tower, and divers others." This is the sole minute, yet known to be preserved, of Sir C. Wren's initiation; but this, coupled with the undoubted fact that the 1717 Masons always acknowledged him as a brother, seems to be authoritive evidence of his actual initiation.

Whilst writing to Bro. Buchan upon this subject, I may call his attention to another confirmation of the Rosicrucian part of my Masonic work and theory, which was so jauntily handled by your airy critic, first in the review of my work itself, and, secondly, in a notice of this part by a pamphlet issued by the Sovereign Sanctuary of the Antient and Primitive Rite of Masonry, with which I have the honour and pleasure to be connected. At page 113 I gave an extract, furnished to me by Bro. M. Cooke, from a Rosicrucian work printed in 1722, and dedicated to the Grand Lodge, 1st March 1721; a copy of this book now forms a part of the contents of the fine library of that worthy brother, Capt. F. G. Irwin, and is entitled "Long Livers," by Eugenius Philalethes, 1722. Bro. Irwin has kindly collated the extract for me, and states that it is accurate. Having ceased advising and remembering Craftsmen of many things, he commences a new paragraph thus: "And now my brethren, you *of the higher class*, permit me to add a few words for you are but few,

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and these few words I shall speak to you in riddles, because to you is given to know those mysteries which are hidden from the unworthy." Bro. Irwin agrees with me that the words higher class refer to degree, and I consider that the alchemical language thereupon used refers to the degree of Royal Arch, which, in 1725, is called the fifth order. After giving a quantity of matter, showing the Rosicrucian bearing of Freemasonry, I quoted, at page 122, in A.D. 1743, a list of six Lodges of H.R.M.—Rosy Cross existing in London at that date "from time immemorial." The English system of the higher degrees have been so frequently repaired and tinkered that it is almost impossible to say what degree, or portion of a degree, is ancient; but, possibly, in their first form, the Royal Arch, Rosy Cross or H.R.D.M. Templar, and Kadosh Templar or Priest, were pre-1717 inventions of the Rosicrucian Freemasons, and from which Ramsay obtained his theory. About the 1721 allusion to some Rosicrucian degree, or degrees, there can now be no question, the only doubt is, as to what degrees allusion is made. The system of Ramsay was started in 1728. I cannot refrain from stating that the only Rite which still preserves the Rosicrucian dogma is that of the Antient and Primitive Rite of Masonry; as a system of *Philalethes*, it was carried by the French to Egypt, and brought back to Montauban in 1815, by Bro. Samuel Honis, a native of Cairo, and worked there, in connection with Marconis de Negre, Baron Dumas, Marquis de Lacroque, and Hypolite Labrunie; twice united with the Grand Orient of France, namely in 1828 and 1862. I believe the Rosicrucian theory to be the only true theory, and the only true high grade Masonry, and in my hands it will not be eradicated from the teaching of the Antient and Primitive Rite, no matter what amount of sarcasm or invectives may be, unmasonically, brought to bear.

I again, however, reiterate the expression of my belief that the only ancient Masonic grades are the three first. In England there is no allusion of any kind, to either a system of Marks or a degree of such, until recent times, whilst in Scotland my proofs are conclusive, that every apprentice got a mark without any ceremony. As regards the Master's ceremony, the ancient documents go to prove that it had nothing to do with the Royal Arch. The Royal Arch, Rosy Cross or H.R.D.M. Templar, and Templar Priest, seem to be the three steps alluded to in 1744 by D'Assigny, although he may mean the Excellent, Super-excellent, Royal Arch, to resemble most the Rosicrucian allusions, and to be most consistent. The latter degree of Priest or Kadosh claimed in old Lancashire Rituals to date from the "year of revival, or 1688," but in any case they are none of them a portion of genuine Craft Masonry.

The Scotch had not the system of H.R.M. Rosy Cross at all, until the middle of the eighteenth century, and carried it from London to Edinburgh. It is now discovered that there is an allusion in the minutes of the Lodge at Gateshead to the "Highrodiams" in 1746, and under this Grand Lodge might be included all the Rosicrucian system. The present system of Heredom Rosy Cross in Scotland (the French version of the secrets of which the Antient and Primitive Rite gives), consists of two parts, the first is a system of question and answer, recognising only the three degrees of Craft Masonry, but including Arch, and similar symbolisms, whilst the second part is in doggerel rhyme, making the brother a Knight of the Rosy Cross. I, myself, doubt the Order's antiquity in its present form; its boasted descent from Bruce, at least, is pure nonsense.

Truly and fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER, P.M., P.Z., &c.,

P.S.G.W. of the Grand Lodge of Greece.

P.S.—Bro. F. G. Irwin believes that "Long Livers" (dedicated 1721), is the work of Dr. Mead. Can any one give me particulars of Dr. Mead's career, Masonic or otherwise?

PRACTICE *versus* PRECEPT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR AND BROTHER,—Recently I have read, with no little interest, the pointed letters of certain brethren upon the objectionable course followed in some Lodges of initiating candidates hailing from other and, perhaps, somewhat distant towns, without strict inquiries being instituted as to why the said candidates did not choose to avail themselves of the means of Masonic access which their own towns afforded, et cetera. I have not a word to say against the words of caution contained in these letters, but I think, Sir,—if I may judge from what has recently occurred in connection with the Lodge whereof I am a member—there may be good reasons why, in some instances at any rate, persons Masonically inclined seek to enter our ranks through the medium of a Lodge in a town other than their own. At our last meeting but one, a Past Master (who is also a P. Pro. G.S.B.) proposed, for initiation, one of our leading tradesmen, who is also a member of the local municipal body; and the seconder was no less esteemed a brother than the I.P.M. The balloting took place last Thursday evening, and you may imagine the amazement of the proposer and seconder of the candidate on learning that something like eight black-balls were found in the box. The feeling of astonishment was such that, at the after Lodge meeting, certain of the brethren expressed themselves very warmly on the point, and protested against the spirit of vindictiveness being introduced into a matter of this kind. The fact is, Sir, this black-balling did not arise from the fact that the candidate was not a just and upright man, of sound judgment or strict morals, but it was purely a reprisal—a *quid pro quo* for the black-balling of a candidate some few months ago, who had the sympathies of those who, on this occasion, so liberally black-balled the gentleman who had two of the leading P.M.'s for his sponsors. Not the slightest hint was thrown out at any time that this candidate was in any respect unfit for, or unworthy of Masonic induction, and I can honestly assure you that the event has sent a thrill of surprise and indignation through the whole of the other Lodges in the town. It should be stated that the candidate who was black-balled a few months ago, was objected to by those who went against him, on the score of morality, so that this simply aggravates the recent attempt at making two blacks into a white. I may state, furthermore, that the I.P.M. had two candidates to propose at this last meeting, but, seeing how the tide had set in, he chose to leave the propositions alone rather than suffer further humiliation at the next meeting. So that instead of having our hands full of business, we may now sing, as sang the doleful operatives during the cotton famine, "We've got no work to do."

There has already been one secession from this Lodge on account of the questionable conduct of certain brethren—a secession which ultimated in the consecration of a new Lodge; and if things go on in this unbrotherly and suicidal manner, then these troublesome spirits, to whom I have alluded, who, Cato-like, are giving effect to the legend, *Delenda est Carthago*, will have only themselves to thank should they find "Ichabod" written across the title of their Lodge.

In the face of such a fact as the foregoing, I do not wonder much that certain parties should seek admission into our brotherhood beyond the confines of their own towns. I do not for a moment assume that all who seek admission through outlandish sources are "fit and proper persons;" my argument is that, in some instances, the candidate is much "more sinned against than sinning," that here and there he is confronted by a base and heathenish opposition, and that there are times when a candidate is warranted in seeking initiation in a locality where he is less known.

I could wish, Sir, that some abler pen than mine would take up this subject, and read our Lodges a practical homily on the subject.

Yours fraternally, EAST LANCASHIRE.

"WHAT FREEMASONRY HAS DONE."

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—You do favour us with some curious extracts sometimes, and, if I am not mistaken, the one at page 43, from the *Scotsman*, will stand alongside of any as a wonderful specimen of "drawing the long bow" upon Masonic matters.

The castle in the air, which the imaginative scribe calls up before us, would certainly be a grand and beautiful edifice if it had sufficient substantiality about it to stand looking at closely and fairly, but the worst of it is, that the more we look the less we see! I fear the writer is not a real "canny Scot," but some inspired missionary, who has felt constrained to visit our benighted land to remove the veil which so sadly obstructs our vision, I cannot help thinking, however, that instead of really removing this veil he has only made matters worse by painting it.

We are told that "Freemasonry was the conservator of pure and sound religious morals in times of almost universal degeneracy," and that, in the fourteenth century, it "entered its solemn and oft repeated protests against the corruptions and profligacy of the time." Of course it did, the only saints then living were "Freemasons." Wickliffe was a Freemason, so was Huss, Luther too was a Freemason, and even attained the dignity of Grand Master of the German Freemasons, and the best of it is that the reason why they made their mark upon the history of the world so well was because they were Freemasons, and because of the instruction they received within the bosom of their Masonic Lodges.

Some folks tell us that the devil is not quite so black as he is painted, but I fear that that piece of charity would not apply to his Catholic majesty, for he cannot be painted black enough. It is possible, however, to lay it on too thick sometimes, when it falls off with its own weight, displaying beauties before undreamt of. So with the Catholic Church in the fourteenth century, it had its faults, but still it had many valuable points about it too, and although it ultimately degenerated, yet in its time it did much good, and had many good men in its ranks.

As to what really kept up the standard of morals in and after the fourteenth century, perhaps the *Scotsman* will rub his spectacles and again strive to enlighten us?

I am, Sir,

Yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

MASONIC CONVERSATIONS.—It was a source of pleasure to us to be present at a Masonic meeting a few evenings ago, under the intelligent presiding officer. The able manner in which he discharged all the duties of his office, the attention that his manner of discharging those duties commanded from the brethren, the earnest desire of every brother present to hear every word that fell from his lips, the readiness with which his decisions were bowed to, and the satisfaction which they gave the brethren, all went to convince us that our Worshipful Brother was indeed *Master* of his Lodge. One feature we noticed especially, and it particularly pleased us. The regular business of the Lodge was over; there was no "work," as the conferring of degrees is called, and instead of closing his Lodge, as most Masters do under such circumstances, he said: "Brethren, we can now spend half an hour profitably in a 'Masonic Conversation.' Is there anything on which any brother requires light? or has any brother a suggestion to make that may benifit us all as Masons? Let us have a regular Masonic talk over Masonic matters generally." A Masonic "family talk" followed, that interested all the brethren present—we know it interested us. There was no subtle discussion, no effort at display, no attempt at gaining a personal triumph. The eliciting of truth only seemed to be the object of every one present. How many Masters of Lodges might follow this excellent example, and have their "Masonic Conversations"—their "family talk over Masonic matters generally"—with profit and satisfaction to themselves and their brethren.—*Hebrew Leader.*

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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.

Cats: their Points and Characteristics, with Curiosities of Cat Life, and a Chapter on Feline Ailments. By W. Gordon Stables, M.D., C.M., R.N. Author of "Medical Life in the Navy," "Wild Adventures in the Far North." The "Newfoundland and Watch Dog," in Webb's Book on Dogs, &c., &c. London: Dean and Son, 35, Dunstan's Buildings, 160A Fleet Street, E.C.

We have seldom come across a work so interesting as this of Dr. Stables on Cats. This animal, without which a house seems hardly to be furnished, is very properly a great domestic pet—in families which have any sort of respect for the animal. It renders valuable service in keeping down those troublesome vermin, the mice and rats, which infest cellars and all underground belongings. If treated well, by which we mean, not only with kindness, but also judiciously, the cat is sure to be one of the most popular inmates in a house. Pussy gets on famously with the youngsters, who tease it of course, as is the custom of wilful youngsters, and get scratched accordingly, but "the worry" of the three and four-year-olds is only momentary. One moment they plague, the next moment they pet, and puss is far readier to be on friendly terms than always spitting and scratching. A good housewife, too, knows the value of a good cat. She need have no fear, if proper care is exercised, that her feline friend will misbehave itself in the drawing-room, or go foraging on the sly in the larder. Cats get credit for more mischief than they ever commit. As Dr. Stables points out, and as the experience of many of our readers will confirm, sins are too often laid at the cat's door, for which the maid or her follower is truly responsible. It is wonderful how much crockery is destroyed by the domestic cat, which, be it remarked, is the reverse of clumsy in its movements. As for the cream, the chops, the fish, the cold lamb, &c., which disappear owing to the hungry passions of puss, the quantity would suffice to keep a whole regiment of cats in the plumpest condition imaginable. Cats are rather apt to fly at birds, but they may soon be taught to leave the feathered tribe alone. This disposition, which is part of their nature, may soon be corrected, and the favourite canary or piping bullfinch left in its cage in perfect security from any onslaught by Tom or Tabitha. But in our enthusiasm for cats, we are forgetting their friend, Dr. Stables, who, we repeat, has done good service by writing the work before us. The book is in two parts or volumes, the first of which is devoted to a description of the domestic cat, under such headings as "Pussy on her Native Hearth," "Pussy's Love of Children," "Pussy as a Mother," "Pussy's Playmates," "Hunting Exploits," the whole closing with a tale, entitled "The Miller's Friend." It is almost needless to remark that the whole of this, and, indeed, of the second part likewise, is freely interspersed with the liveliest anecdotes, all illustrative of some feline characteristic. The following is a case in point. We read, at pp. 97 and 98:—

"A Tom-cat, called Bruce, lived, some years ago, at a farm-house near Dundee. This cat—honest in every other way—could never resist the temptation to steal the cream. All efforts to cure him of this habit were resorted to in vain. But one day, Bruce, much to his own satisfaction, found himself shut up in the milk-house. When all was quiet, Bruce came from his corner and had a look round. What a grand and imposing array of basins of milk and tubs-full of cream! One of the latter stood on a table beneath the window, the edge of the tub being on a level with the sill. It was the largest tub in the room; and blessing his luck, up jumped Bruce and began to lick. It was so delicious, and Bruce closed his eyes to get the full flavour of it. Just then, however, some noise outside startled him,—he knew he was sinning, and was consequently nervous,—and in turning round, he missed his foot, and fell heels over head into the tub. Although half-choked, so soon as he came up, Bruce struck out boldly for the shore, but the sides of the vessel were too slippery even for a cat to hold on to; besides, the weight of the cream clogged his movements. He would fain not have screamed, but death stared him in the face, and the idea of dying in a tub of milk, as he had seen mice die, was awful; so he opened his mouth and gave vent to a smothered yell. That yell, loud resounding through the house, brought "ben" the good-wife, and Bruce's life was saved at the expense of about three pints of cream; but never more did that cat go near the milk-house. He was a reformed cat from that day; a burning and a shining light to all the cats in the country-side."

As to the love of pussy for her offspring, Dr. Stables mentions several interesting cases, of which the most remarkable are recorded at pp. 116-118:—

"Cats have been often known to leap gallantly into the water after a drowning kitten, and bring it safely to land. A case occurred only a few days ago. Some lads stole a cat's only kitten, and after playing with it all day, proposed drowning it. With this intention they went to a mill-dam, and threw it far into the water. But the loving little mother had been waiting and watching not far off, and, stimulated by the drowning cry of her kitten, she bravely swam towards it, and brought it on shore. I know another instance of a cat, that saved the life of a kitten which belonged to another cat. Her own kittens had been drowned a whole week before, but evidently she had not forgotten the loss; and one day, seeing four kittens being drowned in a pool, she plunged in, and seizing the largest brought it to bank, and marched off with it in triumph. She reared it carefully. The children baptized it Moses, very appropriately too; and it is now a fine, large Tom-tabby.

A poor cat some time since nearly lost her life in the Dee, attempting to save the life of her kitten. The river was swollen with recent rains, and the kitten was in the centre of the stream; but, nothing daunted, pussy, like the brave little heroine she was, plunged in, and finally reached it. Here her real danger only began, for the current was very strong, and pussy was whirled rapidly down the river. After struggling for nearly half an hour, she succeeded in landing at a bend in the river nearly a mile below. She had stuck to her poor kitten all the time; but *the poor little thing was dead.*"

All the anecdotes recorded are authenticated as far as possible, the names and addresses of the persons from whom the author obtained them being given, and our readers will fully agree with us that cat nature is not as fully appreciated by human nature as it deserves.

The second volume is devoted more especially to the history, classification and points of cats, as well as to feline ailments and their mode of treatment. Here, too, are related sundry short stories and tales, also vouched for in the manner described under Part I. We wish we had more space at our disposal, so that we might convey to our readers some idea of the excellence of Dr. Stables as the historian and medical adviser of the cat, but it will suffice, perhaps, if we assure them that he may be accepted as readily in these latter capacities as in his capacity of student of the every day life and habits of this domestic *protégé*. The book is well printed, and though the illustrations leave something to be desired, we know of few books we would more readily place within reach of intelligent boys, or, indeed, generally of those who take an interest in animals.

THE DRAMA.

"Rough and Ready," at the Globe.—"Clancarty," at the Queen's.

After a very successful career in the provinces, Mr. and Mrs. Billington have returned to delight their numerous admirers in London, and have appeared in a piece written specially for them by Mr. Paul Merritt, entitled *Rough and Ready*. It is really refreshing to see one more genuine specimen of domestic melodrama; to hear once more the enthusiastic applause of vulgar audiences when they are told that honest poverty is noble, and, by implication, that a rich man is generally a scoundrel. Sentiments of this kind are not now frequently heard at any high class theatre: they are chiefly confined to the Dramas of the East London or the Pavilion, but the pleasure is all the greater for being unexpected, when we hear the gallery cheering frantically at the triumph of preternatural virtue over villainy of the blackest dye. *Rough and Ready* provokes a great deal of applause of this kind, and the Yorkshire gamekeeper who is the hero of the piece, equally good at verbal repartee, or at that physical kind of repartee which we call the noble art of self defence, is a very popular character; and when the end of the piece discloses the fact that he is the elder brother by a secret marriage of a young gentleman who has lost no opportunity since the rising of the curtain of grossly insulting him, it is felt that a most satisfactory climax has been reached. The drama is not without effective situations, but these are brought about by impossible means, and the dialogue appears to be a mixture of rude flippancy with sentimental nonsense. The acting is as a rule far too good for the piece; Mr. Billington plays the gamekeeper hero with real power, but he should remember that men who are strong mentally and physically do not indulge in hysterical snivelling on every possible occasion; beyond this tendency there is no fault to be found with Mr. Billington's acting. Mrs. Billington is always a safe actress, but we have seen her to much greater advantage than in *Rough and Ready*. Mdlle. Camille Dubois plays a small part, with charming vivacity, and sings, "I know a Maiden fair to see," with great point and expression, though with little vocal power. A rascally attorney, the villain of the drama, is portrayed by Mr. Jackson, with admirable discretion, and the minor parts are well filled. Although the piece may be said to be successful from a pecuniary point of view, we should much prefer to have seen Mr. and Mrs. Billington in some drama more worthy of their abilities.

It is rather rash on the part of Mr. George Rignold to open a short season at the Queen's with "Clancarty." The drama has been so recently played, by Mr. Neville, at the Olympic, that its newness cannot be an attraction, whilst it is tolerably certain that few will care to compare the renderings of certain parts by artistes no one of whom belongs to the first rank of his profession. Mr. Rignold, of course, plays Clancarty, and in a manner which shows that his visit to America has not in any way lessened his somewhat spasmodic vigour; if Mr. Rignold would repress a tendency to address frequent impromptu speeches to the audience, the dignity of his performance would be heightened. Miss Helen Barry is the new Lady Clancarty, and Miss M. Henderson now plays Lady Betty Noel; she labours under the disadvantage of succeeding Miss Fowler, whose style is admirably suited to the part, and whose rendering of it will probably never be surpassed by any successor. The revival is tolerably successful, and ought to profitably occupy Mr. Rignold until September, when he intends to revisit America.

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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

MORE than the usual amount of business has marked the past parliamentary week, several Government Bills of great importance having been advanced one or more stages. The usual declaration by Government, however, of the innocents they propose for massacre has not yet been made, and great, accordingly, is the amazement of the *quidnuncs*. In the House of Lords, on Friday, a debate was raised on the Army by the Earl of Galloway. He proposed that the cadre system laid down by the late Government should be discontinued till the first class reserve had attained a respectable numerical strength. His lordship further suggested certain modifications in our military system, the whole tendency of his resolution being to strengthen our military forces. The Earl Cadogan deprecated the motion, chiefly on the grounds that the new system had not yet had fair play. Among the other speakers were the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Cambridge, and Lord Cardwell, and ultimately the motion was withdrawn. But while the military doctors are discussing, where is the British Army that is to serve us in time of need? Is it on paper, or a real force? and if real, to what extent? After dealing with sundry other bills and questions the House adjourned. On Monday, the Coolie Traffic and Hyde Park Barracks were the leading questions discussed; as regards the latter, the case of Prince's Gate, &c. v. the Barracks, was handled with telling effect, the attack on the healthy condition and influence, and the morality of the Household Cavalry, was dealt with very warmly, it being pointed out that the houses had come to the barracks, not the barracks to the houses, and that the troops in question were notoriously among the best conducted in the whole Army. The question of site also was settled in favour of the present barracks. On Tuesday, the most important business was in connection with the Friendly Societies Bill, the report on amendments to which was agreed to. On Thursday, the Pharmacy Bill, on the motion of the Duke of Richmond, was read a second time, and the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill a third time, and passed, but with certain amendments proposed by the Government. The question of the Exportation of Refined Sugar from France was brought under the notice of the House by Lord Hampton. After a tolerably full statement from the Earl of Derby, who hoped, before the end of the Session, to be able to supplement the information he was able to furnish now, and, after a few remarks from Earl Granville, the subject dropped, and the House adjourned.

There was a morning sitting on Friday, at which the Labour Bills of the Home Secretary, namely, the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Bill and the Employers and Workmen Bill came under discussion, the reports being agreed to, but, as regards the former, not without several divisions, in which the opponents of the Government were seriously beaten. The question of the number of judges, in connection with the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment

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(No. 2) Bill, was afterwards discussed. At the evening sitting, the River Shannon Navigation Act was brought up by The O'Conor Don, after which Dr. Lush moved a resolution as to the status of medical officers in the army. The House was counted out at a quarter past twelve. On Monday, the State of Business led to a long discussion, the Premier being "chaffy," but hardly in his happiest vein. The Agricultural Holdings Bill occupied the greater part of the evening, Mr. J. W. Barclay's motion being under discussion, and, in the end, defeated by an overwhelming majority. Ultimately the House went into Committee on the Bill. At the morning sitting on Tuesday, Mr. Cross's Labour Bills came again under notice, and the Government carried their points by very narrow majorities. Afterwards the House passed to the Agricultural Holdings Bill, and sundry clauses passed through Committee. A count out again occurred in the evening. On Wednesday, the second reading of the Poor Removal Bill, moved by Mr. Downing, was rejected by 231 to 65. On Thursday, the House afforded a most unusual scene of excitement. Mr. Disraeli having, in response to Mr. Charley, announced that it was the intention of the Government to withdraw, for this Session, the Merchant Shipping Bill, Mr. Plimsoll used most unheard of Parliamentary language, the result being that he was ordered to withdraw, and Mr. Disraeli moved that the Speaker do reprimand the Member for Derby. At the instance of sundry, however, the debate was adjourned for a week, it being stated that Mr. Plimsoll was ill from excitement. The House then went into Committee on the Agricultural Holdings Bill, which Mr. Disraeli announced would be carried through its remaining stages. The greater part of the evening was thus occupied, several amendments being suggested, and one or two divisions occurring favourable to the government. On the House resuming, a personal explanation by Mr. E. Bates, the member for Plymouth, was offered in relation to certain statements earlier in the evening by Mr. Plimsoll, and then the order for the Discharge of the Shipping Bill was agreed to.

In spite of the unseasonableness of the weather, the worthy townsfolk of Margate turned out in full force on Monday last, on the occasion of the visit of their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales, to open the Seaside Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb. Among those present were Prince Waldemar of Denmark, a brother of the Princess, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who offered up an appropriate prayer, invoking the Divine blessing on so admirable an institution, and a grand array of municipal authorities, including of course the Mayor and the Recorder. After the ceremonial, a *déjeûner* was served, at which in responding to the health of the Princess and himself, the Prince expressed the great pleasure it afforded them to be present on the occasion, especially as his family had been always so closely connected with the institution, and had always taken, as he hoped they still would continue to take, the liveliest interest in its welfare. Of course, the town was *en fête*, every kind of decoration was to be seen along the line of march—some two miles—and fireworks and a general illumination brought a day, admirable in all respects save that of the weather, to a brilliant close. With a view to meeting any accidents by fire that might occur, town councillor Bro. H. Davis sent his fire engine to parade the town during the evening, and the day following Bro. Merryweather, of Bow Street, showed the people its capabilities. The banquet, we may add, was sumptuously provided by Mrs. Rope, while the wines were supplied by Bro. Crawford.

The news from various parts of the country as to the effects of the recent continuous and heavy rains is very serious. In the Fen country and in Oxfordshire, in the Valley of the Thames, of the Nene, of the Trent, in Leicester, Monmouthshire, and elsewhere, a considerable amount of damage has been done to property, while, happily in a few instances only, the lives of sundry persons have been sacrificed, in the effort to assist others or to save property. But the worst yet remains to be told. The loss to the crops will be very considerable; the hay which was lying in the fields has been washed away in tons, the wheat is laid in many places, barley has suffered, and so, too, have oats. In some parts, as in Sussex for example, no amount of fine hot weather will make good the damage that has been done. In some parts, as in Bedfordshire, it is supposed the heaviest part of the floods has yet to come.

But what of Wimbledon, in the midst of all this water? Camping out in bright summer weather, within easy reach of the Metropolis, and leading as happy a life as the Pope is supposed to do, is extremely jolly, no doubt, under ordinary circumstances. Even a twinge or two of rheumatism may be endured in the search after the *Common* pleasures of the season. But the past fortnight has been very destructive, we imagine, of camp comforts to the between 2,000 and 3,000 volunteers and others, who seem to think a certain amount of soldiering every year does them good. But, wet or fine, the business part of the programme had to be got through, whatever might become of the pleasure. All day long, accordingly, there was firing at the butts, and some marvellous scoring was the result. Again and again was the highest possible score achieved, while the aggregate at different ranges was mostly respectable, and the average throughout the meeting we should think must have been almost higher than in any previous year. It were impossible, of course, to notice all, or even a tenth of those who distinguished themselves. Let it suffice that the Queen's prize was won by a Devonian, Captain G. Pearse, who scored, at 800 yards 30 points, at 900 28 points, and at 1,000 15 points, giving a total of 73 out of a possible 105. Private L. Chalmers, 5th Forfarshire, and Private P. Smellie, Edinburg Rifle Brigade, tieing for second place with 64 points. Of the other competitions we may mention that the Lords were greatly beaten by the Commons, Cambridge defeated Oxford for the Chancellor's Challenge Plate, Ireland for a second time carried off the Elcho Challenge Shield, with an aggregate score of 1,506 (15 shots at 800, 900, and 1,000 each, any rifle), Scotland being second with 1,503, and England last with 1,502. Harrow tied with Derby for the Ashburton Challenge Shield, with 543, but Philpot, Captain of the Marlborough team, took the Spencer Cup for the best score at the 500 yards with 30 points. The Americans were also present, while the Canadians beat the Mother Country for the Kolapore Challenge Cup.

While the Volunteers have been pounding away at the Wimbledon butts, the Regulars have been engaged in their Autumn Manœuvres, and, from all accounts, there seems to have been some very good work, plenty of marching and counter-marching, plenty of gunpowder expended, while the general idea for each of the various struggles appears carried out with more than the usual skill by the rival commanders, Sir Henry de Bathe and Sir John Douglas. There appears, too, to be a general belief that the soldiers, though not so heavily laden as they would be in real warfare, have shown themselves superior in *physique* to the general belief regarding them. Of course it is matter for satisfaction when we find that any portion of our small army represents something like a fair *quid pro quo*, considering the amount expended on it.

There has been no little excitement in banking circles at the news that the London and Westminster have burnt their fingers over discounting bills, and that the loss the Company has sustained cannot be set down at less than from £200,000 to £300,000. The persons inculpated are the Messrs. Collie, of London and Manchester, whose failure occurred no long time since. The Alderman, Sir Thomas White, was prepared to release the accused on heavy bail, but as this was not forthcoming at the outset, they were removed in the ordinary prison van to Newgate. This is not the only case which is likely to become public, another charge affecting the fair fame of one who, if not still, was till quite recently, a Member of Parliament, being shortly about to be heard.

The Scottish fête at the Alexandra Palace, last Saturday, was less of a failure, in respect of the weather, than the Hound Show. There were several close competitions in reel and Strathspey dancing, in pibroch playing, in playing marches, and in dancing reels; while, later in the afternoon, when the rain condescended to hold up, the outdoor sports took place, Donald Dinnie carrying all before him in the various feats of strength, such as tossing the caber, putting the stone, throwing the hammer, and also in a 500 yards hurdle race; but in pole-leaping he only secured second place. Monday was the day set apart for the Odd Fellows' fête, and, all things considered, there was a fair attendance, over 12,000 of these eccentric beings finding their way into the building and continuing to amuse themselves passably well. On Wednesday, the first summer evening promenade concert came off, and, musically, must be looked upon as a success. The second of the series will be held this afternoon, and let us hope the clerk of the weather will soon take pity on us

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and on the directors. Next Saturday will be held a grand international fête, in honour of the visit of foreign municipal authorities to this country. On this occasion the Lord Mayor and the lesser magnates of the City will be in full force, and there will also be a march past of the London Rifle Volunteers.

Christ's Hospital held its annual speech-day on Wednesday, but, owing to indisposition, the Lord Mayor was unable, as usual, to preside, and accordingly Alderman Sir Benjamin Phillips acted as his representative, the Lady Mayoress, however, being present with Alderman and Sheriff Ellis and other notabilities. The Orations were delivered very effectively, and were deservedly applauded. Then the University distinctions gained by past and present Blues since last speech-day were announced, and then followed the agreeable but somewhat tedious business of distributing the prizes. This over, Sir B. Phillips shortly addressed the company, and then, the National Anthem having been sung, the boys set off for their Midsummer holidays.

There seems little doubt that in the recent fighting the Carlists have got the worst of it, but the question is, have they been effectively beaten so that the chance of bringing the war to an end is any nearer? We have so often heard that Don Carlos is hopelessly beaten that we have become hopeless of ever hearing anything else. In France the late compact between the centres appears to have come to grief through the action of M. Gambetta to the great satisfaction of the Imperialists. Elsewhere the news, except so far as it relates to the recent storms and floods, which appear to have been pretty general over the Continent, is of little, if any, interest. We may add that the Pope is well in health, but obstinate, as usual, as regards one point. We need not explain further.

The regular meeting of the Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, 21st inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. J. Nunn P.G.S.B. in the chair. The Committee meeting was held previously. Grants to the amount of £300 were confirmed. There were 18 fresh cases, and relief was granted to the amount of £237. The G.L. of Benevolence was then closed. The following brethren were present:—Bros. J. Brett P.G.P., E. P. Albert A.G.P., H. Bartlett P.M. 147, W. Smith P.G.S., W. Mann 186, C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., J. Savage P.G.D., H. Dicketts P.G.S., W. Stephens 1489, J. Boyd P.G.P., S. May P.G.S., W. Howe 1445, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, J. Wright G.P., H.W. Hemsworth P.M. 1193, Handley, R. G. Marsh No. 9, J. Willing 1507, C. Hogard, G. Brown, J. Smith P.G.P., J. Harvey, G.S., H. G. Buss P.M., Pendlebury, J. Spiers P.G.S.B., Hilton P.M., Hose W.M. Excelsior, J. E. Saunders P.G.D., Granbaum 1017, Harvey, and Busher P.G.S.B.

The Baroness Burdett Coutts is about to present a set of the "chairs of office" to the Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1278 under Grand Lodge of England, which is named after her. The presentation will be made by the Baroness, in person, at a meeting of the Lodge, which has been fixed for Thursday next, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, at five o'clock, when the members, by a dispensation from his Royal Highness the Grand Master, will be allowed to wear "clothing." The Baroness, in her letters to the Lodge, having recognised the charitable disposition of the Craft, has expressed her earnest desire to be a co-worker with Freemasonry. The brethren of the Lodge will entertain the Baroness at a repast, and this will be the first occasion in England in which a lady has been present when Lodge "furniture," as such, has been in the room.

The Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction meets at Bro. T. Lloyd's, Approach Tavern, Approach Road, Victoria Park, every Friday evening, at 8 o'clock p.m. The ceremony of installation will be worked on the 30th instant, by Bro. Ashburner, the I.P.M. of the Mother Lodge. Brethren are invited to attend.

The following brethren have been selected for Provincial Grand Honors in the Province of Middlesex, viz., Bro. W. Hammond P.G.S. and P.M. No. 201, I.P.M. 1326, is to be the Provincial S.G.J.D., representing the Lebanon Lodge 1326; Bro. E. Thiellay S.W. 145, S.W. 1423, is to be the P.G.A.G.P.; Bro. Robert Wentworth Little is to be Provincial Grand Senior Warden; and H. A. Dubois P.G.A.D.C., P.M. 1423, and W.M. 1326, is to be the P.G.D.C. for the Province. All the brethren selected have well and deservedly worked in their various Lodges, and the appointments have given great satisfaction.

COUNCIL OE ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

ORDER OF ST. LAWRENCE, &c.

ON Wednesday afternoon, at 4 p.m., a Council of Excellent Masters was opened at the Hall, No. 2 Red Lion Square, W. Bro. F. Binckes presiding. The ceremony was impressively rendered with the assistance of Worshipful Bro. Hyde Pullen. A Council of Royal and Select Masters was afterwards opened, the degrees ably worked, and the degree of Super Excellent Master also communicated by way of lecture. The ceremonies of the Royal and Select are amongst the most beautiful known in Masonry, especially when rendered with Bro. Pullen's kind aid.

A Lodge of the Order of St. Lawrence, a curious degree of Lancashire operative origin, was subsequently opened, and amongst several candidates, Ill. Bro. N. Philips was dubbed a Knight of the Gridiron. A lecture from Bro. C. F. Matier concluded the ceremony.

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SYSTEMATIC CHARITY.

MANY of us, perhaps, are not aware of the large sums disbursed through the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, whose head quarters are at No. 33 Golden Square, in quiet and unostentatious charity. Considerable amounts have been sent in lately by its representatives at the Festivals, and the sum of five hundred francs has been remitted to the Supreme Council of France, as a contribution for sufferers by the inundations.

ENGLISH AND ITALIAN FREEMASONS.

ON Saturday the officers of the Grand Lodge of English Freemasons consecrated and constituted, under the warrant of the Grand Master, a new Lodge, named after the Princess of Wales and the Palace on Muswell-hill. The new Lodge is held in a suite of rooms in the Palace. The first Worshipful Master is Brother J. C. Parkinson, Past Grand Deacon, and at the banquet which followed, the Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the Grand Master," referred to the forthcoming visit of the Prince of Wales to India, and said that his Royal Highness would see symbols of Freemasonry on the monuments which had stood in India from time immemorial, but he would also see, in the institutions of that country, that the spirit of the Craft was entirely absent. In reply to the toast of his health, the Worshipful Master remarked that since the grand demonstration at the Albert Hall, and as one of the earliest acts of grace of the Royal Grand Master, the Grand Lodge of Italy had been recognised officially by the Grand Lodge of England. The Masons of England and the Masons of Italy were now linked together by the strongest paternal ties, professing the same principles, and united for the high purposes of the Craft (cheers). There were nearly 200 Lodges, and about 10,000 Masons working under the Grand Orient of Italy, and the Orient included illustrious patriots and some of the most distinguished men in Italy (cheers). The Freemasonry of Italy was now identical with that of England, and its recognition by the Grand Master of England, was a complete answer to the heated vituperations of Pope, prelate, and pamphleteers.—*Standard.*

MARRIAGE.

ARMSTRONG—FISHBOURNE.—19th July, at Clondale Church, by the Rev. Robert Armstrong, M.A., brother of the bridegroom, James Armstrong, Esq., Farmhill, Clones, to Anna Catherine, youngest daughter of William Fishbourne, Esq., J.P., Foothill, Carlow.

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ESSEX PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

WHEN the Provincial Grand Secretary announced, at the Festival of the Senior Lodge in the Province, that the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master had decided to hold his Lodge for 1875 at Rochford, not a few of those present expressed themselves as ignorant of the geography of the place, and "Where is Rochford?" has since passed somewhat into a proverb among the Freemasons of the Eastern Division of the County. For the sake of those who did not venture upon the journey on Tuesday, it may be stated that Rochford is an ancient town, consisting of four irregular streets, and situate on the banks of the Little Roche, which is navigable up to within about a mile of the town. It is distant 40 miles from London, 12 south of Maldon, 19¼ south-east from Chelmsford, and 4 north from Southend, and stands in a rich corn-growing district. Rochford Hall was the residence of Queen Anne Boleyn, and also of Lord Rich, afterwards Earl of Warwick, but the present structure is only a portion of the old mansion. At between five and six miles distance is another small town, of equal antiquity—Rayleigh—noted for some interesting earthworks, the remains of the Castle first built by Swene, who owned the place at the time of Doomsday Survey, and was founder of the De Essex family. In fact the district altogether is an exceedingly interesting one, and played an important part in the history of early times. Having said thus much as to the antiquity of Rochford and surrounding district, it will be interesting to note that it is 27 years since the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge has been held there, notwithstanding that the occasion of the last meeting has ever since been marked as one of the most memorable upon the records of Grand Lodge. The particular circumstance which distinguished that meeting was that a large sum of money was raised to assist the family of the Provincial Grand Chaplain, who had but lately died, in very reduced circumstances, and that the W.M. and Brethren of the Lodge of True Friendship had received the thanks of an especial Grand Lodge, for the prompt and Masonic manner in which they had acted towards the destitute orphans of a "beloved and highly talented brother." The claims of Rochford to be again honoured with a visit from the Provincial Grand Lodge, have, we believe, from time to time been urged, but a strong impression that its great distance from the chief towns of Essex, and the main line of railway, would militate against its success, has outweighed every other consideration.

The meeting on Tuesday, however, was a sufficient answer to these objections, for not only did the proceedings pass off with eclat, but the attendance was equal to the average of these occasions. The way was long, no doubt, to many who were present—one brother travelled nearly 80 miles by road, and 21 by rail, to reach the place of meeting, and traversed the same ground on the return journey; but the very nice arrangements of the Brethren of the Lodge of True Friendship were an ample compensation. The apparently recently-erected Corn Hall had been fitted up in a most tasteful manner as a temporary Lodge room, and when Grand Lodge had assembled, it had a very effective appearance. The great drawback of the day was the absence, from continued ill-health, of the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master (Bro. R. J. Bagshaw), although his position was most ably filled by the new D.P.G.M., Bro. Matthew E. Clark.

Business commenced shortly after two o'clock, when the Grand Officers present were Bro. Matthew E. Clark, acting M.W.P.G.M., Bro. Vero W. Taylor P.M. 1312, S.G.W., Bro. J. J. Wilson P.M. 1437, J.G.W., Bro. Joseph Burton, G. Treasurer, Bro. John Wright Carr, G. Secretary, and Bro. A. Lucking A.G.D.C. The minutes of the last Grand Lodge, held at Chelmsford, having been read and confirmed, the Grand Secretary reported that he had received a large number of letters from Brethren regretting their inability to be present. Among these was a most kind one from Lord Tenterden, a personal friend of the M.W.D.P.G.M., who explained that special parliamentary duties prevented his attendance.

The Grand Secretary then called over the list of Lodges, and it was found that they were represented as follows:—

Angel (Colchester), No. 51, Bros. Henry Samuel P.M., T. J. Balling Secretary, J. Healy I.G., and W. S. Sprent. True Friendship (Rochford), No. 160, Joseph Essere W.M., J. A. Wardell I.P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Edward Judd P.M., and P.P.G.R., George Burgess P.M. Secretary, P.P.J.G.D., Henry Wood P.M., D. S. H. Garrington P.J.G.W., George Goodman, Wm. Thomas Allen P.M., A. Winmill, W. Pissey P.M., Fred. F. Jillings, Rev. H. J. Hatch S.W., J. Allen jun. Tyler, James F. T. Wiseman P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Wm. Frost, Arthur Harrington I.G. 160, G. H. Josling, John Allen jun. P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Wm. Allen jun. S.D., Thomas W. Gower J.D., William V. Willson, J. W. Harris P.P.A.D.C., Robert Grout, William Moore, and Frederick Wiseman P.M. Hope and Unity (Romford), No. 214, James Self P.M., Rev. T. Cochrane S.W., P.G. Chaplain Oxon. Good Fellowship (Chelmsford), No. 276, Frank Whitmore W.M., James Nicholls P.M., P.P.J.G.W., Thomas Smee P.M., Ebenezer Shadd, A. F. Hunt. Hope (Brightlingsea), No. 433, A. W. West Organist. Star in the East (Harwich), unrepresented. Chigwell (Woodford), No. 453, Charles F. Hogard W.M., Richard E. Motion P.J.G.W., D. Read S.W., P.P.G.S. United (Colchester), No. 697, A. E. Clench W.M. Priory (Southend), No. 1000, J. R. Homman I.P.M., H. Rowley P.M., P.P.G.S.D., William Waterhouse, William Chaplin, H. Neville Smyth, E. E. Phillips S.W., P.M. 379. St. Peter (Maldon), No. 1,024, Edward Kemp W.M., G. P. Jay P.M., P.P.G.S.W., Walter C. Bell J.W. Walden (Saffron Walden), No. 1,280, Alfred Jones W.M., Joseph Bell P.M., P.P.J.G.W., St. Mary (Bocking), No. 1,312, Vero W. Taylor W.M., A. Portway Secretary, Wm. Johnson I.G. St. John's (Grays), No. 1,343, Dav. Robertson W.M., Alfred Sturgeon S.D., D. Bartlett. Liberty of Havering (Romford), No. 1,437, E. West W.M. I. Tydeman I.P.M., G. W. Palmore S.D. Bagshaw (Buckhurst Hill), No. 1,457, Joseph Clarkson W.M., Joseph Tanner P.M., P.P.S.G.D., and Thomas Nicholson.

Visitors—Bros. J. C. Johnstone P.M. 20 (G.L. Ireland); H. Blattner 1328, T. Lawler sen., and T. Lawler jun. 1297; and G. T. Carter P.M. 382.

Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Treasurer, and on the motion of Bro. W. Pissey P.M., seconded by Bro. Jas. Nicholls P.M., the W. Bro. Joseph Burton was for the thirteenth time unanimously re-elected to that post.

In returning thanks, Bro. Burton alluded, in feeling terms, to the absence of the M.W.P.G.M., and moved that a minute of the regret of Grand Lodge should be made upon the records. He drew attention to the fact that when Bro. Bagshaw was appointed G.M. there were but 7 Lodges in the province, now there were 17, and it was to his unwearied exertions that the present flourishing position of Freemasonry in the province was to be attributed.

Bro. WILSON P.M. 1437, seconed the vote, and it was carried by acclamation.

The D.P.G.M. said he should feel great pleasure in informing the R.W.P.G.M. of their kind vote. Bro. Bagshaw's disappointment at not being able to be present was so keen that he had asked him to explain to the Brethren that it was only medical injunctions which had deterred him from attending. The last Masonic meeting he attended was when he went to represent the Province at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the result of his exertions on that occasion was that he never left his bed for six weeks. His medical men had cautioned him not to risk entering into public again till he was cured, which they hoped he would be—(Hear, hear.)—and destroy the chances of his being present with them another year.

The following were then nominated and invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Jas. Self P.M. 214, P.S.G.W., Alfred N. Jones W.M. 1280, P.J.G.W., the Rev. H. J. Hatch S.W. 160, P.G. Chaplain, Henry Samuel P.M. 51, P.G. Registrar, John Wright Carr, P.G. Secretary, Thos. Smee P.M. 276, P.S.G.D., J. R. Homman P.M. 1000, P.J.G.D., C. F. Hogard W.M. 453, P.G. Supt. of Works, Peter Matthews P.M. 276, &c. P.G.D.C., A. Lucking 160, P.A.G.D.C., Lieut. W. S. Sprent 51, P.G.S.B., A. W. West O.433, P.G. Organist, Augustus Portway Sec. 1312, P.G. Pursuivant, I. Tydeman I.P.M., P.A.G. Pursuivant, Gowen, Nicholson, Jillings, Johnson, Sturgeon, and Healy, P.G. Stewards, T. S. Sarel P.P.G.T., P.G. Tyler.

Bro. R. E. Motion P.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the R.W.D.P.G.M. for the able manner in which he had presided over the business of the day. Much as they regretted the absence of the W.M., it was a source of great gratification that they had a Deputy-Grand Master who could preside over them in the efficient way Bro. Matthew Clark had done.

Bro. Self S.G.W., seconded the vote, and it was carried with acclamation.

The D.P.G.M. thanked the brethren for their kind vote. He was sorry that, owing to the short time which had elapsed since his appointment—March last—he had been unable to visit all the Lodges. He had, however, visited seven (hear, hear), and he hoped, before the end of the year to see them all. Everywhere he had been he had met with a most kind reception; and he could only say that if in his further progress through the province he met with the same good feeling, he should have ample reason to be satisfied.

Grand Lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and about 4·30 some 50 brethren assembled in an improvised banqueting Hall, in the rear of the Old Ship Inn, and partook of a capitally served banquet. Here, again, the brethren of the Rochford Lodge had taken great pains to ensure the comforts of the guests; and were eminently successful.

Altogether the meeting at Rochford was a most happy one, and Bros. J. A. Wardell and A. Lucking, who specially exerted themselves to promote the success of the gathering, may be congratulated upon the felicitous manner in which the whole proceedings passed off.—*Essex Standard.*

THE HOLBEIN GATEWAY OF WHITEHALL.—By an Act of Parliament it was directed to be called "The King's Palace at Westminster" for ever. Its limits were defined on the one side by the "street leading from Charing Cross unto the Sanctuary Gate at Westminster," and on the other by "the water of the Thames." At this time it consisted of "a mansion with two gardens and three acres of land." Henry VIII., as we have shown in a preceding chapter, added very considerably to the buildings; and he likewise ordered a tennis-court, a cock-pit, and bowling-greens to be formed, "with other conveniences for various kinds of diversion." Here Holbein painted the portraits of Henry VII. and Henry VIII., with their queens, and also the "Dance of Death." Here too—or rather across the roadway in front, leading from Charing Cross to Westminster—he built his famous gateway. Holbein had been induced to come over to England through the reputation of the taste and generosity of Henry VIII. He was introduced to the king by the instrumentality of Sir Thomas More, at his house at Chelsea, where a large number of the painter's works had been recently ranged round the walls. Taken immediately into the king's service, Holbein had apartments assigned to him in the old palace at Whitehall, for which he designed, at the king's request in 1546, the gateway above alluded to. It stood in front of the palace, opposite the Tilt-yard, and was flanked on either side by a low brick building of a single storey in height. Its position was a little nearer to Westminster Abbey than the north-west corner of York House. The edifice was constructed of small square stones and flint boulders, of two distinct colours, "glazed and disposed in a tessellated manner." On each front there were four busts or medallions, "naturally coloured and gilt," which were stated to have resisted all influences of the weather. They were of terra-cotta, as large as life, or even a little larger, and represented some of the chief characters of the age. —From "*Cassell's Old and New London*" for July.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 8d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. records 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bezique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 27 Barbican, E.C.

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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.

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SATURDAY, 24th JULY.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall.

SUNDAY, 25th JULY.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 26th JULY.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)

969—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, Manchester.
M.M. 143—Birchall, Bull Hotel, Preston.

TUESDAY, 27th JULY.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

209—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford, Kent.
573—Perseverance, Shoestone House, Hales Owen, Worcester.
788—Crescent, Inland Hotel, Twickenham.
1303—Hamer, 91 Everton Road, Liverpool.
R. A. 288—Union, Queen's Arms, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WEDNESDAY, 28th JULY.

193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldwych Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction).

Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertford, Town Hall, St. Albans.
143—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
673—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High Street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
996—London, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.
1083—Townley Parker, Star Inn, Bradford, near Manchester.
1119—Sir Ipswyx, Dog and Partridge Hotel, Fennel-street, Manchester.
1232—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High Street, Weston-Super-Mare.
1262—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.
R. A. 236—Zetland, Masonic Hall, York.
M.M. 24—Roberts, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.

THURSDAY, 29th JULY.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
39—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
186—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Barnet.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
1124—Oak Wood, Stockdove Inn, Romiley, Cheshire.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
R. A. 206—Naphtali, Masonic Rooms, Heywood.
M.M. 32—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
K. T.—Alpass, Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool.

FRIDAY, 30th JULY.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 209 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—121—Seceptirk, Masonic Hall, Stapleridge, co. Down.
TUESDAY—316—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—181—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
" R. A. 80—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisherrow, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lodge of Relief, No. 42, Bury.—The monthly meeting of this old Lodge was held at the Albion Hotel, on Thursday evening, the 15th inst. Present—Bros. E. Eccles W.M., Alfred Buckley S.W., J. Skerrett J.W., T. Barker J.D., E. Simpkin Secretary, S. Mosley I.G., Thorman Tyler; Past Masters Harry Grundy and J. W. Kenyon. Visitors—Bros. G. A. O'Neil W.M. 191 and J. Grime P.M. 128. Business—Bros. John Redfern and William Hewitson were raised to the sublime degree by Bros. O'Neil and Grime. The Secretary intimated, in respect of the proposed memorial stone for the grave of Bro. J. S. Redfern P. Prov. G.P. E.L., that the various Worshipful Masters in the town had signified their desire to take an active part in promoting the fund; that it had been agreed to send circulars on the matter to the East Lancashire Lodges: and that Bro. L. Booth, architect, be requested to submit a design. The W.M. stated that the subscription fund was progressing satisfactorily. It was resolved to make representations to the Provincial Lodge of the cases of the widow and children of Bro. B——(P.M.), and the widow of Bro. H——, to whom Lodge 42 has already given of its substance. A substantial repast followed the closing down of the Lodge.

Carnarvon Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 62. — This Lodge held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, 20th July, at the Town Hall, Havant. Present—Bros. Price W.M., J. N. Hillman S.W., J. Harrison J.W., H. R. Tripp Secretary; and Purnell, Clarke and Lemon. Business—Bro. Liddell was advanced to the degree of Mark Master. P.M. Hillman's motion, "That this Lodge exceedingly regrets that the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters should be party to a treaty for expelling its own members who may belong to Masonic degrees not approved of by the other parties to that treaty," was discussed at some length, but, owing to the lateness of the hour, the further consideration of the same was adjourned until the next meeting.

Domatic Lodge, No. 170.—The members of this old established Lodge held their Summer Banquet on Friday, 16th instant, at Bro. Middlecott's, the Greyhound Inn, Dulwich, where, despite the weather, the brethren and their friends mustered in strong force. Bro. Geo. Everett W.M. presided, and was ably supported by the following Stewards: Bros. F. Kent C.C. I.P.M., A. Treadwell S.W., J. Willing jun. J.W., J. Smith P.M. Treasurer, T. Williams Secretary, W. Palmer S.D., I. Bascall J.D., G. Clarke I.G., E. White W.S., H. N. B. Spink D.C., J. McLean, E. W. Kent, A. Beard, D. Plenderleith, J. Jones, C. Sergeant, J. Willis. The banquet was very well served, and on the cloth being removed the W.M. said: It was not his desire nor his intention to inflict on the company, who he was pleased to see had assembled so numerously, any long speeches. He should, therefore, at once proceed to the first toast, which was that of the health of "The Queen." The brethren would all agree with him that her conduct throughout life had been everything they could wish, and that she had done all in her power to endear herself to her subjects. The W.M. then proposed the health of "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." The Princess of Wales was universally respected and beloved by the English people, and as for the Prince he had a double claim on those gathered around this board. All who were present at the Albert Hall, on the 28th of April last, could testify to the manner in which His Royal Highness had performed his duties, in fact, he had, by his conduct on that occasion, created an impression that would not be forgotten, and all would agree with him when he stated the Prince was a large-hearted and generous man. The W.M. then briefly referred to His Royal Highness's proposed visit to India, and hoped that it would be a successful one. He had no hesitation in saying that the Prince was a good Mason, and he was sure that, when the time arrived, he would make a good King." Bro. F. Kent, C.C., I.P.M. rose to propose the next toast, "The Worshipful Master," which was most enthusiastically received, and duly responded to, the W.M. saying that the unfavorable state of the weather had been a matter of serious concern to him, as he had feared it would sadly reduce the number of those who he hoped to see assemble round him, but the fact that his brethren and their lady friends, to the number of 85, had braved the storm and were gathered together was exceedingly gratifying, and he might safely say their meeting was a great success. The several toasts of "The Past Masters," "The Visitors," "The Officers," "The Stewards," and "The Ladies," were then given, the example set by the W.M., as to brevity, being adhered to by those brethren who rose to reply. After this, the rain having somewhat abated, an adjournment took place to the beautiful grounds attached to the Hotel, where the brethren enjoyed the luxury of cigars, meanwhile the energetic Stewards were making arrangements for the ball, which it had been arranged should follow the banquet. This part of the day's proceedings was carried out in a most spirited manner, and it was a late hour before the company separated, all expressing the utmost gratification at the way everything had been conducted, and reiterating their thanks to P.M. Bro. Foulger, who exerted himself most energetically as Master of the Ceremonies. Amongst those present, in addition to those named above, were P.M.'s Time, Stuart (141), Gardner W.M. (1381); Bros. Ambrose, Bennett, Beagle, Baker, Crane, Field, Harris, Higgins, Douglas, Scard, Stranger, Kruse, Walker, Norris, Bird, Ralphs, Richards, Ford, Shenstone, McPherson, Morgan, &c.

St. John's Lodge, No. 191.—This Lodge held its meeting on Wednesday, the 14th July, at the Knowsley Hotel, Bury. Present—Bros. G. A. O'Neil W.M., Samuel Hamer S.W., William Balmer J.W., Samuel Bailey Secretary, T. W. Probert S.D., W. E. Thornley J.D., Alfred Hopkinson I.G., Hartley Bates Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. W. O. Walker, Fred. Anderton, J. Smethurst, J. R. Fletcher. Visitors—Bros. Lawrence Booth P. Prov. G.S.B. E.L., Jas. Barrett 1012, Alfred Wroe 42, Harry Woodcock 1012. Business—Initiation of Mr. James Crossley; Crafting of Bro. J. C. Yule; Raising of Bro. William Barritt by Bro. Smethurst, the tracing board being explained by Bro. Walker. A very pleasant hob-nob followed.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193. — This Lodge held its weekly meeting on the 21st July, at the White Hart Tavern, Aldwych-lane, E.C. Present — Bros. Tarquand W.M., Blinkhorn S.W., Abell J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, J. Constable Treasurer, F. Croaker S.D., Blackhall J.D., Crasko I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Gottheil Preceptor and Bloomfield, also Bros. Pascoe, Woodward, Campbell, Brodie, Botibol, Walker, Horsley, Gomm, Swan, Saint, &c. Business—The usual formalities having been gone through, the W.M. proceeded to raise Bro. Walker, and accomplished the duty in a manner as gratifying to the members as it must have been to himself; the sections in connection with the degree were worked by Bro. Gottheil, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge, having been resumed, and all business transacted, it was closed and adjourned until the following week.

Tyrawley Lodge, No. 217.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 14th of July, at Dillon Terrace, Ballina. Present—Bros. John Gilbert W.M., H. Lyons S.W., James Beatty J.W., J. R. Budgeon Secretary, P. Atkinson Treasurer, H. Dover S.D., Harvey J.D., J. E. Edmonds I.G., R. Massey Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Lyons and Beatty. Visitors—Bros. Harvey 137 Ballinasloe, Wilson 218 Dublin, and Bowles 248 Roscommon. Business—Ballot for affiliation of Bro. Bole was successful. Bro. Scott's notice of motion was postponed for one month. Bro. C. Petrie was raised to the Fellow Craft degree.

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Royal Union Lodge, No. 382.—This Lodge held its bi-monthly meeting on Monday, the 19th July, at the Chequers Hall, Uxbridge, Middlesex. Present — Bros. E. C. Woodward W.M., Davis S.W., T. Swallow J.W., Wm. Coombes P.M. and Secretary, J. L. Coulton Treasurer, Webb as S.D., Cook as J.D., Wm. Smith C.E. P.M. D.C., Dayson Steward, Cobley as I.G., Longstaff Tyler. Past Masters — Bros. Lonsdale, Swallow, Weedon, Jagnin, and Stacey Organist. Visitors—Bros. Flattley, Lane, Hayward, Manders, Burrell, and Henricks. Business—Lodge opened, minutes read and confirmed. Ballot for Messrs. Perkins, Day, Cripps, Winkler, Holland and Cook, which was unanimous, the first five were initiated, Mr. Cook being unable to attend until the September meeting. Bro. Rev. J. Holden was unanimously elected a joining member. Bros. Wallis, Partridge, Tait, Fowler, Rowles, and Hill received the 2nd degree. Bros. Allen, Arnold and Perkins received the 3rd degree. The Lodge was resumed to the 1st degree, the whole of the ceremonies of the three degrees were done by the W.M. in a most effective manner, showing that he was worthy to occupy the chair. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, about 50, adjourned to Bro. Marshall's meadows, adjoining the Railway Hotel, where a marquee was erected, and an excellent banquet was provided by Bro. Marshall. The usual toasts were dispensed with on this occasion. The Visitors expressed themselves highly pleased with the good working, and particularly the brotherly feeling that always exists among the members of this Lodge, which has been the remark of visiting brethren on former occasions, their motto being *Royal Unions*. The present prosperous state of this Lodge is principally due to the much respected Secretary (Brother Wm. Coombes P.M.), whose services are always readily given to the Lodge, also to Bro. Wm. Smith C.E. P.M. D.C., who assisted in resuscitating this Lodge about 16 years ago, and who is always ready to give his Masonic intelligence for the good of the members. Bros. Moore, Allen, Pearce and Flattley contributed to the harmony of the evening. The brethren separated at 8.45, to catch the 9 p.m. train for Paddington.

Frederick of Unity Lodge No. 452.—The thir regular meeting was held on the 20th of July, at the Station Hotel, Sutton. Present—Bro. William Stanley Masterman W.M., J. W. Sagg S.W., George Wright J.W., A. T. Jeffery S.D., Chas. H. Edmands J.D., E. H. Sagg Steward, Charles Pawley I.G., C. T. Speight Tyler, Magnus Ohren P.M. Secretary, Jas. Robins P.M. Treasurer. Past Master Bro. Wm. Sagg. Visitor—Bro. T. H. Bolton "Hornsey Lodge" 880. Business transacted—Mr. Frederick Cassell, of Rotherhithe, Surrey, was initiated. Stewards were appointed for the Charities for 1876 as follow:—Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, Bro. Henry E. Francis, G. Deacon for Province of Surrey; Institution for Boys, Bro. George Wright; Institution for Girls, Bro. Frederick G. Gilbert.

Benevolence Lodge, No. 666.—This Lodge held its annual meeting on Wednesday, the 14th of July, at Private Rooms, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon. Present—Bros. N. Hammett W.M., Wm. J. Rowe S.W. W.M. elect, Hamilton McAllen J.W., J. H. Westlake P.M. P.P.G.P. Secretary, Geo. Alexander P.M. P.P.G.O. Treasurer, Wm. Holdstock S.D., Wm. G. Moore J.D., J. Stapleton D.C., Thos. Bennett Steward, Edward Irish I.G., R. Hancock Tyler. Past Masters—J. H. Westlake and Geo. Alexander. Visitors—Bros. J. H. Tonkin P.M. 282, J. R. Lord P.M. 1247, P. E. Murphy P.M. 184 and 1424, S. D. Nicholls J.W. 282, T. L. Wright S.D. 282. Business—To install the W.M. and invest the officers for the ensuing year. The installing ceremony was performed by Bro. J. H. Westlake P.M. P.P.G.P. The W.M. invested the following as his officers:—Bros. N. Hammett I.P.M, Hamilton McAllen S.W., Wm. Holdstock J.W., Geo. Alexander P.M. P.P.G.O. Treasurer, N. Hammett I.P.M. Secretary, W. G. Moore S.D., E. Irish J.D., Thos. Bennett D.C., J. Tooker Steward, R. Hancock I.G., Jessie Stapledon Tyler. Business being over, the brethren adjourned to the Duchy Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by Mrs. Rowe. About eighteen sat down to dinner, and spent a very pleasant evening. Many more were expected from different Lodges, but were prevented from attending through the inclemency of the weather.

Bedford Lodge, No. 925.—This Lodge held its 160th meeting on Monday, the 19th July, at the Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham. Present—Bros. James Stevens W.M., W. Price S.W., J. W. Matthews J.W., J. P. Pearson Secretary, W. Pringle acting S.D., J. W. Wilkes J.D., J. C. Gray Steward, G. H. Gaydon I.G., J. Coates Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. E. Worrall, W. Pringle, C. Pembroke, and J. G. O'Leary. Visitors—Bros. Gray and Natting. Business—Lodge opened at 6 p.m., two candidates were initiated, one brother passed, and one gentleman was proposed.

Tregullow Lodge, No. 1006.—This Lodge held a meeting on Tuesday, the 20th instant, at St. Day, Cornwall. Present—Bros. Edmund Rogers W.M., Theo. Michell S.W., Fras. Bartle J.W., T. B. Provis Secretary, Geo. Michell P.M. Treasurer, J. H. Mayne S.D., G. J. Gregor J.D., J. H. Gillan Chaplain, Jos. Pryor Steward, Geo. S. Bray I.G., Jas. Kinsman acting Tyler; Past Master Bro. W. B. Bennett. Business—The Lodge having been opened, it was worked up to the 2nd degree, when Bro. Champion was examined as to his proficiency, received a test of merit, and, in due time, was impressively raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Michell P.M., who is also an excellent worker; after which the Lodge was resumed to 1st degree, and two candidates were proposed for the next meeting. This Lodge numbers fifty members, and is worth a visit, everything being well carried out.

Devon Lodge, No. 1188.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 13th July, at the Masonic Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot. Present—Bros. W. R. King W.M., J. S. Saunders J.W., Jno. Oliver Sec., Wm. Harris S.D., Francis J. Pratt and C. Stevens Stewards, Richd. Crooke I.G., Jno. Haywood Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Philip D. Michelmore, Henry G. Beachey. Visitors—Bros. Robt. G. Bird W.M. Prudence Lodge, No. 1550, Thos. Taylor P.M. True and Faithful Lodge, No. 318. Business—Lodge opened in first degree, minutes confirmed. Mr. Ryland James Walford, who had been proposed and seconded at last meeting, was balloted for and unanimously elected. He was initiated into the Order by the W.M., the working tools being explained by Bro. P. D. Michelmore P.M., and the charge given by Bro. Robt. G. Bird. The Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form.

Burdett Coutts Lodge No. 1278.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 15th of July, at the "Approach" Tavern, Victoria Park, E. Present—Bros. J. G. Harris W.M., W. J. Crutch S.W., Wm. Toye J.W., G. Ward Verry Secretary, James Terry P.M. and Treasurer, C. K. Crouch S.D., A. Lazarus as J.D., Marx Gross Steward, W. T. Christian as I.G., W. Gilchrist Tyler. Past Masters Bros. J. Ashburner and H. Lloyd. Visitors—Bros. J. White W.M. 228, Bro. Jennings 554, and Bro. John Berry S.W. 554. Business—After the confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, the ballot was taken for Mr. John Ferry, and, proving unanimous, Mr. Ferry was introduced and initiated into Freemasonry according to ancient rite. The bye-laws having been read, the ballot was taken for W.M. for the ensuing year, and proved unanimous in favour of Bro. Crutch S.W. Bro. Terry was re-elected (a sixth time) Treasurer, and Bro. Gilchrist Tyler. A letter was read from Bro. Colonel Francis Burdett, stating that Thursday, 29th instant, had been fixed for the presentation of the chairs by the Baroness Burdett Coutts, when a large muster of the members of the Lodge is expected. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet provided by the host, Bro. T. Lloyd jun., in that brother's usual liberal style.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Saturday, 17th July, at the Sun Hotel, Hampton, province of Middlesex. Present—Bros. Wm. Hammond W.M., E. Gilbert S.W., C. W. Fox J.W., P. Walters P.M. Prov.G. Secretary, S. Wickons P.M. Treasurer, J. Hammond P.M. S.D., R. W. Williams J.D., H. Gloster D.C., H. Catross Steward, J. W. Baldwin I.G., J. Gilbert Pro. G.T. Middlesex Tyler. This Lodge was consecrated in July 1870, but two Masters having held office two years each, there are but two P.M.'s, one, the Treasurer, was present. Visitors—Bros. Dr. Goldsborough P.M. 201, Watts P.M. 201, Carvell P.M. 201, Blockes P.M. and Secretary Boys' School, Terry P.M. and Secretary Benevolent Institution, and a large number of other brethren, there being sixteen present at the Board of Installed Masters. Business—Initiations only constituted the preliminary work, of which there were three. The W.M. then installed Bro. Dubois P.M. 1423, Prov.G.A.D.C. Middlesex. The addresses had been arranged to be given by the three Secretaries of the Charitable Institutions connected with the Order, but Bro. Little being unavoidably absent, his place was supplied by the veteran Secretary of the Lodge. Ten guineas were voted unanimously to the W.M. for his efficient services to the Lodge during the two years he had held the office of Master, to be applied, in accordance with his wishes, in procuring a life governorship of one of the Charities instead of a P.M.'s jewel.

De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1356, Liverpool.—Although only about four years in existence, this Lodge has displayed a vitality and energy which has not been equalled by any in the province of West Lancashire; and its membership is now not only the most numerous in the Liverpool district, but also the most influential, as it embraces some of the best known representatives of the Fraternity. The annual installation meeting took place on Wednesday evening, 14th July, in the Lodge room in North Hill Street, where there was a gathering of nearly 100 brethren, including a good representation of W.M.'s, P.M.'s, and officers from other Lodges. Bro. E. O. C. Rothwell, the retiring W.M., presided at the commencement of the business; and after the transaction of some formal business the chair was taken by Bro. T. Evans P.M., who installed Bro. Joseph Bell as the W.M. of the Lodge for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed in a very impressive and masterly manner, and a special vote of thanks was subsequently passed to Bro. Evans for the manner in which he had done the Installing Master's duties. Bro. J. Bell W.M. installed the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. E. O. C. Rothwell I.P.M., T. Evans P.M. D.C., T. Horne S.W., T. Nixon J.W., J. Ireland Treasurer (re-elected), Jos. Jones Secretary (re-appointed), W. G. Veagle Org., J. W. Williams S.D., E. Costigan J.D., R. Roberts I.G., A. Woolrich S.S., C. Arden J.S., and P.M. Larsen Tyler. A proposition by Bro. Marson P.M., seconded by the W.M., that a R.A. Chapter should be established in connection with the Lodge, was carried by acclamation. The annual pic-nic of the members of the No. 1356 took place on the Thursday, and, as on former occasions, proved one of the most enjoyable Masonic "outs" of the season. Arrangements were made with the Cheshire Lines Committee, and a special train conveyed about 160 ladies and brethren to Kumsford, on Thursday morning. The railway arrangements were admirable, and on arriving at their destination the large party sat down to an excellent banquet provided at the Royal George Hotel. The after-dinner proceedings included several toasts, amongst which that of the W.M. (Bro. J. Bell) was prominent, a general wish being expressed for his success during his year of office. A very massive and handsome P.M.'s jewel was also presented to Bro. Rothwell I.P.M., as a token of the esteem of the brethren. The privilege of visiting Tatton Hall, Lord de Tabley's mansion and grounds, and other places of interest, was afforded to the visitors, and many availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing these splendid grounds. A very pleasant day was spent, and the party returned to Liverpool shortly before

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eleven o'clock. Bro. Bell's year of office has commenced auspiciously, and there is no doubt that it will be one of the most prosperous the De Grey and Ripon has yet experienced.

Falcon Lodge, No. 1416.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 14th of July, at the Masonic Hall, Thirsk. Present—Bros. John Rhodes acting W.M., John Harker acting S.W., Geo. Anderson J.W., T. J. Wilkinson Secretary, William Hall S.D., R. Atkinson Steward, G. Ayre I.G., J. Lee Tyler; Walton, Greenslide, Wright and Musgrave. Visitors,—Bros. S. Meynell, Anchor 1337, and G. W. Deighton, Cleveland 548. Business—Arrangements were made for the appointment of a Tyler, and two new members were proposed. It was reported that Arthur Richard Bourne had been accepted as a candidate for admission into the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and it was determined to use every effort to secure his election, the case being one of special urgency.

Acacia Lodge, No. 1314.—The installation meeting of this Lodge, which, though young, numbers in its ranks brethren holding high offices in the province, met at the Bell Tavern, Bromley. Bro. Manger, who has occupied the chair during the past year, to the satisfaction of the brethren, opened the Lodge. Bro. Seaman S.W., Williams P.M. Treasurer, E. Costa P.M. Secretary, and Past Masters A. Avery, J. W. Avery, Knott and Wells. The minutes of the former meeting having been confirmed, Bro. A. Avery P.M. and Provincial Grand Officer for Kent took the chair, for the first time in the Acacia Lodge. Bro. Seaman S.W. and W.M. elect having been presented, a board of Installed Masters was formed, and a very deserved compliment was paid the Installing Master for his rendering of the ceremony. The customary salutation having been given, the W.M. appointed his officers:—E. Costa P.M. Treasurer, S. W. Wyer J.W., A. Avery P.M. Secretary, Lovett S.D., Manley J.D., J. Boden I.G., and Bavin Tyler. The newly installed W.M. then initiated Mr. Cowell into the Order. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, between 70 and 80, adjourned to banquet, in a new saloon recently built by Bro. Sutton, whose catering gave every satisfaction, while Bro. Savill, at his own expense, provided a sumptuous dessert, &c. At the conclusion of the banquet the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Knight P.M. returned thanks for the toast of the R.W. Viscount Holmesdale P.G.M. Kent, and the rest of the Grand Officers. Bro. Manger I.P.M. proposed the toast of the newly installed W.M. The W.M. thanked the brethren for their kind expressions. He felt it an especial honour to see so many around him. Bro. Smith P.M. 619 responded to the toast of the Visitors. The W.M. proposed the toast of the Past Masters, and paid them a very just and deserved meed of praise for their working, and the admirable manner they had done their duty. He then, in the name of the Lodge, presented Bro. Manger I.P.M. with a very elegant gold Past Master's jewel, with monogram and the arms of the Province, originally designed by Bro. J. W. Avery P.M., for the manner he had conducted the duties of the Lodge during his year of office. (Cheers.) Bro. Manger suitably replied. The toasts of the Wardens, Officers, and Tyler, concluded a very agreeable evening. The visitors numbered nearly 60.

Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 20th of July, at the Town Hall, Dunstable. Present—Bros. Frederick Howell W.M., Hasselgrove S.W., Randall J.W., Middleton Secretary, Cutler J.D., Rev. C. B. Harris Chaplain, Sinkwell I.G., Day Tyler. Past Master Bro. Cawdell I.P.M., and other brethren. Visitor—Bro. Jeffery 128. Business—Although a young Lodge, the Chiltern has already made itself a name for very careful and correct working. Its first year of existence was one of great prosperity, under the able management of Bro. Cawdell, and his successor vies with him in continuing that success. Visitors have generally remarked on the ability of the officers, and on their careful training in their parts; and it is to the thoroughness of purpose they exhibit as ardent workers that the perfection arrived at in the working of the ceremonies is mainly due. The minutes having been read, and the Lodge opened in the 2nd degree, Bro. Saunders presented himself as a candidate for raising, and was asked the usual questions previous to retirement. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and the impressive ceremony of raising was gone through by Bro. Howell the W.M. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to sup together at the Sugar Loaf Hotel, where Bro. Saunders catered for them in his usual successful manner. A Lodge of Instruction has been opened in connection with No. 1470, under Bro. Howell W.M. as Preceptor.

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THE

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STABILITY OF MIND.

WE believe it was the late Lord George Bentinck who once announced, in the House of Commons, that the Prime Minister of England should be a man of stable mind. The announcement raised many a smile, for Lord George was a prominent man on the turf, and the idea not unnaturally suggested itself that he had borrowed his figure of speech from something intimately associated with his favourite pursuit. However this may be, there is undoubted truth in the statement that men in responsible situations, whether English premiers or in a more limited sphere of action, must possess firmness in a degree more or less conspicuous. Centuries before the nobleman we have referred to uttered his unintentional witticism, a familiar Roman Poet had sung, in one of his most famous odes:

Justum ac tenacem propositi virum,
Non civium ardor prava jubentium,
Non vultus instantis tyranni,
Mente quatit solidâ.

Stability of mind was a quality that was highly valued by the Romans, and even the Consul Terentius Varro, whom Hannibal defeated at Cannæ, was publicly thanked, because he had fought on to the last, gallantly, if unsuccessfully, and had not despaired of the Republic. It is scarcely less esteemed among Englishmen. It must be a national quality, indeed, or how else shall we explain the proverbial obstinacy, the bull dog tenacity of purpose so universally exhibited by our people. We never know when we are beaten; that is, theoretically, perhaps, we are beaten, but as a matter of fact we go on fighting, and issue victorious from the contest. But while we have exhibited this trait in nearly all our national undertakings, whether peaceful or warlike, it is by no means certain that we are equally careful to preserve our good fame in matters of less importance. In smaller circles firmness of mind, we fear, is not as highly valued as it should be. Men with a will of their own are not always selected to fill positions of responsibility. Other considerations are too often taken into account, and not unfrequently with consequences most pernicious. For instance, a new scheme, requiring the most dexterous management, is oftentimes conducted by one who is incapable either of coming to any settled conviction, or of abiding by it when formed. Every momentary consideration exercises a certain influence upon his mind. In fact, to use a familiar expression, he blows hot and cold almost in the same breath, and the result, we repeat, is, in nine cases out of ten, most pernicious, if not absolutely fatal to the enterprise. Take again, our Masonic Lodges. Their government does not often present difficulties of a very serious character, such as the display of a little firmness on the part of the W.M. will not readily overcome. Yet the conduct of our Lodges is not always satisfactory. Confusion, jealousy, narrow-minded cliquism occasionally manifest themselves, to the very serious disturbance of harmony. Were the Master only to show a little tact, and had he the courage not only to form an opinion but to abide by it, all would go well. This does not always happen. Such a W.M. is easily moved by the influence that is immediately present. He is swayed hither and thither, as a shuttlecock is tossed to and fro by the players, and the consequences to his Lodge are the reverse of edifying. In Masonry a distinct policy is laid down for all. There can be no two opinions as to the nature of the obligations we take upon ourselves when we join the Order. Yet while the outward forms may be strictly observed, for the want of a little firmness on the part of those in office, the inner life of the Lodge, the inter-relations of its members towards each other, may entail a good deal of ill-feeling. Such a state of things is seldom, if ever, apparent when the W.M. has a will of his own—by which we do not mean that he is an obstinate man, who turns a deaf ear to every suggestion that is offered, and who never consults his Lodge. The man we mean was aptly described by Horace, as being one who

Nec sonnit aut ponit secures
Arbitrio popularis auræ.

He should have a policy, and act up to it, modifying it, perhaps, to suit the ever varying circumstances of his position and that of the brethren he is associated with, yet never losing sight of the main principle of such policy. It is no good having weathercocks or trimmers to rule our Lodges, we want men of stable minds, and possessing sound common sense; we want men in eminent positions, who can guide us through a difficulty, if one arises; not men who, in such cases, must appeal to others for advice and assistance. Many a Lodge has come to grief for want of a little tact and firmness in its rulers. Masons, as a body, possess many eminent qualities, but they do not leave outside the portals of the Lodge the innumerable weaknesses which are incident to human nature. A ruler of Masons must possess the same qualities as any other ruler, and among those qualities none should be more conspicuous, or is more essential, than Stability of Mind.

THE MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

WE have just received a copy of the report of this Institution for the year 1874. Taking it as a whole, the account it renders must be looked upon as satisfactory. The revenue for the year, as compared with that of 1873, shows the considerable decrease of £349 2s 6d, which, we are told, however, is due to the presence, in the latter year, of certain exceptional items. The expenditure is slightly greater, but that calls for no special comment, and the capital has been increased by the investment of £100 in Masonic Hall Company shares. There is an increase in the annual subscriptions of £40, but as there had been a decrease in 1873 under this head, to the extent of £183 10s, this source of revenue is still below what it was in former years, and the loss arises "not from any want of new names in the subscription lists," but "from a loss of subscribers previously known as supporters of the School." As yet the Governors, who fully recognise the importance of increasing the accommodation of the School, have been unsuccessful in obtaining an eligible site for the new premises they are about to erect, but they think it probable that "the arrangements for this purpose will be completed before the next report." Under any circumstances, however, all the available capital of the School will be required for the erection of a suitable building, and, consequently, the annual income will be seriously diminished. Hence the necessity for increased activity among the Craft in Ireland, in supporting this admirable Institution. Of the other subjects touched upon we may note briefly that, taking all things into account, the health of the pupils was satisfactory. The results of the recent examination are highly gratifying, and show the improvement which has been made. Lastly, a tribute of respect is paid to the memory of the late Duke of Leinster, whose

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munificent support of the School was far greater than is generally known, and a hope is expressed that, under the auspices of the Duke of Abercorn, the new Grand Master, its career will be as useful as in the past. An analysis of the financial portion of the report seems not undesirable.

The receipts amount to £3,162 4s 5d. This sum includes a balance from the previous year of £747 4s 8d; dividends and interest £358 11s 7d; annual subscriptions £931 19s 0d; life donations, both individual and official, £505, together with donations from Lodges, &c. and sundry, £123 11s 6d; net receipts at annual meeting £305 6s 2d, collections at Governors' breakfasts £21; contributions from Grand Lodge, including annual grant of £125, £169 11s 6d. The amount of the expenditure £1,903 18s 6d, is distributed thus: provisions £610 15s 5d; clothing and repairs £306 11s 10d; coals, gas, and chandlery £90 17s 0d, furniture, house repairs, and painting £102 1s 11d; medicine, &c. £34 13s 10d; postage and advertising £5 9s 8d; books, printing, stationery and music £110 1s 6d; rent, insurance, and taxes £35 16s 3d; apprentice fees and expenses £41 16s 4d; outfits for pupils leaving, £19 11s 10d; carriage, railway and incidentals £42 9s 3d; salaries and wages £503 13s 8d, including an annuity to former matron of £52, and collector's commission £46 12s 0d; and purchase of twenty Masonic Hall Shares £100. This leaves a balance in bank of £1,158 5s 11d. Why so considerable a balance, somewhat over one-third of the total receipts, is retained at bank is not explained, nor are we told if, at the close of the account, there were any outstanding liabilities. These are two points of no little importance. As regards the former, a few hundreds, say £500 or £600, would seem to be all that is required to meet the current expenses, while, as to the latter, it were as well if a statement of the School's assets and liabilities were furnished. It makes the account more complete, and enables the reader to judge at a glance whether the position of the asylum is or is not satisfactory from a pecuniary point of view. The stock account shows invested property to the extent of £3,682 2s 1d. Of this amount £2,737 2s 1d are in Government stock, £4,650 in railway securities, while £1,295 are in the Masonic Hall Company, being £5 shares, bearing five per cent. interest.

There can be no question that the foregoing statement, respecting which we have found it necessary to offer only one suggestion, is satisfactory. A previous falling off in the receipts is partially recovered. The invested property of the School has been slightly increased, and there is a good round sum in hand. There are forty girls on the establishment, and four vacancies have been declared for the next election. As evidence of the care bestowed on the education, it was stated, at the annual meeting and distribution of prizes, held in the Exhibition Palace, on 20th April 1875, under the presidency of the M.W.G.M. the Duke of Abercorn, that some of the pupils competed at the Royal Dublin Society's Art Examination, of whom one obtained a certificate from the Council of Education, South Kensington, while two others received certificates from the Royal Dublin Society.

It only remains for us to offer our hearty congratulations to the governing body on the success of their efforts, not only to maintain, but to extend the efficiency of the School over which they preside, and we trust their hopes of increased support from our brethren in Ireland will be amply realised. The establishment of such institutions as this and its companion school for boys, of whom there are 23 maintained by the Order at the Rev. Bro. S. S. Skeens, Adelaide Hall, Merrion Square, is one of the justest sources of pride with Freemasons. But in Ireland, as in England, their claims to support must be pressed, both in season and out of season, on the notice of all the Craft throughout the country. We imagine that, with an energetic body of stewards, as capable as they are sure to be enthusiastic, the generous instincts of Irish Masons will not be appealed to in vain on behalf of this charity. In such case we may anticipate the hope of the governors, that the School may be doubled, will be realised at no distant period. But even as the case stands now, our Irish brethren have every reason to be proud of what they have done.

THE EGYPTIAN PRIESTS.

(From the French of J. L. Laurens.)

Of all the institutions which have appeared in the world, and the memory of which excites our curiosity, there is not one of which so many marvels are recorded as that known in olden time by the name of the Egyptian Priests. These were, properly speaking, not ministers of religion. The word rendered "priests" has been improperly translated, and, in the language of antiquity, has a meaning widely different from that which we apply to it among ourselves, but above all having due regard to the initiation of the Priests of ancient Egypt, the word "priest" is synonymous with "philosopher." Thus to define properly the Egyptian Priests, we must look upon them as the Egyptian Philosophers, and then we shall form a just idea of the initiation of the Priests of ancient Egypt.

The origin of initiations, of manifestations, and of mysteries is lost in the obscurity of time. The Egyptian Priests were not, it seems, the inventors, for the History of the World by Thoth, and his successor, the Phœnician Sanconiathon, speak of them. Eusebius, who has preserved and transmitted to us fragments of this Sanconiathon, speaks of them likewise in relation to the Cabiric Gods. Sanconiathon, far more ancient than Moses, was written after the great Thoth, who, without doubt, is the same as Hermes, the first Mercury of Egypt, about eight hundred years later; and if we take into account that Herodotus only wrote a very long time after Sanconiathon, we shall easily arrive at the conclusion that the Egyptian Priests were not the first who practised the evidences, mysteries, and ceremonies of initiation. What seems probable is, that the Egyptian Priests possessed themselves of the idea of those ancient and venerated mysteries in order to form of them a rational system, from which they have derived all those benefits which have made them celebrated; for we do not find that before their time initiation had led to results so vast and so happy.

Egypt, the cradle of the arts and sciences, was likewise that of philosophy, of that science, inspired into man, which led him from natural effects to a knowledge of the first principle, of that knowledge which came from heaven for the happiness of the world, which mankind would have degraded and corrupted, and which, in spite of falsehood and ignorance, will preserve for ever among men the purity of their origin in order to console virtue and confound imposture.

The Mercuries, those beings allegorical or real, for we only know of them by their names, and the benefits they conferred, established in that happy country the central point of all those sciences, the possession of which ennobles man, by directing him in his weakness towards that state of perfection to which, by every dictate of nature, he aspires. It was from this concentration of light that burst forth in all parts of the world those brilliant, but passing rays, by means of which the sage distinguished the truth through the darkness and dazzling illusions with which falsehood and error unceasingly surround it. Hardly had men felt the importance of truth than they applied themselves to the study of those sciences which lead to a knowledge of it, and though it will be always accompanied by certain tokens, which easily determine its character, deceit will not be slow to assume its name, or to grace ignorance with it, and so impose upon the credulous, by spreading error under the name of truth. It was this strange travesty which caused so many disorders, divided so many societies, disturbed the harmony of mankind, and menaced its moral equilibrium. Truth, in fact, is an absolute need for man. The necessity for cultivating it, and preserving it from the fatal attacks of error, has been recognised from the moment when nations, united in grand sodalities, had need of the aid of morality, and of the repressive influence of laws so as to procure internal order, and thus establish the happiness of society.

The institution of the Egyptian Priests appears to have been merely a confederation of wise men, united for the several purposes of studying the art of governing men, and of centralising the dominion of truth, regulating its growth, and preventing its too dangerous dispersion. In order to attain this end, it was necessary to search, prove, and dispose the hearts of men; above all, it was necessary to oppose an impenetrable veil to curiosity, to menace indiscretion, and to trace around each of those confederated together the circle within which he must confine himself. To this end it was necessary to instruct, and arouse the springs of the imagination, and even to call in the aid of spells and illusions, in order to persuade and dispose, for experience proves beyond question that men must first traverse the circle of error before they can arrive within that of truth.

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Such was the system of the association of the Priests of ancient Egypt. It was composed, particularly, of certain wise men, known in old times by the profundity of their knowledge, and by them it was directed towards the attainment of that one purpose which its founders had proposed to themselves. Initiation was the rock against which either indiscretion or mediocrity dashed itself. Proofs, combined together with skill and a discernment far from ordinary, kept away all those who were unfit to take part in the general working of the confederation, and often men who had no other recommendation than that of their rank, of fortune, or of qualities wholly superficial, received at their initiation nothing more than the knowledge of vague and indeterminate ideas. This adoption, which was simply honorary, was often nothing more than a link which, by attaching such men to the confederation, held captive all evil purposes, repressed vice, and converted into a useless member one whose enmity might possibly be dangerous. It is to this wise policy, this scrupulous care, that the Egyptian priests owed the progress of their Order, as well as the respect which accompanied it and determined its high destinies.

The Order comprised three classes, in each of which the members had their several duties well defined, and always in accordance with their natural tastes and the means at their disposal. The first class comprised the prophets or judges, the astronomers and the geometricians. The Hycrogramists or Sacred Scribes formed the second class. They determined, by means of their hieroglyphic characters, all ideas moral, religious, and political, and preserved the central store house of historical facts. In the third class were comprised the Comasta, who presided at the sacred banquets, the Zacori, the Neocori, and the Pastifori, who had charge of the temples and the decoration of the altars. The singers, the sealers or stampers, the medicine men, the embalmers and interpreters also belonged to this class.

Each class was presided over and directed by a number of ancients or *élites*, who were joined together and formed a supreme council. This assembled secretly. Its existence was unknown to the other members, and it issued decisions or oracles, the execution of which was as scrupulously observed as though they had emanated from God. It is to these extraordinary means that we must attribute that unity which impelled the three classes of the Order t move ever in one uniform direction. Above all, it is to the secret and invisible operations of the supreme council of ancients or *élites* that we must attribute the uniformity of movement and tendency on the parts of this body, the composition of which extended to all parts of the universe. Whenever it had cognizance of some man, whose wisdom, talents, or merits had acquired claims on the respect or esteem of nations, the order of the Egyptian priesthood sought every possible means for initiating him into their ranks. By this wise policy it was that it attracted to itself all men of talent, of virtue; in a word, of every quality that excites the interest of mankind. Thus it was it influenced all these, and moulded their services, so as to be governed by its system, its views and disposition. It is owing, then, to this concentration of all the sciences and of all means, that the order of Egyptian Priests is indebted for the distinguished honour in which it was held, and antiquity, and for all these wonders, the memory of which, though weakened by the prejudices of our customs, still excites our curiosity, and provokes the admiration of *savants*.

The Egyptian priests were looked upon by all the nations of the East as extraordinary, raised infinitely above all others. They were so in fact, for they held rank next after kings. If wealth, immunities, and the highest privileges were accorded them, it was because, being the sole depositories of the mysteries of religion, and of every science, respect and esteem followed them everywhere. It was because the prince himself, obliged to be initiated before ascending the throne, of which they had constituted themselves the promoters and support, obtained only among them the knowledge requisite to govern his kingdom, remained attached to them for the sake of his own interests, and often delegated to them a part of his authority, in certain cases, when such delegation amounted to an absolute duty. But all these honours and distinctions, far from weakening the ties which bound the prince to his people, served only to strengthen them by that influence, which the priests were called upon to exercise, on the one hand, over the power of the sovereign, and on the other, over the obedience of his people.

It was no easy matter to be initiated into the mysteries of the priesthood proper. It was necessary to possess eminent qualities; in a word, to offer as a guarantee of fidelity, and of the fulfilment of those duties which the Order expected from every candidate, actual abilities, the certainty of which was scrupulously inquired into, and approved by every refinement of skill and policy, before initiation. Thus, among the Egyptians, the character of an initiate into the mysteries of the holy priesthood acquired so great a reputation, that princes, heroes, and philosophers, considered they had only reached the extreme limit of their glory when they had obtained the honour of this rare distinction.

The knowledge of the Egyptian Priests was immense. We know them to have been the fathers of astronomy and geometry. The study of nature was familiar to them in a climate in which everything invited them to curious and learned researches, and in a country where nature hid nothing but what as secrets could be investigated in a manner equally facile and curious. This is why Egypt was, at one time, the resort of all men of eminence. Four colleges, established herein, and governed by the priests or initiates, offered to all strangers the means of acquiring knowledge or satisfying their curiosity. It was in that of Thebes that Pythagoras acquired his science of numbers. Thales and Democritus went to study at that of Memphis, and Orpheus is said to have found there all the material requisite for his mythology. Plato and Eudoxus tarried for some time in that of Heliopolis, and perfected themselves, the one in morality, the other in the science of mathematics. Lastly, Lycurgus and Solon, who found in that of Saïs all the secrets of legislation, afterwards astounded the whole world by their profound political wisdom.

The Egyptian priests must not be confounded with those sacred despots who, making a wicked use of their pretended intimacy with the gods sought, by imposture and cruelty, to lay the foundations of a sacrilegious authority. Priests and philosophers at one and the same time, the wise men of ancient Egypt governed nations, not by violence and oppression, but by means of a gentle persuasion, the secrets of which they had obtained in a profound study of man's nature, and by a policy at once luminous and complete. It was with all these advantages on their side that they combined, for the maintenance of law and the supreme authority, with two other powers, those of the princes and castes. This form of government, so foreign to our customs and habits, cannot be appreciated by people little accustomed to the genius of antiquity. It can only be fathomed by those who, in studying history, pay less regard to the sequence of events than to the moral and political causes which have induced their occurrence.

(To be continued.)

REPORT TO GRAND CHAPTER OF PRINCE MASONS, IRELAND.

BY HON. JUDGE TOWNSHEND, SOVEREIGN OF THE ORDER, 2ND APRIL 1875.

THE salient features of this Report cannot fail to excite the interest of our readers, and especially of our Brethren in Ireland. Naturally enough the first point to which the President of Grand Chapter refers is the death of his immediate predecessor, the late Duke of Leinster, whose presidency over the Chapter had endured so long, and been attended with results so beneficial. Nor is the memory of one other prominent officer passed over in silence. The late General Dunne, who had long held the office of Grand Standard Bearer, and conjoined with it that of Grand Deacon, is spoken of in fitting terms of eulogy, as having earned the respect of every class in the community by the faithful discharge of his military and civil duties, and especially of the Craft for whom he had ever laboured so cheerfully and so assiduously. Passing thence to the main objects of his address, and having regard to the reports which he had delivered in his previous capacity of Vice-President, Judge Townshend notes with satisfaction that in point of numbers the Order has doubled itself in the course of the last twenty years, the average rate of increase having been ten per annum. In 1854 there were 144 subscribing members, and now there are 290. Of these 197 members belong to the Dublin Chapters, and the remaining 93 to Provincial Chapters, the greatness of the difference being accounted for by the fact that of the thirteen Rose

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Croix Chapters in Ireland, no less than eight are in Dublin As regards this increase, however, Judge Townshend utters a note of warning, which may be heeded equally by other sections of Masonry. He remarks, "the increase of this Order may be either a subject of congratulation or very much the contrary. It is true of it, as of the human frame, —the cessation of its growth may be taken to indicate the first beginning of its decay, yet it may grow too fast, or grow too large, to be in a perfectly healthy condition." Mere numbers, in fact, though oftentimes a subject of congratulation, as indicative of strength, are not necessarily so. Judge Townshend considers it but just that the Rose Croix Chapters should not be precluded from extension while the general body of Masonry is increasing in numbers; but he is very properly anxious that this extension should be regulated judiciously, so that the high character of the Order may experience no detriment. As to the number of Chapters there were seven in 1854, and there now thirteen, but no new warrant has been applied for since 1872. Here again, Judge Townshend, quoting a statement of his in a former address to Convocation, cautions Grand Chapter against too great facility in granting new warrants. "I should have you," says he, "grant new warrants with a very cautious hand, having regard to a great many circumstances which would not be taken into account if you were to grant them merely to gratify a few individuals, however estimable in character or anxious for the extension of the Order. We must not either withhold promotion from men who deserve it, nor make promotion too cheap, too easily had, too common to be thought very well worth having. I have stated this much for your consideration, knowing, as I do, that I incur the risk of displeasing many who may hear me, because it is my duty to point out a danger, and it will be yours to avert it, if you can, by good sense, discretion and circumspection." These are words of wisdom, on which it behoves every branch of Masonry to reflect. It is far more important that our brethren should be good representative members, who will spread the fame of our Order, and make it respected in the outer world than that we should aim at securing mere numerical strength. The next point to which the President reverts is the possibility, that as Grand Chapter has now become a numerous body, and is generally well attended, an attempt may be made to entrust a portion of its business to a committee. To this he thinks there is no valid objection, but he expresses a hope that the important trust of passing candidates will never be thus delegated. Once already, he notes, such an experiment had been tried, and proved a signal failure, Grand Chapter having very speedily taken back this most important duty under its own immediate superintendence. For though, as Judge Townshend argues, Grand Chapter may not be infallible, yet there is greater likelihood that, by its strict examination into the character and fitness of all candidates, the purity of the Order will be maintained than if these inquiries were entrusted to a committee, or left to subordinate Chapters. The latter are represented in Grand Chapter, and hitherto the system has worked admirably. Thus it is from no distrust of Subordinate Chapters that the President favours the retention of the present system, but evidently the maxim, "Leave well alone," has a strong influence upon the mind of our distinguished brother, and very properly so say we.

As to the relations presently existing among the several Chapters, these, we are told, are perfectly harmonious, there having been no complaint whatever raised by any single member of any one of them. What interchange of communication with Chapters of the Order in other countries there has been, has been of the friendliest character. Financially, too, the Order is in excellent plight. There now stand to the credit of Grand Chapter over £200 of Government Stock. The year 1875 opened with a cash balance in hand of £98 17s, while of a further sum of £76 15s then due to it, over £25 have been since paid to its account. Of the stock, £100 was invested last year, while as to the cash balance, it is considerably more than double what it was in the year 1872. Grand Treasurer, Bro. Charles T. Walmisley, who has resigned the office of Assistant Secretary General, but still retains his Treasurership, announces also that all claims made upon Grand Chapter have been satisfied, that there are none outstanding, or if they are, they are of very trifling amount, and have not been settled only because they have not been presented for payment. In other words, there is no debt impending over the Order.

Bro. Townshend next points out that a Revised Code of rules for the governance of the Order has been under consideration for some time past, but that it is not yet finally arranged. A few insignificant alterations in the existing code will be introduced, but "those relating to the 15th, 16th, and 17th Degrees of the 'Ancient and Accepted Rite'" will be of greater importance, involving, as they will, fresh arrangements, by means of which "Chapters will be enabled to qualify candidates for future elevation to our own ranks." Any opinion upon the propriety of the new regulations had better perhaps be reserved till the Code is actually promulgated. We shall then be in a position to judge of the nature of these changes as well as of their probable influence over the future of the Order.

With the remarks on Masonic ceremonials, and the necessity there is for studying them thoroughly, we concur most fully. Too many of us are content to observe them outwardly, but are careless about penetrating the beauties they are intended to symbolise. A thorough Mason is one who can read and convey to others, if necessary, the hidden meaning of our symbols. Brother Townshend further notes that the compact of 1836, "by which the several governing bodies of the Masonic Order had agreed to recognise and act upon each other's orders of suspension or expulsion" no longer exists, and a brother suspended or expelled by the Rose Croix Grand Chapter may yet "enjoy all the privileges of fraternity in a Master's Lodge." On the wisdom of this step Bro. Townshend offers no opinion. With regard to that portion of his concluding remarks, in which the President almost apologises for holding that distinguished position, we may at least remark, that if the present address were the only evidence before the world of Bro. Townshend's fitness for so high a position, we should still esteem it a piece of good fortune in the Rose Croix Grand Chapter that it is presided over by so able and so earnest a ruler. Judge Townsend not only has a sense of his important duties, but he fulfils them admirably, and none, we think, who read this address of his will come to any other conclusion.

FATALISM.

A Fragment from the Isle of Mindoro.

A Peri in a Nautilus-shell floats o'er a placid sea,
Gently wafted along by the swell of zephyr minstrelsy;
In her fragile coach, at ease reclined, the broad expanse she views,
Where ripples flow and sunbeams glow in pearl and opal hues.

To the balmy wind that wafts behind two tender sails are spread,
Above the nude and polished hood, which arches o'er her head,
Whilst tiny feelers trail beneath to warn that none intrude,
Ready to shrink to parent sheath before encounter rude.

The sunbeams gleam in a sparkling dream, the ocean lightly heaves,
Or wavelet breaks upon foamy flakes that drifting seaweed leaves;
The boat is borne in Orient morn, 'mid islets in verdure spread,
Where seabird-flocks on the coral rocks and the face of the cliffs are bred.

But when noon is past and the evening blast troubles an angry sky,
When a haze is shed o'er the sunset red, and clouds come drifting by,
Ere the chills of eve come shuddering up, she folds each silken sail,
The Nautilus closing its open cup, contracts its feelers frail,

And sinks down deep to the ocean-bed where no tidal current flows;
There in the dome of her pearly home the Peri enjoys repose,
And anchored safe in nether groves or in white basaltic cave,
The winds howl o'er their booty fled and the upper surges rave.

'Tis thus the Peri's journeys are, so fair and bright and free,
'Mid heav'nly scenes and sounds upon the bosom of the sea:
Never a fear of danger there, nor care for future day,
But lapt in sweet serenity she floats and dreams away.

O Man! Allah Akbár has aye a Providence for thee.
Life, Light and Love on thee bestowed transcend all ills that be.
Enjoy the calm, sleep through the storm, nor dream of aught but bliss!
The sun is bright, thy blood is warm, what would'st thou more than this?

Or if the hurricane should burst and Nature roar in pain,
'Tis Allah's will that on thee soon the sun shall shine again:
The morrow brings its own resource, and Time is ever new,
Life, Light and Love are all of course, then trust in Allah too.

Walter Spencer.

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BURDETT COUTTS' LODGE, No. 1278.

PRESENTATION OF CHAIRS, BY THE BARONESS BURDETT COUTTS.

ON Thursday afternoon the members of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, with a large attendance of ladies, met at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, for the purpose of having presented to the Lodge, by the Baroness Burdett Coutts, three splendid carved oak chairs, to be used by the W.M. and Wardens of the Lodge which bears her ladyship's name. The time fixed for the interesting proceedings was five o'clock, and punctually to that hour the Baroness—who was accompanied by Mrs. Brown, the Countess Beauchamp, Lady Augusta Paulett, Lady Charles Wellesley, Miss Wellesley, Mr. and Mrs. Otway, the Hon. H. Ryder, Mr. J. K. Aston, Professor Tennant, Mr. W. H. Wills, and Mr. G. C. Silk—arrived at the Hall. The room at Freemasons' Hall selected for the presentation of the three chairs was the Zetland Room, wherein hangs the beautiful painting of Sir Christopher Wren, and this room was laid out for the occasion with the greatest care by Mr. C. B. Payne, the Grand Tyler of England. The three gift chairs were in their places, and were splendid specimens of carving. They were formed of the best English oak, surmounted each by a silver plate, with an inscription denoting the giver and the date of presentation, beneath which were the Baroness's arms, and the particular Masonic emblems signifying the place of the chairs in the Lodge.

So soon as the distinguished visitors had taken their places, Bro. Jas. Terry, who was the first W.M. of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, and who presided on the present interesting occasion, briefly announced the business they were assembled upon, and the programme was commenced by the singing of the hymn, "Bear ye one another's burdens." The Baroness then formally presented the chairs to the Lodge, saying she trusted they would be occupied by brethren as distinguished in Freemasonry as those who had gone before them. She noticed, with satisfaction, on the Master's pedestal, the volume of the sacred law which she had presented to the Lodge six years ago. Bro. Jas. Terry, in the name of the Lodge, accepted the gift of the chairs at her hands, and reiterated her wish that they might be filled by brethren who would be an ornament to the Order. Then taking possession of the Worshipful Master's chair himself, he called on the Senior and Junior Wardens, Bros. Crutch and Toye, to be seated in the other two. This done, the Secretary, Bro. G. W. Verry, read the following address of thanks:—

TO THE BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS.

MADAM,—The Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Burdett Coutts Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons desire to express their thanks for the interest which your Ladyship takes in the Lodge, and the patronage which you have extended to it.

We thoroughly appreciate your goodness in having conferred upon us a splendid and costly copy of "The Law of the Lord," which is "light to our feet, and a lantern to our way."

We also gratefully acknowledge your more recent benefaction of three beautiful Chairs, for the official use of the principal officers of the Lodge.

To your Ladyship acts of benevolence are customary and constant, and we trust that you will never have cause for regret for this new direction which you have given them.

It affords this worshipful Lodge the highest satisfaction to find that a lady of your rank and intelligence is able to set aside the prejudices which so many entertain towards a Society the most powerful and benevolent, as well as the most honorable and ancient, in the world.

We desire to express the hope that the example that your Ladyship has set in this respect will be followed by other good and kind ladies, as it has in so many other particulars been happily imitated. As the Bible always remains open in a Freemason's Lodge, we shall be reminded of you by the most sacred associations; and as our officers fill those Chairs, and ensure law and order, we shall naturally remember how much you have done to harmonise all classes of the people with lawfully constituted authority, and in peaceful social fellowship.

We sincerely pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may build up for you great happiness here and hereafter, and that He, who is "Light," may illumine your path, and conduct you to the World where the Sun of His Glory never sets.

Signed on behalf of the Lodge, this 29th day of July 1875.

The Deacons of the Lodge, Bros. Lloyd and Crouch, then handed the address to the Baroness. It was handsomely engrossed, and was enclosed in an album case. The presentation was most graciously received, and her ladyship made the following reply:—

Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren,—In tendering you my sincere and hearty thanks for the address you have just read, I must avail myself of the opportunity offered to express the grateful pleasure I feel, as the daughter of a Mason, that in the Lodge which you wished should bear my name, there will remain embodied the memory of my loyal, true-hearted, single-minded father, so long the representative of the liberties of the City of Westminster. In receiving the Bible for the table of your Lodge, and in the chairs which I now present for the use of the Officers, you have also conferred a favour upon me, though, like skilled Craftsmen in the art of kindliness, you have made the recipient appear the donor, and the courtesy and hospitality you extend to me and my friends to-day is one more of the many illustrations of that law of kindness which rules your beneficent and ancient Society. I earnestly reciprocate your wishes for myself, and that we may all rest in Him who is "Shadow as well as Light," for the Lord God is a Sun and Shield: The Lord will give grace and glory, and no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.

It was then moved, seconded, and unanimously carried, that the reply should be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge, and after the hymn, "O Lord how joyful 'tis to see," the ceremony of presentation was concluded, and the whole party adjourned to an elegant déjeûner, at which the Baroness's health was proposed in glowing terms by Bro. Terry, and drunk with great heartiness. Shortly after, the Baroness and her friends left, under the conduct of the Chairman and Stewards. On their return, Bro. Terry stated that he had been commissioned to say, on behalf of Lady Burdett Coutts, that she had never spent a more pleasant evening, and that her ladyship had invited the members of the Lodge and their ladies to her garden party at Holly Lodge next Monday, and that he and the worthy Secretary, Bro. G. W. Verry, would be pleased to receive the names of those brethren who might desire to accept this kind and gracious invitation. The remainder of the evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner, and the company separated greatly pleased with the day's proceedings.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire was held at the Town Hall, St. Albans, on Wednesday last, under the Banner of the Halsey Lodge, No. 1479.

T. P. Halsey, Esq., M.P., Provincial Grand Master, presided, and there were present the following Provincial Grand Officers, W. Bros. H. C. Finch P.G. Registrar, W. Wilson P.G.J.W., F. H. Wilson Ilse P.G. Sec., A. J. Copeland P.G. Treas., The Rev. Lewis Deedes P.G. Chap., T. S. Carter P.G.S.D., E. Lacey P.G.J.D., W. Cubbush P.G. Supt. Works, J. P. Cocks P.P.G.J.W., S. Austin P.P.G.S.B., J. Terry P.G.D.C., M. Heywood P.G. Org., W. H. Rowe P.P.G. Supt. Works, R. A. Wright P.P.G.S.D., and many other brethren.

The Minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Committee as to the Bye Laws was read, and the Bye Laws were carefully considered and adopted.

The following brethren were appointed Prov. Grand Officers for the year ensuing:—

Bros. J. Sedgwick P.M. 404 D.P.G.M. (reappointed).
J. Lowthin P.M. 1385 and 1479 P.G.S.W.
J. Copestick W.M. 869 P.G.J.W.
H. C. Finch P.M. 404 P.G. Reg. (reappointed).
F. H. Wilson Ilse P.M. 404 P.G. Sec. (reappointed).
The Revs. Barchell Heron P.M. 404 and C. C. Mayo 869 } P.G. Chaplains.
E. Palin W.M. 404 P.G.S.D.
J. W. J. Gifford W.M. 409 P.G.J.D.
Hayward Edwards W.M. 1385 P.G. Supt. Works.
J. Terry P.M. P.G.D.C. (reappointed).
Young 1327 P.G.A.D.C.
J. G. Yolland 1385 P.G.S.B.
Laxton W.M. 504 P.G. Pur.

A. Godson S.W. 1479, L. N. Edwards J.W. 1479, Blenkinsop S.W. 404, Foster 504, Sheldon 1327 and Gilbert 1327 P.G. Stewards, Thomas 404, T. Wright 403 P.G. Tylers (reappointed).

£20 was voted to the Boys' School, £10 to the Restoration of St. Albans Abbey, £5 each to Bros. Wilson Ilse P.G. Sec. and T. S. Carter W.M. 403 to purchase the Steward's Jewel, in commemoration of the Grand Master's Installation, they having served the Office of Steward for the Province, and £5 5s to purchase a jewel for Bro. W. Wilson P.M. 504 for his services for several years as P.G.D.C.

INAUGURATION OF THE MAURITIUS LODGE OF HARMONY.

THE inauguration of this new Lodge, No. 1535, under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, took place in the Temple of the Loge La Triple Espérance, when the installation of Bro. Col. O'Brien and subsequent investiture of Officers was held. In the unavoidable absence of the Sen. P.M. in the Colony, the W. Bro. Geo. Levison I.P.M. Lodge of Friendship and the W. Bro. J. Melville Mason presented the W.M. to the Lodge, who received the honour of installation at the hands of Bro. Bewsher W.M. of the British Lodge.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN A FREEMASON?

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read Bro. Yarker's remarks, at page 53, containing the quotation from Aubrey's Natural History of Wiltshire, to the effect that, on the 18th May 1691, Sir C. Wren "is to be adopted;" but it so happens that "*is to be*" and *was* are not quite the same, for, as "there is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," it is possible he never was "adopted" at all. Of course we are told, in Preston's Illustrations, that Wren was a great Freemason, and got on to be a Grand Warden, in 1663, and a Deputy Grand Master in 1666, but as these two dates occur a considerable time *prior* to the morning of 18th May 1691, when even his adoption was still in the womb of futurity, it must be acknowledged that there do exist some little difficulties in the matter! It so happens also that there were no such Masonic "Grands," as above spoken of, before A.D. 1717.

As to the words "higher class," in any published work of date A.D. 1722, referring to "the degree of Royal Arch," that appears to me to be a wonderful stretch of imagination—about as good as Wren's 1663 Grand Wardenship.

As to Bro. Yarker's "pre-1717 inventions," it will be time enough for him to speak of them, as existing about 1717, *after* he has proved that the three first degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master existed before 1717. As yet, neither he nor any other person has ever done so.

No Masonic "Grand Lodge" existed before 1717, and no body of Masons whatever existed before 1717 who practised the ceremonies and promulgated the principles of *our* 1723 Speculative Freemasonry.

Yours fraternally,

WM P. BUCHAN.

OUR FREEMASONRY.—THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the *Manchester Courier* of the 22nd July there is a history of the Mark Degree, asserting that it is of such antiquity that its origin "is lost in the mists of antiquity." I cannot believe that the writer of the article would willingly state what is false, but I wish to call attention to it, because brethren should be careful what statements they make to intending members. Masonry becomes a most abominable evil when its organisation is made use of to circulate all kinds of crude and untrustworthy statements; and I have of late years frequently seen even untruthful calumnies, detrimental to the standing of persons whom I know to be good and trustworthy Masons; but I do not wish to pursue this phase of Masonry,—the product of its over popularity.

The writer upon Mark Masonry to whom I have alluded says, rightly enough, that—"In A.D. 1598 William Schaw, Master of Works, to King James VI., ordered the Marks of all Masons to be inserted in their work. In the 17th Century the Kilwinning Lodge made members choose their Marks, and charged them 4s each for the same. In 1778 the Banff Operative Lodge resolved: That in all time coming all Members that shall hereafter rise to the degree of Mark Master Mason shall pay one Mark Scot; but not to obtain the degree of Mark Master before they are passed Fellow Craft; and those that shall take the degree of Mark Master Mason shall pay 1s 6d sterling for behoof of the Lodge. None to attain the degree of Mark Master Mason until they are raised Master. In 1865, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland reported, through a committee: In this country, from time immemorial, and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (in 1736), what is now know as the Mark Master's degree was wrought by the operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry." Then the writer attempts to claim an ancient standing for the degree in England, and asserts that it was practised before 1813.

When the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland passed this Committee report, they must have had an eye upon the sillar; the report is quite untrustworthy and unfounded. Everything can be proved; if I am wrong in my statements let it be proved. But I make the statement, without fear of proof in contradiction, that neither the degree of Mark Mason or that of Mark Master was in being any length of time before the annals of 1726 at least. In Scotland, every Apprentice Mason was a Mark Mason, whilst the Mark Master, or the brother who had power to select and register the Mark, was probably the Secretary of the Entered-Apprentice Lodge. This is so apparent that I am astounded that any Mark Master can so far allow his imagination to run away with his wits as to make these assertions of antiquity; for neither Mark Mason nor Mark Master had any ancient ceremony. The Marks themselves were often handed down from father to son, they were made of all forms suitable for the chisel, Masonic symbols, and even in early times Runic and other alphabetical characters; the system was continued as a necessary part of the trade from ancient times. It may have been, and probably was made a portion of the speculative lodge system of registration in 1598, by the order of Wm. Schaw, for it is noteworthy that there is not a single line of any kind to be found in old English manuscripts or minutes to indicate that this system of Mark registration existed in South Britain in the Speculative Lodges of the Operatives. In the North, therefore, the Mark degrees, as such, became a necessity when the English ceremonies were introduced. There is no doubt that a Mark degree existed in England before 1813, that it was propagated by Finch, and that Grand Lodge at that time pronounced it an imposture. The rituals were very various, some only consisted of passages of Scripture, some had no legend, others only asserted that Marks were used at Solomon's Temple (no doubt of it, they were used everywhere, by every operative in his own pecuniary interests, like seals and written signatures), whilst a third ceremony was given along with a Red Cross degree of the building of the second Temple. The present ceremony is a modern Scottish invention—a fact of which I am quite certain, as I myself introduced it for Bros. Collins and Bidgway into Lancashire and Cheshire, and even since then it has been greatly improved. The latter brother has my time immemorial certificate, which I should be glad if he would return.

Mark Masonry, properly represented, may be made very useful, but it will not be by their present policy, or by an alliance with such Orders as the Trinitarian bodies, Templars, Sovereign Princes, Imperial Knights of Constantine, and such like. "Let every tub stand upon its own bottom."

Truly and fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER P.M. Mark.

Manchester, 23rd July 1875.

P.S.—I think it desirable to remind your readers that the old English Excellent, Super-Excellent Degrees, were the "Veils," and have not a moiety of resemblance to the recently imported American nonsense, the illegitimate offspring of certain degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Next week, if you will allow me, I will return to the Old System of High-grade Masonry.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read Bro. Binckes' letter in your last issue, and also your remarks upon the same, and I am constrained to express my unbounded astonishment at the tone Bro. B. assumes, as well as the offensive manner in which he refers both to yourself, Mr. Editor, and the Head Master of the Boys' School.

I can speak very positively, in the name of a large section of the Masonic community,—There are many errors of management at Wood Green, and it behoves the Committee to rectify them as speedily as possible. One thing is certain, no Head Masters will permit Secretaries to assume their functions.

Yours fraternally,

A LIFE GOVERNOR.

P.S.—I have been a school manager for thirty years, and, as such, may trouble you again.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read, with great interest, your two powerful articles on the Boys' School, and also the letter from the retiring masters, and while I cannot but deplore the existence of such a state of things, I do hope the brethren will take up the matter in a Masonic spirit—"of fair play." It is a simple thing to get at what specific charge is brought against Rev. Bro. Perrott. Most Masons go by a great fact; thus, before Bro. Perrott undertook the Head Mastership of the Schools, the boys were a long way behind others at the examination, whereas since Bro. Perrott commenced, they have passed up nearly to the top of the list, and with credit to their master and themselves. This speaks volumes, more than all this letter writing, &c. Many Masons now think, from the tenor of Brother Binckes' letter in your last, that it is simply a question, or rather quarrel, between Bro. Perrott and Bro. Binckes. If this is so, the Committee are to blame, as if each had maintained his own position all the discord would not have risen. Let Bro. Binckes be Secretary and Bro. Perrott Head Master; Masons desire the education of the boys sent to the schools by them, not personal matters, which myself and others think is at the bottom of all this Bro. Perrott offered and challenged an investigation as to his conduct—will Bro. Binckes do the same?

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

ONE INTERESTED IN THE SCHOOLS.

The first Masonic Lodge of Jerusalem is a beautiful illustration of the cosmopolitan nature of the principles of Brotherly love in practical operation. The Master of that Lodge, who is now lecturing in this country, says: "The Master is an American, the Past Master an Englishman, the Senior Warden a German, the Junior Warden a native, the Treasurer a Turk, the Secretary a Frenchman, the Senior Deacon a Persian, and the Junior Deacon a Turk. There are Christians, Mohammedans and Jews in the Lodge."—*Pomeroy's Democrat.*

"It is not the chief end of Masonry to make Masons, notwithstanding a laudable desire to recognise among our members good and true men wherever they may be, and yet we find the feeling prevails with a great many that when there is no work there is no necessity of attendance of their part. No greater mistake than this could be made, as upon the attendance of the membership, and the interest engendered thereby, depends the very existence of the Chapters."—*Grand Chapter of Maryland.*

The Grand Orient of Portugal has forty-eight Lodges affiliated with it, some of which are located in Portugal and others in Spain.

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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 QUARTERLIES.

THERE are two or three articles in the *Quarterly* which we think our readers will peruse with more than the ordinary amount of pleasure. The subject of Ballooning, for instance, is one which invariably exerts a most fascinating influence. A balloon ascent at one of our places of public entertainments is pretty sure to draw more than the average number of attendants. And if so, it is not surprising that a carefully prepared essay on "Balloons and Voyages in the air?" should be likely to prove popular with the readers of the *Quarterly*. The writer traces Ballooning from the very earliest efforts of the two Montgolfiers and M. Charles, down to the more elaborate experiments of our own Mr. Coxwell and the attempts to utilise balloons during the Franco-German war. Having done this, he then notes the special difficulties against which aëronauts have hitherto in vain contended in guiding the aerial machine. They can rise or fall at will, but they cannot guide it at will, and till this difficulty is solved voyaging in the air will be attended with extreme peril. All the most important experiments in directing balloons are mentioned, particular stress being laid on those of M. Giffard and the more familiar M. Dupuy de Lôme. This article is followed by one on "The 'Theatre Français.'" This too, chiefly, is historical, the writer taking us back to the reign of Louis le Grand, when there existed at Paris several theatrical companies, ultimately, in 1680, amalgamated into one body under the name of "Comédiens du Roi." Thence up to the present period the progress of the French Drama is skilfully traced to all the most eminent writers, such as Corneille, Racine, Beaumarchais, Molière, and actors such as Floridor, Madame Champmeslé, Baron, Lecouvreur, Le Kain, Mdlle. Clairon, Mdlle. Mars, Mdlle. Rachel, and others being introduced, and their influence and style discussed at considerable length and with great judgment. That the English theatrical world will derive both pleasure and instruction from this paper seems unquestionable. The visits to London recently of certain members of the Comédie Française, have created no small amount of enthusiasm for the "French plays," and the French actors who have come over, and performed to densely crowded houses, cannot but feel flattered at the reception they have experienced from their English audiences. Next comes a capital essay on "Falconry in the British Isles." There is still, we believe, attached to the Court an Hereditary Grand Falconer—our respected Bro. the Duke of St. Albans, Prov. G.M. for Lincolnshire, but Falconry, as a sport, has almost, if not entirely, died out. Yet it was held in high esteem among princes and nobles in the olden time, and a few there are who practise it even now in certain localities, with a considerable amount of success. "The Memoirs of Count de Ségur," which tell us more about Napoleon than we have known hitherto, give us also an insight into his character, which, numerous as are our histories of the First Emperor, cannot, from the close intimacy with him of the Count, be otherwise than admirable. This, also, we commend to the notice of our readers, as a paper in every way worthy of their attention. In fact, the whole number is excellent, but the articles we have named possess a more general interest.

In the *Edinburgh* we have noted specially the paper headed "On the Physiological Influence of Alcohol." The bases of this essay are by such well known authorities as Dr. Richardson, Dr. Thudicum, Dr. August Dupré, and Dr. Anstie. The baneful influence of alcohol, when imbibed in excessive quantities, on the human system is pointed out, and especially on the brain and softer tissues of the body. In the course of this interesting article we noted several important facts, and one or two singular illustrations mentioned by Dr. Anstie of the influence of alcohol for good. One is the case of an old soldier "who had lived for twenty years upon a diet composed of a bottle of unsweetened gin, and 'one small finger-length of toasted bread' per day, and who maintained the structures of his body for this long period upon that very remarkable liquid." The other is that of a young man eighteen years of age, so reduced by an attack of acute rheumatism that he could retain no food of any kind upon his stomach. "He was consequently maintained for several days upon an allowance of twelve ounces of water and twelve ounces of gin per day. His recovery under this treatment was very rapid and complete, and almost without any trace of the emaciation and wasting that ordinarily follows upon such a disease." The "life and works of Thorwaldsen" form the subject of the first article in the number, and this, again, is sure to prove attractive to the general bulk of our readers, who are familiar enough, no doubt, with the name of the great Danish sculptor, even though they may have had no opportunity of studying any of his *chef d'œuvres*. Another highly valuable contribution is a notice of certain works by "Sir H. S. Maine on Early Institutions," in which the Irish are shown to be clearly allied to the Aryans, and many points of similarity between Irish and Aryan customs are noted. After quoting Sir H. Maine's description of an Irish "Sept" from the Brehon Tracts, the writer remarks, "The primary conception of the 'Sept,' therefore, was that of a group connected by blood, and of a primitive Aryan type; but gradually acquiring the proprietary rights which seem to be the first signs of progress, though they were still overshadowed and controlled by ideas of more ancient modes of ownership once dominant among Aryan races. As in the case, however, of the 'Gens' and the 'House,' other elements besides the related kinsmen had entered, as we have seen, the 'Sept;' and it contained classes, which, though regarded as component parts of the collective 'Family,' were, nevertheless, in various degrees of dependence. Celtic Ireland certainly abounded in slaves; and in the landed arrangements of the 'Sept' we find orders of free and servile clansmen, known in the Brehon Tracts by the curious names of 'Ceile,' 'Saer-stock,' 'Daer-stock,' and 'Faidhir' tenants, and evidently analogous in some respects to the freeman and villeins of the feudal manor. In addition, the power of the chief of the 'Sept' had a constant tendency to extend itself, and to supplant every other kind of authority; we see the chief absolute in his own domain, encroaching on the common lands of the 'Sept,' and increasing the number of 'Faidhir' vassals; and here, again, we perceive an approach to the peculiarities of the feudal system. It is evident, therefore, that the 'Sept' bore marks, in some of its features, to what we can only call the growth and progress of Feudalisation, and these small units of Celtic society at once disclosed what is most archaic in the venerable forms of Aryan life, and the effects of comparatively modern changes." A notice of Mr. Carlyle's "Early Kings of Norway," which originally appeared in *Fraser*, and the closing article on the relations between "England and Russia in the East," based on certain papers by that eminent geographer, Sir Henry Rawlinson, together with an educational paper, entitled "Education of the children of the State," are also to be commended.

The St. James's Holiday Annual for 1875 includes a number of highly interesting contributions, the majority of which will enable the reader to spend a leisure hour or two very agreeably. Not the least attractive of these is the Editor's paper on "North Polar Exploration." The subject has been handled in many periodicals, but in none more successfully than in this number of the *St. James's*. Moreover, Mr. Mayer has done his best to give an air of novelty to a theme which has already passed through at least a score of variations, by dwelling more in detail on some of the more recent expeditions, and notably on that of the Polaris. There is, perhaps, but little to say that is new about "The Land of Windmills," or, in other words, about Holland, but Mr. Buckland has made his paper readable. We think he might have paid less attention to the pictures and museums, and more to the many great public works which have been undertaken at sundry times, such, for instance, as the draining of the Haarlem Lake, the North Holland Canal, &c., &c. The former are noticed at length in the guide books, but the latter fare a little worse in this respect, and receive therefore less than their due share of attention from the British travelling public. Yet they are stupendous undertakings, worthy of the people who have set a limit to the encroachments of the sea. Of the other contents, we would call attention to the story by Mr. Thos. Carlisle, "The Convict Cousin," with which the number opens. Out of every day materials, Joe Dyde, George and his Wife, and Major Ledbitter, who are personages familiar enough to all readers of fiction, Mr. Carlisle has woven a capital little story, and in doing so has shown that he possesses more than the average amount of constructive ability. His dialogue, too, is well and smartly written, while the denouement when the Major's "little game" has been played out unsuccessfully, is quite dramatic in its effect. The rest of the papers are, pretty well on a par with those we have referred to, and most of the illustrations are well drawn.

In the *Masonic Review* (Cincinnati, Ohio) we have noted especially an admirably written extract from the "address of C. H. Kingston," R.E.G.C. of Pennsylvania, to the Grand Commandery, and a paper by Bro. Cornelius Moore, the editor, on "The Charges of a Freemason." In both is visible the earnest spirit of a genuine Mason, and our readers cannot fail to profit by the advice so earnestly given by the writer. One other article well deserves to be read, and that is a sketch of "Mozart as a Freemason."

Among the contributors to the *New England Freemason* for May last, the name of one, at all events, will be familiar to our readers, that of Bro. Hughan; who supplements a former sketch of the Old Constitutions of England, by M.W. Bro. J. T. Heard, which had appeared in a previous number of this periodical, with some very interesting details about editions which Bro. Heard had passed over in silence. There is also the first of a series of articles on the "Old Halls in London associated with Masonry," Stationers' Hall being the subject of the present account. "Italian Freemasonry" is also passed under review, the materials being derived for the most part from certain of the London dailies.

The fourth number of the *Canadian Masonic News* is fully equal to its predecessors, as may be judged from one of its articles, which we recently quoted in extenso. There is also an account of the "Organisation of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba A.F. and A.M.," this having been found necessary in consequence of the distance of the Manitoba Lodges from the meetings of Grand Lodge of Canada. Delegates from the Lodge attended at Winnipeg on 12th May, and after a variety of necessary resolutions had been agreed to unanimously, the election of Grand Officers for 1875-6 was proceeded with, M.W. Bro. Rev. Dr. Clarke, Winnipeg, Past Gr. Chaplain, G.L. of Quebec, being elected G.M., R.W. Bro. Hon. W. N. Kennedy, Winnipeg, D.G.M., and R.W. Bros. Jas. Henderson, Winnipeg, and S. L. Bedson, Stone Fort, as G. Senior and Junior Wardens respectively. R. W. Bro. John Kennedy was chosen Grand Treasurer, and R. W. Bro. John H. Bell, Winnipeg, as Grand Secretary.

This month's number of *Charing Cross* contains the introduction and Chapter I. of a new story by G. Somers Bellamy, entitled "Two Wedding Rings," a prettily told story by Frank, and bearing the title of "How Kate Challenger was Wooed and Won," and some good musical and dramatic criticism. There is too "Proven," a tale in two parts, which deserves to be read.

The *London and Brighton* contains a very good programme, many of the contributions being very well written, and some highly interesting. Such are "Ulster Folk Lore," "Mesmerism, a Fabulous Legend," by Clarissa Arlo, and a neat set of verses 'A Fragment," by Mrs. Riddell. Nor must we overlook "A Hard Run, and what came of it," which will serve admirably to while away half-an-hour's leisure. Indeed, both this and the preceding magazine, the *Charing Cross*, contain some excellent light reading, the fiction being on a level with the average of magazine tales.

We have received also, but somewhat late, the July number of *Le Monde Maçonnique*, which, from the brief glance we have been able to give it, appears to be quite on a par with its usual high standard of merit. We have marked one or two extracts for quotation next week.

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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

FOR some reason or other the Government appear to be singularly reticent as to the conduct of public business during the rest of the Session. Earl Granville, for instance, on Friday evening, asked the Duke of Richmond as to what Government Bills would be proceeded with, and what, if any, abandoned, but he failed to elicit more than a general statement containing information already known to the House. Earl Delawarr having moved for and obtained certain papers relating to the Agricultural Children Act, and the Earl of Harrowby having asked the Under Secretary for War whether an examination in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales was deemed a a necessary introduction to Her Majesty's Cavalry and Infantry, Lord Strathnairn moved a resolution respecting admission into the Military Service by means of competition, but after a speech from the Under Secretary and a few remarks by other noble Lords, the motion was withdrawn. Lord Blachford's request for papers relating to the revised constitution of Natal was acceded to by the Earl of Carnarvon. The second reading of the Entail Amendment (Scotland) Bill was moved by the Lord Chancellor, and after observations from the Earl of Camperdown, the Duke of Buccleugh and others, was agreed to. Other Bills were then advanced a stage. On Monday, the Earl Beauchamp having brought up a message from the Queen, on the subject of the recent resolution respecting the Irish peerage, and Lord Penzance having put a question to the Colonial Secretary, touching an act for the compulsory purchase by the local government of land in Prince Edward's Island, which had been assented to by the Lieut. Governor of the Colony, the Lord Chancellor moved the second reading of the Statute Law Revision Bill. This was agreed to, and then Lord Stratheden and Campbell moved two resolutions having reference to the Ottoman Porte on the one hand, and a certain identic note presented in October of last year to that power by Austria, the German Empire, and Russia, and a treaty between Austro-Hungary and Roumania. A long and interesting debate, in which the Earl of Rosebery, Lord Hammond, and the Earl of Derby took part, followed, when, as regards the first resolution, it was got rid of by the previous question, while the second was withdrawn. The Conspiracy and Protection of Property Bill and the Employers and Workmen Bill were then passed through their second reading. On Monday the Entail Amendment (Scotland) Bill passed through Committee after a brief debate, in which the Earl of Camperdown, Lord Napier and Ettrick, and Viscount Cardwell took part. In reply to a question from Earl Delawarr, respecting the defunct Merchant Shipping Bill of the Government, the Earl of Malmesbury announced that Ministers proposed to introduce a measure which would give the Board of Trade greater power than it now possessed, of stopping unseaworthy ships from putting to sea, and that this would continue in operation for a year, so that there would be ample time for a more elaborate Government measure, dealing fully with the subject, to be passed. On Thursday, the Conspiracy and Protection of Property, and the Employers and Workmen Bill passed through Committee, the Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill passed its second reading, and the Report on the Entail Amendment (Scotland) Bill was agreed to, after an amendment by the Earl of Camperdown on Clause 12 had been defeated by 28 to 22.

In the House of Commons, at the morning sitting on Tuesday, sundry questions were first put and answered, and then the House went into Committee on the Agricultural Holdings Bill. An amendment of Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, that ten years instead of seven should be the maximum of unexhausted improvements in the second class, was rejected by 196 to 138. In connection with the third class, an amendment to omit the words, "as the taking of a crop" from the section of the clause providing that the taking of a crop shall be considered an exhausted

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improvement was proposed, but the proposal was defeated by 248 to 29. A motion by Mr. Hunt to insert "seed" and "hay" was carried by 268 to 77. An amendment of Sir G. Campbell on Clause 7 was accepted by the Government, and agreed to by the House. At the evening sitting, the subject of the New Opera House, proposed to be erected on the Thames Embankment, was introduced by Colonel Beresford, but his motion was negatived. A long discussion ensued on the Enclosure of Commons. The subject of Police Cells was brought up by Sir W. Frazer, soon after which the House was counted out. On Monday, Sir C. Adderley gave notice of the introduction of a temporary measure relating to unseaworthy ships, for the better protection of life, Mr. Roebuck having previously moved that Mr. Plimsoll's Bill on the same subject should be fixed for Thursday. Later on, the House resumed the consideration of the Agricultural Holdings Bill at Clause 7, and after a long and searching discussion, reached the 15th Clause, when progress was reported. After this the remaining clauses of the Militia Laws Consolidation and Amendment Bill were gone through. On Tuesday, Mr. Dillwyn questioned the Premier as to the progress of business, after which a motion by Mr. W. H. Smith, to the effect that Government orders should take precedence on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, was carried by an overwhelming majority—178 to 19. The House then resumed Committee on the Agricultural Holdings Bill, and having reached the 43rd Clause, progress was reported, the sitting having, as usual, been suspended at seven o'clock and resumed at nine. On Wednesday, the debate was resumed on the same Bill, during the early part of the sitting, at Clause 43, and when the crucial Clause of the Act, Clause 45, was reached and agreed to by the House, after division —178 for, and 116 against—progress was reported, in order that Sir C. Adderley might ask for leave to introduce a Bill re unseaworthy ships. The object of the measure, which will remain in force for one year, is to give the Board of Trade greater power than it already possesses to stop the departure of ships deemed to be unseaworthy. For this purpose the Board of Trade will have the right to appoint officers at various ports, who may, *proprio motu*, and without reference to the Board of Trade, stop all ships which appear to be overladen. Leave was given, and the Bill was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for two o'clock on Friday. After this the House rose. On Thursday, at the commencement of the sitting, Mr. Plimsoll apologised frankly for his impetuous language of that day week, upon which Mr. Disraeli moved that the resolution calling upon the Speaker to reprimand the hon. Member for Derby be discharged. This was done accordingly. The House then went into Committee again on the Agricultural Holdings Bill, Mr. Dillwyn first blocking the way, by proposing that progress be reported, in order to enable Mr. Plimsoll to proceed with the second reading of his Merchant Shipping Bill. It transpired, in the course of the somewhat heated debate which followed, that Mr. Plimsoll was anxious that the Government Bill should take precedence of his, and, accordingly, Mr. Dillwyn's motion was withdrawn. The remaining clauses having been discussed *seriatim*, and the points on which the Government laid the greatest stress having been agreed to, though not without several divisions, the Chairman was ordered to report the Bill as amended, and the House accordingly resumed. The Militia Laws Consolidation and Amendment Bill having been read a third time, and other measures having been dealt with, the House rose at a quarter past one.

It is long since the annual meeting at Wimbledon, of the National Rifle Association, has been so unfortunate in respect of weather. During the whole of the fortnight over which it extended it rained almost without intermission, and those who camped out must have had experiences of mimic campaigning not always of the most agreeable character. However, the weather would seem to have had little, if any, effect upon the shooting, which appears to have been quite up to the average. In some cases, indeed, some splendid scores were made, notably by Lieutenant Birch, Leeds Rifles, who made 50, the highest possible score at 500 yards, ten shots, and so became the winner of the Any Rifle Association Cup, which, according to general expectation, had already been secured by one of the American team, with a score of 49. So sanguine, indeed, were the latter of carrying the cup back with them that they had already wired their success under the Atlantic, and great, of course, must have been their chagrin when they found themselves so unexpectedly *birched* out of their looked-for honour. To recapitulate even a tithe of the winners of important prizes would occupy far more space than we can devote. Suffice that all the recipients of prizes were heartily cheered by their friends and comrades, and that not a few names which for years have been associated with victory at Wimbledon figured among the fortunate ones. Thus, Lieutenant Fenton 77th Foot, won Lloyd's cup with 67 out of 75 points, distance 1,000 yards, and also the Dudley prize, with 44 out of 50, ten shots, same range. Sir H. Halford carried off the Duke of Cambridge's for military breech loaders, 15 shots, 1,000 yards, score 55. Mr. Edward Ross won the Albert Prize, second stage 1,000 yards, Private Burgess, the Prince of Wales's prize, and the Oxfordshire Yeomanry, Colonel Lloyd Lindsay's Prize. Among the winners, who, in addition to the above, met with the heartiest reception, were the Harrow Boys, who won the Ashburton Shield, Cambridge, who carried off the Chancellors' Shield, the Canadians, who took the Rajah of Kolapore's Cup, Major Fulton, of the Americans, the Irish eight, winners of the Elcho Challenge Shield, Captain Easton, winner of the St. George's Vase and two other prizes, and above all the hero of the year, Captain Pearse, of Devon, who received the Queen's Prize and the Gold Medal and Badge of the N.R.A. When the distribution was over, a long interval elapsed ere the march past began, but this went off extremely well, though shorn of its principal attraction, the regular cavalry and artillery, which generally put in an appearance. The Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, distributed the prizes, and said a few kind words to those who received their well-won laurels at her hands. It only now remains for the Volunteer Artillery meeting to be held at Shoeburyness, and then the leading incidents of the volunteer year 1875 will have passed away.

The Autumn Manœuvres closed with a grand review of the two army corps, which have been engaged for the last fortnight in testing their efficiency. The review was held in the Long Valley, in the presence of H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, who was accompanied by a numerous and brilliant staff, including many foreign officers of distinction. The troops mustered close on 20,000 men, with 108 guns, and their behaviour appears to have drawn very warm expressions of praise from the Commander-in-Chief. The regiments were not numerically strong, but they seem to have some good material in them, good "food for powder," in spite of the outcry about weak, ill-conditioned youths. But 20,000 men is not a large army in these days, when even a small State like Belgium has its 100,000 men under arms.

This summer will long be remembered as one of the most disastrous to our harvest. The root crops, we believe, are in fine condition, though there is a talk of the potato disease having appeared. But vast quantities of hay have been lost, and barley and oats have likewise suffered to an almost equal extent. *A propos* of this, a Mr. W. A. Gibbs has invented a new machine for drying hay, and there would seem to be an excellent opportunity now for him to test its merits. If it answer the expectation of the inventor, this hay-making machine will certainly be serviceable in such a climate as ours. We may hope it will prove to be a success, though we greatly fear it will be of little use in restoring the present damaged hay crops to anything like their original value. While on matters agricultural, we may mention that the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland's Show was opened on Tuesday, at Glasgow. The display of implements was on a very large scale, and included this of Mr. Gibbs; while the entries for cattle, horses, sheep, swine, poultry, and agricultural produce, were satisfactory both as to quality and numbers. Among the shorthorn prize winners, may be mentioned the famous Lord Irwin, the Duke of Nosta, and two of the latter's progeny. The exhibitors included the Queen, the Dukes of Richmond, Athole, and Buccleugh, the last of whom won many prizes, the Earl of Ellesmere, who distinguished himself in swine, and Lord Chesham, who was among the prominent sheep winners. There has been held also, at Norwich, the East of England Horse Show. On Friday next, the International Dog Show opens, at Manchester; on Tuesday, the Dublin Horse and Rose Show. Saturday will be the first day of a Pony Show at Lillie Bridge.

The most important event in the sporting world is the Goodwood meeting, at which their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales have been present as guests of the Duke of Richmond. Fortunately the weather this week has been magnificent, and those who attended the meeting had a grand opportunity for enjoying themselves.

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The chief event on Tuesday was the Steward's Cup, for which 22 appeared at the post. Trappist won by two lengths of Coomassie, in rear of whom by three lengths was Berryfield, the favourite, Killiecrankie, being among those who pulled up before reaching the post. On Wednesday, the Goodwood stakes was won by Freeman, ridden by Fordham, Bertram coming in second, a length behind, and Escort only half a length to the bad third. Thirteen started, and the race—two miles and a half—was run in 5 mins. 1 sec. Thursday was the cup day, the winner of the leading event being Lord Ailesbury's Aventurière, Scamp coming in second, and Trent third. In cricket there has been one first class match, Gloucestershire v. Yorkshire, played at Brammall ground, Sheffield, on Monday and the two following days, for the benefit of the veteran, J. Thewlis. The latter county won by seven wickets, chiefly owing to the brilliant batting of Greenwood, who made 52 and not out 24, Lockwood who made 74 and not out 39. Mr. W. G. Grace again made one of his brilliant three figure innings, 111, and at his second attempt he put together 43, but the rest of his team, with the exception of Messrs. Matthews (11 and 23), Monckland (14 and 17) and Bush give him but little support. The scores were Gloucestershire 194 and 107, Yorkshire 211 and 93, with three wickets down. After a hard fight Lancashire has beaten Kent; the former compiling 164 and 118, the latter 145 and 105. Barlow (31 and 45) for Lancashire, and Mr. C. Absolom (63 and 17) and Lord Harris (7 and not out 49) for Kent, were the principal scorers. In the Rugby v. Marlborough match, the latter were all out for 23, while Rugby amassed 156 in its first innings. In the second attempt the Marlborough fared somewhat better, and when stumps were drawn on Wednesday, had put together 83 for the loss of five wickets, G. P. Wilson being not out 32. On Thursday, play was resumed, Marlborough again appearing at the wickets, but they only succeeded in carrying their score to 98, and thus Rugby won in one innings by 35 runs. Next week is the great cricket festival at Canterbury, lasting all the week through. The three matches will be Gloucestershire and Kent v. All England, M.C.C. and Ground v. Kent and gentlemen of Kent v. I Zingari. Of other sporting events we may note the Grand International Polo and Pigeon Shooting Match at Brighton, to-day, and Monday, the Royal Yacht Squadron Regatta, at Cowes, which will be held from Tuesday to Friday next, both days inclusive, and shortly the South Coast Regattas will be in full swing, and we hope will meet with the usual support from the holiday folks, whom, doubtless, the fine weather will take in their thousands to the various watering places along the South Coast.

The hospitalities of the Mansion House are being dispensed with a liberality which is in the highest degree creditable, both to our respected brother, the Lord Mayor, and the great and ancient city, of which he is this year the chief magistrate. On Thursday, he gave a grand International Municipal Banquet, there being present the French Ambassador, the Japanese Ambassador, the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, M. Ferdinand Duval, Prefect of the Seine, with other French prefects and mayors, the Burgomasters of Brussels, Antwerp, and Amsterdam, the Mayors of Turin, Florence, Quebec, Toronto, together with the Lord Mayors of Dublin and York, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and the municipal chiefs of all the most important towns in the United Kingdom. It is long, indeed, since so distinguished and so thoroughly civic a gathering has been seen within the walls of our Lord Mayor's residence. As a matter of course, the banquet passed off amid the greatest enthusiasm, and will doubtless prove a fitting inauguration to other international courtesies *en tapis*.

The Alexandra Palace Directors have at length—provided the present brilliant weather continue for a reasonable length of time—a chance of showing what their Palace and grounds are capable of affording in the way of entertainments. Not that we have not had already many opportunities of testing their directorial powers, but great as have been the numbers which, on occasions such as Whit-Monday for instance, have visited the Muswell Hill Grounds, a continuance of this weather will tax them still further. To-day with its International Fête will, we hope, bring thousands of visitors. The special programme for Monday, the Bank Holiday, may not improbably assemble a good century of thousands, while the agreeable Summer Evening Promenade Concerts are sure to prove as attractive in the future as they have been thus far. One of the chief features to-morrow and next week will be the presence and performances of the splendid band of the Garde Républicaine, which has been allowed to visit London by special permission of the President, Marshal MacMahon, and General Cissey.

The Crystal Palace has held a goat show, but one of the grand attractions of the year will come off to-day, when Mr. Sims Reeves holds his Annual Benefit Concert.

We note in the musical world that Her Majesty's closed on Saturday, with the performance of "Lohengrin," for the benefit of Mr. Mapleson, whose efforts to meet the wishes of his patrons are too well known to require comment. On Wednesday Mdlle. Titiens, who is about to leave England for the United States, gave her first benefit concert at the Albert Hall, and achieved a most brilliant success, not only as regards the programme provided—at which many of the most eminient *artistes* assisted—but from the numerous company which assembled to do honour to this popular singer.

As regards foreign news, the most important relates to Spain and the Herzegovina. The Turks have not yet put down the insurrection in the latter, and there is no knowing how soon in all Eastern difficulties, the slightest spark may kindle into a flame, and set all Europe in glowing heat. As regards the former country, it is evident the Carlists, as we fully imagined, are equal to a good deal more beating yet, before their utter extinction can be announced by the Madrid Government. There has been a succession of Alphonsist victories, and what then? Carlism still rears its head in proud defiance. Will the end of this miserable war precede the Greek Calends or *vice versâ*?

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards of the 77th Anniversary Festival of the Boys' School was held on the 22nd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, and was numerously attended. Bro. I. M. S. Montague, D.P.G.M. Dorset, was unanimously voted to the chair. Bro. F. Binckes, Hon. Sec., read the minutes relating to the Anniversary Festival, when it was resolved—that the Board of Stewards of the recent Festival desire to place on record the cordial approval of the alteration of the date of holding the Festival. They also desire to bear their unqualified testimony to the excellence of the banquet supplied by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts, and to the admirable manner in which those gentlemen gave effect to the wishes of the Board; and, further, their approbation of the system, inaugurated on the late occasion, under which ladies and brethren dined together at the same tables; no untoward event of any kind having occurred to interfere with, or militate against, the success of the assembly. The accounts rendered by Bro. Webster were very satisfactory, there being 301 ladies and 381 brethren present, and there were 159 stewards. The amount realised was £12,704; and 39 stewards at present not having made their returns. A sum of ten guineas was usually voted to be placed on the list of the Treasurer, but, having sufficient funds in hand, it was augmented to 25 guineas. A sum of ten guineas to Bro. Taylor, for services rendered by him on the occasion of the Festival. A sum of £60 bonus to Bro. Binckes was proposed by Bro. S. Rosenthal, and seconded by Bro. H. M. Levy, and also a cordial vote of thanks for his indefatigable exertions in not only arranging this Festival, but also former ones, thus contributing to the success of the Institution. Bro. F. Binckes, in returning thanks for the vote, said it was pleasing to him to receive so many expressions of satisfaction on the part of the Stewards. Bro. S. Rosenthal, in glowing terms, proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Montagu, the acting President, who had so ably presided over them, and also for his great exertions in the cause of the charity. Bro. Montagu returned thanks, and the last meeting of the Stewards' of the Festival of 1875 was dissolved. There were present Bros. R. B. Webster Treasurer, S. Rosenthal, G. W. Verry, W. Lane, F. Adlard, W. C. Parsons, J. Bingeman, A. Barfield, J. Healey, J. Wright.

The General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, met on Thursday, the 29th, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. Benjamin Head in the chair. Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, the Secretary, read the minutes of the last General Committee. The Quarterly General Court was read and adopted, also the report of the Audit Committee was read, showing a balance of £5,488 2s 6d, and the sum of £8,000 was ordered to be

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invested in the 3 per cent. reduced Consols, and candidates were placed on the list. The following brethren were present—J. Nunn, J. Boyd, H. A. Dubois, J. Rucker, F. Binckes, H. W. Hemsworth, L. Sabine, Griffiths Smith, T. White, A. H. Tattershall, H. Massey, A. H. Diaper, C. Montrie, H. M. Levy, &c.,

THE THANET CONCLAVE OF KNIGHTS OF ROME, AND OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE, No. 121, MARGATE.

THIS Masonic and Military Grade of Masonry is, we are pleased to find, making great progress in the province, and it was with pleasure that we witnessed the consecration of this new Conclave in the town of Margate, on Wednesday 21st July. Nothing could have been more favourable to the success of the inauguration than the gratuitous assistance so kindly afforded to its Sovereign, his Officers and Sir Knights Companions, by the V.I. Sir Kt. R. Wentworth Little P.G.S.G. Grand Treasurer, &c., the Ill. Sir Kt. H. A. Dubois Asst. Grand Treasurer, &c., the Ill. Sir Kt. the Rev. P. M. Holden P.S., and other eminent members of the Grand Council and Senate in the performance of the ceremonies.

Prior to the inauguration and enthronement of the M.P.S., and consecration of the Vy. Eus., the acting Principals installed the following brethren:—Bro. W. H. Charrington P.M., Bro. Hy. Botting P.M., Bro. Wm. Wells P.M., and W.M., all of the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 717, Guildford, and Bro. H. C. Fuhr, P.M. of the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, No. 199, Dover, and Bro. Geo. Hills of the Lewis's Lodge, No. 429, Ramsgate.

The M.P.S. having duly installed and given offices to Sir Knights T. M. Compton, Vy. E. W. Searles S.G., H. Spurrier J.G., W. H. Hennah H.P., J. Bristed T., F. L. Sillani R., J. W. Smith P., G. Hills S.B., A. J. Cave H., W. K. Treeves D.C., J. McCubbin 1st A., H. E. Davis 2nd A., A. Aubrey O., H. C. Fuhr S., R. J. Feakins S[1], they were allotted stalls in the new Conclave. The M.P.S., Sir Kt. Mannering W. Bolton, was then enthroned, and the Vy. Eus. Sir Kt. T. M. Compton consecrated, and the solemn proceedings of dedication and inauguration were continued.

The petition and warrant were read by the Recorder. The Grand High Prelate, the Very Ill. The Rev. P. M. Holden, delivered the Grand Charge and Traditional History of this Order, with marked emphasis and effect, and the newly installed M.P.S. (to whom the Companions are indebted for the formation of this Conclave) with his Vy. Eus. and Officers closed the proceedings, and the Sir Knts. went to the King's Head Hotel to enjoy the magnificent banquet provided for them by the host, Bro. J. Smith. The usual toasts of this Order were given and received, but time would not permit us to remain longer than to hear the first one or two, on account of the inevitable "LAST TRAIN UP," and we regretfully took our departure. The great success that has attended the formation of the Thanet Conclave must be a source of considerable satisfaction to its founders, and they should ever feel indebted to the members of the Grand Council and Senate, and the M.P.S. of the De Shurland Conclave, No. 92, Sir Kt. John Hancock, who afforded them so much assistance.

The Conclave now musters some twenty Knights, residing in Thanet and its environs, and several in Surrey, and about ten more brethren have been duly elected, whose installations will shortly take place, so the Thanet Conclave is likely to become a numerous and popular one, and we wish it continued prosperity.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF ENGLAND.

THE following is the agenda paper of the Quarterly Communication, to be held at Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., on Wednesday, the 4th day of August proximo, at seven o'clock in the evening punctually:—

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

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 21st April 1875, to the 21st July 1875, both inclusive, which they find to be as follow:—To Balance 21st April £810 1s 6d, to subsequent receipts £273 19s 9d, total £1,084 1s 3d. By purchase of £500 Consols at 94 and commission £470 12s 6d, by disbursements during the quarter £158 9s 8d, by balance £308 0s 2d, by balance in unappropriated account £146 18s 11d, total £1,084 1s 3d, 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 Comps. Thomas Ward as Z., James McIntyre as H., Arthur John Randell as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the British Kaffrarian Lodge, No. 853, King William's Town, Cape of Good Hope, to be called the "St. George's Chapter," and to meet at King William's Town, South Africa.

2nd. From Comps. the Rev. Robert Bowden as Z., Frederick Duffy Bowes as H., Philip Damerel Michelmore as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Devon Lodge, No. 1138, Newton Abbot, to be called "The Devon Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Newton Abbot, in the County of Devon.

3rd. From Comps. George Davenport Pochin as Z., Carl Johann Wilhelm Götz as H., Joseph Mackie as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Architect Lodge, No. 1375, Didsbury, to be called "The Architect Chapter," and to meet at the Didsbury Hotel, Didsbury, in the County of Lancaster.

4th. From Comps. William Green Brighten as Z., Charles Hammerton as H., Charles Henry Benham as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Stockwell Lodge, No. 1339, Tulse Hill, to be called "The Stockwell Chapter," and to meet at the Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill.

5th. From Comps. William Stuart as Z., John Richard Bull as H., Alfred Cookson as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Stuart Lodge, No. 640, Bedford, to be called "The Stuart Chapter," and to meet at the Swan Hotel, Bedford.

6th. From Comps. Alexander Lodwick Irvine as Z., George Waterall as H., Samuel Harford Wagstaff as J., and ten others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Macdonald Lodge, No. 1216, Camberwell, to be called "The Macdonald Chapter," and to meet at the Head Quarters of the 1st Surrey Volunteer Rifle Corps, Flodden Road, Camberwell.

7th. From Comps. William Wells as Z., Butler Wilkins as H., Frank George Buckle as J., and nine others, for a Chapter to be attached to the St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442, Peterborough, to be called "The St. Peter's Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Peterborough, in the County of Northampton.

8th. From Comps. James Dickeson Terson as Z., Edward Wickens Fry as H., William John Adcock as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 199, Dover, to be called "The Peace and Harmony Chapter," and to meet at the Royal Oak Hotel, Dover, in the County of Kent.

The foregoing Petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the Prayers thereof be respectively granted.

(Signed) JOHN SAVAGE,
President.

Obituary.

BRO. RICHARD BATTERSBY, OF BURY (LANCASHIRE).

ON Wednesday afternoon, the 21st inst., while the steamer Nelson (Captain Roskell) was returning from Morecambe to Blackpool, with excursionists, an object resembling a human body was seen floating below the mouth of the river Lune, some three or four miles from shore. A boat was at once lowered, and Captain Roskell and two of the crew proceeded to the spot, and succeeded in recovering what the Captain had good grounds for believing to be the body of Bro. Richard Battersby, late of Parsons Lane, Bury, aged 27, who, along with Bro. R. W. O'Neil, lost his life while yachting in Morecambe Bay on the afternoon of the 20th May last. A reward of £50 had been offered for the recovery of the body, and we need hardly say that the seafaring folk along the coast of Morecambe Bay and its approaches had long kept a sharp look out. The body, when picked up, was enveloped in a mackintosh—which he wore when he and Bro. O'Neil fell into the sea—that had no doubt tended to preserve it. From personal acquaintance with the deceased, Captain Roskell had no doubt it was the body of Bro. Battersby, the long submersion in the sea not having altogether obliterated the means of identification, and on an examination of the deceased's clothes, subsequent to the landing of the body at the South Pier, Blackpool, there were such evidences found—cards, envelopes, &c., bearing his name and address—as left no room for any doubt on the point of identity which might have previously existed. Mr. J. T. Newbold, The Springs, Bury, happened to be in Blackpool at the time, and hearing of the discovery of the body he proceeded to look at it, and was enabled (though not without some difficulty) to identify it by the features as the body of Bro. Battersby. All doubt, therefore, being removed, the family of the deceased at Bury were communicated with, and due preparations made for handing the body over into their charge.

Although the body had been upwards of sixty days at sea, it was in a fair state of preservation when found. The pockets of the mackintosh were turned inside out, but none of the other pockets appeared to have been disturbed, and the watch, notes, and loose cash that the deceased had taken out with him were all found; likewise the ring he wore when the accident occurred. The body was picked up some five miles from where the accident happened, and there is reason for supposing that it has never been washed out of the Bay into open sea. It is thought that the body had floated only the day on which it was picked up—the features being then quite white—and that up to that period it had either been sanded over or entangled among the sea weed, which on breaking up had released the body.

An inquest was held on the following day, and a verdict of "accidentally drowned" returned.

The funeral of the deceased took place on Saturday morning last, in the family vault at St. Paul's Churchyard, Bury.

As the funeral party entered the church, Bro. J. R. Fletcher, P.M. Lodge 191, played Mendelssohn's Funeral March on the organ, and as they left he played "Dead March" in *Saul*.

Just before the coffin was lowered to its last resting place, Mr. T. Battersby, brother of the deceased, laid a floral cross on the lid, and handsome wreaths of flowers were placed thereon by Bro. G. O'Neil and Mr. J. H. Openshaw.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—When the weather is hot it will be found that persons who suffer from swelled feet and ankles, various veins, ulcers, and sores of all kinds, and, in fact, from any skin disease, find these complaints more troublesome and aggravating than at any other time of the year, they will soon find relief in the use of these remedies, for if the wounds or ulcers are dressed with this Ointment, it at once soothes the irritability of the skin, causes the discharges to lose their acrimonious character, and lessens any inflammation that may be present. It cannot be too widely known that these twin remedies are the most powerful of anti-febrile and anti-inflammatory agents we possess.

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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.

—:o:—

MONDAY, 2nd AUGUST.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel Assembly Rooms, Preston.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
156—Harmony, Royalo Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
251—Loyal, Freemasons' Hall, Queen Anne's Wall, Barnstaple.
303—Benevolent, Masonic Hall, Teignmouth.
381—Harmony and Industry, New Inn, Over Darwen.
422—Yarborough, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Gainsborough.
451—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Suffolk-street, Shields.
597—St. Cybi, Marine Hotel, Holyhead.
804—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Havant.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Ashbourne.
907—Fowey, Masonic Rooms, Fowey.
1009—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1050—Gundolph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Hotel, Blackley, near Manchester.
1303—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, Yorks.
1519—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors.

TUESDAY, 3rd AUGUST.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.

67—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
70—St. John's, Royalo Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
252—Harmonic, Freemasons' Temple, Stone-street, Dudley.
286—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
393—St. David's, Masonic Hall, Parade, Berwick.
421—Loyal Lodge of Industry, Freemasons' Hall, South Molton.
660—Camalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorkshire.
949—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Lindale, Leighton Buzzard.
1134—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
1523—Waverley, Church Inn, Hurst Cross, near Ashton-under-Lyne.

M.M. 161—Walton, St. Lawrence Boys' School, Kirkdale.

WEDNESDAY, 4th AUGUST.

Grand Chapter, at 7.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
164—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, London Hotel, Sidmouth.
168—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
263—Bedford, Private Rooms, Abbey, Tavistock.
286—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.
289—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
327—St. John's, Lamb and Lion, Wigton, Cumberland.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High Street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
645—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
678—Earl Ellesmere, Church Hotel, Worsley, near Bolton.
839—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
992—St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton, Manchester.
1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1144—Milton, Ryecroft Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.

R. A. 126—Nativity, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
R. A. 223—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Bolton.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, St. George's-street, Leeds.
M.M. 36—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.

THURSDAY, 5th AUGUST.

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.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
637—Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.
680—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
1204—Brent, Masonic Hall, Globe Hotel, Topsham.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Banks-street, Newcastle.
1367—Beamish-ter Manor, White Hart Hotel, Beaminster.
1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Swan Hotel, Padiham, near Burnley.

FRIDAY, 6th AUGUST.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1567—Metropolitan, 200 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
242—St. George, Town Hall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.

K.T.—Loyal Volunteers, Queen's Arms, Ashton-under-Lyne.

SATURDAY, 7th AUGUST.

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

1458—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—5—Waterford, Masonic Hall, The Mall, Waterford.
" 110—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Carlow.
" 122—Patrick, Masonic Hall, Dungannon, co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY—30—True Blue, Killyleagh, co. Down.
" 39—Ballymartin, Court House, Ballymahon.
" 719—St. Albans, Private House, Main-street, Newtownlimavady, Derry.
" 881—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, co. Monaghan.
" 905—True Blue, Anne-street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—51—Temple, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
" 78—Waringsford, Tullyniskey, Down.
" 232—Desmond, Masonic Hall, Newcastle West, co. Limerick.
THURSDAY—32—Royal Shamrock, Lodge Room, Clave's Place, Waterford.
" 111—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 372—Guthall, Princes-street, Dromore, co. Down.
" 855—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—97—Hiram's, Masonic Hall, Arthur Square, Belfast.
" 110—Kilren, Kilrea, co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 238—Gorey, Gorey.
" 891—St. John's, Town Hall, Enniskillen.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—Quarterly Meeting of Grand Lodge.
429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 36 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.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 28th July, at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green. Present—Bros. Halford W.M., Crusch S.W., Isaac J.W., Killick Secretary, Defries Treasurer, Walker S.D., Saul J.D., Stock I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Beckett Preceptor, Killick sen., and a large muster of the members. Business—Lodge opened in the usual manner, and the minutes of previous meeting confirmed. Bro. Pearcy raised to the degree of W.M. 1st section of 3rd lecture worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Beckett's adjourned motion to alter Bye Law 7 was then considered, and, being seconded by Bro. Pearcy, was carried unanimously. Bros. Saul, Pearcy, Stock, Beckett, and Killick were appointed a committee to consider the removal of the Lodge, and also a revision of the Bye Laws, and ordered to present their report at the next Lodge meeting. Next Monday, being a Bank Holiday, the Lodge was adjourned until the 9th August, and closed in Masonic form.

Prince Edwin Lodge, No. 138, Bury.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 21st July. Present—Bros. Warwick Wood W.M., W. S. Barlow S.W., J. Senior J.W., Edward Robinson S.D., Thomas Ramsbottom sen. J.D., Thomas Wood Treasurer, Thomas Ramsbottom jun. Secretary, Joseph Wolstenholme I.G., Wright Greenhalgh Tyler. Visitor—Bro. G. Brown I.G. Egerton Lodge, No. 1392. Business—Mr. Samuel Wrigley was balloted unanimously and initiated, and Bros. J. Tattersall and John Pilling were raised. Two propositions for initiation were received.

Lodge of Lights, No. 148, Warrington.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday evening last. The W.M. Dr. John Bowes P.M. P.Z. Past Prov. G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmoreland was supported by Bros. W. H. Robinson S.W., Thos. Tunstall J.W., Jos. Pickthall S.W., J. R. Young J.D., C. E. Hindley I.G., W. Sharp P.M. Treasurer, W. Mossop P.M. Prov. G. Steward, W. Richardson P.M. W.M. No. 1250, G. A. Clark, John Dismelow, Charles Crosier J.W. No. 1250, W. Crompton, Jabez G. Hughes, Thos. Jones, Jno. Armstrong, Jas. Hannah Tyler. Visitors:—Bros. P. J. Edelsten W.M. 1134, J. R. Tomlinson W.M. 358, J. W. Sanders 1219, J. H. Galloway 1250. The Lodge was opened in due form with prayer, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and declared to be correctly recorded. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. James Paterson claimed advancement, and having sustained his claim was entrusted. On re-admission, Bro. Paterson was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. in ample form by the W.M., the working tools being explained by the S.W. The Lodge was closed down to the first degree, when the following gentlemen, who had already been approved, were separately introduced and initiated by the W.M., viz.: Messrs. S. E. Johnson, A. Peake and B. L. Pierpoint. Bros. Robert Vawser C.E. and Thos. Sutton were proposed as joining members; and a gentleman as a fit and proper person for ballot. The Lodge was closed in harmony.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 28th July, at the White Hart Tavern, Aldchurch Lane. Present—Bros. Blinkhorn W.M., Abell S.W., D. Posener J.W., J. Constable Treasurer, Gomes S.D., Blackhall J.D., Franks I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M. Brother Gotthelf Preceptor. Business—The first ceremony was rehearsed by the W.M., who showed considerable proficiency in his work. The first three sections were worked by Bro. John Constable, assisted by the brethren. The proceedings ended, and the meeting was adjourned to Wednesday, 4th August 1875.

Everton Lodge, No. 823, Liverpool.—Another of the numerous installation ceremonies which take place in connection with the Liverpool Lodges at this season of the year was performed at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday evening, when Bro. Thomas Shaw was placed in the W.M.'s chair of the Everton Lodge, No. 823. There was a very large and influential gathering, including a number of W.M.'s, P.M.'s, and officers from other Lodges. The ceremony of installation was very ably performed by Bro. W. Cottrell, the I.P.M., to whom was presented a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, as a token of the respect felt for him by the brethren at the close of his year in the chair. The following were invested as the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. Wilson S.W., J. Hoalding J.W., W. J. Last P.M. Treas., H. Ashmore Secretary, J. Goodman S.D., J. S. Cuthbert J.D., P. W. Oglesby I.G., T. Webster S.S., J. J. Boyle J.S., T. H. Careful A.S., J. Holland P.M., D.C., and A. J. Fishlock. The annual installation pic-nic took place at Parkgate on Thursday, and was generally voted the most enjoyable ever held in connection with the Everton Lodge. There were altogether about 250 ladies and brethren present, and as the weather was delightfully fine the enjoyment was all the greater. The catering of Bro. Acton, of the Union Hotel, Parkgate, gave universal satisfaction, dinner and tea being served in a large marquee erected on the grounds of the pleasantly situated hotel. The amusements of the large party were very varied, comprising dancing, boating, donkey and other races, &c., and the "outers" returned to town shortly before eleven o'clock.

Lebanon Chapter, No. 1326.—A convocation of this new

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and flourishing Chapter was held on Saturday, at the Red Lion, Hampton. The Chapter was opened by Comps. F. Walters P.Z. as Z., S. Wickens H., and W. Hammond J. The election for the officers were unanimous, and Comp. W. Smeed P.Z. exalted Bro. W. Mitchel, and afterwards Comp. S. Wickens was installed Z., by Comp. W. Smeed, who inducted W. Hammond H., H. A. Dubois J. The ceremonies were performed in Comp. Smeed's usual impressive manner. Comp. J. Hammond was invested Treasurer, F. Walters P.Z. S.E., E. Hopwood S.N., E. Gilbert P.S., Rev. P. M. Holden 1st Asst. and Chaplain, W. Mitchell 2nd Asst., J. Wallis D.C., H. Potter W.S. A five guinea P.Z.'s jewel was voted to Comp. J. T. Moss I.P.M., for services rendered by him to the Chapter during his occupation of the chair. Several candidates were proposed for exaltation, and the Chapter was closed. A banquet followed. The visitors were Comps. R. Watts P.Z. 185, F. Binckes P.Z. 10, R. W. Williams 79, H. J. Green 79, and several others.

Anchor Lodge, No. 1337.—The monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 21st day of July, at the Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton. There was a moderate attendance of the brethren. The officers present were—Bros. C. Waistell P.M., J. Fairborn W.M., G. F. Clarkson S.W., the J.W., S.D., J.D. and I.G. being prevented from attending, their places were filled by Bros. M. Walmsley, R. Palliser, C. Ashton and T. Bell, T. Bell Secretary, E. Wilkinson Tyler. The Lodge was opened in due form at 8.30. The minutes of the previous Lodge were read and confirmed. There being no other business the W.M. closed the Lodge at 9.15, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The W.M. then proceeded with the toasts, commencing with the Queen and the members of the Royal Family. To the toast of "The Visiting Brethren" Bro. J. Walker, of the Landmark Lodge, Chicago, responded. The last toast was given and the brethren separated after a very pleasant evening.

Formor Hesketh Lodge, No. 1350.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Thursday, 15th July, at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool. Present—Bros. Dr. J. W. Bennett, W.M., R. Collinson S.W., W. H. Cooper J.W., J. O. Samuels Secretary, T. A. Collinson I.P.M. Treasurer, Dr. Pierce S.D., W. P. Evans J.D., S. Johnston P.M. D.C., T. Kay Steward, T. F. Cooper I.G., W. H. Ball Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. T. R. Hughes, Dr. Samuels, Dr. Crawford, Johnstone, Collinson and Harbord. Visitors—Bros. P.M. Buck P.P. Chaplain Shropshire, and V.W P.M. Goggin P.P. Chaplain of West Lancashire, J. P. Platt, A. J. Platt Provincial Officer, Cheshire, P.M. Mewburn, &c. Business—Installation of W.M. by P.M. Collinson. Banquet in evening; usual Masonic toasts. J. T. Evans, Esq. was initiated.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The weekly meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held on 23rd July, at the Metropolitan Club, King's Cross. Bro. Side as W.M., Jas. Willing jun. S.W., Shead J.W., W. M. Stiles Secretary, Scales I.G., T. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, and Bros. Carot, Jones, Cox, Fowler, Yeomans, Tetterborn and Rapkin. The Lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Fowler acting as candidate. The ceremonies of passing and raising followed, Bro. Carot acting as candidate. The first and second sections of the first lecture were worked by the brethren, assisted by Preceptor Adams. Bro. Jas. Willing jun. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the meeting was adjourned until the following Friday.

The Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1435.—This Lodge met on Monday at the Westbourne Restaurant, Crown Road, Bayswater. Bros. Savage W.M., Miles S.W., Cole J.W., Read Secretary, Beyett S.D., W. M. Stiles J.D., Ormiston I.G., Gellion and Alexander. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Gellion acting as candidate. The 3rd degree was then worked, Bro. Stiles acting as candidate. Great credit is due to the acting W.M. for his able delivery of the ceremonies and his lecture on the tracing board of the 3rd degree. Bro. Miles was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

FOR the first time since January 1874, when an Emergency Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire Freemasons was convened for the purpose of attending the obsequies of the late Dr. Fearnley, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire, a Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire Masons was holden at Dewsbury on Wednesday, 21st July. At the installation of the Right Worshipful Brother Lieut.-Colonel Sir H. Edwards, Bart., J.P., D.L., as Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire, which took place at a Lodge held at Halifax, on the 21st of April, the Grand Lodge was invited by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge of the Three Grand Principles, No. 208, Dewsbury, to hold its next meeting under their banner, and the invitation was accepted. We have every reason to believe that on no past occasion has there been so large a gathering of the Craft in Dewsbury, or the district, as that assembled in the spacious Lodge room in Long Causeway on Wednesday, and the members were as enthusiastic as the assembly was large in numerical strength. The meeting was regarded as a most important one in consequence of an announcement having been made that the province had determined to make some recognition of its appreciation of the valuable services rendered by W. Brother Bentley Shaw P.G.D. of England, as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, during the past eleven years. This took the form of a magnificent and richly chased "Corbeille à fleurs," in the Byzantine style, parcel gilt, with scroll handles and chased silver shields, bearing arms and inscription, value 300 guineas. The large shield bears the arms of Bro. Bentley Shaw, and the following inscription:—"From the Freemasons of the Province of West Yorkshire. Presented to Bro. Bentley Shaw J.P. and D.L., P.G.D. of England, Woodfield House, Holdersfield, in acknowledgment of distinguished services, as their Deputy Provincial Grand Master, from 30th March, A.L. 5864, to 21st April, A.L. 5875." The "Corbeille à fleurs" stands on a handsome shaped pedestal, with chased silver shields, one containing the arms of the Craft, and the other the following inscription:—"Presented by the Right Worshipful Master Lieut.-Col. Sir Hy. Edwards, Bart., and T. W. Tew, J.P., on behalf of the 59 Lodges of the Province of West Yorkshire." The plate was purchased from Bro. Manoah Rhodes P.M. P.P.G.W. of Bradford. Long before noon—the Provincial Grand Lodge being called for an hour later—the brethren from all parts of the province, but more especially from the Lodges in Dewsbury, Batley, Mirfield, Heckmondwike, Cleckheaton, and Morley began to assemble at the Masonic Hall, and before the commencement of the proceedings no fewer than 55, from a total of 59, Lodges in the Province were represented by Masters, Past Masters and Officers. On each side of the building were placed rows of seats for the accommodation of the brethren, the centre, as well as the platform, being reserved for the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The Masonic jewels and clothing presented a marked contrast when compared with the full evening dress worn by the members; and the sun shining, as it did during the whole of the proceedings, through the stained windows, assisted in making the scene a very pretty one. At 12.45 p.m. the Lodge of the Three Grand Principles was opened up in the three degrees, by Brother Thos. Wells W.M. and his officers; and shortly after one o'clock the Prov. Grand Lodge made its appearance in the usual form. The Right Worshipful Brother Sir H. Edwards Prov. Grand Master having taken his seat, and prayer having been offered and a portion of Holy Scripture read by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, Sir Henry was saluted according to ancient custom in a very enthusiastic manner by nearly 200 brethren from 55 of the 59 Lodges in the Province. He was supported by W. Bro. Thomas William Tew J.P. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, 910, Pontefract, W. Bro. Major Thomas Gouldburn Parker Prov. S.G. Warden, 401, Shaldburn, W. Bro. William Henry Brittain Prov. J.G. Warden, 139, Sheffield, W. Bro. Rev. Arthur Wolfe Hamilton M.A. Prov. G. Chaplain, 189, Sheffield, W. Bro. Rev. George Samuel Dunbar M.A. Prov. G. Chaplain, 910, Pontefract, W. Bro. Robert I. Critchley J.P. Prov. G. Treasurer, 208, Dewsbury, W. Bro. Edmund Mirsom Worrall jun. Prov. G. Registrar, 61, Halifax, W. Bro. Henry Smith Prov. Grand Secretary, 387, Wakefield, W. Bro. William Tasker Prov. S.G. Deacon, 61, Halifax, W. Bro. Thomas Heaton Prov. J.G. Deacon 275, Huddersfield, W. Bro. C. Mandall Hartley Prov. G. Sup. of Works 242, Doncaster, W. Bro. William Roddewig Prov. G.D. of C., 298, Sheffield, W. Bro. James Sack Prov. G.A.D. of C., 289, Leeds, W. Bro. Frederick Crossley Prov. G.S. Bearer, 1231, Elland, W. Bro. Frederick Whitworth Nicholson Prov. G. Organist, 1064, Ecclesshill, W. Bro. Adolph E. Powoley Prov. G Pursuivant, 1211, Leeds, W. Bro. John Richardson jun. Prov. G.A. Pursuivant, 1001, Harrogate, W. Bro. John R. Armitage Prov. Grand Steward, 302, Bradford, W. Bro. Jno. Ibberson Prov. Grand Steward, 1102, Mirfield, W. Bro. Allen Jackson Prov. Grand Steward, 531, Huddersfield, W. Bro. Geo. Haigh Prov. Grand Steward 149, Meltham, W. Bro. John Marshall Prov. Grand Steward, 1283, Sowerby Bridge, W. Bro. Henry Ward Prov. Grand Steward, 1018, Bradford, W. Bro. Joshua Lee Prov. G. Tyler, 290, Huddersfield, and Bro. Jonas Sheard Prov. G.A. Tyler, 208, Dewsbury.

The Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, on rising to acknowledge the salute, was loudly cheered, and when the enthusiasm had subsided, he cordially thanked the brethren for attending the meeting. He said he felt they had paid him a great personal compliment—one that he did not expect even from the Masons of West Yorkshire as their representative. In return he desired to say that he was proud to represent such a province as that of which he had the honour to be the head; he could assure all present that his best endeavours should always be used, not only for the Freemasons of West Yorkshire, but also for his brethren throughout the United Kingdom. (Applause.) He had not been for the past 25 years a Mason without understanding its principles and without having gained some faith in his brethren. (Applause.) He believed that a good Mason was a man of unsullied honesty and integrity; and he had learned, from experience, to trust a brother until he found his faith misplaced. If a man once suspected his neighbour,—if suspicion gained possession of the heart,—all trust and credit ceased, and anything but good was the result. In conclusion, Sir Henry said the gathering of the Craft, which he had the honour of addressing, was a credit to the province; and he cordially and fraternally thanked all present for the honour they conferred upon him personally by attending in such large numbers. (Cheers.)

The W. Deputy Prov. G. Master, Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., having been saluted by the brethren, thanked the meeting for the kind sentiments expressed towards the Prov. Grand Master, and for the cordial reception they had given to himself (the speaker). He most cordially, heartily, and fraternally thanked them. He desired to state that when the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master installed him as Deputy Provincial Grand Master he felt there could be no better way of appreciating the honour conferred upon him than by making a personal visit to all the Lodges in the province. He had already been to a great number, and had, on every occasion, met with the greatest kindness and hospitality. (Cheers.) He intended to continue his visits, and hoped by so doing—and thus assisting in promoting the study of Freemasonry—he would not misplace the confidence of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Sir Henry Edwards, had placed in him. (Cheers.)

The Deputy Prov. G. Master next read the roll of Lodges, and some other routine business having been transacted,

The Right Worshipful P.G. Master, Sir Henry Edwards, after a few preliminary remarks, said:—Brethren,—If you refer to the summons convening this meeting you will observe that one of the most pleasing duties which it is possible to fall to the lot of any living being now devolves upon me, in presenting to our much-esteemed

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Brother Bentley Shaw a piece of plate, which you have provided for that purpose. I sincerely congratulate myself on being selected to discharge this pleasant duty, inasmuch as it enables me, whilst speaking your sentiments, to express my own sense of the great and lasting obligations which Brother Shaw has laid upon us all by the manner in which he has discharged his various and important duties whilst holding the position of Deputy Prov. Grand Master of this province during the period of eleven years just expired. Any words of mine are inadequate to the faithful description of the feelings of respect and admiration with which we all regard Brother Shaw; and the only circumstance of regret with which the assumption of my present office was associated was the fact that those services, found to be so useful and valuable to my predecessor, could not be continued to my advantage. Bro. Shaw's exertions in promoting the best interests of our noble institution are well-known, both in the province and in other parts of England. During eleven long years he has exercised his fraternal — nay, even paternal — supervision of the business of this great province, and has seen the Lodges and the members thereof increase in numbers and influence. He has also aided and directed the great current of practical charity which has so greatly increased the means and spheres of usefulness of the several charities of our Order; and it is no figure of speech, nor unwarrantable statement of facts, to say that in all these great movements the name of Brother Shaw has been so indelibly impressed upon the minds of West Yorkshire Masons as to be admired by the present and future generations of the brethren of the Craft. Brother Shaw, permit me, therefore, to tender for your acceptance this token of the respect and admiration which the brethren of this province desire to confer upon you; and also permit me to say, on their behalf, that, beautiful as it is as a work of art, it possesses a far higher value than its material worth ten thousand times told. It is the freewill offering, and also the symbolical expression of the affectionate regard of a body of men intimately and agreeably associated with you in the business of the province,—men whose only regret, while making this presentation, is that they will, in the future, lose the advantage they have long enjoyed, and appreciated in the past, of working under the influence of your general character and conduct as their Deputy Prov. Grand Master. I trust that you will live long to look on this beautiful gift, which I am sure is a token of the good feeling that exists between you and the brethren of the province of West Yorkshire. (Loud cheers.)

Deputy Prov. G. Master Bro. Tew said he cordially responded to the sentiments expressed by the Provincial Grand Master. Although he had only known Bro. Shaw since he (the speaker) was appointed a Prov. G. Lodge Steward in 1864, he could bear testimony to his indefatigable zeal. He was possessed of great urbanity of character, and this had endeared him to all. His unwearied zeal and untiring industry—which was the foundation of great blessings—in the cause of Freemasonry, was such that only once throughout the eleven years he had been Deputy Provincial Grand Master in 1865, had he missed attending the Provincial Grand Lodge. Then it was through domestic affliction. It became now his (Bro. Tew's) privilege to respond to the sentiments of the Prov. Grand Master in offering him (Bro. Shaw) the substantial sympathy of the 59 Lodges of the West Yorkshire province. The speaker concluded by hoping he would take with him into his voluntary retirement, as he was sure he would, the best wishes of the Masons of West Yorkshire—a body which, he trusted, Bro. Shaw would live long to adorn. (Cheers.)

Bro Bentley Shaw, who was visibly affected on rising to respond, after the cheering that greeted him had subsided, said:—Most Worshipful Sir, Officers and Brethren,—You have often heard my voice; often have I had the privilege of addressing you, but I have never had so much difficulty before the present time in making my sentiments known to you. Your generous gift—your generous memento of my connection with the Masons of West Yorkshire has almost overwhelmed me. You must not measure my thanks by any words I may use, as I feel unequal to the task. I have often asked myself,—what have I done to deserve this signal of your favour? I have often asked,—what have I done to warrant such a proof of your love and esteem? All the answer that I can find is, that, while I had the approval of my conscience and of my God, I have striven to do my duty and all I possibly could to preserve Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Yet I feel how utterly unworthy I am to be the recipient of such a mark of your favour. (No, no.) I never dreamed of it. I may truly say that I never worked for this beautiful piece of plate; and in answer to the many questions which I have this day put to myself, I can find but one reply, and that is—a deep consciousness that I am unworthy of it. (No, no.) But let me endeavour to thank you for the valuable present you have given me—a present which is a beautiful work of art. I shall always value it—not only for its worth, its classic, and, at the same time, its chasteness of design, its rich ornamentation and its general beauty, but more than this, I shall value it because of the genuineness of feeling you have displayed towards me. I cannot fail to value it because it is an expressive symbol of generous hearts. Yours and mine are

"Hearts bound up together,
Firm bound in fraternal love."

It will help me to think of the eleven years connection with you. It will also assist me in making me do my duty. My family will always prize it for my own sake, as well as yours. (Cheers.) I shall take care that it is handed down as a sacred heirloom. I take the liberty here of thanking the committee of selection for the handsome present; and yourself, Most Worshipful Grand Master, as well as Lady Edwards—(cheers)—who, if I am correctly informed, have greatly assisted the committee in their choice. (Hear, hear.) I desire to say here that it is a matter of congratulation that the present has been made to me in the good old town of Dewsbury—(cheers)—the town where Dr. Fearnley, my predecessor, lived, was loved, was honoured, and died. I am glad, too, that it has been your province, Most Worshipful Grand Master, to present me with this handsome gift; for, eleven years ago, I well remember, when your Right Worshipful's predecessor conferred the honour of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, you, sir, were on my right; and. I am glad that you are present to-day. I accept the gift with gratitude and deep humility. I trust that, as Sir Henry Edwards has said, I shall never cease to promote Freemasonry until my heart has ceased to beat and my breath has left me. Let my last words be that you will show affection to the Grand Master of England, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—(cheers)—to Sir Henry Edwards—(cheers)—and to his coadjutor, Bro. Tew. May this great and influential province of the West Riding ever stand first and foremost in all that is beautiful and good, useful and happy in Freemasonry. May that noble column, symbolised by wisdom and strength and beauty, whose pedestal, shaft and capital have been founded, upraised and crowned by the indomitable skill, energy and self-denying efforts of her numerous sons stand inviolable amid the raging billows and rude shocks of time, seeing that it has its foundations, as I trust it ever will have, in heaven-born and heaven-approving charity. Bro. Shaw, who at periods evinced great emotion, and consequently was but indistinctly heard, then resumed his seat, amidst immense cheering.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master announced that Bro. Bentley Shaw had received from the Grand Master of England a patent appointing him a P.G.D. of England—a remark which elicited a hearty outburst of cheering. Some routine business having been transacted, the Prov. Grand Lodge and the Lodge of the Three Grand Principles were closed.

At the close of the Lodge Business the brethren adjourned to the Church of England Boys' School, where a banquet was served up in the most *recherché* style. The arrangements were well carried out by the Stewards, and the culinary department reflected great credit upon the ability of Bro. and Mrs. Petty, both of whom succeeded in winning high encomiums for the way the dinner was placed on the table. The edibles were such as would satisfy the most fastidious, while the wines were of the choicest vintage. The Right Worshipful Prov. G. Master, Sir Henry Edwards, occupied the chair, and he was supported by the before-mentioned, as well as a large number of influential members of the Craft. After the repast, the health of her Majesty the Queen was proposed by the Chairman, and this having been duly honoured, a similar compliment was paid to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family. Sir Henry Edwards, in very eulogistic and Masonic terms, gave the toast of the Most W. G. Master of All England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., and the Most W. Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and this was received in a very enthusiastic manner. The health of the R. W. Deputy G. Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Skelmersdale, and the Officers of Grand Lodge Present and Past was the next toast given by the Chairman, and then the W. D. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Tew, proposed the health of the R. W. Prov. G. Master, Sir H. Edwards, who responded in suitable terms; and in conclusion gave the toast of the W. D. Prov. G. Master, whose name was received with loud cheers. After a suitable response, Bro. Sir H. Edwards gave the health of the W. Past D. Prov. G. Master, Bro Bentley Shaw, J.P., P.G.D. of England; who, in a speech of some length, again thanked the province for the presentation made to him. Bro. Maccah Rhodes P.M. paid a high compliment to Mrs. Bentley Shaw, whose health was drunk. Bro. Shaw responded in feeling terms. The remaining toasts were "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. Jo. Ibbotson, and responded to by Bro. Henry Smith P.M. Prov. G. Sec., Wakefield; "the W. Masters and P. Masters of Lodges," proposed by Bro. B. Shaw, and acknowledged by W. Bro. Thos. Wells W.M., Dewsbury, and W. Bro. Cocker P.M., "The Visiting Brethren" and "Lady Edwards and the Ladies." The speeches, which were truly of a Masonic character, were interspersed with selections of vocal music rendered by Bro. B. Watson, 974, Bro. H. Mitchell, 387, Bro. Thornton Wood, 1018, and Bro. J. L. Atherton, 439:—Bro. F. W. Nicholson, Prov. G. Organist, presiding at the pianoforte. The proceedings terminated between six and seven o'clock. The next Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at Sheffield.—*Dewsbury Chronicle.*

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 32. SATURDAY, 7th AUGUST 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE BARONESS BURDETT COUTTS AT FREEMASONS' HALL.

THE presentation of chairs by the Baroness Burdett Coutts to the Lodge bearing her name, is not without its significance. In England, Masonry, as a rule, fights shy of the ladies, not because Masons are ungallant enough to depreciate their presence or influence, but simply because Masonic teaching commands us to limit our society to the male sex. Abroad, perhaps, they view these things differently; but be this as it may, we have here our laws, and what is more, we act up to them. But, to say the least, the presence of a lady, not perhaps actually in a regular Lodge, but in the semblance of one, is a great innovation on our ordinary mode of procedure. The old story of a lady hiding herself in a clock-case, in order to learn our secrets, reads well as a story, but here we have a lady of high position heartily welcomed within the sacred precincts of a Lodge, in order that it may receive at her hands the gift of certain furniture. We admire the kindness of the lady who has thus done us honour. We recognise the wisdom of the Lodge which departed from the usual custom of Masonry, and accepted the gift in full Lodge assembled, but without Masonic working, or Masonic display of any kind, save dress. The speeches on the occasion, and at the banquet which followed, were in admirable keeping, and though we think these trifling eccentricities of usage should not be observed too frequently, it is clearly an advantage to Masonry that its work is thus liberally regarded. The full significance of this gift is not, perhaps, openly recognised. We are constantly charged with being a secret society, and therefore with being hurtful to society. The untruth of this accusation needs no demonstration, but this corroborative evidence in our favour of a lady who is kindly disposed towards all classes of her fellow-creatures is worth, at least, something. The Baroness Burdett Coutts is known, not only for her wealth, but for her philanthropy. She is a leader among men in all works of charity. Be it the fate of animals, or of the poor, of the middle-class, or of sufferers by some extraordinary calamity, she is always foremost in her efforts to relieve distress. Whatever people may think of Masonry in the abstract, it cannot be denied that we use much diligence in helping our fellow-men onwards in their course through life. The value of figures, as facts, is undeniable. There is no gainsaying the fact of thousands sterling being raised by us towards relief. We may put what interpretation we like on the motives of the donors, but the broad fact remains that some thirty thousand pounds annually are contributed towards the relief of suffering Masonry. This is the chief ground, indeed, urged by the Baroness for her interest in Masonry. Herself conspicuous among philanthrophists for her readiness to succour distressed people, she assigns this same readiness on the part of Masons to render aid where aid is needed as her chief motive for honouring one of our Lodges. Another reason assigned is that she herself is the daughter of a Mason, who, in his day, was not only a distinguished man, but fully carried out the beneficent views which Masonry strives to inculcate in all its followers. But further than this we see reason for congratulation. The Papacy has of late been most violent in its attacks on our Order. First the Bishop of Orleans, then His Holiness the Pope himself, have fulminated their anathemas at us. We cannot conscientiously say that we have seriously suffered by their abuse. We are about as free from harm as was Daniel in the den of lions, or the three who passed unscathed through the fiery furnace. But though uninjured by abuse, we readily admit that this act of the Baroness has exercised a benign influence over us. It is, in its way, an answer to the silly abuse of the Pope and his minions. An Order from which "there is no honest man who does not *turn from it with horror*" is not calculated to enlist the sympathies of philanthropic ladies. We have not heard it argued in any respectable society, that the Baroness Burdett Coutts has ever shown the slightest inclination to encourage murder, or that she is at all anxious or even disposed to "do guilty battle with the Church." But here she is, ready, as the daughter of a Mason, to do homage, or perhaps, we should say, to show respect to the Order whose interests we advocate. Her acknowledgment of our worth as a beneficent body must be taken as a complete answer to the silly bombast of the Pope, to whom of all men in the world has been reserved the special duty of committing the grossest act of folly of which any generation of men has ever been the witness.

THE PRESS AND THE CRAFT.

OUR Masonic friends on the other side of the Atlantic are apparently beginning to find that Masonic indifference is one of the grave evils against which enthusiastic members of the Craft have to guard. Notwithstanding the rapid growth of the Order in America, it would seem that, side by side with its unprecedented prosperity, has grown up a species of indifferentism with which we are only too familiar here. Masons in the States are apparently very willing to appear on Gala days, tricked out in the regalia of the Craft, but many of them are careless or absolutely ignorant of the practical business of which these toys are the mere symbols. Masonic Journalism does not appear to command as much support in America as it deserves, and we have before us at this moment the valedictory address of the *St. Louis Freemason*, which collapsed in the middle of its ninth volume. This journal, which appears to have been respectably conducted, fell from a combination of adverse circumstances. Masonic indifference, in the first place, largely contributed to bring it to the ground. The recent panic no doubt told heavily upon its subscription list, and, in addition, it had to struggle for existence amid younger and, possibly, more vigorous competitors for public support. That Masonic indifference was however the chief cause of the termination of a career of eight years and six months, the following extract from the valedictory address would appear to prove.

"To the many earnest and unselfish friends of our late journal, who adhered to its fortunes till the last, we desire to return our heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation. To those who fell by the way, on account of poverty, we extend a deep sympathy, and to those who squander as much in dissipation in one day as would pay for a Masonic journal a year, yet "cannot afford to subscribe," we leave to their own *guilty consciences* to enjoy the torments incident to all who must feel that they are unworthy of the name and intellectual dignity of Freemasonry."

This is rather stronger language than journalists here would be disposed to use, but, leaving the coarser part of this piece of invective out of view, as in no way characteristic of our brethren, we confess that the

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indifference implied, though not expressed, reaches some of our friends on this side of the Atlantic. Active Masons here have often complained of that Masonic indifference, which is more difficult to conquer than any of the other failings of mankind. People who blow neither hot nor cold have, from time immemorial, been regarded with aversion and contempt by earnest workers. The sacred Scriptures tell us that the lukewarm professor of religion is an obnoxious person, compared with whom a zealous sinner, if we may use such a paradox, seems blameless. The sacred writer, no doubt, meant us to understand that he who possesses a knowledge of a truth or truths, and does not act upon his knowledge, is more deserving of censure than the ignorant transgressor who knows not what he is doing. The Mason who blows neither hot nor cold has indeed little excuse for his indifference. He knows that he incurred sacred obligations when he joined the Order, that he was expected to work in the cause of philanthrophy, and that he could not, without violating his pledges, live as if he stood alone in the world. But he has chosen an attitude of indifference, and he, and such as he, alone prevent the ultimate triumph and universal spread of Masonry over the world. The public point to him as a person in no wise improved by his connection with the Order, and an inference is at once drawn from the fact adverse to the claims of the Craft. Of course the conclusion is an illogical one, but men who reflect or reason are rare, and it not seldom happens that one indifferent Mason may do more indirect harm to the cause than can be repaired by the life work of an enthusiastic brother. We might perhaps complain, looking at the matter from our own standpoint, of the indifference of English Masons to the claims of their own press organs. The reproach has been levelled at the Craft by more than one disappointed projector, but we have always said that as a general charge it is unjust. We still hold to this view. More, indeed, might be done for the press, but we do not think that it would be fair to charge our brethren generally with indifference to Masonic journalism. In this sphere of labour indeed much remains to be done, and although the work of making known the claims, and extending the circulation of a newspaper may be less inviting than much of that which attracts many zealous labourers, it is not the less of grave importance to the fraternity at large.

THE EGYPTIAN PRIESTS.

(From the French of J. L. Laurens.)

(*Continued from page 67.*)

IT comes naturally within the scope of the inquiry we have entered upon to say something of the religion of the ancient Egyptians. It would, in fact, be very singular if we spoke of the priests of ancient Egypt, and examined the nature of that celebrated body, without casting so much as a glance at the religion they professed or expounded to the people.

Nothing is so difficult to grasp as the doctrine the ancient Egyptians professed. The historians of those remote ages have transmitted to us, as regards this, rather lyrical pieces than veritable annals. The monuments, with which Egypt is covered even at this day, appear to be the sole records we can consult with any advantage. Did the Egyptians reverence as gods the sacred animals, and especially the bull Apis, or did they merely look upon them as allegories? This question would be problematical, if there did not remain to us of this people the theology, if I may so express myself, of the Pyramids, and the hieroglyphic figures with which they are inscribed.

The manner in which the Pyramids are built deserves special attention, whether we regard them as monuments of science or of religion. As the former, these bear witness to the high degree of excellence this people had attained in geometry and astronomy. As the latter, it is sufficient to look at the squares which compose those enormous masses and their exact correspondence with the four cardinal points, it is sufficient to cast a glance at the elevation of the summit, which receives exactly at mid-day the reflection of the sun's disc once before the vernal and once before the autumnal equinox as well as of the full moon of the equinoxes when in that parallel; in a word, it is sufficient to consider that the worship of Isis and Osiris is but the worship of the sun and moon, as Porphyrus and Diodorus Siculus testify, and as has been proved long since, in order to convince ourselves that the Pyramids of Egypt are nothing more than allegorical figures of the religion of ancient Egypt. These are the travels of Isis (the moon) after the death of Osiris (the sun), which were celebrated by the Egyptians under cover of an allegory, the meaning of which contains the exposition of the world's first two causes, which have confirmation in the heavens. Such are the figures which explain the whole system of the religion of the Egyptians. That religion, as we see, was confined to the worship of Isis and Osiris, that is to say of the sun and moon, which embrace all nature. Then we must bear in mind that the class of worship the people had adopted from the sacred animals, and more particularly from the bull Apis, was a relic of some former religion, traces of which the Egyptian Priests had found it expedient to preserve out of a respect for old popular customs, the toleration of which was thought desirable, almost as among us we find, in certain villages in Europe, where Christianity is the dominant religion, sundry relics of pagandom, like the carnival and other customs, the legitimacy of which lies in an immemorial usage, which it has been necessary to preserve and tolerate.

As regards the hieroglyphic figures with which the Pyramids of Egypt are inscribed, there is reason to believe that they are the common explanation and development of the doctrines inculcated by the religion of Isis and Osiris. Those hieroglyphics have long exercised the sagacity of *savants*, they have given rise to strange commentaries, and in their anxiety to explain them, people have found nothing but incoherence and obscurity. But hieroglyphic figures, like everything that is emblematic, form a language which it is necessary, above all, to acquire, for it is with hieroglyphics as with writing; how can we understand a book if we know not how to read? Let a book be placed before the eyes of the best mentally developed and most intelligent man, who, however, has no knowledge of the art of writing. He will understand nothing, and if he sets himself to criticising the sense of what is written without knowing how to read, what errors will he not commit?

Thus, ancient monuments bear witness that the priests of Egypt possessed the highest knowledge, and that they turned it to good account, with a view to govern nations and enlighten the world. The aspect of those obelisks, those Pyramids, that lake of Moeris, those vast caverns, even to this day astonish the traveller whom curiosity summons to those countries, once so favoured by nature, but now become the theatre of barbarism and ambition, and menaced by the near invasion of a burning and destructive sand. Those inanimate remains of the greatness of ancient Egypt still convey to the mind of the learned liberal and sublime ideas. If they have excited astonishment throughout the world when they were yet new, what tribute of admiration should they not demand from us? What intense regret must we not feel that we are so ill-informed of a country where such great wonders testify to man what is its power, what the resources of its industry.

It were to push a blind ignorance too far to regard these monuments, every part of which elevates the soul and excites our mental powers, as only the miserable relics of the pride and ostentation of the ancient masters of Egypt. Why! The Egyptians would never have employed so much time, they never would have made such tremendous efforts, merely to hand down to posterity the barren and empty evidences of their pomp and ostentation, which is nothing more than a regard of littleness of mind to inspire such grandeur. Can the effeminacy of pomp and the inanity of pride excite in the minds of men such noble resolves? If the Egyptians had aspired to nothing else than the admiration of posterity, would they not have found, in monuments of some other kind, a means for exciting enthusiasm without going and piling up, at heavy cost, in the midst of a vast champagne, or on the summits of lofty hills, stones of enormous size, perfectly wrought, and methodically and scientifically arranged, without digging vast caverns or opposing dykes to the power of the waves in order to mark out for them eternal limits? If they had not had in view to hand down to us ideas of the last importance, would they with so much care and skill have combined astronomy with geometry, and the language of hieroglyphics with architecture? The cities of Thebes, of Memphis, of Heliopolis, and Saïs, contained wonders enough, without rendering it necessary to erect at a

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distance from their walls, obelisks, and pyramids, the long and costly labour in building which would only have produced a vain and stupid display. Ostentation does not give rise to such grand undertakings, it raises not mankind to that point of greatness which arrests our admiration and commands our respect.

Some writers, among others MM. Rollin and Mellot, have made it a subject of reproach to the Egyptian priests that they used their superiority and the confidence of the people to keep the latter in a state of ignorance and superstition, but is this reproach based on justice or policy? Such a question would, in the eighteenth century, have been determined against the priests, and it would seem as though MM. Rollin and Mellot, in condemning on this isolated ground, have not examined the question impartially, but have yielded to the ruling prejudice of their country rather than to a sound and equitable judgment. To-day, when an experience fatal to our generation, but useful to our species, has determined the solution of this problem, it is permitted us to appeal from this erroneous judgment, the motives of which have since received more than one false application, owing to the institutions and customs which, for the peace and happiness of mankind, it was necessary to respect. It is permitted to revise a charge raised by disquiet, and sustained with desperation by a false philosophy, the enemy of wisdom, and yet destroyed before the supreme tribunal of experience.

Without doubt, knowledge is useful to man, it enlightens his reason and directs his halting steps along the difficult paths of a life both stormy and strewn with rocks. But just as that element, which is the first principle of life and of nature, embraces and consumes everything when it is scattered without discrimination and care, so the knowledge of philosophy, that is to say, human knowledge, disorders the progress of mankind, disorganises societies, and hurries them back into all the confusion of chaos, when it is spread abroad too abundantly, and presented in all its native brilliancy to the eyes of a multitude but little disposed to profit by its lessons, because it directs not its progress or its true application.

It is not enough to enlighten the mind only, we must instruct man's reason, and how shall we attain this end, which demands such preparation and arrangement, as regards a multitude so violently agitated by passions and tormented by the needs of life, so ill-fitted to receive the lessons of wisdom, so incapable of contemplation and thought, without the aid of those whose reason is always in a state of infancy.

The Egyptians, naturally a coarse people, were attached to any prejudice. In order to direct them, it was necessary rather to excite their senses than to appeal to their reason. Morality and religion, if in accord with policy supported by physical wonders, and concealed behind an ingenious veil of emblems, were better appreciated, were taken more directly to heart, more surely curbed their passions and vices, and encouraged more their virtues than if they had been taught without the veil of mystery. A people who could only be addressed figuratively were hardly fit to receive ideas moral, religious and political by the ordinary channels. It was necessary to have recourse to the disguise of fiction in order to lead captive their attention, and to inculcate in their minds those views which were necessary to their peace and happiness. Would it have done to have unrolled before their eyes the mystic table of those principles and truths which constitute the moral and political world? Would it have done to have followed the graduated and regular march of those axioms which form the science of governments? Would they not have been betrayed into error amidst this labyrinth? Would it have done to have guided them to the heights of metaphysics in order to enable them to penetrate into the sanctuary of the Godhead? Would not their reason have rebelled against the incertitude of probabilities? It was necessary for them to borrow the honesty of their idioms, in order to make them understand; it was necessary to descend to their level, so as not to frighten them, and to respect even their errors, in order to guide them towards the truth.

So likewise the Egyptian polity would have presented to us its *chef d'œuvre* of government had its character been well understood, if its progress, and its springs of action had not been hidden from our gaze. The disorders caused by civil wars, by invasions and persecution have made to disappear from this country even the ruins of its ancient spendour, and have left to our astonished eyes only scientific and religious monuments which have been recklessly looked upon as the relics of the pride and pomp of its rulers. Let us regard attentively the inimitable perfection of these monuments, the justice of their proportions and their symmetry, the vividness of their colour, which has triumphed over time. Let us think over the singular character which distinguished them in a manner strange, and then we shall form a just idea of the grandeur of the Egyptians, and of the transcendant genius which governed that remarkable people

VALUE OF MASONIC BOOKS.

AT the Sale held by Messrs. Sotheby, on Tuesday and Wednesday, 27th and 28th July last, we noted the following prices:—

Lot		£	s	d
1.	Masonry Dissected, 1730, with its sequel, 1738	1	0	0
2.	The Mystery of Freemasons, 1 page, 4to	1	5	0
5.	Beginning and First Foundation of Masonry (Mrs. Dodd)	1	8	0
30.	A volume of tracts (early revelations, &c.)	1	11	0
96.	Johnson's History of Freemasons	0	19	0
239.	A parcel of Finch's pamphlets	1	13	0
240.	The unique copy of the Constitutions, 1723	8	10	0
241.	Constitutions, 1723	3	18	0
243.	Same (Cole's), 1729	1	13	0
245.	Same, 1738	1	8	0
246.	Same, 1746	1	10	0
338.	Speeches and Charges, 1744-1761	0	19	0
339.	Same, 1769-1777	1	0	0
340.	Same	1	1	0
341.	Same	1	0	0
344.	Same	0	19	0
393.	Proceedings G.L. of England	6	6	0
408.	Works on the Parisian revival of the Order of the Temple	1	11	6
417.	Barnes' Knights Templar	1	15	0
420.	Chemical Wedding of Andrea, and 3 others	1	8	0
503.	Pine's Lodge Lists for 1736, 1737 and 1738	3	10	0
504.	Cole's ditto ditto 1734, 1736, 1737, 1770 and 1778	3	13	6
506.	Calendar G.L. of England from 1776, 9 vols.	2	12	6
507.	Same from 1800, 14 vols.	3	5	0
556.	2 Albums of early Summonses, &c.	1	10	0
557.	and 558. Masonic Scrapbooks £1 14s and	1	7	6
560.	MS. Lodge Lectures, &c.	1	15	0
562.	MS. of Dr. Oliver, Discrepancies of Freemasonry Examined	8	0	0
565.	Lecture on the Rituals, by the same	3	3	0
567.	Dunckerley's Lectures	2	15	0
568.	The Third Degree as conferred by the Ancients	3	10	0
569.	Various MSS., including 1st and 2nd degree of the same	5	10	0
596.	Mock Masonry or the Grand Procession, 1741	1	15	0
597.	View of the Procession of Scald Miserable Masons (described on p. 68 of Vol. I. of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), 1743	6	0	0

Ordinary books are usually estimated for sale by auction at under one-fourth of their value, and a sale of class literature in a lump is considered successful if it realise even so much. The lots above quoted have evidently acquired renown, and been subjected to competition amongst learned and spirited lovers of our literature.

A new club is about to be formed in the City of London, for Masonic purposes, and also to supply accommodation to the brethren. The club is to be conducted on strictly Masonic principles. The names of the R.W. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M. and the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor are at the head of the list.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, 30th September. Bro. Alderman W. H. Hallett is to be the G.S.W. The Worshipful Mayor of Brighton, Bro. Alderman J. L. Brigden J.P., is to be G.J.W.

The members of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278, who were graciously invited by the Baroness Burdett Coutts to attend her garden party, with their lady friends, visited Holly Lodge on Monday last, and spent a very pleasant evening.

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CHARGES OF A FREEMASON.

By Cornelius Moore, Editor of *The Masonic Review*.

LODGES are of two kinds, "particular and general," or subordinate and Grand. A subordinate Lodge is the working department of the Craft, where the rituals are attended to and the degrees conferred. It is the door through which persons enter the Order; and to it is assigned the duty of instructing the members in the mystic art, and of exercising a wholesome discipline over those belonging to, or residing within, its jurisdiction. Subordinate Lodges are the constituents of the Grand Lodge, and should be represented in that body annually by its Master and Wardens.

Originally, the Craft had an inherent right to convene and hold a Lodge in any suitable place, where a sufficient number of members could be convened, and work was to be done. Such Lodge could only initiate, the other degrees being always conferred by the Grand Lodge. After the revival of Masonry, in 1717, the four old Lodges which constituted the Grand Lodge at that time, agreed to a change in these two particulars. That thereafter no new Lodge should be permitted to convene and work without a dispensation or charter, granted by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge; and that instead of the Craft being required to attend the Grand Lodge or General Assembly *en masse*, the particular Lodge should hereafter be represented in the Grand Lodge by their Masters and Wardens. In a very few years afterwards it was further agreed that, instead of the subordinate Lodges being permitted to confer the first degree only, they should, in the future, have the exclusive right to confer all the degrees; and this is now the practice in the York Rite in every country where Lodges are organised.

The necessary officers of a Lodge are the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, and Tyler. The first five should always be elected; the rest may be appointed by the Worshipful Master, or elected by the members, as may be provided in the bye-laws. In some Lodges there are also Stewards, Chaplain, Organist, &c., but these are not essential.

A Grand Lodge is the highest judicial and legislative power known to Masonry. It is composed of its officers, together with the Masters and Wardens of all the Lodges in any given State, Kingdom, or Territory. The officers of a Grand Lodge are: Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary. It is usual, however, to have several additional officers as subordinates, as may be provided for in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. The officers above named are elected; while the subordinates are most generally appointed by the Grand Master. In former days the Grand Master appointed all the officers of the Grand Lodge; but for a long time it has been the practice to elect the principal officers, and allow the Grand Master to appoint, or nominate, the subordinates; but these things are usually provided for in the Constitution.

A Grand Lodge has the exclusive right to prescribe laws, rules, and regulations for the government of the subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction; "*provided, always that the landmarks be carefully preserved.*" Its legislation must not infringe on these; they are unalterable. The solemn compact between the four old Lodges in London, existing and working by immemorial custom, and the Grand Lodge of England at its reorganization, expressly provides that these "old landmarks" shall never be changed; and the officers of all Grand and subordinate Lodges, at their installation, solemnly engage to support and preserve unchanged these ancient charges and regulations.

In the trial of Masonic offences, the Grand Lodge holds original jurisdiction in the case of its own members, but only appellate in all others. It has the power of granting charters and dispensations, and may revoke them for good cause. It may remove the Master or Wardens of a subordinate Lodge from their office, for good cause shown. It may adopt a Constitution and rules for its own government, provided it does not trespass upon the "old landmarks;" and it should exercise a general superintendence of the Craft within its jurisdiction. In short, it is supreme in all that relates to Masonry, within the limits of the landmarks, and the powers granted to it by its Constitution. But it may not invade the inherent or reserved rights of individual Masons, or of subordinate Lodges. Its Constitution, however, is the best exponent of its prerogatives; and it should rarely venture to exercise a power not especially vested in it by that instrument.

The condition of society, as well as conventional rules, has materially changed since the "ancient times" mentioned in the text. The external character and aspects of Masonry have altered too; and while its changeless principles and absolute laws remain as they ever were, the prudential rules and regulations have been modified to accommodate a different condition of society. It will be observed that the Charge does not insist upon an absolute compliance with the ancient rule. It states what was the usage "in ancient times," as an example that it would be well to follow as far as practicable; but does not intimate that it is always to be strictly enforced without reference to the social changes and different habits of the various people, nations, and ages, in which Masonry prevails. It may be laid down as a rule of action, that Masons are expected to attend the Lodge of which they are members, regularly, if possible, but certainly as often as paramount claims upon their time and attention will permit. God has the first claim upon us; our families and country next. But we can serve the cause of humanity by attending to the duties incumbent upon us as Masons, and therefore we should make it a rule of action to be as regular in attendance at the Lodge as possible. At stated meetings especially, there should be a full attendance of the members of that particular Lodge, that its business and interests may be properly attended to. There is much to learn, as well as much to do at every meeting; and members should permit no trivial matter to prevent them enjoying the privilege or discharging the duty. Remember what the rule was "in ancient times," and observe it as far as circumstances will permit.

This paragraph reveals some of the most vital principles of the ancient landmarks of Masonry; and it should be carefully studied until it is fully understood, and its important and imperative requirements deeply engraven upon the memory of every Mason.

First. It tells what kind of men we may admit as members among us: they must be *good* and *true*. This language hardly needs an attempt at exposition, for all know what is meant by a *good man*. An intemperate man, a profane man, a dishonest man, is not a *good man* in any sense of the word. A good man is such an one as is described in the first Charge—one who "obeys the moral law;" one whose whole life, spirit, conversation and practice, accord with the divine requirements of the "great Light in Masonry." That moral law is the rule and standard of human action, and moral conduct must be judged in the light of that law. If by such a criterion he can be called a good man, he is in so far qualified to become a Mason. The heart, which gives tone and character to the actions, must be right; there the preparation must begin; goodness there will be shown in the life, just as the stream reveals the character of the fountain from which it emanates. He must be true, as well as good; one to be relied on when circumstances require firmness. His fortitude and integrity will both be tested; and he must be of that material which adheres to principle, and maintains its integrity whatever may be the consequence. If it be asked, in view of this requisition, "Who among us are proper material for the mystic building?" we reply, let each one answer for himself; but all *may* be, and all *ought* to be.

It is to be feared that this imperative rule is too frequently violated. Profane men are sometimes admitted because they are "clever fellows," or kind hearted, or have warm and influential personal friends in the Lodge. We can't find it in our hearts to say no, though aware we are violating a fundamental law of Masonry, which we have solemnly engaged to preserve inviolate. How often we forget our duty, or smother its demands for recognition! No wonder the fathers of the Craft left to us this positive injunction, that these rules are "to be read at the making of new brethren, or when the Master shall order it." They well understood human nature, and knew that in these important matters it was necessary that we should *often* be reminded of our duty. It should be laid down as a rule, that a man who wilfully violates God's law is not a suitable candidate for Masonry, and should not be admitted. A bad man (and this is the opposite of *good*) is unfit to be a Mason. An unstable, timid, prevaricating man; one who will adhere to a friend or a cause in the sunshine of prosperity, but forsake them when the storm comes down, should never be admitted. He is not a *true* man: he may be true for a season, or while circumstances are favourable; but in the day of trial his courage and constancy will both fail, and the cause and its friends will be deserted together. If this rule had been strictly observed, the waves of Anti-Masonry might have beaten against our fortress in vain; instead of scattering the Craft like the leaves of the forest, it would only have driven them into closer compact around our venerable temple, and thus strengthened instead of weakened the edifice. "Good men and true," *and none else*, should be admitted.

Second. They must be "free born." The Grand Lodge of England has, within the last few years, substituted "free man," instead of "free born," thus, in our opinion, striking at a most vital principle which that body was especially bound to protect, and setting an example of the most pernicious tendency. If a Grand Lodge can change one of these fundamental laws it may another, until nothing is left of Masonry but the name, and even that may be bartered away for a more popular and modern appellation. The principle in the text is borrowed from one laid down by the Supreme Architect in the economy of salvation. The world was to be blessed through the "seed of Abraham;" that is, through his lineal descendants a priceless blessing was to be given—the Prince of Peace was to come. Abraham had a son by a woman who was his slave; but not being "free born," that son could not be the channel through which the blessing could be given: and God saw proper to perform a miracle in order that the genealogy of Shiloh might not be tainted with the ignominy of bondage. Personally and morally Ishmael was as good and pure as Isaac, but the prestige of slavery rested on his name and birth, and the high distinction of being the progenitor of the world's Redeemer must be conferred upon another.

So Masonry requires candidates for its honors to have been free by birth: no taint of slavery or dishonor must rest upon their origin;—as unsullied by birth as they are in character. This is a landmark in Masonry, and must not be trifled with by any authority known to the Order. We should remember that it is our duty to preserve Masonry intact; not to alter or modify it to suit the ever changing views of men.

Third. Persons admitted members must also be of "mature and discreet age." It will be observed that no particular age is named; and for reasons that an arbitrary rule in such a case is not always a sure one. The object aimed at was to prevent young persons, whose judgments had not yet matured, and who were not yet of sound discretion, from being admitted. Some persons of eighteen are of riper judgment than others of twenty-five; and hence Washington and Warren, and many in former years, when the old landmarks were more carefully observed that at present, were admitted under the age of twenty-one. Within the last one hundred and fifty years, the age has varied in different countries, at different times. Some times twenty-eight was fixed on as the proper age; sometimes twenty-five; at the present day, twenty-one is generally the period fixed. But in many parts of Europe, persons under the age of twenty-one are sometimes admitted. We should remember that the applicant must be of "mature and discreet age," whether that be eighteen or twenty-five.

Fourth. "No bondman" must be admitted. He must not only be free by birth, but free in fact; free to go where his inclinations or judgment may lead him; free to judge for himself, to be master of

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his own time, and to contract and bind himself in obligations to others. If he his not a free man he cannot be made a free Mason for he can take upon himself no responsibility.

Fifth. "No Woman." Strange, and various and fanciful, have been the reasons assigned for this prohibition; but to the considerate Craftsman there is a sufficient reason in the nature of the institution and character of its rituals. It were enough to recall the fact that the Craft at first, and until a comparatively recent period, were engaged in an arduous mechanical employment. They were in the forest, felling, hewing, and preparing timber; in the quarries, digging out, squaring and fitting great stones. These again were to be transported a greater or lesser distance, and constructed into buildings—all requiring much rugged exposure and great physical labour. Would it be proper and suitable for women to engage in such a calling? They would be as much out of their natural sphere of action as rugged men would be in superintending the refined and delicate arrangements of the household. Hence, from regard for her natural physical weakness and refined sensibilities, she was exempted from the severe and laborious duties of the ancient Craftsmen.

Again: the rituals and ceremonies of the Order forbid the presence of woman. And though there be nothing in them improper for men of the most refined sensibilities, yet the nature of women, and the relation she sustains to the other sex, render it improper for her to mingle in the mystic labours of the Lodge room. Her relations to man, as wife, mother, sister or daughter, would forbid her presence. The place and the occupation are both unsuited to her nature. And as Masonry cannot be changed to accommodate itself to her condition, the law proclaiming her exclusion is as unrepealable as that of the Medes and Persians. If these reasons are not sufficient to satisfy the objection, we must recur to the fact that the *law* excludes her, and that of itself is enough. It may be retorted that the above reasons are not sufficient—that there *is* no reason for it; but the answer still holds good—*the law forbids it.* The law was made for us, not we for the law; we are compelled to take it as it is, and abide by it.

Sixth. They must not be "immoral or scandalous men, but of good report." This is a plain and sensible requirement, and one that commends itself to the judgment and approval of every well-meaning and reflecting man. To admit men who are immoral in their conduct, would be introducing antagonisms into the Lodge. It would bring together discordant principles, that, instead of perpetuating peace and harmony in the Craft, would produce confusion and discord. The Lodge is no place for an immoral man. The Holy Bible is there as the rule of faith and practice: the prayer is heard, and God is recognised there: the most important and sacred duties of life are inculcated; and the glorious doctrines of the resurrection by a redeeming power, and an immortal and ever blessed existence in a future world are taught and enforced there. The solemn responsibilities of man as a social being, and his still higher responsibilities to his Creator, are the themes of the Lodge room and the subjects of illustration. The spirit of purified affection and brotherly regard,—of charity in its broadest, deepest, highest sense, which ought always to pervade that sacred retreat of disinterested friendship, would repel immorality from its very threshold. Let it never be forgotten, then, that no *immoral* man must ever be admitted.

Nor "scandalous." This is simply a deeper degree of immorality. Men who are not only immoral, but who glory in it—make their boast of it—before the world, and thereby are properly termed "scandalous," should have no place in the Craft: they are intellectually, morally, and socially unfit for it. "*Must be.*" Reader, the requirements and prohibitions in this Charge are not optional with us, to observe or violate them. They are imperative—they must be observed, for such is the language used.

"*Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows, and Apprentices.*—All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only; that so the lords may be well served, the brethren not put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despised; therefore, no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority, but for his merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and every brother must attend in his place, and learn them in a way peculiar to this fraternity."

Only candidates may know that no Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body, that may render him incapable of learning the art, of serving his Master's lord, and of being made a brother, and then a Fellow Craft in due time, even after he has served such a term of years as the custom of the country direct; and that he should be descended of honest parents; that so, when otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the honour of being the Warden, and then Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the Lodges, according to his merit.

No brother can be a Warden until he has passed the part of a Fellow Craft; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden; nor Grand Warden unless he has been Master of a Lodge, nor Grand Master unless he has been a Fellow Craft before his election, who is also to be nobly born, or a gentleman of the best fashion, or some eminent scholar, or some curious architect, or other artist, descended of honest parents, and who is of singular great merit in the opinion of the Lodges. And for the better and more honourable discharge of his office, the Grand Master has a power to choose his own Deputy Grand Master, who must be then, or must have been formerly, the Master of a particular Lodge, and has the privilege of acting whatever the Grand Master, his principal, should act, unless the said principal be present, or interpose his authority by a letter.

These rulers and governors, supreme and subordinate, of the Ancient Lodge, are to be obeyed in their respective stations by all the brethren according to the old Charges and Regulations, with all humility, reverence, love, and alacrity.

Distinctions of birth and fortune are unknown in Masonry, for one of the first principles taught us is, that the internal and not the external qualifications of a man are what constitutes his fitness to be made a Mason. Is he a "good man and true," not "is he rich and honourable," is the question asked. It makes no difference whether he is the son of a president or a peasant; whether he is robed in broadcloth, or clothed with homespun, so his heart and head be right.

So, too, in the selection of officers for a Lodge. Promotion is, or should be, the reward of merit, not the result of favoritism. The subjects of inquiry should be: has he the capacity for government; is he prudent, discreet, courteous, yet firm; does he understand the laws, usages, and customs of the fraternity; has he studied the ancient Charges and Constitutions; is he familiar with the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge? Is he *master of the work?* Does he understand the use of the instruments, and has he a proper appreciation of their sublime teaching? Does he fully understand the spirit and genius of the Order; and has he illustrations and resources at command so to work that "the brethren may not be put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despised?" These are the questions that should be asked in searching for the best material to fill the several stations in a Lodge, and especially for the office of Master. These qualifications are a *sine qua non*; if they are found united with education, refinement, a good address, and suavity of manners, so much the better; but education and refinement alone, will not supply the place of these *Masonic* qualifications.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

BY special invitation of Bro. Terry, a few of the supporters of the above Institution repaired to Croydon on the 30th ultimo, for the purpose of affording the inmates a little amusement. The day being particularly fine, and the arrangements of the indefatigable Secretary perfect, full scope was given for consummating the pleasure anticipated by the annuitants and visitors. After ample justice had been done to the tea, superintended by Mrs. Terry, the party inspected the dwellings and grounds, and were particularly delighted with the improved condition and lovely aspect of the garden, by the recent addition of plants and trees, so profusely and graciously presented by Bro. Cathush. The inmates and guests having assembled in the Lodge Room of the Institution, the amusements were enjoyed by the old folks with a heartiness gladdening to the contributors, amongst whom were Madame Thaddeus Wells, Mrs. Strong and lady friend (whose name we could not catch), the Misses Strong, Terry, Barry, Constable and Mrs. Webster; the brethren were Bros. Thaddeus Wells, John Stevens, Barry, and Constable. Madame Wells sung several songs, with her wonted ability and sweetness, whilst Bro. Stevens and his son contributed the comic portion of the entertainment, in songs, readings, and recitations, in fact, each individual succeeded in the attempt to amuse, to the intense satisfaction of the inmates, whose faces were radiant with joy. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. and Madame T. Wells for their kind assistance. One of the male annuitants proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Terry, for the treat he had afforded them, both by the concert and the liberal supply of fruits and wines; this was promptly seconded by one of the sisters, and carried amidst acclamation. Bro. Terry briefly returned thanks, assuring the inmates and friends that no stone should remain unmoved to secure their comfort and appreciation of his exertions. Bro. Dr. Strong desired to convey the thanks of the annuitants to those ladies and brethren who had assisted in the evening's pleasure, and although they were amateurs their efforts were highly appreciated.

This, we understand, is the first anniversary of what we may term Bro. Terry's treat to the old folks, and we go heart and hand with him, hoping to see many such happy unions. They cannot fail to be productive of good in various ways. We congratulate Bro. Terry in holding the sincere affection and regard of the annuitants, and commend him for his genial kindness to those whose interests he serves so well. One circumstance was particularly noticable; those who, from illness or age, could not attend the concert, were not overlooked. Bro. Terry tended them personally, with the wines and fruit provided. May he, in his declining years, surrounded with affluence, find a solace in the affection of his children, carrying out the example of their father. The party, numbering about forty, returned to town soon after nine p.m., highly gratified with the afternoon's proceedings

Obituary.

BRO. DAVID BRANDWOOD.

ON Sunday afternoon the mortal remains of Bro. D. Brandwood, P.M. Lodge of Faith, No. 344, Radcliffe, near Manchester, were committed to their last resting-place, in St. Thomas's Churchyard, Radcliffe. Preceding the hearse a number of brethren marched to the churchyard, Bro. E. Whittaker (Farnworth), P.P.G.D.C. East Lancashire, officiating as director of ceremonies. Our late brother, up to twelve months ago, held the post of manager and secretary to the Radcliffe and Pilkington Gas Company, and failing health led to his resignation. He was in his 62nd year.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

OUR FREEMASONRY—THE OLD HIGH GRADES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In my first letter upon this subject I referred Bro. Buchan to two MSS., which themselves prove the antiquity of the system of the three degrees, and their identity with the present first three ceremonials; I cannot conceive what more he wants; and if he will not acknowledge evidence when he sees it, then it is useless to argue. The same may be said about his comments on the existence of the Royal Arch degree, which I showed to be alluded to by the 1721 Masonic Rosicrucians. The history of the so-called high grades is confessedly a very difficult subject, and I find, upon further reference to my papers, and to some recent private correspondence, that my memory has been a little treacherous upon some points of theory.

None of your correspondents have thought fit to attack my statements, that all ancient documentary evidence is opposed to the authenticity of the Mark degree in its present form as a degree; and equally so to the existence of any ancient historical connection between the Master Mason and the Royal Arch degree, and yet there is little doubt that the latter degree is Masonically of some considerable antiquity. As to the other two degrees, which were recognised by the Old York Masons, we have only the traditional teaching of the Templar Camps or Conclaves of Bath, Bristol, York, Manchester, and London, of which some were apparently not English, but of the Rite of Strict Observance, or the System of Baron Hunde. In Bath and Bristol we find the chief remains of this ancient teaching. Nearly all the ancient Rites were a System of Seven degrees; even the 33rd degree of the Ancient and Accepted Cumulative Scotch Rite makes admission of this fact. I was taught, many years ago, in these old conclaves, that it had always been considered there, that the Priestly Order of Holy Wisdom was the commander of the Templar, the Kadosh of the Knights Rosæ Crucis, and the Prince of the Royal Secret of the Swedish Knights of Palestine. Therefore the principle of cumulation is bad, and destructive of ancient landmarks. Upon this evidence we may tabulate four Rites, as follows:—

Scotch Rite	Old York & English	French Rite	German & Swedish
4.	Past Master		
5. Heredom	Royal Arch	Red Cross	Novice
6. Rosy Cross	Heredom Templar	Rosæ Crucis	Knight of Palestine
7.	Templar Priest	Kadosh	Royal Secret

Moreover an examination of the Ritual, however much altered in transmission, will show that this is not mere theory. There is an identity of construction between them which indicates that they are not degrees which should be placed one upon another, but rites of one and the same derivation, altered by a transmission of some antiquity. The English Templar and Rose Croix had threefold trials of courage, constancy, and humility, whilst the Knights of Palestine is confessedly a Templar Order, and the Royal Order of H.R.M. Rosy Cross has made the same claim. In the Priest, Kadosh, and Royal Secret, there are many identical points; there are in each seven voyages, and seven pass-words, there are the same Templar claims, and the assertion that Masonry is a continuation of the Templar Order. In England the Arch, Templar and Priest were anciently presided over by a High Priest. Of all the Rites, that of the York and English Masons is the most decidedly trinitarian, and yet the Christianity of the "Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest," is of a most philosophical kind, and was represented by the late Bro. Godfrey Higgins, in his *Anacalypsis*, to be of the most ancient derivation; it is, moreover, a degree of remarkable beauty and simplicity. The admission of a Past Master's degree in the Rite proves it not to be a very ancient system. Its certificate bears the formula: "Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars, the light that cometh from Wisdom shall never go out." The late Bro. William Carpenter some time ago called attention to the fact that the German Rosicrucians and the English brothers of the Rosie Cross of the seventeenth century were in all probability differing rites, holding opposing views on doctrine, and the relative value of revelation and scripture; which is saying precisely what we find to be the case in an examination of these rites.

Although the allusions of which I have made mention in 1721 and 1725 may only apply to the degree of Royal Arch, yet the variation in the four rites which I have mentioned seems to have been so marked between 1740 and 1750 that we must necessarily give them some number of years in which to arrive at this varying position. There can be no doubt that the speculative Masonry of the 1717 Grand Lodge was at some short distance of time of an operative character, the operations in the South, which had been going on for about a century, had not play in the North, and we must not therefore be met with Scotch Minutes, we must be faced with South of England's Minutes, and these, if found, would confirm the 1717 Masons. Rosicrucianism then all at once disappears, and Freemasonry takes its place. Whilst "Eugenius Philalethes jun" was dedicating "Long Livers," in Alchemical Language, to the Grand Lodge of England in 1721, the German Masonic Rosicrucians, still holding different views upon Christian teaching, were asserting, in 1745, in their three degrees that the original "Philalethes" was still living, and presiding over the Rosicrucian Colleges. All this is too remarkable to be passed over carelessly. Indeed, it is not at all unlikely that all through the latter half of the seventeenth century, the English Rosicrucians were speculative Masons, and vice versa, and, therefore, the ancient Masonic boast that Freemasonry originated the Templars, Knights of Malta, and Rosicrucians, may not be such an idle one as many believe. Although the Antient and Primitive Rite of Masonry derives from the Primitive Rite of Philalethes, yet it is no more free from the evils of a cumulative system than that of Lacorne's, now called the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. It is formed of the Rose Croix Rite, the Rosy Cross, the Rosicrucian, and Lacorne's, with extracts from all others, supplemented by an Egyptian system of philosophy, such as you are now so interestingly developing, in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, in the translations from Bro. J. L. Lauress, and a system of lectures, which give considerable information upon the old rites, and are of a most interesting nature. The object of the old Encampments of the three English high grades, in keeping up rites was, at first, probably to give their members what they had a right to expect, namely, admission to the same system of degrees, as they were practised in foreign countries; but they ended by adopting the cumulation of Lacorne, and in many cases forgot the true origin of their own customs. The old Camps have an unquestionable right to give everything, but in giving an Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite certificate they do themselves an injustice, by adopting a system without truth. They had only three Craft Grades, Past Master, the (place of which the Mark might fill), and three Rosicrucian Grades, and various synonymous ceremonies of other countries.

I remain, yours truly and fraternally,

JOHN YARKER, P.E.C. and Pt. R.G.C. of all the High Grades.

Manchester 31st July 1875.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ALPHA.—The brother is not entitled to be addressed as a P.M. of the Lodge where he may have acted occasionally for an absentee. A P.M. can only retain his status in the Lodge where he has served the office of W.M.

REVIEWS.

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

—:o:—

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

"THE State of the French Army" forms the subject of the leading article in *Blackwood*. The writer has clearly mastered all the details, so far as it was possible to do so, and the result is an able and succinct sketch of the military strength of France under the new law. Our readers will probably read with some surprise that the peace strength is less than a quarter of a million, and that in spite of all her efforts since the late war, that country has done so little in the way of reorganisation. The general belief, undoubtedly, is, that our neighbour is far stronger now than when, goaded by the nation he had ruled so long, Napoleon III. plunged into that unhappy struggle which cost him his throne and his country two fair provinces. But the picture drawn in this article places the matter in a different light, to that extent that we almost wonder how it was there could have been so terrible a scare in the spring of this year, lest war should again break out between the two great continental rivals. Part IV. of "The Dilemma" brings us into the full excitement of the mutiny, and the Residency of Mustaphabad, with Colonel and Mrs. Falkland, Brigadier and Mrs. Polwheadle, Yorkes, Captain Sparrow and others within its limits, is formally besieged by the mutineers. The native regiments mutiny, of course, and Yorke, being popular with his company, escapes with his life, but all are not so fortunate. "My Swan Song," we take leave to quote, it reads so prettily:—

To———

I.

Sing? How should I sing,
Maiden, for thy pleasure?
My harp hath many a broken string,
And few that keep the measure.

II.

Of its olden tones,
Should some faint chords linger,
Waking, ghost-like, in response
To a straying finger,—

III.

Blent, like sun and shower,
In false April weather,
Forth at once would pour
Tears and song together.

IV.

Defter hands fit lay
For thine ear must borrow;
Mine are weak and chill to-day,
And will be cold to-morrow.

There are two other contributions, one by the same pen as the above, which we strongly recommend to our readers' notice. The political article, which is a retrospect at the work of the Session, is well written, and, of course, favourable to the conduct of public affairs by the Conservative Ministry, but politics are no concern of ours,

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We should like to see less serial fiction in *Tinsley's*. We have not a word to say against the three stories which have been current now for some months, indeed, we have expressed ourselves most favourably of all these, and this has been only a bare act of justice. But four, or even three novels are too many for any one to follow month by month. There is a tolerably certain prospect of the reader confounding them, and this sorry chance is the more to be avoided when, as in the case of these, each is so well worth following. We cannot say we welcome the appearance of the new serial, "A Star and a Heart," by Florence Marryat. It may suit some tastes perhaps, but we can feel but little sympathy with a vulgar heroine and a supient hero. As for "Magdalen Rochford," by Mrs. Alexander Fraser, we have tried very hard to reconcile the incidents of this tale with anything like the semblance of real life, but owing to our native obtuseness, to our general ignorance of men and things, or to some other cause, we have failed to trace her ideal to any basis of reality. Dr. Maurice Davies is perhaps less successful than usual in his "Social Status Quo," but his Troubadour Song, "Catalonia the Gay," is equal to any that have preceded it. The last stanza runs thus:

This alone I seek to know,
Why in love I sometimes fail?
Though no treacherous breezes blow
Through my heart in envious gale.
I would not with methods low
Her I dearly love assail,
Yet, a meek disciple, go
Where love's arts do still avail.
All is joy and glorious there,
'Mid brave knights and ladies fair.

Baily contains, among other entertaining matter, a brief memoir of Sir Henry Tufton, accompanying his portrait; a sketch by Amphion of the career of that fine old turfite, Mr. Merry, under the title of "Finis Coronat Opus;" a neatly written description of "Slapton Lea," and chapter xviii of "Frank Raleigh of Watercombe," who is again in disgrace with the terrible Dr. Twigg, and is expelled the school in consequence. The following, from "Our Van," is too good to leave unquoted:—

"*Les enfants terribles* have been a fruitful theme for many a year, but we think they increase and multiply. What said a young woman of tender years to her spiritual guide, the other day, on his questioning her as to her religious knowledge, the basis of which, of course, lay in the Catechism? Everything went on swimmingly until the question as to how many commandments there were elicited for answer a prompt 'nine.' The good priest smiled, as he patted the respondent's head, and told her she had forgotten—there were ten. 'Oh, yes!' gravely replied the young lady, 'I know there were ten, but there are only *nine* now.' This was rather awful, and the astonished divine could only find breath to say, 'My dear child, what do you mean?' 'I mean, father, that there really are only nine; for I heard cook say, yesterday, that when mamma went to town, on Wednesday, with Captain Douglas, *she broke one!*' The reverend gentleman means to give up catechising, or, at all events, restrict himself to the boy classes."

There is also a good story, connected with the late Government, as illustrating its economical tendencies, of a troop horse, which, on the petition of the officers and men of the Dragoon Guards, was, after twenty-six years' faithful service, allowed to be shot, instead of being sold into slavery. But the petition was only granted by "*the Right Honorable E. Cardwell, on condition that credit be given to the country for the value of his hide!!* And credit for three half-crowns was absolutely given to you, my British tax-payer, for the skin of your old servant."

We cannot speak too highly of the illustrations in *Belgravia*, nor are we less content with the literary matter. Mr. Sala suggests the execution of Major André as a fitting subject for Miss Thompson to pourtray. The reasons he urges are sensible enough, and will, doubtless, command themselves to most readers as sufficient. Nor is there any reason why, as Mr. Sala urges, the treatment of such a subject should be repulsive. A true artist will introduce into his picture nothing that will not bear criticism. We cannot say we feel any great enthusiasm about the subject, but we agree with Mr. Sala that, if properly handled by a talented painter, it might make a good picture. "From Paddington to Land's End," by the Editor, is a pleasantly written sketch, and so is Mr. William O'Brien's paper, headed "The Man of Speech." "Mr. Jangleby Dandrom" is the life-like sketch of a class of people whom we frequently meet in all parts of the country. "Our Home among the Vikings" is, we imagine, the first of a series of sketches of Norse life. But what has pleased us most in this number are the concluding chapters of "Sea-Bank Farm." The tale is not too long, so that the reader runs little chance of getting bewildered as to the principal personages. But it is a well-drawn story. The characters are natural, the incidents probable, and the dénouement equally so. The tale might have been prolonged, perhaps, but we question if, in such case, it would not have lost in force. "A Bad Black Dog" shows how they manage these animals in France.

There is, as usual, plenty of sound, sensible matter in *Temple Bar*. Of "Leah, a Woman of Fashion," we need say little, it has already earned for itself a high reputation among serial literature. Of the other contributions, however, there are several which are worthy of high commendation. Such are a description of "The Days of Henri Quatre," "Through the Canal,"—Suez Canal of course,—and "Laughing Madness." "Bitter Fruit," which is commenced this month, looks as though it would prove an attractive story. While, "Her Dearest Foe" is developing into a capital serial.

Colburn's New Monthly is noticeable for the commencement of two new tales, "Mary Barroughes" and "Master Martin," but as yet it were unjust to offer any opinion as to their merits or demerits. "To India and Back" is lively, if now and again somewhat mysterious, and no doubt, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will appreciate the writer's advice so freely tendered. "Calais Fair" is a well-drawn sketch, and so is that of the Triton River. The following is worth quoting:

AUGUST.

A ll Nature now is radiant, and gives forth
U nsparing treasures in a bounteous mood,
G reat blessings to the land in fruits and grain.
U ngrateful he who lightly passes by
S uch gifts, unmindful of that heavenly source:
T each us, O God, to love Thee thro' thy works!

We hope the author may prove a prophet, but thus far the season has not been very attractive.

We are getting on famously with "The Manchester Man," in *Cassell's Family Magazine*. Jabez Clegg is out of his apprenticeship, but is still retained in the service of, and remains under the same roof with Mr. Ashton, his employer. Moreover, but mainly at the intercession of Miss Ashton, he is instrumental in saving the life of his old rival, Laurence Aspinall, who, while showing off before the ladies, falls through the ice, and is within an ace of being drowned. There is a fully detailed account of "Education at Owen's College, Manchester," well worth looking into, for the institution has been steadily acquiring a sound reputation even from the very outset. "The Emigrant Ship's Matron" is also well written, and Phillis Brown conveys some excellent advice in "How to Nurse the Sick." "A Night's Work in the Crimean War" and "Hard Pressed—a Wolf Story" are exciting stories, especially the latter, in which Edgar Marston has a narrow shave for his life. "The next Public House" is, unhappily, too realistic. The unfortunate people who figure most prominently are to be seen in well nigh every part of London. "The Gatherer" has collected some excellent and most instructive notes, and Mr. Payne, who latterly has been favouring the readers of this periodical with his views on eating and drinking, throws out some valuable hints respecting the proper "Food for hot weather." We should not wish for a safer guide, in the matter of feeding, than Mr. Payne, and we trust he will add to the already considerable number of excellent hints for which we are indebted to him. We had almost forgotten to call attention to a paper on "Seal Hunting in Greenland North," which, short as it is, we feel sure will find many delighted readers. The other contributions are well worth reading, indeed, the whole number is to be commended.

We have remarked in the *Leisure Hour* as among the most interesting papers, that on "The Birds of London," by Henry Walker, F.G.S., the Rev. F. Arnold's account of "Port Royal," and Mr. Kingston's "Bristol: Now, and in the Olden Time." Nor must we pass unnoticed the sketch of Gillray in the series, now current, of papers on "Caricature and Caricaturists." Dr. Rimbault contributes another musical article, this time on "Welsh National Music." In its companion publication, *Sunday at Home*, we have read with pleasure the continuation of Dr. Eberheim's "Jewish life in the Time of our Lord," and Dr. Stoughton's "The Town and League of Schmalkalden."

THE DRAMA.

Recent Revivals.

NO novelty calling for notice at our hands has been produced recently, with the exception, perhaps, of *Salthello Ovini*, at the HAYMARKET, the noticeable point of which piece was its deserved and utter failure. English taste in burlesque has no doubt sunk to a low ebb; but it is still difficult to find a public fitted for the appreciation of a stupid piece of vulgar buffoonery, the fun of which was supposed to lie in a burlesque of the style, and an exaggeration of the manner of one who is probably the greatest actor of our time. The fact that Signor Salvini is a stranger should have protected him from insult of this kind; and no worse treatment could be offered to any man than to make him the theme of probably the worst burlesque ever written. It is annoying in the extreme to see a man of talent wasting his time on unworthy objects, and Mr. W. J. Hill striving to extract fun from this ponderous piece of dulness, was a sight for gods and men. The one consoling feature of the piece, was that its length of run was limited to two night.

Summer is naturally an idle time in the theatrical world. No man of sense who can avoid it will sit baking slowly in a theatre, amid the combined smells of gas and orange peel. It is therefore unreasonable to expect any manager to spend his time and money on the production of novelties which have no chance of attracting an audience, but as change is still necessary, recourse is had to the stock pices in the repertoire of the theatre, and for some weeks in the year playgoers are regaled on the stale pieces of the year, or the ten years before. There is one exception to this rule, at the GAIETY no *remanets* is ever permitted, and by frequent change of programme Mr. Hollingshead keeps up the attraction of his pretty theatre, at present devoted to English opera, with Miss Blanche Cole as Larline. Changes have been frequent at the HAYMARKET. After a short season of the pieces, which went so well under Miss Litton's leadership at the COURT THEATRE, *The Rivals* and *As You Like It* have been played, with casts comprising the honoured names of Mr. and Mrs. Vezin, Mr. and Mrs. Chippendale, Mr. Compton, and a lady whose reappearance in London we are glad to welcome — Miss Caroline Hill. At the QUEEN'S, Mr. Rignold has already thought it necessary to make some alteration, and *Anne Clarke*, instead of *Claverty*, forms the chief dish of the evening's entertainment. It is needless to say that Mr. Rignold still fills the part which he first created. The revivals of *Money* and the *Ticket of Leave*, unhappily rendered necessary by previous failures, have been noticed in these columns. *Nemesis*, at the STRAND, completes our list of *réchauffés*: but that list is sufficiently long to show that the inveterate theatre-goer must be sadly hungering for new pieces, and he would probably welcome even the productions of Dr. Veline.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE only subject to which the House of Lords devoted its attention on Friday, was one introduced by the Earl of Shaftesbury relative to Cotton Factory Labour in Bombay. To this the Marquis of Salisbury gave a satisfactory reply, and the subject then dropped. On Monday, the sitting was still shorter, but certain bills of importance were advanced, notably the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Bill, and the Employers and Workmen's Bill. On Tuesday, the sitting was equally short, but a considerable amount of business was done. The questions to which attention was drawn were the state of affairs on the West Coast of Africa, by the Earl of Carnarvon, and Unseaworthy Ships, by Earl Russell. There was also a short discussion on the Importation of Coolies, after which the House rose. On Thursday, the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Bill, with a new clause inserted, at the instance of the Lord Chancellor, and the Employers and Workmen's Bill were read a third time, and passed. The Militia Laws Consolidated Bill passed through Committee, and other measures were advanced a stage.

On Friday, in the House of Commons, a long debate ensued on the new Bill on Unseaworthy Ships, introduced by the Government. Among the speakers were Mr. Bates and Mr. Plimsoll, as well as the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The second reading was carried. At the evening sitting, a debate ensued on various subjects, after which the House went into Committee of Supply, and rose at two o'clock. There was an early sitting on Saturday, as the recess is advancing. The important business was again Supply, after which the case of Plimsoll and Bates was again discussed. A long and wordy warfare was the result, and after settling this the House rose at eight o'clock. On Monday, the new Bill of the Government on Unseaworthy Ships occupied the attention of the House in Committee. Sundry amendments were proposed, but the most important met with little favour in the House. After this there was an adjournment. On Tuesday, the subject of the Navy Estimates was discussed, and the various sums asked for were voted. On Wednesday, a long discussion, in which Messrs. Dodson and Gladstone took an important part, ensued on Supply, but what was required for the public service was voted, and, on the whole, we think the Government had the best of the fight. On Thursday, a considerable period of time was wasted, notably by Dr. Kenealy, who brought under notice the recent trial of Colonel Baker, and the sentence passed by Judge Brett. Then certain resolutions in Committee of Supply were agreed to, the Report on Ways and Means was brought up, and Mr. Smith introduced the Appropriation Act, which was read a first time immediately afterwards. On the Report on Unseaworthy Ships Bill, certain clauses were added at the instance of the Government, and the third reading will have been passed before these pages meet the eye of our readers. The same was done with the Agricultural Holdings Bill, and this, too, will have left the Commons before to-day.

The great event of the week has been the extension, by the Lord Mayor, of the usual civic hospitality, to the Ministers, towards the end of the Session. The Premier was present in person, as were also all the most important members of the Cabinet. The Civic Ruler offered his congratulations on the progress of public business, and Mr. Disraeli replied in his happiest vein, descanting at some length on what his Ministry had done, and the general prosperity of the country. It is needless to add that his

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remarks were well received, and that the speeches of the other ministers, Mr. G. Hardy, Mr. Ward Hunt and others were applauded by both sides. The Premier's exposition was very simple, but his record of the past year was highly satisfactory. Some mistakes may have been made by Government in the management of public business, but they seem to be immaterial, and the country generally appears to be satisfied with the working of the Ministry thus far.

Next week will be the festival of St. Grouse, and we look forward to hearing shortly of wonderful bags in different parts of the country. We trust the season will be considerably bettter than those of the last year or two. There has been time for the disease to die out, and reports are favourable as to the state of the birds.

The annual meeting at Shoeburyness of the National Artillery Association attracts far less notice than its sister institution at Wimbledon. There are many reasons why this should be so. Shoeburyness is not within walking distance of the West End. There are no International matches to watch, and, more important still, perhaps, individual skill and precision do not stand out so prominently in handling a cannon as in the use of firearms. But there is good steady work done by our Volunteer Artillerists, and this year, at least, if the work is harder, they can boast of having had finer weather than the Rifles. The principal prizes have yet to be shot for, but we note that the 1st detatchment of the 1st Cinque Ports has won the Prince of Wales's prize.

Following the grand banquet at the Mansion House to the foreign Mayors, burgomasters and others, who have come over to London to honour the Lord Mayor with their presence, and to which we referred last week, we note that on last Friday there was an International Municipal Ball, and that on Saturday there was a grand meet of all these very illustrious personages at the Alexandra Palace, there being a considerable number of people present, a somewhat indifferent concert to listen to, and a guard of honour from the Honourable Artillery Company to look at and admire. The day passed off most agreeably, and in the evening there was a reception at the Mansion House, at which everybody saw everybody enjoying himself or trying to do so. We vastly admire the hospitality of the present Lord Mayor, who every week seems to find out some new batch of guests to entertain.

Monday was a Bank Holiday, and the clerk of the weather must have thought he had spoiled sufficient of our outdoor pleasure this year to justify him in being somewhat more favourably disposed on this occasion to the seekers after pleasure. Accordingly, those for whom the holiday was not intended came out in their noisy thousands, making every green spot within a few miles of Charing Cross ring again with their very over-boisterous merriment. The Alexandra Palace secured the patronage of some seventy thousand, while over fifty thousand favoured the older palace at Sydenham. Hampstead Heath was, of course, thronged, while numerous excursion trains to Margate, Ramsgate, Dover, Brighton, and other well known watering places, accessible in two or three hours from London, carried off whole multitudes besides. The day, in fact, was one of unbroken pleasure, albeit rough generally, and at times uproarious. As for the bank clerks, &c., for whose behoof these holidays were chiefly intended, they had a day's rest from labour, no doubt, but unless they got away into some quiet country lanes, far from the tumult of Park and Palace, we question if they found much "pleasure."

The Cricket Week at Canterbury appears, thus far, to have been a great success. The first match, All England v. Kent and Gloucestershire, ended in a victory for the latter by six wickets. In their first attempt, England amassed 220 runs, the principal contributors being Messrs. A. J. Webbe (30), I. D. Walker (38), A. Greenwood (54), R. H. A. Mitchell (22), and A. Ridley (18), with E. Pooley not out (31). In their second innings, however, they collapsed for 68; A. Shaw (21), E. Pooley (14), and Mr. I. D. Walker (15) being the chief scorers. For the allied counties, Mr. W. G. Grace made 19 and not out 12, Lord Harris (38), Mr. G. F. Grace (10), Mr. Yardley (51), F. Penn (48 and 0), and Mr. H. Renny-Tailyour (54 and not out 6). The second match M.C.C. v. Kent is, at the time of writing, yet unfinished, but the latter, so far, has the best of it, having made 262—W. Penn (39), W. Yardley (28), Lord Harris (53), and F. Penn (101). M.C.C. were all out for 108 in their first innings, and have lost five wickets for 161 runs in their second essay. The "leviathan" made 0 in his first, and 35 in his second innings, Mr. Wyatt (13 and 17), Mr. I. D. Walker (31 and 21), and Mr. Fryer (18 and not out 37), being the other principal contributors. It will be noticed that Mr. Gilbert Grace has, this year, made fewer three figure scores than in previous years, and this will, doubtless, affect his average. As a bowler, however, he appears to have been even more successful than formerly. There is little else to record in the way of cricket. Indeed, August is the close of the legitimate season, and there remains now only a few important county matches to play. Yachting, however, is in full swing. The Royal Yacht Squadron Regatta has been held this week, while those of the Royal Victoria Y.C. and Royal Albert Y.C. will follow next week and the week after. Brighton Race Meeting passed off pleasantly, and, so too, the International Polo and Pigeon Meeting, held at the same place.

The death of Hans Christian Andersen, the great Danish writer, is not only a loss to the country of which he was so conspicuous a literary ornament, but to the whole civilised world. As a writer of tales for the young of all ages, we shall be puzzled to find his equal. We have said "young of all ages" advisedly, for though his tales are designed especially for the young, they are almost as delightful to adults. We have devoted many a leisure hour to Andersen, and we can conscientiously say that we have never risen from such brief studies of his pages without feeling the most profound delight.

Ireland is now in the thick of the O'Connell Centenary celebration. Dublin especially is in a grand fever of excitement, all parties vieing with each other in doing honour to the mighty dead. Nor is the Lord Mayor behind his fellow countrymen. The first of a series of banquets to be held in connection with this fête was given in the King's Room, at the Mansion House, on Thursday, and must have been a grand success. Among the most distinguished guests were Cardinal Cullen, Prince Radzivil, the Earl of Granard, and a considerable number of Roman Catholic prelates, both Irish and foreign. The toast "to the memory of O'Connell," was drunk in solemn silence, the other leading toasts being the healths of the Pope, the Queen, and the Prince and Princess of Wales. There was held, on the same evening, a grand concert, at which Mr. D. F. McCarthy's National Ode, composed for the occasion, and giving a sketch of O'Connell's life, was read amid many expressions of pleasure. The songs that were sung were chiefly selected from Moore's Melodies, and were received most enthusiastically.

We allude to the trial of Colonel Baker, only for the purpose of expressing our surprise that any of the female sex, whom the papers think may rightly be described as "ladies," should have shown anxiety to be present. We have read of two ladies having forced an entrance to the Court through the windows. It is only a sense of decency which can exclude women from a public court of justice, and it is among ladies that we expect to find the sense of decency most developed. Such is our view, at least, though it may, perhaps, be an absurdly old-fashioned one. We suppose the evidence was expected to be somewhat of what is commonly called a "spicier" kind than usual, and the "ladies" went accordingly; but we should be sorry to number any such among our female, much less among our lady, acquaintances.

What is a vegetable? Our readers will look, perhaps, with amazement at our propounding so absurd a question. Yet certain articles have lately been described as vegetables which, within our experience, at least, have never been so described before. Two gentlemen, Messrs. W. J. Hurlstone and J. Francis, amateur comedians, very kindly agreed to give their services in a farce on the occasion of the benefit of the acting manager of the Greenwich Theatre, Mr. Crofton. When they appeared on the stage, however, they were saluted, from the neighbourhood of the boxes and dress circle, with, firstly, a cauliflower, which struck Mr. Hurlstone on the shoulder, and then with a shower of "other vegetables," these "other vegetables" turning out to be pigs' trotters and saveloys, one of which struck Mr. Francis on the right foot. This seems to us to be a most unfortunate confusion between certain highly respectable representatives of the animal and vegetable worlds, and has led us to ask the question, in all sober seriousness, "What is a vegetable?" Saveloys are popularly supposed to be made of—well, we must not be too ready to describe the several component parts of these attractive "vegetables." As for

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pigs' trotters, they are *glutinous*, and as there may be, for aught we know to the contrary, a vegetable *glue*, it is possible, perhaps, to see a connection between a cauliflower, or a cabbage, and a pig's foot. This is the only solution we have to offer in answer to our own question, and we fear this is but a lame one.

The sale by auction of a collection of wild beasts is a novelty but seldom met with, yet Mander's well-known collection was brought to the hammer on Wednesday, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The brutes went, in most cases, for next to nothing, the bidding being very slack, and the prices realised far below what might have been expected. The collection was a very good one, and included lions and lionesses, a gnu or "horned horse," a pair of Tasmanian "devils," a red and blue faced gorilla from Abyssinia, camels, bears, birds, &c. A pair of lion cats fetched one hundred and fifty pounds, a lioness in cub a hundred and fifteen, a blue faced mandril, which had cost one hundred and ninety pounds, realised only one hundred and five, while the gnu fetched fifty. On the other hand, one bear went for twenty-six, and another for only twenty, shillings, and one fine camel was knocked down for four pounds ten shillings. As the sale was an unreserved one, there was no help for it, and thus many a splendid specimen was allowed to go dirt cheap. The buyers, however, have no reason to grumble at the good bargains they made.

From abroad, the news as regards the Herzegovina is far from reassuring. When we see it announced by telegram that the Ambassadors of England and Russia at Vienna have interrupted their leave of absence, and have returned to their post, in order to the better watch the progress of events, and that Prince Milan of Servia has held a conference with the German and Russian Ambassadors, we may be sure it is a case of no smoke without fire. The trouble may be promptly suppressed, especially if the Great Powers adopt a common course of action. But if differences arise, if the ill-conditioned Montenegrins, the Servians and others in the neighbourhood are allowed directly or indirectly to send aid to the insurgents, the Eastern question will come forward with all its terrible difficulties. We may anticipate, however, that the Earl of Derby will do all he can to allay the storm without sacrificing one jot of the dignity of Great Britain. If the Turks are left to themselves, and recruiting abroad is promply put an end to, probably the insurrection will be put down, and the storm will blow over. As for the Carlists, there is little doubt that they have been dealt some tremendous blows of late, but they are still strong enough to keep their enemies at bay. They can still bear a good many more defeats before they are ultimately and decisively overthrown, if, indeed, that consummation, so devoutly to be wished by the Alphonsists, shall ever be arrived at. There has been a little excitement in the Paris Municipal Council, but there is little else to record.

CLOSING.—In the performance of a ceremony so solemn and momentous as the closing of a Masons' Lodge, every member has a lively interest. At the usual report, preceded by an inquiry involving the best interests of Masonry, the Brethren are again reminded what is the chief care of a Mason. the avenues to the Lodge are carefully inspected by the meridian officer, whose knowledge and fidelity have entitled him to the confidence of the Brethren, and after he has publicly proclaimed the security of the Lodge, the business of closing proceeds. The particular duties of the leaders of the respective bands of Craftsmen are rehearsed. At the command of the Worshipful Master, The Senior Warden performs his duty, after seeing that the Brethren have received their due proportion of Masonic instruction and improvement; and the whole concludes with an impressive address to the Brethren on their respective duties as men and Masons, when pursuing their accustomed avocations in the world; and with a fervent petition to the Deity, supplicating his blessing on the Fraternity, wheresoever dispersed under the wide canopy of Heaven. Such is the high ground which Masonry assumes from the extreme purity of the system. We are bound, therefore, to reflect that as our station is exalted, so ought our conduct to be exemplary; for the world regards us with a scrutinizing eye; and, which is of more consequence, we are under the constant inspection of the All-Seeing Eye of God. If we would adorn the system which is our pride and boast, nay, if we would not expose it to contempt, we must discharge the relative and social duties of life with a precision at least equal to the most virtuous of our fellow-men; for as the science we profess may be ornamented by our rectitude of demeanour, so will it infallibly be disgraced should we be found deficient in any of the obligations which are incumbent on us, in our respective characters of husband and father, citizen and subject, neighbour and friend.—*Hebrew Leader.*

Bro. Maclagan has been drawing crowded audiences at the Brighton Aquarium during the past week.

MASONIC HALL AT GRIMSBY.

THE following particulars of laying the foundation stone of the new Masonic Hall at Grimsby, are gathered from *The Grimsby Observer and Humber News*, of 4th August:—

Last Monday was probably the most important, and more deserving to be remembered, of any day in the modern history of Grimsby Freemasonry, for seldom indeed is it that a public demonstration of the character and ceremonial surrounding the proceedings that then took place is witnessed in this town; and though much of the extraordinary interest manifested in the events of the day arose from curiosity, yet the magnificence, combined with the solemnity of the display, lent its peculiar attractiveness to the occasion. The "Pelham Pillar" Lodge was established, at Chapman's Hotel, in September 1859, and having been for three years conducted at that house, the Lodge was for various reasons, and during the Mastership of Bro. Whalley, removed to premises in Bullring Lane, where it is still held. It was in 1867, when Bro. Copeland was W.M., that the necessity for having a Masonic Hall was first mooted, but at that time the site required could not be obtained and the question laid dormant until a fresh movement was started in 1873 by Bro. Hadfield, who was then W.M., and who manifested a special interest in the matter. Since then the proposal has gained in strength, until a few months ago the "Pelham Pillar" Masonic Hall Company was formed, the chief promoters being Bro. Hadfield and the other P.M.'s. The site of the proposed hall is at the junction of George-street and Osborne-street. On this site, as many old inhabitants of Grimsby will remember, stood a hawthorn tree, in whose branches the school boys of bygone years have disported themselves. Additional historic celebrity will attach to the whitethorn tree, now removed, in the fact that the working tools, and the box containing them, used in the stone-laying ceremony on Monday last were manufactured out of it. The brethren on this occasion permitted the uninitiated in Masonic mysteries to be present, and for the especial convenience and accommodation of ladies a platform was kindly provided, from which about 300 fashionably attired ladies viewed the proceedings, adding a charm to their picturesqueness and brilliancy. A profuse display of flags also enlivened the scene. The hall is estimated to cost £2,635. Mr. T. G. Barker is the architect, and Mr. Thomas Drew the builder. Mr. Hasten Clark has been appointed secretary to the company, and Mr. A. Bates solicitor. A glass jar, deposited in a cavity cut in the stone, contained copies of the *Grimsby Observer, News* and *Herald*, a memorandum of the articles of the company, a programme of the day's proceedings, a scroll giving a brief history of the company, and some current coins of the realm.

After a Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency had been opened at the Mechanic's-hall, the brethren formed and marched to the site of the proposed building in procession.

Arrived at the entrance to the site, the brethren divided to the right and left, facing inwards, leaving an avenue for the Prov. Grand Standard Bearer, the Prov. Grand Sword Bearer, Bro. Sutcliffe, and the deputy of R.W. Prov. G.M., who passed up to the foundation stone, followed by the officers of Prov. Grand Lodge and other acting officers. The inscription is as follows:—"This stone was laid by Bro. John Sutcliffe P.M. P.P.S.G.W., 2nd August 1875." The officiating brethren having duly taken their positions round the stone, the Prov. Grand Chaplain invoked a blessing on the undertaking, the Chaplain and brethren alternately reciting the psalm, "Except the Lord build the house," &c. The R.W.D.P.S.M., Bro. W. H. Smyth, having read his dispensation appointing Bro. John Sutcliffe to officiate in laying the stone according to ancient Masonic custom, Bro. Sutcliffe stated that they were assembled to lay the corner or foundation stone of a building to be hereafter erected, and which was specially intended to accomodate Masons, the Craft in Grimsby having made great progress, and their numbers and importance now rendered a Masonic Hall desirable and necessary. The Superintendent of Works then presented the plans of the proposed edifice to the officiating officer, who, after examining, approved and returned them to the Superintendent. The Secretary (Bro. H. Clark) next read a copy of the document placed in the phial deposited in the cavity of the stone.

The Treasurer (Bro. M. Dawson) placed some current coins of the realm in the phial, which he deposited in the cavity of the stone, which the officiating officer saw properly secured with cement. Bro. Acey's band was in attendance, and played a solemn dirge whilst the stone was being lowered by three distinct drops, the last leaving it suspended about 10 inches from its bed.

Bro. John Hadfield, advancing to the officiating officer and presenting him with a beautiful silver trowel, said: Right Worshipful Sir, you are very well aware that the room in the old Masonic Lodge in Grimsby has now become far too small to accommodate the brethren; therefore we propose to erect this building in order to make room for more gentlemen who wish to become members; and I, being chairman of the company who are about to erect this hall, have been requested by my brother directors to present you with this trowel for the purpose of laying the foundation stone. In presenting you with this trowel I am simply paying you the compliment which the brethren of the province think you deserve, knowing, as they do, how long you have been a good and faithful Freemason—(hear, hear)—how long you have fought the battles of the Craft, and how long you have always done your best to assist the suffering widows and orphans. In presenting you with this trowel, and in wishing you health, long life, and prosperity, I am sure a responsive throb of joy will emanate from every Mason in this assembly. (Applause.)

The trowel, which was supplied by Mrs. Webber, widow of Bro. Webber, bore the inscription—"Presented to Bro. John Sutcliffe P.M. P.P.S.G.W. on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the new Masonic Hall, Grimsby. Monday, August 2nd, 1875."

The Officiating Officer having spread the cement, the stone was slowly lowered to its bed, the band playing "Rule Britannia." A flourish of trumpets then indicated that the stone was placed

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on its base. "God Bless the Prince of Wales" was then played. The Officiating Officer then directed the bearers of the plumb rule, the level, and the square to the performance of their respective duties. The first declared the stone to be perfect and trustworthy, the second well founded, and the third that it was true. The O. O., "having full confidence in their skill in the Royal art," proceeded to complete the work, knocking the stone thrice with a mallet, and declaring it properly laid in accordance with the ancient rules of architecture. After a performance by the band, corn in a cornucopia, wine in a ewer, and oil and salt in vessels, were handed in turn to the O. O., and poured by him on the stone. In doing so he said:—"I scatter corn upon this stone as an emblem of plenty, and may the blessings of bounteous Heaven be showered upon us, and may our hearts be filled with gratitude to the Giver of all good gifts."—"I pour wine upon this stone, the emblem of joy and gladness. May our hearts be made glad with the influence of divine truth, and may virtue flourish as a vine."—"I pour oil as an emblem of peace. May peace and harmony, goodwill and brotherly love, abound amongst us all."—"I scatter salt, the emblem of purity, of hospitality, of fidelity, and of friendship; and I dedicate this building to the peaceful pursuits of Freemasonry."—After each of these formalities the Chaplin read an appropriate text of scripture, and concluded with a brief prayer.

Bro. Sutcliffe then addressed the assembly, saying: Brethren, ladies and gentlemen,—We have met here to-day for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of a new house in which the Freemasons of this town and ancient port may assemble. It has devolved upon me—unworthy though I am—as the oldest Freemason in the town, to discharge this duty. This must be to me a very proud day, and one which I shall ever remember with gratitude to my brethren for their selection of me to perform this office. In the outer world the principles of Freemasonry are a good deal criticised by men who do not thoroughly understand, or even know, our precepts or our practices. We are generally described as a party of men who meet together for social enjoyments. Admitted, admitted we do, is there anything improper in that? I say no. But we have higher, higher motives than that of occasionally meeting together for social pleasure. We meet for the promotion amongst ourselves of brotherly love and charity, and assistance to all—more especially our brethren perhaps—but to all who may require it outside the pale of our association. (Hear, hear.) I think I may safely say there is never any great national calamity arises but you see the Masons assisting the helpless and the sufferers. (Hear, hear.) We have amongst us high educational institutions. We care for the aged and infirm brethren and their widows, and find a home, education, and clothing for the orphans of our deceased brethren and sisters. In many places schools are maintained by the Masons of a province. In addition to them we have those grand institutions—an asylum for aged and infirm brethren, and our magnificent and splendid schools for boys and girls. Upwards of 200 aged Freemasons, and the widows of brethren, now receive very handsome annuities from the fund which is devoted to that purpose. In this province there are several widows—I don't know exactly how many—who receive an annuity of £26 per annum, and brethren who receive an annuity of £36 per annum. These allowances must be a great assistance and comfort to them in their old age. Then we have a school for girls, in which 150 daughters of decayed Freemasons are taught, educated, and clothed, and after they leave school respectable positions are found for them. At present, this province of Lincolnshire has 4 children in the Girls' School. But we have another institution of which we all feel proud—prouder almost than of any other institution connected with the Craft—I mean the Boys' School. (Hear, hear.) In it 178 orphan boys—children of deceased Masons—are educated and clothed, and a very excellent and superior education is given to them. These three institutions are supported by the voluntary contributions of the Masons of England, and during the past year no less a sum than £27,000 has been subscribed towards their maintenance. (Applause.) There is not another order, I believe, in this country that can boast such noble subscriptions. To the Boys' School alone the subscription was nearly £13,000, and that is unprecedented I believe, in the annals of almost any charitable institution. (Hear, hear.) The outer world has thought proper within the last two or three years to attack us, more especially one class or clique of men, who charge us with being irreligious and disloyal. This charge is made against us by a leading member of that party who said his second loyalty is due to the Queen of this country, but his first loyalty is due to the potentate of a foreign land. I leave you to judge whether that charge of disloyalty comes with good grace from men of that character. As to our being irreligious, why whenever we assemble the volume of Sacred Law is laid open, and it guides and rules all our actions and proceedings. (Hear, hear.) Thus much for their charge of religion. I think the public do not think we are such great hypocrites as to meet in this manner, if we were not really sincere in our principles. As to the charge of disloyalty coming from a class of men who say their second loyalty only is due to this country, and that their loyalty is firstly due to a foreign potentate, I think the lie has been crammed down their throats, by our Heir Apparent to the Throne having taken the office of Grand Master. (Applause.) But before he came into that position he knew and had studied the principles of Freemasonry. He came to the fore, and gave the lie to scandalous libellous fellows. (Hear, hear.) I have now only to say that we have placed this stone here to-day for the erection of a Masonic Hall for the purpose of affording more accomodation to the members who are crowding to our Craft. I have been a Mason over twenty-three years. At that time we had only 600 Lodges on the Grand Roll of England. Now the number has greatly increased, and we can count 1,500 Lodges, showing that in twenty years the number has more than doubled. The increase has been going on more rapidly during the past three years than during any previous period. We do not go hawking about the streets, in all the highways and byways what we do, but our principles only want to be known, I am quite sure, to be admired. (Applause.) Turning to the ladies' platform, Bro. Sutcliffe said: I thank you for the great compliment you have paid me and the Craft by gracing with your presence the ceremonial of to-day. (Applause.)

The Masonic version of the National Anthem was then sung, the air being taken by Bro. Copeland. With this the ceremony terminated, and the procession re-formed in inverted order. The brethren walked back to the Mechanics' Institute, where Grand Lodge was formally closed.

The banquet held in the evening in the large room at the Town Hall was presided over by Bro. John Hadfield P.M. P.P.G.J.D. for Lincoln, as chairman of the Masonic Hall Company, Bro. and Mrs. Sutcliffe occupying the post of honour. There was a large attendance of Masons, the board being graced by the presence of their wives and daughters. Amongst the brethren present were the following guests of Bro. Sutcliffe:—W. H. Radley, Boston; Wm. Watkins, Lincoln; Rev. Dr. Ace, Loughton; W. J. Bland, Boston; W. G. Moore, Grimsby; E. J. Cullen, Lincoln; A. Kirk, Gainsborough; R. Goodmann, Gainsborough; Thos. Slator, jun., Boston; J. A. Thomas, Boston; Rev. J. C. K. Saunders, Thornton-le-moor; C. M. Nesbitt, Louth; F. O. Marsden, Louth; T. W. Thimbleby, Spilsby; A. Parkin, Doncaster; W. Pooles, Boston; Geo. Nelson, Limber; Wm. Swallow, Barton; Jno. Barnclough, Lincoln; J. W. Palmer, Boston; W. B. Bratley, Boston; Wm. Sissons, Barton; Thos. Fryer, Brigg; G. G. Birkett, Louth; H. C. Chambers, Market Rasen; Rev. R. T. Ward, Salmonby; Martin Kemp, Hull; R. W. Vivian, Hull; F. Binckes, London; W. Pallitt, Manchester; J. Spink, F. Phillipson, Smith, Terry, and Little, Grimsby. A sumptuous repast was provided by Bro. W. H. Roberts, of the Yarborough Hotel. Mr. O'Connor, fruiterer, of Victoria-street, supplied the excellent dessert, and tastefully adorned the tables with flowers and plants.

The Chairman gave the three loyal toasts in enthusiastic terms; followed by Brother Radley (Boston) with "the Bishop and Clergy," to which Bro. the Rev. J. C. K. Saunders P.G.C. responded. Bro. Thomas proposed the patriotic toast, coupled with the name of Capt. Garvey, who returned thanks for the three services; after which several official healths were honoured.

The Chairman then proposed the health of "Bro. John Sutcliffe P.M. P.P.S.G.W. and acting D.S.G.M. on laying the foundation-stone." (Applause.) He invited the company to drink the health of Bro. Sutcliffe in a bumper, observing that it was needless for him to dilate on the many excellencies of that gentleman, many of which, however, he dwelt upon, and thus called forth an exuberance of cheering.

Bro. Sutcliffe thanked the company most sincerely and heartily. He felt that he should retire from the position he held in Masonry, and make room for a younger man. ("No.") There were as good fish in the sea as ever were caught. He had taken a prominent position in Masonry because he loved it, and because he thought it was the finest institution in the world. It inculcated brotherly love, and they were enabled to look more generously upon the little failings of a brother than upon those of the outer world. He then alluded to the charities which the brethren uphold, and proceeded to remark upon the growth of the Craft in numbers and strength.

The Chairman next proposed "The Visiting Brethren," for whom Bro. McMurchie, Bro. Swallow, and Bro. Nelson responded.

Bro. Sutcliffe proposed "The Chairman and Directors of the Pelham Pillar Masonic Hall Company Limited, and success to the undertaking." In doing so he remarked that the perseverance which their chairman had displayed in the matter was admirable—(hear, hear)—and he was to be congratulated upon the result of his exertions.

The Chairman, in responding, stated that the total cost of the building would be £3,000, towards which not a single gift would be received. The capital would be subscribed by Masons in £1 shares, and £1,700 worth had been applied for.

Bro. Vivian proposed "The W.M. of the Pelham Pillar Lodge, and the W.M.'s of our Lodges present." Bro. W. Marshall (Vice-Chairman), acknowledged the compliment paid him. Bro. A. Bates gave "The Masonic Charities," in a speech full of kindly sympathy. The remaining toasts were "The ladies," and "all poor and distressed Masons throughout the world," responded to by Bro. Collinson.

ROBIN HOOD.—As the hero of old popular tales and ballads, Robin Hood is supposed to have been formed by the gathering of later traditions about the memory of Robert Fitzooth, reputed Earl of Huntingdon, who was born at Loxley Chase, near Sheffield, in Yorkshire (by the river Loxley), perhaps at the close of the reign of Henry II., but more probably in the reign of Henry III., towards the year 1230. He was outlawed and lived in war against authority; eating the king's deer, defying the oppressive game laws, and all those of the king's officers who represented the hard hand of power that was used often oppressively against the poor. He scorned bishops and archbishops, who grew fat on the goods of the people. He was generous to the poor, and he was religious in the poor man's fashion, by devotion to the Virgin; for in her the mistaught and oppressed of the Middle Ages—forced to fear power in this world and in the next—found the lost spirit of love within an image of mild, womanly tenderness; and to her, therefore, they prayed for shelter from the wrath of God and man. Robin Hood personified to thousands in England the spirit of liberty in arms against the cruel forest laws, against all tyrannies of the strong in church and state, against all luxury fed on the spoils of labour. From the old days when Hereward the Saxon held the woods in defiance of the Norman kings, there had been stories of bold outlaws who through songs and tales of the country side became heroes to the labouring men with more freedom in their souls than in their lives. They were heroes full of wild energy, with roughness of the times in much of the adventure set down to them; but they represented not an inspiration only, for there was also the vigour of a shrewd practical humour that would in good time refine and raise, and realise all that was best in the ideal of the men who wrote such ballads as that of Robin Hood.—From "*Cassell's Library of English Literature*," *edited by Professor Henry Morley, for July.*

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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.

—oo—

SATURDAY, 7th AUGUST.

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

1426—Truth, Royal Archer Inn, Manchester.

MONDAY, 9th AUGUST.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)

40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High Street, Hastings.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
108—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
189—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
550—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
652—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
883—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall.
941—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1396—Morning Star, Queen's Hotel, Newton Abbot.
1466—Duncombe, King's Arms Hotel, Kingsbridge, Devon.

TUESDAY, 10th AUGUST.

107—St. John's, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.

131—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Truro.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
271—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
909—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Instruction.)
994—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Newton-in-the-Willows.
995—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
628—Lansdowne Lodge of Unity, New Hall, Chippenham.
725—Panmure, Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
814—Parrett and Axe, George Hotel, Crewkerne.
925—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, Gosport.
1288—Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, Surrey.
1402—Jordan, Masonic Hall, Torquay.

WEDNESDAY, 11th AUGUST.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
188—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
84—Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
118—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne.
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bolton.
187—Royal Somerset Lodge of Honorality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
237—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Oldham.
303—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
925—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
329—Brotherly Love, Clough's Inn, Yeovil.
369—Samaritan, George Hotel, Sandbach, Cheshire.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
662—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
666—Benevolence, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
734—Arboretum, Arboretum Hotel, Derby.
833—Worthing Lodge of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, Salford.
906—Royal Albert Edward, Crown and Anchor Inn, Weston, near Bath.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1060—Marmion, Private Rooms, Tamworth.
1416—Falcon, Kirkgate, Thirsk.

R. A. 236—Unity, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.
M.M. 142—Wilke, Church Inn, Whitefield, near Manchester.

THURSDAY, 12th AUGUST.

71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
130—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
179—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
195—Hengist, Bella Vue House, Bournemouth.
263—Amity, Swan Inn, Haslingden.
834—Royal Preston, Victoria's Garrison House, Fulwood, Lancashire.
841—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye, Sussex.
459—Shakespeare, Town Hall, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.
457—Mersey, 56 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
467—Portsmouth, Masonic Hall, Highbury-street, Portsmouth.
486—Elias de Derham, Masonic Hall, The Canal, Salisbury.
620—St. Cuthbert's, Parson Lane, Howden.
638—Lodge de Ogle, Black Bull Hotel, Morpeth.
689—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth, Northumberland.
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
787—Beauvoir, Lion Hotel, Bridge-street, Belper.
816—Royle, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale.
864—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
1062—Derby, Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, Manchester.
1304—Royal, Bella Vue Hotel, Malvern.
1325—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
1327—Upton, Spotted Dog Tavern, Upton, Essex. (Emergency.)
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.

R. A. 81—Patriotic, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.

FRIDAY, 13th AUGUST.

177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1307—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
170—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Melcombe Regis, Weymouth.
318—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
445—Fidelity, Pontefract Arms Hotel, Towcester.
697—Union, George Hotel, Colchester.
813—Blair, Town Hall, Holme, Manchester.
1067—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.

SATURDAY, 14th AUGUST.

453—Chigwell, Castle Hotel Woodford.

140—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Waltham.
808—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.
1291—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—104—Prince of Wales' Own Lodge, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 250—St. George's, Enniscorthy, Wexford.
" 297—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 321—Tullamore, Court House, Tullamore, King's County.
" 431—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
TUESDAY—8—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
" 22—Truth, Masonic Hall, Arthur Place, Belfast.
WEDNESDAY—217—Tyrawley, 4 Dillon Terrace, Ballina.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
" 139—Londonderry, Londonderry.
" 248—Roscommon, Court House, Roscommon.
" 352—Castleblaney, Castleblaney, Monaghan.
" 421—Drogheda, Masonic Hall, Drogheda, co. Louth.
FRIDAY—176—St. John, Castle-street, Lisburn, co. Antrim.
" 211—Magherafelt, Court House, Magherafelt, co. Derry.
SATURDAY—13—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.
" 66—Star of Kilwarlin, Masonic Rooms, Hillsborough, Down.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—148—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—3—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—96—Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 188. — This Lodge held its weekly meeting on the 4th August, at the White Hart Tavern, Aldchurch-lane, E.C. Present—Bros. Abell W.M., Woodward S.W., Turquand J.W., Constable Treas., Blackhall S.D., Corner J.D., Gomm I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M. Bro. E. Gottheil Preceptor, and several other brethren. Business—The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Croaker being the candidate. The 4th and 5th sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Gottheil, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Woodward was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A proposition to subscribe for the First Volume of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE was carried unanimously. All business being ended the Lodge was closed, and adjourned until Wednesday, the 11th inst., 7.30 p.m. We take this opportunity of congratulating Bro. Gottheil as Preceptor, and admire his painstaking labour to impart Masonic instruction, and venture to remark further, that brethren should make themselves competent to fill any office to which they may be appointed with a fair amount of proficiency, constant and repeated corrections tend materially to obstruct the knowledge of patient and persevering listeners.

Lodge of Harmony, No. 220, Liverpool.— The annual installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 28th July, at the Garston Hotel, Garston, where there was a large attendance of the members and visitors. The chair, at the opening of the Lodge, was occupied by Bro. John Evans W.M., who was supported by a full complement of his officers. After two candidates had been initiated, the chair of installing master was taken by Bro. J. W. Baker P.M., to whom Bro. J. Evans I.P.M. and Bro. R. Jones P.M. presented Bro. John Hughes for installation as W.M. of the Lodge for the ensuing year. The ceremony was very ably performed, and the following brethren were subsequently invested by Bro. J. Hughes W.M. as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Evans I.P.M., T. B. Tellett S.W., S. Tickle J.W., W. Vinos Treasurer, C. Humphries P.M. 1013 Secretary, J. Tewksbury S.D., G. Price J.D., W. C. Lawson I.G., J. Robinson S.S., A. Sharples J.S., and J. Robinson Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to banquet, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed during the evening.

Zetland Chapter, No. 236.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 28th July, at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe Street, York. Present—Comp. Todd P.Z. as Z., Comp. Cowling P.Z. as H., Comp. Cooper P.Z. as J., Comp. T. B. Whytehead S.E., Comp. G. Balmford S.N., Comp. W. Lawton P.Z. as P.S., Comp. Wilson 2nd Ass., Comp. Redfare J., Comps. W. Flint, F. M. Herring, G. Cattell, J. Ward, T. Bellerby, T. S. Camidge, R. Wormald, G. Simpson, &c. Visitor—Comp. J. Teale. Bros. James Wilson and Wm. Thompson, both of the York Lodge 236, were duly exalted to the Supreme Degree. This Chapter is in a most prosperous condition, numbering no less than 79 members.

Harmony and Industry Lodge, No. 391.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, 2nd August, at the New Inn, Darwen, Lancashire. Present—Bros. John Wardley P.G.S. E.L. W.M., David Ainsworth S.W., W. H. Hargreaves J.W., Lawrence Roberts P.M. Secretary, Wm. Almond P.G.S.W. E.L. Treasurer, A. M. Briggs S.D., J. A. Tullis J.D., Henry Berry P.G.S. E.L. I.G., W. G. Hutchinson P.M. Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Thos. Grime P.G.D.C. E.L., R. H. Smalley. Business—The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The evening's business was light. Four brethren ought to have come forward to be raised, but, being holiday time, many of them were away from home and did not put in an appearance, the consequence was the business was very short and consisted merely of the regular work. The Lodge was closed at 9 o'clock.

Alliance Lodge, No. 667, Liverpool. — The members of this Lodge held their annual summer reunion on Wednesday, the 28th ult. The locality chosen was the gardens attached to the Rock Ferry Hotel, and nothing could have been more enjoyable than this fête. Dancing to Martin's excellent band, croquet, bowling and other games, and a liberal supply of such accompaniments as excellent catering could afford, all tended to make the day's pleasure full and complete. In addition to the members of the Alliance Lodge, there were numerous visitors, including Bros. H. Nelson W.M.

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1506 and P.M. 673, H. Pearce 249, Richard Brown W.M. 241, and Secretary Westham, Masonic Educational Institute, Shillicorn P.M. 667, Fabian P.M. 487, and P.P.S.G.W. of Hants, A. Strother 823, Nash 828, Gallagher P.M. 1011, Salford, Larsen P.M. 594, Widdows P.P. 673, &c. There were altogether 120 guests. The party returned to Liverpool, by special boat, at eleven o'clock.

Robert Burns Lodge, No. 999.—This Lodge held its 119th monthly meeting on Monday, the 26th of July, at Freemasons' Hall, Manchester. Present—Bros. W. L. Chew W.M., E. H. Flower S.W., J. A. Infiesta J.W., T. H. Jenkins Secretary and Treasurer, A. Bacon S.D., F. Cooper J.D., J. C. Whittington P.M. D.C., J. Hart Steward, J. McKinless I.G., J. Lawton Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. J. Prescott, J. M. Cruickshank Chaplain. Visitors—Bros. J. Walsh 1054, Castro Ruiz (Havana), J. P. Howarth 1147, B. Routley 37, W. S. Watson 1496, J. Hodgkinson 941. Business—Lodge opened in due form at 5.30 p.m., Mr. G. Hirsch and Mr. J. D. Brickles were duly initiated into Masonry by the W.M., Bro. T. A. Sutton was raised to M.M.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—The summer banquet of this Lodge was held in the well known and beautiful gardens attached to the Crown Hotel, at Broxbourne Bridge, on Wednesday, 28th July. The banquet was under the presidency of the W.M. of the Lodge, W. Bro. Jabez Hogg P.G.D., and was attended by Bros. Harrison S.W., Southwood J.W., G. King jun. P.M. Secretary, Hollingsworth S.D., J. Sandilands Ward J.D., Burley, Herring, Mansell, J. R. Cox, Bywood, Vine, Hall, Butler and others. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Baber P.M. 452 and 1238 P.P.G.S.D. Surrey, J. Wright P.M., Green S.W. 27, Fagg J.D. 30, Ballard 511, Saunders, Wesson, Williams and others, with a number of ladies. After the banquet, which was of the most recherché description, the W.M. proposed the health of the Queen, after which the health of the M.W.G.M. The gavel was then entrusted to Bro. G. King jun. P.M. and Secretary, who, in an eloquent speech, proposed the health of the W.M., Bro. Jabez Hogg, pointing out that notwithstanding the large and onerous professional avocations of the W.M., yet he never failed to attend to the duties and the interest of the Hervey Lodge. Bro. King said he was sure all the brethren would join him in the fervent hope that Bro. Hogg would have a happy and prosperous year of office, and that he might be spared to be amongst them as P.M. and Treasurer for many years to come. Bro. Jabez Hogg, in response, said he not only considered it was his duty, but he felt it was a happy privilege to attend constantly in Lodge, and also to partake with his brethren of the pleasures of the admirable summer banquet. He looked upon such a reunion as this as a most desirable mode of bringing the brethren more intimately and socially together, and, more than that, it gave them an opportunity of allowing the sisters to see somewhat of the Order, and so dispel erroneous ideas concerning it. The more they saw of it the more they would see that it was based on the purest principles of charity and brotherly love. The W.M. then proposed the health of the sisters and lady visitors, which was responded to by Bro. Ward. The next toast was that of the Visiting Brethren, acknowledged by Bro. Wright. The W.M. then proposed the Officers of the Lodge, especially eulogising the great services of their indefatigable Secretary, Bro. G. King jun., to whom they were all so much indebted for the pleasure they enjoyed that day. Bro. King, in returning thanks, spoke of the great assistance he had received from his colleagues, and dwelt warmly on that spirit of unity which now actuated all the brethren of the "Hervey Lodge" in promoting its welfare. He instanced the liberality of the Senior Warden, in presenting the Lodge with the beautiful menu cards, declared, by a competent judge, to be the perfection of art; and to the Junior Warden they were indebted for the lovely artificial bouquet which graced every lady in the room. The health of Miss Lincoln was then proposed by the W.M., who thanked her, in the name of the Lodge, for the kind and cordial manner in which she had exerted her great vocal talent to add to the charms of the day. The brethren, he said, would all join him in wishing her every prosperity, and he had no doubt but that Miss Lincoln would soon become a bright and shining star in the firmament of the musical world. After one or two other toasts the company adjourned to the ball room, and concluded a most agreeable day.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—An emergency meeting of this flourishing and rapidly increasing Lodge was held on Thursday, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road. Bros. Jas. Willing jun. W.M., Williams S.W., Berrie J.W., Rose Treasurer, Time P.M. Secretary, Child S.D., Kingham J.D., J. Doig'os I.G., Scales W.S., Farler D.C., Daley Tyler, and Bros. Stiles, Gilbert, Side, Brede, Saintsbury, &c. The Lodge was opened, and ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. John Sayers, J. E. Erwood, F. H. Rogers, John Levy and M. Little, which was unanimously in their favor, and they were initiated. The working of the W.M. and officers deserves especial praise. Bro. Baron Von Tittenborn was elected a joining member. Bros. Read and Brunsell were raised to the third degree. The bye-laws were read. Several propositions for initiation and joining were announced, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. Cox. The W.M. gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, and in proposing the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. alluded to his proposed visit to India. He wished him God speed, and a safe return to his native land, in renewed health and vigour. There was no doubt he would meet many distinguished in the Order in India, and it would be the means of further cementing that cordial feeling that exists between the two countries. (Cheers.) Bro. Time P.M. and Secretary, in proposing the toast of the W.M., said he was proud of the success attending this young Lodge, not only in numbers, but in the knowledge that it had in its ranks gentlemen who would be an honour to the Craft; this was to be attributed to the exertions and geniality of the W.M., who was not only a good working Mason himself, but felt a pride in seeing Masonic duties carried out by the brethren. The W.M. having returned thanks, the toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bros. Savage W.M. 1425, and Berrie J.W. 1293, those brethren referring, in the course of their speeches, to the excellent working of the W.M. and officers. The toast of the Initiates having been responded to, Bro. Williams S.W. returned thanks for the toast of the Wardens and Officers, stating that through the influx of members to the Lodge, they held this their second emergency meeting, and from the number of propositions, it was very possible they would have another before the next regular meeting. Bro. Time P.M. and Secretary having also returned thanks, the Tyler's toast followed. The brethren were entertained by some very capital singing. The Visitors were Bros. Savage W.M. 1425, Berrie J.W. 1293, Bassall J.D. 177, Wicks 813, Musgrave Organist 1309, Ormiston 262, Graham 475, and Jordan 511. The brethren, previously to entering the Lodge, attended the concert and entertainment specially provided for the Grand International Fête at the Alexandra Palace, which was honoured by the presence of the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor Bro. D. H. Stone J.G.W., the Sheriffs, Prefect of the Seine, &c., and which reflected great credit on Bros. Sir Ed. Lee, J. R. S. Vine (Private Secretary to the Lord Mayor), and the Committee.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, 1507.—The perfection many Lodges have attained in the working of the various ceremonies is due to their members attending Lodges of Instruction, under able Preceptors. This Lodge of Instruction, although but young, ranks high, as many of its members can work the various degrees perfectly, and we cordially recommend aspirants for office to pay it a visit. The members met at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road, on Friday, 30th ult., Bros. Jas. Willing jun. in the chair, Shand S.W., Scales J.W., W. M. Stiles Secretary, Yeomans S.D., Ormiston I.G., T. A. Adams Preceptor. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The W.M. then rehearsed part of the ceremony of installation, Bro. Adams assisting with the ancient charges. The acting W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Stiles acting as candidate. Bro. Shand S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A cordial and unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. for his efficient working. The Lodge was then adjourned to the following Friday.

Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge, the first since the Consecration, was held on the 29th ult., at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Present—Bros. T. J. Sabine P.P.G.S.B. (Middlesex) W.M., J. C. Mason S.W., E. S. Stidolph J.W., Rev. H. J. Hatch Chaplain, F. Walters P.P.G.P. (Middlesex) P.M. Secretary, W. J. Kemp S.D., E. Hudson J.D., H. Fuija I.G., A. J. Hawkes D.C., A. P. Steadman W.S., I. J. Hooper Wilkins as P.M. The Lodge was opened, and the following brethren were unanimously elected joining members—Bros. F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) P.M. 73, Rev. H. J. Hatch M.A. S.W. 160, J. R. Wehley 180, R. Boon 1306, W. J. Walsham 1491, J. H. Spencer 73, I. John Hooper Wilkins 73, W. Breton 315, G. H. Mason 753, A. Neville 615. Ballots were taken for the following gentlemen, who were initiated by the W.M. in a very careful and impressive manner, Messrs. J. Wooster, E. Emanuel, Joel Emanuel, R. H. Willats, and P. W. Crosbie. The Lodge was then closed, and slight refreshment followed.

Alexandra Palace Lodge, No. 1541.—The first meeting of this Lodge since its consecration was held on Saturday, the 31st ult., at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill. Bro. J. K. King S.W. P.G.S. in the chair, G. J. Palmer J.W., J. R. Stacey Treas., Haigh Sec., J. Lee I.G., John Dyte D.C., and C. T. Speight Tyler. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the consecration meeting were read and confirmed. Ballots were taken for the admission of Bro. R. Rowland 1098, A. Smith No. 4, and F. H. Rooke P.M. 46 as joining members, and Messrs. R. Larchin, C. Chaplin, W. S. Daniels, E. Kensington, and J. Mathews were balloted for, unanimously accepted, and initiated into the Order. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet and dessert that reflected great credit on Bros. Bertram and Roberts. Bro. J. C. Parkinson P.G.D. and P.P.G.M. for Middlesex, the W.M., genially presided. He proposed the toast of Her Majesty the Queen, also that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., and alluded to the circumstance of the Lodge being named after H.R.H. the Princess, whom all classes throughout the realm respected. He was sure it would be an omen of its success. The toasts of the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master followed. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the five newly initiated brethren, made a very eloquent speech, referring to the duties incumbent on brethren joining the Order. He was sure the impression made on them would never be effaced. Bro. J. Mathews in brief and appropriate terms responded. The W.M. now being obliged to leave the chair, it was occupied by Bro. John Kelly King P.G.S., who proposed the toast of the W.M. Brother Parkinson, who occupied the chair as the First Master of the Lodge, was one whom they were proud of; he was a distinguished member of Grand Lodge, and also of the province of Middlesex, and brethren did not get those honours without being worthy of them. (Cheers.) The Chairman then proposed the toast of the Visitors, who were Bros. Martin 188, J. H. Stacey 180, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188, the latter brother responding. The toasts of the Wardens, Officers, and the Tyler, concluded a very agreeable and harmonious evening, Bro. Chaplin Henry delighting the brethren with his melodious voice.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—The exceptional weather of the season indicates a disturbed state of the atmosphere, and causes a very great tendency to the development of epidemics. It is in such seasons that diarrhœa, dysentery, cholera, cramps, and fevers so frequently appear, and all should be on their guard against them. The consumption of uncooked or unripe fruit, or food not perfectly fresh, is a common exciting cause of these complaints, and if the early symptoms are not properly treated, very serious results may ensue. Holloway's Ointment rubbed briskly and efficiently into the stomach and surface of the bowels, relieves the cramp and vomiting very quickly, and the internal use of the Pills expels from the bowels the irritant matter.

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THE WORKSHOP OF EARTHQUAKES.

A Fragment from the Isle of Mindoro.

After the chant was ended, as we steered
By star and jelly-fish which floating glanced,
The bamboo hut with nipa-thatch appeared
Amidst a clump of coco-trees ensconced.
Before its modest shade a yellow sand,
Spangled with mica, sloped into the tide;
Fantastic rocks around that fringed the strand
Invited the unwilling surf inside
To lave the bêche-le-mer and cuttle-fish which there did glide.

Then—ere we made for land—I begged Ismail
Some other rythmic legend to narrate,
Or some tradition sacred to the Isle,
Bearing some record of his nation's fate.
Under our light canoe the smooth clear deep
Moved gently, like a bosom breathing slow;
He chanted and I listened, half asleep,
Lulled by the cadence of the tidal flow
Which there upon the sunny shore did fall in murmurs low.

Mandàh the seer, in the undersphere, o'er the golden Jinns doth reign,
With their ceaseless toil the rivers boil and the mountains rock with pain:
They must obey till he display, in fulness of time, his face,
With a vengeance grand for his native land and the wrongs of our wasted race.
With iteration of dull vibration the blows of their labours sound,
Whose echoes roll down each vaulted hall in the galleries underground;
There the Jinns flit along ways dim-lit by the glitter of mineral star,
And a silver wake as their flight they take, winds back through the caves afar;
There glist'ning points in the roof's rough joints emit a diamond sheen,
Or ruby light glows in flashes bright upon patches of emerald green.

There the crystals wet of the cornice-fret in prisms refracting, shine
And, darting rays, light the devious maze of earth's endless central mine
Which will prove the tomb of a fiery doom for our false and cruel foes—
The Spaniards vile, who every isle have plunged in endless woes;
Whose chiefs unjust in pride and lust the Indians' land have won,
From Zamboànga to Cagayàn, from Sùlu to Luzòn.

The spoilers groan in their homes of stone when a roar is heard at night,
When the ground below sways to and fro in supernatural might;
Pallid they leap from the midnight sleep and shriek o'er the rising din,
Down crash the walls of their lofty halls and roofs fall thundering in;
Naked they rush in their terrors' flush to their Woman-God to kneel;
Nor, by warning taught, do they give one thought to the wrongs the Indians feel;
Little they dream, as the death-lights gleam and ruins their temples mar,
How the Jinns have wrought the avenging thought of the Rajah Matandàh.

Walter Spencer.

MASONRY TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

There was a party of gentlemen travelling to the far West, not without gold in their pockets, at any time in sufficient supply in an inhabited country, but worthless where they then were to buy food. One morning eighteen pilgrims, all told, might have been seen to arise from their blankets on the ground, on the banks of Humboldt River, where its water was so impregnated with alkali that it had the colour of lye. The night previous they had eaten the last morsel of food in their possession. Four or five days' journey was ahead of them before they could reach the supplies sent out by the liberal-hearted Californians to meet the incoming immigration, which was very large. This party had been living on short rations of "jerked beef" for thirty days, without tasting bread in that time. Each one of them that morning, with a stick in hand, went frog-hunting, to obtain a breakfast before starting out. They succeeded in getting a pair of legs for each (one poor fellow could not eat them). They were cooked without grease or salt, and eaten with delight; the only fault found with them was, that there were not enough.

Ours was a "pack train"—no wagons. With this extra short allowance we started, hopeful that as there were hundreds of wagons on the route, certainly we could buy enough to keep soul and body together four or five days. Each person was appointed a committee of one, with gold in his pocket, and instructed to pay any exorbitant price they chose to ask. Some one hundred wagons, more or less, were overhauled by noon, without obtaining a mouthful. One party, sitting around a large tray of biscuits, were offered a dollar each for eighteen of them, but humanity nor gold could not move them.

We stopped as usual at noon to graze our wearied animals. Although feeling hunger sharply, we were undaunted, and laid ourselves down to rest in the sun, which we were accustomed to, there being no shade. The writer was sick, and had been so for several days. The doctor had just made a shade over me with a blanket, when up came the bright smiling face of one of the party, and he said he had gotten three pounds of flour, without money and without price, to feed eighteen hungry men! The doctor quickly, with his own hands, made up some "flap-jacks," and brought a portion to me, which I ate with more delight than any morsel ever eaten by me before or since. Remember, it was the first bread in thirty days. They acted like a charm. From that moment I speedily recovered.

The sequel to the three pounds of flour was Freemasonry, and that unasked in that name; and therein lies the greatest beauty of it. The brother accosted the owner of a wagon to buy food, and was refused. The owner was from Illinois, and was a minister. The brother who belonged to my party, finding he could not get anything of him (he saying he was nearly out), passed on. A thought occured to the man from Illinois, and he hailed our companion to stop and return. On his going back, the owner of the wagon asked him if he was a Freemason, and an affirmative reply being given, he stopped his team, stepped behind the wagon, and cautiously proved him to be such. He then said: "You can have half of what I have left, and when you have used that, I will divide as long as I have any," refusing the proffered gold—five dollars per pound. The narration of this to me filled my heart with the deepest gratitude to the silent power of the mystic tie, over-riding human nature and Christian sympathy.

This is one of the many instances of true Masonic principle I have witnessed. The favour was not asked as Masonic, and refused. This true Mason, fearing that he might, perchance, be turning away a brother, called him back and asked the question: "Are you a Mason."

May all Masons thus act, and only such be admitted; for ten true Masons in a Lodge are more desirable than a thousand that are indifferent.—*Correspondent of Masonic Jewel.*

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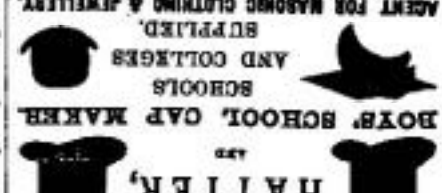


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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 33. SATURDAY, 14th AUGUST 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

DINING AS A FINE ART.

So much has been written on Dining that we are rather reluctant to assist further in the ventilation of the subject. The season however is propitious, and we should not be consistent Masons if we did not occasionally turn our attention to the festive aspect of the Order. Some of our contemporaries are, indeed, of opinion that Masonry and dining are united in indissoluble bonds. The *Saturday Review*, for example, appears to imagine that an "emergency meeting" is merely a polite euphemism for a banquet; and people who are much better informed than the scribes who sway the destinies of the great gall bag of the literary world, appear to be inclined to credit the Order with a love for good cheer which is quite foreign to its principles and the inclinations of its leading spirits. We do not deny that Masons are a genial body; we admit that they occasionally dine together, and that their so-called banquets do much to cement those ties which are the pride and the boast of the Craft. It would be odd indeed if men who sometimes profess to owe some of the mysteries of the Craft to Bacchus should decline to toast the jovial god in his own nectar. We, however, are not quite sure that Masons, as such, are more highly skilled in the art of dining than any other section of society. A Masonic dinner may chance to prove a great success; it may please every one; men may leave the table duly impressed with the wisdom of the chairman, with the eloquence of the various speeches, and the greatness and grandeur of the cause which has brought them together. Or they may go away vexed and disappointed, lamenting an evening lost, and talents wasted. The company may in the one case be as brotherly as the most zealous friend of the cause could wish, and in the other the stiffness and coldness of the outer world may come like a wet blanket to mar the pleasure of the passing hour. Much of the success of a dinner depends upon the chairman. If he be a wise and genial man, conversant with the world, and skilled in the great art of managing men, the gathering may be a great success. But if he is at all stiff or formal, if he be a dull man, and is determined to make long speeches; or a wooden man, with a voice like a coffee mill, and a countenance as little expressive as a hickory nut, all will go wrong. We maintain that the chairman of any assembly should be a wise man, or, if wisdom be a qualification difficult to find, he should at least possess fine tact and discrimination. The chairman who assumes the control of a festive gathering should, above all things, possess fine tact. He has it in his power to make all who are around him either happy or decidedly uncomfortable. A judicious word from his lips would instantly stop an indiscreet discussion, or have the effect of pouring oil upon troubled waters. In proposing his toasts he should make no set speeches; a few graceful words will give zest to the most stereotyped sentiments, but to have their due effect the words of the chairman must always be graceful and few. A long winded bore in the chair is an intolerable nuisance, and such a one should never be allowed to tyrannise twice over a festive gathering. A wise chairman knows exactly how and when to say a kindly, a graceful, or a charitable thing. He aims at placing every one at his ease, and even when he is dealing with so technical a portion of his duties as the programme of songs, he will not forget to let fall a word or two of praise, which, if rightly timed, will fall like balm upon the ears of the vocalists. It is true that these gentlemen are paid for their services, but they are generally brothers, and, even if they were not, while they sit at the table, a true gentlemen will regard them as guests, and will treat them with courtesy and consideration. Did our chairmen know what spirit and life may be inspired in the breast of a vocalist by a few words of judicious praise, they would never forget to extend to them the same courtly attention which they are accustomed to bestow upon the distinguished guests.

We have attended dinners where all has gone gaily and merrily as a marriage bell, and it has been our lot to be present at others where the time seemed to drag heavily, and the flat dull oratory seemed to impart some of its lifelessness to the wines. We do not deny that an able chairman may find his duties arduous if he is not backed by clever and judicious speakers. It is becoming a custom to vote long orations in response to toasts whether they are dreary or not, a bore. We deprecate speaking for the sake of speaking, but we venture to think that courtesy should be above all things regarded at a Masonic banquet, and if brief orations be desired, it is better that the chairman should drop the hint than that un-Masonic expressions should be permitted to fall from the lips of the company. It is no doubt difficult for a man of ordinary calibre to say anything new in response to stereotyped toasts. But if it be impossible to be original, a speaker should not be dull. A few bright words, like sparks from the flint and steel, will always tell, and where it is possible, only bright persons should be called upon to respond. To take an example of the few non-Masonic toasts that we have in our mind, we may cite that of the press, which usually falls to the lot of some Masonic journalist. To say that the press is a great power is mere idle platitude; every one is aware of that. To assert that it is the fourth estate, is simply to talk bunkum. But if a speaker say that the English press is merely the mirror of the English mind, that the journalist simply holds this mirror up to society; and that for what is there seen society is strictly responsible, he is simply expressing a commonly ignored truth. While people neglect to use their brains, platitude will possibly commend a certain amount of respect. It is so easy to cheer the silly sentiment one has heard a hundred times before, and an original idea strikes the members of a festive party as a startling novelty. Yet with all due respect for the threadbare platitudes which have done such good service, we are of opinion that old truths put in a fresh light will be received with respect, if not with positive enthusiasm. Englishmen are indeed conservative, and will applaud a noble sentiment when couched in the stupid language current amongst wooden men, but they can be touched by thoughtful eloquence, by the brief crisp sentences which are intended to reach the heart and fire the imagination.

In considering the Art of Dining from our Masonic standpoint, we must not forget a word or two upon an innovation which may grow into a fashion. At some recent dinners the ladies, by their presence, have given tone and colour to festivities which, without them, are often anything but feasts of reason, however much the flow of soul may be quickened by the aid of wine. We are glad to welcome them to the table, and, without for a moment desiring to break in upon that reserve and modesty which are the most striking charms of the sex, we could almost wish that some wise woman would take the toast of the ladies out of the hands of the complacent gentlemen who pour forth their fulsome flatteries with faces distended by broad grins. It is, of course, possible to say something sensible and thoughtful in response to this toast, and perhaps a clever woman might tell us, if she were so minded, exactly what the sensible members of her sex

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think of the twaddle which, when applied to women, passes for homage, and the absurdities which pass for just praise. An American lady, who had the courage at a recent non-Masonic banquet to take this toast out of the hands of the stronger sex, told us we had hitherto seen society only *en profile*, and that if we would see it full faced we must know something of the opinions of women upon those vital questions which affect alike the happiness of men and women. We admit the justice of this remark, and although we should not care to see the ladies continually on their legs, we shall be glad if they will make diners out understand that they do not care for fulsome flattery, and do not desire to be praised for those personal charms which, however fascinating they may be, are trivial compared with the charms of mind.

A PROVINCE FOR BEDFORDSHIRE.

SPEAKING to the toast of "the Visitors," at the recent meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertford, at St. Albans, Bro. Howell, W.M. No. 1470 (Chiltern, Dunstable), remarked that he had the misfortune to belong to a County without a province—a state of things which he should like much to see altered. He had reason to believe that the Luton Lodge would favour a proposition to apply for one, and he was not at all sure that steps would not be taken to agitate the matter. Apart from the fact that the honours bestowed from time to time by the P.G.M. stimulated brethren to make themselves proficient, in order to attain the rank necessary to become entitled to them, it could not but be productive of good that, at stated times, the brethren of all the Lodges in a province should meet together, under the presidency of a distinguished brother, and make laws for their mutual benefit, and for the good of the Craft in general. In the County of Bedford, on the contrary, each Lodge was, as it were, isolated, the brethren of one did not, as a rule, know many of those of other Lodges, and there was an absence of that unity which is the strength of Freemasonry, as of everything else. The W.M. of St. John the Baptist Lodge, No. 475, Luton (Bro. Haselgrove), concurred as to the desirability of a province for the County of Bedford, and promised his co-operation.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

THE latest number of the published proceedings of this Grand Lodge contain abstract accounts of the Quarterly Communication held in Masonic Temple, Boston, on 9th June 1875, and of the late Special Communications held respectively on the 17th June and 3rd July. There were present at the first of these M.W. Percival Lowell Everett G.M., R.W. Charles A. Welch D.G.M., R.W. Henry Chickering P.G.W. as S.G.W., R.W. Lucius W. Lovell J.G.W., R.W. John McClellan G.T., R.W. Charles H. Titus, Recording G.S., R.W. W. T. R. Marvin, Francis Childs, Charles J. Danforth, George F. Homer, George F. Breed, Warren Currier, Bowdoin S. Parker, John R. Davison, John E. Shipman, William A. Smith, Irving B. Sayles, George L. Rhoads, Abraham H. Howland jun., John W. Atwood, Hosea Kingman, Theodore N. Foque, and John Wetherbee, the respective D.D.G.M.'s of Districts 1 to 6 and 8 to 18 (in each case both inclusive), together with W.R. Joshua Young G. Chaplain, Will. H. Cheesman G. Marshal, W.M. W. H. Soule S.G.D. and Charles E. Smith J.G.D., Marlborough Williams S.G. Steward and Thomas W. Davis, Albert H. W. Carpenter, and Henry Stephenson J.G. Stewards, Baylies Sanford jun. G. Sword Bearer, Fred. D. Ely, Henry S. Bunton G. Pursuivants, Thomas Waterman, Charles M. Avery, and J. Francis Lotta, G. Lecturers, Bro. Howard M. Dow G. Organist, and Bro. Frank E. Jones as G. Tyler. Besides these were R. W. Winslow Lewis, John T. Heard, Will. D. Coolidge, Charles C. Dame, Will. S. Gardner, and Sereno D. Nickerson, all P.G.M.'s; R.W. Abraham A. Dame, Rev. Lucius R. Page D.D., and G. Washington Warren, P.D.G.M.'s; and R.W. Joel Spalding, H. Chickering, W. W. Baker, Samuel P. Oliver, Will. Sutton, Will. F. Salmon, Samuel C. Lawrence, Charles Kimball, Peter C. Jones, Benjamin Dean, Wyzeman Marshall, Ivory H. Pope, Elijah W. Burr, and Tracy P. Cheever, P.G.W.'s; together with R.W. Andrew G. Smith, W. Samuel A. B. Bragg, and W. Joseph Winsor of the Committee on Returns; W. Henry G. Fay and Henry J. Parker of the Committee on Charity; and W. William J. Stevens of the Committee on Charters. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 2 p.m., with prayer by the W. Rev. J. Young G. Chaplain. The Record of the Quarterly Communication of 10th March 1875, having been distributed in printed form among members, was approved without reading; the Records of the Special Communications of 15th April, at Leominster, for the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic Hall of Wilder Lodge, and of 12th May at Newtonville, for dedicating the new Masonic Hall of Dalhousie Lodge, were then read and approved. After this the Bye-laws and amendments to Bye-laws from sundy Lodges were presented for approval, and referred to the Committee on Bye-laws, and two petitions for Charters from Norfolk and Cochichewick Lodges then under dispensation were referred to the Committee on Charters. The proceedings of Temple Lodge, East Boston, in the trial of Fred O. Thomas were submitted for approval, and referred to the Committee on Trials. The death of Bro. Eben F. Gay Grand Tyler having been announced, and a Committee nominated to prepare a suitable memorial for the Records of Grand Lodge, a vote of thanks was passed to the Morning Star Lodge, Worcester, for its very excellent gift of a portrait of P.G.M. Isaiah Thomas. Judge Owen A. Bassett M.W.G.M. Kansas, R.W. John H. Brown G.S. of same G.L., and R.W. John F. Burrill G.S. of Grand Lodge Illinois, were then formally introduced, the brethren all rising, and the G.M. addressing a few words of hearty welcome to the distinguished visitors. The roll of Lodges having been called, Bro. Francis C. Whiston, of Boston, rose, and in a very effective speech requested the acceptance by Grand Lodge of the Masonic Apron worn by the Marquis De Lafayette on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the Bunker Hill monument, 17th June 1875, together with the autograph remarks of Daniel Webster and Lafayette at the banquet which followed that important ceremonial. R.W. John T. Heard P.G.M., and R.W. William S. Gardner having severally moved and seconded that the gift be accepted, and a vote of thanks passed to Bro. Whiston, the resolution was unanimously agreed to. The M.W.G.M. then rose and having described at length the steps he had taken to secure, if possible, the Royal Arch Apron worn by the late Major-General Joseph Warren, Past Grand Master, who was slain in the memorable defence of Bunker Hill, in the name and on behalf of Mrs. Charlotte L. Wheelwright and Miss Henrietta M. Russell, heiresses of the late P.G.M. Benjamin Russell, to whom the heirs of the late Gen. Warren had presented his apron, requested the acceptance by Grand Lodge of this priceless relic. R.W. Sereno D. Nickerson, in an interesting speech moved, and R.W. John T. Heard seconded the resolution, that the relic be accepted, the motion being carried unanimously. A resolution to the effect that an annuity of one hundred dollars be paid to each of the daughters of the late P.G.M. Benjamin Russell, as a slight token of their respect for his memory, and for their worth, was also agreed to. A report setting forth the virtues of the late Grand Tyler, Bro. Eben Flagg Gay, was then submitted and ordered to be recorded, after which the Committee on Ritual presented their report of the work and lectures of the second degree. These having been unanimously adopted as the work and lectures of this degree, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, the Committee nominated to consider the propriety of appointing a Board of Trials or a Masonic Commission to conduct Masonic Trials delivered their report, the purport of which was that all Masonic charges should be tried by Grand Lodge itself; that five commissioners, three to form a quorum, should be chosen to conduct each trial, the proceedings of which should be submitted to Grand Lodge at its regular Quarterly Communications, and that Grand Lodge should pass the final decree or judgment in the same manner as is now provided for in the trials by Lodges. The Committee further reported that, in order to carry these views into practice, it would be necessary to amend Article IV. of the Grand Constitutions, and accordingly they submitted such amendments as in their wisdom they considered would be necessary. The report was accepted, and the amendment referred to R.W. Will. S. Gardner, Sereno D. Nickerson, and Edward Avery. The Committee then presented their report on the

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working and lectures of the third degree, and it was unanimously adopted. The Committee appointed to consider certain proposed amendments to Grand Constitutions then delivered their report, which was accepted. On the motion of R.W. John McClellan, five hundred dollars was voted for charitable purposes, to be disbursed by the Committee on Charity. The Committee on Bye-laws then presented their report on Bye-laws and amendments to Bye-laws, submitted by sundry Lodges; that on Charters recommended the issue of Charters to the Norfolk and Coebichewick Lodges; that to which was referred the appeal of Bro. Albert F. Kelly against the ruling of the W.M. of John Cutler Lodge, recommended that the appeal be sustained, and the ruling of the W.M. be declared null and void, was accepted; while the Committee on Masonic Insurance submitted that further action on a certain petition that G. L. should take steps to protect the rights of individual brethren in connection with Life Assurance Associations, was inexpedient. M.W.G.M. Bassett, Kansas, having addressed a few words before retiring, Grand Lodge was shortly after closed in ample form, at forty minutes past seven p.m., W. Rev. J. Young Grand Chaplain offering up prayer. At the Special Communication held on 17th June, for the purpose of taking part in the public solemnisation of the hundreth anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, and the death of General Warren in that conflict, a considerable number of those already enumerated were present, the M.W.G.M. P. L. Everett, wearing the late General Warren's Masonic apron, and R.W. Winslow M.D. as D.G.M., wearing that of the late Marquis de Lafayette. After the procession was over, Grand Lodge, at the invitation of the Lodge of St. Andrew, returned to a building in Union Street, occupying the site of the Old Green Dragon Tavern, famous, a century since, as the place where Masonic Communications used to be held. Here they met the officers and members of the De Molay and Richmond Commanderies of Knight Templars, but as we have already referred to this in the account given, a few weeks since, of the visit to Boston of the Richmond Commandery, we need not go into details a second time. The special communication on 3rd July was held to celebrate the anniversary of the day when General George Washington, under the old elm at Cambridge, assumed command of the colonial forces in the War of Independence. G.L. having been opened the G.M. shortly after called it from labour to refreshment, and the brethren proceeded in carriages to Lyceum Hall, Cambridge, and there, as guests of the municipal authorities of the city, took part in the ceremony, and at the banquet which followed, in Memorial Hall, Harvard Lodge, under the presidency of the Mayor, W. Bro. Isaac Bradford, the toasts were—Washington, the United States, Massachusetts, the Thirteen Original States, the Army and Navy, and Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to which last the M.W.G.M responded in appropriate terms, and with considerable eloquence. Other toasts followed, after which the brethren returned to the Masonic Temple, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form at eight o'clock p.m.

EAST WEST AND SOUTH.

BY A WANDERING FREEMASON.

III.

"ONLY nine ounces and nine pennyweights," said the Captain, in deep disgust, laying down the scales and upsetting his bottle of quicksilver: "haven't done such a bad week's work since I helped a Maori woman to pull peas at six shillings a day. No wonder Alfred wants to leave us. I'll give up the claim, and make over my share to Jack!"

It was in the early days of New Zealand goldfields, before the great find in Otago. On the very day that great discovery dawned upon the Middle Island, I set sail from its shores in miserable ignorance. A month afterwards, forty thousand men landed at Port Chalmers.

There were five of us—the Captain, Scottie (called after his nationality), Baker (called after his former trade), myself (called "Alfred" upon abstract grounds which were never explained to me), and Jack, a runaway sailor boy whom we hired for his rations and £1 sterling a day: digging for gold at Wai-kara-mumu, Massacre Bay, New Zealand.

They were *surface-diggings*, discovered by the Captain, a first-rate *prospector*. The whole surface of the side of a hill was found to be pervaded with gold-dust. Our difficulty at the outset had been to get water-power in immediate proximity. A fine stream, the "Wai-kara-mumu," ran round the base of the hill, but the labour of bringing the soil down to it would have been too great for our small party. When Scottie and I joined the Captain and Baker we found, high up in the hollow of a hill which rose behind ours, a deep rotten swamp, and saw at once the water-power we wanted, if we could bring it to bear upon the golden soil. This I pronounced possible, and the work of engineering the same was delegated to me accordingly. Whilst with rude extemporised instruments I was taking the levels and staking out the tortuous course which should make the precious water our auxiliary, my comrades were employed building a hut on the bank of the stream. All day long the stroke of the axe rang through the bush. Many an empty sardine-tin and broken beer-bottle was flung upon roots and boulders which had remained untouched until the advent of the white man. The Ka-kas,* clinging sagely to the supplejacks† which overhung their native streamlet, ceased not to cackle their astonishment, and 'ere retiring to rest doubtless warned their night-watchmen, the Mawpawks,‡ and excited them likewise to screaming indignation. All night long did the latter flit to and fro over our tent of blankets, permitting little sleep to me, at least. After a time when established as inhabitants, we became mutually accustomed and I seldom noticed their monotonous cry.

A capacious chimney of clay and boulders was erected at the end of our hut, beside the doorway (door we had none), and a pile of faggots and brushwood stacked for future fuel. By that time we had commenced the hard work in the hills. Across the narrowest end of the swamp, where it just dipped between two saddles and struck rock, we builded bit by bit a solid dam. Through the centre of the latter we inserted a wooden conduit, closed by a trap. We then began cutting the "race" along the line traced by me. Two feet deep, on an average, and one foot wide, we made it, on a regular gradient winding round one hill, taking advantage of a saddle to cross to another, and so descending to the side of our claim. This done, we halted, after some days' hard close work, for "refreshment."

This, by an unanimous vote, it was settled should be taken at the nearest "accommodation-house"‖—Tākaka, some twenty miles off. Thither we journeyed, wading down the stream one bright morning, leaving poor Jack in charge of our dominions. I was glad of a change, as I should be of a trip to the sea-side now, and of the prospect of some variety in food, after a long course of salt meat, damper and tea, with an occasional fish or Maori-cabbage as a luxury. Especially I longed for fresh cows' milk; my comrades were equally athirst for milk to their taste of another description: and this was my first introduction to that ideal of celestial bliss, the digger's "spree."

No sooner had we entered the hospitable door of Miller, the highland proprietor of the solitary hostelry, than they began to imbibe, first with eagerness then with steady determination, beer (vile stuff), then brandy, whiskey, rum and gin (viler in quality, if possible), with utter impartiality. In two hours they were quarrelling, on the verge of a fight; Miller plied them with fire-water the more assiduously, and within four hours Scottie and Baker subsided into blessed insensibility. Towards evening came in one Maurice, known to fame as "the lucky digger," of whose good fortune and of the *piles* he had made and dissipated I had often heard. He had come from prospecting on the "Anatoka," and, with his usual luck, brought in his pocket about an ounce of gold, which he had scooped out of crevices with his knife. He let fall his swag,§ and came holding the little nuggets in his hand for us to see.

After supper we helped mine host to bar his doors and shutters; for a party of Maoris, headed by one "Tamati-Waka" (Tommy Walker), were camped in the neighbourhood. A law recently passed forbade their being sup-

* Ka-ka,—a small green parrot.

† Supplejack,—a tough creeper, looped and twined like a cord from bough to bough and from tree to tree.

‡ Mawpawk,—a night owl, called after its peculiar cry, "More pork."

‖ Accommodation-house,—inn and general store.

§ Swag,—a burden slung by flax—withes across the back, usually consisting of a pair of scarlet blankets, a flannel shirt, a comb, a washing dish or prospecting pan and rations.

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plied with liquor, and it was thought not unlikely they might attempt to obtain it by surprise or force. The "insensibles" were left as they lay, and I ascended to what, after long use to a Tasmanian Possumrug spread upon fern leaves, seemed a too luxurious couch.

Next day, a party of Germans arrived, on their way to some new diggings of which they made a great mystery, near the sources of the *Grey* and *Buller:* and I regret to say that the army of martyrs to alcohol was greatly augmented, including the Captain and Maurice. The landlord and I had to pile them one upon the other, against the bar, before retiring to rest. A special Providence is said to care for drunken men; to it alone those underneath must have owed freedom from suffocation before the dawn.

On the fourth day, considering that the state of our finances did not warrant further indulgence (the authorised term for a digger's spree, such as I have described, is *a fortnight*), I shovelled our friends outside the house, where, with Miller's assistance, they were drenched thoroughly with buckets of water, and rolled down the slope. There, heaped among the grass and fern, in the fresh air, they gradually revived and staggered to their feet: the first up being the most energetic in rousing and kicking up the others. The Captain had sense enough to make preparation for departure, which was effected towards nightfall, each of us being laden with from 60 to 90 lbs. weight slung across the back by leaves of the Flax-bush,* the burdens consisting of flour, salt meat, coffee, tea, sugar, and sundries.

After a jovial march, enlivened by stumblings and mishaps, as we waded along the creek or scrambled over the boulders in the darkness, we neared home and halted to listen to unwonted sounds of revelry which issued from the hut. Jack's rollicking voice sang out:—

"And now my song is ended, there's one last wish I crave,
That that infernal skipper may never rest in his grave:
May he be drownded, far away, upon some sandy shoal,
Where the sharks may rattle his bones about, and the devil may take his soul."

Here another voice struck up an irrelevant chorus—

Come, all you jolly diggers, come, diggers young and old!"

"My word!" said Scottie, "it's that scamp Maurice found his way here, to pump Jack about our claim."

So it proved: the pair were glorious, rattling their pannikins, and stamping round under the influence of new rum.

Thus began my life at the diggings. Having worked the claim for nine weeks, the gold-bearing limit of the soil was reached, and it became evident that to work longer wouldn't pay.

A description of surface-digging may not be uninteresting. The *race* which brought water to the side of our hill, was supplemented by a telescopic series of wooden troughs, called *boxes*, mounted on trestles. These *boxes* were fitted with false bottoms, so perforated as to make a series of shallow pits along their whole length. The trestles were moveable, and the alignment of the boxes was thus easily altered to suit our work; fresh boxes and trestles being added to suit distances as required.

The aqueduct being brought immediately alongside of our work, the soil from the hill's surface was flung in spadefuls into it. Over the earth thus thrown in the water rushed, sweeping it along, but depositing all metallic and heavy particles in the pits of the false bottom. At the end of the last box, the earth (called "tailings") fell out deprived of metal, and the water spent itself down the hillside. At the end of each day's work, after closing the trap in the dam to cut off the water, the *boxes* were dismantled, the false bottom removed, and the gold dust carefully collected. Gains were reckoned and divided every Saturday; and as I reflect upon the rough and ready character of my companions, I am pleased at remembering the entire confidence each reposed in the other.

We dissolved partnership: Scottie and Jack elected to remain on the ground, the former purchasing the greater part of our plant, the remainder of which we carried to Tākaka. The Captain and Baker started for Nelson, which I should have done also, had it not been my fate to again encounter "the lucky digger." We found him at Miller's, recovering from a severe attack of inebriety. On learning our intentions, he drew me aside, and told me in mysterious whispers he had had a remarkably rich *prospect*, which two men could work out and nett £500 each in a month. All his clothes and tools were gone in exchange for liquor, but he would make me the munificent offer of "halves" if I would furnish and start the concern. I agreed, made the requisite disbursements, and within a week started for Maurice's *El Dorado*, upon which that great discoverer bestowed the unsuggestive name of "One speck Gully."

A small dray, drawn by one bullock, laden with our plant, and managed by Miller's hopeful heir, a boy of ten, accompanied us one day's journey, beyond which was no practicable track. In the bottom of the ravine which formed the entrance to our gully we camped for the night. Two days were spent carrying the stores to the spot selected by Maurice, where, as we did not contemplate a very long stay, we erected a much slighter tenement than that of Waikara-Mumu. First we felled trees and cleared the ground, then we built a kind of American log-hut with long fern-trees, locally called "bungy." These trees are light to carry and soft to touch, have no branches but at the top; when severed their interior appears cellular and spongy, their core a complicated geometrical pattern darkly stained in. We dispensed with chimney, and suspended our pot outside, gipsy fashion, upon three forked sticks.

Our palatial abode I contemplated with intense satisfaction; never tired of admiring its interior snugness, its tight thatch of "ghighi," its hardened floor, the neat trench round about it, and, above all, the lovely prospect which greeted our opening eyes each morning on awaking, thro' the door-less door way. Just inside, well-sheltered, we planted our candlestick, literally a candle-stick or sapling. It was straight, six feet long, with sharp end driven into the ground. Its upper end was cleft in shape of a cross, and permanently distended by small wedges; into the gaping aperture thus made the end of the candle was inserted. Reviewing our arrangements, I felt "Monarch of all I surveyed," and Crusoe's feelings would have been tame compared to mine.

Maurice was an entertaining fellow. His thoughts ran in eccentric grooves, he narrowly missed being a genius, with methods of expression quite out of the common way. His distinguishing faculty was his strong perception, almost divination, of the presence of gold. Where another man would wander for weeks prospecting round and round, Maurice would hit upon the right spot almost at once. He had been three years a digger, had had many a lucky find, and had squandered his gains upon the "spree" as soon as made, remaining poor throughout. He had abandoned civilised life by reason of one heavy misfortune, and craved return to it in order to satisfy one great aspiration; these two were never absent from his mind, so that in conversation he would be sure to allude to one or the other. The former, was his having been in gaol. This, he asserted, arose from the villainy of a lodging-house crimp and beech-comber, who had nearly got him shipped off from Wellington, whilst he was there drunk on the spree, and who, after having robbed him of everything, trumped up a charge substantiated by falsehood. I never heard the other side of the question, but experience of the villainies practised undetected (both at home and abroad) upon the unfortunate votaries of alcohol, led me not to discredit his version. He dated everything, therefore, not from the year of our Lord, nor the month of the year, but so many weeks, months or years, "since I went to gaol."

For instance, "War broke out in Taranāki just two years and a half after I went to gaol"—"Collinson was found starved to death on the Wairau about nine months after I went to gaol."

His soul's ambition was to own a horse; he had, when a drover, often ridden the beasts of others, and had had gold enough to buy a stable-full; but somehow or other, always before effecting a purchase, opportunity had flown or his cash had vanished. He expressed his determination to work hard now, to stick to his next earnings, and to be happy, with a horse of his own, at last.

(To be continued).

* Phormium Tenax.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—For the cure of burns, scalds, wounds and ulcers, this justly celebrated Ointment stands unrivalled. Its balsamic virtues immediately on application lull the pain and smarting, protect the exposed nerves from the air, give to the vessels the vigour necessary to heal the sore, and confer on the blood a purity which permits it only to lay down healthy flesh in the place of that destroyed. Holloway's Pills, simultaneously taken, must assist the Ointment's purifying and soothing powers. Together, these medicaments act like a charm. Travellers embarking for unwholesome climates, where pestilential airs are constantly producing fever, should provide themselves with these remedies, which will assuredly save them nights of weary watching and days of pain.

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BRO. JOHN YARKER v. BRO. W. P. BUCHAN.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As a young Mason I am interested in the discussion now waging between Bros. Yarker and Buchan, and hope that something of importance will be decided before the friendly encounter ends. I want to know a deal about Freemasonry, and fraternally look to Bro. Yarker, an old veteran, to assist us "recruits." Bro. Buchan has all the fire and enthusiasm of a young volunteer, and so, what with age and youth, I am anticipating a storehouse of facts to be reared. Bro. Yarker refers Bro. Buchan to Aubrey's "Natural History of Wiltshire" for proof that Sir C. Wren was initiated 18th May 1691. Will Bro. Yarker kindly tell me the date of the edition (the first, if more than one) of the History mentioned? It is idle for Bro. Buchan to cavil as to the difference between *to be* and *was* "adopted." The note has reference to the day of "adoption," and so it is quite enough for all practical purposes. Let us not be *hypercritical*, and expect too much from the evidence now being accumulated after the lapse of years of neglect. I should like to know more about the work of 1721, which Captain Irwin has in his library, and which speaks of the "higher class," and I wish Bro. Irwin would permit some other brethren to peruse it, such as our well known writers, Bros. Lyon, Hughan, Woodford, Woof or others, or would the owner kindly transcribe all the portion in any way referring to the Craft, so that the context may exhibit the character of the complete paragraph. It is surely most important, and deserves much more than a passing notice, and I thank Bro. Yarker for calling attention to it.

Will our brother favour me with the evidence that in 1725 the Royal Arch was called the Fifth Order? I have not been able to discover any evidence that warrants such a positive statement, neither has any Masonic historian with which I am familiar made any such proof known, neither has Bro. Yarker himself in his "Speculative Masonry," which is a valuable work, and so I presume Bro. Yarker has something in confirmation of his emphatic affirmative, about which we are, as yet, in ignorance. How does Bro. Yarker know that Bro. Ramsay's system "*was started in 1728?*" I thought there was a lack of evidence on the subject, but now, as our brother again states emphatically his discovery, will he kindly say the grounds on which he rests so important an assertion? It was said Ramsay visited the Grand Lodge of England (at London), but the minutes of the Grand Lodge were searched carefully for me by an English brother, but all to no purpose, and certainly in France there has not been a record produced which refers to Ramsay of so early a date as 1728 (and his degrees).

The "Antient and Primitive Rite" must be a very old society. Of what date are its earliest records, and did it precede the "Antient and Accepted Rite?" Is it not true that many of the degrees are alike *virtually*, and, if so, which was *first* of the two Rites, for one must be the *younger*, and therefore the *plagiarist!* Now then, which was *first?* It does not matter two straws to me as to the answer, save and except to discover the truth, and I am determined to sift the loose statements so frequently made, and see for myself what it all means as to Degrees, Rites, Offices, Antiquity, Humbug, and Pretension, and from the whole I hope to evolve the *truth*. We have far too many degrees and authorities, and if it is true, as I am told, that the "Ancient and Primitive Rite" is a late creation, then I say away with it to the bottom of the sea, or anywhere but in Great Britain, for else ere long it will be imported into the "Emerald Isle" to the disgust of us all! If it is ancient and worthy, then stick to it, and oh away with the counterfeits, but do not in the name of common sense go on multiplying until all that is really Masonry, and Freemasonry, is banished from our degrees.

With respect to the *mark*, is Bro. Yarker quite sure there was no ceremony. Why was there a fee for "chusing ye mark," and is he warranted in denying what now, in the ordinary course of things, cannot be decided either way? What "ancient documents go to prove that the Master's Degree had nothing to do with the Arch." This is news to me, and quite upsets my mind after it had rested on the perusal and study of Dr. Oliver's "Origin of the Royal Arch" (Spencer), and which connects the Arch with the Third Degree prior to say 1750. What had Dr. Dassigny to do with the Masonic Templars? His work was issued in 1744, and the Masonic Templars have not been traced until about 20 years after that date. Will Bro. Yarker, or any good brother, give me light?

MASONIC INVESTIGATOR.

OUR FREEMASONRY AND BRO. YARKER.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At page 86 Bro. Yarker asserts that he referred me in his first letter (page 53, 24th July, I suppose) to two MSS. "which themselves prove the antiquity of the system of the three degrees, and their identity with the present first three ceremonials." Now the *proof* here spoken of appears to me to exist only in the region of Bro. Yarker's imagination. Imagination, however, goes a great way with our pseudo Masonic *historians*. As a specimen of Bro. Yarker's extreme accuracy turn to page 53, where he tells us that the note in Aubrey's MS., which says that Wren "*is to be* adopted," is the "*sole minute*, yet known to be preserved, of Sir C. Wren's initiation." What a wonderful transformation! Who but a doughty knight of the real old high grades could have managed that?

Then, again, when we turn to page 70, and behold our gallant warrior spurring on his Rosinante against the Mark Degree, how the better informed amongst the Mark supporters must have chuckled when they heard his solemn vow that "So sure as the 1598 *speculative lodge system* of Wm. Schaw was identical with our ancient three degree system, so sure was it that he would prove the Mark Degree was!!"

I have for long believed that the paragraph in Schaw's 1696 Statutes which says:—"Item, That na Maister or Fellow-of-Craft be resavit nor admittit without the numer of six Maisteris and twa enterit Prenteisis," &c., clearly showed that neither *degrees* nor *secrets* were here involved, but extra *privileges*.

If Bro. Yarker can produce some real "minute," or any properly clear evidence that a Masonic system of *three degrees*, "identical with the present first three ceremonials," existed either in or before the Seventeenth Century, and also therefore before A.D. 1717, pray let him do so in the next number. I trust he will not content himself with referring to some former quotation in some past volume, but give us real evidence now, and that to the point.

I am, yours fraternally, W. P. BUCHAN.

IRISH MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—From your article on the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin, you seem to consider the Report for the year 1874-5 satisfactory. I regret, however, that this is far from being the case, as both of the Irish Schools, Female as well as Male, are ill supported by the brethren in Ireland. The Lodges and their members, with a few honourable exceptions, spend money lavishly on refreshments, while they are slow to subscribe any to support the children of their deceased brethren. Take the number of the brethren belonging to the Irish Lodges (which does not represent the whole), and compare them with the number that supports the Schools, and it will be found that the latter are ridiculously small; and, anywhere in Ireland, if you ask an individual brother to subscribe, he excuses himself, as "my Lodge subscribes," yet, probably, the same man will boast he is a good Mason.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours fraternally,

G. H. KINAHAN.

CHARGES OF A FREEMASON.

BY CORNELIUS MOORE, Editor of the *Masonic Review*.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In an article under the above heading, at page 84, we find the writer stating that candidates for Freemasonry "must be 'free born.' The Grand Lodge of England (he adds) has, within the last few years, substituted 'free man,' instead of 'free born,' thus in our opinion, striking at a most vital principle, which that body was especially bound to protect, and setting an example of the most pernicious tendency." How terrible thus to think that the mother of Freemasonry has gone astray! I used, foolishly I fear, to imagine that this substitution of "free man" for "free born," was a truly noble deed, and a specimen of real Masonic liberality! but since our worthy critic has told us that the tendency is "pernicious," I fear that like Galileo, the Grand Lodge of England will have to go down on her knees and do such penance as may be satisfactory to this worthy son of her worthy daughter.

As a *Masonic* reason for thus laying down the law we are told that — "The principle in the text is borrowed from one laid down by the Supreme Architect in the economy of salvation." Now, Bro. Cornelius, you must excuse me here reminding you of that other "text" which says, that before taking the mote out of your brother's eye you are first to take the beam out of your own." You a *Masonic* guide! You would tell us that English Freemasonry had done wrong when it, as you say, substituted "free man" for "free born." Why it appears from your own words that you have yet to learn what the real meaning of "Freemasonry" is. The chair of a Masonic Lodge, you must remember, is not exactly the pulpit of a Christian minister, nor is a *Masonic* review the proper place to promulgate the idea that the only way of salvation is through a belief in a Jewish Shiloh.

I am,

Yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

Glasgow, 9th August 1875.

REPORT OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Laughton Vicarage, near Gainsborough,
10th August 1875.

SIR,—By whomsoever you were furnished with a report of the proceedings of Lincolnshire Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Boston, in June last, allow me to attest that your report was accurate and fair,—not so the *official* report just issued. The Provincial Grand Secretary has thought proper to eliminate certain important matters

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which you have published. You rightly state that I proposed a vote of thanks, which was cordially and unanimously passed, to Brother Pigott, and ordered to be recorded in the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincoln, for his exemplary services in the cause of charity during the past year, and acknowledged by Brother Terry; also the proposals of Brothers Sutcliffe and Mantle in the cause of charity, which I seconded, are briefly mentioned, my name also being studiously omitted, and all reference whatever to the discussions both in Committee and the Grand Lodge which you antecedently reported,—and, I presume, with due authority,—respecting the projected Oliver Scholarship at the Boys' School, and yet the recollection of this Grand Officer, the P.G. Secretary, is so vivid that he relates, what he himself declared, that it was not in the power of the Grand Lodge to vote any of its hoarded money to charitable purposes without the previous recommendation of some omnipotent committee. I hope the bye-law on this matter will be altered. Although I disclaim reporting or writing on any subject discussed in the Grand Lodge, without the sanction of the Grand Master, I do most seriously claim that a succinct summary of all topics of discussion be accurately and faithfully recorded, and that no elimination, at the caprice of any one, be allowed, without the authority, at least, of the Deputy Grand Master.

One recommendation for the disposal of the Oliver Memorial Fund is mentioned, the other is suppressed. A question naturally arises; is that fair or ingenuous? We shall most certainly have a scholarship at the Boys' School; shall Lincolnshire have the credit? or, is it to be set aside by a side wind?

We have the most exalted specimens of genuine Masonry in Lincolnshire; men who would scorn any act of breach of faith and honour, men whose hearts and purses are at the disposal of any Masonic charity. Among the foremost of these stand Major Smythe and Brothers Sutcliffe and Pigott; these gentlemen shall not be snubbed, even if jealous juveniles are anxious to clip my wings. These gentlemen, by indefatigable exertions, by unexampled charity, have made Lincolnshire stand in the front rank of Masonry; all honour to them, and to whomsoever it is due. But we repudiate a garbled record of charity and devotion, even with the imprimatur of our Provincial Grand Lodge, to be circulated amongst the brethren on earth, even if our witness be in heaven and our record on high.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

DANIEL ACE, D.D.,

P.P.G. Chaplain for Lincolnshire,
and P. Mark G. Chaplain for Lincolnshire.

REVIEWS.

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

Travels in Portugal. By John Latouche, with illustrations by the Right Hon. T. Sotheron Estcourt. London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler, Warwick House, Paternoster Row.

WE are uttering a truism when we say there are travellers and travellers. There are travellers, for instance, who make the grand tour. This, not so very many years ago, meant a visit to the principal towns and cities of Europe. Now-a-days we fancy the grand tour embraces pretty well the whole of the civilised world. To this class belong the man, who by rail, road, or steamer has contrived, within a moderate space of time, to accomplish so many thousand miles of distance. He has seen towns innumerable, been bored by cathedrals, picture galleries, battle grounds, monuments innumerable. He has seen much, but learned little. In fact, his sole claim to enrolment among the noble and ignoble army of martyrs to an absurd fashion or mania for rushing about is that he has journeyed these several thousands of miles. To him, indeed, though not in its usual sense, may be applied the familiar adage,—"It is distance that lends enchantment to the scene," for it is only the distance travelled that makes him care at all for scenery. Then there is the Alpine traveller, usually of the muscular Christian type of man, who has ascended Monte Rosa, Mont Blanc, the Matterhorn, and all the peaks and passes of the Alpine range. He possesses great courage and activity, great presence of mind, great powers of endurance. Never a season passes but we hear of his doings, how on one occasion he narrowly escaped death in a crevasse, how on another he achieved some ascent of marvellous difficulty, which had seldom or never been attempted before. He communicates, perhaps, to the Alpine Club, a modest narrative of his achievements, and, in a few years, subsides into private life, honoured and respected by his friends and acquaintance, but having contributed very little to the general stock of knowledge about the country he has traversed. Then there is the naturalist traveller, who is often a bore, always an enthusiast, to whom the grand historic monuments that have been handed down to us from remote ages are of comparatively little worth, so long as he can find you a new kind of flea—supposing him to be an entomologist; a new species of bird, beast, or fish—supposing him to have a preference for either of those branches of natural history. Again there is the connoisseur in art, who is in raptures with everything pictorial or sculptural, though he has but a sorry modicum of art knowledge, and can no more distinguish between a genuine work of Titian or Correggio than we can describe the inhabitants—if there are any—of the planet Mercury. Another class of traveller are Cook's tourists, for setting down whom as batches of escaped lunatics the late consul and novelist, Charles Lever, we believe, got into hot water with the Foreign Office. These do a given journey in a given time, stopping at given places, and paying a given sum for their board and travel, though certain we believe take out tourists' tickets, and travel on their own hook between certain termini. We might, of course, extend this enumeration of the various species of the genus traveller almost *ad infinitum*, but we shall content ourselves with adding to our list one more, namely the man who travels for the purpose of enjoying and appreciating the country he visits, and of studying the people among whom he momentarily sojourns. To this class, we opine, belongs the author of these pages, Mr. John Latouche, whose experiences of travel in Portugal are no doubt familiar to such of our readers as have consulted the earlier numbers of the *New Quarterly*. That these experiences are now published in the form of a connected narrative must be a subject of congratulation, not only to the author's friends, but to all lovers of this class of literature.

In his preface to this volume Mr. Latouche describes his work as a collection of "nothing more than notes—mental notes, for I travelled without any design of future publication, and kept no single written memorandum of what I did or saw." Whether they are the result of mental notes only, or whether the style of the work is "discursive," as the writer suggests, is very immaterial. Here, at all events, is a most readable volume, from which we may gather more insight into Portuguese life or character than from all the guide books to this country that were ever written. Nor does it matter that he "did not travel continuously." Rather rejoice we that his "travels were interrupted by periods of residence," for these rests must have given time for reflection, time to digest what he had seen *en route*, and thus hasty conclusions have been probably avoided. Any slight derangement of a settled plan often induces a man to form impressions that are essentially unjust, and these pauses in his travels to which Mr. Latouche refers probably have enabled him to set right any such impression that he may have formed. Even since the first appearance in the *New Quarterly* of these notes, the author has seen fit to modify some of his statements, and it is just possible that, had he not broken his journey, these modifications might have been more frequent and more extensive. However this may be, the volume, we repeat, is eminently readable and is all the more valuable as it is intended, not for "the mere tourist, the ignorant, conceited, incurious, moneyed traveller, for whom so much deserved contempt has been expressed in current literature," but for those "who go to Portugal to enjoy a pleasant winter climate," or to "see a strange people, with a famous name in European history, to watch the successful working of a representative Constitution, to study archæology, ecclesiology, or natural history," or "who simply desire to take a month's holiday and a month's relaxation in spring, summer, or winter, in a quite new country (with no intention to 'do' the country in ordinary tourist fashion." This is just the kind of book that is needed. We have Guide Books innumerable, valuable, no doubt, in their way, but of use chiefly to those who, without an atom of true sentiment about them, travel, because it is the fashion. These fix their route beforehand, marking out the various stages of their intended tour, how long they shall stop at this, how long at that place, what lions they shall visit, and what they mean to spend. With such, we fancy, Mr. Latouche's book will find but little favour. Of what interest, for instance, to this kind of people is a sketch of "Farm Work in Northern Portugal," or of "Land Tenure and Tenant Farms?" The ordinary tourist neither knows nor cares anything about such interesting matters, and he would probably traverse Portugal, or any other country, from one end to the other and many times, without even giving a thought to these or similar questions. Yet, what more pleasant sight can be imagined than the following at pp. 45 and 46?—

"It was a 'festa'—a holiday—and the peasantry were all in their holiday dresses; the women very gaily attired, with embroidered muslin kerchiefs on their heads, over which is worn the heavy, black Spanish-looking hat, with ornaments of floss silk, made to curl and to look like a black ostrich feather. The costume of the women varies slightly in almost every parish of the kingdom; but it generally consists of an ample serge petticoat, descending to the ankle, and gathered round the waist into innumerable pleats, a close-fitting bodice (either black or gaily coloured) over a linen skirt, showing white on the shoulders and the arms, with a bright coloured kerchief, commonly red, or orange, or blue, crossed over their breasts. All this makes a picturesque costume, which well suits the comely, buxom, black-haired peasant women of the Minho province, with their rich olive complexions and fine eyes. The women have attained their national dress, and in the remoter parts, the men also; but in many places the latter are less conservative, and wear wide-awake hats, trousers and short jackets, in lieu of the old national costume.

"The women use their peculiar peasant jewellery of ancient Moorish design on feast days only. Heavy necklaces, of complicated pattern, suspend huge heart-shaped lockets on their breasts; in their ears are heavy pendant earrings. The women will often wear three or four such necklaces of gold, of a standard of no less than twenty carats; we have been assured that many of the peasant women carry about them no less than twenty or thirty pounds worth of gold ornaments."

The above scene was witnessed in the neighbourhood of Ponte de Lima, about ten or fifteen miles above Vianna on the river Lima. How many "ordinary tourists" would have left the high road to Oporto, and turned in this direction because it seemed to offer some "very rich and picturesque" scenery, or who among them would go out of their way to such a neighbourhood, "because it is classic ground to the student of Portugese literature." To them it would be no inducement to visit it, that "Not far from the town is the Quinta de Tapada, the country house of the great poet, Sá de Miranda, who holds the second place among the poets of Portugal, even if he does not deserve to rank with Camoens himself." Would it occur to them to note that "the 'Socco' or wooden solid slipper, worn by both men and women—by women only on gala days—is precisely the foot covering to be seen in the bazaars of Cairo or Damascus; and the Portuguese will shuffle off their slippers, in token of respect, as they enter a house or church, just as an Oriental will leave his at the

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entrance of his mosque." Again, we have another note which it is improbable the ordinary tourist could trouble himself to make:—

"Another instance of the prevalence and enduring character of Moorish art-forms is found in the Cangas or yokes of the oxen. While the ox-cart itself is purely Roman in shape and appearance, without having undergone the smallest change in its construction during fourteen centuries, the yoke is Oriental. It is, in shape, a high board, set edgewise upon the necks of the oxen, and is ornamented on each face, sometimes profusely and very beautifully, with characteristic Moorish incised designs." We have latterly had much experience of the value of macintoshes and other waterproof articles of clothing, but here is a waterproof, which, if not exactly becoming, is both cheap and serviceable.

"As the day was rainy, they"—the sturdy farmers on horseback, that is—"wore the curious waterproof cloak, made of rushes, which is peculiar to this province of the Minho—a waterproof which has many advantages over the very best macintosh coat; being, in the first place much lighter; in the second place, it does not make the wearer hot, or give him a head-ache, nor smell of tar; in the third place, a good one costs less than a shilling. Its appearance, however, is rather against it, and the wearer looks exactly as if he were thatched with straw from head to foot. These 'palhoças' are extensively used by all conditions of persons, and enable labouring men to do fieldwork on the rainiest days, when the water descends in tropical torrents, and when without some such protection no out of door labour could be done. Like many other customs and institutions in this province, where the Roman colonists have left such numerous traces of their presence, the 'palhoça' may perhaps be an inheritance from Roman times, and may be the representative of the *Tuga Feminarlis* of the Romans—the toga made of twigs."

The people of the district of Beira, in which Viseu is situated are thus described at p. 289:—

"The natives, men and women, in their hooded gaberdines of brown cloth—their only garment—without hats, with unkempt hair, and with bare legs, are as wild and savage looking a set of mountaineers as I ever saw, but they are well mannered and well behaved. They are a taller and more robust race than I had yet met with in Portugal, and ever since their long-continued resistance to the Romans, under their shepherd leader Viriatus, to the time of the Peninsular War, when the soldierly bearing and behaviour of the Beira regiments won praise from the Duke of Wellington, the fighting qualities of these mountaineers have been famous. The finest regiments in the Portuguese army are, to this day, recruited in this part of Beira."

We close the list of excerpts with the following sketch of what in England is called the "sporting parson," a village priest, who kindly guided our author "over the first three leagues of roadless hills," on his way from Lamego to Viseu. "A big, ruddy complexioned, genial man, of middle age," says Mr. Latouche, "his talk was not of 'matin, land, and compline prayer,' and I doubt if his Latin carried him further than the reading of his breviary and mass book. His reverence was, I was told at the inn, '*um grande caçador*'—a famous sportsman, and much learned talk passed between us on his favourite pastime. He told me of waiting for woodcock at nightfall by the edge of damp meadows, and killing them by a pot shot on the ground. He told me of great shooting parties of a more legitimate kind, in autumn, on these heath-covered hills, when twenty or thirty or more sportsmen would walk in a line, interspersed with beaters and dogs, and get excellent sport with hares and red-legged partridges, great strong coveys of which birds rose now and then at our horses' feet, as if to corroborate his account; and the priest told me how sometimes an outlying she-wolf, with her cubs, would get up before the line, and then men and dogs would go wild with excitement, and every gun, far and near, would be fired off, and every one start in pursuit, and in the enthusiasm of his description, the jovial priest favoured me with a Portuguese equivalent of our national 'Yoicks!' that rang again in the morning air."

The conversation that ensues between the author and this worthy as to dogs and wolf hunting we have not space to quote, as we have prolonged our notice of the volume beyond what we intended originally. We have quoted enough, however, though very far from the most entertaining accounts and sketches, to show the justice of the opinion we have expressed, that the volume is written admirably, and with great modesty, and that its contents cannot fail to prove of interest to our readers. We may add, in conclusion, that the illustrations, by the Right Hon. T. Sotheron Estcourt, are in every way worthy of the book they adorn. Their artistic merit is as conspicuous as is the literary merit of Mr. Latouche's notes, be these "discursive" and the offspring of "mental notes" or not. The book itself, too, is well got up, that is, printed on good paper and in good type, with a good table of contents, and both substantially and neatly bound.

LITERATURE.

Henry Kingsley's "The Grange Garden," is still current in the *St. James's*, and, we may add, still as interesting as ever. Mr. Gibbs, in his "Battle of the Standard," is adding considerably to his reputation, already high by reason of his "Arlon Grange," and "Harold Erle." The editor's account of "Across the Channel with Captain Boyton," is a pleasantly written narrative, and his "Olla Podrida" of notes are smart; but they might be more numerous.

All the Year Round is a capital number. The serials are good, the occasional papers are generally interesting, but, to our mind, the most attractive contribution to its pages is the sketch among "Remarkable Adventurers," of "Casanova," whose career, even more than that of Cagliostro, merits the description of "Remarkable." Our readers cannot fail to be pleased with the sketch, and the hour or two they may devote to reading it will assuredly not be regretted.

The Charing Cross opens with further chapters of "Two Wedding Rings," which bids fair to be a well written serial, but its companion "Quits, Sweetheart," is very indifferent writing. We fully endorse the views of J. S. T. as to keeping open "Commons for Exercise and Recreation." We are already over crowded enough, and all the vacant space that can be retained must be kept if possible. But we do not feel disposed to accept his logic. His purpose is good, but his line of argument is very poor. Of the other papers, those containing "Some Personal Recollections of Latude," and on "Modern Legislation," are interesting.

In *The London and Brighton* will be found several readable papers, "A Romance of Real Life" being about the most prominent. "Tales of the Diamond Fields" will well repay perusal, and so will "My first Case: a Doctor's Story," by R. H. Stone. The serial, "A Legacy of Vengeance," is a fair specimen of this class of writing.

The Canadian Masonic News has two admirable articles, one on "Speculative Masonry," and the other "Fogyism and Radicalism." Both these we unhesitatingly commend to the notice of our readers. There is also a very full account of the twentieth annual communication of Grand Lodge of Canada, which was held on the 14th July. Of this we purpose giving a brief summary in our next issue.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE AND THE RELIEF OF THE SUFFERERS BY THE RECENT INUNDATIONS.

From Le Monde Maçonnique.

THE following is a translation of the circular letter addressed by the Council of the Order to all the Lodges under its jurisdiction:—

Very Dear Brethren,—In presence of the terrible disasters which have so cruelly smitten the people of one part of France, and have caused such wide-spread ruin, the Council of the Order, at its sitting of the 26th June last, decided that a subscription for the relief of the sufferers in the southern districts should be opened in the Grand Orient of France, and in all the Lodges in correspondence therewith.

The amounts so subscribed will be formed into a general fund, and paid in to the account of the Order, and the list of subscribers will be published.

We have no doubt, very dear brethren, that French Masonry will regard it as a point of honour, as well as a duty, to join its efforts to those which will be made for the relief of such dire misfortunes, and we earnestly invite you to forward the amount of your subscriptions as promptly as possible to the Grand Orient.

Receive, very dear brethren, the assurance of our fraternal sentiments.

In the name of the Council of the Order.

(Signed) De Saint Jean, President,
Cousin, Vice President,
Caubet, Poulle, } Secretaries.

MASONRY IN ROUMANIA.

THE Lodges in this country, according to *Le Monde Maçonnique*, held high festival on the 19th June last. Over a hundred brethren, belonging to every form of religion, and of every nationality, took part in this brilliant assembly, over which Bro. Costiasco, assisted by Bro. Ascher, editor of *La Misthra*, presided. Many admirable speeches were delivered, and the fête, to which music lent the charm of its presence, and which was publicly announced by a salute of cannon, was splendid. It is needless to add that the greatest cordiality prevailed throughout among the members of the different Lodges, whom a kindred spirit and the same love of humanity had brought together. We may remark, without fear of contradiction, that every one present will always retain the kindliest recollection of this excellent day.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE labours of Parliament are ended at last. The Queen has recognised the services during the Session of her faithful Lords and Commons, thanked them, and commended them to their scarcely less arduous duties during the recess. And by this time, perhaps, the majority of noble lords and honourable members are well on towards their third bag of grouse. But to summarise the Parliamentary history of the week. On Friday, Lord Oranmore and Browne put a question to the Duke of Richmond as to the precedence accorded, or supposed to have been accorded, to Cardinal Manning at the Prince of Wales's Garden Party at Chiswick. The question was not a proper one to have been put, nevertheless it was answered courteously enough, of course, yet curtly withal. The fancied precedence to his Reverence of the Red Hat proved to have been all moonshine. A number of Bills were then read a second time, sundry questions relating to the Indian Army asked and answered, and the Unseaworthy Ships Bill read a first time, after which the House rose. There was a short sitting on Saturday to get through some unopposed business. On Monday, a great deal of work was accomplished. After disposing of sundry questions, the Duke of Richmond moved the second reading of the National School Teachers (Ireland) Bill. A number of Irish peers opposed the measure, the Earl of Donoughmore moving its rejection. Lord Carlingford, however, supported the Government, and the Bill passed this stage by 38 contents to 17 non-contents. Then followed a long debate on the second reading of the Unseaworthy Ships Bill, moved by the Duke of Richmond, who, of course, took that opportunity of defending the withdrawal by the Ministry of their original and more comprehensive measure. Lord Carlingford, on the other hand, criticised the action of the Ministers, and having glanced at the nature of the measure before the House, Lord Hampton addressed their Lordships, and the Duke of Somerset, the Lord Chancellor and Earl Granville having said their say, more or less briefly, the second reading was agreed to. Other measures having been advanced, the Commons' Amendments to the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill were agreed to, Earl Granville offering certain criticisms, the Duke of Richmond and the Marquis of Salisbury meeting them. The Commons' Amendments to the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment (No. 2) Bill were also considered, and after sundry observations from Lord Selborne and the Lord Chancellor, agreed to with amendments. Other business, including the first reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill having been disposed of, their lordships adjourned. The House met on Tuesday, both in the morning and evening, the Unseaworthy Ships Bill passing through Committee, and the report of amendments being agreed to. There was plenty of other business also transacted at these sittings. On Wednesday, a number of measures received the Royal assent by commission; a number of others, including the Unseaworthy Ships Bill, were read a third time and passed; and others, again, including the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, passed through Committee, and were reported. On Thursday, there was a brief sitting for the purpose of passing a number of bills through the final stage. It was also agreed not to insist on their amendments to the Offences Against the Person Bill. Lord Oranmore and Browne then asked a question respecting

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the banquet given by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, at which the health of the Pope was proposed before that of the Queen. On Friday, the House assembled early, and the Royal assent was given to the remaining bills passed this Session, the Royal Commissioners being the Lord Chancellor, Earl Beauchamp and Lord Skelmersdale. The Queen's Speech was then read, and the Session of 1875 was at an end.

On Friday, in the House of Commons, a few unimportant questions having been answered, the third reading of the Unseaworthy Ships Bill was agreed to, after a short debate, in the course of which Sir C. Adderley was warmly praised by several members for his energy in connection with the bill, while the Chancellor described the bill succinctly, and most emphatically defended the conduct of the Government in relation thereto. A long discussion then ensued on the motion that the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, as amended, should be considered. A new clause was moved by Mr Norwood, but rejected. On clause 2 certain amendments were proposed by the Government, which had, at all events, the merit of drawing from Sir H. James a lengthy and rather smart criticism of the whole measure. Other amendments were made, considered, and accepted or rejected by the House, according as the weight of the Government leant for or against them. The bill was then re-committed, and a new clause added, after which it was read a third time and passed. The second reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill gave the opportunity to the Marquis of Hartington, as leader of the Opposition, of criticising the conduct of business by Ministers during the whole Session, the text of his speech being Mr. Disraeli's speech at the recent banquet to Ministers at the Mansion House. The noble Marquis's speech elicited frequent and hearty cheers from his supporters, but Mr. Disraeli was equal to the occasion, and replied very effectively, being also applauded to the echo. The Sheriffs' Substitute (Scotland) Bill was then read a second time, and the other business disposed of. The House met on Saturday shortly after twelve. The Consolidation Fund (Appropriation) Bill passed through Committee. The Restriction on Penal Actions and Remission of Penalties Bill was considered as amended. Having then passed through Committee with Clause 2 amended, at the instance of Mr. Lowe, it was then reported and read a third time. The Registration of Trade Marks Bill passed through Committee, was reported and read a third time. The Committee on the Land Titles and Transfer Bill was next resumed at Clause 41, the remaining clauses being agreed to, after an attempt on the part of Mr. Jackson to get rid of Clause 80. Several new clauses were also added, whereupon the House resumed and the Bill was reported amid cheers. The Lords Amendments to the Employer's and Workmen's Bill were accepted. On considering their amendments to the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Bill, however, differences of opinion arose, but every attempt to overset the Government view was defeated. The other business, save, perhaps, the Sheriff's Substitute Bill, which passed through Committee, needs no comment. On Monday, after a number of preliminary questions had been disposed of, the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, after some comment from Mr. Boord, to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer replied, was read a third time. The Land Titles and Transfer Bill was considered as amended, and then read a third time and passed. Then came the Indian Budget, or rather it would have come, but Mr. Fawcett moved a resolution, condemning governments for keeping the Indian Financial statement till the tail end of the Session. This, of course, only added to the delay, of which Mr. Fawcett complained. Lord G. Hamilton, however, replied smartly, and in the end carried the House with him by 90 to 55. He then rose and made his budget speech. This, of course, was criticised, but an amendment proposed by Mr. Smollett was defeated, and the original resolution of the Government was agreed to. Other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned till Wednesday. On that day several questions relating to Unseaworthy Ships, Colonel Baker's imprisonment, and other subjects were put and answered. The order of the day for the Increase of Episcopate Bill, at the instance of Mr. Beresford Hope, was discharged. The Lords' Amendments to a number of measures were considered and accepted, and the report on East Indian Revenues was brought up and agreed to. The House then disagreed with the Lords' Amendments to the Offences against the Person Bill, and a committee was appointed to draw up reasons. These amendments however were, as will be seen above, not insisted on by their lordships. On Friday the House met at twelve o'clock, soon after which it was summoned to the House of Lords to hear the Queen's speech read. It then returned, and members having taken a hearty leave of the Speaker and each other, the Parliamentary "breaking-up" was at an end.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales will visit Sheffield, and doubtless next week we shall have to chronicle a magnificent reception by the great Yorkshire town, differing, at least in this respect, from the needy knifegrinder of Canning—"Story, God bless you! I have none to tell, Sir." No doubt the Sheffield blades from highest to lowest will accord the Prince and Princess a most glorious welcome. Every kind of preparation is being made for the visit. His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, who has a residence in the neighbourhood, has issued cards of invitation to meet their Royal Highnesses at a Garden Party on Tuesday. Monday will be a general holiday. On the evening of Tuesday there will be a grand illumination. A licensing committee has been appointed. Banners and decorations are being prepared everywhere. The police force will be strengthened. In fact everything is being arranged so as to do honour to this occasion, the town, and the Royal visitors. The Railway is also making all the needful arrangements for the conveyance of people from the neighbourhood.

Thursday was the Festival of St. Grouse, and considering the doubtful appearance of the weather during the past few days, the season of 1875 seems to have opened more auspiciously than was generally expected. The reports from both the Scotch and English Moors vary somewhat, but the balance of opinion inclines towards a far better season this year than either last or the year before. Birds are reported generally to be strong on the wing, and the young broods to have been successfully reared. There is little, if any, talk of disease, and if sport be confined within moderate limits, so that the ravages by disease of the last two years may be repaired, it is confidently anticipated that next year will afford any amount of shooting. Some good bags are reported, especially from the North Derbyshire and South Yorkshire Moors. On Earl Fitzwilliam's, the Hon. — Fitzwilliam and Capt. Boscawen bagged 40 brace. On Hollins Moor, Mr. S. Cadman shot 24 brace. On Hemlin Moors, Mr. Fox and party obtained 38 brace. Elsewhere similarly successful bags have been made, and only decent weather is needed to make the sporting season of 1875 pass off most auspiciously.

Talking of the weather, we have had some very heavy thunderstorms within the last few days. On Saturday last one broke over the metropolis and neighbourhood. At Woolwich one of three privates who had sought shelter under a tree on the Common was killed, his companions being also injured, but not fatally. In Lee and Blackheath and thereabouts, the deluge of rain flooded the streets and the lower floors of the houses to the depth of several feet; indeed, in many parts of Kent the storm was furious, and caused heavy damage. Similar reports have come from other parts of the country, and again on Thursday, from Northampton, Manchester, and Sheffield where the rain descended in floods, and great damage was done.

Captain Webb's first attempt to swim across the Channel has failed, owing to the roughness of the weather. It was a gallant venture, and had he achieved it would have gained for the gallant Captain a niche in the temple of fame. Webb started from a small boat moored off the Pier-head, Dover, at 5 p.m. on Thursday, the weather being all that he could desire, but after accomplishing just one half the distance, the ever increasing roughness of the water compelled him to desist, and he was taken aboard the lugger that accompanied him, none the worse for his labour. However, Captain Boyton did not cross the Channel the first time he essayed to do so, and possibly Captain Webb, if only the weather and tide will serve him, may accomplish it, if he determines to make a second attempt.

Great events often spring from trifling causes. There is no saying how much of the unpopularity which the late Government contrived to incur during its last years of office might have been due to its discontinuance of the usual Ministerial white bait dinner at the close of the Session. Mr. Disraeli is a man of tact, and knows well enough that the careful observance of even the least important formalities is oftentimes more necessary than a strict adherence to the weightier matters of the law. Accordingly both last year and this nearly all the Members of the Govern-

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ment assembled round the familiar hospitable board at Greenwich, when each congratulated the other on the labours they had achieved, and the near prospect of a brief respite from work. We admire the wisdom of the premier in restoring this annual custom to all its pristine dignity. None can point the finger of scorn at him and his colleagues, as many, perhaps, may have done at the late Government, exclaiming, perhaps, *sotto voce* :— What a beggarly lot of rulers we have got, they cannot even dine!

The O'Connell celebration in Dublin did not end as well as it began. There were some rather serious differences of opinion in connection with one of the banquets, a considerable number being anxious that Mr. Butt should have spoken the praises of the Liberator and not Sir C. G. Duffy, whom the Lord Mayor had chosen for this task of honour. This led to a rather boisterous explosion, and neither the Lord Mayor nor Mr. Butt was able to allay it.

A rather serious matter has been brought under the notice of the Duke of Richmond, as President of the Council. On Saturday last, a deputation, representing the foreign importers of live stock—introduced by Mr. Twells, one of the Members for the City—had an interview with his Grace, and gave him to understand that unless the very severe restrictions imposed on the importation of cattle were somewhat relaxed, they would be compelled to close the supply altogether. Everybody, of course, has an interest in the question of meat supply, and the exclusion from our markets of the German and Dutch cattle would probably cause the price of meat to rise to famine prices. The deputation asked that they should be put on the same footing as the importers of Irish stock, or, in other words, that while every diseased animal should be rigidly condemned, cattle and sheep ascertained to be perfectly sound should go free into the market. The Duke promised inquiry into the matter as promptly as possible, but since then two cases have occurred, in one of which 700 or 800 Dutch sheep, in the other 1,500 sheep and lambs, were ordered to be transhipped to Deptford for slaughter because, in each, one sheep was found to be suffering from foot-and-mouth disease. This involved a loss to the importers of 5s per head. Now anything that can be done to prevent such losses should be done, but it must not be overlooked that one of such black sheep will most probably infect a whole herd. It is impossible for the most skilful veterinary inspector to discover the disease in its early stages of germination. Thus these animals that are certified to be sound may, nevertheless, have in them the germs of the disease, and thus might be the means of innoculating our own herds. It is, perhaps, the lesser of the two evils to bear with a short supply than to run the risk of having our home produce infected. If the cargoes were landed direct at Deptford, and there examined, instead of being sent up to London, the additional cost of reconveyance to Deptford would be saved.

In the sporting world Yachting for the moment is in the ascendant. The Regatta of the Royal Victoria Club commenced on Tuesday, and will close to-day. That of the Royal Albert Club will be held next week. In Cricket there have been several return matches played between the leading counties, such as Sussex and Surrey, &c., those between Middlesex and Notts, and Gloucestershire and Yorkshire being still in progress. We note also the meeting of the International Gun and Polo Club at Spa. The principal race meetings this week have been those of Egham and Windsor.

Our foreign notes are few. The attempt to overwhelm Carlism has not yet proved successful, and the insurrection in the Herzegovina seems from all accounts to be extending, and becoming more formidable from day to day. If the revolt is strictly localised, we do not anticipate there will be any serious difficulty on the part of Turkey in suppressing it. But if Bosnian and Montenegrin interference is permitted or connived at, the Turks have a tough piece of work before them for the summer. We trust the Great Powers will signify unmistakably to these petty, if rude buccaneers, that they have no intention of allowing the peace of Europe to be broken on their account. Once the insurgents find that Europe means peace, they and their adherents from other quarters will very soon come to terms and the rights of Turkey will no longer be imperilled.

A marriage will shortly take place between His Imperial Highness Prince Demetrius, G.M. and Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Grand Council, 33rd degree, for Scotland, &c., and eldest son of His Imperial Highness Prince Rhodocanakis, and Kathleen, eldest daughter of Capt. Geo. Newcomen R.N., of 33 Queen's Gate, South Kensington, and Feltwell Lodge, Norfolk.

We learn from *Le Monde Maçonnique* that M. Emile Littré, member of the French Academy, representative of the people, and author of a French Dictionary, as well as of numerous scientific works, was initiated on the 8th ult., in the Lodge "*La Clémente Amitié*." Fr. Charles Cousin, Vice President of the Council of the Order, presided, and there was present a large attendance of brethren. M. Littré has already attained the ripe age of 74; his joining the Order, observes our worthy French contemporary, is no act of youthful phantasy or misplaced enthusiasm, but a deliberate act, and the result evidently of a well-matured conviction of the immense value of Freemasonry. The same authority, in speaking of the Lodge banquets, which occur ordinarily at the season of the summer solstice, anticipates that the collections made for the relief of the sufferers by the recent inundations will prove considerable, having regard, of course, to the number and position of those present. The Lodge *La Clémente Amitié* has voted two hundred francs towards the subscription being raised by the Grand Orient, while, at the meeting held for the initiation of M. Littré, six hundred francs were collected, one-half of which will go to the Masonic Orphanage, and the other to the relief of the sufferers.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

THE Committee met at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, 11th August. Present — Bros. Major Creaton, chairman, H. G. Warren, R. Spencer, J. A. Farnfield, J. G. Stevens, A. H. Tattershall, L. Stean, W. Stevens, James Brett, S. Rawson, Griffiths Smith, L. Newton, Thomas Cubitt, W. Hilton, Prof. Erasmus Wilson and Jabez Hogg. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Wardens' Report stated that the Entertainment kindly voted at the last meeting was held on the 30th ultimo, and gave great pleasure to the inmates assembled. The death of two annuitants was reported. The Chairman was authorised to sign cheques for payment of annuities due 1st September. One candidate was placed on the list for election in May next, and permission was granted to an annuitant to reside in the Asylum at Croydon. Votes of thanks were accorded to Bro. Griffiths Smith, for drawing up agreement, and to the Chairman.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY EVENING.

PARLIAMENT was this day prorogued by Commission. The following is

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am happy to be enabled to release you from your attendance in Parliament.

The relations between myself and all Foreign Powers continue to be cordial, and I look forward with hope and confidence to the uninterrupted maintenance of European peace.

The visit paid to this country, on the invitation of my Government, by the ruler of Zanzibar, has led to the conclusion of a supplementary convention, which, I trust, may be efficacious for the more complete suppression of the East African slave trade.

I have learnt with deep regret that the expedition dispatched by my Indian Government from Burmah, with a view to open communications with the Western Provinces of China, has been treacherously attacked by an armed force while on Chinese territory. This outrage, unhappily involving the death of a young and promising member of my Consular service, is the subject of careful inquiry; and no effort shall be spared to secure the punishment of those by whom it was instigated and committed.

The condition of my colonial empire is generally prosperous. Progress has been made in the settlement of questions affecting the constitution and government of Natal; and I confidently look for important and valuable results from the proposal for a conference of the South African colonies and states.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the liberal supplies which you have voted for the public service.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is gratifying to me to find that the lengthened consideration you have given to the various statutes which have, from time to time, been passed for the preservation of peace in Ireland has resulted in a measure which, while relaxing the stringency of former enactments, is calculated to maintain the tranquillity of that country.

I have, with pleasure, given my assent to an act for facilitating

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the improvement of the dwellings of the working classes in large towns, which will, I trust, lead to the decrease of many of the principal causes of disease, misery, and crime. I feel sure that this legislation, together with that relating to the consolidation and amendment of the sanitary laws, and of the laws relating to friendly societies, will greatly promote the moral and physical welfare of my people.

It has afforded me much satisfaction to give my assent to two important statutes for the amendment of the acts relating to master and servant and trade offences, and of the law of conspiracy as connected with these offences—statutes which will, I trust, place the relations of employers and employed on a just and equal footing, and add to the contentment and goodwill of large classes of my subjects.

Among the enactments which you have passed for the improvement of the law, I am well pleased to observe that a comprehensive measure for simplifying the title and facilitating the transfer of land in England has taken its place in the statute book; that an act has been passed for the amendment of the law of entail in Scotland; and that you have made provision, by amending the Judicature Act of 1873, for bringing the great changes in my civil courts, and their procedure which it inaugurated, into immediate and practical effect.

The state of public business and the differences of opinion naturally arising on a varied and comprehensive scheme, have unfortunately prevented you from completing the consideration of the Merchant Shipping Bill, but I rejoice that you have been able, by a temporary enactment, to diminish considerably the dangers to which my seafaring subjects are exposed.

By the Agricultural Holdings' Act, you have greatly and beneficially enlarged the powers of owners, limited in interest, to offer to their tenants a sufficient security for judicious outlay upon the farms they occupy, and, while maintaining absolute freedom of contract, you have raised a presumption of rights, under which a new inducement will be given to expend capital upon the improvement of land.

I have every reason to hope that the progress of the revenue, which has marked recent years, will be fully sustained in the present. The arrangements which you have made with respect to the reduction of the National Debt, and those for the better regulation of loans for public works will lead to valuable improvements in our system of Imperial and local finance.

The enactment for a registration of trade marks will supply a deficiency that has for some time been felt in our commercial system.

I trust that the act constituting a new bishopric at St. Albans may prove advantageous to the vast population of the dioceses affected by the measure.

In bidding you farewell for the recess, I pray that the blessing of Providence may fall on your recent labours, and accompany you in the discharge of all your duties.

MASONIC HONOUR.

THIS attribute of Masonic faith is no doubt frequently abused. Men put faith in others because they are members of the Craft, and, as the fruit of their trust, they are often deceived. The obligations of the Masonic Brotherhood, as all who have taken them well know, can only be violated at the expense of honour, as well as of one's general integrity. That which is gained by such derelictions is nothing less than perjured gold, which the years will cover with rust, and which will blast Masonic integrity as with the breath of a sirocco.

What is called honour, even in ordinary society, demands civility and respect, as well as a strict regard for truth, and all promises as well. No one can be an honourable man who violates or trifles with his own words or his own promises. They are his notes in the bank of honour, and if he suffers them to go to protest, his honour is gone, and he goes into moral bankruptcy. This is the result, even in general business society, as well as in the common walks of life. But much more than all this is required in Masonic relationships; for there men take upon themselves voluntarily obligations of relative integrity which they cannot violate without being guilty of moral perjury.

A Mason owes to his brothers who are worthy—that is, who are in good standing in the Order—respect and decent treatment, and in all dealings he is pledged by his obligations to treat a brother Mason, "or any other man," with a strict regard to justice, right and honourable equity; so that if the transaction is ever reviewed it will be seen that no wrong was done or intended.

The integrity of Masonic honour has ever been the boast of the Craft; so that it has grown to be a general conviction that he who has taken upon himself the obligations of the Fraternity is reliable—that is, that he will be true to his word, and that he will go to the length of his cable-tow in serving his brethren. But that all Masons fill the measure of this conviction is never claimed. We well know that it is human to err, and Masons have been taught that it is divine to forgive.

It is said that the eagle delights to ride above the fury of the storm, because there he dwells in safety, and feels the dignity of his kingship. It is, in some respects, the same with the Mystic Brother. In his Lodge he is secluded from the world, and taught the lessons of wisdom which enable him to govern himself with prudence, and conduct himself properly among his brethren. It is there he gains strength to build up his integrity, and, therefore, it is not remarkable that Masons, as a general rule, are honourable men. Why this is so may not be acknowledged by the world, for they do not see it, and consequently cannot comprehend it.

What men are in their faith and honour, in their integrity and principles, is the result of education, usually obtained after they have come to the years of maturity. The schools only instruct them in the sciences, and even the churches too often rely upon excitement, or upon the doctrinal influences of theological dogmas, which are much more apt to sectarianize the mind than to mould the heart in the dignity of an enlarged capacity.

It is possible for men, under certain religious training, to make pretensions to religion, without becoming moral, as they get the impression that devotion to the Deity is paid in songs and prayers and sermons, instead of services to poor perishing humanity. Even Masonic honour teaches a different doctrine than this, because it demands that a true and faithful regard be paid to the wants and character, the complaints and sufferings, of humanity around us. This is honour worthy of any profession, and the world, and even our Masonic Order needs much more of it. The Mason who travels in his thought no further than the mere ritualistic services of the Order still remains a novice, and it is not wholly strange that many such fall below the standard of Masonic honour and integrity. To be faithful to one's word; to be frank in action, sincere in purpose, and true to our obligations, are the continual demands of Masonic honour.

Men may be rich, intelligent, enterprising, and even popular; they may hold office and place, and live in the full tide of public prosperity, and yet may be wanting in true honour. Many do not see it until it is too late, and they retire to their last resting place with a very few regrets.

Honour grows not save upon honest soil. It is never the product of pride, or even of policy. It is the outshoot, the foundation basis, the result of careful thought and honest purpose. Some men borrow books, and never return them. The ownership, they imagine, is a small matter, and if not guilty of direct theft, they certainly are of obtaining goods under false pretences. Such men are usually loose in moral principles, and reckless of any nice sense of honour, no doubt, in many other matters. Honesty and honour are very near akin, and it is a difficult matter for any man to display the one when he does not possess the other.

Among creditors and debtors it does not always follow that delinquency involves the latter, for, in many instances, the creditor is full handed, and might, if he would, show some leniency, such as would set the poor debtor up again. But, alas! for the selfish spirit of human cupidity, many a poor debtor is *hung* without ceremony, demonstrating that his creditor had neither mercy nor honour.

Among Masons, honour is an especial attribute—an essential virtue, and the perfect character of the Craft cannot be sustained without it.

"Act well your part; there all the honour lies,"

Is recognised as being soundly ethical, as well as correct in principle, in all fraternities. That this noble principle should be wisely vindicated by every Mason is the expectation of the Craft everywhere; for that which is right and honourable is strictly enjoined in every law of Masonic jurisprudence. Even what the world sometimes calls honour will not always fill the Masonic requirement, for that is often founded on wealth, or office, or scholarship, or in some honorary relationship. Masonic honour must be an indwelling principle, and must show itself in every department of business, as well as in social life. It is not enough that any one should be a "bright Mason," for ethical and philosophic Masonry requires more than mere mystic brightness. To be well versed in mechanical Masonry, it is true, is a universal obligation, and to serve in the temple of honour is equally so, for without honour there is no Masonry, and he who fails in its evincement is just that far below the Masonic profession.

In Masonic teachings, it is not supposed that any man will be brought to the threshold of the temple unless he is honourable, and it is on this account that honourable action is so strictly demanded of the Brotherhood. Of course dull and stupid men, as well as those who may be educated shysters, are not apt to pay any very strict regard to this particular Masonic feature. Their conceptions of Masonry are often crude and sinister, and if the institution does not work to suit their notions, their interest dies away like the sanguine hopes of defeated candidates.

Honour, indeed, is essential to the peace and progress and happiness of society everywhere, and well would it be if men generally would watch themselves more strictly in this particular trait of character, for if they did, the world would certainly have fewer causes for litigation, and the standard of human respectability would be greatly elevated.

Among us, as Masons, a more tenacious adherence to its demands would increase our influence largely, as well as add greatly to our mystic prestige.—"H." in *Masonic Advocate*.

ENTHUSIASTIC FREEMASONS.

A SPLENDID passage up the Scheldt, the sea almost as smooth as glass; the unclouded sky, decked with countless stars, and illuminated by the brilliancy of the harvest moon, reflects upon the gently rippling surface. All was full of life and enjoyment on board the good ship. Song floated upon the balmy air, varied by the sound of graceful movement on the "light fantastic toe." Gradually the gleeful spirits depart to rest, and there remain on deck nine members of the sterner sex. Some were known to each other as Masons, the remainder were soon discovered to belong to the mystic brotherhood. "We are more than enough to form a Lodge," suggests one. The hint is at once acted upon. A place was soon found, in which they were as isolated and secure from observation even as were the ancients in the valley of Jehoshaphat. A well known Past Master was elected to preside, the Lodge formally opened, and the whole of the fifteen sections rehearsed. "And," says our informant, "I can tell you they were worked exceedingly well, considering the impromptu arrangement of the accidental meeting." Well done, brethren! similar cases may have occurred, but certainly have not been recorded. You employed your time wisely, while gently floating up the Scheldt.

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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.

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SATURDAY, 14th AUGUST.

483—Chigwell, Castle Hotel Woodford.

749—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
906—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.
1301—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

MONDAY, 16th AUGUST.

46—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)

61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
672—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
884—Derwent, George and Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, Derby.
925—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1206—Bayons, Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.

TUESDAY, 17th AUGUST.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
160—True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford.
445—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
462—Frederick Lodge of Unity, Station Hotel, Sutton.
510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
606—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
966—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1090—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day Scorrier, Cornwall.
1099—Du Sberland, Fountain Hotel, Blue Town, Sheerness.
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot.
1166—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.
1457—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WEDNESDAY, 18th AUGUST.

165—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
245—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
285—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
301—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester.
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
324—Molra, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
369—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction).
591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
620—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
679—St. Davids, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
681—Scarsdale, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Chesterfield.
982—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1066—Walton, St. Lawrence Boy's School, Croylands Street, Kirkdale.
1213—Eton, Masonic Hall, Home Park, Stoke, Devonport.
1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1345—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
1501—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe.

M.M. 175—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 19th AUGUST.

1250—Blackheath, Crown Hotel, Blackheath.

56—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burnley.
142—Unity, White Hart Hotel, Ringwood.
208—Ancient Union, 23 Hope-street, Liverpool.
249—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
479—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
480—Cornubian, Freemasons' Hall, Hayle, Cornwall.
493—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool. (Instruction.)
940—Philanthropic, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whitsle-le-Woods.

FRIDAY, 20th AUGUST.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

536—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Snowmarket.
1196—Arkwright, Walker's Bath-terrace Hotel, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire.

SATURDAY, 21st AUGUST.

1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Lion Square, Hampton.

IRELAND.

SATURDAY—13—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.
" 46—Star of Kilmallock, Masonic Rooms, Hillsborough, Down.
WEDNESDAY—262—Knockboy, Bridge Street, Thurles, Galway.
" 350—Cuppage, Masonic Hall, Cavan.
THURSDAY—40—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 126—Industry, Banderon, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—54—St. David, Blair Hotel, 2nd Register Street.
" 905—Hope, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—340—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 82 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY—16—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 226—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-street.
" R. A. 122—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 96 Constitution-street.
FRIDAY—R. A. 83—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Britannic Lodge, No. 33.—This Lodge held its recreation banquet on Friday, the 6th instant, at the Alexandra Palace. The gathering was a numerous one, covers being laid for over a hundred guests, a large proportion of whom were ladies. The chair was taken by Bro. Crombie, one of the P.M.'s of the Lodge, in the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, of the W.M., Bro. Clynoweth. After the banquet, which it is almost needless to add was served by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts in their most approved style—indeed, we have seldom assisted at a more *recherché* one—the less formal part of the proceedings commenced. Bro. Crombie, in proposing the first toast—the health of Her Majesty the Queen—offered an almost needless apology for having had to undertake the duties of chairman at short notice. He expressed himself highly pleased at meeting so numerous a company, promised to indulge in no lengthy speeches, and trusted that this first attempt to enjoy themselves in such excellent company around the festive board would by no means prove the last. The health of the Queen was a toast which all Englishmen received with enthusiasm, and such an assembly of Masons would, he felt sure, accord it a most enthusiastic welcome. "God Save the Queen" having been sung, the Chairman then gave the health of the M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, speaking in appropriate terms of His Royal Highness's fitness for that important office, and with a view to enlisting the sympathies of the lady guests, who might not fully understand the relationship existing between the G.M. and the Craft, Bro. Crombie coupled with this toast the name of Her Royal Highness the Princess. The response was enthusiastic, the appropriate four part song, "The Cambrian Plume," by Brinley Richards, following. Among the other toasts were those of the Chairman, who fittingly and modestly acknowledged the honour done him, and the gratification he felt at having been able to preside, and who, in expatiating in the course of his remarks on the value of Masonry, mentioned incidentally that a son of his had served during the Crimean campaign, and that the true value of Masonry would be best illustrated in times of difficulty and danger, as, for instance, were a brother wounded or taken prisoner of war, his sufferings would certainly be alleviated if, fortunately, he came in contact with a fellow Mason. "The Ladies," who had so kindly honoured the gathering with their presence on this occasion; with this toast was coupled the name of Bro. C. Horsley, who indulged in a free poetic vein of language in returning thanks on their behalf. Other songs were sung, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Bro. Lawler, who, himself, gave the familiar "Largo al Factotum," from *Il Barbiere de Siviglia*, with his usual heartiness. Shortly afterwards the meeting broke up, amid general expressions of pleasure at its success. The Chairman was assisted in his duties by Bro. Magnus Obren, P.M. and Secretary of the Lodge, who acted as his S.D. There were also present the Secretary Bro. T. A. Chubb; the following P.M.'s, viz., Bros. A. G. Church, G. E. Eachus, and F. G. Finch; Bros. C. W. Turner, Robertson, Davis, Clouston, Pauley, Wm. Sugg, Rowland, Pendred S.W., Sicks, G. W. Stevenson, Boddy, Bloor, Stroats, Henry Mandalay; nearly the whole of whom were accompanied by their ladies. The following were among the visitors: Major Crombie, Wm. Battye, Charles Bennett, W. W. Morgan, &c. Bro. Lawler was assisted in the musical arrangements by the Misses Wild and Wells and by Bro. Carter.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 165.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on the 11th of August, at the White Hart Tavern, Aldchurch Lane, E.C. Present—Bros. Woodward W.M., Tarquhand S.W., Blackall J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, J. Constable Treasurer, A. Bell S.D., Croaker J.D., Blinkhorn I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Masters Bros. E. Gotthell (Preceptor) and Bloomfield. Visitors—Bros. D. Posener, Walker, Geo. Harvey of Ebury Lodge 1348. Business—The second degree rehearsed, Bro. Walker candidate. The first three sections of the degree were worked by Bro. Gotthell, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was then adjourned to Wednesday, the 18th instant, when Bro. Tarquand will preside. The brethren then separated.

British Kaffrarian Lodge, No. 853.—The Masonic brethren celebrated the anniversary of St. John's Day by attending divine worship at Trinity Church in the forenoon, and holding a banquet in the evening. The weather throughout was propitious. At 10 o'clock the brethren assembled in the Temple, Alexandra Road, where, after the ordinary Lodge ceremonies had been duly observed, they formed into procession. The newly formed Rose Croix Chapter being partly represented, and headed by the excellent band of the 32nd Light Infantry, proceeded to Trinity Church. The service was conducted by the venerable Archdeacon Kitton, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Lewis. The choir was in attendance, and besides the usual Psalms was sung the anthem, "Oh Lord my God." An appropriate discourse, founded on the text in St. Paul's First Epistle to Timothy vi. 1-7, was delivered by the Venerable Archdeacon, who explained that the subject was one which he had intended to preach from on the previous Sunday, if he had occupied the pulpit on that day, it being the 38th anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria to the throne. Gratifying allusion was made to the recent election of the Heir Apparent to the high office of Grand Master of English Freemasons, and to the watchword of the Craft as reported to have been named on that occasion by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. "Loyalty" to the Sovereign of the realm or to supreme rulers, under whatever name or country was also impressed and dilated on. The preacher was listened to throughout his discourse with rapt attention by the large congregation assembled within the edifice. At the conclusion of the service, the brethren proceeded, in order of procession, to the Temple, where, after an interval, during which the Lodge room was thrown open to the public. The ceremony of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year took place, viz., Bro. T. W. Robinson, who then

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invested his officers as follow:—Bros. C. J. Egan I.P.M., T. Broster S.W., J. C. Wenman J.W., W. F. Sissing Secretary, J. S. F. Johnson Treasurer, G. Randall S.D., James Webb J.D., Hasell I.G., J. Hendry Tyler, and H. Dickenson and W. Stoyle Stewards. The Lodge was then adjourned until seven o'clock in the evening, when between forty and fifty brethren assembled at the Central Hotel, and partook of a sumptuous banquet, that reflected great credit on the establishment. Ample justice having been done the viands, the following toasts were proposed and responded to: the Queen, Prince and Princess of Wales and the Royal Family, the Governor, the Army and Navy, responded to by Bro. E. Vaughan, 32nd Light Infantry; the Grand Master, the Hon. R. Southey, responded to by the S.W.; the Craft throughout the world, responded to by Bro. E. Vaughan; the W.M. and officers of the past year, responded to by Bro. C. J. Egan I.P.M. and by the P.S.W.; the W.M. and officers of the present year, responded to by the W.M. and P.M. McIntyre; Visiting Brethren, responded to by Bro. Dr. Hullah, G. B Attwell, Sonning and Kemp; Poor and Distressed Masons, by Bro. Portbury; Our departed Brethren, by Bro. H. Smith; The Ladies, responded to by Bro. Fleming and Hasell. A further adjournment took place, after which harmony was called on, and lasted until nearly midnight, and the brethren, after thoroughly enjoying themselves, departed.

Meridian Lodge, No. 893—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 9th inst., at the National School-room, New Street, Millbrook, Cornwall. Present—Bros. the Right Hon. Earl of Mount Edgcumbe W.M., Worth P.M. S.W., O'Neil P.M. J.W., Henwood Sec., Veale P.M. Treas., Bickford P.M. S.D., Harris P.M. J.D., Coath P.M. D.C., P.G. Filmer I.P.M. Steward, Hobbins I.G. pro tem, Fisher Tyler, Rev. F. T. W. Wintle Hutchings Chaplain, Carne Organist, Cawse, Evans, Penin, Tradgold, Sennett, Webber, Henwood, Ford, Yule, and Boyle. Visitors—Bros. Barnes P.M. and Hawke, Elliott Lodge, St. Germans. Business—To initiate Rev. John Bartlett, vicar Millbrook Church, Arthur Brickwood Hutchings, solicitor, Devonport, and Mr. John William Trevan, carpenter, Millbrook; to pass Bros. John Davey Henwood, surgeon, Charing Cross Hospital, London, and Thos. B. J. Ford, builder, Millbrook; to raise Bro. Haggerty to the sublime degree of M.M. After labour the brethren adjourned to the Commercial Inn for refreshment, and spent a most agreeable evening, presided over by Bro. Worth P.M., surgeon, Millbrook.

St. Barnabas, No. 948.—A regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Linslade, Bucks, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. Present—Bros. W. King W.M., Killett P.M. as S.W., Farwig as J.W., Howell W.M. 1470 as S.D., Forbes P.M. 65 J.D., Bradshaw I.G., Fountain I.P.M., McCubbin P.M., Poynter P.M. 1070 Secretary, Morgan, Rafferty, Procter, Holland and others. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Nicholson presented himself for examination previous to passing. This ordeal having been satisfactorily gone through, the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bro. McCubbin having performed the requisite ceremony, the candidate retired. Bros. Wilkinson and Rae were then examined as to their proficiency in the 1st and 2nd degrees, by Bro. Forbes, were entrusted, and left the Lodge whilst it was opened in the 3rd degree. Upon again presenting themselves, they were raised, and took their seats in Lodge as M.M.'s. An adjournment to October having been agreed to, and the usual interrogatories made from the chair, the Lodge was closed in ancient form. The St. Barnabas Lodge has made very considerable strides during the past twelve months, and is now one of the largest in the united province of Berks and Bucks. In connection with it there is a Royal Arch Chapter meeting quarterly, the second Thursday in the months of February, May, August, and November, and on the same afternoon, at an earlier hour, the St. Barnabas Lodge of Mark Masters hold their meetings.

Furness Lodge, No. 995.—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, the 3rd of August, at the Masonic Temple, Ulverston. Bro. R. Dodgson P.M. 995 and 1390, and P.P.G.S.B. Cumberland and Westmoreland occupying the chair. Bro. R. Dodgson rehearsed the first lecture in admirable style, after which Bro. T. Dodgson P.M. 995 and 1390 went through ceremony of "raising" with more than his usual impressiveness.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.—An Emergency Meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bros. J. Grunebaum W.M., A. D. Loewenstark P.M. as S.W., Posener J.W., Galliford S.D., Salomons I.G., E. P. Albert A.G.P. Secretary, De Solla P.M., &c. The Lodge was opened, and ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. A. Freedman and Briedenbergh, who were initiated into the Order by the W.M. Bro. E. P. Albert then, by the courtesy of the W.M., passed Bros. Crump, Smith, and Budenber, and raised Bro. Cooper to the 3rd degree, in his usual effective manner. There being no other business on the agenda paper, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Hogg's, the Opera Hotel, Bow Street, where a hapital banquet was provided, and a very enjoyable evening was passed. The visitors were Bros. G. P. Perks P.M. British Caffraria Lodge 853, E. Hurton 1003, Cairo 125 Progress Lodge, and D. Posener J.W. 185.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 5th instant, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Present—Bros. C. Deakin W.M., J. Rose S.W., J. A. Smith J.W., F. H. Ebsworth P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, W. Batchelor S.D., J. Stock as J.D., F. Garbett I.G., J. H. Harnsworth P.M., &c. The Lodge having been opened, Bro. R. Sparks was raised to the 3rd degree; Bros. J. K. Deakin and S. E. Shaw were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Messrs. E. H. Morley and J. Savage were initiated; the raisings and passings being rendered by Bro. Ebsworth in a very able manner. Bro. A. MacIntyre, St. John's Lodge, No. 73, was elected a joining member. A five guinea jewel was voted to the W.M., on his retirement from the chair, for his valuable services rendered in that capacity. The Lodge was then closed. There was no banquet, but an hour was passed in social conversation, after which the brethren separated.

Falcon Lodge, No. 1416.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 11th of August, at the Masonic Hall, Thirsk. Present—Bros. J. Fairburn W.M. 1337 acting W.M., J. Rhodes S.W., W. Coltman acting J.W., T. J. Wilkinson Secretary, A. G. Duncombe acting S.D., W. Hall J.D., G. Ayre I.G., H. Milburn Tyler, and Bros. Wright, Ellsley, Barley and Irving. Business—Messrs. C. G. L. Kipling and J. S. Farmery were ballotted for and accepted, and subsequently having been proposed, were admitted, duly initiated, invested, and charged. The Secretary reported what had been done towards securing the admission of Arthur R. Bourne into the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Truth Lodge, No. 1458.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, 7th August, at the Royal Archer, Dale Street, Manchester. Present—Bros. Henry Smith W.M., Charles Pearson S.W., Charles Joel Kent J.W., John Kinder P.M. Secretary, Thomas Tyers P.M. Treasurer, James Taylor Steward, R. Fallows I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Jno. W. Turner, Thomas Tyers and John Kinder. Visitors—Bros. John Walton 422, Oswego, New York, U.S. America, John Hey S.W. 387, John Croll 25, Daniel Lomas 823, R. Dottie 1161, R. Pierpont 645. Business—Minutes of last regular meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Oldham then answering the test questions to the satisfaction of the Lodge, was entrusted by the W.M. and retired. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Oldham was passed to a Fellow Craft, by the W.M. in his usual able manner. The Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony at 6.30, after which the brethren and visitors adjourned to refreshments provided by the host, Bro. Potts, in his usual excellent style. The cloth being removed, the W.M. proposed the Masonic toasts. Bro. Turner I.P.M. proposed the Visitors, and Bro. Tyers P.M. the W.M., all of which were duly honoured and responded to. The brethren separated about nine o'clock, after spending a very pleasant evening.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The above Lodge of Instruction held its weekly meeting on Friday, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road. Bros. Shand acting as W.M., Scales S.W., Yeomans J.W., Stiles Secretary, Jas. Willing jun. S.D., Dawkins I.G., Cox Tyler, T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, and Bros. Rapkin, Carter, Read and Kingham. The Lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of initiation. Bro. Rapkin acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the 1st lecture were worked by the brethren, assisted by Bro. Adams. The ceremony of the 3rd degree was worked, Bro. Read acting as candidate. Bro. Scales was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Shand, acting as W.M., for the efficient manner in which he had performed the ceremonies, and his able conduct of the duties of the chair. The meeting was adjourned to the following Friday.

St. Martins-le-Grand Lodge, No. 1538.—A warrant having been granted for this Lodge, it were consecrated on Tuesday last, at Bro. C. Gosden's, Masons' Avenue. The ceremonies of consecration and installation were ably rendered by Bro. Jas. Terry P.P.G.S.B. Herts., assisted by Bro. Col. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex, Rev. Dr. Colles, and H. E. Frances. Bro. H. J. Green was installed as the first W.M. After the business of the Lodge a banquet was provided by Bro. C. Gosden, covers being laid for 40.

BOMBAY.

Holmesdale in the East Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 72 (E.C.)—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 29th June, at Bombay. Present — Mark Masters Alex. McKenzie P.P.D.G.M. W.M., M. Balfour P.P.D.G.M. P.M., C. E. Mitchell P.G.S.W. S.W., W. C. Rowe P.G.S.O. J.W., J. E. Tyers as S.O., O. Tomlinson as J.O., Dr. De Tatham S.D., C. Tudball Secretary, W. G. Davie as I.G., Hatchell Tyler, and several other brethren and visitors. The Lodge was opened in due and solemn form at 6.30 p.m. The summons convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for Bros. John Middleton and Charles Peters, of Concord Lodge, No. 757, E.C., both of whom were duly elected. The W.M. then informed the brethren that he had received instructions to instal Bro. Capt. Holloway as the first W.M. of St. Andrew's Lodge, Kamptee, but as he was not present he would proceed to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. C. E. Mitchell, as W.M. of Holmesdale in the East Lodge for the ensuing year. W. Bro. McKenzie expressed his regret that the absence of the Pro. Grand Master, W. Bro. Edward Tyrrell Leith, in England, prevented his taking the chair on this auspicious occasion. Bro. C. E. Mitchell was then presented and duly obligated. All the brethren below the rank of Installed W.M.M.M. were requested to retire from the Lodge, and a board of Installed Masters having being formed, Bro. C. E. Mitchell was regularly installed as W.M. The M.M.M. were then admitted, and the newly installed Master was proclaimed and saluted with the honours due to his rank. He then proceeded to invest his

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officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Alex. McKenzie P.P.D.G.M. I.P.M. and Treasurer, W. C. Rowe P.G.M.O. S.W., Dr. De Tatham J.W., C. Tudball M.O., O. Tomlinson S.O., J. E. Tyers J.O., W. G. Davie Secretary, B. Robinson S.D. The J.D. and I.G. not being able to attend, were not invested, but the W.M. said he hoped to have the pleasure at the next meeting. The W.M. then thanked the brethren for the high honour they had conferred on him, and said he would do all in his power to keep the Lodge up to the high standing that it now held, and hoped he would receive the hearty co-operation of his officers, and, from what he knew of them, he was sure he would have their support. He then proposed, and Bro. Dr. De Tatham seconded, that a Past Master's jewel be presented by the Lodge to W. Bro. McKenzie, for the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge during the past year, as a slight mark of the esteem and regard in which he was held by the brethren. W. Bro. McKenzie then rose, and said he quite appreciated the honour the brethren wished to do him on the present occasion, but before the proposition was put to the vote he was sure the Lodge could not afford to go to such an expense, as it was only just beginning to get into a flourishing condition, and they must recollect they had, only during the last month, got a handsome kit from Bro. Spencer's, in England, but he was pleased to say that the Lodge had sufficient funds to pay for the same—(applause)—and he would be sorry to see the Lodge put to such an expense, he therefore must decline the honour they wished to do him, but appreciated their feeling of kindness just as much as a jewel. (Applause.) Bro. W. C. Rowe then proposed an amendment, and Bro. C. Tudball seconded, that a subscription list be circulated amongst the brethren of the Lodge, for the purpose of subscribing towards a Past Master's jewel for W. Bro. Alex. McKenzie, in token of the high esteem in which he is held by the brethren, and said that this would not affect the funds of the Lodge, and also be more appreciated by their worthy Past Master, which was carried unanimously. W. Bro. McKenzie then thanked the brethren for their great kindness, and said as they were determined to do him the honour of wearing a Past Master's jewel he should have much pleasure in accepting the same as it was not to be taken from the funds of the Lodge. He then proposed, and Bro. Rowe seconded, that Bros. Balfour, Robinson and Luke be elected members of the committee, which was carried unanimously. The W.M. then requested the Secretary to call a meeting at an early date. There being no further business before the Lodge, it was closed in peace and harmony at 8.30 p.m.

THE LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

WE understand that in the course of a few days the promoters will be able to announce that they have secured temporary premises for the City Club, and from the support received from the highest Masonic sources, there can be no doubt of their very shortly carrying out the original intention of opening one at the West End, in connection with it.

Amongst the numerous distinguished brethren who have joined the Club are the following:—

Bro. The Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale P.G.W., R.W.D.G.M. of England, and Prov. G. Master West Lancashire.
" The Rt. Hon. David Henry Stone, Lord Mayor of London, Rt. W.G.J.W. of England.
Bro. His Grace the Duke of Manchester Prov. G.M. Northampton and Huntingdonshire.
" The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Hardwicke Prov. G.M. Cambridgeshire.
" The Rt. Hon. Lord Sherborne Prov. G.M. Gloucestershire.
" The Rt. Hon. Lord Pelham M.P., Prov. G.M. Sussex.
" The Hon. F. Walpole M.P., Prov. G.M. Norfolk.
" Lt. Col. Fras. Burdett Prov. G.M. Middlesex, Gd. Sup. Wks.
" Maj.-Gen. Brownrigg C.B. Prov. G.M. Surrey, P.G.S. P.G.S.W. 30°.
" Lt. Col. Edward Chas. Mallet de Carteret Prov. G.M. and Prov. Gd. Sup. Jersey.
" The Rev. J. B. Bowles D.D., LL.D. Prov. G.M. Herefordshire.
" Lt. Col. Geo. Vernon P. Prov. G.M. Staffordshire, and P.G.S.B.A.
" Hugh D. Sandeman P.D.G.M. of Bengal, 33°.
" The Rev. James Simpson LL.D., P.P.G.S., P.P.G.C., P.P.S.W. Cumberland and Westmoreland, and G.C. of England.
" Henry Richards Luckes P.D. Prov. G.M. Herefordshire.
" The Rev. W. Mortimer Heath P.P.G.S.W. and P.P.G.C. Dorset.
" Edwin Crawshay Prov. G.S.W. Gloucestershire.
" The Rev. Robert Hall Baynes P.P.G.C. Worcestershire.
" John Chandler P.P.G.S.W. Wiltshire.
" Theodore W. W. Bullock P.P.G.S.B. Staffordshire.
" Sir Cordy Burrows, Kt., J.P., P.P.G.J.W. Sussex.
" J. B. Monckton, Pres. of the Board of General Purposes, Grand Lodge of England.
" Samuel H. Wright P.P.G.S.D. Suffolk.
" Edward Palmer P.P.S.G.D. Kent.
" W. H. Green P.P.G.D.C. Middlesex, Z. Beadon Chapter, &c.
" Harry W. Charrington P.P.G.S.D. Surrey.
" Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott Kt., P.M. No. 1 Lodge, and P.G.S.
" Dr. Woodman G.S.B. of England.
" Capt. Love Jones Parry P.P.G.D. of Ceremonies, N. Wales and Shropshire.
" Samuel Waddy Q.C., M.P., Royal Arch, &c.
" James Arthur Birch P.P.G.S.D. Cheshire, P.P.G.J.W. East Lans.
" Frederick Binckes P.G.S. and Sec. Royal Masonic Inst. for Boys.
" Francis Nash P.P.G.J.W. Herefordshire.
" David Davies P.P.G.J.W. South Wales.
" Edwin Thos. Budden P.P.G.S.D. Dorset.
" Charles Dutton P.P.G.S.D. and P.P.G.S.W. Cheshire.
" Rev. J. G. Wood P.G.C. Oxfordshire, &c., &c.
" J. E. Hoor P.P.G.S.B. Surrey.
" R. H. Holmes P.P.G.D.C. Northumberland.
" Thomas Wood P.P.G.J.W. Surrey.
" Rev. Thomas Leveson Lane P.P.G.C., &c., &c.
" Magnus Ohren P.P.G.J.W. Surrey, &c. &c.
" Charles Wadham Wyndham P.P.G.S.W. Wilts., and P.P. Sup. of Works, Dorset.
" John Bowes P.M., P.P.G.D.C., P.P.G.R. Cumberland and Westmoreland.

These names are sufficient of themselves to guarantee success, and we should recommend those brethren who intend joining to do so at once, as, very shortly, the subscriptions will be increased, and an entrance fee imposed.

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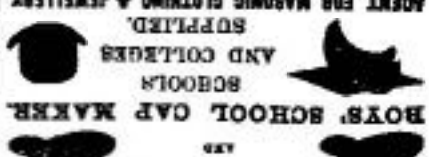


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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 34. SATURDAY, 21st AUGUST 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

ROBERT BURNS AND TARBOLTON LODGE.

A WEEK or two since, the brethren of Tarbolton Lodge turned out in great force to lay the foundation stone of the new public school buildings, which are intended to provide increased educational accommodation for the youth of that thriving little town. The occasion, the display of the Masonic insignia, and of some relics which were once worn by the greatest of Scottish poets, could not but call to the minds of the assembled multitude the name and genius of Robert Burns. It is to him that Tarbolton and its Lodge owe their widely extended fame. Wherever Scotsmen are found, the memory of those valedictory verses which the poet addressed to his brethren when his mind was torn with anguish, and he was about to seek a home across the Atlantic, must constantly recur. Burns, indeed, was no idle Freemason, and it would appear that he devoted much of his spare time to the study of Masonry, and rose to some distinction in his Lodge. From the Memoir written by his brother, Gilbert Burns, which was published in Dr. Currie's edition of the poet's works, we infer that Robert Burns was admitted a Mason in the year 1783. He was then in his twenty-fourth year. His father at that time rented the farm of Lochlea, in the parish of Tarbolton, and the young and ardent poet was engaged in a daily struggle to keep the wolf from the door. Gilbert Burns tells us that his father took Lochlea in the year 1777, and held it for seven years. The bargain proved an unprofitable one; "no writings had ever been made out of the conditions of the lease; a misunderstanding took place respecting them; the subjects in dispute were submitted to arbitration, and the decision involved Mr. Burns in ruin. He lived to know of this decision, but not to see any execution in consequence of it." The brothers, in anticipation of the crash, which came in the year 1784, took the farm of Mossgiel from Mr. Gavin Hamilton, a gentleman who remained a firm friend of the poet. This speculation did not, however, prosper, and Robert endeavoured to establish himself in business as a flax-dresser, and actually wrought at the trade for six months, with a person who lived at Irvine. Here he is said to have acquired some of the tastes of a man of pleasure, and had suffered the opinions and the example of his associates to undermine his rigid ideas of virtue. Prior to his attempt to change his occupation, his habits had been most frugal; Gilbert Burns, who for some years kept the family accounts, affirms that, during the whole time of Robert's residence on the farm of Lochlea, his yearly personal expenses, including clothing, did not exceed the sum of £5. It was while Burns was at the farm of Mossgiel that he made the acquaintance of Jean Armour, afterwards Mrs. Burns. This connection, when it was discovered, caused great unhappiness in the girl's family, and Robert, who was most anxious to act like a man of honour, privately married her, and as he found it quite impossible to obtain a subsistence for a wife and family in his native land, he determined to go to Jamaica, as an assistant overseer or book-keeper of a plantation. It was at this period of anguish and remorse that he penned those valedictory verses which are familiar as household words to every Mason. As he had not sufficient money to pay for his passage to Jamaica, Mr. Hamilton advised him to publish his poems, by subscription. Burns himself says, in speaking of this painful portion of his chequered career: "Before leaving my native country for ever, I resolved to publish my poems. I weighed my productions as impartially as was in my power: I thought they had merit; and it was a delicious idea that I should be called a clever fellow, even though it should never reach my ears—a poor negro driver—or perhaps a victim to that inhospitable clime, and gone to the world of spirits! . . . . . I was pretty confident my poems would meet with some applause: but at the worst the roar of the Atlantic would deafen the voice of censure, and the novelty of West Indian scenes make me forget neglect. I threw off six hundred copies, of which I had got subscriptions for about three hundred and fifty. My vanity was highly gratified by the reception I had met with from the public; and besides I pocketed, all expenses deducted, nearly twenty pounds. . . . . I took a steerage passage in the first ship that was to sail from the Clyde. I had taken the last farewell of my friends; my chest was on the road to Greenock; I had composed the last song I should ever measure in Caledonia, 'The gloomy night is gathering fast,' when a letter from Dr. Blacklock to a friend of mine overthrew all my schemes, by opening up new prospects to my poetic ambition." The Doctor's opinion was that Burns would meet with encouragement in Edinburgh for a second edition, and the poet, at once giving up all idea of going to Jamaica, posted off to that city without a friend or even a letter of introduction. Of his brilliant success in the capital it is not necessary for us to speak. He was received into the highest literary circles of society; the second edition of his poems went off well, and Burns, finding himself for the first time in his life in affluent circumstance, made a series of tours through the most romantic portions of his native land. It was not until the year 1788 that he again settled down to the business of agriculture. In that year, having settled with his publishers, and finding himself in possession of £500, he took the farm of Ellisland, in Nithsdale. His *public* marriage with Mrs. Burns followed, and our poet entered seriously upon the business of a farmer. Unfortunately for Burns, he had conceived the idea that he might manage to combine the office of a Gauger, or Exciseman, with that of a farmer. He obtained an appointment, and, while attending to his new duties, his farm was left to the care of servants. The result was, of course, ruin. Burns abandoned his farm, and, relying solely upon his small income, derived from the appointment he held, he took a house in Dumfries, and tried to forget, in dissipation, the misfortunes which had darkened his life. But his greatest trials were to come, his irregular life estranged his friends, and the great bard, who had fired all Scotland with poetic enthusiasm, sank into the position of an obscure officer of the Excise. He died on the 21st July 1796, in the greatest poverty, and his last moments were rendered wretched by the dread of a debtor's prison. Of Burns's genius it does not become us to speak. His fame as a poet has been firmly established, and the world has rightly decided that this erratic child of genius possessed the highest powers that can adorn the human intellect. Pedants have affected to regret that this great man had not the advantage of a University education. Such an education would in all probability have spoilt Burns. He might have written more ambitious pieces, but the wild charm of his lyrics could not have survived the culture of a great city. Masons are justly proud of the man whose mind has spoken in praise of the mystic tie, and when the memory of Robert Burns is drunk, either at Tarbolton or in any Lodge in the world, the brethren will not deny "one round"

To him, the bard that's far awa'!

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THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

THE twentieth Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was opened at London, Ontario, on Wednesday the 14th July. The following is a summary of the proceedings, based on the very excellent report contained in the *Canadian Masonic News* for the current month. The R.W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Acting G.M., presided, and before passing to the regular business he addressed Grand Lodge at some length on the leading events of the year. Firstly, he noted with extreme regret the losses which the Craft had sustained during that period. Bro. Kerr paid a happy tribute of respect to the memory of the late R.W. Brother Thomas Bird Harris, who for close on twenty years had filled the office of Grand Secretary, and to whose zealous efforts the brethren were so largely indebted for the present brilliant state of Masonry in Canada. "It is greatly to be feared," says the report of the *Canadian Masonic News*, "that the great interest which R.W. Bro. Harris took in the affairs of Grand Lodge incited him frequently to exert himself in the cause of Masonry beyond his physical strength, and in the effort to promote the interest of the Craft he had been wont to overtask his powers. Many whose privilege it was to know him intimately are aware that after our annual assemblies he almost invariably suffered from the severe strain then put on his energies, and that for years past he left our deliberations, agitated and protracted, to seek rest and repose, and to recover and regain his wasted strength." And, again, "Bro. Harris was devoted to the interest of Grand Lodge, and there can be no manner of doubt that he wore himself out in its service." Bro. Harris, we are told, was initiated in St. Andrew Lodge, No. 16, in 1848, and to his exertions are mainly due the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada. "He held many other important positions in Freemasonry during the whole time that he was Grand Secretary, and on many occasions he received warm acknowledgments of his services to Masonry from the Craft at large, from Grand Lodge and private Lodges, as well as from other Masonic bodies, and he was frequently the recipient of substantial tokens of the goodwill of his brethren, and of the esteem in which he was held by them." Bro. Harris died, after a brief illness, on the 18th August of last year, and was succeeded in his office by R.W. Bro. J. J. Mason, who was appointed to fulfil the duties of Grand Secretary for the remainder of the year. The next important loss was that caused by the death of the M.W.G.M. Wilson, within a few months of our respected Bro. Harris. The late Brother Wilson was initiated into Freemasonry in St. John's Lodge, in Simcoe, in 1840, from which date, down to the time of his death, he was almost uninterruptedly engaged in promoting the interests of the Order. "He was among the first to aid in the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and so highly were his services at that time regarded, that he was chosen the first occupant of the Oriental Chair, which he held uninterruptedly for several years. In 1860 he was permitted to retire, and chosen again in 1866, holding the position for two years, when he again relinquished it, on account of acceptance of office under the Government. Five years later he was again elected to this position, and continued to hold it up to the time of his death." "Brilliant in the discharge of his duties, untiring in his zeal and energy, possessing those qualities which attract and charm the minds of men, it is impossible to measure the service he has rendered to the Craft in Canada." And further, of his Masonic knowledge and experience we are told, "In M.W. Bro. Wilson were embodied those attributes symbolized by the three famous pillars of the ancient temple. His Masonic wisdom was great. The strength of his decisions was conceded by all, and the beauty of his Masonic and Christian walk won the admiration of his brethren. His exertions were largely crowned with success, and his untiring efforts were admired and appreciated by his brethren who continued to shower down upon him the highest honours that they could bestow, and whilst the records of our Grand Lodge abound with the work of his hands, they also bear testimony to the estimation in which M.W. Bro. Wilson was always held by his brethren. Full of Masonic honours he left this earthly scene." Both these eminent members were buried with full Masonic honours, and the funerals were more numerously attended than any ever held in this country. The death is also noted of R.W. Bro. Dr. R. M. Wilson, P.D.D.G.M. of Niagara District, on 31st May last, while the death of the late Duke of Leinster, for sixty-one years Grand Master of Masons in Ireland, is also noted. The appointment of the Duke of Abercorn as his successor and the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as R.W. Grand Master in England are alluded to in congratulatory terms.

R. W. Bro. Kerr afterwards passed on to record the business of the year, describing, in the first place, the operations of the late G.M. Wilson, who at the close of the last annual communication at Toronto repaired to Weston and dedicated two Lodges, the Humber, No. 305, and the Blackwood, No. 311. Shortly after conducting the ceremonies at the funeral of Bro. Harris, he was at St. Thomas, and there dedicated St. David's Lodge, No. 302. Ten days later he presented to the M.W. Bro. Thos. White P.G.M. the testimonial offered to that eminent Brother by Grand Lodge for his valuable services to Masonry. Only a few days before he was confined to his bed he delivered a lecture at Chatham, under the auspices of the Parthenon Lodge, No. 267, and dedicated Kent Lodge, No. 274, at Blenheim. During Bro. Wilson's illness, Bro. Kerr represented him in the Dedication Ceremonial of the New Masonic Hall, Hamilton. On the 3rd March the new Masonic Hall at Seaforth was dedicated, and on the 1st July R.W. Bro. McGloghlon D.D.G.M. of London, acting for Bro. Kerr, dedicated the new Hall recently erected for the use of Malahiti Lodge, No. 140. Several other ceremonies, chiefly of laying the corner stone of Masonic or other buildings, are then recounted. Dispensations to the following Lodges were renewed by the late Grand Master:—Hiram Lodge, Cheapside, and Chesterville Lodge, Chesterville, while Dispensations for forming New Lodges were granted to Walker Lodge, Acton; North Star Lodge, Owen Sound; Alvinston Lodge, Alvinston; Temple Lodge, Hamilton; and Orono Lodge, Orono. Dispensations have also been granted during Bro. Kerr's tenure of office to Zetland Lodge, Toronto; the Hammond Lodge, Wardsville; Ionic Lodge, Napier; King Solomon's Lodge, Jarvis; Corinthian Lodge, London East; Eden Lodge, London; Fordwich Lodge, Fordwich; Stratford Lodge, Stratford; and Prince Arthur Lodge, Flesherton. King Hiram Lodge, No. 89, Lindsay, has had its warrant returned, and received authority to resume work. After giving further details, Bro. Kerr then passed to the important question of funds, which, according to the Report about to be submitted to Grand Lodge by the auditors, show the following figures:—Investments, namely, Government Stock 45,573.33 dollars, Bank of Toronto 252.39, and Bank of Commerce 1,179.97, distributed to the various accounts as detailed, namely—General Fund 30,082.91 dollars; Asylum Fund 6,452.39; Investment Benevolence 6,486.21; Benevolence Account 1,002.54. The following brethren were elected as Grand Officers for the ensuing year, namely:—Grand Master, M.W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, Toronto; Dep. Grand Master, R.W. Bro. W. H. Weller, Coburg; Grand Senior Warden, R.W. Bro. Geo. S. Birrell, London; Grand Junior Warden, R.W. Bro. A. J. Cambia, Ottawa; Grand Chaplain, R.W. Bro. Rev. G. M. Innes, London; Grand Treasurer, R.W. Bro. Henry Groff, Simcoe; Grand Registrar, R.W. Bro. J. Burns, Toronto; Grand Secretary, R.W. Bro. John J. Mason, Hamilton, and Grand Tyler, V.W. Bro. J. Sweetman, Ottowa. Deputy District Grand Masters—St. Clair District, R.W. Bro. T. C. McNab, Chatham; London, R.W. Bro. W. D. McGloghlon, London; Wilson, R.W. Bro. C. Bennett, Port Rowan; Huron, R.W. Bro. J. H. Benson, Seaforth; Wellington, R.W. Bro. J. McLaren, Mount Forest; Niagara, R.W. Bro. D. E. Broderick, Caledonia; Hamilton, R.W. Bro. R. Brierly, Hamilton; Toronto, R.W. Bro. D. Spry, Toronto; Ontario, R.W. Bro. C. Peplow, Port Hope; Prince Edward, R.W. Bro. D. Ross, Picton; St. Lawrence, R.W. Bro. S. Wood, Kingston. A motion to hold Grand Lodge at Toronto for the future was defeated by a large majority. The Grand Officers were then installed in their several offices by M.W. Bro. Col. A. A. Stevenson, Montreal, and after they had severally thanked their brethren for the confidence reposed in them, Grand Lodge adjourned, about ten o'clock.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH BURMAH.

THE regular quarterly Communition of this District Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, on

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the 24th June last. There were present—W.B. H. Krauss D.D.G.M. as D.G.M., W.B. Jos. Dawson P.D.S.G.W. as D.D.G.M. and W. Bros. E. Hopper D.S.G.W., J. V. Douglas de Wet D.J.G.W., A. H. Etty D.G. Chaplain, W. D. Cruikshank D.G. Treasurer, Bernet Samuel D.G. Secretary, W. H. Porter D.G. Pursuivant, Geo. Greenhill and T. N. Seymour D.G. Stewards, and J. Hampson D.G. Tyler, together with the following representatives of Lodges; Bros. S. Andrews S.W., and J. Brown as J.W., Star of Burmah Lodge, No. 614, and W. B. H. Prince P.M. as W.M., H. B. Davidson as S.W. and W. H. Wootten as J.W., Victoria in Burmah Lodge, No. 832. The Lodge was opened at 6.15 p.m. The summons convening it was read. The minutes of the previous Communication having been printed and circulated were taken as read, and confirmed. Apologies from several brethren for non-attendance, were then read. Next the report of the Board of General Purposes, consisting of W. Bros. H. Krauss D.D.G.M. President, E. Hopper D.S.G.W., and J. V. Douglas de Wet members, and W. D. Cruickshank D.G. Treasurer and Bernet Samuel *ex officio* members, was read by the D.G. Secretary. The D.G. Treasurer's audited account showed the following figures: receipts, 133 Rs. 0 8, including a balance brought forward on 1st March 1875 of 17 Rs., disbursements Rs. 72 15 6, leaving a balance in hand on 7th June of Rs. 60 1 2. The D.G. Benevolent Fund showed receipts Rs. 448, viz., balance on 1st March of Rs. 309, and Lodge dues 139. The only disbursement was a loan to District Grand Lodge Fund of 50 Rs., thus leaving a balance in hand, on 7th June, of 398 Rupees. The revised returns for the Lodge Philanthropy, for quarter ended 31st December 1874, had been submitted, and were found in order. Returns and dues had been received from Lodges "Victoria in Burmah," No. 832, "Star of Burmah," No. 614, "Rangoon," No. 1268, "Philanthropy," No. 542, and "Greenlaw," No. 1095, for quarter to 31st March 1875, but those from Lodges "Arakan," No. 546, and "Astræ," No. 1376, were not yet to hand, and a reminder in each case had been sent. Permission was granted to "Victoria in Burmah" Lodge to hold two *regular* meetings in the month instead of one, provided the Bye-Laws of the Lodge were amended accordingly. The case of a distressed Irish Bro., Thomas L. Butt, was then referred for further inquiry to D.G. Secretary. The amended report of the Special Committee consisting of W. Bros. H. Krauss, D.D.G.M. President, C. J. Brown P.D.D.G.M., and W. D. Cruikshank D.G. Treasurer members, and Bernet Samuel D.G. Secretary *ex officio*, appointed by the District Grand Lodge of British Burmah, to report to the Board of General Purposes, what alteration it is advisable to make in the Bye-Laws of the D.G. Lodge, was submitted and adopted, as also was the report of the Board of General Purposes. A sum of Rs. 100 was, on the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes, voted to Bro. Butt from the District G. B. Fund. Bro. J. Hampson of Lodge "Star of Burmah," No. 614, was appointed to officiate as D.G. Tyler for the rest of the year. W. Bro. Krauss, having taken that opportunity of expressing the sense of the D.G. Lodge at the loss Masonry in British Burmah had sustained by the death, while in the execution of his duty, of Bro. Col. T. C. Hamilton, and having mentioned that only a few hours before his death Col. Hamilton had been elected W.M. of "Rangoon Lodge," No. 1268, so that had he been installed in that office he would have had a seat in the D.G. Lodge, The D.G. Lodge was closed at 7.15 p.m.

SPEAKERS AND SPEECHES.

FOLLOWING upon our article of last week, on "Dining as a Fine Art," we feel it incumbent on us to offer a few remarks on Oratory, especially on that class of Oratory which so generally follows a good dinner. True, in a very early number we dealt with this subject formally, under the head of "After-Dinner Speeches;" but the theme is a fertile one, and may be viewed from so many different standpoints that we feel no apology is needed for reverting to it once again. Oratory, perhaps, is too dignified a term to apply to the class of speeches we are about to refer to. Your true orator is a man who possesses many admirable qualities. He must be a fluent speaker. The man who halts and splutters over every half dozen words he utters is hardly the *beau idéal* of an orator. Then he should have a good sonorous voice. A speech delivered in a high squeaky sort of key, or a dull rumbling, grumbling sort of *basso*, is not calculated to impress an audience. If we imagine a man appealing to the better feelings of humanity in a voice which resembles the notes of a fiddle in a fit of discord, or endeavouring to pay a compliment to the ladies in a growl like distant thunder, we shall realise at once the kind of notes which are out of place in oratory. Again, your public speaker should have a commanding presence. We do not necessarily mean that he should be a very big man, but there should be a dignity about his bearing which will secure the rapt attention of his fellow diners. He must be thoroughly self-possessed. The man who is ever at a loss what to propose, and hesitates about the manner in which he shall propose it, the man, in fact, who is at all nervous over his oratory, invariably affords a very painful spectacle. Orator and audience alike suffer. Lastly, he should have abundance of ready wit, so that he may deal with each subject he speaks upon, not only fluently, calmly, sonorously, and self-possessedly, but appropriately. In other words, he should know a little, and, if possible, more than a little, about his subject matter, and then, though he may only express himself in good plain English, his speech will generally prove effective.

Our readers, perhaps, may suggest that we are too exacting in our picture of the orator. Not a bit of it. We do not look for a Cicero or a Demosthenes, a Pitt or a Burke, in every after-dinner speaker. We are only placing before our readers, suggestively rather than emphatically, sundry of the more essential qualities which pertain to the art of speaking. But, it may be argued, you are virtually shutting out from the category of speakers about nine-tenths of those who speak, and the majority of whom are forced to speak *nolentes volentes*. This, however, is the point we have in view, that the number of speakers should be more limited, for so shall we stand a better chance of having good after-dinner speeches. It is all very well to urge that every one who sits round the festive board must be what the late Artemus Ward would probably have described as a "a gay and festive cuss." All are very far from being "gay and festive cusses. Yet is it reasonable to confine the business of promoting gaiety and festivity to those who happily possess some gaiety and festivity in their composition. Nor is it immaterial to the case if we point out the necessity there is for a little logical consistency in the selection of speakers. Who would think of asking a clergyman to return thanks for the Army and Navy, or of inviting a tenant farmer to propose "Prosperity to the Hardware Manufacture." It might be the clergyman had once belonged to a body of fighting men before taking holy orders in the Church, and that the farmer was well-informed as to the process of manufacturing all sorts of iron and steel implements. But as a rule we look on clergymen as men of peace, and farmers as skilled workers in the field of agriculture. And if we are right in urging consistency in this particular, should we not carry it a little farther and consistently suggest as speakers only men who know how to speak, who can deliver themselves, that is to say, of more or fewer sentences in logical sequence, common sensible English, and a plain but impressive manner? Fancy a man replying to the toast of the Army and Navy in manner following: "Ladies and Gentlemen! Ahem—I—er—thank you—er—for your very great kindness—er—in—er—coupling my name with the toast—er! I' sure you I—er—take it as a great compliment to the—er profession I formerly—had the honour to belong—(N.B.—He had been a member of some yeomanry corps about thirty years before)—I will not detain you long—but I feel that we have had—er—very successful meeting, and I think we may congratulate ourselves on the prosperous condition of agriculture, not only in this county, but generally throughout the kingdom. I maintain, sir, the agriculturist, be he farmer or labourer, has many admirable qualities," and so on, *ad nauseam*. Or take a chairman who is continually hoping his hearers will not assign his frequent reference to himself to any spirit of egotism, his speech right away through being a most ridiculous exhibition of that selfish property. Now, to say nothing of the platitudes which people utter, properly six or seven out of every ten after-dinner speeches are simply painful to listen to. There are generally at every dinner, as in every Lodge, two or three people who, when called upon to respond to this or that toast, are equal to the occasion, and if they confine their remarks to a few well-worded sentences, all goes well; but it is as absurd to demand a speech of every

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man at table as to expect him to sing or talk French. "The cobbler to his last" is a very old, but a very true proverb. Let us invite speeches from speakers, and songs from men who sing. The old rule, that every man who attends a Lodge dinner must contribute, as the saying is, to the harmony of the meeting, is an absurd one. Those who can will do so, if they are the genial fellows we take them to be; the rest are quite content to sit quietly and listen. We once heard of a man who was required to sing. For half an hour he went on uttering, in a dismal chant—

"At the Battle of the Nile, I was there all the while.
I was there all the while, at the Battle of the Nile."

It is almost needless to add that he was never called upon to sing again. If chairmen will be careful to select speakers to make speeches, and singers to sing songs, our meetings, enjoyable as they are, will, we feel sure, be still more enjoyable.

Obituary.

Feelings of deep regret were experienced at Brighton by the announcement of the death of Bro. W. Curtis, P.P.G.W. Sussex, P.M. York Lodge, No. 315, P.M. 1141 and P.Z. 782, which took place at sea. Our late respected brother was only 47 years of age at the time of his decease. He was formerly associated with his father, as proprietors of the *Brighton Gazette*, and, on the death of the latter, became sole proprietor. He afterwards relinquished the paper, and went to Hong Kong, to edit and superintend the *Hong Kong Times*, and to manage the printing establishment connected with it. A telegram was received on the 5th of June, stating he was ill of rheumatic fever, which compelled him to relinquish his duties. He proceeded to Macao and Australia, in the hope of recruiting his health. Failing to derive benefit from the change, he resolved to return to England, accompanied by his eldest son, but a relapse took place, and he died on the homeward journey. He leaves a sorrowing widow and four children to deplore their sad loss.

On Saturday last, 14th August, Bro. J. Robinson P.P.J.G.D. Sussex, P.M. York Lodge, No. 315, died at his residence, 11 King's Road, Brighton, at the age of 57. He had been in failing health for some time past, and had been unconscious the previous week, when dropsy set in, which put an end to his sufferings. He was interred on Monday afternoon, at the Extramural Cemetery, where a numerous assemblage of the brethren and a large circle of private friends were present to pay the last tribute of respect to one whom they had known so well, and to show their appreciation of his sterling worth through life. Among those present at the melancholy ceremony were Bros. J. Dixon P.G.D.C. Sussex, C. Sandeman W.M. 315, Devin Secretary, W. T. Nell S.W. 315, Foat J.W. 315, C. P. Smith, G. Smith P.M. 811, W. Smith P.M. 811, J. W. Stride P.M. 315, A. Cowley 315, J. Pearson P.M. 811, J. Eborall Staples, T. Chandler, H. Payne, G. Emery, and several others.

Death, the great leveller, makes no distinction between young and old; he has snatched from our midst Bro. E. H. Finney, son of Bro. H. E. Finney, at the early age of 27. Though our late brother's health had been failing for some time, he rallied, and it was hoped by his friends that he would entirely recover, but a relapse took place, and he expired on Sunday, 1st August. He was I.P.M. of the United Service Lodge, No. 136, H. of Hope and Unity Chapter, and Assistant S.E. of the Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement. He was also a member of the various "High" degrees.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ALPHA.—As the law requires that every petition for a new Lodge should be signed by a certain number of Brethren, it is clear that all the Brethren who sign such a petition have an equal right to be regarded as the "founders," without distinction or seniority. But, under the circumstances described by you, there can be no doubt who was the original "promoter."

T.B.W.—Brethren joining the Club at the present time will only be liable for their annual subscription, £3 3s for town and £1 11s 6d for country members, but should they join after the first 500, they will, most probably, have to pay an entrance fee and a higher subscription.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Certain members of my family are somewhat amused at the venerable antiquity which "Masonic Investigator" assigns me, in contradistinction to Bro. Buchan, who, by the way, places words in my mouth which I never used, at page 70 or elsewhere. Aubrey's manuscript is in the library of the Royal Society, my version of it was made from an extract by Mr. J. O. Halliwell, who may be depended upon.

I before quoted two sources which I consider undeniably to prove the antiquity of the system of three degrees. It is clear that I cannot go into the question freely in your pages, even had I the necessary time to do so, which I have not. I can merely, therefore, direct attention to the salient points, upon which I am content to rely, supplemented, as they are, and confirmed by numberless documents from the earliest time. Your readers must compare intelligently for themselves, and draw their deductions accordingly.

The first of these is the Sloane MS., No. 3329, recently edited by the Rev. Bro. Woodford, as a MS. of 1650, which I consider it is, and possibly one alluded to by Dr. Plot. The second is an Aberdeen ritual of 1727. Both are operative, but quite distinct in their character, the one professing to be a ceremonial, the other a memorandum of secrets and signs. One is a confirmation of the other, but, nevertheless, there is such a diversity in the treatment as to prove a distinct origin; they are the Masonic system of different parts of the country at a time when Masonic communication was difficult, springing separately and independently at a distance of time out of the oral Masonic instruction of South and North Britain.

A comparison of the two, and the "Grand Mystery," shows:—

1. That although there are signs and secrets in one which are not in the other, yet out of a numerous system of operative modes of recognition the bulk are identical.

2. Both distinctly mention the three recognised degrees by name, and both wholly or partially give the present recognised secrets of E.A.P., F.C., and M.M.; those of the M.M. being given in both with evident corruption, which proves the great value of the evidence. The Scotch Ritual gives our present modes of preparation (perhaps what is alluded to by Dr. Plot as the other secrets), and also the ceremonial of E.A. and F.C., but only a part of the M.M. secrets, not given in the other MS., which again gives a different part.

3. In no English MS. whatever is there any "mark" registration; whilst the Scotch ritual states that there was no ceremony beyond the selection of the Apprentice's Mark, and the registration at the fee of one Mark Scots. This fact is clearly confirmed and alluded to by all the old Scotch Minute books, no fact in Masonry is so certain, there is no question to decide, it already rests upon the most certain documentary evidence. Shaw's Mandate in effect converted the Speculative Craft Lodge into a sort of Operative Heralds College for the registration of Marks used by the operatives, and the fee was to pay the trouble of recording. Your correspondent may as well ask why there is a fee for registering trade marks. In spite of the thorough certainty of this evidence, Grand Mark Lodge will go on asserting, and will find believers. Nothing will suffice for people who will not read history, and cannot think.

4. Although these two documents enclose the whole of our present Craft secrets and ceremonials (confirmed by numerous other MSS.), there is no allusion whatever, even of the slightest kind, to *anything* belonging to the Arch degree, thus proving clearly that it had no old pretensions to be considered a Craft ceremony. Some French rituals, used in certain rites, state however that Hiram's jewel enclosed the sacred name. The value of this and other sacred names was the great study of the middle-age magicians and later Rosicrucians, and the English Royal Arch degree was doubtless introduced to instruct old Masons on these points. I think "Masonic Investigator" (if an Arch Mason) cannot have read my "Speculative Freemasonry," at p. 116, or he would have no doubt that the "fifth Order," there alluded to, is the Royal Arch degree. I feel certain that, if you, Bro. Editor, applied to Capt. F. G. Irwin, he would willingly place at your disposal the evidence of the 1721 Rosicrucian work. There is no proof of Ramsay's system having been started in 1728, but I see no valid reason to deny the usual historical assertion; his "Travels of Cyrus" appeared in 1727, and embodies a good deal of high-grade information. I merely mentioned d'Assigny as alluding, in 1744, to three steps above M.M., but without positively asserting what they were.

I thought I had sufficiently guarded myself from acknowledging any of the present degrees above Master Mason as ancient ceremonies. There is none of the present ceremonials above a few years old, and the ancient rites have all been long since abandoned, and are now only the perquisite of the Masonic antiquary. The word "Primitive" in the A. and P. Rite is simply derived from the *Primitive Philalethes*, an Order which had preserved the old genuine high-grade Masonry and dogma, as derived from the independent old Hermetic Rites of the continent, which were being transmitted side by side with Lacorne's and others last century. Its value consists in the genuine nature of its archæological lectures; that which it has taken me twenty years' hard study to acquire I could have got much better in one year from this valuable Rite, had I not been kept out of it by the stringent and degrading oaths and mummery of the ancient and accepted Scottish Rite, an Order, without a spark of truth, started in 1802. I must, however, caution brethren against giving up their time to these or

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any other high-grades, and the neglect of genuine Craft Masonry for them. In most cases it will assuredly end in disappointment; all brethren have not the necessary time and ability to develope the great truths found in many systems, and the A. and P. Rite courts not profane curiosity, and, when once properly established, will be made difficult of access.

Yours truly and fraternally,

JOHN YARKER.

P.S.—It would be interesting to know at what time the W.M. or Past Master of a Speculative Lodge diverged from the Master of the Operative Lodge. In extensive works the Master of the actual Lodge at work would be the W.M. of the Speculative Lodge, but he would often, no doubt, have qualified Masters working for him as journeymen. Evidently, in London, this matter had been separated at some distance of time from 1717. In Aberdeen the secrets of the two grades are given as those of the M.M. Brevet P.M. rank would not arise till after the Grand Lodge of 1717, I should think.

DINING AS A FINE ART.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.,—I have read your article, "Dining as a Fine Art," with infinite pleasure, and concur in the opinion that the success of a meeting, and particularly the comfort of visitors, materially depend upon the chairman. Now, as the characteristics of a gentleman possessing taste and discrimination are indispensable qualifications for so honourable a post, how incumbent is it upon Masons, particularly, to see these virtues exemplified before they elect their W.M. We have frequently heard of late of numerous applications for warrants, rarely refused, evincing the marvellous craving for Freemasonry. It is evident that the proclamation, "I'm a Mason," will still be heard, since it is fashionable to be enrolled, the stimulus being the accession of H.R.H. to the Grand Mastership; but a question arises,—Who are these votaries daring publicly to inform the world at large of their connection with an Order whose boast it is to hide its principles and virtues from the unappreciative?

I have had many opportunities of witnessing the arrogance of this type of the Craft, in Lodge and elsewhere, and hope are long to hear that Grand Lodge has framed a rule that no member shall be elected as Master of a Lodge unless he can prove himself—both by his efficiency in the work and gentle bearing—fit to preside as the head of so august an assemblage as we proudly acknowledge a Freemason's Lodge to be.

It should be instilled into the mind of every Mason, and every man desirous to become one, that ours is not a benefit society, although we acknowledge "Relief" one of its grand principles, neither has it been founded to promote trade and business; higher teaching is ours, but the present thirst for gold, and the knowledge of fraternal ties has, and will continue, to assert its influence, hence it is necessary to ignore applications for admission of members until their position of life, viewed from every aspect, shall have been favourably reported.

It is not numbers we require, but an improved status. There are breakers ahead, and our Fund of Benevolence will become a wreck unless wiser discretion is adopted in the introduction of members.

It is particularly distasteful to many true Masons to find Masonic emblems greeting them at every corner of this vast metropolis, emblazoned in every colour of the rainbow over the shops of tinkers, tailors, bakers, shoemakers, &c. These facts proclaim an amount of ignorance it would be well to diminish, not augment by indiscriminate ballot.

Yours fraternally,

PURSER.

PRESENTATIONS TO RETIRING MASTERS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In a report of Lodge No. 1335, published in your issue of 24th July last, I see that the W.M. expressed a wish on retiring from the chair that the money so kindly voted by the brethren "should be applied to the purchase of a life governorship of one of the charities instead of a P.M.'s jewel."

I have waited in the hope that some one of those brethren who, so to speak, live for the charities would take up the matter, but as they have not done so I shall feel obliged by your inserting this letter.

In my own case, I am a Past Master of three Lodges, and in each case have had a jewel presented to me on retiring from office; now, although I very much appreciate the spirit which induced the members of these Lodges to make the presentations, I personally question the utility of the three jewels; it may be said, why did you not think of this before the presentations were made, and do the same as the W.M. did to whom you refer? My only excuse can be forgetfulness, or I might say that the idea did not occur to me until I read the report referred to.

I think if the matter were brought before the brethren we should see the money applied to charitable purposes as a rule, and not, as I have found it, exceptionally. If a P.M. wishes to show some mark of office, I would propose that a special bar be introduced for that purpose, and I feel sure that our charity secretaries might be left to arrange this. Certainly half the Lodges in the kingdom present their retiring Masters with jewels during the year, and if only a part of the amount thus expended could be direct into the channel I propose, it would make a perceptible difference in the amount annually returned as devoted to

CHARITY.

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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.

La Franc-maçonnerie. Lettre a Mgr. L'Evêque D'Orléans. Par Caubet, Directeur du journal le *Monde Maçonnique*. Paris, Aux Bureaux du *Monde Maçonnique*, 16, Rue de Seine. A la Librairie Maçonnique de A Teissier, 87, Rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau; et chez los principaux Libraires. 1875.

THIS is a very able vindication of Freemasonry from the recent bitter attack on it by the very reverend the Bishop of Orleans. Some of our readers, perhaps, who have not seen the latter's pamphlet, having only gleaned a slight knowledge of it from these pages, or from some contemporary, will be at a certain disadvantage in noting the course of argument which M. Caubet has adopted in his efforts to refute the foul aspersions of the Bishop, but enough is quoted to show their real character. It is always better, of course, to have the rival pamphlets side by side, but in the case before us, perhaps, it is of less importance. The Bishop's onslaught rested in the main on the bold assertions of a bigot, who had not even the merit of knowing what it was he was attacking. M. Caubet, on the other hand, knows well what he is defending, and is prepared with a whole armoury of reasoning with which he has little difficulty in repelling his adversary's attack. It is hardly, indeed, a fair *duello*, any more than could be a combat where one of the antagonists was blindfold, the other not; only the blindfold man must not grumble at the hard knocks he gets, for he it was who commenced the fray. Mgr. Dupanloup went out of his way to attack the Order of which M. Caubet is so great an ornament, and the latter's resolute defence is not only creditable, but is justifiable.

M. Caubet begins by pointing out that ordinarily he would have preferred to remain silent, leaving Freemasonry to vindicate itself by its acts. But he points out that people will ascribe importance to the utterances of one in the position of the Bishop. Not only is Mgr. Dupanloup a prince of the Church and a pastor of souls, he is also a representative of the people, elected into the Assembly by his fellow-citizens, a member of the French Academy, a chevalier of the Legion of Honour, and many folk will take him to be right in all circumstances, believing it impossible that he could deceive himself. Hence the need there is that some competent person should take upon himself the duty of replying, and M. Caubet volunteers accordingly to fulfil this duty. The competency of the writer will be apparent as he is followed in his argument, for, as we have stated already, the letter or pamphlet before us is a most successful vindication of our Order.

M. Caubet then notes how inconsistent is the title of the Bishop's pamphlet, "*Etude sur la Franc-maçonnerie*," which implies Masonry in its entirety, whereas its contents deal only with a fraction of the Order. How, for instance, suggests the writer, could I properly describe a study of mine as a study of Christianity, if I had inquired into only one of the thousand branches which compose Protestantism; or how describe that as a study of the National Assembly which was limited to only one of its smallest sections. Why then, in a general study of Freemasonry, has the Bishop confined his attention to Belgian and French Freemasonry? The answer to this question, thinks M. Caubet, is simple enough. The Bishop is more anxious to find arguments against the Order than to analyse its true sentiments. Belgian Freemasonry, writes M. Caubet, numbers some fifteen or sixteen Lodges; French, some three hundred and fifty; but in England, Ireland and Scotland, there are over two thousand Lodges, and in the United States, over eight thousand. Yet the Bishop has not dared to describe Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, "*si correcte, si profondément pénétré des sentiments religieux, si conservatrice*," as revolutionary or irreligious. Moreover, the Bishop has sought to make the whole of French Freemasonry responsible for the act of a single Lodge, an act moreover for which that Lodge has been condemned by the Grand Orient of France. M. Caubet passes no opinion whatever on the act referred to, but he points out several errors into which the Bishop has allowed himself to be entrapped in his zeal to abuse Freemasonry. The writer, next proceeds to show how the Bishop has utterly misquoted a passage that appeared some years since in the *Monde Maçonnique*, giving the passage as quoted by Mgr. Dupanloup, and as it actually appeared in that Masonic journal. The difference is very striking, and cannot fail to prove to our readers, if any proof were needed, that the Bishop, as M. Caubet says, is far more anxious to fashion arguments than to trouble himself about the inner life of Masonry. Then, as to the comparison instituted by his adversary between the official declarations to be found in the Constitutions respecting freedom of conscience, and the acts and declarations of members, as well as the speeches in open Lodge by the chiefs of the Order, M. Caubet points out that the declaration by M. Felix Pyat is of no value whatever, Felix Pyat, far from being a chief in Freemasonry, had some difficulty in being initiated, and remained always an irregular and inactive Mason. Had the Bishop but glanced at the lines that followed the declaration by M. Pyat, as quoted by the *Rappel* from *Le Monde Maçonnique*, he might have satisfied himself of this fact. As to the statement that the real rulers of Freemasonry are kept concealed from the general body, and that the kings and princes who belong to it are not members of the higher grades, the writer instances Frederick the Great of Prussia, who so far from being excluded from the higher grades or ignorant of their existence, "*fut, selon les maçons Kessels, organisateur et le réformateur de leur hiérarchie en trente-trois degrés*;" the King of Sweden, who alone possesses the twelfth degree in the Swedish rite, that of "*Maître regnant*," "*qui connaît et domine tout le régime de la Maçonnerie Suédoise*;" and the Prince of Wales, who before his installation as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England was already protector of all the Orders of Masonic Knighthood in England, that is to say of all the high degrees. Into the able defence of the true principles of our Order, it is needless for us to enter. Most of the arguments

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which M. Caubet adduces will have suggested themselves to our readers. We may note, however, that Anderson's Constitutions form the basis of the defence. As for any war against religion being ever dreamt of by Freemasons, it is made clear that, on the contrary, Freemasonry has shown its respect for religion by assisting, on occasions, in religious offices, and that Catholic priests of various grades have at different times belonged to the Order. Another argument to show how valueless is the statement of the Bishop, that Freemasonry is the irreconcilable enemy of the Church, lies in the fact that it has always been the Freemasons who have been the victims, while it is the Church that has played the part of persecutor. In England, where Protestantism is in the ascendancy, there is never any conflict between religion and the Order, but in Roman Catholic countries Masonry has frequently been the object of the bitterest persecutions, and in these countries it is that the most grotesque misrepresentations of the Order have been invented by its opponents, in order, no doubt, to create an ill-feeling against it. Towards the end of his letter M. Caubet very justly assumes that he has proved "that the Masonry invented by our enemy, and which you have accepted throughout as real Masonry has nothing in common with the true one; that it has never existed in the form imagined; indeed that it was impossible it could exist. The true Masonry is a society progressive and peaceful, founded on the principles of the purest morality, to which, Monseigneur, whatever you may say to the contrary, not only can serious men and men of good sense belong, but also it would attract to itself all men of good feeling, all who take a real interest in the progress and happiness of mankind."

In writing this reply to the Bishop of Orleans M. Caubet has done a good work, and done it well. The pamphlet of the Bishop has made a great sensation. The Pope has publicly thanked Mgr. Dupanloup for having published it, and other ecclesiastics, both in this country and abroad, have also come forward and had their fling of mud at us. Here we can afford to treat these attacks with supreme indifference. We are utterly careless as to what the Pope may trouble himself to think or say about Masonry. Even those among us who justly regard Pius IX. with reverence, as the head of that section of the Catholic Church they belong to, experience a feeling of pity, rather than of indignation against His Holiness. It is known well enough that it is not the Roman Catholic Church which is attacking Freemasonry, but the Ultramontane section of it, a section represented by all that is most bigoted and least respectable in that branch of the Christian Church. The *Saturday Review* of last week, in noticing the translation of a German work, *The Secret Warfare of Freemasonry against Church and State*, writes, "No impartial person can deny that the Roman Catholics are justified in their hostility to Freemasonry, and that when, for instance, Lord Ripon retired from the Society, it was simply a logical sequence of his change of faith. The existence of a secret society, which repudiates the authority of the confessional, and is beyond the control of the Church, is clearly opposed to the fundamental principles of the Roman Catholic system. It does not matter how innocent may be the objects of the society; it is enough that it withdraws itself from the supervision of the Church." We attach no value whatever to the opinions of the *Saturday Review* on Freemasonry or any other subject. We maintain, and we feel that we are not guilty of partisanship in maintaining, that the Roman Catholic Church is not justified in first misrepresenting the aims and objects of Freemasonry and then condemning it. Were Freemasonry a political body, antagonism between it and the Roman Catholic Church, viewed as a political body, might perhaps—we do not say it would—be justifiable, but Freemasonry is not a political body, nor is Roman Catholicism. Again, Masonry accords equally to all its members perfect freedom of conscience in religious matters. Does not Roman Catholicism urge this very same doctrine in those countries where other forms of Christianity prevail? In the United Kingdom, for instance, the Romish Church has for years and years been battling, and not unsuccessfully, to be placed on an equal footing with, and to enjoy the same privileges as other Christian bodies. How can it logically refuse to grant in Roman Catholic countries, or to those in its own fold who believe in freedom of conscience, the very privileges it asks for elsewhere? There is no logic in seeking to repress in France what she may be in seeking to obtain in England or the United States. Again, in our opinion, it is a matter of the greatest importance that the objects of a society should be innocent. The more innocent it is, the less worthy of attack, the less justifiable, the less logical is the attack upon its privileges. However, our purpose now is not to argue with the *Saturday Review*, but to thank our brother, M. Caubet, for his spirited defence of Masonry. His letter is very worthy of the director of *Le Monde Maçonnique*, and we commend it unreservedly to the notice of our readers.

THE PLEASURE OF YACHTING.—Should a quiet amusement be desired this month, it may easily be found in a trip on a yacht. Few things, for instance, are more pleasurable than lying becalmed in the Bay one lovely day of this month off, say, Spurn Head (or any other headland which may be well), and watching the habits of the sea-fowl. They are numerous here, and approach near, as yet, with fearlessness, not having learned that their term of legal protection ended on August 1st. See the cormorants fly swiftly by, in a line, over the oily surface to their fishing grounds, further out at sea; a greater black-backed gull, that chartered robber, hovers round, sure that something will turn up for his omnivorous maw; the guillemots dive, near our craft, after the young whiting, and can be traced in their subaqueous course, so calm is it, by the ripples above; the terns hawk around, veritable sea-swallows, dive and bring up, by its middle, a young whiting, glittering like a bar of silver. This they throw up in the air in order to catch it head-foremost, then drop themselves, and if they miss, fling it up again until they succeed and swallow the dainty morsel. Meanwhile the porpoises roll in wheel-like gambols up the estuary; grateful whiffs of country air and faint echoes of rural life that seawards, as the song and blithe laughter of the forecastle breaks upon a dream of home.—From "*Cassell's Family Magazine*" for August.

The Grand Lodge of Benevolence met on Wednesday, 18th August, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. J. Clabon, V.P. The Report of the Board of Scrutineers was read. It was decided that a notice be sent to Provincial Secretaries that, excepting the jewel sanctioned by the Board of General Purposes, in honour of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., no others be allowed to be worn in Lodges. Previous grants, to the amount of £145, were confirmed, and 16 new cases were relieved, to the amount of £463. The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was then closed. There were present—Bros. J. Nunn P.G.S.B., J. Brett P.G.P., J. Hervey G.S., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., F. Binckes P.G.S., T. Cubitt G.P., Scott, Keys, Lee, Smith, James Willing jun., Bingemann, &c.

A crowded and fashionable audience was present at the Aquarium at Brighton, on Saturday morning and evening. Two opera recitals, Lucia di Lammermoor in the morning, and Somnambula in the evening; Madame Pettit (soprano), Bro. Geo. Perren, and Geo. Fox (basso). The band was under the direction of Mr. E. Reyloff. The solos and duets were encored. On Sunday the Aquarium was opened to the public, and a selection of sacred music was played. Bro. Geo. Reeves Smith, the manager and secretary, may be congratulated on the success attending the general arrangements. Bro. Maclagan gave his inimitable entertainment during the week.

The Hervey Lodge of Instruction, No. 1260, holds its meetings at the Clifton Arms, 152 Fulham Road (close to Thistle Grove), every Thursday evening, at eight o'clock, to work the ceremonies and lectures. Bro. G. King jun., P.M. and P.Z. 1260, Secretary and Preceptor. The Clifton Arms is within ten minutes walk of the South Kensington Station, and the Fulham Omnibuses pass the door.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

THE second of the Wednesday classical evenings brought forth a programme drawn exclusively from the works of Mendelssohn—a fitting compliment to the illustrious musician who, both as a man and a composer, so long ago won the hearts and sympathies of the English public. The selections embraced the *Ruy Blas* overture, the Notturno, Scherzo, and "Wedding March," from the music to a *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; the Scotch Symphony (No. 3, in A minor), and three vocal pieces. The overture and symphony were well contrasted, inasmuch that the former—splendid, bright and highly-wrought overture as it is—did not take Mendelssohn a week to write; it was done upon the spur of the moment, quite as much from the wish to show what he could in the face of difficulties as from any interest in the task *per se*. Indeed the story of *Ruy Blas* was utterly repugnant to Mendelssohn. On the other hand, the Scotch Symphony is a record of the impressions made upon the mind of the composer during his visit to Scotland in 1829, matured and put into perfect form thirteen years later, the first performance of the symphony in England having been given by the Philharmonic Society in June 1842. The manner in which these productions of Mendelssohn's genius were rendered by Signor Arditi's band leaves but the slightest ground for adverse comment. The balance of tone was admirable, the light and shade effectively contrasted, and the nuances delicately given. The beautiful slow movement of the symphony went remarkably well, and the scherzo was hailed with the applause which inevitably follows its performance. The final allegro guerriero was rendered with all possible spirit and energy, and brought to an able termination a performance of high artistic merit. The *Midsummer Night's Dream* selection was productive of two encores, awarded respectively to the fairy-like scherzo and the pompous and imposing "Wedding March." The scherzo was taken too slowly the first time, but the repeat was in correct tempo. Mr. Pearson sang the song, "Retrospection" (from Mendelssohn's early opera, *The Wedding of Camacho*), only moderately well; Mdlle. Cristino gave the "Journey Song" (Reinclied), with fair effect; and Mdlle. Bianchi obtained a deserved *encore* for her tasteful delivery of "Auf Flügeln des Gesanges" ("On Wings of Song"). M. D. Swert played a romance for violoncello. The second part included the new popular selection from *Lohengrin*, and songs, contributed by Mr. Colli, Mr. Pearson, and Mdlle. Cristino. Of these the new vocal waltz, by Signor Arditi, "L'Incontro," sung by Mdlle. Cristino, was perhaps the most attractive feature.

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GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE AND FREEMASONRY.

By R.W. William T. R. Marvin D.D.G.M.

From "The New England Freemason."

It has been remarked that the various Cathedrals of the Continental cities bear intrinsic evidence of their origin from a single master-mind, in the "unity in diversity" which characterises them all. Historic evidence, no less than tradition, declares them to have been the work of the travelling Freemasons of the middle ages, through whom the "royal art," with its mysteries and all its varied symbols, has been transmitted to our own times, and to the brethren of our Lodges, wherever dispersed. Who it was that drew the plans of these magnificient edifices is not certainly known. Tradition assigns the honour to various architects; but the claim of each has been denied, and it is too late to hope for a decision that shall be final and indisputable.

The same spirit of devotion which lavished its wealth in building these glorious temples kindled a flame in the hearts of those who worshipped in them; and inspired St. Hildebert to write his glowing hymn, and St. Bernard to pour out his soul in the triumphant strains describing "Jerusalem the Golden," that anthem of the church militant which will be sung until

"The morning shall awaken,
The shadows pass away,
And each true hearted servant
Shall shine as doth the day."

The architect, no less than the poet, the painter, or the priest, caught the enthusiasm of the age, and the achievements of his genius stand to-day in a strength and beauty that have never been surpassed, if indeed they have been equalled, by any efforts of modern times. "The Italian basilica, an immense cube, with a triangular pediment, is fixed like a crystal, and if it is not finished it is unmeaning." The Gothic Cathedral, on the other hand, has in it, as has been truly said, "the forest's life and voice, and if a day should come when we could say 'it is done,' why then we should seem to say, 'it is dead.'"

The writer just quoted gives us, in a recent number of *Lippincott's Magazine*, the following description of the vision which greeted him on entering one of these brilliant Cathedrals: "The scene," he says, "was a rare one. I looked around me in the golden altar-lights; I thought I was in a forest,—a forest at sunset. The choir was almost filled with rising incense, touched with the yellow flare of the tapers; and it seemed, through the columns, like a vista into the clouds. The grand stems of the arcades were thickly crowded; only they fell into a natural order and alignment, like the trunks of pines; overhead they rolled to meet each other, breaking out everywhere into stiff, thickset needles and tufts of Gothic work. Vast patches and shields of prismatic hues lay rounded against their mighty cylinders. But this forest was not a solitude; it was crowded with speechless figures, thick as thoughts. And it was not silent or simply whisper haunted, like the real woods. It was all inflated, and swelled, and dazzled, and broken with pomps of organ-music that almost overcame the heart, and made the pillars seem to reel, and the painted windows to rock, in the Jove-like storm."

We leave to other hands the task of tracing out the intimate connection between the symbolic teachings of the Cathedral architecture and the imposing ritual which enshrines itself amid such surroundings. No one who has ever given a thought to the subject can have failed to recognise the fact that the whole structure is full of symbolism, and every portion of it enforces its own peculiar lesson. Wherever we go, into whatever temple of this Gothic order we enter, the same spirit meets us on the threshold, lingers with us along the aisles, tends beside us at the chancel rail, and whispers ever to us the same mystic language, eloquent with meaning to the ear that will listen to it. When we see them all, from the ruined arches of Melrose and Kilwinning to the still unfinished towers of Cologne, suggesting the same teachings in a manner so peculiarly their own; not obstrusively—rather indeed concealing them from the careless eye, yet opening readily to our thoughtful study, when once we have learned how to interpret them; when we realise the harmony which exists between them all, and the intrinsic evidence pervading them all, we can no longer resist the conviction that they had their origin in one master-mind, inspiring his brethren with the glow of his own enthusiasm, imprinting on their memories and pouring into their hearts his own immortal genius.

It requires no very vivid imagination to trace a close connection, also, between the magnificent and imposing ritual of the Cathedral service and the not less impressive and beautiful yet simple ritual of that Lodge which does its work in strict conformity to ancient usage, with those additions of musical harmony which so fittingly supplement the harmony of brotherly emulation. The majesty of the Cathedral has infused itself into those peculiar ceremonies which have at length become inseparably connected with the edifice; while the simpler rites and modest symbolism of our Order have crystallized themselves, as it were, and remain essentially unchanged. The traditions of the Institution, the language employed, with its quaint titles, its obsolete words, and its antique setting, are sufficient evidence of this, were any needed.

Our altar stands before the neophyte, unsurrounded by chancel-rail, and the humblest brother may kneel at its steps, without priestly absolution, and receive the pledge of fraternal love. Upon it lies the Book of Holy Scripture, the great light of Freemasonry. Not a word of human gloss or comment defaces it, or explains away the significance of its teachings, or in any way influences whoever desires to study its pages. The emblems that rest upon it have each their lesson, which he who beholds them cannot fail to understand. The square admonishes him, "Let virtue and integrity guide you," and the compasses respond, "Remember the great circle of humanity, composed of individuals like yourself, not one of whom is nearer or more remote from the Great Centre of all being than are you." These emblems are no less constantly or conspicuously displayed upon our altars than those hallowed and far more sacred symbols that are elevated before adoring eyes by the consecrated hands of a priesthood; concerning them no controversy is likely to arise—the real presence of the thing signified must be in the heart of him who seeks to read their lesson, or their teaching is profitless and vain.

The two lighted tapers upon the Cathedral altar symbolised the double nature of the Saviour, as both human and divine—the light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world—or the two Sacraments of the Christian Church; Baptism and the Eucharist; and though their flames have been multiplied till their brilliancy dazzles the eye, the significance of the emblem remains unchanged. Around our altar stand its burning tapers, no less eloquent in their teaching of that order and harmony which should preside over and characterise the assembly of brethren.

The clustering pillars bearing up the wide-spreading arches, and stretching out in seemingly endless vistas, yet ever bending beneath their burdens, remind us of the Man of Sorrows, bowed by the agony of his ineffable sufferings; and while they seem to sympathise with his passion, they whisper words of comfort from above to every sorrowing human heart. Our pillars are but three, and yet they point as plainly to the Grand Master of all, whose wisdom is infinite, whose strength is omnipotent, and whose beauty shines in every star.

From censers swung by chanting priests, the thick and fragrant cloud arises, symbolising on earth that heavenly incense offering which the Apocalypse declares typified the prayers of the saints. Our "pot of incense" is the emblem of a pure heart, no less an acceptable sacrifice, no less fragrant or grateful to Him before whom "all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid" by clouded canopy or fast tiled door.

The "frosted vault" and chancel arch of the Cathedral are often studded with glittering stars, emblematic, like the covering of our Lodges, of "the starry-decked heavens" where all good Masons hope at last to arrive.

The gorgeous hues and sun-set dyes which fall from rose-window or lancet upon the Cathedral's kneeling worshipper, remind him of the saintly lives and exalted virtues, the heroic deeds and glorious deaths of the goodly fellowship of the Church triumphant, whose toils are ended, and whose crowns are won. We, too, have bright and shining examples of fidelity under persecution, of heroism under trials, and of truth and faithfulness glowing with immortal radiance, and even though suffering the bitterest pangs and reproaches, unyielding to the end.

And so we might go on, pointing out in many and even more striking ways how the inspiration which built those venerable piles has infused itself into their worshippers, and elaborated those solemn and impressive services which find their congenial home within Cathedral walls. Is it too much to claim that this is the unconscious outgrowth of a secret principle whose interpretation by the profane is more difficult than any hieroglyphics of Egyptian priests, or Cabbala of Jewish rabbins, but to the skilful craftsman is an open book? The Scripture lesson, the prayer, the solemn vow, the light out of darkness, the charge, the anthems of praise—it were well nigh an endless task to follow out the parallel.

We are taught that to the Greeks is due all that "is great, judicious and distinct in architecture." Is it not time that the testimony of truth be incorporated into our tre-tle-boards, and that our candidates henceforth be taught that the Gothic architecture, not less ornamental than the Composite order, not less beautiful than the Corinthian, not less graceful than the Ionic, possessing no less strength than the Doric or the sturdy old Tuscan—combining all their charms while avoiding their defects; adapting itself to every requirement of the architect; now springing spirit-like into the air to form a flying buttress or a crowning pinnacle, now bearing up with massive masonry the weight of frowning battlements and tower of lofty spire or arching dome, and now stretching its seemingly endless colonnades like a labyrinth before us,—that the Gothic system, having a character so completly its own, was the invention of our ancient brethren, the travelling Freemasons of the middle ages?

"They dreamed not of a perishable home
Who thus could build."

The Marine Engine of To-Day.—So far as economy in actual working is concerned, it appears, therefore, that superheating or drying, wherever it can safely be resorted to, is quite as capable of application to the simple engine as to the compound; that the jacket can be used on the simple engine and on the low-pressure cylinder of the compound engine, but that its use on the high-pressure cylinder is objectionable, and that while increased economy may be expected from increased speed in both engines (and certainly so in the case of unjacketed cylinders), high speed is accompanied by an increase of the loss between the cylinders of the compound engine, the loss varying with the nature of the passages according to the form of engine. The most important lesson definitely taught by the American experiments is that which we have already indicated—namely, that expansion cannot be carried in jacketed cylinders with increased economy to so great an extent as has been supposed. In the simple engine tried, no provision against loss from the clearance space by cushioning in the exhaust was made, and the maximum efficiency of the steam was therefore reached at a lower grade of expansion than would have been the case had cushioning been provided for.—*"Naval Science" for July.*

Comp. Albert G. Mackey, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, has lately received a very chaste P. G. High Priest's Jewel, as a testimonial, voted to him by that body.—*The Keystone.*

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SECOND ANNUAL CRYSTAL PALACE SWIMMING FETE.—TUESDAY, 24th August.—RACE for the AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP of ENGLAND, One Mile. Crystal Palace Challenge Cup, One Mile. Two Hundred Yards Race, open to England. Handicap Race, Hundred and Fifty Yards. Race in Dress (weighting not less than 7 lbs.), Hundred Yards. Victoria Park Swimming Club Handicap, Hundred Yards. Ornamental Swimming. Race in Tubs. Duck Hunt. Aquatic Clown.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE Session that terminated last Friday, if not a particularly eventful one, has been productive of sundry measures of great public utility. The Ministry did not accomplish all it proposed. Its enemies, and some even of its well-wishers, think it made one or two mistakes, while its out-and-out supporters claim credit for the measures it has passed, and throw the onus of blame as regards those which fell into limbo on the Opposition. But setting all political partisanship aside, the realised part of the Parliamentary programme for 1875 will be of great benefit to the community at large, and especially to those humbler classes to whom the new Labour Laws, the Artisans' Dwellings Act, and the temporary Unseaworthy Ships Act will be a boon. Thus, if the Session was not a brilliant one, the labours of Parliament have not been thrown away.

And now that Parliament has risen, London, of course, is absolutely deserted, by which figure of speech is meant, of course, that fashionable London, and that other section of it which supposes itself to be fashionable, is scattered to the four winds of Heaven. The glories of the Row and the Ladies' mile have passed away for the season; the theatres and operas are nearly all of them closed, the clubs look terribly empty, and everybody who is, or thinks himself to be anybody, is far away, on the hills of Scotland, or at the seaside, "doing" this or that continental tour. For the next few months the state of things will continue, and then, when there is a talk about Lord Mayor's Show, when we read again of Cabinet Meetings being held in Downing Street, and there are rumours that our jolly Father Christmas will soon be paying us his annual visit, London will resume its gaiety, and theatres and concerts *et id genus omne suspirum* will again become the order of the day. People will soon afterwards be thinking about the season of 1876 and hoping that sundry of the features that characterised the one just ended will not figure so prominently next year. We specially alluded to the very frivolous behaviour of the Clerk of the Weather. It is high time, we think, considering the very mature age of that elsewhere estimable personage, that he became a little more settled in his habits in this country. It is very unpleasant to find a person one day all smiles and sunshine, and the next day all tears, and this year the Clerk has been a very Amelia for raining tears, while granting us but now and again the faintest glimmer of a smile. These remarks apply not to the last few days, which have been hot enough to satisfy a Red Indian, but generally to the summer that is well nigh gone. We should not care to chronicle the number of garden parties and picnics that have been spoiled this year, owing to the very un-Masonic bearing of this Clerk. Doubtless he will be a little more considerate in the future, and not almost wholly exclude us from outdoor amusements.

First among those who are flitting northwards to spend the autumn in Scotland is Her Majesty the Queen, who quitted Osborne on Thursday, *en route* to Balmoral. Shortly before the Royal Yacht Alberta, with the Queen's suit, &c. on board, reached the Royal Clarence Yard, she ran into a

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schooner yacht, named the Mistletoe, belonging to a Mr. Heywood, member of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club. The Mistletoe was cut in two, and, worse still, three lives were lost, the captain and mate of the yacht, and Miss Annie Peel, a sister-in-law of Mr. Heywood. This sad casualty was deeply felt by Her Majesty, who personally gave directions to the various naval authorities at Portsmouth to show every care and attention to the sufferers. Commander Fullerton, with several of the crew, leaped over and rendered much valuable assistance in saving those on board the Mistletoe, himself having a very narrow escape from being drowned. The Royal Yacht received very considerable damage, losing her bowsprit, and having a considerable portion of her stem carried away. This, we believe, is the first accident that has occurred in connection with any of the numerous journeys the Queen has made.

The event of the week has been the reception of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales at Sheffield. The occasion that led to the visit was a happy one. The present Mayor, Mr. Firth, has recently presented to the town a Park of some thirty-five acres, and this park was formally opened by the Prince, who, during his brief stay, was the guest of the Mayor. The route from the railway station to the park—a distance of about three miles and a half—was lined with people, who, as the Royal cortége passed along, were most enthusiastic in cheering the Royal Visitors, so much so, indeed, that the Prince may be said to have gone the distance bareheaded, while the Princess never ceased bowing graciously. On reaching the Park the Mayor delivered an address, in which he set forth, besides many expressions of loyalty to the Prince and his Court, the conditions on which the Park was given, prominent among which may be mentioned that no political meetings shall be held in it, no intoxicating drink sold, and no music permitted on Sundays or Good Friday. The Archbishop of Canterbury having offered up a prayer, the Prince declared the Park open, and having driven along the boundary road, the procession set out to return to Sheffield, and thence to the residence of the Mayor, the reception along this part of the route being equally enthusiastic. After dinner their Royal Highnesses went to the Ball given at Cutler's Hall in honour of the occasion, where they remained for about an hour. On Tuesday, the first part of the day was devoted to visiting the works of Messrs. Firth and Son, and the Cyclop Works of Messrs Cammell and Co., at both which they had an opportunity of inspecting some of those wonderful steel manufactures for which Sheffield has long been so famous. At the former of these establishments they witnessed the casting of a 6½-ton steel gun, the hammering the core of an 81-ton gun by a large 25-ton Nasmyth hammer, and other important processes of steel manufacture; while at the latter they had the opportunity of seeing, among other things, how a large armour-plate for one of our armour-clad ships of war is rolled. Then they adjourned to Cutler's Hall, for the purpose of partaking of the hospitality of the Cutlers. Some three hundred ladies and gentlemen were here assembled, and the reception of the toasts of the Queen and Prince and Princess of Wales were most enthusiastically received. Thence to a garden party given in their honour by the Duke of Norfolk, who has a seat in the neighbourhood, and here the Princess of Wales presented new colours to the 19th Regiment, prefacing the presentation with a brief address, in which Her Royal Highness recounted the valiant deeds which had signalised its career. This gracious address having been appropriately acknowledged by the Colonel in command, the Prince expressed a wish that the Regiment might henceforth be known as the Princess of Wales's Regiment, a request which will, no doubt, be acceded to by the Queen and the military authorities. Their Royal Highnesses then returned to Oakwood, the Mayor's residence, and on Wednesday morning took their departure, on a visit to the Duke of Rutland, at Longshawe, his grace's shooting box in Derbyshire. Yesterday they left for their residence in Scotland, where they will remain till the time comes for the Prince's departure for India. Thus much for the doings connected with the Royal visit to Sheffield. Of the enthusiasm displayed there can be no question, or of its reality. If evidence were wanted of the depth of English loyalty to the Sovereign and her family, this reception, by Sheffield, of the Heir Apparent and his wife may be cited as one of the grandest as it is perhaps the latest on record, a fact to which one of its members of Parliament, Mr. Mundella, in his address to his constituents, on Wednesday, referred pointedly, and at the express wish of His Royal Highness, who had asked him to convey to his constituents the pleasure their Royal Highnesses had derived from their visit, and from the hearty welcome which had been accorded them.

We have already mentioned one calamity at sea, the loss of the yacht Mistletoe, but a still more formidable disaster has occurred to the Boyne, one of the magnificent vessels owned by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which, owing to the prevalence of a dense fog, was wrecked off the French coast last Friday evening. Two firemen were drowned, but this, we believe, is the whole extent of loss as far as lives are concerned. The mails and specie have all been saved, and possibly the cargo, though in a damaged state, may be recovered. There is this consolation, however, there were boats enough, and the tackle was in order. The captain retained his coolness and self-possession throughout, and was well backed up by his crew and the passengers. The consequence was that all were got into the boats in the most perfect order. As soon as the shipwrecked people were released from their difficult position, and landed as rapidly as was possible, they were conveyed to houses and inns, and treated with the greatest kindness by the people, both on the island of Molène, where the disaster occurred, and in Brest, whence a vessel of war was dispatched to bring the unfortunate people, who had been unable to save their clothing, the children being, indeed, in their night clothes. One thing strikes us as being strange—that any vessel should have been steaming at the rate of 12½ knots, as the Boyne is reported to have been doing, when there was no seeing a-head for the denseness of the fog. Even drifting with the tide, we imagine, would be dangerous, but steaming at such a rate as is reported savours of something very much like madness. We presume, however, there will be the usual inquiry, and we shall then have the evidence to judge from, instead of vague rumours which may, after all, rest on no other basis than that of a more than usually fertile imagination. A large Norwegian barque is said to have narrowly escaped meeting a similar fate, but the shouting of the Boyne people warned her in time, and the Captain was able to steer his vessel safely through the intricate passages on that part of the coast.

The meeting of the National Volunteer Artillery Association at Shoeburyness came to an end last week. Owing to the extension of time granted by the Secretary of State for War the number of detachments that attended exceeded last year's number by twenty-seven. The proceedings were of the most business-like character throughout, a march past, with the distribution of prizes, bringing the meeting to a close. All who were concerned in the government of the volunteers while in camp appear to have been delighted with their conduct and discipline, and General McMurdo and Sir John Adye who were present paid many handsome compliments to the volunteers, as well as to the earnest labours of the regular artillery who "assisted" at the meeting. The winners of the Queen's prize hail from Woolwich, and on their return were received with the greatest enthusiasm. Wimbledon and Shoeburyness are two grand institutions, but though the latter is less showy and less fashionable, we question if it is not the more hard working institution of the two. However, both have our good wishes for their continued prosperity.

Grouse shooting is in full swing just now, but the weather appears to have been somewhat unfavourable, and in some places there has been a great scarcity of birds. It is more than probable too, that shooting will be moderate this year, so as to give time for the birds to recover from the ravages of disease during the past years. Nevertheless in some parts there have been good bags, and the sport on the English moors appears to have been generally successful. In less than a fortnight we shall be thinking of partridges as well, and then, a little later, we shall find ourselves in a whirl of excitement about game of all sorts.

There is still plenty of activity in the cricket world. Two great county return matches have been played—Surrey v. Yorkshire, and Notts v. Gloucestershire. In the former, Yorkshire gained the day by eight wickets. Score—Surrey 182 and 105, Yorkshire 161 and 127 for the loss of two wickets. For Surrey, A. P. Lucas (39), Elliott (not out 32), Southerton (24), and, in the second innings, W. W. Read (not out 49), were the chief performers with the willow; for Yorkshire, Hicks (61 and 9), Ullyet (29), Greenwood (2 and not out 19), Armitage (not out 27 and not out 38), and Rowbotham (12 and 18), were the principal con-

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tributors. The second match was drawn. Nottinghamshire compiled 192 and 21 for the loss of one wicket, Gloucestershire 289. For the former, Selby scored 66 and 15, Barnes 45, Shrewsbury 41, and Oscroft 19 and not out 6; for the latter, Mr. W. G. Grace made one of his grand three-figure innings—119, while his brothers, Dr. E. M. Grace and G. F. Grace, contributed 27 and 31 respectively. Mr. Townsend also played a somewhat fortunate innings of 84. Of the return between Surrey and Middlesex, which was put off from the 15th July, owing to the wet weather, we cannot yet give the result, but when this, and a few other matches have been played, the season of 1875 will be over. We shall, of course, see records of matches for many weeks to come, so long, in fact, as the weather will permit of playing, but legitimate cricket will be at an end in another ten days. It will be interesting to note the batting and bowling averages this year. We fancy there will be a considerable falling off from last in some of the more conspicuous players.

The Thames Regatta for professionals only, which, thanks to the energy of a few leading amateurs, notably Mr. J. G. Chambers, an old Cambridge oar and coach, has become one of the most important aquatic fixtures of the year, was held on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The former day was confined to rowing the preliminary heats, the finals being reserved for Thursday. The following are the winners in the several contests. The Newcastle crew, consisting of R. Hepplethwaite, W. Nicholson, R. Bagnall, R. W. Boyd (stroke), J. Scott (cox.), took the first prize of £100 for the Champion Fours; the Hammersmith crew, stroked by J. Sadler, being second, and a Blackwall crew, stroked by A. Egalton, third. J. Tarryer, Rotherhithe, won the Coat, Badge and Freedom for apprentices. The race for scullers who have never sculled for £100, was a splendid struggle from start to finish, T. Blackman, of the Plough R.C. winning by six inches. R. Bagnall and J. W. Boyd, of Newcastle, won the Champion Pairs very easily from H. Thomas and J. Saddler, of Hammersmith. We are sorry to learn that of the £230 which, apart from expenses, are devoted to prizes, hardly £100 has as yet been subscribed. Considering the number of amateur clubs there are, this is by no means creditable to them.

Londonderry is just now in a high state of excitement, the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland having selected it for its annual display of cattle and implements. Among those present on the opening day were His Excellency the Viceroy, and many of the Irish nobility and gentry. The bulk of the exhibitors were, of course, Irishmen, but some of the leading prizes, and, singularly enough, that for swine, have been carried off by Englishmen, Mr. A. H. Browne, of Doxford, Northumberland, securing the Purdon challenge cup for the best shorthorn bull, Lady Emily Pigot the Purdon challenge cup for the two best shorthorn heifers, Mr. G. Turner, of Northampton, the Cork challenge cup for the best ram, and Mr. Jacob Dove, of Hambrook House, Gloucestershire, the first prize for the coloured breed of swine.

A most interesting geological discovery has been made at the Surrey Commercial Docks. For some time past excavations have been going on with a view to forming a new tidal basin, and owing to the prevalence of sundry rumours, several of the fellows of the Geological Society paid a visit to the neighbourhood, and evidences were found of a large subterranean forest, submerged ages since, and belonging, as we are informed, "to the bronze age of prehistoric archæology." Evidences of this fact have frequently been found along the river on both sides. All the trees are of the kind yet inhabiting Britain, and in the peat are bones of the great fossil ox (*bos primigenius*).

The news from the East is very serious. The insurrection in the Herzegovina appears to be extending, and there are rumours of Servia and Montenegro taking part in the struggle against Turkey. We hope the peace of Europe will not be disturbed for the sake of a number of petty principalities, the history of whose career is the reverse of creditable. If the Great Powers signify unmistakably their determination not to allow the whole continent of Europe to be set by the ears for the sake of a few tribes of freebooters, the insurrection will soon be at an end, but imperial jealousies may step in and prevent this happy consummation. That this is no idle imagination may be gathered from the panic reported on the French Bourse, which is chiefly, if not entirely, attributable to the unsatisfactory rumours about this revival of the Eastern question. More fighting in Spain has come to be quite a general piece of intelligence. We do not see, however, that the end of the war is much nearer.

From the United States is reported the death of Ex-President Andrew Johnson, who was buried with full Masonic honours on the 3rd instant. Further respect was shown our respected brother by General Grant ordering that all the public offices should be in mourning for several days before the funeral.

We are necessarily gratified at finding our articles so frequently quoted *in extenso*. In a recent issue of the *Keystone* will be found our article on the late Dr. Oliver, but we do not see the usual acknowledgment as to the source whence it was obtained. Doubtless this act of courtesy has been omitted through an oversight.

It is announced that a "Royal Masonic Cyclopædia" is in course of production. The work is to be issued in six half-crown parts of 128 pages each, and will be edited by Kenneth R. H. Mackenzie. Among the subjects to be specially treated may be mentioned, the History of Freemasonry, the revival of Masonry in the seventeenth, and its re-construction in the eighteenth century. Biographical notices of the principal Grand Masters and other Masonic celebrities will also find a place in the work. Intending subscribers may send their names to the office of the Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, London, E.C., or to the publisher, Bro. J. Hogg, 15A Paternoster Row, E.C.

On Tuesday next the Great Swimming Fête will take place at the Crystal Palace, and in connection with it will be held the annual competition of the Victoria Park Swimming Club. The following will be the events contested: a Mile Race for the Amateur Championship of England, the first prize, a cup given by the Swimming Association of Great Britain, the second prize being Excelsior and Leander Medals; the Crystal Palace Challenge Cup, a mile; a Two Hundred Yard Open Race, a Hurdle Race, and a Race in Dress, the Victoria Park Swimming Club Handicap for three prizes, given by Messrs. O. E. Coope M.P., J. H. Heeps and E. H. Currie, and a variety of ornamental swimming, racing in tubs, duck hunts, &c., &c. Sir Antonio Brady will present the prizes at the conclusion of the competition.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

The Bank rate remains at 2 per cent., and the weekly return issued by the Bank shows a further increase of £800,000 in the reserve; the proportion of reserve to liabilities is now 54¼ per cent.

The question as to the future allowance of interest by the London Joint Stock Banks for money on deposit remains unsettled, but it is fully assumed that the great strength of these institutions will prevent in future a thoroughly strict adherence to the old custom of giving 1 per cent. below the Bank of England rate. In accordance with the system of the Scotch banks, the London and Westminster Bank has for a long period paid interest on deposits at call, but it may be questioned whether the arrangement works so well as in Scotland, where money placed with a bank is usually kept there for many years. In London the changes in the value of money are, as a rule, much more sudden, and a large sum placed at call is not usually regarded with satisfaction by most bankers and discount establishments. The other joint stock banks require a week's notice before they repay any deposits. There is meanwhile no apparent outlet for the mass of floating capital, and further discussions upon the subject may be fully anticipated. For many years a very large proportion of the surplus capital of this country was diverted abroad in the shape of subscriptions to new loans, but the danger attending many of these investments has recently been fully shown, and hence there is no immediate prospect of any important reduction in the supply of money. The banks will therefore hold a very large sum unemployed, upon which interest is being paid, and it is not unlikely that the dividends for the present half-year will be smaller than those recently declared. But in the meantime the commercial atmosphere is being thoroughly purified, and when operations revive upon an active scale the legitimate trader will have a much better chance of obtaining a fair share of profit.

A new undertaking has been formed, under the title of the Maritime Passengers' and Mariners' Insurance Company Limited, "to insure the lives of persons who are about to undertake a sea voyage, or a voyage or journey, partly by sea, and partly by land." It is also

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proposed to insure passengers' personal baggage and effects against loss by either fire or shipwreck, and agents will be appointed at every outport in the kingdom. The capital is £25,000, in 5,000 shares of £5 each.

The report of the Anglo-Californian Bank Limited states that the net profits for the year, including £3,010 brought forward, amount to £41,398, and recommends the payment of a dividend of 10s, making, with the interim payment, 18s per share, or 9 per cent. per annum free of income tax, and leaving, after the addition of £5,000 to the reserve fund, £3,574 to be carried to profit and loss new account. The bills payable and current, deposit and other accounts, represent £679,226.

At the meeting on Thursday of the National Bank of New Zealand Limited the directors' report was adopted, and a dividend of 3 per cent. declared for the half-year, making, with the interim distribution, 6 per cent. for the twelve months.

The India Rubber, Gutta Percha, and Telegraph Works Company Limited notify that the second section of their West Coast of South America cables has been successfully completed, viz., that from Islay to Arica, both in Peru. This section is about 200 miles long, and increases the total length completely laid to 600 miles.

The report of the Submarine Telegraph Company shows that the ordinary receipts for the half-year amounted to £54,122, being slightly in excess of those of the corresponding period of 1874, and the total result of the business for the last six months enables the directors to add £2,251, being the usual proportion of the gross receipts, to the reserve fund, and to recommend a dividend at the rate of 15½ per cent. per annum, carrying over a balance of £325 to the next account. All the cables worked by the Company are in good order.

At the ordinary meeting on Tuesday of the Cuba Submarine Telegraph Company Limited the directors' report, which was adopted, showed an available total of £11,302, out of which, after making provision for the preference dividend, it was resolved to pay a dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, to place £3,154 to the credit of the reserve fund, and to carry forward the sum of £852.

The half-yearly report of the London General Omnibus Company, to be submitted to the meeting of the 7th prox., shows an available total of £30,871, and recommends the payment of a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. In view of the possibility of dear hay and corn, and the expediency of maintaining an equal dividend, the directors recommend the carrying forward of a balance of £8,856, more especially as the sum proposed to be divided is slightly in excess of the actual profits of the half-year. The gross receipts for the six months were £327,212, against £323,524 at the corresponding period of 1874, showing an increase of £3,688.

The traffic receipts of the North Metropolitan Tramways Company for the week ending the 14th inst. amounted to £5,062; the Dublin Tramways Company to £1,811; the London Street Tramways Company to £959; The Provincial Tramways Company to £650; and the London Tramways Company to £2,942. During the past week 324,022 persons have been carried over the lines of the latter undertaking.

At the ordinary general meeting on Thursday of the Leipsic Tramways Company Limited the directors' report, which was agreed to, showed an available total of £2,416, out of which a dividend was declared at the rate of 6 per cent. for the year, leaving £166 to be carried forward.

At the half-yearly meeting on Tuesday of the Tower Subway Company the directors' report was adopted, and a dividend declared on the ordinary shares at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, to be paid in January next.

At the adjourned meeting on Wednesday of the creditors of Messrs. Fothergill, Hankey and Company, of the Aberdare and Plymouth Ironworks, it was resolved to further adjourn for a month, negociations for the sale of the works not having been yet completed. In the course of the proceedings it was mentioned that it will be necessary to obtain a large amount of money in order to pay off the first mortgage, but a gentleman who was prepared to enter into an arrangement had not as yet given his decision, there being many papers to look over as to the title, &c. The greatest consideration had been shown by the Marquis of Bute, that nobleman having met the creditors in a very liberal spirit. Meanwhile, no mischief is being occasioned by the delay in completing the negociations, the works being carried on, in fact, at a very considerable profit.

At the half-yearly general meeting of the English and Australian Copper Company Limited held on Thursday, a dividend was declared of 2s per share, free of income-tax.

LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged	£4	4	0
United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Kent ...	1	1	0

STRAND THEATRE.

Bro. Terry had good proof of the estimation in which he is held in the audience which crowded the Strand Theatre, on the occasion of his benefit, on Thursday evening. The popular actor was greeted at every appearance in the most hearty manner. There was but little alteration in the programme, Mr. Clement's farce being succeeded by Byron's comedy, *Weak Women*, in which Bro. Terry played the part of Captain Ginger inimitably. Bro. Terry has powers which bid fair to place him in the first rank of the profession. The comedy was succeeded by a clever musical sketch by Mr. Geo. Grossmith, jun., and then Bro. Terry came forward and delivered the following metrical address, written for the occasion by Bro. H. J. Byron:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I can't allow
This night to pass unless I make my bow,
To speak my thanks for numerous favours past,
Which favours I mostly humbly hope may last.
For six years have you, in the little Strand,
Held out to me a friendly, helping hand;
Cheered all my anxious efforts to amuse,
And with *Haze-a's* helped to dispel the *Blues*.
I've tried, whilst your continued fire of cheers
Suggests, as one might say, the *Fusiliers*,
The *Cavalry* hoarse laughter to refine,
And, in a double sense, to draw the *Line*.
I, as *Toledo's* King, here first appeared,
And my "complaints" you cordially cheered.
Then, as the Widow Shepherd, showed my fear
Of the too effervescent "Ginger Beer."
And then as Richard of the Lion Heart;
Then Mr. Huxley (not a first-rate part,
Though in a clever piece); then Pluto, then
Claude Frollo—most malevolent of men,
And then in a burlesque which most surpasses
Polyphoisbois—there I pleased the lasses.
'Twas called *Orion*. Many a graceful she,
During its long run, kept *her eye* on me,
Causing domestic scenes, unpleasant very,
And several arguments with Mrs. Terry.
Then as King Edward, and, still later on,
Celestial garments was I forced to don,
As Widow Twanky did your favours gain,
In which, they tell me, I looked rather plain—
Which was correct, for all collectors boast
The ugliest china mugs are valued most.
If in *Aladdin* I looked plain and old,
I quite made up for it in Mr. Mould,
In which Sir Simon called me names, it's true,
But in his next burlesque gave me my *Due*—
Roderick Dhu, for those who don't quite see it.
And then as *Cassidy* I made a wee bit—
At least your kindly plaudits seem'd to say
As an "Old Soldier" I deserved my pay.
Paul Pry, Joe—*El Dorado*—the Maire, too,
Received your smiles, and not forgetting *Loo*,
In which I played the hero, such a silly 'un,
The piece brought *hundreds*, I was *St. Emilion*.
Lieutenant Lamb then bleated not in vain,
And Ginger fought his battles o'er again;
Whilst last, not least, let me allude to *Nemesis*,
Which seems to be a fixture on the premises,
It brings the management both peace and plenty,
A kind of Dolce H. B. Farnie-ente.
Too much, p'raps, of myself, and now to you,
My kind and generous friends, a word or two.
I am no orator, and have no art
To say more than is set down in my part,
So will you take the *will*, please, for the deed,
Let your kind feelings for one intercede
Whose heart, with deepest gratitude o'erflowing,
Knows but one way that gratitude of showing,
Which is to strive, in every part he's cast,
To do his best (as in the pleasant past
He has endeavoured) towards its illustration
Still further to secure your approbation.

Every quip and punning allusion in the address was greeted with a roar of applause, for each point was given with effect, and at the conclusion Bro. Terry had again to come forward in response to the prolonged plaudits. To finish a laborious evening, he next appeared in the three first scenes of *Nemesis*, in which he was as broadly humorous as ever. This artist is undoubtedly the active principle of the pieces now being played at the little Strand Theatre, a fact of which the public is well aware, as exemplified by the crowding of the house.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE CHLDREN'S HOSPITAL.

The Royal Infirmary for the Diseases of Women and Children, situated in the Waterloo Road, of which the Prince of Wales is patron, and which in 1810 was founded by his late grandfather, the Duke of Kent, is built on a plot of land, the property of the Duchy of Cornwall. This was, up to a short time ago, held by the Council of the Institution on a 35 years' lease at a ground rent of £10 per annum from the original lessee. Considerable inconvenience having arisen, the committee purchased the lease for a sum of £800, and then communicated with his Royal Highness, who, on the representation of that body, generously sold them the freehold for £1,000 (being about a third of its value). The hospital authorities are now engaged in enlarging the hospital at a cost of £3,000, and propose to double the bed accommodation of the institution.

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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.

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SATURDAY, 21st AUGUST.

1328—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Lion Square, Hampton.

SUNDAY, 22nd AUGUST.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 23rd AUGUST.

48—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)
669—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, Manchester.
1073—Greta, Court Buildings, Keswick.

TUESDAY, 24th AUGUST.

788—Crescent, Island Hotel, Twickenham.
1384—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Widnes, Lancashire.
1389—Hamer, 92 Everton Road, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 25th AUGUST.

108—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
603—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction).
806—Loraine, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.
1272—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High-street, Weston-super-Mare.

THURSDAY, 26th AUGUST.

1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
256—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
861—Downshire, 23 Hope Street, Liverpool.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.

FRIDAY, 27th AUGUST.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—195—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall,
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Corkhurn-street.
" R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisherrow, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—382—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge of Instruction met on Thursday evening last, 19th August, at Bro. Muidwell's, The Hercules, Leadenhall Street. Bro. Green in the chair. Present—Bros. Blackball S.W., J. S. Fraser J.W., C. A. Grammer Secretary, Hocking S.D., Parker I.G., Crawley P.M. Preceptor. The Lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting confirmed. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Williams acting as candidate. The Lodge was then closed and adjourned to the following Thursday. It is Bro. Crawley's intention of working the fifteen sections in September, when a good attendance of the brethren is invited.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction.—The regular weekly meeting was held at Bro. Chord's, Aldchurch-lane, E.C., on Wednesday, the 18th instant, the following officers being present:—Bros. Turquand W.M., D. Pouncer S.W., Abell J.W., F. Crosker S.D., W. Blinkhorn J.D., Christopher Tyler, J. Constable P.M. Treasurer. The constitutional preliminaries were observed, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Crosker acting candidate; the W.M. performed his task with consummate ability, and to the entire satisfaction of the members. The sections of the degree were worked by Bro. Constable, assisted by the brethren. Bro. D. Pouncer was elected Master for the ensuing week. Bro. Abbott, 1385, was unanimously elected a joining member. As the 25th instant will be the fourth Wednesday, and, according to the bye laws, at the option of the W.M. as to programme, it was suggested by several members that the rehearsal of the Installation Ceremony would be pleasing to them: this arrangement however will remain in the hands of the W.M. The following brethren were present, Morgan, R. J. Bloomfield, Gomm, Saint, Walker, &c. The meeting was adjourned until Wednesday next.

Tyrawley Lodge, No. 217.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 11th of August, at Bolton Terrace, Ballina. Present—Bros. P. Atkinson W.M., James Beatty S.W., Braithwaite J.W., J. R. Dudgeon Secretary, P. Atkinson, Treasurer, J. Atkinson S.D., Monroe J.D., Gilbert I.G., Stacey Tyler. Past Master Bro. C. A. M'Culloch. Visitors—Bros. Russell 411, Drogheda, Braithwaite 124, Belfast. Business—Successful ballot was taken for Mr. George Thompson. The discussion of Bro. Scott's notice of motion, relative to the change of night of meeting, was again adjourned. It was then proposed by Bro. Dudgeon, and seconded by Bro. J. Atkinson, that Bro. Russell 411, Drogheda, become an affiliated member of 217.

The Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452.—This Lodge held its last regular meeting for the year on Tuesday last, the 17th instant, at the Station Hotel, Sutton, Bro. Wm. Stanley Masterman P.P.G.D. for Surrey, W.M., in the Chair. Our respected brother was supported by the following Officers and Members of the Lodge:—J. W. Sugg S.W., Poole P.M. as J.W., Magnus Ohren P.M., Secretary, James Robins P.M. Treasurer, Jeffery S.D., Edmands J.D., Frances P.M. D.C., Charles Pawley I.G., Mimpriss P.M., A. J. Dickinson I.P.M., Manning Steward, Speight Tyler; Bros. C. M. Ohren, Gray, Holmes, Beck, Spiers, Cassell, &c. Visitors—Bros. Major Shadwell H. Clerke P.G.S.W. for Devon, Richards P.G. Steward, and W. W. Morgan. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. F. Cassell was then passed to the degree of F.C., the ceremony being conducted by the W.M. Bros. Beck and Holmes were then placed under examination, and having proved their proficiency were raised to the sublime degree, the ceremony being conducted in a very impressive manner by Brother Frances P.M. The Treasurer then reported that he had a balance in hand of £55 3s 7d. Some routine business connected with the Lodge was then discussed, after which P.M. Magnus Ohren proposed the following resolution:—"That Stewards be appointed to represent this Lodge at the three Masonic Festivals for 1876, viz.—For the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons, &c., Bro. H. E. Frances, G. Deacon for Surrey; for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Bro. George Wright J.W.; and for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Bro. Frederick G. Gilbert; and that the sum of £5 be given from the Funds of the Lodge to be put on Bro. Frances's list, and that £5 5s be given from the Funds of the Lodge for Bro. Gilbert's list, and the like sum for Bro. Wright's list, for the respective Institutions for which they serve the office of Steward, and that the Treasurer is hereby instructed to pay those amounts accordingly." This proposition was seconded by Bro. Jas. Robins P.M. Treasurer, and was unanimously approved of. Some slight discussion, however, arose as to why a difference in the amount subscribed should be made, and it was hinted that doubtless our worthy Bro. Terry could make good use of the extra shillings represented by the guineas as against the pounds which distinguished the respective amounts voted to the Charities. We have heard similar remarks on other occasions, and commend the question to Bro. Terry's serious consideration. Surely he can relieve the minds of our worthy brethren who do not wish to make invidious distinctions by contributing more to the Charities represented by Bros. Binckes and Little than to that of the Benevolent Institution; while to the Craft we need hardly say that its members can easily get over the difficulty; let them subscribe the extra shillings; few not but that they will be well applied. After the transaction of other business, Bro. H. E. Frances rose, and said that he had, in commemoration of his appointment to Provincial Office, resolved to present the Frederick Lodge of Unity with an oil portrait of their esteemed Provincial Grand Master, Major-General Brownrigg. The portrait, which was pronounced to be a most faithful likeness, was then exhibited, and the brethren were unanimous in their expressions of pleasure at the kindness of Bro. Frances. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was very well served by Bro. Potter. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts followed, and a very pleasant evening was spent, under the presidency of Bro. W. S. Masterman.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—This Lodge held its meeting on Wednesday, 11th August, at Freemason's Hall, Great Queen Street. Present—Worshipful Brother Julius Hogg P.G.D. W.M., G. Harrison S.W., J. H. Southwood J.W., G. King jun. P.M. and Secretary, Hollingsworth S.D., Goodacre I.G., C. T. Speight Tyler. Bros. Mounery, Robins, Hodgkinson, Barley, J. R. Cox, English, Butter, Bigwood, Vine, and others. Business—The Lodge was opened at 4 p.m. The minutes of last Lodge were read and signed. The Lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, when Bros. Howell, J. Cox, Mansell and Robins were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The Lodge was resumed to second degree, when Bro. W. Hall was passed to the degree of a F.C. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when the ballot was taken for Bro. H. Evans, of No. 212, as a joining member, and Mr. E. S. Foot for initiation, and proved unanimous in their favour. Mr. Foot, being in attendance, was initiated into Freemasonry, according to ancient custom, the whole of the ceremonies being worked in a very able manner by the W.M. Bro. Goodacre was appointed and invested as I.G. in the place of Bro. Kingcombe deceased. The bye-laws were then read. A letter was read from Bro. J. H. Southwood J.W., requesting the Lodge to accept as a gift a full-size oil painting, by Bro. Baron Tetteln, of the much respected Grand Secretary, Bro. J. Hervey, in his Judicial dress, also a letter from the Board of General Purposes, granting permission, under the circumstances, for it to hang in the Lodge room. It was carried unanimously that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Southwood J.W., for his very handsome and valuable present, for which Bro. Southwood returned thanks in a grateful speech. The installation jewel was then presented to Bro. King jun. P.M. and Secretary. A vote of condolence was then passed to the widow of the late much respected and esteemed I.G., Bro. Kingcombe, and the Secretary was instructed to write and convey the same. A vote of thanks was then passed to the Committee that had so successfully carried out the arrangements of the summer banquet at Broxbourne, on 28th July, for which Bro. Harrison S.W. returned thanks. After some other minor business was transacted, the Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned. We may here state that the oil painting presented to the Lodge is a most faithful likeness, and the best we have seen. It represents our Grand Secretary sitting at a table, in his full regalia, and will be a lasting tribute to the zeal and assiduity that he always takes in the cause of Freemasonry.

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Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1428.—The ceremony of installing Bro. John Gristock Huxtable P.P.G.A.D.C as W.M. of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, took place on 12th August, at the Masonic Hall, Newport. The Lodge was opened in due form at 2.30 p.m. by Bro. Wm. Watkins, the retiring W.M. He was supported by a numerous assembly of the brethren, not only of his Lodge, but also representatives of each Lodge in the town and Province of Monmouth. Shortly after the opening, Bro. Capt. S. Geo. Homfray A.G.D.C. of Eng. and D.P.G.M. of Monmouth, entered the Lodge, preceded by his sword bearer, Bro. Wickey Homfray W.M. Isca Lodge, and followed by Bros. B. Lawrence W.M. Silurian, Dr. Morgan, John Middleton, and a number of other brethren, members of the Grand Lodge of the Province. The formal business having been disposed of, the interesting ceremony of installing Bro. Huxtable was conducted, with much skill and ability, by Bro. Charles Rowe Prov. G.S. of Monmouth. This having terminated, the W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Wm. Watkins I.P.M. and P.P.G.S.Wks., E. Whitehall S.W. P.G.S., F. Orders J.W., J. W. Bebell Sec. P.G.S.Wks., J. Horner sen. Treasurer P.G.D.C., J. James S.D., W. Twist J.D., E. W. Perrin Organist, W. M. Locke Supt. Works, C. Rowe D.C. P.G. Sec., J. Horner jun. I.G., J. Poole, L. Hermessen, H. Richards, S. Brakewich, Stewards, H. Fletcher Tyler, W. Hopton Assistant Tyler, &c., &c. Subsequently the accustomed votes of thanks were passed, and appropriately acknowledged in a manner peculiar to the Craft. The Lodge was closed in due form, and then the brethren repaired to the Westgate Hotel, where the annual banquet took place. Bro. Hallet's arrangements were such that the requirements of his guests were attended to in the fullest and most ample manner. Bro. Huxtable W.M. presided, and was supported at the banquet by the following brethren; covers having been laid for 60:—S. George Homfray A.G.D.C. and D.P.G.M. Mon., Wm. Watkins I.P.M. 1429 and P.P.G.S. Wks. Mon., W. H. Wickey Homfray W.M. 693 and P.P.G.S.B. Mon., W. W. Morgan P.M. 683 and P.P.G. Sec. Mon., Chas. Rowe P.M. 471 and 1429 and P.G. Sec. Mon., John Middleton P.M. 683 and 1098 P.P.G.S.W., Thos. Jones Davies 471, Thos. Boswell 1429, W. Milton Locke Superintendent Wks. 1429, T. Frederick 1429, D. L. James 471, C. M. Venn 36, 1133, R. G. Shaddick 1429, F. Orders S.W. 1429 and 471, John James S.P. 1429 and 471, Henry Evans 1429, W. Wolsford 1429, E. W. Perrin Org. 1429, J. A. Seys 1429, Samuel Davies P.P.G.S.B. Gloucester P.M. 1363 and 270, 471, 1429, James Horner jun. I.G. 1429, John Randall 1429, J. W. Bebell Sec. 1429 P.G.S. Wks., Jacob Berlyn 471, Hartley Feather Provincial Grand Pursuivant and Secretary Kennard Lodge, 1258, Pontypool, James Stallard 1429, John Sims 1429, Simeon Wyatt 147, John Hooper 251, John Neck 291 and 1429, Wm. Kinsey Morgan 1429, John Summers 1429, James Horner P.D.A.D.C. Treasurer 1429 and 471, S. Brinkewick Std. 1429 and 471, Wm. Twist 471, J.D. 1429, F. J. Heybyrne 1429, John Summers 1429, J. Evans Thomas 1429, Henry Richards S. 1429, Alfred Taylor 471 and 1429, Isaac T. Dando 683, Henry Fletcher A.P.G.T. 471, W. Hopton Assistant Tyler 1429. On the removal of the cloth, the Worshipful Master proceeded with the toast list, proposing, in the most loyal terms, "The health of the Queen and the Craft." The toast was drunk right loyally, and "God save the Queen" sung by the brethren. Bro. Perrin skilfully presiding at the pianoforte, as he did throughout the entire proceedings of the evening. The W.M. next gave "The M.W. the G.M. of England, H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G." He spoke befittingly of the illustrious head of the Masonic order, and of the joy and gratification he experienced in being present to witness the grand ceremonial of the installation of H.R.H. There could be no higher honour conferred upon the Freemasons of this Kingdom than to have H.R. Highness to preside over them, and no greater honour could be conferred upon a Prince than to be the chosen head of such a body of men as were the Freemasons of Great Britain. The toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Twist sang the air, and the brethren joined in the chorus, of "God bless the Prince of Wales." The W.M. gave "The M.W. Pro. G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Viscount Skelmersdale, and Officers of the Grand Lodge of England." He pertinently alluded to the high qualifications, as well as the social rank and position, of the brethren who composed the Grand Lodge. Great benefits must necessarily follow to the Craft when noblemen and gentlemen of such high renown were leaders in the movement. (Applause.) Bro. S. G. Homfray, as one of the Grand Lodge Officers, acknowledged the toast. It was the first time that he had had the extreme pleasure of appearing in any Lodge with the new and valuable insignia of office which had been presented to him by the Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire. He felt extreme pride in being amongst them, and could not but feel proud at the honour of receiving the appointment which he held, and to which he had been raised by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. So far as the Province was concerned, and so far as he was able, nothing should be lost to strengthen and uphold the genuine tenets and principles of Freemasonry. (Loud applause.) Bro. Middleton proposed "The R.W. the Provincial Grand Master for Monmouthshire," Bro. Lieut.-Col. Lyse. He regretted his absence, through indisposition. On that account, however, he could speak the more freely of his merits and distinguished position as a Mason, as a citizen, and as a public man. (Applause.) The W.M. gave the V.W. the D.P.G.M. for Monmouthshire, Capt. S. G. Homfray A.G.D.C. of England, and Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire." Bro. Homfray responded to the toast at length, and thanked the brethren most sincerely for the manner in which they had received his name. Nothing gave him greater pleasure than being amongst them that evening, and the brethren of the Albert Edward Lodge might rest assured that all he could do to further their interest would be most readily and heartily done. He congratulated them on the sound and vigorous condition of their Lodge. Bro. Watkins rose to propose the next toast, and called upon the brethren to drink, in a bumper, the health of their W.M., Bro. J. G. Huxtable. No one was more pleased or gratified than he to see the W.M. installed into the chair of King Solomon. He was one of the founders of the Lodge, and he yet hoped to see other brethren who had assisted in its formation occupy the distinguished position to which he had attained. The W.M. responded, and thanked them most sincerely for the kind manner in which they had proposed and drunk his health. He felt proud of the position to which he had been elected. Advancing in years as he was, he felt that his memory was not so clear or so retentive as in days gone by, but he promised them that he would do his best to carry out the important duties of his office faithfully and honourably. Whatever defects they may see in his efforts he trusted to their generosity and leniency, and he promised to do all in his power to hand down the warrant which had been entrusted to his keeping that day as pure and untarnished as he had received it from the hands of their late W.M. Bro. Watkins. He felt he should need the aid of his officers and brethren, and particularly that of his I.P.M. and Bro Chas. Rowe (loud applause), to whom they were all so much indebted. After alluding to the formation and progress of the Prince of Wales Lodge, he expressed the belief that in quality as well as numbers it would bear comparison with any Lodge in the Province, and concluded by again thanking the brethren for the honour conferred upon him by placing him in so proud a position as that which he now occupied. (Applause.) Bro. Homfray proposed the health of the I.P.M. Bro. Watkins P.P.G.S. Wks., and in the course of his observations took occasion to invest Bro. Watkins with a valuable P.M.'s jewel, on behalf of the Lodge, referring to the meritorious Masonic career of the recipient, and expressing the hope that he may long be spared to wear the jewel on his breast (loud and prolonged cheering). The inscription was as follows:—"Presented to Bro. Wm. Watkins P.M. 1429 and P.P.G.S.W. Mon., for valuable service rendered the Lodge. August 12th, 1875. Bro. Watkins, in appropriate and feeling terms, acknowledged the compliment that had been paid him, not merely in drinking his health, but in presenting him with so valuable a jewel. To adequately thank the brethren for their kindness and manifest appreciation of his services would be one of the most difficult tasks that he had been called upon to perform since he had been in the chair of this Lodge. He had ever aimed at doing his duty, and he now began to think that to some extent at least he must have succeeded in that direction. (Applause.) His aim would still be to labour to promote the interest of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, so that it should stand second to none in the Province. The W.M. gave "The Installing Master, Bro. Chas. Rowe P.G.S." Long may he live to be an honour to the Province. Bro. Rowe acknowledged the toast in suitable terms. The remaining toasts were, "The Visitors," "The W.M.'s and brethren of the Silurian and Isca Lodges," "The other Lodges of the Province," "The Officers of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge," "The Masonic Charities," "To all poor and distressed Masons." These were acknowledged respectively by Bros. Capt. G. Homfray A.G.D.C. of England, and D.P.G.M. of Mon., Wyatt, Heath, Wickey Homfray, W.M. Isca Lodge; Hartley Feather, Pontypool; F. Orders, and Bro. H. Fletcher, the Tyler. The entire proceedings were characterised by the greatest cordiality and harmony, and some excellent songs were given by Bros. Perrin, Homfray, S. G. Homfray, Huxtable, Twist, &c.

Chislehurst Lodge, No. 1531.—An emergency meeting of this new Lodge took place on the 14th instant, at the Bulls Head Hotel, Chislehurst. Bro. John Coutts P.G.P. in the chair, supported by Bros. Hutchings as S.W., W. Kippe J.W., Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Treasurer was unavoidably absent, J. Griffin P.M. Secretary, J. Mason S.D., H. Gloster J.D., W. Hardman I.G., R. Russell P.M., and Bros. Hunt, Skinner, &c. The Lodge having been opened, Bros. Wain, Hooker and Luck were passed to the 2nd degree, and Messrs. G. Humphreys and West were initiated. The W.M., Bro. J. Coutts, in his usual perfect and able manner, performed the ceremonies. Bro. R. Russell P.P.G.D.C. was admitted a joining member. The Lodge was then closed, and a very capital banquet followed. The usual toasts were given, and the brethren returned to town.

VICTORIA PARK SWIMMING CLUB.

The annual race for the captaincy of this Club took place on Tuesday morning last, at the lake in Victoria Park, in the presence of about 1,500 spectators. The race produced five starters, who went from the following stations:—1. W. Bell; 2. J. Slaney; 3. W. E. Robinson; 4. H. Pouncey; 5. A. Valentine. The winner proved to be Robinson, the captain of last year, who was, however, very hard pressed by Bell. The length was 500 yards, and the winner's time 12 min. 2 sec. A race for boys, for which 15 starters competed, came next, the prize being a silver medal, presented by Bro. T. Hadley Prestage, the secretary of the club. The race was swum in two heats, in each of which the first and second were Stubbs, Lincoln, Taylor, and Kirby. The final heat produced a good contest, in which Taylor was first, Stubbs second, and Kirby third. Our worthy brother Prestage officiated as starter, and Mr. Croxton as judge.

Bro. Gen. N. P. Banks has been the recipient of high honors at the hands of Memphis Masons; and when it is remembered that General Banks was at Port Hudson in 1863, assisting to open the Mississippi River, his reception was only to be equalled by that given to the Virginia Knights at Boston. Masonry is as long as from the East to the West, and as broad as from the North to the South.—*The Keystone.*

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked to 51 per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds to per pack, 10s per dozen packs. If by post 10d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Euchre, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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DR. WINSLOW LEWIS,

LONG known and highly respected as a physician, and one of the most prominent members of the Masonic fraternity in this city, died last night at half-past eleven at the summer residence of his son-in-law, Dr. George H. Gay, in Grantville, after an illness of about three weeks. Dr. Lewis was born in Boston, 8th July 1792, his parents being Captain Winslow Lewis, a noted ship master, and Elizabeth Greenough, the daughter of Thomas Greenough, the manufacturer of mathematical instruments. He graduated at Harvard in 1819, and studied medicine under the late Dr. John C. Warren, taking the degree of M.D. in 1822. He subsequently attended the lectures of Dupuytren in Paris and Abernethy in London. Upon his return, he began practice in Boston.

He was married, 22nd Feb. 1828, to Miss Emeline Richards, daughter of Captain Benjamin Richards of New London, Conn. He was for two years physician of the municipal institutions, three years physician of the House of Correction, and since Dr. Warren's decease a consulting physician of the Massachusetts General Hospital. His skill in his practice was great, and his benevolence in attending the poor notable. His public career, apart from his prominence as a Mason, is stated as follows: He was representative to the General Court in 1835, '52 and '53; one of the Common Council of Boston in 1839; on the School Committee 1839; '40, '41, '44, '45, '57, '58; visitor of the United States Marine Hospital, 1856 to 1863; one of the overseers of Harvard College, 1856 to 1862; consulting physician of the city, 1861; counsellor of the Massachusetts Medical Society; member of the American Medical Society of Paris; president of the New England Historic, Genealogical Society, 1861 to 1866, his successor being the late Governor Andrew. During several visits and one long sojourn in Europe, Dr. Lewis made the acquaintance and won the friendship of many of the most noteworthy characters of the time. His wife survives him, and his surviving children are the wives of Dr. George H. Gay and Mr. Arthur Cheney.

Dr. Lewis was made a Mason in Columbian Lodge, Boston, 3rd Nov. 1830. The circumstances which led him to become a member of this Institution are somewhat singular. In the days when the fraternity were abused without mercy and persecuted to the utmost, he saw an advertisement in a paper of one of the furious anti-Masons, Avery Allyn—a name now almost forgotten—that on a certain day in 1829 he would deliver a lecture, showing up the weakness and hypocrisy of Freemasonry, and its dangerous tendency. The Doctor was led by curiosity to go and hear him, and the very sophisms this arch-enemy of the brotherhood used, and the abuse he heaped upon many of them, who were men without fear and without reproach, made him a convert on the other side.

Dr. Lewis's opinion of the Masonic institution was well founded. He became most warmly attached to it, and for forty-five years has been a constant attendant upon the meetings of its various organisations. Years ago, at one of its social gatherings, he expressed his attachment to it in these words: "Truth and my feelings prompt the declaration that in Masonry I have found the best friends, the best social ties and comforts, and the 'whitest' hours of my life (apart from my family) have been when surrounded by 'brothers,' and around that altar where heart beats responsive to heart, and all 'mingle into bliss.'" These sentiments he continued to entertain up to the last moment of his life. Very recently, at a memorable gathering of the Craft he closed a very touching address as follow:—

"My limbs are tottering, my brain flags, but my Masonic heart and soul will be the last lingering remains of my existence; and when I die—and that time must soon come—written on my heart will be Masonry! Freemasonry! This may be almost the last tribute that I shall pay to Masonry, an institution which has developed in me kindly feelings and charitable deeds. Let me say as a parting, and it may be the last parting word,—May that institution from which I have derived so much benefit continue to bless you all as I have been blessed."

His high character, his literary qualifications, his genial manners and his warm interest in the institution, naturally led to the bestowal of almost every honour and dignity in the gift of the fraternity which it was possible for one person to attain. A recital of them would contain no news for the initiated, and would sound strange to the uninitiated. Suffice it to say that he had been Senior Warden of St. John's Lodge, High Priest of St. Paul's Chapter, and Commander of the Boston Encampment (all of Boston), Grand King of the Grand Chapter, Grand Generalissimo of the General Grand Encampment of the United States, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1855, 1856 and 1860 and an honorary member of Masonic bodies almost without number. His arduous and unremitting efforts to advance the welfare of the brotherhood have endeared him to them in the strongest manner. His long, useful and happy life has reflected the highest honor upon the fraternity. Few members of it have ever been so extensively known or so universally beloved and respected. He has gone down to the grave full of years and of honors, and has left a noble example, worthy of imitation by all the Craft.

The funeral will take place at St. Paul's Church on Friday at 2 p.m. The remains will be buried at Mt. Auburn, in the lot belonging to the deceased, by the Masonic fraternity, under the direction of the Grand Lodge.—*Boston Paper.*

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	61,304	60,133
Glasgow and South Western	315½	20,081	19,014
Great Eastern	763	48,025	46,512
Great Northern	523	60,506	56,144
Great Western	1,525	117,659	114,546
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	75,156	71,743
London and Brighton	376½	39,805	39,413
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	25,130	24,079
London and North Western	1,587	191,270	186,616
London and South Western	626½	41,808	43,450
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,608	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	33,197	30,855
Midland	975½	117,844	111,761
Metropolitan	8	8,721	7,969
" " District	8	4,477	3,621
" " St. John's Wood	4½	387	352
North British	839	47,659	45,318
North Eastern	1,400½	134,878	133,536
North London	13	6,802	6,650
North Staffordshire Railway	191	8,651	8,392
" " Canal	118	1,555	1,475
South Eastern	350	42,891	40,108

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 35. SATURDAY, 28th AUGUST 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

HONORARY DISTINCTIONS.

IT has often struck us that one of the petty charges brought against our Order, has, at all events, something of a substantial groundwork to rest upon. It is a common subject of ridicule, not with the *hoi polloi* so much as with the more intelligent classes, when they see ordinary folk arrayed in all the gorgeous finery of the Foresters and other friendly societies. The leader of the procession, who has arrayed himself beautifully, and quite regardless of expense, so as most nearly to resemble Robin Hood, or Little John, or some other "swell" of that remote period, is probably a most respectable and inoffensive tradesman, who, in his ordinary costume, and in the performance of his ordinary duties, is respected by all his neighbours. On the high days and holidays of Forestry, however, his appearance is so bewildering that the small boys jeer him, and his friends know him not in his quaint apparel. He is beribboned and bejewelled from head to foot, and, as it not unfrequently happens that his mien is neither the most graceful nor the most commanding, the grandeur of his costume adds not a little to the ridiculousness of his general appearance. Others there are who figure thus publicly, and cause more or less excitement and laughter among the spectators, according as they are more or less gorgeously arrayed. Now the public display of Masonic paraphernalia is not allowed except a dispensation has been obtained from the supreme authority. But none the less do sundry of our Order exhibit an undue love of finery, this display, however, being strictly confined, except as aforesaid, within the sacred precincts of the Lodge. Now we have no objection as a rule to a little vanity. A man may even be very justly proud of sundry of his decorations. The brother who has laboured in the performance of his arduous duties as W.M. of his Lodge, or as Steward to one of our Charities, is certainly deserving of some recognition, and our late M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, fully appreciating how small a reward would serve as an incentive to great exertion in the cause of beneficence, graciously sanctioned the wearing of Charity Jewels by those who had served the office of Steward to two of our Charities, with additional tokens in the shape of bars or clasps for further service of a similar character. Again, no reasonable objection can be raised to a deserving W.M. receiving some token from his Lodge of their appreciation of his services during his term of office. A P.M.'s jewel is a token of the respect in which an eminent brother is held by his brethren. But there is a limit to all things. As a correspondent pointed out in our columns last week, it may happen that a member has filled the chair of more than one Lodge, and that each has presented him with a P.M.'s jewel. He may have served also other offices and have received other tokens of respect for his services in those other capacities, the result being that some brethren are so bejewelled that a young craftsman might almost be excused for mistaking them for veteran Field Marshals or gorgeously bedizened Court Chamberlains. "Charity" suggests that a retiring W.M. should receive a life subscribership in those cases where he was already decorated as a P.M. The suggestion is a practical one, and we shall willingly give space in our pages to any of our readers who may be desirous of expressing an opinion on the subject. It is clear too, that the matter requires some "ventilation." Grand Lodge, while jealous in the case of all matters connected with the discipline of the Craft, is slow to intervene without just cause is shown for its intervention. We have received copy of a circular addressed to the Masters of our several Lodges, pointing out that no "Special or Commemorative Lodge Jewel" can legally be worn without the express sanction of the Grand Master. We hail this wholesome hint to members as to any undue display of jewellery with the utmost satisfaction, especially as we feel that it came not wholly uncalled for. The plain garb of a brother is more honourable than the decoration of the Garter or any other Order of Knighthood, and the more simple it is, the more it becomes our Craft, whose grandest claim to respect is its simple, quiet, and unobtrusive beneficence. The following is the circular above referred to:—

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.,
25th August 1875.

W. Master,

The attention of the Board of General Purposes having been directed to the fact of "Special or Commemorative Lodge Jewels" being worn by Members of the Craft, without the authorization of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, I am directed to request you to warn all the Members of your Lodge that no "Special or Commemorative Lodge Jewel" can legally be worn without the express authority of His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful GRAND MASTER having been first obtained.

I am, W. MASTER,
Yours fraternally,
JOHN HERVEY G.S.

To The W. Master
Lodge No.

ORDER OF CHARLES XIII. OF SWEDEN.

THE following translation of the Manifesto of King Charles XIII. of Sweden, on the occasion of his establishing the Masonic Order which bears his name, and of the Statutes of the said Order, may be interesting to our readers.

MANIFESTO.

We, Charles XIII., by the Grace of God, King of the Swedes, Goths, and Vandals, &c., &c., &c., make known that among the cares which, under divine Providence, we have assumed in accepting the Crown of Sweden, not one is dearer to us than that of inquiring into and rewarding merit whose aim is to benefit the commonweal.

We have seen that our glorious ancestors and predecessors, animated by like sentiments, in renewing several ancient orders, strove to arouse their subjects to bold and patriotic acts, and bestowed some ostensible mark of honour on men of eminent virtue. If, not unfrequently, we confer reward on those who have shown themselves faithful, brave, intelligent, or industrious, neither must we overlook those good citizens who, in a narrower and less brilliant sphere, and guided only by a desire to be of service to humanity, are secretly prodigal of succour to the distressed and the orphan, and who, in the form of refuges for the indigent, leave traces, not of their names, but of the benefits they have conferred.

As we are desirous of paying honour to these virtuous actions, which the laws of the Kingdom prescribe not, and which are but seldom brought under the notice of the public, we have been unable to withhold certain proofs of our special goodwill from that estimable Society in Sweden, which we ourselves have administered and presided over, the dogmas and institutions of which we have studied and propagated, of which for so long a period of time we have

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been the chief, and with which, in fine, we have invariably preserved such excellent relations, as will assure on the part of its members, now our subjects, both to us and to our successors to the Swedish throne, the fulfilment of all those duties which religion, fidelity, and attachment to the throne can demand of men.

In order, then, to confer on this body a proof of our good will, we will and ordain that its principal dignitaries, in such numbers as we shall determine, shall, in the future, receive the most conspicuous mark of our confidence, which shall be to them the distinctive sign of the highest dignity, and we make it known by these presents that those who shall receive it shall for the future be known as a body of Knights, under the name of Charles XIII., of which we ourselves shall be the Grand Master.

As in establishing this Order our purpose is not only to excite our subjects to the practice of beneficence, and to perpetuate the remembrance of its devotion to our person of that society when subject to our direction, but also to furnish proofs of our royal esteem towards those whom for so long a period we have embraced and looked upon under the name of brothers; we have selected for the institution of this Order the day when our beloved son and successor, the Prince Charles John, hath taken upon himself, in conjunction with us, the general governance of the Society aforesaid.

We leave by these presents to him and to his successors to the throne of Sweden the care of maintaining and handing down this Institution in Sweden, in accordance with the following ordinances, which we have signed with our own hand, and which we have confirmed with the seal of our Royal Order of St. Seraphim.

Given at Stockholm, in the Chapter held on the 27th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1811, and in the second of our reign.

(*Signed*) CHARLES.
(*Countersigned*) CHARLES MORENER.

STATUTES OF THE ORDER OF CHARLES XIII.

Art. I. We have selected and do hereby select among the first dignitaries of the Society we desire to distinguish and reward, in accordance with our Manifesto of the 27th May, with some ostensible proof of our royal munificence, the number which we determine hereinafter, in order to establish an Order of Knights, which shall bear the name of Charles XIII., whereof we shall be the Grand Master. The King of the Sweden, Goths, and Vandals, and his successors, shall be the Grand Masters of this Order, which shall enjoy for ever their high protection. The heir to the throne shall have the general direction thereof.

II. The King shall never permit the abolition or extinction of the Order, but he shall encourage always the beneficent virtues, which should be practised by its members, and shall bear in mind those actions which have distinguished them during our administration.

III. There can only be admitted into the order of Charles XIII. twenty-seven Civil Knights and three Ecclesiastical; in all, thirty members. The King shall fill up this number or not at his pleasure, but he shall never exceed it. The hereditary Prince, and the princes of the blood royal, whom the King shall appoint Knights, shall not be included in this number.

IV. No one shall be admitted a Knight before he has completed his thirty-sixth year, the princes of the blood royal alone excepted, the King reserving to himself the right to bestow upon them the Cross of the Order when it pleases him.

V. This Order shall comprise one grade only, and all the Knights shall enjoy equal rights and prerogatives.

VI. Every Knight shall be held to be a member of the Order until death, whatever other Order, Swedish or foreign, he may possess, now or hereafter.

VII. No Knight of our Order shall be permitted to ask for, or accept, without permission of the Sovereign, the Order of any other Sovereign or power. He who contravenes these present regulations shall lose the Order of Charles XIII., and be deemed unworthy of wearing it.

VIII Whosoever, by word or action, shall seek to damage our Order, or question the choice of the King and Grand Master, shall, *ipso facto*, be adjudged unworthy to receive it, and shall, in addition, be punished according to the law.

IX. The Knights of the Order of Charles XIII. shall form a special Chapter, which shall not be conjoined with the Chapter General, the which will only assemble in presence of the King, for the purpose of deliberating about questions proposed by him.

X. Save the Chapter General, no other tribunal shall have power to declare that a Knight has been guilty of anything derogatory to this Order.

XI. The twenty-eighth January, the anniversary of our fête, shall be the only day set apart for the election of Knights.

XII. The institution and the ordinances of this Order, which the King hath published and signed in the Chapter General, shall be taken conjointly with its acts. The reception, as well as the death of any member, shall be published in the Chapter General next following the announcement of one or other event; meanwhile, no Knight shall be admitted into the Chapter General, unless he has the right of entry as Commander of one of the Royal Orders.

XIII. If the King is desirous of appointing certain Knights, he shall convoke, in his cabinet, the chief dignitaries of the Order, and shall communicate to them the names of him or them he has chosen. Whenever a Knight is nominated, he shall not wear the cross till he has been duly appointed by the King, and this ceremonial shall not be fulfilled till two months after his nomination.

XIV. If the King is desirous of raising a Knight, he shall do so in the apartments of the Palace, whither all the members of the Order shall have been summoned. The Knights of St. Seraphim shall be invited by the Chancellor to be present, as at all other receptions of Knights.

XV. When the Knight designate is introduced, the Chancellor of the Order shall read the letters patent of the King so designating him. It is conceived in the terms following:—"We, ——, by the Grace of God, King of the Swedes, Goths, and Vandals, &c., &c., &c., make known that having taken into our gracious consideration the zeal and beneficent acts by which our dear and well beloved N or M hath striven, and yet strives to furnish proofs of his attachment to the public weal, having regard also to the fidelity with which he has discharged the duties of a loyal subject and good citizen, we have determined to receive the said N or M, in testimony of our satisfaction, as a Knight of our Order of Charles XIII., as a recompense for his good will, and with a view to encourage him in its continuance For these reasons it is we nominate and receive, by virtue of these present letters patent, N or M, as Knight of our Order of Charles XIII., of which we are Grand Master. We bestow upon him accordingly, with every outward visible sign of honour and confidence, all the prerogatives, privileges, and powers attached, or which may be attached in future to our Order. We take him under our royal protection, so that all discomforts he may experience by reason of his promotion shall be regarded as an offence against our person, and the authors of such annoyances be punished according to the rigour of the laws. In the hope that every one shall conform to our will in respect of these presents, and in order to make them authentic, we have signed with our own hand, and have affixed thereto the royal seal of our Order of St. Seraphim. Given at Stockholm, in the Chapter of the Order, &c.

XVI. Thereupon the Chancellor of the Order shall call upon the newly nominated Knight to take the oath and shall express himself as follows:—"Chevalier N or M, nominated to the Order of Charles XIII., advance in order to take your oath of allegiance." The new Knight shall then approach, kneel down, and pronounce the following oath as dictated by the Chancellor of the Order:—

"I, N or M, do hereby vow to God and on his Holy Gospel, that while fulfilling inviolably all my obligations hereunto before contracted, I will with my whole life and fortune guard the pure doctrines of the Gospel, that I will be faithful and true to the King and his government, contribute to the well being of the State, resist oppression, maintain peace and equity, promote union and obedience to the laws; in short, that I will conform, as far as in me lies, to the statutes of the Order, and whatsoever shall be prescribed to me. So help me God."

XVII. When the oath is taken, the Knight shall advance and place himself upon a stool before the King, who will dub him Knight, by giving three strokes of his sword on the left shoulder, and saying:—"We, ——, by the Grace

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of God, King of the Swedes, Goths, and Vandals, receive thee as a Knight of our Order of Charles XIII.; be worthy of that honour." Thereupon the Treasurer of the Order hands the cross to the King, who suspends it from the neck of the Knight; the latter rises and kisses the hand of the King in token of thanks for the honour that has been conferred upon him.

XVIII. The ensign of the Order is a ruby-coloured cross, with branches issuing in the form of four triangles from a ball enamelled in white on both sides. On one side of the ball are two CC circumscribing the number XIII., and on the other the letter B in black, environed by a golden triangle. This cross, surmounted by a golden crown, is suspended from a ring by a red riband.

XIX. Knights of the Order of Charles XIII. will take precedence after Commanders and before Knights of our other Orders.

XX. If a Knight of this Order is Commander of another, or if he be raised to that dignity and take his seat accordingly in our Chapter General, he shall wear the riband and cross of the Order with other decorations.

XXI. Whenever a Knight dies, his death shall be announced to the King, as Grand Master, by the oldest Knight present. The insignia of the Order with which the deceased was decorated shall be borne in the funeral cortége in accordance with the usage of our other Orders. This decoration shall be afterwards handed by three Knights to the King, who shall receive it at their hands.

XXII. If a Knight of the Order leave any children under age, and in such a state of indigence that they cannot be maintained or educated, the King, as protector and guardian of orphans, shall, on due information to this effect, issue orders for their maintenance and education.

XXIII. For greater authenticity and certainty we have signed these statutes with our own hand, and have affixed thereto the seal of our Royal Order of St. Seraphim.

Stockholm, in the Chapter of the Order, this twenty-seventh day of May in the year of Grace 1811 and the second of our reign.

(Signed) CHARLES.
(Countersigned) CHARLES MOERNER.

MASONS OUT OF TOWN.

AMONG the many places to which the tired Londoner betakes himself for recreation, there are few more pleasant, though perhaps there are many more fashionable, than the watering places of the East Anglian coast. From Cromer,—the favoured retreat of local magnates,—whose comparative inaccessibility keeps it more select than the rest, down to recently-discovered Clacton-on-Sea, there are endless delightful haunts, open to the German Ocean and its health-giving breezes, and all, to our thinking, more adapted for the great object, bathing, so far as the advantages of sandy beaches over shingly and rocky shores captivate the dabbler who likes to swim (?) with at least one foot on the ground. Above all the eastern watering places within reach of London, we confess to a strong predilection in favour of the ancient town of Great Yarmouth. In addition to the usual delights of reposing on the beach and wandering on the piers, imbibing the sea-breeze, not unmingled with tobacco smoke, we can enjoy the delights of inspecting the herring fishery, and, if we choose to dive into the recesses of the older and less watering-placeish part of the town, of saturating ourselves with the aroma diffused in the preparation of the succulent bloater. Here, too, is the old "jetty," preferred by all *habitués* of Yarmouth to the more stately modern piers, and on this, at the proper time of the year, a distinguished M.M. is generally to be seen, sinking the head of a department in a compound of Mr. Chucks and Captain Cuttle, and surveying the herring fleet with the eye of a Xerxes.

The visitor will at once be struck with the very handsome column commemorating Nelson's victories, at the southern end of the town, and near the extremity of the peninsula formed by the sea and the embouchure of several rivers,—locally known as Breydon Water,—on which the town is built, and will not, if his curiosity leads him to a closer inspection, fail to be yet further delighted with the *naïveté* which led the local magnates of the time to inscribe their own names in equally prominent positions with those of their mighty countryman and his captains. The "Rows," as they are locally called, connecting the principal streets, are by no means the least interesting feature in Yarmouth. We cannot at the present moment recal any other town possessing such a number of odd-looking alleys. Their number is indeed so great that the nomenclators of the place appear to have utterly failed in giving them names, and have contented themselves with numbering them after—or probably before—the manner of our American cousins.

Under the present arrangements of the Great Eastern Railway, not to mention the boat companies, Yarmouth has become very accessible, and a "Saturday till Monday" visit is now much more practicable, by the aid of special fast trains, than it was in the days when the dreary round through Cambridge and Norwich was the only alternative for those who feared sea-sickness, and a day may be very profitably spent in looking round the curiosities of the town and its immediate surroundings, not forgetting, if on Sunday, a visit to the beautiful old church, and, whatever day it be, a dip in the briny wave.

There is one point in which the neighbourhood of Yarmouth cannot, we think, be surpassed by any part of England,—we allude to fishing. Certainly trout and salmon are not obtainable here, but are they anywhere, except with difficulty and expense? every petty trout-stream being preserved, and necessarily so. But for those who are not above bottom-fishing, we venture to say that they cannot tell what it means till they have visited Norfolk. The "big takes" chronicled in the weekly reports from the Thames, in our sporting contemporaries, sink into insignificance beside the every-day catches of these waters. How would the potterer after illegally-sized roach and dace at Teddington or Moulsey like to reckon his fish by the stone? And despite the somewhat greater expense of the railway journey, we think that the whole cost of a few days' fishing here would not exceed that of the same number of days on the Thames or Lea by any great amount. The "broads" or lakes which abound in this neighbourhood literally swarm with fish, principally bream, but the perch are very fine and tolerably numerous, and in winter large jack may be taken by fair fishing, though the poaching habit of using trimmers or "liggers" as they are here called, is productive of much mischief. Most of the "broads" are free to the angler, and the only difficulty is the procuring a boat, which is indispensable. We may recommend the "Eel's Foot," at Ormesby Broad, as an excellent place to obtain boats. It is disgusting to think how these splendid fisheries are netted and the fish absolutely thrown away, and still more so to read letters in a sporting paper from some neighbouring snob defending the practice; but, despite this wilful destruction, any of the chain of lakes communicating with Ormesby Broad will, on a favourable day, afford more fish than the angler will care to carry away. And many of the others will give even better sport than these. We were conversing some time since with an old Thames angler, to whom we described the glories of our beloved "broads," and who informed us that he "did not care about still-water fishing." We must say that we failed to see the difference between Thames punt-fishing and sitting in a boat on a "broad." But if any of our readers are possessed with similar scruples, we can refer them to river-fishing, equally excellent. Mr. Benns's comfortable hostelry at Reedham Ferry, between Yarmouth and Norwich, will afford every accommodation to the angler, and the sport here, or indeed at almost any point on the Yare or Bure, is unrivalled.

For those who like sea-fishing, which we confess we do not, there is endless sport to be had, even by fishing from the piers. The non-fisherman will wonder, not at the quantity of herrings to be seen in London and all over the country—as we have frequently known people do—but at what becomes of all that are caught, when he sees the *miles* of nets stretched out to be dried and repaired on the "denes." For all information as to both sea and fresh-water fishing in the neighbourhood, we may confidently refer the visitor to our worthy brother, the landlord of the Crown and Anchor Hotel. We would however suggest to the fisherman, who only intends a short stay, to take with him a plentiful supply of worms. They are not easy to get here, especially in dry seasons.

As to the scenery of this neighbourhood, have you not the sea? But though many may cavil at this flat country, the "broads" and marshy rivers are not to our mind devoid of attraction. Do any of our readers recollect Mr. Wilkie Collins's description of a sunset on a "broad," in

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"Armadale?" For the antiquarian and artist Norfolk will afford equal attractions by its endless variety of church architecture, and the naturalist will find an abundant field for observation, particularly among the water and wading birds, which, as might be expected, abound here. We have found a rare fern, the *Lastrea Thelypteris*, in what we believe is an unregistered habitat, on the banks of one of the "broads," but we will not say which. Selfish, perhaps—but kind to the plant.

We trust we have said enough to awaken the curiosity of those of our readers who have never visited this part of the world. We can assure them it is accessible, for, in addition to the excursion trains from Saturday to Monday, the railway offers facilities for a more protracted stay by issuing fortnightly tickets, by fast trains, at reduced rates.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

THE following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday, 1st September, 1875:

1. The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 2nd June for confirmation.

2. Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for Grants to the amount of £350.

3. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:

The Board of General Purposes beg to report that the subject of wearing special or Commemorative Jewels unauthorized by the Most Worshipful Grand Master having been brought under their notice, they have considered it desirable to direct the Grand Secretary to issue a Circular to the Provincial Grand Secretaries and other Masonic authorities, requesting them to warn the Brethren under their several jurisdictions against wearing any such Jewels, except those which have previously received the sanction of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

(Signed) PETER de L. LONG,
Vice-President.

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.,
17th August, 1875.

To the Report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last Meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 13th day of August instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £3,482 10s 7d; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £75; and for Servants' Wages, £96 15s.

4. The Annual Report of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," dated the 21st May 1875, will be laid before the Grand Lodge.

List of Lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

1551.—Lodge of Charity, Birmingham.
1552.—Lodge of Tranquillity, Sydney, N.S.W.
1553.—Light of the South Lodge, Rosario de Santa Fé, Argentine Republic.
1554.—Mackay Lodge, Mackay, Queensland.
1555.—Royal Prince of Wales Lodge, Penang, Prince of Wales' Island.
1556.—Addiscombe Lodge, Addiscombe, Surrey.
1557.—Albert Edward Lodge, Hexham, Northumberland.
1558.—Duke of Connaught Lodge, Camberwell.
1559.—New Cross Lodge, New Cross.
1560.—Albert Edward Lodge, Leicester.
1561.—Morecambe Lodge, Morecambe, Lancashire.
1562.—Humfray Lodge, Riscar, Monmouthshire.

"Clergymen, district visitors, and others, who often find it expedient to present some wine to a sick person, for the purpose of restoring health, may with confidence use the 'Specialite' Sherry of Messrs. Feltoe and Sons, of Albemarle-street. About five hundred medical men have testified as to its soundness and freedom from acidity or heat, and their opinion will be readily endorsed by those who try it. It has the advantage, moreover, of being sold at a price not exceeding the injurious compounds commonly sold as Sherry."—*The Rock.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I had a good laugh over the earnest way in which Bro. Yarker tells your readers that I, at p. 101, had placed words in his mouth which he had never used. I think the context may be fairly left to explain that. He might about as well have said that I had set him astride an animal which was dead three hundred years before he was born! To come to the point, however, we find Bro. Yarker, at p. 116, saying:—"I before quoted two sources which I consider undeniably to prove the antiquity of the system of three degrees. * * * The first of these is the Sloane MS., No. 3329,* recently edited by the Rev. Bro. Woodford, as a MS. of 1650, which I consider it is, and possibly one alluded to by Dr. Plot. The second is an Aberdeen ritual of 1727."

Now I have taken considerable interest in this Sloane MS. No. 3329, f. 142, in the British Museum, and in August 1872 I published a copy of it in the Masonic News. This copy I got through the kind courtesy of Bro. Hughan. The editor of the Masonic News got anything but thanks, however, from some of the more ignorant or bigotted portion of his readers. Bro. Woodford's pamphlet appeared in November 1872. The great question, however, is:—What is the real age of this Sloane MS.? Because it would help to support some of his other notions, Bro. Yarker unhesitatingly considers its age to be A.D. 1650. I however wrote to Dr. Bond, the Keeper of the MSS. of the British Museum, upon this point, and judging from the handwriting, he considered its age to be about 1710, so that is sixty years less than Bro. Yarker. In his "Unpublished Records of the Craft," Bro. Hughan says:—"We are also informed, by a gentleman whose name has been honourably associated with the British Museum for years, that 'as Sir Hans Sloane only died in 1753, the article on MS. 3329 might easily be of a date *after* 1717.'" Bro. Jacob Norton, of America, judging from its contents, is inclined to date it no older than 1730, while my own idea is about 1720. From the above, therefore, it will be seen that Bro. Yarker's dictum, that the age of this Sloane MS. 3329 is 1650, is of very little value, unless he can bring other evidence to support it, which neither he nor any one else, to my knowledge, has as yet done. As to the 1727 Aberdeen ritual it is not worth while taking up space about it, as that date is ten years after 1717. The upshot of this controversy, therefore, is, that so far as the production of "undeniable" evidence to prove the existence of our three *degrees* before A.D. 1717 is concerned, the result has been nil.

I am, yours fraternally,
W. P. BUCHAN.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—I have no intention of intervening in a controversy between two such doughty antagonists as Bros. Yarker and Buchan, but there are one or two matters relating, either directly or indirectly, to the points at issue, which seem to me worthy of remark from others. I must premise, however, that I am but a young Masonic student, and what I offer is more in the way of suggestion than of argument.

First, as to the question, Was Sir Christopher Wren a Mason? For my own part, I should be willing to accept Bro. Yarker's quotation from Aubrey as pretty conclusive evidence of a well-known, if not (according to our more exacting modern ideas) well-authenticated fact, namely, that Wren was a Mason. But had I any doubts about the value of Aubrey's statement, the concurrent testimony of eminent men, were such obtainable, would go a very long way towards silencing those doubts, and it strikes me such testimony is obtainable. Bro. Manningham, a former Deputy Grand Master, writing under date of 12th July 1737, to a Dutch Bro. Sauer on the subject of the high degrees at that time being imported into the Netherlands, records that "Grand Master Payne, who succeeded Sir Christopher Wren, is ignorant of them," (that is the high degrees). Now here is an eminent official in Masonry who quotes in evidence respecting certain innovations the living authority of the Master "who succeeded Sir Christopher Wren." And as what, may I ask, if not as Grand Master of Masons? Payne was G.M. in 1718 and 1720. Sir C. Wren died in 1723. Thirty-four years after the occurrence of this last event, Dr. Manningham speaks in the present tense of Sir C. Wren's successor being ignorant of certain things. Compare we this statement, which comes from a Mason, with the independent evidence of Aubrey as quoted by Bro. Yarker. The announcement in the latter that "Sir C. Wren is to be adopted a Freemason," and Bro. Manningham's reference to Payne, "who succeeded Sir C. Wren," form, at all events, a very remarkable concurrence of testimony. Are we to reject all but documentary evidence in a case of this description? The positive statements of well-known Masons, contemporary with Wren, cannot be overlooked, or set down as valueless, and there is no single Masonic writer, with whose works I am acquainted, who does not put down Wren as a Mason, not merely in what I will call a figurative sense, as an eminent architect associated with operative Masonry, but in accordance with the present, or speculative, definition of the art. Would the announcements of all these people have passed unchallenged had there been no foundation

* No. 3329, I suppose he means.—W.P.B.

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for what they announced? It must not be overlooked that Masonry, within a very few years of its revival, attracted a considerable amount of notice throughout Europe, to that extent, indeed, that some fifteen years after Wren's death, the then Pope honoured us with a special bull of excommunication. There was a considerable amount of antagonism to the Art in England, and the right of Masons to include Wren among the members of the Fraternity would assuredly have been questioned, had the claim been merely "the baseless fabric of a vision." Wren was a man of eminence, whose name would have been a pillar of strength to any order—whether of Masons or of Jesuit. Had he been no Mason, the inquiries of anti-Masons would certainly have disposed of the fact, when it was so openly and so generally announced by Masons. Again, there are special reasons why documentary evidence, not only in Wren's case, but in that of every speculative Mason of that epoch, should not be forthcoming. The political state of England was most unsettled, and the members of a secret society would have every reason to keep the fact of their membership a secret from the friends and foes alike of the powers that were. Nor is there any antecedent improbability in Wren being a Mason. He was the architect of his day, and, as such, a fitting patron of operative Masonry. He was otherwise a man of great learning—a philosopher in fact—and, as such, likely enough to have lent his mind to the speculative side of Masonry. Are we wrong, I ask, under these circumstances, in accepting him as "Grand Master of the most ancient and honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons?"—for so the well-known Lawrence Dermott, Grand Secretary of Ancient Masons, describes Sir Christopher, in his address prefixed to the third edition of *Ahiman Rezon*, published in 1788. Can Bro. Buchan disprove the statements of our Masonic historians?

Then, as to the question, Whether Masonry was at all speculative prior to the year 1717? Are we to assume that in that year Speculative Masonry sprang suddenly into being? Can we ignore the statement of Ashmole, that, in company with Colonel Mainwaring, he was made a Freemason in 1646, at Warrington, in Lancashire, and that in March 1682 he was present at a Lodge meeting in London, when Sir William Wilson Knt., Captain Richard Borthwick, and others "were admitted into the Fellowship of Freemasons." Again in 1626, that is only six years before Sir C. Wren was born—there died the great Francis Bacon, author of the *New Atlantis*, of which you gave an elaborate notice in one of your issues. In 1662 the Royal Society received its Charter from Charles II. Am I not justified in regarding the following concatenation of facts as suggestive of an era of speculative combined with operative Freemasonry anterior to 1717? Lord Bacon, the author of the *New Atlantis*, died 1626. Inigo Jones, whom we number among our Grand Masters, died, some say in 1646, while others set down his death in 1653. Wren was born in 1632, and had already achieved fame as a young philosopher in 1646, the year in which Ashmole, the antiquary, and a student of alchemy, was made a Freemason. In 1682 other non-operative Masons "were admitted into the Fellowship of the Craft," teste Ashmole. According to Aubrey, Wren was "to be adopted" into Masonry in 1691. The revival of Masonry occurred in 1717, from which year it ceased wholly to have anything operative in its character. Does not all this justify the views of those Masonic writers who look beyond 1717 for the origin of Speculative Masonry?

The question is one well worthy of consideration in your columns and I hope some brethren older and more competent than I feel myself to be, will take it up, and, to use an airy expression of the day, "ventilate" it thoroughly.

Yours fraternally, Q.

BROTHER YARKER ON "OUR FREEMASONRY."

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am pleased to find that my terming Brother Yarker an aged Freemason has created some amusement amongst the members of his family; but my information was derived from a remark of his a few years since. I am glad, however, to hear that our Brother is not an old man (which I did not say), though I am informed he is the senior of very many Craftsmen of the present day.

I wish in Ireland we had more Masonic investigators of the English and Scottish (not *Scotch* to please Bro. Buchan) stamp. Save the venerable Dr. Townshend (Judge), and a few honourable exceptions, like Bro. Neilson, of Dublin, Bro. Commander Scott, of Omagh, we have few in our "Emerald Isle" who "patronise our mysteries" beyond the threshold, so I mean to do a little myself in unravelling our history, if our British friends will hold out the right hand of fellowship.

I am much obliged to Bro. Yarker for his communication in answer to my first letter; and I feel sure that if other able brethren would follow his example, and reply to friendly criticisms or questions, much light would be elicited on obscure parts of our history. Bro. Yarker refers me to the Sloane MS., edited by Bro. Woodford, for evidence of the existence of the *three* degrees prior to the last century. I know the MS. well, and have again examined it. Of course, it is of doubtful antiquity; but assuming that the present MS., of date from 1710 to 1730, is a copy of a MS. (now missing) of 1640, as Bro. Woodford states, we do not thereby prove the antiquity of the *three degrees*. Bro. Yarker will be aware that not a Minute of any Lodge has been produced which mentions the *separate* meeting of Master Masons to raise Fellow Crafts to the *third* degree prior to 1720; that in fact not a MS. or printed work exists which alludes to the term *degree* until after the "Revival," and that the Master was placed in the Chair in the presence of all the Craftsmen. I quite think it likely that a word was whispered into the Master's ear on his election and assuming the Chair; but *degrees* are quite another and distinct matter, and certainly we cannot accept the evidence of the Sloane MS. as final. The next proof submitted is the "Aberdeen Ritual" of 1727. How does Bro. Yarker know it is 1727? I understood the date was uncertain. But suppose we accept the year in which it was printed to be 1727, what then? The work consists of "A Mason's Confession of the Oath, &c., at D——, about the year 1727;" but I have not heard of any date being on the title-page. Bro. Yarker says it mentions the three degrees by name. Suppose it does, is that evidence of the existence of the *three* degrees prior to the last century? No wonder if the three degrees were known in 1727 at Aberdeen (or Dundee) when the Rev. Dr. Desaguliers visited the Lodge of Edinburgh in 1721, and we know for a fact that whereas the *three* degrees are nowhere alluded to before then in the Minutes of the Lodge at Aberdeen, they are regularly noticed a *few years* afterwards.

With respect to the *Mark* question, I quite think, with Bro. Yarker, that the Mark *degree* has not had an existence much over a century, but the custom of *choosing a Mark* is an old one. Bro. Yarker says, "In no English MS. whatever is there any Mark Registration." As to that, there is scarcely any account of old English Lodges, but in one of the oldest preserved, viz., the Alnwick Lodge, from 1701, there are numerous *Marks* to be found attached to the names in the old records as with those of the Scottish Lodges. We are indebted to Bro. Hughan for a sketch of this ancient Lodge, which appeared in the *Freemason* some time since. In the fourth division of Bro. Yarker's interesting communication, he kindly informs us that the testimony of the two documents before mentioned is "confirmed by numerous other MSS." What MSS.? In such an important matter as our ancient history, surely Bro. Yarker ought not to make such a statement? According to our researches in Masonic works, there are no MSS. of any antiquity which allude to the *three* degrees, and so the confirmation spoken of by *modern* MSS. appears to us worthless, but I am open to correction, and can only say the production of MSS. prior to the last century, or anterior to 1720, which confirm the testimony of the two documents hereinbefore mentioned, will secure from me the amplest acknowledgment.

I have read Bro. Yarker's "Speculative Masonry," and at p. 116 have noted his remarks. He therein quotes from the "Grand Mystery Discovered," of 1725, in which allusion is made to a certain brother (evidently Dr. Rawlinson, F.R.S. and LL.D.) being of the "*Fifth* Order." The pamphlet is a whimsical production, and, so far as I can discover, contains nothing in reference to any degree beyond the *third*. Surely the allusion to the "*Fifth* Order" in such a connection is not a fair evidence of the existence of the Royal Arch in 1725? In fact, but little is said which would warrant us in believing there were as many degrees as *three* at that period, provided no other proof existed of their being then worked. I thank Bro. Yarker for his reference to Ramsay's "Travels of Cyrus," and will procure the work, so as see what that Brother says of the *Hautes Grades*, but I presume "High Grade Information" may mean something which existed prior to the *Hautes Grades*, which the latter adopted. I should like to get clear of an oath I once took, and as Bro. Yarker appears to have managed to purge himself of those he took under the "Ancient and Accepted Rite," I shall be glad to be informed how he has satisfied his conscience as to his obligations to that body. Cannot you, Brother Editor, induce that good Brother, Captain Irwin, to lend you his work of 1721, to be reprinted in your pages. I do wish he would consent, and thus circulate an ancient book of consequence to our researches. Facts we want badly, and not mere dogmatic assertions.

Fraternally yours,

MASONIC INVESTIGATOR.

COMMEMORATION JEWELS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am glad to learn, from the Report of the Board of General Purposes, that an order has been issued by the Grand Secretary, warning brethren against wearing any Commemoration Jewels except those sanctioned by the M.W.G.M. This edict will, at least, prevent the trafficing in tinsel to which so many of the Craft object, if not add to the value of the Installation Jewel proper.

I am, yours faithfully,

PURSER.

25th August 1875.

PRESENTATIONS TO RETIRING MASTERS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—I have often thought over the question raised by your correspondent, who signs himself "Charity." It has more than once occurred to me that the love of what is certainly a very harmless, yet somewhat childish love of display, is a weak point in Masonry. We are a secret society—yet secret in no unworthy sense. We do our work very quietly, not because we are ashamed of what we do, but because we have some faith in the old adage "Virtue is it's own reward." Above all, we make no ostentatious display of our clothing in public places. Yet I confess the number of jewels which some of our brethren wear amazes me. I see no objection to members wearing sundry honorary distinctions bestowed on them for services rendered in different spheres of labour, but I quite agree with "Charity" that the multiplication of orders and decorations is unadvisable. I fully recognise that in a case of this kind no hard and fast line can be drawn, but I feel that excessive display of ornament should be discouraged as much as possible. However, I am only expressing my own opinion, and shall gladly withdraw or modify it on cause shown.

Yours respectfully,

M. P.

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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.

Log-Book of a Fisherman and Zoologist. By Frank Buckland, M.A., late Student of Christ Church, Oxford, Inspector of Salmon Fisheries for England and Wales, &c., &c. Illustrated. London: Chapman and Hall, 193 Piccadilly, 1875.

THERE are few more genial, more deservedly popular writers than Mr. Frank Buckland, whose contributions to the natural history columns of *Land and Water* are so justly esteemed. Mr. Buckland, indeed, was one of the gentlemen to whom the establishment of that journal is due, and the bulk of the contents of the volume before us have appeared from time to time in its pages, so that we hail their re-appearance in a collected form with immense satisfaction. The bare mention of natural history is at once suggestive of a marvellous array of horrid technicalities, barbarous incomprehensible Latin names, and a number of other disagreeables which it is given to only a very select few to appreciate, while still fewer understand them thoroughly. But Mr. Buckland narrates his experiences in good plain English, just for all the world as if he were talking with his readers over a genial glass of wine and choice Havana cigar. Technical terms occur of course, and their appearance is very appropriate, but they never intervene between the reader and his comprehension of the subject. Mr. Buckland goes heartily to work, being scientific enough to satisfy even the most *exigeant* naturalist, and at the same time thoroughly intelligible by all classes of readers. The contents are various enough to suit every variety of taste, some of the entries in the log-book being highly amusing. Mr. Buckland's philosophy has a large admixture of fun in it, at the same time he exhibits in the proper place, and at the proper time, the deepest reverence for the wondrous power of the Great Architect of all things. We like the book all the more for the serious touches introduced here and there. We can hardly picture to ourselves, indeed, a naturalist who evinces not his respect for the Architect of Created Things. Such a person—if there be one—must be quite as singular a phenomenon as the octopus or any other of the strangers which Mr. Buckland has here delineated. To note, however, some of the more interesting of these delineations. The author presents himself, in the first instance, in the character of an art critic. He is "At the Royal Academy without a Catalogue," and he notes chiefly the animal pieces, and landscapes, smartly, too, as thus:—

"A fishing smack just come to an anchor. An old fisherman landing his fish—scenery like the coast at the north of Berwick-on-Tweed. The fisherman has got a very miscellaneous lot of deep-sea fish—skate, john-dory, ling, conger, plaice, garnard, &c. He must have been working both "long lines" and "trawl-net," as some of these fish are caught only by the trawl, others only by the long line. The painter is not a deep-sea fisherman. The basket of fish is put into scales. They don't sell sea fish like this by weight. Fish nicely done. I wish the painter would touch up some of the casts which I have painted.

An animal, I suppose meant for a red deer, wounded—a bullet-wound on the left side. A wound at this part would not bleed much, because the scapula would act as a valve to keep the blood inside the thorax; and yet there is no end of blood. A miserable production, and, as far as the animal goes, not fit for a public-house sign. The rest of the scenery good."

"King Charles the First's Parrot" is an amusing practical joke which some of the troopers of the 2nd Life Guards attempted to play Mr. Buckland when he was assistant surgeon of the regiment. The illustration gives a capital idea of the character of the joke, and speaks well, not only for the author's 'cuteness in detecting the trick at once, but for the inventive power of Life Guard troopers. "Exhibitions outside the Cattle Show," and "Netting the fish in the Serpentine" are most entertaining, and from the latter we quote the following extract, with all the greater pleasure that it introduces to us another popular naturalist, Mr. Henry Lee, whose name is so familiar in connection with the Brighton Aquarium:—

"Mr. Chamberlayne, one of the authorities, had ordered three water-carts to be brought close to the railing, and as the fish were taken out of the net they were transferred in buckets to the carts. Besides the big bream that we caught at the second haul were a great number of little roach and one or two big ones. Finding that our net was not long enough, and that the old man had several others in his boat, we made him join them all together, so as to have a good sweep of the whole water. While this was being done, Lee and myself got on the watering-cart and rode up with the old man to the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens, where the fish were to be deposited. I never rode on a water-cart before and particularly one like the present, that had no springs. The jolting was something tremendous, but we managed to hold on, and after all it was not bad fun to ride down the drive, among the smart carriages, on a water-cart. When we arrived at the Round Pond we tilted the cart up, let as much water run out of it as possible, and then turned the fish out with our hands, as the aperture at the top of the cart was not large enough to admit a net. This first cart-load of fish, which was by no means a heavy one, contained about 500 fish, little and big. We came back to the Serpentine on the water-cart at a trot,—about the roughest riding I ever experienced—and found that the men had joined all the nets together, and were preparing for a grand haul; the net was exceedingly heavy as we dragged it towards the shore, and our expectations were not disappointed. The old fisherman was delighted. 'Lor', sir,' said he, 'there's all twenty pounds' worth of fish in the net, and if it had been the Jews' holidays there might be thirty pounds' worth.' At all events there was a tremendous lot in the net. We filled three water-carts as full as we dared with these fish, and away we went again to the Round Pond, Lee sitting on the advance cart, and myself on the rear cart.

This time we had a strong escort of hundreds of dirty little vagabonds, shouting, laughing, and wild with excitement. Looking into the water-cart, I found a few dead fish on the top, and when we got into Kensington Gardens among the trees, in answer to a cry, 'Give us a fish, master,' I threw them out for a scramble. The little urchins raced after them like greyhounds, and fought for them on the ground, a dozen at a time, like hounds breaking up a fox. It was quite a treat to see how these boys enjoyed themselves; being English boys I suppose they have a natural love of sport in them. I don't believe they wanted the fish a bit; but it was the fun of seeing us draw the net, hunting the water-cart, and scrambling for the dead fish that seemed to amuse them so much. We had so many fish in these three carts that I found it perfectly impossible to count them; so I got the men to run the cart as near to the edge of the water as they could, and then we tilted it up as far as we dared. Having done this I opened the door of the cart, and there poured out a regular cataract of struggling fish. About twenty or thirty of them were sickly, but altogether we lost really very few indeed. The water-cart which carried the third load of fish was of a different construction from the others, and Lee and myself found it very difficult to get the fish out of it. We, therefore, backed it a little way into the water on the sloping bank, while the men on shore tilted up the shaft, and it was here an accident occurred. Lee was standing in the water, taking the fish out of the hole in the cart, and I had that instant moved on one side, when I saw the cart moving deeper down into the water. 'Look out, Lee,' I cried, 'she's got way on her,' but in a moment, before there was time for thought or action, this infernal water-cart, fish, water, and all, 'turned turtle,' and made a summersault clean over, 'end for end.' The great shafts came rushing down from above like two scaffold poles, and the body of the cart fell right over into the water, wheels uppermost, making a tremendous splash and sending the water flying high into the air. My first thought was for my friend Lee; he had luckily run backwards when he heard my shout, but could not get far enough to escape the shafts; something came down upon him with a tremendous crash, and he disappeared clean under the water. I rushed immediately into the water, nearly to a swimming point, and got hold of his collar: he came up in a second, blowing like a grampus, and I was glad to see he did not appear hurt. I think, however, that he was a little stunned, although he said he was not."

Of course a volume of this kind would be incomplete without a notice of the Brighton Aquarium, and no such notice would be entertained with any degree of favour which omitted to mention the Octopus. For a description of this animal we must refer our readers to the book itself, but of the enormous size of these monsters the following, from Mr. Harvey's account of a perfect specimen of the large cuttle, will give an excellent idea:—

"Since the appearance of the large cuttle in Conception Bay, I have been fortunate to obtain possession of a *perfect specimen*, though far inferior in size to the monster whose arms were amputated. It was taken in a net near Logy Bay. The body is upwards of *seven feet in length*, and about five feet in circumference. From the head ten arms radiate, two of them each being *twenty-four feet in length*, and armed at the extremities with a cluster of sucking discs, some of them an inch and a quarter in diameter, and furnished with small sharp teeth round their edges. *Eight of the arms are each six feet in length*, and nine in circumference at the junction with the head. They are completely covered on the inner surface with rows of large denticulated suckers. The beak is in the middle of the centre nucleus, from which the arms radiate, and the large eyes, which, unfortunately, have been destroyed, were on each side of this centre mass. The remains of one of the eyelids show that the eyes were four inches in diameter. They are dark and beautiful, but, when the creature is enraged, assume an expression of intense ferocity. The beak is sharp and powerful. The fishermen were compelled to kill it by cutting off its head before it could be landed, and it was with great difficulty that three men despatched it."

Other chapters may be mentioned, such as "My Monkeys," which originally appeared in *Temple Bar*, "The Bore on the Severn," "How I spent Whit Monday at Harting," which are capital examples of the points we have noted in Mr. Buckland's mode of writing; but space forbids us dwelling at greater length on its merits. We have said enough, we think, to convince our readers that the *Log-book of a Fisherman and Zoologist* is really a most entertaining and instructive book. It was a source of regret to us when, after several hours of most enjoyable reading, we found we had reached the end of the volume. We hope Mr. Buckland has such another work in store for us, and that no long time will elapse ere we have an opportunity of again tendering him our very cordial thanks for a "Log-book" No. 2.

We may add that the volume is well got up, being well printed, well illustrated, and furnished with a good index.

DEATH.

At Peterborough, on 20th instant, Brother W. Strickland, P.M., P.P.G.S. Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. Aged 60.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—The close, sultry weather which prevails during the late summer months, is very liable to give rise to various forms of febrile and abdominal complaints, the action of heat on the vegetation causes generations of a most deleterious character to be given off, and these permeate the air and so are taken into the system by breathing; the products of vegetable decomposition also find their way into our water supply, and hence another source of danger arises. Whenever any symptoms arise, indicating that diarrœa, fever, or dysentery, is developing itself, immediate measures should be had to these remedies. The Ointment must be well rubbed to the abdominal surface, and the Pills taken inwardly in aperient doses.

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NEW ZEALAND.—ST JOHN'S DAY.

A Masonic Banquet, in honour of St. John's Day, was held on 24th June, in the Thames Hotel, Thames Gold Fields, New Zealand. A very large number of Masons were present, including brethren from Australian Colonies and America, there being present Brother Turner, son of our well known citizen, Bro. Ben Turner, a member of one of the Lodges in San Francisco, and formerly captain of one of our Colonial men-of-war in the Waikato. The chair was taken by Brother M. Nicol R.W.M. of the Scotch Lodge; the vice-chairs were occupied by Brother W. R. Robinson W.M. Lodge Ara and Brother J. Herbert Burns W.M. of Lodge United Service. The following toasts were given and responded to in purely Masonic style: "The Queen and Craft, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, and the rest of the Royal Family." "His Excellency the Governor," proposed by Brother Captain J. Herbert Burns W.M. of Lodge United Service. "His Honor the Superintendent, the Army and Navy, and Colonial forces, coupled with the name of Brother Captain Burns." "Brother Hayward P.M. of the U.M.M.L.," proposed by Brother P.M. Wade, who presented Brother Hayward with a valuable Masonic ring and a chaste tea and coffee set. Accompanying this presentation was an illuminated address, bearing testimony to the appreciation by the Masonic brethren of the able manner in which the recipient had discharged the duties of his order. The "Memory of 'St. John'" was proposed by Brother Sloane, and properly responded to. The other toasts included "The Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland," "The Sister Lodges at the Thames," "The Ladies," "Poor and Distressed Brethren," "The Host and Hostess," and "The Chairman." After the list of toasts had been completed, the brethren indulged in a series of well selected songs, and brought to a close a most enjoyable evening's entertainment. The dinner did credit to the establishment in which it was provided.—*N. Z. Herald.*

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

Friday.

The weekly return of the Bank authorities shows that the proportion of Reserve to Liabilities is now 55¼ per cent. The rate of discount remains at 2 per cent.

At the meetings, on Saturday last, of the London and North-Western and Great Northern Railway Companies, attention was drawn to the increase in the working expenses, from the addition to wages and the operation of the block system, but it was also explained that the strict working of the block system will, doubtless, greatly tend to diminish the number of accidents in future. When the extent of the sums paid by some of the railway companies on account of late accidents, notably by the London and North-Western and Great Eastern, is borne in mind, the importance of this prospective comparative immunity from serious disasters cannot be overrated. The price of coal and iron is also likely to be low during the present half-year, though it is probable that these considerations have been fully taken into account by recent "cliques," who have forced some stocks to extreme quotations. But it is asked: what are the public to do with their money? The recent great fall in Turkish, Peruvian, and other bonds, has increased the feeling of distrust attaching to most Foreign Securities, while Consols, Indian Government Bonds, Colonial Debentures, &c., have recently advanced to a very important extent. It is possible, therefore, that further investments may be made in English lines, though speculative purchases will be checked by the firmer tendency of the Money Market, and the consequent disposition of bankers to refuse fresh advances on stocks.

The amount of cheques and bills cleared in the Bankers' Clearing-house during the past week amounted to £80,602,000 against £97,215,000 in the corresponding week last year.

The Great Western Railway dividend was officially announced on Monday, at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum for the half-year, against 4 at the corresponding period of last year. The sum brought into the present accounts was £9,051, and it is proposed to carry forward about £9,500.

At the half-yearly general meeting, on Tuesday, of the Furness Railway Company, the report showed an available balance of £101,544, from which a dividend was declared at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum, leaving £2,065 to be carried forward.

At the half-yearly meeting, on Thursday, of the Weymouth and Portland Railway Company, the directors' report, which was adopted, showed an available total of £1,903, out of which a dividend was declared at the rate of £1 7s 6d per annum, leaving a balance of £363 to be carried forward.

At the meeting, on Thursday, of the Isle of Wight (Newport Junction) Railway Company, the report of the directors, which was agreed to, mentioned that the traffic receipts since the opening of the line (five months) amounted to £2,339, and the expenditure to £1,381.

At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Bradford District Bank Limited, held on Friday last, resolutions were passed and confirmed, authorising an increase in the capital from £650,000 to £1,000,000.

At the half-yearly general meeting, on Monday, of the Bank of Australasia, the directors' report, which was adopted, stated that the amount of undivided profits exhibited in the last accounts admits of a second dividend at the rate of 6½ per cent. for the half-year, or £2 10s per share.

At the ordinary meeting of the Mediterranean Extension Telegraph Company Limited, on Tuesday, the directors' report was adopted, and a dividend declared on the ordinary shares at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, free of income tax. The sum of £500 was added to the reserve, increasing that fund to £7,848.

The annual general meeting of the Albion Life Assurance Society was held on Wednesday, when the report presented by the directors was unanimously adopted. During the year the Society has issued 489 new policies, assuring £119,850, while 74 proposals for £19,000 were declined. The death claims have been very moderate.

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	739	60,976	58,965
Glasgow and South Western	315½	19,318	18,487
Great Eastern	763	50,726	49,680
Great Northern	523	56,274	55,793
Great Western	1,525	117,515	113,578
Lancashire and Yorkshire	450	78,205	75,089
London and Brighton	376¼	42,297	38,759
London, Chatham and Dover	153¼	25,723	24,526
London and North Western	1,587	187,079	187,569
London and South Western	626¼	41,692	42,483
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	3,100	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	33,194	32,481
Midland	975¼	119,831	113,245
Metropolitan	8	8,539	7,928
" " District	8	4,275	3,571
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	361	347
North British	839	47,870	44,743
North Eastern	1,400½	141,086	137,804
North London	12	7,074	6,757
North Staffordshire Railway	191	10,119	10,395
" " Canal	118	1,622	1,647
South Eastern	350	42,225	40,769

CRYSTAL PALACE SWIMMING FETE.

On Tuesday, the second annual swimming fete came off on the Lower Lake of the Crystal Palace, and attracted a large number of spectators. There were several boats gaily decorated with flags, and a band of music added to the interest of the proceedings. The races consisted of one of one mile for the amateur championship of England; the Crystal Palace Challenge Cup (one mile); a 200 yards race, open to all England; a hurdle race (150 yards), a race in dress weighing not less than 7 lbs. (100 yards), Victoria Park Swimming Club Handicap (100 yards), ornamental swimming-race in tubs, duck hunt, &c. Bro. Hudley Pressage acted as starter, and Mr. R. Watson as judge. The several races excited the greatest interest amongst the spectators, and the winners in the different races were loudly cheered as they came to the landing stage. The prizes, which were numerous, varied in value from a cup of 30 guineas to £1, and were on view on a table near the swimming-post. The competition commenced at half-past two, and continued till half-past 6. At half-past seven there was a meeting in the Concert Hall, at which Sir A. Brady was to have presided, and distributed the prizes to the successful competitors, but in his absence the chair was taken by Sir J. Bennett, who has taken an active interest in promoting the art of swimming in London. In opening the proceedings he expressed his satisfaction at what he had seen that day. Only a few years ago it would have been impossible to have had such a fête as they had seen, although is would not be denied by any one that the art of swimming was most beneficial to health, and a means of saving life. He hoped that the prejudices against it would gradually disappear, and that not only men but women and children would be instructed in it. He knew of no better purpose to which the water of the Crystal Palace could be applied. The prizes were then distributed. Mr. Horace Davenport taking the first prize. Mr. D. Ainsworth the second, and Mr. H. Cottam the third, in the Amateur Championship race. There were several prizes of £10 and £5, and Excelsior and Leander medals distributed. The several prizeholders were much cheered.

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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE lamentable accident to the Mistletoe, which we recorded last week, is still attracting public attention. An inquest, of course, followed, when the owner and crew of the unfortunate yatch, as well as Captain Prince Leiningen, Captain Welch, Commander Fullarton and other officers and men of the Alberta, and Victoria and Albert, appeared and gave evidence. At the request of the former, Captain Harris, one of the Board of Trade Assessors, appeared in Court, to give any assistance in his power. The result, after a long and searching investigation will, in all probability, be known to our readers before this reaches them. The sympathy of all classes with the relations of the deceased lady, the Captain, and the mate, has been loudly expressed. The body of Miss Annie Peel was recovered the day following the accident, but that of the mate has been carried away. The Mistletoe herself has been raised, but is reported to be utterly beyond repair, and the only purpose she can answer now is that of firewood.

But to pass from a dismal subject to something lively. The event of the week has been the accomplishment by Captain Webb of his self-imposed task of swimming the Channel—truly a Herculean task, and one that almost makes us believe that fabled hero, or demigod, to have been, after all, something more than a myth. Captain Webb, it will be remembered, like Bro. Captain Boyton in his life-saving dress, failed at the first attempt, but the Englishman, like the American, meant doing what he had undertaken, if possible. Of course, a comparison between the two feats is out of the question. Captain Boyton is known to be a practised and powerful swimmer, and he has more than once distinguished himself by his achievement in long-distance swimming, but the object at which he aimed was to exhibit the value of the invention in which he so ably performs. On the other hand, Captain Webb, who has received the gold medal of the Royal Humane Society for the gallant attempt to save the life of a man overboard in mid-Atlantic, somehow worked himself into the belief that a swim across the Channel was possible, and he determined to make the effort. Accordingly, by way of testing his powers, he first of all swam from Blackwall to Gravesend, accomplishing the distance in about 5½ hours. He next swam from Dover to Ramsgate, a distance of 18 miles, in 9 hours. After practice he set out to cross to the French coast, about a fortnight since, but the weather was too unfavourable; the sea was too rough, and after doing more than half the distance, in nine hours, Webb felt obliged to give it up. On Tuesday, he set out a second time, a few minutes before one p.m., and in 21 hours 45 minutes from the moment of starting he stood on the French coast, exhausted by his long and arduous efforts, but apparently none the worse. It were needless to recount the progress he made, or how roundly and heartily he was cheered on his return to Dover on Thursday. Nor need we enter into long historical sketches of former feats—by Leander, by Byron, by Brock of Great Yarmouth—the last named swam for seven hours, and so saved himself, all his companions in the lifeboat being drowned. All this has been done to death by the specials. Suffice it that the only long distance swimmer who has outdone all persons, and is not in turn outdone, is Captain Webb. The gallant sailor has surpassed his former feats as much as those had previously surpassed all the greatest known swimming feats ever achieved since Anno Mundi 1. It is no slight satisfaction to feel that an Englishman has

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done what no man of any other nation has been known to do. If any of our readers are desirous of joining in the testimonial, now being raised, to reward so grand a feat of skill, strength, and endurance, we shall have great pleasure in being the medium of forwarding their contributions to the Editor of *Land and Water*, who has charge of the fund. Strangely enough, Webb's achievement was hardly known throughout the country, where the value of the art of swimming was most painfully illustrated. The pupils of a school at Rhyl were bathing in the sea, when a number of them got out of their depth, and five, unfortunately, were drowned, while the lives of several others were forcibly endangered. We hope these two facts, and the continued experience of well nigh every year, will bring home to us more closely how imperative it is that all should learn swimming. Talk of compulsory rating, and voting and contracting and so on, compulsory swimming should become the order of the day!

We referred last week to the death of Bro. Andrew Johnson, ex-President of the United States. We learn from the *Keystone* that the Masonic services at the funeral were conducted by Bro. Deputy Grand Master Monro, Tennessee. The Knights Templar, of which body our deceased Brother was a member, furnished a guard of honour, and the Templar service was also recited, E. Sir Nat. Woodruff of Knoxville, officiating. The Craft had the post of honour, both in the procession and at the grave; the following tribute from Parson Brownlow to the memory of the deceased is worthy quoting, bearing directly, as it does, on one of those traits in human nature which ought to be, but is not, unfortunately, regarded at its full worth, and especially among public men, too many of whom act up to the adage, "The end justifies the means." "In one respect, at least," says Parson Brownlow, "ex-President Johnson was a model statesman. He was honest. Whatever men have said of him politically, no responsible man ever called his unflinching integrity in question. He was in public life almost half a century, yet no man can say that he ever betrayed the confidence of his friends by taking that which did not belong to him. His character in this respect was so well understood that he was scarcely ever approached by a dishonest lobbyist with a corrupt proposition. He was very scrupulous in refusing to give any sort of aid to enterprise which he could not conscientiously approve. Just after his election to the United States Senate, in January, he gave an illustration of this. A prominent politician from Pennsylvania, representing a company interested in the Alta Vela Isles, wanted him to send a war vessel to the above mentioned islands just before his great impeachment trial commenced. He attempted to make use of what he considered Mr. Johnson's embarrassment at the time in accomplishing his object. But the President spurned him, and gave him to understand that his official sanction to measures in which private parties are interested was not to be procured in that way. This trait in his character is worthy of emulation by all public men."

The fifty-fifth annual meeting of the British Association opened on Wednesday at Bristol. The General Committee met at one o'clock on that day, Dr. Carpenter, in the momentary absence of Professor Tyndall, occupying the chair. The Report of the Council was submitted and unanimously adopted. Two ladies, Mrs. W. Grey and Miss Carpenter, were added to Sectional Committee F, Economic Science and Statistics, on the resolution of Mr. J. Heywood, President of the section, seconded by Mr. Fellowes. The following are the sections into which the Society is divided for the purpose of better fulfilling the objects for which it was established, together with the names of their respective presidents:—A — Mathematical and Physical Science, President—Professor Balfour Stewart. B — Chemical Science, President—A. G. Vernon Harcourt M.A.; C—Geology, President—Dr. T. Wright F.G.S.; D—Biology, President—P. L. Sclater M.A.; Department of Zoology and Botany, P. L. Sclater will preside; Department of Anatomy and Physiology, Professor Cleland will preside; Department of Anthropology, Professor Rolleston will preside; E—Geography, President, Major-General Strachey R.E.; F—Economic Science and Statistics, President James Heywood F.R.S.; G—Mechanical Sciences, President—William Froude C.E. There will also be discourses by Dr. Spottiswoode on the "Colours of Polarised Light," and by Mr. Bramwell on "Railway Safety Appliances," a lecture by Dr. Carpenter to the working classes on "A Piece of Limestone," as well as a *soirée* and a concert by the Orpheus Glee Club. The Treasurer having read the accounts, which showed a surplus of £624 1s 2d, and were accepted, a vote of thanks brought the Committee to a close. In the evening, at the Colston Hall, the inaugural address was delivered by Sir John Hawkshaw, the new President. The outgoing President, Professor Tyndall, took the chair at the opening of the meeting, and having offered a few appropriate remarks respecting his successor, resigned his seat to Sir John Hawkshaw, who at once proceeded with his address, which was confined entirely to the subject of that profession in which he had attained such eminence. It is needless to add the theme was handled with a skill and perspicuity which were quite worthy of the speaker. On Friday, the several sections were opened, the President of each delivering the address, while sundry of the members read papers, all highly interesting and valuable contributions to science.

The annual Braemer gathering was held with more than the usual success on Thursday, in the presence of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and a large number of the nobility and gentry. The Highlanders, who were mostly retainers of the Earl of Fife, Colonel Farquharson of Invercauld, and the Marquis of Huntly, arrived at the rendezvous, clad in Highland costume, and armed with the weapons of olden days. The races, especially the two mile race for the Queen's Prize, were keenly contested, the chief honours falling to M'Combie Smith, Fleming, and Peter Cameron. Her Majesty took a great interest in the sports, remaining on the ground for more than an hour.

London, at this season of the year, without some sort of amusement for those who are obliged to remain, would be dull indeed, and accordingly we look to the Promenade Concerts to help us to some relaxation from the severer toils of business. Signor Arditi wields the *bâton*, with what effect our readers will understand well. The "classical" evenings are among the most popular, and on Wednesday a very numerous audience assembled to hear a Beethoven selection, which included the Pianoforte Concert in E Flat (No. 5), and the Pastoral Symphony (No. 5), both of which were well received. Last night was to be devoted to Ballads, while a "Gounod Night" is announced for next Tuesday. May the series of Concerts prove a great success this year and always!

By the death of Commodore Goodenough, the Royal Navy loses a most valued officer. Captain Goodenough entered the service in 1844, and had seen a considerable amount of active service on various stations. In 1870 he was appointed to the Pearl 17, as commodore of the second class and senior officer on the Australian station, and had received the thanks of the Colonial Office for his services prior to the cession of the Fiji Islands. Not many days since, the Pearl anchored off Santa Cruz Island. On the 12th instant Captain Goodenough and party landed at Carlisle Bay, for the purpose of opening a friendly intercourse with the natives. They had been just an hour on shore, and the Captain was well satisfied with the progress made, when, just as they were preparing to return, a native, only about four yards off, fired a poisoned arrow at the Commodore, and this struck him in the left side. The boats were shoved off, receiving, at the same time, several flights of arrows; seven in all, including the Commodore and Sub-Lieutenant Hawker, being wounded. Captain Goodenough and two of the crew have since died, and the rest, though doing well, have not yet been pronounced out of danger. Carlisle Bay Village was burned by the Pearl's boats, but this is a poor satisfaction to the Service for the loss of so valuable an officer.

This being the season for regattas, especially on the South Coast, the dailies have been filled with accounts of the proceedings at the several meetings, held at Shanklin, Weymouth, Deal, Worthing and St. Leonards—both these last falling, unfortunately, on the same day—and elsewhere. We need not give details, but it is satisfactory to know the disappointments this year, in consequence of the weather, have been few and far between. Everywhere we read of success, and rejoice accordingly, for these regattas are a great attraction to the shoals of visitors now scattered along our coasts. Cricket, too, is still in vigorous activity, though, as we recently remarked, the legitimate season will soon be at end. We note a somewhat rare event, namely, that Kent has scored a rather tall victory over Hampshire, whom she beat in a single innings, by 217 runs. Hants were all down in their first attempt for 34, Holmes 11 being the only double figure. In their second innings they

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reached 82, Galpin making 13, Rev. J. G. Crowdy 18, and Mr. R. Henley 14. For Kent, the one innings realised 333, to which Mr. Shaw contributed 54, Mr. W. Fenn 16, Mr. F. A. Mackinnon 66, Lord Harris 75, Mr. F. Penn 47, Remnant 25, and Mr. Foord-Kelcey 18. In the North v. South Match played at Tunbridge Wells, there being a large attendance of spectators, the latter were beaten in a single innings; score, North 176, South 56 and 62, Mr. W. G. Grace making only 0 and 19, while his brother, Mr. G. F. Grace, (0 and 6) hardly gave any sign. Surrey beat Middlesex in the return match, by ten wickets, Middlesex 118 and 202, Surrey 293 (including W. W. Read 98) and 28, of which the same gentlemen made 22—without the loss of a wicket. In the return between Gloucestershire and Surrey the former were victorious by 40, Dr. E. M. Grace, with 65 and 71, being the most successful for Gloucestershire. Other matches are in course of progress, of which next week, but we may add that perhaps the longest score ever made, has been recently amassed by the Royal Engineers, at Chatham, in their match with I Zingari. The former remained at the wickets during the whole of last Friday and Saturday, and made 724 for eight wickets, the Hon. M. G. Talbot, Mr. F. K. Scott, and Mr. P. G. Von Donop contributing 172, 164, and 101 respectively, while three others were responsible for scores of over 50 a piece. We feel glad we were not of I Zingari team. Leather-hunting is not the liveliest occupation to follow in hot weather for two whole consecutive days. Sport on the moors is in many places satisfactory, and some very respectable bags have been made. Next week sportsmen will have their opportunities increased in number, and not a few partridges and hares will find their way into the market. There only remain the long tails, and then the tale of birds for the Winkles and the Tupmans of London Society to blaze at is, we suppose, complete.

As a squadron of three United States War Steamers, under the command of Rear Admiral Warden, has been lying for some time in the Southampton Waters, the opportunity has been taken of extending to them that hospitality which is readily accorded to our vessels in American waters. Two banquets have accordingly been given, the second by the Mayor and Corporation of Southampton. The Mayor presided, and was supported on his right by Admiral Warden, and on his left by Captain Franklin, of the "Franklin," there being present also Commander Green, of the "Alaska," most of the Officers of the squadron, together with Mr. W. F. Cowper Temple, M.P., and the Mayors of Portsmouth, Winchester, Romsey, Andover, and Lymington, Commodore Commercll, and several naval and military Officers. Everything passed off most agreeably, the toast of "Rear Admiral Warden and our other American guests" being received with great enthusiasm, and acknowledged by the gallant Officer in the warmest terms. Such banquets as these are of the greatest use in promoting good feeling between ourselves and other countries.

The news from abroad is not of the most satisfactory character, very far from being so, indeed. As regards Spain, the Alphonsist forces seem to be making considerable progress against the Carlists. The siege of Seo de Urgel, or rather of its citadel, is rapidly drawing to an end, the Carlist, Lizarraga, only holding out, it is reported, because he is bound in honour to fight to the last. Unless, then, the Carlists can make any impression on the besieging army, the capture of the place must be imminent. Elsewhere, too, we hear of Dorregaray being in a very deplorable condition, and doing his utmost to avoid pursuit by the numerous columns of Alphonsists which are hunting him up. So far the foreign news is decidedly satisfactory, for if Alphonso's armies can make a serious impression on Carlism it will be a great boon to Spain, which has been in a wretched state for the last few years. But will the defeat of Carlism in the field effectually put down Carlism, especially in the Basque provinces, which are, heart and soul, devoted to the cause? Time will show. From the Herzegovina the news is decidedly bad. Turkey, if left alone, would probably make short work of the insurgents. True, the difficulty of getting at them seems very great, but a disciplined force of a few thousands would soon disperse the various bands of marauders, whose object seems to be pillage and incendiarism rather than fair fighting. Unfortunately, however, there is very considerable excitement in Servia, and there are disturbances in Bosnia as well. The Montenegrins, too, are having a finger in the quarrel, so far, at least, as that numbers of volunteers are constantly arriving from Montenegro, and these swell the bands, the latest news of which is that they are committing all sorts of atrocities. Worse still—or better, some may think—the three great Eastern powers appear to think it necessary to intervene, and the irrepressible Eastern question is again cropping up, to the great risk of disturbing the peace of Europe. We do hope that the great powers will unite for the purpose of repressing these constant outbreaks against Turkish rule. Turkey invariably behaves well, and suffers not a little for her good behaviour. There is little from Paris to record, save that Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet about the Vatican Decrees is the cause of no little excitement throughout the country. From Germany we hear that the Emperor William was present, on Wednesday, at the festival of the delegates of the Gustavus Adolphus Association, and the speech he made was received with loud cheers. The Imperial Prince was present at the grand dinner given at Cologne, in connection with the opening of the Horticultural Exhibition. The Chief Burgomaster proposed His Imperial Highness's health, which was graciously acknowledged. Two other items of news and we have done. The severity of the training in the German army has resulted at the recent Autumn Manœuvres in a serious breakdown, it being reported that a great number of men have given way to the strain imposed upon them by the hard service exacted. In some regiments the number of disabled is said to equal that in many a well-contested field of battle. It is, as the *Standard* very properly urges, unwise to keep men at the highest possible training point. The German military authorities should bear in mind a rule observed among English athletes, not to overtrain. From China it is reported that our ambassador has been assaulted by the authorities. If so, we are in for a scrimmage.

On Monday evening, the 23rd instant, the fifteen sections were worked by several visiting brethren and the Members of the Lodge Friendship, No. 100, at the Town Hall, Great Yarmouth, Bro. T. J. Barnes P.M. 554 and 933 in the chair. Bro. T. Austin P.M. 933 and 1445 Senior Warden. Bro. W. Yetton P.M. 933 Junior Warden.

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section,	Bro. Clark		No. 30 and 1445
2nd "	Bro. Williams		No. 933
3rd "	Bro. Job		No. 1076
4th "	Bro. Constable		P.M. No. 185
5th "	Bro. Pinder		S.W. No. 15, Secy. 1445
6th "	Bro. Yetton		P.M. No. 933
7th "	Bro. Austin		P.M. No. 933 and 1445

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section,	Bro. Wilkins		J.W. No. 1445
2nd "	Bro. Myers		P.M. No. 820, S.W. 1445
3rd "	Bro. Hubbard		S.D. No. 820 and 1445
4th "	Bro. Cundick		J.W. No. 1431
5th "	Bro. Chadwick		P.M. No. 554

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section,	Bro. Master		P.M. No. 1319
2nd "	Bro. J. G. Stevens		P.M. No. 554
3rd "	Bro. Gros		No. 1278

Those of our brethren who wish to possess a memento of American Masonry would do well to procure a copy of "the Dedication Memorial of the New Masonic Temple, Philadelphia," to which we referred in our issue of the 27th March last. Bro. Hughan, of Truro, Cornwall, has a few of the copies left, which he received to introduce into England and will send them carriage paid for 23s each to any part of the Kingdom.

Obituary.

The Craft in general will learn with much regret of the death of Bro. W. Strickland, P.M. St. Peter's, No. 442, P.P.G.S. Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. The melancholy event took place on Tuesday, the 10th inst. Bro. Strickland was well known as a worthy member of the Order, having the welfare of his brethren always at heart. His kind and generous disposition will long be remembered, and his loss is deeply felt in his mother Lodge, and throughout the Province. The funeral took place in the Cemetery at Peterborough, on Saturday, the 14th instant. A number of the brethren of the province followed (as personal friends) the remains of their lamented brother to their last resting place.

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FREEMASONRY IN RUSSIA.

ACCORDING to Findel, Freemasonry found its way into Russia as early as 1731. Captain John Phillips is mentioned, in 1738, as Provincial Grand Master, under the Grand Lodge of England, and General Bro. J. Keith succeeded him, in 1741, though it is said that as early as 1732-4 the latter presided over a Lodge in St. Petersburgh. At first the meetings were, in all probability, held very secretly, for the earliest existing Lodge is fixed in 1750, when the Lodge of Silence was worked in St. Petersburgh, and that of the North Star was erected. During the reign of the Empress Elizabeth the Craft became more in vogue, though the greatest secrecy was still observed. The Emperor Peter III. is said to have presented a house to the Lodge of Constancy, and even to have conducted the Masonic work at Oranienbaum. In 1765, the Melesino Rite, consisting of seven degrees, and so named after Melesino, a Greek by birth, and Lieutenant-General in the Imperial army, flourished. The degrees were, besides the three of the English system, (4) the Dark Vault; (5) the Scotch Master and Knight's Degree; (6) the Philosopher's Degree; and (7) the Grand Priest or the Spiritual Knighthood. But according to the *Freemason's Calendar* for 1777 and 1778, the first regular Lodge was that of Perfect Unity, constituted in St. Petersburg in 1771, most of the members being English merchants residing there. In the following year a warrant was issued by the Grand Lodge of England, appointing His Excellency John Yelaguin (Senator) to be the Provincial Grand Master for the Russian Empire, the result being eminently satisfactory to the Craft. In 1783, twelve working Lodges formed themselves into a Grand National Lodge, Bro. Yelaguin being the Grand Master. Under Bro. Von Reichel's guidance the Lodges adopted the Swedish system. In 1790, matters changed for the worse. Divisions arose in the Lodges, things outside assumed a very threatening aspect, the Empress Catharine giving it to be understood by those around her that she did not approve of Masonic meetings. The majority of the Lodges were accordingly closed, though the Apollo, in St. Petersburgh, worked on silently till 1797, and afterwards assembled its members twice a year, on the feast of St. John and on the anniversary of its erection. The Lodge afterwards known as the "Crowned Pelican" also held meetings of its members, but without working regularly. Paul I., before he ascended the throne, had shown a favourable inclination towards Masonry, but the Lodges remained closed notwithstanding, until more favourable circumstances seemed to justify their being opened; but, contrary to expectation, a prohibition was, some time after, issued against the Craft. This prohibition, as against all secret societies, was renewed when Alexander I. became Emperor, in 1801. In 1807, application having been first made in the proper quarter, the Lodge of the Pelican was opened, and so rapidly did the members increase in numbers that they separated into three Lodges, namely, "The Crowned Pelican," the "Elizabeth, the Patroness of Virtue," and the "Peter, the Patron of Truth," the operations being carried on in Russian, French, and German.

In the Autumn of 1808, the Directory Lodge "Wladimir, the Maintainer of Order," in St. Petersburg (Swedish Rite) began to work, and, soon after, two new Lodges working under French warrants were ordered at the instigation of the Government to join this Directory Lodge, Bro. Böber, a Privy Councillor, being the Grand Master from 1811 to 1814, and after him, Prince Muskin Puschkin. In consequence of dissensions arising, owing, it is believed, to the dissimilarity of the two Rites, two Grand Lodges, with the approval of the Government, were constituted, namely, the Astrăa in St. Petersburg, and a Provincial Lodge, which remained faithful to the Swedish Rite. According to Polick, there were 23 Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Astrăa, while only eleven worked under the Provincial Lodge. In spite of further troubles, Freemasonry continued to advance rapidly in prosperity, when, in the month of August 1822, a decree was issued that all Freemason Lodges should be closed, and no others be constituted. Great as was the grief at the issue of this mandate, it was faithfully observed by our Russian brethren.

Bro. Gen Garibaldi, writing, on the eve of his departure for Caprera, to Signor Lucchesi, whose villa he had been inhabiting at Civita Vecchia, the General says, "I thanks to the miraculous thermal waters, and the kind attention received from you in your comfortable and pretty villa, I have substituted your stick for my crutches, which I leave you as a souvenir."

On the 1st of October an exhibition of metropolitan cabs and cab-horses will be held at the Alexandra Palace, under the patronage of the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Lord Mayor, Cardinal Manning, the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, &c.

The Earl of Aylesford will, says the *Birmingham Post*, accompany the Prince of Wales to India as Equerry to his Royal Highness.

Sir Moses Montefiore has started on his return from Jerusalem. According to the *Jewish World*, Sir Moses left Jerusalem on the 17th inst., and embarked at Jaffa on the 20th, en route to Naples and Marseilles, but he will not arrive in England for nearly another month.

The great half holiday fête of the year at the Alexandra Palace, will be held to-day, Lecocq's opera, "La Fille de Madame Angot," with the Opera Comique Company, in the theatre at 2.45, and a special evening promenade concert in the central hall at 6.45, after which the largest firework display of the season will take place.

The British Museum will be closed on Wednesday, the 1st of September, and re-opened on the following Wednesday.

BURMAH AND CHINA.

The King of Burmah, in whose presence the British Ambassador had to take off his boots, has addressed a letter to the Emperor of China, the text of which is given in a late number of the *Peking Gazette*. His Majesty calls himself "The Great, Glorious, and most Excellent Majesty who reigns over the Kingdoms of Thunaparanta and Tampadipa, and all the Umbrella-bearing Chiefs of the Eastern country, the King of the Rising Sun, Lord of the Celestial Elephants, Master of many White Elephants, the Great Chief of Righteousness, the King of Burmah," but acknowledges himself to be a vassal of China. He sends tribute and presents, including five tame elephants, some ivory and jewellery, piece goods, gold and silver leaf, and fifteen peacocks' tails. "Your vassal," he writes to the Emperor, "would with all humility set forth that under the universal sway of his Holiness the streams and hills are all objects of his fostering care, the kingdoms of the distant ocean become converted to his civilising rule, and as the sunflower bows before the sun, so does all mankind turn with adoration towards the Imperial person. Succeeding to your barren and far off dependency of Burmah, your vassal is impressed with the deep favours conferred by your Heavenly Dynasty when permitting his country to be enrolled amongst the territory of Ya; and in offering up, according to rule, the tribute prescribed the land of Burman is thus included in the heaven of Yan. The letter concludes with the hope that the Emperor will "deign to receive and graciously lend ear to the feelings of obedience, respect, and submission entertained by his vassal." It is rather singular that while we are treating with Burmah as an independent kingdom, the monarch of it should be acknowledging himself a vassal of China. The Lord of the White Elephants possibly expects that the Celestial Emperor will assist him in case of hostilities with England. It is only upon such an assumption that he would pay tribute.—*Globe*.

THOMAS CARLYLE.—Whatever else may be true of Thomas Carlyle—whatever may be taught of his especial system of philosophy or of his policy for the world's good governance—it must be allowed that he, more than any other Englishman of his century, has coloured and modelled English thought. If Dr. Samuel Johnson be excepted, it is probable that no man has ever more distinctively stamped the image of his own genius upon the literary feeling of his time. He has bequeathed to us no new faith, he has evolved no new system. The influence exerted by him has been, and is, almost purely idiosyncratic. It would be possible to express in a dozen or so of the wise saws of antiquity the whole of the Carlylean philosophy. Yet he has erected himself one of the most original—one of the newest and freshest of men. . . . . The special characteristic of Carlyle's genius is probably its intensity. He is for ever enthusiastically in earnest. He is the very Homer of prose, but he never permits himself to slumber. It is obviously impossible for him to over-inform the expression of his opinion. But for this his literary style might occasionally be called exaggerative. It is not so, because he is intenser even than his language, and because language has no tone more piercing than that in which he himself is inwardly addressed. He is terribly in earnest in all things, because to him the universe is in all things so terribly in earnest. When he speaks, it is as if necessity were laid upon him. He has a fine capacity for scorn, and he scorns few things more emphatically than dilletantism, the science of elegant ease and graceful indolence. In the keenness of his satire, the splendour of his eloquence, and the almost volcanic nature of his denunciation, he is very like Byron; But his satire and his denunciation have never lost point or force—as Byron's did—by being merely the outward sign of a discontented egotism.—*From "Cassell's National Portrait Gallery" for August.*

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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, 30th AUGUST.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)

TUESDAY, 31st AUGUST.

239—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford, Kent.
673—Perseverance, Shenstone House, Halesowen, Worcester.

WEDNESDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER.

Quarterly Communication Grand Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, at 6 for 7 p.m.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldersgate Street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
164—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, London Hotel, Sidmouth.
168—Maritime, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
263—Bedford, Private Rooms, Abbey, Tavistock.
239—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
327—St. John's, Lamb and Lion, Wigton, Cumberland.
406—Northern Counties Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
458—Sincerity, Angel Hotel, Northwich.
603—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction).
838—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
1095—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.

R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, St. George's-street, Leeds.

THURSDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER.

1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

24—Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
38—Union, Council Chambers, Chichester.
110—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydvil.
254—Trinity, Castle Hotel, Coventry.
280—Worcester, Bell Hotel, Worcester.
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds.
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
362—Doric, Private Rooms, St. Peter-street, Grantham.
442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.
483—East Surrey Lodge of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.
611—St. Helens, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
637—Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.
1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market Place, Kirby Lonsdale.
1282—Auckolme, Forester's Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1284—Brent, Masonic Hall, Globe Hotel, Topsham.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Banks-street, Newcastle.
1367—Beamish-ter Manor, White Hart Hotel, Bournemouth.

M.M. 20—Faith, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.

FRIDAY, 3rd SEPTEMBER.

1278—Bentley Castle, Argyesch Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1307—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
242—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
305—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.
879—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester.
1333—Athelstan, Town Hall, Athelstone, Warwickshire.

SATURDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER.

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

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—124—Seapatrick, Masonic Hall, Banbridge, co. Down.
WEDNESDAY—51—Temple, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
" 70—Waringsford, Tullynisky, Down.
THURSDAY—32—Royal Shamrock, Lodge Room, Clare's Place, Waterford.
" 111—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 372—Gilfall, Princes-street, Dundalk, co. Down.
" 635—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—97—Hiram, Masonic Hall, Arthur Square, Belfast.
" 110—Kilrea, Kilrea, co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 224—Gosey, Gosey.
" 861—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

GLASGOW.

MONDAY.—102—Union and Crown, 170 Buchanan Street.
" R.A. 122—Thetis, 36 St. James Street.
TUESDAY.—R.A. 72—Caledonian of Unity, 170 Buchanan Street.
WEDNESDAY.—4—Kilwinning, 170 Buchanan Street.
" 117—St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, Perth.
" 124—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
" R.A. 87—Shamrock and Thistle, 12 Trongate.
THURSDAY.—27—St. Mungo, St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan Street.
" 643—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad Road.
FRIDAY.—278—Shamrock and Thistle, 22 Elmbank Street.
" 360—Commercial, 36 Hope Street.
" 408—Clyde, 170 Buchanan Street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Monday, the 16th August, at the Masonic Hall, 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present — Bros. George McDonald R.W.M., G. W. Wheeler acting S.W., J. Ambridge J.W., J. Ampleford Secretary, Thos. Steward S.D. P.M. Bro. T. Stewart. Business—Initiation of one candidate, and the raising of five brethren to the sublime degree. The work was well performed by the R.W.M.

Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 152. — The monthly meeting was held on the 19th of August, at the Masonic Hall, Constitution Street, Leith. Present—Comps. John Laurie Z., David Laird E., E. Drummond Treas., J. W. Scales, W. M. Bryer, A. Henderson, &c., &c. Visitors—Comps. R. S. Brown and J. Walker of Edinburgh Chap. No. 1, and E. G. Sellentin, of St. Andrews, Chap. No. 83, who were affiliated honorary members. Business transacted—Bros. Capt. J. L. Fagan, Capt. F. C. Prine, W. Munro, J. A. Cowan, and T. Elliott were exalted to the Royal Arch Degree. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, when a most pleasant evening was spent.

Confidence Instruction Lodge, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on the 25th Aug., at Bro. Chard's, White Hart Tavern, Aldersgate-lane, E.C. Present—Bros. D. Posener W.M., Abell S.W., Croaker J.W., Pitt Secretary, Constable Treasurer, Berrie S.D., Corner J.D., Blackhall I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Gotthell Preceptor, Bloomfield; also Bros. Chapman, Walker, Cranke, Biddell, Gomm, G. Corner, Tollis and Brady. Business—The W.M. rehearsed the ceremonies of initiation and raising, Bros. Chapman and Gomm being the respective candidates. Bro. Brady 1185 was accepted a joining member. Bro. Abell was elected Master for the ensuing week. Although the W.M. performed his task with fair ability, we hope yet to hear him more perfect.

Star Lodge No. 219.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Friday, the 20th August, at the Hall, 12 Trongate, Glasgow. Present—Bros. J. Morgan W.M., J. Down S.W., J. Lawrence J.W., Jas. Crawford Secretary, J. Finnie S.D., Jas. Fersur Tyler. Business—Initiation, passing, and raising. All three ceremonies were ably worked by Bro. Morgan.

St. John's Lodge, No. 795. — A meeting of the above Lodge was held on Tuesday 17th instant, at the Bay Mead Hotel, Maidenhead. Bro. C. W. Monle W.M. occupying the chair. Bros. W. B. Fair acting as S.W., H. Turner J.W., C. Gammon P.M. Treasurer, H. H. Hodges P.M. Secretary, J. B. Foulger P.M. S.D., Terry I.G., and P.M.'s T. A. Carr, J. Joseph, C. N. Harvey, W. Lumley and Bros. Yalden, Deacon, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Ballots were taken for the following brethren, who were unanimously accepted. Bros. G. Bubb P.M. 180, A. Preston 279, J. F. Baker 227, W. B. Farr P.M. 825, and W. J. Blake 23, Bros. A. Pinto Leite, W. H. C. Sharpe and T. Slater were raised to the third degree, and Bro. C. S. Duggan was passed to the second degree. The two former degrees were conferred on the candidates (through the courtesy of the W.M.) by Bro. G. Bubb P.M. 180, the newly accepted joining member, and the ceremonies were very impressively delivered. Ballots were then taken for the admission of Messrs. J. A. Burgan and W. Sherman, who being personal friends of Bro. T. A. Carr P.M., they were duly initiated into the Order by him. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of one of those banquets that Bro. Deacon is so successful in supplying. The usual loyal, Masonic and routine toasts were given and responded to, and the brethren, after passing an agreeable day, in Masonic working and sociality, returned to town.

Robert Burns Lodge, No. 999.—This Lodge held its 119th meeting on Monday 23rd of August, at Freemasons' Hall. Present—Bros. W. L. Chew W.M., E. H. Flowers S.W., J. A. Infiesta J.W., T. B. Jenkins Sec. and Treas., A. Bacon S.D., F. Cooper J.D., G. E. Wiker Steward, J. McKinless I.G., Jas. Lawton Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. M. Cranswick, Chaplain and H. J. Stephenson. Visitors—J. Brickles, J. Vickers. Business—Bros. J. A. Brickles and G. Hirsch passed to Fellow Craft, J. Oliver raised to the sublime degree of M.M.

Lebanon Chapter, No. 1326. — A Convocation of this Chapter was held on Saturday, the 21st instant, at the Red Lion, Hampton. Comps. M. Scott P.Z. as M.E.Z., J. W. Halsey P.Z. as H., F. Walters P.Z. as J., E. Gilbert P.S., W. Mitchell 2nd Asst., and W. Hammond H. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Comp. E. H. Thiellay 145, was elected a joining member. Bros. W. Pinkett 1326, and J. R. Croft 1324 were balloted for, and duly exalted. Comp. C. Horsley P.P.G.P. Middlesex, acting as J. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Comp. W. Hammond, for his generosity in presenting three very elegant candlesticks for the use of the Chapter. Several candidates were proposed for exaltation, and Comps. W. Hammond H., F. Walters P.Z. S.E., Rev. P. M. Hobbes, and E. H. Thiellay were unanimously recommended for Provincial Grand Chapter honours. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions adjourned to refreshment. Among those present as visitors were C. Horsley P.P.G.R. Middlesex P.Z., M. Scott P.Z. 176, J. W. Halsey P.Z., R. W. Williams 79, &c.

Lebanon Lodge No. 1326.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Red Lion, Hampton, on Saturday, 21st August. The

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Lodge was opened by Bro. J. W. Baldwin, in the absence of the W.M., who has sustained a severe domestic affliction by the sudden death of his sister. E. Gilbert S.W., C. W. Fox J.W., F. Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, R. W. Williams S.D., J. B. Shakleton Organist, H. Gloster D.C., H. Catrens S., H. Potter P.M. W.S., and Bros. Steinhaem, W. Prattent, W. Mitchell, J. R. Croft, W. Crush, Middleton, &c. Bro. J. Baldwin W.M. 1423 raised Bros. Fletcher, Knight and C. Graham, and passed Bros. J. T. Adams, J. Greenwood, and F. Davies 1423. Bro. W. Hammond P.G.J.D. Middlesex I.P.M., W.M. 1512, initiated Messrs. J. Hernaman and W. T. Crout. A sum of two guineas was voted from the funds of the Lodge to a distressed Brother; twenty guineas was voted from the funds for the Boys' School, in the name of the W.M. for the time being. The working of the various ceremonies was capitally done. The Lodge was closed, and refreshment followed. The visitors were Bros. C. Horsley P.P.G.R. Middlesex, M. Scott P.M. 795, J. W. Halsey P.M. 134, F. Davies 1423, &c.

Stockwell Lodge No. 1339.—This Lodge held its meeting on Thursday, the 19th of August, at Tulse Hill Hotel. Present—Bros. Bonham W.M., Bowyer J.W., H. E. Frances P.G.D. Secretary, Col S.D., Pillinger J.D., Parkinson Tyler. Bros. Hart, Hinckesman, Harris, Glazier, &c. Business—To initiate Mr. Kay, to pass Bros. Fortnam, Mason and Fox.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW SCHOOLS AT CUMNOCK, AYRSHIRE.

THURSDAY, the 19th of August, will be a day long remembered by the inhabitants of Old Cumnock, as that on which Col. Mure, M.P., the Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, assisted by about five hundred of his brother Masons, attended to lay the foundation stone of the building in course of erection by the School Board. The building, when completed, will accommodate eight hundred children, and is estimated to cost £4,000. The Old Cumnock Lodge, St. Barnabas, No. 230, under whose banner the Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, mustered in great strength. St. John's Lodge, New Cumnock, also supplying a good contingent. The following Lodges were represented: Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, St. John's, No. 22, Kilmarnock; Thistle and Rose, No. 73, Glasgow; Navigation, No. 86, Troon; St. James's, No. 125, Ayr; St. Andrew's, No. 126, Kilmarnock; St. James's, No. 135, Tarbolton; St. Mungo, No. 179, Maschline; St. Barnabas, No. 230, St. Andrew, 245, Muirkirk; Blair, 290, Dalry; St. John, No. 320, Ardrossan; St. John, No. 334, New Cumnock; St. Thomas, 433, Dalmellington; St. John, 497, Catrine, and Burns, St. Mary, Hurlford. Amongst the Provincial Grand Officers we noticed Col. Mure P.G.M., O. Patrick, of Woodside, D.P.G.M., R. Wylie P.G.S., J. Ferguson P.P.G.W., J. Tweed P.P.J.G.W., and J. M'Kay P.G.S.D.; and from Lodge Mother Kilwinning, Bros. W. H. Steven, H. Arthur and G. W. Wheeler. The brethren being properly marshalled by Bros. Wylie and McKie P.G.M.'s, proceeded round the picturesque village, to the site of the School, adjoining the old Churchyard, where sleep many of the old covenanters, men whose memories Scotchmen still delight to honour. The R.W.M. of St. Barnabas Lodge, No. 230, then, in a neat speech, presented a richly engraved trowel to the P.G.M., requesting him, in the name of the Lodge, to accept it, and perform the ceremony. The stone was then laid with the accustomed Masonic ceremonies, amid the plaudits of the assembled multitude, who were then addressed by the gallant Colonel, on the advantages of education, and the fitness of such a stone being laid by the Masonic fraternity, whose mission it had been in all ages to impart light and knowledge to those who might otherwise have remained in darkness and ignorance, proving that while formerly the public buildings, like arenas and amphitheatres, were built for purposes of sport and cruelty, that now, owing to the dissemination of light and truth, all public buildings were erected to act in the opposite direction. Mr. Bothwell, the chairman of the School Board, then proposed that the thanks of the inhabitants of Cumnock, as well as his own and those of the School Board, should be given to the P.G.M. and those brethren who had come from all parts of the country to honour them on this occasion. The procession then returned to the Lodge room, when the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed. A dinner then took place, at the Black Bull Inn, presided over by Mr. Bothwell, the chairman of the Local School Board, and attended by above 150 of the brethren. After the chairman, in an excellent manner, had given the usual loyal toasts, he gave the "Two Houses of Parliament," calling on Col. Mure to respond, who, he said, was not only P.G.M. of the Masons, but one who had done good service in the field as an officer of her Majesty, and now was doing equally good service to his country by serving in Parliament. We regret that space forbids us to give the gallant Colonel's reply, and also his speech afterwards, when he proposed "The School Board of Cumnock," as both were much above the usual species of after-dinner orations. The whole meeting was a complete success, and will be long remembered in South Ayrshire.

THE MASONIC SIGN.

"YES, sir," said Jones to his friend Smith, "the advantages to be derived from our ancient and honourable institution are incalculable."

By the way we should have said "Brother Jones," for Brother Jones was "high" in Masonry, and was Past Grand Deputy Junior Door Opener for the Counties of Cockaynashire."

"For instance," continued Brother Jones, P.G.D.J.D.O., "look at the position you take when travelling—think of the consideration paid to you. Why, when I landed on the island of Bambaroo, the King, hearing I was a Mason, sent down a detachment of his Horse Guards Black to escort me to his palace."

"But," said Smith, surprised, "are all Masons thus honoured?"

"Well—no," answered Brother Jones, hesitatingly; "only those who belong to the very highest degrees—and I belong to the very highest, the double superior and superlative degree of the combined Rose, Thistle, and Palm Tree, or the three hundred and sixty-fifth degree. There are but seven members of it in the known world, and they are all crowned heads except myself."

"And you," exclaimed Smith, "how on earth were you admitted?"

"I don't wonder at your surprise," continued Jones; "others have wondered at it and envied me. You see, such is the universality of Masonry, that even crowned heads are compelled to admit one outsider into their fraternity, else what would become of the principle of equality?"

"I see," said Smith savagely, for he began to suspect that Brother Jones was chaffing him; and you were a very outsider."

But Brother Jones was in earnest. If he was not a member of this superlative degree, he had dreamed he was, and believed it—so it came to the same thing.

"Now, about these signs," said Smith. "I don't ask you to tell me your secrets; but I object to take a leap in the dark, and if I am to join your Lodge"—for this was the contingency that led up to the conversation—"if I am to join your Lodge, I should like to know just some little about it beforehand."

Brother Jones seemed to hesitate for a few moments, then he appeared buried in profound reflection. At length he rose, and taking Smith by the hand, said:

"Smith, you are my oldest friend—can I trust you?"

Said Smith:

"You can, upon my honour."

"If it were known," said Jones, "that I had divulged the least part of a secret, my life wouldn't be safe for half an hour."

"What!" exclaimed Smith, "do you Masons go about like the bandits in melodramas, with daggers concealed in your boots?"

"Well, no—not exactly in our boots, because the majority of us wear shoes; but it is so. However, I'll chance it."

Here Jones went cautiously round the room, locked the door, and hung his hat on the knob, so as to cover the keyhole.

"Why do you put your hat there?" asked Smith.

"To keep off" ——, said Jones; "in short, to tile the room."

The offshoot of Brother Jones's reflections was this: he had thought of a plan to impart to his friend Smith a Masonic sign, without compromising his fealty to the craft.

"When do you propose going to Bristol?" he asked him.

"This day week."

"Good—now if I put you in possession of one of our secret signs, and you are satisfied with the result, I shall expect to propose you as a Mason; it is the only way you can make atonement to my conscience."

"I agree," said Smith, "and here's my hand on it."

"Very well. Now, you are going to Bristol this day week—well, you shall see the wonderful results of the Masonic signs. Double your fist thus—please to copy me—extend the fore finger of your right hand, and apply it three times to the right side of your nose—gently tapping it thus."

"But why three times?"

"Ah! true—I have made a mistake, and given you an advanced sign; once would have done, but it can't be helped now. When you go to the booking-office ask for a first-class ticket to Bristol; give the sign as I have shown you, and the booking clerk will give you one for nothing."

Smith opened his eyes in surprise.

"Yes," continued Brown, "a first-class ticket for nothing. It is in this way: if you had only tapped your nose once they would have given you a third-class ticket, what we call an 'E.A.P. ticket;' twice, you would receive a second, or 'F.C. ticket;' but, as I have told you three times, you may as well have the advantage of an 'M.M. ticket,' and ride first."

Accordingly, in due course Smith presented himself at the little window, gave the sign by tapping his nose three times as instructed, and at once received his ticket.

"All right, brother," said the clerk. "Pass on."

And it was all right. Smith obtained his first-class ticket, and went down to Bristol.

Great was his amazement, and little did he suspect that Brother Jones had arranged the joke thus: He had a friend who was a booking clerk at the G. W. R., and a member of his own Lodge, and not grudging a trifle for the fun of the thing, he had given him the cost of a first-class ticket to Bristol, and instructed him to hand it over to the person who should act in the manner he had instructed Smith to act.

Smith's business transacted, the next day it was imperative on him to return, and presenting himself at the booking-office, he again made the mystic sign.

"One pound twelve," responded the clerk.

"Yes, I know; but" —— Tap, tap, tap, and he repeated the sign.

"One pound twelve," repeated the clerk; "and don't stand there making grimaces at me all day."

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"But, my good sir"——(Tap, tap, tap.)

Then he tried the single and the double tap, but no result followed; so he paid for a third-class ticket, and went on his way with the brotherly resolve of joining the Order, if it was only to obtain the satisfaction of reporting the conduct of this unworthy clerk. Arriving in town, his first business was to call on Brother Jones, and explain how he had been served, and how the man refused to give him a ticket without the money.

"Of course he did," explained Jones. "You made a mistake; you forgot you were returning, and that the signal ought to have been reversed. You should have tapped the left side of your nose with the finger of the left hand, thus."

Poor Smith more than suspected he had been made the victim of a joke—the hero of a tale with which Jones would regale many a Masonic Brother, with infinite relish. Certainly he never seeks to discover the sign by becoming a Mason. As to Brother Jones, he has risen higher and higher in the Craft, and is not only P.G.D.J.D.O. but P.M.M., P.F.C., P.E.A.P., and X.Y.Z. also.—*Funny Folks.*

THE FIRST STONE.

Forsaken, down trodden, crime-laden, heart-broken,
He lies in the dust. Cast thou not the first stone;
And be not, by thy too-ready lips, his doom spoken;
On high sits the Judge who may judge him alone.

He hath sinned. Well, who hath not? If to us were given,
To each and to all, what stern justice deems due,
Not a man of us ever could hope to gain heaven,
Nor e'er the strait gate of salvation pass through.

Forgive him! Who art thou dar'st sit on thy neighbour
In self-assured judgment? Say, hast *thou* no spot?
No speck on thy conscience? Why shouldest thou labour
To prove *him* all guilty, yet dream *thou* art not?

Oh, hypocrite! know that far sweeter to heaven
The tears of a sinner than those of the just,
As fresh scent gains the rose after tempest hath striven,
And sweeter her blossoms bloom out of the dust.

From the "Quiver" for August.

JENNY JONES.—Many melodies popular in Wales are not old, but the composition of modern bards and harpers. These are often composed in the old style, so that it requires some discrimination to distinguish between ancient tunes and the modern imitations. John Parry tells us that two of his airs, "John ap Kenn," composed in 1802, and "The Maid of Morna" in 1803, have been taken for ancient melodies. He says, "I have composed a number of airs after the Welsh modulation, as it is termed, and which consists of an admixture of the major and minor keys, similar to the well-known air, 'Of noble race was Shenkin,' which have become very popular in Wales; but when the harpers are asked who the composer is they know nothing about it; and, indeed, even the names of the tunes are frequently changed. For instance, when a lady of any consequence happens to admire a certain air, the minstrel, out of courtesy, calls it "Lady such-a-one's delight." The air of "Jenny Jones," sung in London in 1850, by Charles Mathews, the comedian, was picked up in Wales by that gentleman, who considered it to be an old melody. The real fact is that it was composed in 1804 by John Parry, and called by him *Cader Idris*, after the highest mountain but one (Snowdon) in North Wales.—*Leisure Hour.*

FREEMASONRY IN MASSACHUSETTS.

A Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was held on Saturday, 3rd day of July, A.L. 5875, A.D. 1875, for the purpose of commemorating the centennial celebration of the day when our illustrious Brother, General George Washington, under the old Elm at Cambridge, assumed command of the Colonial forces, soon to become, under his generalship, the Army of the United States.

Present—Bros. Percival L. Everitt Grand Master, William J Sawin Senior Grand Warden, Lucius W. Lowell Junior Grand Warden, John McClellan Grand Treasurer, Charles H. Titus Recording Grand Secretary, Geo. P. Sanger Corresponding Grand Secretary, and other Grand and Past Grand Officers.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, in Grand Lodge Hall, Masonic Temple, Boston, at 10 o'clock a.m. By order of the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge was called from labour to refreshment.

The Grand Master, with the brethren of the Grand Lodge, proceeded in carriages to Lyceum Hall, Cambridge, as guests of the municipal authorities of the city, and were welcomed by his Honour the Mayor, W. Bro. Isaac Bradford. Here a procession was formed of the many eminent representative men who had accepted the invitation to unite with the city authorities in fitly celebrating the day, the Grand Lodge being assigned a position next to the President and Fellows of Harvard College, and was conducted to a tent on the Common, near the historic old elm under which Washington first drew his sword as Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

In the tent, after the music and prayer, a poem was read by James Russell Lowell, and an oration delivered by Rev. Augustus P. Peabody, D.D., both of great ability, and well befitting the occasion.

At the close of the services in the tent, the Grand Lodge joined again in procession, and was conducted to Memorial Hall, Harvard College, where a banquet had been provided for the citizens and their guests. Here his Honour, the Mayor, presided, as he had done during the services in the tent, and at the conclusion of the repast called upon Judge Sanger, our R.W. Corresponding Grand Secretary, to act as toast-master.

The first toast, "Washington," was responded to by a dirge from the band, the company all standing with bowed heads.

To the second toast, "The United States," Hon. George S. Boutwell, U.S. Senator from Massachusetts, responded.

The third toast was "Massachusetts," and to this his Excellency, the Governor, Bro. William Gaston, responded.

Hon. Josiah Quincy spoke to the fourth toast, "The Thirteen Original States."

To the next toast, "The Army and Navy," General, Judge, and Bro. Charles Devens, responded.

President Eliot spoke eloquently for "Harvard College," the next toast, when the "Grand Lodge of Massachusetts" was given as the sixth regular toast, to which the M.W. Grand Master eloquently responded.

The orator and poet of the day were called up, and Mr. Lowell, declining to make remarks, called up in his place Oliver Wendell Holmes, who read a poem well suited to the occasion. Other eminent men responded to sentiments appropriate to the day, and the exercises in this beautiful hall proved to be of exceeding interest.

On invitation of R.W. Henry Endicott, the brethren of the Grand Lodge enjoyed the hospitality of his pleasant home in Cambridgeport, thus adding pleasantly to the many enjoyable scenes of the day.

At eight o'clock p.m., the Grand Lodge returned to Masonic Temple, Boston, which was called from refreshment to labour, and closed in ample form.—*The Keystone.*

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 36. SATURDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

PUBLICITY.

ONE of the chief features of the age we live in is the very slight respect shown for privacy. Questions that affect the common weal, must, of course, be discussed in public, nor is there harm, but rather the reverse, in bringing before the tribunal of public opinion those acts done in private which may prove hurtful to the general body. But publicitiy is not unfrequently abused. The press, as a whole, has done service, by directing, restraining, or exciting public opinion on grave questions, and the most esteemed among our journals do studiously exclude from their columns whatever is offensive to propriety and good taste. Offences against decency are most carefully reported, all objectionable details being as carefully veiled in mysterious language as possible. Divorce cases are summarised in like manner. Not all journals, however, are careful to observe this highly proper rule of conduct, and too often the revolting details of a vicious act or life are displayed, in all their native hideousness, in black and white. Again, there is another way in which the privacy of life is treated with utter disdain. Some terrible catastrophe occurs, and some journals, which only look upon their *raison d'être* as the attainment of large profits, are not over nice in obtaining the earliest and most detailed intelligence. A well known case will best illustrate our meaning. Towards the end of last year we learned, by telegraph, that a large emigrant ship had been overtaken by that most terrible of all calamities—fire, and that of nearly five hundred souls aboard only three had escaped to tell the dreadful tale. It was known that these men were on their return home, and that in the ordinary course of things the usual inquiry into the disaster would be held. The anxiety of the public to learn all the particulars of the loss was perfectly natural, but we question if it did not learn with anger that even before landing the survivors had been "interviewed" by one or more of "Our Special Commissioner" class of news agents. No doubt the mate and his companions were glad enough to disburden their minds of their fearful narrative. Investigation was necessary, in the interests of the public, but the public court was the proper place for such evidence as could be furnished. This waylaying and interviewing of men who have just escaped with bare life from a terrible fate, merely in order that some journals may be first in the market with their news, strikes us as being a flagrant violation of decency. The feelings of the survivors were of little account compared with the all-important question of £ s d. Again, our readers may call to mind that in one of our earliest issues we reviewed a work by the late Sir Arthur Helps, the very last, indeed, that he wrote,—*Social Pressure*. The subject of one of the essays it contained was "Over Publicity." We cordially endorsed the author's views, and illustrated his condemnation of this special vice of the age by citing the publication of the "Greville Memoirs" as a case in point. Their appearance had attracted general attention, all the more for the scandal they contained; but the conduct of the editor in publishing them has been very generally and, we think, very properly condemned. Many of those who figure in the narrative are yet alive. For most of the information in his Diary Mr. Greville was indebted to private sources of information and the confidential position he held as Clerk to the Privy Council. We all know what a pestilent set of people are the busybodies and Paul Pry's of the circle we move in. Be we inhabitants of a small village, or members of a small *cóterie*, there are still certain things which we claim the right to keep sacred from the inquisitiveness of our neighbours. No matter how narrow the circle of our acquaintance, we can all of us point to one or more tittle-tattlers it contains who spend the whole of their days in prying into the private concerns of their acquaintances. We all despise these people in our hearts, if not openly, and the journal that rends the veil separating privacy from publicity is equally objectionable.

There is little danger of Masons erring on the score of over publicity. Indeed, many of us are too reticent. One of the greatest obstacles to the success of Masonic periodicals, is the aversion felt by many of the Craft to allow even a formal announcement to be made about Masonic proceedings. We have read somewhere—we fancy it was in one of Dr. Oliver's works—about a brother, in days gone by, who expressed himself, in no unmeasured terms, of his objection to all Masonic publications. When pressed to say what he had found in them that was objectionable, he very candidly admitted that he had never read, and never meant to read, any of them, and he thought they should one and all be committed to the flames forthwith. We do not for a moment believe that Craftsmen of the present day are so bigoted, yet is it beyond all doubt that a large and numerous section of our Order is opposed to Masonic journalism, while a still more numerous section is supremely apathetic in the matter. They will read a journal if it comes in their way, but they will not trouble themselves to support it. Those who object to Masonic publications are, doubtless, influenced by conscientious motives. They firmly believe that anything in the shape of a Masonic press is strictly forbidden by the Constitutions, that publicity in connection with a secret society is a monstrous anomaly. While, however, we shall always evince a proper respect for the opinions of our fellows, we feel constrained to point out to them that what they so strongly object to has been the very means to which the Fraternity is indebted for its wonderful progress in these latter years. No Mason would ever dream of divulging what he is obligated to keep secret. Would any one believe him if he did? Would it not be asked—Can he be trustworthy who has proved himself faithless, who has broken the most solemn obligation, *voluntarily* contracted? So far then as the secrets of Freemasonry are concerned, there need be no fear of their being made known. But we are a numerous body now, and scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land. The few hundreds of which the Fraternity consisted in the early part of last century have swelled into many thousands. Our kinsmen in America are most enthusiastic in their love of Masonry—in fact, all the world over, the Craft is most prosperous. Now what after all is a journal but a medium for the conveyance of news among the scattered members of a community? Events of general interest are happening around us every day of our lives. Questions of policy occasionally crop up, and where better can such questions be discussed than in the pages of some periodical? The history of our Order has given rise to a considerable variety of opinion. Some carry it back to the remotest ages, others look upon the Craft as the work of a few speculative philosophers who flourished about a century and three quarters ago. The open discussion of these and cognate matters involves no fracture of the conditions on which we were admitted into the Order. There is a numerous array of works on Freemasonry. These are known to the Masonic student, but the bulk of the Craft has but a very limited idea of their contents. The Reports of

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Lodge Meetings—discreetly worded, of course—of the anniversaries of our Charitable Institutions, of the progress that is being made by the Fraternity in other countries, or of the difficulties and even persecution which it occasionally, but, we are glad to say, very seldom, has to contend with, all these are matters which cannot fail to prove interesting to the Masonic world. Why then should there be no organs of Masonic opinion? The Army and Navy, the Civil Service, the various scientific and other societies, each of these has its organ, in which every variety of opinion about questions of general interest finds expression. Why should Masonry be the only one among public bodies which treats journalism with indifference? Publicity—to the point that is allowed by decency and the rules of our Order, is a benefit. Will any one be bold enough to suggest that the works on Masonry, already published, have not been of essential service? Is it no advantage that there should exist a medium for gauging the opinion of the Craft in those countries where Masons most do congregate. England is undoubtedly the progenitor of Masonry as it has existed since 1717, and we feel confident that our English brethren will recognise, on reflection, that a newspaper is at all events a convenient medium for learning about the doings of our fellows in other parts as well as for the study of important questions. We repeat, the brethren of to-day are becoming less and less bigoted. There is not that unreasoning opposition to Masonic publications of which we have already given an instance. But a more liberal support of the Masonic press—we say it from no interested motives—would betoken a more liberal interest in the Craft. When we were comparatively few in number, we could rub along very well without much trouble. Now that we are so considerable in respect of numbers we need, more than ever, the means for interchanging opinions, not only among ourselves at home, but with our friends and brethren abroad. There is to-day an absolute need for a Masonic press; let it not be a reproach to the Order that the efforts of its journals pass unappreciated.

M. FORAISSE ON THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE AND ITS DOCTRINE.

(Translated from the French.)

THE Order of the Temple is cosmopolitan, and is divided into two great classes, denominated respectively the Order of the Temple and the Eastern Order. The Eastern Order gave birth to the Order of the Temple, and in the course of time has become an appendage of the latter. It is in ancient Egypt that we find the cradle of the Eastern Order. Its chiefs were at one and the same time legislators and pontiffs. Their policy was opposed to the propagation of metaphysical knowledge and the natural sciences, of which they preserved the repository, and those who revealed to the people, that is to the profane, the secrets reserved only for those of a more elevated rank in the sacerdotal hierarchy were punished with death. To the *profanum vulgus* were offered only those emblems which constituted the outward form of theology, and that tended to give more power to superstition as well as greater strength to the ruling powers.

Moses was initiated in Egypt. Learned in all the mysteries of the priesthood, he was thus enabled so to profit by his knowledge as with the aid of the Almighty to rise superior to the power of the Magi, and deliver his countrymen from bondage. Aaron, his brother, and the chiefs of the Hebrew nation became the repositories of his secrets, those chiefs or Levites being divided into several grades or classes after the manner of the Egyptian priests.

In the fulness of time the son of God appeared on the earth. At the early age of nine he confounded in argument the learned doctors of the Synagogue Thereafter, by the force of a genius which was wholly divine, directing the fruits of his deep meditations towards the civilisation of the world and the happiness of mankind, he established the true religion, preached the love of God and of one's neighbour, equality before the common father of mankind, and, in the end, consecrated for ever, by a sacrifice worthy of the only Son of God, that is, *God himself*, the doctrine he transmitted for the spiritual benefit of man. He imparted his teachings to St. John the Baptist and to the apostles, and soon the morality of the gospel spread itself throughout the world, and nations, becoming enlightened, abjured the initiations of Egypt and the dogmas of pagan priests and their formulæ.

St. John the Evangelist, the apostle of brotherly love, never quitted the East. His teaching, always pure, was in nowise altered by the admixture of other doctrine. St. Peter and the rest of the apostles carried the dogmas of Christianity among distant peoples, but being obliged, in order to propagate their faith, oftentimes to countenance the manners and customs of those different nations, and even to sanction rites which were not those of the East, blemishes and differences found their way into the different gospels, as into the doctrine of numerous Christian sects.

Up to the year 1118, the mysteries and the hierarchical Order of Egyptian initiation which had been handed down to the Jews, and afterwards to the Christians, were preserved without alteration by the Eastern Brethren, but then the Christians, persecuted by the Infidels, appreciating the courage and piety of those brave Crusaders, who, with the sword in one hand and the cross in the other, flew to the defence of the Holy Places, and rendering, above all, a grand tribute of respect to the justice and ardent charity of the comrades of Hugues de Payens, considered they should entrust to hands so pure the repository of those sciences which had been acquired in the course of so many centuries and sanctified by the Cross, namely the doctrine and morality of the Man-God.

Such is the origin of the foundation of the Order of the Temple in which Hugues, learned in the esoteric doctrine and the initiatory formulæ of the Eastern Christians, was invested with patriarchal power and placed in the legitimate Order of the successors of St. John the Baptist.

We all know the prosecutions which were directed against the Templars. At that time, Jacques de Molay, foreseeing the misfortunes which threatened the very existence of an Order the existence of which he was anxious to perpetuate, designated as his successor Johannes Marcus Larmenius of Jerusalem, who invested the Grand Masters destined to be his successors with a patriarchal authority, as with magisterial power, by virtue of the charter of transmission which he issued in 1324, a charter the original of which is deposited in the treasury of the Order, under the title of *Tabula aurea*, and which contains the acceptance, signed with their own hand, of all the Grand Masters who have succeeded Larmenius.

After the death of Jacques de Molay, some Scotch Templars having become apostates from the Order, at the instigation of the king Robert Bruce ranged themselves under the banners of a New Order instituted by that prince, and in which the receptions were based on those of the Order of the Temple. It is there we must search for the origin of Scottish Masonry, and even that of the other Masonic rites. The Scotch Templars were excommunicated in 1324 by Larmenius, who described them as *Templi Desertores*, and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem as *Dominiorum militiæ spoliatores*, &c. That excommunication has since been renewed by different Grand Masters against the Scotch Templars, who have been declared rebels against the legitimate authority, and cast out from the pale of the Temple.

From the schism introduced into Scotland have sprung a great number of different sects, nearly all of which lay claim to have descended from the Temple, while some even go so far as to call themselves the *Order itself*. Such are the corrected system, the Knights Kadosh of all systems, &c., &c. More recently still, in Germany, other branches have detached themselves from the parent stem, at the election of a Grand Master, and because a French Knight was chosed to fill that dignity, the dissidents constituted themselves reformed Templars, and gave themselves new laws.....

The Order of the Temple has never ceased to exist in France, under the government of a succession of Grand Masters worthy to be commended not only for their virtues but their high position in the State, and all have maintained the principles and doctrine of the institution such as they were at the origin of the Order. The actual organisation of the Temple is such as circumstances may permit; its archives contain the indisputable monuments of its ancient foundation, but what it is these knights have preserved with the most pious reverence, and what they will never depart from, is the teaching of their illustrious ancestors as set forth in an address of the Grand Master *in esse*.

"Devoted to honour, to our sovereign, to beneficence,

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we never listen to any other voice than that of our prince, of nature, and of the most ardent charity. God, love, concord, peace towards all mankind, fidelity, unlimited devotion, inviolable attachment to each of our brethren, succour to all in distress, such are the thoughts of every initiate, of every Knight of the Temple."

GOOD FELLOWSHIP.

A MOST worthy, estimable man is he, who is described in the song as—

A jolly good fellow,
And so say all of us.

We may depend upon it the man on whom these convivial honours were so liberally bestowed had a good deal of the Mason about him. Were we publishers of Masonic music we should feel disposed to include this familiar refrain among our Masonic songs, especially as there is a marvellous dearth of singable matter in our *répertoire*. It is tolerably certain that this chorus, though universally applicable in these times—

It's a way we have in the army,
It's a way we have in the army, &c., &c.

must have had originally some "local habitation and a name"—the demon of quotation is haunting us at the moment, so our readers must excuse any apparent tendency to wander from the paths of common sense or connected sense:—

To err is human, to forgive divine.

Now it were a difficult, yet withal a most interesting problem to solve, and we specially commend it to those active-minded brethren among us, who dive into the more curious, and abstruse points of history relating to the Order, whether this glorious rollicking chorus had or had not a Masonic origin. For our own part we incline to the former theory. We give no reason for our belief—not even on compulsion. "Give you a reason on compulsion! if reasons were as plenty as blackberries, I would give no man a reason upon compulsion, I." We repeat, we give no reasons, but we feel morally certain they will be forthcoming and "plenty as blackberries" too, when the time for settling this knotty point shall have arrived. But while this digression lasts, our jolly good fellow is at a standstill, and to have trotted him forth in all his native joviality, and then abandon him to his own resources, well, that we call scurvy treatment, such as poor old Jack Falstaff resented on an ever memorable occasion. "There is nothing but roguery to be found in villanous men," and again, "Go thy ways, old Jack; die when thou wilt, if manhood, good manhood, be not forgot upon the face of the earth, then am I a shotten herring." So this worthy good fellow shall not stand alone or unadorned. We will make him for the nonce a convivial peg whereon to hang one or more suggestions. So walk in, ladies and gentlemen, walk in.

One of the chief aims of Masonry is the promotion of good fellowship. We cannot always be serious, "All work and no play"—well we all know the effect this had upon the mind of the unhappy Jack. It is not our duty to be always serious. To be declared to be both merry and wise is one of the highest compliments that can be paid a man. Now, in Masonry, of course, we take the wisdom for granted. We have a right to assume that a man who becomes a Mason affords the best evidence he can that he is the possessor of wisdom. But it follows not, as of course, that he has in him the wherewithal to be merry. We have no desire to sow broadcast anything so vulgar as imputations. When we say "the wherewithal to be merry," we are not thinking of the "Friar of Orders Grey" who described himself—in part—thus—

"Myself, by denial, I mortify
With a dainty bit of a warden pie.
* * * * * * *
With old sack wine I am lined withia."

We mean that he has not in him, or, at all events, that he has not sufficiently cultivated what of geniality there lurks about his system. He carries himself too stiff and formal. Without being "Hail, fellow, well met!" with every one, whether knowing or not knowing them, without going into ecstatic fits of gush over any new acquaintance he makes—we have no very high opinion of such fellows—there is plenty of room for him to throw aside a considerable part of that cold reserve which he draws so closely about him, just as men do their Ulsters on a wintry day. We are not going to suggest anything so lunatic as that all social distinctions of rank, all etiquette, all due formalities should be annulled—it is only the silly, *soi-disant* demagogue who is ranting continually—

When Adam delved and Eve span,
Who was then a gentleman?

—who does this. What we wish to see, and what we think it is the business of all brethren to promote, is a more genial intercourse among Craftsmen. Masonry is an *omnium gatherum* of classes, including in its ranks both prince and peasant. But Masons, as other men, have each their social sphere in which they live, and move, and have their being. There is, as far as we can see, no earthly reason why, within the limits of this sphere, there should not reign the most perfect cordiality. Having regard to the mixed character of all corporate bodies, we may take it that members of the same Lodge, as near as possible, occupy the same social rank. We are certain they must not only know but respect each other. Why, then, should not good fellowship be promoted among these worthy fellows *outside*, as well as inside the Lodge, and how better can it be promoted than by organising such pleasant "outings" as pic-nics, or such excellent "innings" as tea fights, at homes, dancing parties, &c., &c. The old-fashioned plan of half a dozen friends meeting successively at each other's houses, and enjoying either a general chat, a hand at cards, or a little music—a few glees, madrigals, and the like—was a most excellent one. Homely enough these friendly meetings were, and hardly to be mentioned in connection with the more showy entertainment of to-day, but they were promotive of geniality, of all kindliness—of good fellowship, in fact; and we question very much if the grand ball, or *soirée musicale* is as effective. Then an interchange of visits between town Masons and country Masons. Bro. A. B. C. and a few Masonic intimates run down to Herringtown, and eat the friendly bloater, an honour that is reciprocated by Bro. X. Y. Z., who is whirled from the land of bloaters to the land of smoke, to take a comfortable chop at the Criterion, or the London, or perchance, the Albion. For this reason, too, we hail with pleasure the establishment of a Masonic Club. This will, indeed, be a gain to Masonry. Here at once we have established a central point about which both town and country brethren may collect, and not only interchange the ordinary civilities of life, but indulge in free and friendly discussion about all that concerns our Order. Passing strange is it that the idea has never occurred before, for Masons are clubbable men—essentially so, in fact. They have the same objects in view. From frequently meeting together in the same Lodge they tolerably well appreciate each other. Having, as they must, their good and weak points severally, they become impressed with the same class of ideas, yielding, as they constantly do, to the same noble and generous impulses. Here, then, is excellent ground for the promoters of such a scheme to work upon, and we hope and believe their efforts will prove not unsuccessful, so that ere long we shall boast a good Masonic Club where brethren from all parts of the world may meet on the level and part on the square. So shall we advance the best of all causes—good fellowship. But time's up; so one more toast ere parting, and mind, reader, with musical honours—"Good Fellowship!"—

"For he's a jolly good fellow,
And so say all of us."

ON THE ADVANTAGES OF THE FRATERNITY.

[From a Lecture by Martin Clare, M.A., Junior G. Warden, 1735.]

Whatever therefore remains is to remind the brethren that Masons have ever been lovers of order. It is the business of their particular profession to reduce all rude matters to truth. Their aphorisms recommend it. The number of their lights, and the declared end of their coming together, intimate the frame and disposition of

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mind wherewith they are to meet, and the manner of their behaviour when assembled.

Shall it then ever be said that those, who by choice are distinguished from the gross of mankind, and who voluntarily have enrolled their names in this most ancient and honourable society, are so far wanting to themselves and the Order they profess, as to neglect its rules? Shall those who are banded and cemented together, by the strictest ties of amity, omit the practice of forbearance and brotherly love? or shall the passions of those persons ever become ungovernable, who assemble purposely to subdue them?

We are, let it be considered, the successors of those who reared a structure to the honour of Almighty God, the Grand Architect of the world, which for wisdom, strength, and beauty hath never yet had any parallel. We are intimately related to those great and worthy spirits, who have ever made it their business and their aim to improve themselves, and to inform mankind. Let us then copy their example, that we may also hope to obtain a share in their praise. This cannot possibly be done in a scene of disorder: pearls are never found but when the sea is calm; and silent water is generally deepest.

It has been long, and still is, the glory and happiness of this society, to have its interest espoused by the great, the noble, and the honoured of the land. Persons who, after the example of the wisest and the grandest of kings, esteem it neither condescension nor dishonour to patronise and encourage the professors of the Craft. It is our duty, in return, to do nothing inconsistent with this favour; and being members of this body, it becomes us to act in some degree suitable to the honour we receive from our illustrious head.

If this be done at our general meetings, every good and desirable end will very probably be promoted among us. The Craft will have the advantage of being governed by good, wholesome, and dispassionate laws; the business of the Grand Lodge will be smoothly and effectually carried on; your Grand Officers will communicate their sentiments, and receive your opinions and advice with pleasure and satisfaction; particular societies will become still more regular, from what their representatives shall observe here. In a word, true and ancient Masonry will flourish; and those that are without, will soon come to know that there are more substantial pleasures to be found, as well as greater advantages to be reaped, in our society, orderly conducted, than can possibly be met with in any other bodies of men, how magnificent soever their pretensions may be. For none can be so amiable as that which promotes brotherly love, and fixes that as the grand cement of all our actions; to the performance of which we are bound by an obligation, both solemn and awful, and that entered into by our own free and deliberate choice; and as it is to direct our lives and actions, it can never be too often repeated, nor too frequently inculcated.

Customs of the German Stone Masons.—When a Fellowcraft was on his travels, and wished to visit the Lodge of any place for the first time, he knocked three times distinctly, approaching with three upright regular steps the Master or Speaker (Polirer a corruption of Parlierer), who supplied the place of the Master in his absence, and also addressed strangers, the other Fellows all standing round, their feet placed at right angles. The salutations of the travelling Fellows were: God greet you,—God guide you,—God reward you—Master, Parlierer, and all good comrades. Upon which the Master or Parlierer returned thanks, that the Apprentice might know which was the chief, then he continued, "the Master N. N. sends you a greeting!" This is a summary account of the customs usual amongst the German Masons on the admission of a candidate. Whoever wishes to know more on the subject, is referred to the works of Fallou and Winzer, and likewise to Appendix A: "Examination of German Stone-Masons."—*Findel.*

Holloway's Pills.—Council and Cheer.—Many impurities enter the human system during the summer, from the decomposition of animal and vegetable matter, which often taints the air, and renders the water noxious. The grand quality displayed by these excellent Pills, of searching out and expelling all pernicious particles from the system, constitute them the best medicine for averting indigestion, bilious attacks, diarrhœa, and English cholera. Of all the various affections of the alimentary canal, constantly occurring in a variable climate, Holloway's Pills are the best, cheapest and safest remedies, since they can never act wrongly or be taken without benefit, if their accompanying directions receive only moderate attention, and the diet be restricted to plain, wholesome and digestible food.

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemason's Hall. The Grand Master, the Pro-Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, and one of the Grand Deacons, besides many Past Grand Officers of high rank, were not present. Bro. Major-General Brownrigg, Prov. G.M. of Surrey, presided, and Bro. Robert Scott, District Grand Master of Trinidad, acted as Deputy Grand Master for this occasion. Nevertheless, Grand Lodge was well attended, there being, perhaps, nearly 300 brethren in all present. Since the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales this was the first Grand Lodge at which the jewel was worn, which was struck by command of the Grand Master to commemorate the great event of the 28th April last. This jewel, which was manufactured by Bro. H. T. Lamb, of St. John's-square, from designs of Sir Albert wood (Garter), was very much admired, both for the beauty of the design, the quality of the material, and the excellence of the workmanship; and the Stewards, who were its fortunate possessor, appeared to be very proud of the distinction which the wearing of it signified.

Among the brethren who were present, were Bro. S. Rawson, who acted as Past Grand Master, Bro. P. Pattison, as G.S.W., Bro. Capt. Platt, as G.J.W., and Bros. M'Intyre Q.C., Thomas Fenn, Thos. W. White, N. B. Headon, Wilhelm Kuhe, W. Kindon, H. Marshon, Richd. Spencer, E. M. Haigh, H. G. Buss, Henry Smith Prov. G. Secretary W. Yorks., John Boyd, C. A. Cottebrune, W. Ough, Joshua Nunn, E. Bradford, James Brett, Joseph Smith, J. A. Rucker, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Dr. Woodman, J. M. Clabon, J. B. Monckton, Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, Rev. J. Stadholme Brownrigg, Rev. R. J. Simpson, Rev. C. J. Martyr, Bros. E. N. Albert, A. J. D. Filer, R. J. Spiers, H. Browse, T. J. Sabine, W. Wright, W. Stephens, F. Adlard, B. Baker, W. Dodd, Rev S. R. Wigram, John Constable P.M. 185, J. C. Parkinson, Israel Abrahams, Capt. Phillips, E. S. Snell, C. B. Payne, T. Speight, &c. The procession of Grand Officers into Grand Lodge was accompanied by the playing of the organ by Bro. Wilhelm Kuhe, Grand Organist.

Grand Lodge having been opened according to ancient form, Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, read letters from the Marquis of Hamilton G.S.W., the Lord Mayor G.J.W., and Bro. W. Speed G.D., regretting their inability to attend, which was occasioned by absence from London. The minutes of 2nd June were read and confirmed, and the report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which were recommendation for four grants of £50 and upwards, was also read by Bro. Hervey. Bros. J. M. Clabon and Joshua Nunn moved the adoption of the recommendations, and explained that in each case the recipients of the donations were most deservedly the brethren to be relieved, and the deceased husbands of the widows who were to be relieved, having been very serviceable members of the Craft, and been reduced to want by no acts or fault of their own. The recommendations were unanimously adopted, without any hesitation.

Bro. John B. Monckton moved that the Report of the Board of General Purposes be taken as read.*

Bro. Peter Long seconded the motion.

Bro. Monckton, after the motion had been put to the meeting and carried, moved that the report of the Board be received and entered on the minutes. In doing so he observed that there was nothing in it which required the confirmation of Grand Lodge; but the members of Grand Lodge would see it contained matter of importance. A practice had sprung up, principally in country places, of wearing jewels which were not authorised. Much notice, however, had not been taken of the circumstance till latterly, when probably the suggestion of people interested in the manufacture of Masonic jewels had led to inquiry into the subject. It had been thought right by the Board to direct Grand Secretary to put himself into communication with Provincial Grand Secretaries, and other Masonic authorities, as mentioned in the above report, and the matter would probably now be set at rest. It was in the order and fitness of things that only Craft jewels should be worn in Craft Lodges. Bro. Long seconded this motion also, which was then put and carried unanimously. The annual report of "the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," dated the 21st May 1875, was laid before Grand Lodge.

* We published the Report in our last issue.—Ed. F.C.

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.—*Adv.*

Card 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, Euchre, &c. Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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FOGEYISM AND RADICALISM.

From the CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS.

THERE are in Freemasonry as in politics and religion, and indeed in all other mundane affairs, two extremes of thought, which have been distinguished by the names which make the caption of the present article. *Fogeyism* is quite a modern term, although the thing which it describes is of venerable antiquity. Doubtless there has been a corruption in the spelling of the word as well as in its pronunciation, and there was originally an expressed reference to the physical condition of being in a *fog*, when the sight is contracted to the narrow space upon which one stands. Thus the *fogey* comes to the consideration of any subject with a clouded or befogged understanding, which prevents him from seeing before or around him, and he denounces any change, because to change is, as he thinks, to pass recklessly into a *terra incognita*, where only imminent danger or certain destruction is to be anticipated. The fogey is naturally opposed to all revolution in government; all changes of customs; all amendments of laws. He has an eye single to the past, and can see in the present or the future nothing but danger or deterioration. Horace describes such a man as a "*laudator temporis acti*;" and Aristotle, long before Horace, painted him as ever speaking of what had been done in former times, and delighting in his recollections of his early days.

To such men steamboats were portentous experiments, and it is wonderful how they have survived the introduction of railroads and telegraphs.

Now, fogeyism abounds in Masonry, and is there much more to be dreaded than in either politics or religion. This is because its admirers find there a breastwork erected for another purpose, but behind which they unintentionally hide themselves, and bid defiance to all the shots that are fired at them by their opponents.

In Masonry there are of course certain things which admit of no change—which all Masons believe cannot be changed for the better, and in which any change must inevitably be for the worse. These are the landmarks of the society—the boundary lines which have ever circumscribed it, and separated and consecrated it as it were, from all other institutions. Now, innovations upon these landmarks are abhorrent to the mind of every Mason; and when improvements or alterations in these are talked of, the fogey gets on safe ground, and, in his opposition to change, finds himself supported by all the prudent Masons in the Craft.

But, unfortunately, he has generally very clouded and indistinct ideas of what the real landmarks are. With him, everything that he has been accustomed to see and hear is a landmark. Propose to alter a bye-law, and he talks of violating a landmark. Suggest an amendment to the regulations of a Grand Lodge, and he raises the cry of innovation, and flies behind his breastwork, and collects all his old fogey brethren around him, and then they praise the past and speak doubtfully of the future; and bring themselves to believe at last that a law of twenty or thirty years' standing is a landmark, and that all the laws of Freemasonry, by which they mean the regulations of their own little jurisdiction, are as incapable of repeal or amendment as the decrees of the Medes and Persians.

"*Leges Anglie nolumus mutare*," is the favorite motto with them, and, like the old barons of England, they respond to every proposition for improvement with the magic and, as they think, unanswerable sentence, "We are opposed to innovation."

The radicals betake themselves to the other extreme, and are much too prone to change, as the fogeys are too averse. The radicals, as their name imports, are not content, when they discover a rotten branch, to lop it off, and it alone, but they are for applying the axe at once to the root, and for felling the whole tree. If the fogeys believe everything to be a landmark, the radicals invest nothing with that character.

The radical is, in Masonry, a very dangerous character. As much a despiser of precedents, as the fogey is their worshipper, he is too often disposed to yield his rash and often unfledged opinions to no force of authority and to no argument of expediency. For him it is sufficient that a change has been proposed, and in his love of change, he often yields his love of truth and his love of right. He cannot tolerate an evil, however trifling in its nature, or transitory in its duration, and is ever ready to abolish it by the adoption of a remedy as questionable in its expected results, as the evil it is proposed to cure. In the hand of the fogeys, Freemasonry would long since have lost all its vitality, and becoming lifeless and effete, must have been cast aside as a worn out engine, which had done its work, and was incapable of repair. In the hands of the radicals, Freemasonry would soon lose its identity, and, amid a multitude of dangerous and irrational experiments, must, in brief time, wear out its forces, and, like the unfortunate patient celebrated in the Italian epitaph, die of too much physic.

It is evident, then, that both fogeyism and radicalism are opposed (but in different ways) to true and healthful progress, and that either system is dangerous to the welfare and perpetuity of Freemasonry.

Fortunately there is a middle system, which, partaking of the excellencies of both (for both have excellencies), is without the faults of either.

Conservatism is that *medio tutissimo* from which everything is to be hoped and nothing to be feared. Conservatism is not—at least in the sense in which we here use it—what Bailey has defined, as "keeping or preserving," and the American lexicographer, Webster, "The desire and effort of preserving what is established." By no means. That is exactly the definition which suits fogeyism. Conservatism, on the contrary, has no blind and superstitious respect for things established simply because they are so. Precedents with it, have no authority unless they are founded on principle, and on the other hand, changes have no support unless they are prompted by necessity and guided by reason.

To fogeyism we are indebted for the retention of a thousand puerilities in Freemasonry, which crept into the institution during times of great ignorance, and which have been since preserved by force of habit.

To radicalism we owe many a silly experiment, whose unsuccessful result has only proved that our forefathers were in some things much wiser than we thought them.

To conservatism our gratitude is due for that steady and healthful progress which Freemasonry is now making—which is giving it standing and character among the institutions of the age—which is rendering it every day more and more worthy of cultivation by men of intellect—and which must bestow upon it, as a science, and a system of philosophy, a perpetuity and prosperity which its merely social and charitable character could never have secured.

Let our motto then be—"Down with fogeyism and radicalism, the rock and quicksand which would for ever shatter and shipwreck the barque of Freemasonry, and long life to conservatism, the sheet anchor on which alone its safety depends."

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

THERE are two or three contributions to *Blackwood* this month, which are well worth reading. In the first place we have part V. of "The Dilemma," in which the revolted Sepoys attack the Presidency. Colonel Falkland is the heart and soul of the defence. Young Yorke does his devoir manfully, and the charming Mrs. Falkland bears herself as we should expect her to do, bravely, never for a moment losing her coolness and self-possession. "In my Study Chair," is a pleasant kind of retrospect at the years that are gone, the old familiar text books and note books of the school-boy days calling past events to mind. "In a Studio, Conversation No. III," is chattily genial, the dialogue smart and lively, and many of the suggestions and criticisms noteworthy. The paper on "Elegies," and "Lessons from the Recent Summer Manœuvres," utterly opposite in character as they are, are equally to be commended, and there is a good review of "Tennyson's Queen Mary."

Tinsley's has its usual array of serial fiction, which is admirable, all except "A Star and a Heart," of which we have a very poor opinion. Dr. Maurice Davies contributes, as usual, "The Social Status Quo," and a troubador song. We suppose the author of Unorthodox, Orthodox, and Heterodox London cannot help introducing something connected with these "doxies" into his social sketches, but we think he would do well to see how these looked next month without any reference to matters ecclesiastical. As regards the song, it is excellent, as, of course, we may almost say. Of the other poetical contributions, Mr. Gordon Campbell's "Jockie"—one of his "Liltings from the Lowlands," and Mr. M. A. Baines's "September," are excellent. We take leave to quote the latter, which is ingenious, as well as admirable:—

S weet summer's glow still lingers on the scene,
E ach leaf and flow'r a richer tint reveals:
P erchance a rose in sheltered spot may stay
T o soothe our vain regrets. But ev'ry month—
E ach season that comes round—brings its own good,
M ost happy they who use these gifts aright;
B elieving they are sent for good of all,
E ach doing his own duty in the plan,
R eplete with bounteous wisdom from on high.

We noted a similar contribution last month to *Colburn's New Monthly*, and there can be little doubt, we think, they are from the same pen.

The *St. James's* has several interesting contributions. Henry Kingsley's tale of "The Grange Garden" heads the list, and is very agreeable reading. Mr. Paget's remarks on the "Makers and Breakers of International Law" are marked by good sound common sense. The Rev. Philip Hale writes pleasantly on "The Personification of Towns." There is Part IV. of Mr. Gibbs' "Battle of the Standard. The Editor is genial, as editors should be, in his *Olla Podrida*, though the last of his notes on Inhumation and Cremation is somewhat too long. One other paper we must mention, that of Mr. Thomas Carlisle, entitled "White Wings." The subject is our pleasure navy, that is our yachts, their owners, and all their various belongings and doings. The main point at which Mr. Carlisle is driving is that, seeing the service our yacht clubs do to the country by stimulating the building of vessels possessing a high rate of speed, and requiring some ten thousand able seamen to man them, the yachting fraternity deserves more public recognition than the few cups which Her Majesty presents annually to be sailed for by the Royal Yacht Squadron and one or two other clubs. We think so too, and we hope Messrs. Brassey, Ashbury and other M.P.'s, and Peers who are yachtsmen, will bring the subject under the notice of Parliament. We do not suppose the Chancellor of the Exchequer will relish this demand on the national purse, of which he is the guardian, but the suggestion is a very proper one. The statistics as to yachts, tonnage, men, &c., are taken from a very admirable Yachting Manual, published a few months since, and most creditably edited by Mr. Andrew Thompson. Next month begins a new volume, and among the great expectations held out to us is a new serial story by Mrs. S. E. Townshend Mayer, to be entitled "Sir Hubert's Marriage."

Capital progress is made with "The Manchester Man" in *Cassell's Family Magazine*. The procession in honour of George IV.'s coronation is described, and young Aspinall, having insulted Mr. Ashton, is denied the house by the latter. Nevertheless he obtains secret interviews with Augusta Ashton, and the part closes with Jabez Clegg's accidental discovery of the proposed elopement of Augusta with the ill-mannered Aspinall. We should have greatly preferred if Mrs. Banks had contrived that Miss Ashton had shown some common sense, and rejected her lover's dishonour.

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able proposal. Perhaps the exigencies of the story demanded it, but we do not like to find our heroine cheating and deceiving her father and mother. We had a better opinion of her. As usual, the articles on domestic matters form a prominent feature. Phillis Browne writes of "Removing: A Lady's Troubles, Experiences, and Advice." Mr. Payne offers some valuable suggestions as to "Game and Gravy" in his genial kind of way, and Mr. G. Manville Fenn introduces to our acquaintance Mr. "Edward Brown, the Stoker." Professor Ansted tells us much that is both interesting and instructive about "Greece and its islands," the special article detailing "A flying visit to Nauplia" while the "Gatherer" has a goodly collection of notes on Batting, Needlework as an Art, How to eat Oysters, Old Hats, &c., &c. By the way, why are there no papers on matters sanitary? These are essentially of family interest and a few homely papers thereon would be very acceptable no doubt by the readers of this Magazine.

There can be no question as to *Belgravia* being a success this month. We have seen better illustrations, but we do not think the literary matter has been surpassed, though oftentimes it may have been equalled, for *Belgravia* observes a pretty even standard of merit, rarely deviating from it even a hair's breadth. We need not dwell on the serials which are old friends, but the contributions of such well known writers as Messrs. Sala and Escott, are worth noting. The former writes in his happiest and most amusing vein, about "Wills and Bequests,"—not from the *Illustrated London News*, and the latter is chatty over the "Warriors in Town." "Herring town" at Great Yarmouth, of which we gave a few particulars, will of course be recognised. The second part of "A Passage from the Life of Mr. A. Plassington," edited by Mr. F. Frankfort Moore, is amusingly told. The number concludes with an essay "Upon Sticks," from which we quote the following:—

"The sticks that footmen carry on state occasions, when their hair is powdered and they wear their best clothes, are not, as you might suppose, varieties of the wands used by chamberlains and other ceremonial functionaries. They represent the poles with which footmen were formerly armed, to act as levers to prise up the wheels in the frequent event of the carriage on which they attended sticking fast in a deep rut among the old-fashioned miry ways.

The custom of carrying sticks is, we think, rather on the wane in England. We have no statistics on the subject, but a general idea that we don't see so many people carrying sticks as of old. Is the habit of any service? There is perhaps a certain advantage in carrying a stick on a long walk, as the handling of it prevents the fingers from swelling and becoming stiff, and it gives a kind of rhythm to the march; but as an indispensable companion and adjunct to gentle and simple the stick has fallen from its high estate. The nice conduct of a clouded cane is no longer of any importance; and many a youth leaves his paternal dwelling and pilgrimages in search of fortune without thinking of going through the once indispensable ceremony of cutting his stick."

We need not dwell at great length on the merits of *Baily*. They are too widely appreciated to be greatly affected by praise of ours. But there is never a number which has not some capital stories in them. The driver of "Our Van" has not been influenced in the slightest degree by the seasonable dulness which affects so many. Otherwise he would not recount such lively jokes as the following, which we take leave to quote *verbatim et literatim* as the phrase goes:—

"A story comes to us from the shires anent a gentleman now very well known in the hunting world, but who took to the noble science rather late in life, and, with a certain praiseworthy idea of making up for lost time, rode accordingly. One of his first meets was with the A—— Hounds, and determining to choose a good leader, followed old D——, then the huntsman, and ere the hounds had gone three fields knocked the old man and his horse both down. He was overwhelmed with grief, apologized profusely, and gave D—— a sovereign, the latter being perfectly satisfied. Both got up and renewed the chase, but not very long afterwards the gentleman bowled over the huntsman again. The same scene was enacted: the same apology and another sovereign produced and accepted, D—— simply observing 'Well, sir, I must say yours is a most liberal style of riding.'"

"The subject of driving four-in-hand was being discussed the other day in the snuggery of a certain dealer well known in the Midlands, and out of them too, when some one said, 'I saw Colonel —— driving a team just now: I believe he is a very good hand; but whose coach was he driving?' Replied the dealer, 'Mr. —— of ——.' 'What?' said another, 'does he drive a team? What sort of a performer is he?' 'Well,' was the great dealer's answer, 'whenever I see Mr. —— driving four horses, he always reminds me of a butcher's boy drawing entrails out of a pail.' If our readers will only suit the action to the word, they will see how ludicrous was the simile. It was received with immense laughter in the snuggery."

"'Dear Jim,' wrote lately one of the most aristocratic of horse-dealers to a friend and customer, 'I can't get any money out of the swells, so I must ask you to let me have five hundred on account. Yours ever, Bob.' The reply was prompt. 'Dear Bob,—put me down among the swells. Yours ever, Jim.'"

Of the other contents a sketch or that fine old cricketer, Fuller Pilch, and a paper on "Provincial Coaching," with a further chapter of "Frank Raleigh, of Watercombe," are the most readable.

We must, this, as last month, call attention to Belspinner's contribution to the *Gentleman's*, the subject, "Walton's River," the treatment admirable. The Table Talk is good, and so is Part II. of "The Recollections of Writers known to an old couple, when young," by Mr. and Mrs. Cowden Clarke, among those to whom we are introduced being Leigh Hunt.

Le Monde Maçonnique contains several items of foreign news of considerable interest, together with a long and interesting letter from its London correspondent, Bro. H. Valletos, the absence of whose notes, for some months past, has been a source of great regret.

THE DUTIES OF A FREEMASON.

BEFORE engaging to become a member of the Fraternity, it would be well for the uninitiated to reflect upon what would be required of him by the profession he is about to adopt; and not to think of entering upon it lightly, or without serious thought of what his duties as a Mason would be. Before he can be entrusted with any of the "hidden things" of our venerable Institution, certain vows have to be made by which he engages to live up to his profession so as to reflect honour upon the Craft, and that, while he enjoys their fellowship, he will not in any way contribute toward that which would cause them pain or discomfort. He sees a Brother turning from the "straight and narrow path," and is not to join the mob in hue and cry at the erring one's wrongdoing, but must gently, and in the true spirit of Brotherly Love, throw the mantle of charity over his sin, and, with pleasant words of counsel, lead him back to where he has made the misstep.

He must jealously guard the honour of the Institution, and, through sunshine or cloud, stand by the Craft at all times.

The newly-made Mason is not to selfishly look out for *number one*, but is to have the welfare of the Craft at heart more than his own; this is what he pledged himself to do, and, even supposing that he had not, it is simply his duty. It may be all very well for him so long as Freemasonry enjoys prosperity; but will he still acknowledge himself a Mason should misfortune ever again overtake the Craft?

If he does not in his heart pledge himself to "stand by the ship through weal or woe," he is already a traitor, and, as such, deserves the contempt of his fellow men.

Masonry is not all show, as many profanes assert; it means more than showy uniforms or cocked hats and feathers; and he who seeks for admission *solely* on account of his desire to rule or dress up, had much better stay out and save his money.

If a man becomes a Mason of his own free choice, he has no right to talk of *expense*, for he knew all this before he applied for admission. Still many will, when they become tired of listening to lectures upon morality, throw out the *expense* of the Institution as a reason for not doing their duty, as sufficient ground for leaving the company of those who care the most for them and their welfare. Charity is the great duty of a Freemason, not only in giving alms to the needy, but in studiously covering the faults of others from the gaze of the rude world, and assisting the fallen to regain their lost position among their fellows. Locked in the faithful breast of a Brother Mason, the secrets of the unfortunate are secure from prying eyes, and he finds one ready to receive him regardless of the height from which he has fallen. God demanded of Cain the whereabouts of Abel, and He will make the same demand upon each and all of us, "Where is thy Brother?" Have a care then that, through your neglect, you do not slay him, and cannot face the inquiry with a clear conscience. If you see him falling, and assist him not, you are accessory to his fall, and responsible for the injuries sustained.

The heated term is rapidly drawing to a close. The quarries are full of rough material which will be presented for the labour of the Craft. Masonic celebrations have been numerous all over the country, and the attention of many have been drawn to our Institution. Beware, then, of curiosity-seekers; of such as desire initiation, not from any resolve to practise the virtues for which the Craft is renowned, but simply to gratify their idle curiosity or vanity, love of titles or fine dress. Such material is better thrown aside, for it will not prove serviceable toward completing the Temple. Now is the opportunity for the exercise of Masonic duty in studiously keeping out such as would not contribute honour to the Craft; they who seek admission from purely selfish motives, the vicious and the immoral. Stand firm at your post, and, if you *know* that the applicant is unworthy, *prevent* him from joining the Fraternity; once inside, he can do incalculable mischief; therefore meet him at the door. Do not let foolish sympathy for the man stay your hand, for "mercy to the one is cruelty to many." Be firm. Do your duty as a Mason.

Have a care that the quarrelsome man gains not admittance. Once within the precincts of your Lodge, he will change that abode of peace to a bear-garden. He will be continually full of arguments. Nothing can transpire but what he must take up the time of the Brethren in foolish talk, and no motion can be made but what he must object to it. Prevent this mischief-maker from troubling you by simply *keeping him out*.

Keep an eye on the profane man, for he would pollute any society, however old or honourable. There is no honour in *him*, and he casts discredit upon the Craft. A simple remedy for this evil: *Keep him out*.

Beware of the drunkard. Here is a class of applicants not to be desired *at all*. He will disgrace a tavern, and cannot reflect honour upon a Masonic Lodge. He will go from the Lodge-room to a dram shop, and be the cause of foul slanders. *Keep him out*.

We need not mention the immoral applicant, for no man who lives up to his profession would allow such a man to come into the Fraternity. Keep your eyes and ears open, Brethren, for there will be lots of material, but not all desirable.—*The Square*.

According to *Pomeroy's Democrat* dancing at Masonic festivals has been prohibited by the Grand Master of Iowa, and our brethren of that State are restrained from the enjoyment of this innocent amusement by an order from him, prohibiting it under no less a penalty than that of having the charters of their Lodges arrested. An appeal has been taken from his action, and the matter will receive the attention of the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Meeting.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—oOo—

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—There is considerable force in the criticisms of Bro. Buchan and Masonic Investigator upon my last; but they fail at this point: the two documents I quoted as proving the antiquity of the three degrees, are not the Masonry of 1717, but both are of a period long anterior to Grand Lodge of 1717; therefore, whatever these two documents prove *together*, is pre-1717 Masonry, and three ranks—Apprentice, Fellow and Master.

The best published manuscripts are those of Bros. Hughan, Lyons, &c., and sight should not be lost of the Pritchard and other revelations.

With regard to the Marks of the Alnwick Lodge, that was bordering on Scotland; but had Mark registration existed generally in England, we should have, most certainly, found it in some of our ancient MSS., and it is never alluded to in this country, whilst frequent mention of it exists in Scotland.

Truly and fraternally yours,

JOHN YARKER.

PRESENTATIONS TO RETIRING MASTERS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The letter of M.P. in your last issue is to the point, and there is no cause to withdraw or modify in any sense the salutary remarks he offered. It is patent to the mind of every right thinking brother that profuse decorations are of little use beyond satisfaction to the ignorant of our benevolent principles. I would suggest that to carry out our virtues, of "Loyalty and Charity," a law be framed in Lodges to prevent any member receiving a second jewel as Past Master. There are thousands of brethren who pass the the chair, yet know little of our Charities, or "charity jewel" (a decoration of more value than the majority of those worn), and who, no doubt, would be pleased to see their names inscribed on the Life Governors' List by the appropriation of the money voted as a testimonial for their Mastership.

Notwithstanding the vast sum contributed this year to our three institutions, it will be totally inadequate to meet the increased and urgent claims arising out of the numerous accession of members, and the daily application for new warrants.

Very recently I was in the presence of a brother who was bedizened with a mass of jewels, almost countless, and upon being interrogated how he gained them, he said they were all purchased, save three, and if I chose, he would sell, at a discount, the tawdry tinsel on view, as he was a jeweller, and could readily replace.

Those whose means permit the outlay should be taught the beneficent effect of our Charities before they purchase jewels which detract from the character of a true brother.

I am, yours fraternally,

P.M.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M.M.—Every Master, Past Master, and Warden is eligible to attend Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communications—but they must have previously signed their names at the Grand Secretary's Office, and their signatures on the occasion of Grand Lodge Meetings will entitle them to admission. The same applies to Principals in Grand Chapter.

A MASONIC INCIDENT.—The "Minerva," a Dutch merchantman, returning from Batavia to Europe, 14th June 1823, with several rich passengers, most of them Masons, amongst whom was Bro. Englehardt, Deputy Grand Master of the Lodges in India, arrived on the coast of Brazil, where it encountered a corsair, under Spanish colours. The Dutchman was attacked, and after a severe struggle was obliged to yield. The corsair, irritated, ordered pillage and massacre. The conquerors had fastened one party of the vanquished to the mast, but the passengers, by tears and entreaties, ultimately were taken on board the corsair. Nothing, however, appeared likely to assuage the captain's fury. In this extremity, Bro. Englehardt made the sign of distress, and the man who a moment before would not listen to prayer and entreaty, became at once softened to kindness. He as well as several of his crew were Masons, members of a Lodge at Ferrol. However, although he acknowledged the appeal, he did not at once believe it, for the signs, tokens, and words were a little different from his own, and he demanded some other proofs. Unluckily the Dutch brethren, fearing to excite the anger of the pirates, who they considered to be the enemies of Freemasonry, had, before the commencement of the fight, thrown overboard all their jewels and Masonic papers, with the view of preserving them from getting into the possession of the pirate. Luckily, however, amongst the floating fragments was a parchment diploma. It was seized, and on being shown to the captain his doubts were removed. He acknowledged the brethren, restored their vessel and property, repaired the damage, demanding, as the only return, affiliation with a Dutch Lodge. He then gave the ship a safeguard against the Spaniards for the remainder of the voyage.—*Canadian Masonic News.*

ADDISCOMBE LODGE, NO. 1556.

THE Consecration of this new Lodge took place at the Alma Tavern, Addiscombe, on Tuesday, 31st August. The ceremonies of consecration and installation were most ably rendered, by the V.W. Bro. Major-General Brownrigg, C.B., Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, assisted by W. Bro. H. E. Frances P.M. P.G.D. D.C.

The brethren met at 4 o'clock, and the Provincial Grand Master nominated Bros. H. S. Brownrigg as S.W., Magnus Ohren P.G.W. for Surrey as J.W., Charles Greenwood Prov. G. Soc. as acting Secretary, Rev. C. W. Arnold Prov. G. Chaplain for Surrey as Chaplain. The Lodge was duly opened, and the following beautiful and impressive oration was delivered by the Chaplain:—

Before the consecration of a Lodge, it is customary to say a few words on the nature and Principles of Freemasonry. I shall then endeavour briefly to point out what ought to be the character of Masons in our Order, that they may carry out faithfully the duties of their profession. There are three great virtues that should strive in each man's breast,—Sincerity, Truth, and Brotherly Love,—without the two former, the latter cannot exist. The love of Masons must be pure and unalloyed—their friendship sincere and genuine—their cordiality without hypocrisy. The true Mason will not live for himself, but for those around him, despising all selfishness. What a different aspect would the world wear if all men were but truly actuated by the principles of Masonry. No longer would our hearts suffer at the horrors of war. Peace, with her olive wand, would descend from heaven; succour would come to the distressed, comfort to the afflicted; everywhere would be the voice of joy and gladness, and no complaining in our streets. What are the jewels and ornaments sparkling on your breasts but the emblems of the virtues which should dwell within. Like the medals of the soldier, they tell of noble and heroic deeds. Small may be their intrinsic value, but great are the truths they symbolise. We must contradict, by our lives, the statements of those who assert that trifles are our ambition, and that our meetings are but an excuse for conviviality. God teaches us, and we are reminded by Masonry that He came into the world poor and penniless, under the fostering care of the Great Architect of the Universe. We have passed through the days of childhood, and arrived at man's estate. We pass on by regular steps across the chequered flooring of the world, learning lessons as we go, looking from Nature to Nature's God. In the third degree yet more knowledge is given to us, and we behold the emblems of mortality everywhere around; and the star above, whose bright light pierces through the darkness of the tomb. Thus, in every step in Masonry, great lessons are inculcated, and the best instruction given. How man must live on earth—how die—how rest in heaven, when he has ascended to those immortal mansions whence all goodness emanates. Just as King Solomon, in the glorious building which he raised, in every ornament he used, conveyed a solemn message to his people, so the Mason is taught a lesson by every thing he sees and handles. But let us remember that these symbols are only useful as long as they inculcate and keep in view some truth, some vital principle. Above all, Masonry directs us to the volume of the Sacred Law, to guide our actions and govern our faith. Thus is Masonry the handmaid of religion, echoing the Apostle's advice, "that, avoiding all ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world," and that now we see but through a glass darkly, yet the time is drawing near when Masonry and all other human institutions will have passed away, and we shall see the Most High as He is in His temple, not built with hands, but eternal in the heavens.

The ceremony of consecration having been completed, the Lodge was resumed in the second degree, and a board of Installed Masters was then formed. The W.M. elect, Bro. G. J. Turquand, was installed into the chair in ancient form, by Bro. H. E. Frances, in a most careful and satisfactory manner, and the appointment of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—F. T. Mullett G.W., J. Parsons Smith J.W., John W. Gray S.D., S. J. Pitt J.D., H. E. Frances, Secretary, W. S. Masterman, Treasurer.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Provincial Grand Master for the honour he had done the Lodge in consecrating it, and to Bro. H. E. Frances for the care and trouble bestowed in getting up the petition, and bringing the affair to a successful close. Bro. Frances was also complimented by the P.G.M. for the very able manner in which the duties of installation were performed. The P.G.M. also complimented the Chaplain, who had come at short notice all the way from Woking to take part in the proceedings.

Five candidates were nominated for the ballot for initiation and to join the Lodge.

The brethren then adjourned to a very excellent banquet, provided by the Lodge, at the Alma Tavern, where the future meetings will be held. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The following were the visitors:—Edward King, St. Marks 857, E. Crouch, St. Marks 857, Henry Davis, Lion and Lamb 192, Fred Cambridge, Granite 1328, John Rhodes, Granite 1328.

Addiscombe is near Croydon, and the Lodge Room is close to the Addiscombe Station on the Mid-Kent line. It is just outside the 10 mile radius, and so becomes a Lodge within the Province of Surrey.

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special dedication,

A SPLENDID

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OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, BACKING THE FAVOURITE. At 8.15, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT. On Monday, THE GRAND DUCHESS.

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE regular Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, under the presidency of R.W. Bro. Major-General Brownrigg, Prov. G.M. for Surrey. The report of the Board of General Purposes as to the unauthorised wearing of Commemoration Jewels was received and adopted. For full details as regards this and the other business transacted, we refer our readers to the full report contained in another column. We heartily congratulate Grand Lodge on the promptness it has shown in repressing this nuisance, and we trust our vainer brethren will regard the action both respectfully, as becometh good Masons, and goodnaturedly, as is the wont of sensible men.

The first "crowner's quest" into the fatal collision off Ryde, whereby three lives were lost, has ended unsatisfactorily. The jury could not agree, and were released, after being severally bound over to appear at the official inquiry which will be instituted. A second "crowner's quest," however, has been set on foot, the body of the unfortunate mate of the Mistletoe having been recovered and conveyed to Portsmouth. The first session for the formal identification of the body — which, as might have been expected, was very much decomposed—has been held, and the inquiry adjourned until Monday. Meantime

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there is a Board of inquiry being held, by order of the Admiralty, on board the flagship, Duke of Wellington. The Court consists of Captain Hood C.B., the Hon. H. C. Glyn C.B., and A. Herbert. The inquiry is being held with closed doors. While investigation is being made as to the cause of this sad calamity, another terrible collision is reported of two large ironclads, belonging to the reserve squadron of the Channel Fleet. The Vanguard and the Iron Duke have collided in the Irish Channel, off Wicklow Point, the result being, that the latter sank within three quarters of an hour, in from fifteen to twenty fathoms. The cause of this disaster is known. A thick fog prevailed on Wednesday night, when the squadron were proceeding under easy steam to the southward. The Vanguard, in order to avoid collision with a large sailing vessel, had put her helm hard astarboard, when the Iron Duke ran into her amidships. The Duke's ram penetrated the side of the unfortunate vessel, about four feet below the water line, and the influx of water was such that, immediately all hands were on deck, the boats lowered, and, happily, the whole of the crew were placed in safety on board the Iron Duke, the only life that was lost being that of a valuable dog, which was forgotten till the last moment. This, the second ironclad monster that has been sunk within a few years, is, even pecuniarily, a very serious loss. There seem to be doubts whether the ship, or any of her heavier stores can be recovered, so that some £350,000 of the national property lies at the bottom of the Irish Sea. This is not pleasant. However, there is a very fine old saying, "'Tis an ill wind that blows nobody any good." We may extract a few scraps of consolation from this untoward event. Firstly, there was no loss of life, owing to the admirable discipline of the Vanguard's crew. They fell in at the word of command, and waited patiently till they were told off to the several boats ready to convey them on board the Iron Duke. There was not the slightest confusion, and twenty minutes sufficed to place them all in safety, Captain Dawkins being the last to quit his ship. Then it is satisfactory to learn that these costly war ships of ours are so formidable, only we hope they will not go on proving their capabilities at the expense of other of our marine monsters. The ram with which the Iron Duke was armed proved only too effective a weapon, and we can easily picture to ourselves what would have been the result had the monster charged at full steam into some unfortunate enemy. A very gallant action is reported in connection with the accident. When the ram struck the Vanguard an artificer, at the imminent risk of his life, ran down into the engine-room and let off the steam, thus preventing a terrible explosion, and in all probability the loss of every life on board. Bravissimo, artificer!

Great was the slaughter of partridges on the First, at least in some districts, and having regard to the general scarcity of birds; for in many places the number was below the average, owing to the heavy rains with which we have been visited this season. In Surrey two guns bagged 17½ brace before luncheon, in the neighbourhood of Reigate. Sport good in Sussex, about Horsham, but birds weak. From Knockholt and thereabout in Kent, coveys small, birds thin and ill-matured. In Norfolk the supply is said to be up to the average. From Worcester heavy bags are said to be somewhat rare, while from Perth we hear of good sport, the prospects on the whole being very encouraging.

The Session of the British Association at Bristol appears to be a very successful one. Among the more interesting papers was one read by Mrs. Crawshay, in Section F, Economic Sciences and Statistics, and doubtless this will give rise to a lively, and at this, the silly season of the year, prolonged discussion. The subject was the employment of poor gentlewomen in reduced circumstances, and the proposition made by Mrs. Crawshay was the adoption of lady-helpers as upper servants. In order to carry out her plan, it is suggested that the services of footmen should be dispensed with. We can hardly gauge public feeling as yet. Already there have appeared in the *Standard* and elsewhere several letters on the subject both *pro* and *con*. On Saturday, a most admirable lecture was delivered by Dr. Carpenter, in Colston Hall, in the presence of an audience, composed almost entirely of working men, to the number of nearly 3,000. The subject was "A piece of limestone," and the lecture, which occupied some two hours in delivering, was accompanied by a series of most interesting lime-light illustrations, both of the tiny animals supposed to have formed the various limestone strata and of the fossil remains and shells found from time to time in the stone. The lecture was a great success, and Dr. Carpenter was very loudly applauded.

The gallant Captain Webb bears his honours meekly. On Saturday he visited his home, at Ironbridge, and the inhabitants turned out *en masse* to receive him. There was, of course, the inevitable address, to which, as is his custom, he replied very briefly, and then drove home, amid the applause of those who had assembled to meet him. By the way, a friend of ours, who is evidently *en route* for Colney Hatch, has submitted the following for our edification. We trust our readers will not suffer very seriously after reading it. "Mrs. B., who is enthusiastic about all matters athletic, to her husband: 'I knew that *duck* of a Captain Webb, would swim the Channel.' Husband: 'Why, my dear?' Mrs. B.: 'Why he is so perfectly *web-footed*.'" Another swimming feat has been accomplished, this time by a young lady, Miss Beckwith, the daughter of the well-known Professor Beckwith. Miss Beckwith swam from London Bridge to Greenwich, a distance of some five miles, and was so little affected by her exertions, that just before landing she went through a few gymnastic exercises. She was accompanied by a steamer, and her father and brother in a small boat, the latter all ready to render aid to his sister if necessary.

We have just heard of the latest marvel in printing—a Bible issued by the Oxford University Press, a perfect model of printing, and said to be the smallest ever produced. It measures 4½ by 2¾ and ¾ inches, is printed on a very thin but tough India paper, and when bound in limp Morocco leather weighs less than 3½ ounces, so that it can be sent by post for a penny.

The Alexandra Palace has had two highly successful gatherings of late. On Saturday was the half-holiday fête, and a special and most effective programme was set forth for the amusement of the thousands of visitors who betook themselves to this very popular place of resort. A few showers fell, and made the outdoor amusements somewhat less attractive, but inside the Palace there was one continued round of amusements, so that those must have been hard indeed to please who did not manage to enjoy themselves. Among the most attractive performances were that of *La Fille de Madame Angot*, by the Opera Comique Company, the organ recitals of Mr. Archer, and the evening promenade concert, with Jullien's popular British Army Quadrilles. On Tuesday, a fête was organised for the purpose of promoting that most admirable institution, the City and Metropolitan Police Orphanage, established in the year 1870. The leaders in the movement were Superintendent Mott and others of the superior officers of the force, and if bright genial summer weather, an admirable programme, and the presence of some 40,000 visitors, are to be looked upon as a criterion of the measure of success attained, we quite believe the Police Fête for 1875, at the Alexandra Palace, will rank among the most signal achievements of the year. The arrangements included Athletic sports, assaults of arms, a balloon ascent, dancing, swinging, fencing, wrestling, and music, the bands of all the divisions being present. These took place in the grounds. Inside the Palace the chief attraction was the concert, so ably conducted by Mr. Weist Hill, which included a selection of pieces from the most eminent composers, among them Beethoven and Donizetti. Of course there was a grand organic performance by Mr. Archer, and the day concluded with an illumination of the grounds. We trust the funds of the Orphanage have been materially benefited. It is only just to add that Sir Edward Lee and his able staff of assistants were indefatigable in their efforts to make the day a complete success.

This being the season for accidents as well as excursions, it is not surprising to hear every now and then of a break-down, attended with more or less loss of life and damage to limb and property. An excursion train on the Midland Railway has met with a terrible accident, having been run into by the Scotch express, at Kildwick, a station some sixteen miles north of Bradford. The result is that some five or six lives have been sacrificed, while about forty people have received injuries more or less serious. A Board of Trade inquiry stands adjourned *sine die*, but Capt. Tyler, of the Railway Department, will give timely information to the officials if any further information is needed.

There is news not exactly from the Pole, but from the Arctic Expedition, dated Disco, 15th July 1875. The voyage out had not been marked by any unusual incident. There

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had been some dirty weather, and both the Alert and Discovery had lost a whale-boat. The health of the Expedition is reported to be excellent, and the enthusiasm very great. As regards the supply of dogs, twenty-five have already been received at Disco, twenty more will be ready at Ritenbenk, and the rest will be taken aboard at Uppernivik. The services of an Esquimaux have been engaged at the first of these three places, and Captain Nares expresses a hope that Hans, who was in the Polaris with Captain Hall, may be willing to join. The Valorous, which accompanied the ships, reached Plymouth Sound on Sunday afternoon, when the mails and parcels from the Alert and Discovery were at once dispatched. The Valorous does not appear to have had a very pleasant time of it on her return home.

Cricket is still in favour, but when we read of a *sixth* match between North and South in the same season it is clear the end is at hand. It has come, indeed, to all intents and purposes, and, save a few scratch and school matches, we shall have nothing further to record this year. The matches that have been recently played have been the following:—The Return between Surrey and Gloucestershire ended in the single innings defeat of the former, with 84 runs to spare. Surrey made 181 and 104, Elliott, Swann, Pooley and Humphrey being the chief contributors, while the principal feature of the Gloucestershire performance was the not out innings of 180, Mr. W. G. Grace (21), Dr. E. M. Grace (28), Mr. F. Townsend (42), and Mr. Monkland (58), being the double figures. Yorkshire defeated Notts in the return match, making 49 and 183, while the latter totalled 87 and 58. So far as the sixth North and South has been played, eight wickets of the latter have fallen for 88, Mr. W. G. Grace with 29, and R. Humphrey not out 24, being the only double figures thus far. Soon we shall be reading of football, of the scrummages, the hots, the punts out, touches down, &c.—terms so familiar to the experienced. But should any of our readers be in any way anxious to learn their meaning, with a view to taking part in some friendly contest, we recommend them to study Mr. Alcock's useful little Football Annual for the current year. There they will find all the information they need, indeed, everything they can possibly wish to know about the game, its rules, and the clubs that exist throughout the country. As regards the other sports, yachting is coming to a close for this season, and we shall soon have the last of the South Coast Regattas. People, indeed, are beginning to think of resuming work—all save our legislators and fashionables, who have hardly yet got into the swing of their pleasure. This month, too, the London theatres will be waking up after their brief rest from labour. Meantime, the Promenade Concerts, with the companies that play in London at this period of the year, are doing their best to enliven us, and the former, especially, nightly draw crowded houses. Signor Arditi fully deserves the patronage of the British for the very admirable programme he arranges both on the classical and other nights, while his orchestra back him up most enthusiastically with all the skill they can command.

One of the leading events of the year at Sheffield is the Cutlers' Feast, and the meeting was a more than usually brilliant one on Thursday, when Mr. Alderman Tozer was installed Master for the ensuing year. Among the guests present to do honour to the occasion were the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Wharncliffe, Mr. Mark Firth, Mayor of Sheffield, whose gift of a park was the occasion of the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Mr. Roebuck, the old and tried representative of the town. The usual toasts were proposed and cordially acknowledged, the speech of the evening being that of Mr. Roebuck, who spoke with his usual strong common sense, a quality which his constituents and the guests at this feast seem readily to acknowledge, but which does not always experience the same fate at other times and in other places. One of the points on which he enlarged, and, as we think, most successfully, was the excellent effect produced by the visit of their Royal Highnesses. We feel that we can heartily endorse all that Mr. Roebuck said so eloquently on this subject, and the honourable gentleman himself deserves infinite credit for having been, as he tells us he was, the instrument for securing so splendid an interchange of kindly and good wishes between Royalty and what has always been considered a stronghold of Radicalism.

The news from the Continent is more reassuring, but the embers of general disturbance are not yet utterly stamped out. There is, happily, a determination on the part of the three great Eastern powers, to stop any action on the part of Servia and Montenegro. They proclaim they will have no attack on Turkey. Quite right too. A parcel of marauding ruffians set about burning, rifling, and destroying all they can lay their hands upon, and thus expect to obtain the sympathies of Asiatic Europe with their lawless conduct. All this is done, of course, on the ground of nationality or religious liberty. We wonder Turkey, like other countries, is not left to settle with its own revolted subjects. Germany has been in the full tide of celebrating the victory of Sedan. The rejoicings are only natural, but we wish they had been in honour of some less desperate struggle than the recent contest between Germany and France. There is no question that the Alphonsist troops have made considerable progress latterly. We hope the pacification of Spain may be not so very distant, but we confess that, at present, we see no beginning of the end. There is little else to record, except that there have been some financial difficulties in California. It is satisfactory, however, to learn that confidence is returning.

The fifteen sections will be worked in the Dalston Lodge of Instruction, Havelock Tavern, Albion Road, Dalston, on Wednesday, 8th instant, at 7 p.m. precisely. Bros. Gilchrist P.M. 933 W.M., Howe P.G.P. Middx. P.M. 1445 S.W., Lee W.M. 1524 J.W. 975 J.W.

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section,	Bro. Stock	...	...	...		No. 1178
2nd "	Bro. Marsh	...	...	...		No. 1326
3rd "	Bro. Lister	...	...	...	J.W.	No. 1524
4th "	Bro. Christian	...	...	...	D.C.	No. 1278
5th "	Bro. Fieldwick	...	...	...	I.G.	No. 1364
6th "	Bro. Pinder	...	...	...	S.W.	No. 15, Sec. 1445
7th "	Bro. Salisbury	...	...	...	P.M.	No. 901 and 403

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section,	Bro. Chapman	...	...	...	S.W. No. 1524 J.D. 869
2nd "	Bro. Lee	...	...	...	W.M. No. 1524 J.W. 975
3rd "	Bro. Gross	...	...	...	W.S. No. 1278
4th "	Bro. Howe	...	...	...	P.G.P. Middx. P.M. 1445
5th "	Bro. Fieldwick	...	...	...	I.G. No. 1364

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section,	Bro. Wallington	...	...	W.M. No. 860
2nd "	Bro. Stephens	...	...	W.M. No. 1489 P.M. 1365
3rd "	Bro. Lee	...	...	W.M. No. 1524 J.W. 975

Bro. J. R. Mayo, 46 Devonshire-square, Bishopsgate, is a candidate for the Vacant Gown in the Court of Common Council caused by the decease of the late Mr. Heeps. This Ward is the most populous in the City of London, and numbers 1,182 voters.

We would beg to call the attention of our brethren to the Historical Picture of the Installation, the advertisement of which appears in another page. The artist is, we are informed, now in Paris, arranging respecting the engraving of it, and it is receiving the patronage of nearly all the Grand Officers and distinguished Masons. The M.W. Grand Master having carefully inspected it, has specially sanctioned its dedication to himself. This we regard as a guarantee that it is what it is represented to be, namely: a faithful record of an event unparalleled in Masonic history.

An extraordinary feat was performed, by Geo. Boden, aged 15, on a bicycle; he started from London at half-past eight on Monday morning, and arrived in Brighton, at the Aquarium Hotel, Bro. M. Van Diepenheim's, at a quarter to two o'clock, accomplishing the feat with perfect ease. He had previously done 1 mile in 3 minutes and 25 seconds at the Kennington Oval.

The Vezin-Chippendale Company have been playing "The School for Scandal," "As you Like it," and "She Stoops to Conquer," at the Theatre Royal—Bro. Nye Chart's establishment—Brighton.

A great Masonic Conference is announced to take place at Lausanne next month. Delegates from every Grand Lodge in the world are expected. It seems that there is a dreadful schism among Swiss Masons. Until a few years back they lived in Republican style, without a Grand

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Lodge. A Supreme Council decided questions that arose. Just before the war it was resolved to make a Swiss Grand Lodge, and the members of the Council cheerfully resigned their office. When the great war broke out, this new body, speaking for the Masons of Switzerland, protested against it. By this act, they gave umbrage to their Prussian brothers, who declared the protest an insult. Seeing that the war had been forced upon their country, an apology was demanded, and the Grand Lodge granted it. There were, however, many dissentients, headed by the members of the defunct Supreme Council. The breach has grown wider, and at this moment there is a talk of a secession. Peace makers have applied to all the first authorities of the Universe, and out of this dissension has sprung the idea of a Conference. The last was held in 1819. French Masons have taken the leading part in arranging this great ceremony. I hear no particular mention of English or American delegates, who, indeed, if all tales be true, would find themselves in an atmosphere quite strange amongst the Orients and the professors of the Scotch rite so-called.

Bro. Sir John Bennett has been commissioned to manufacture the Gold Chain and Badge for Mr. Deputy Breffit, Sheriff elect, who has appointed Bro. H. H. Crawford (of the firm of Chorley and Crawford, 48 Moorgate-street) to be his Under-Sheriff; and his Chaplain, Rev. R. H. Atherton, Chaplain to the Coopers' Company's Schools, St. James Vicarage, Ratcliffe. Bro. Alderman Knight (No. 1 Grand Master's Lodge) has appointed, as his Under-Sheriff, E. A. Baylis, Esq. (of the firm of Baylis, Baylis and Pearce), and his Chaplain, the Rev. C. C. Collins, Vicar of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Aldermanbury. The Badge and Chain will be supplied by Messrs. Alderman Carter & Son, of Cornhill.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

The Bank's financial half-year expired on the 31st ult., and the "Rest" in the return just published amounts to £3,680,640. It is understood, therefore, that a dividend of 4½ per cent. for the six months will be declared at the forthcoming meeting of the proprietors, leaving the "Rest" standing at about £3,025,000. The last dividend was also 4½ per cent., but that at the corresponding period of last year was 5.

At the meeting, on Wednesday, of the proprietors of the Anglo-Californian Bank Limited, the directors' report, which announced a dividend of 9 per cent. for the year, was agreed to. The Chairman, the Hon. Hugh M'Culloch, stated that the panic in San Francisco had now ceased, and there were no indications of any further unsettlement. A considerable number of the bills of the Bank of California were on their way to London, but the bank was not interested in these bills. The managers in America were the holders of some acceptances of the Bank of California, the drawers of which were said to be firms of great respectability, and who were considered entirely responsible for the amounts for which they were respectively liable. Mr. M'Culloch added that he attributed the panic in California to undue speculations in mining.

The directors of the Credit Foncier of England Limited, have made a call of £2 10s per share on the 100,000 new shares of £5 each, payable by two instalments, viz., £1 per share on the 14th inst., and £1 10s on the 14th October. The directors mention that in the present state of public credit they feel themselves compelled to make this call in order to carry on the business of the company without being so dependent on outside assistance as they have hitherto been. They would have been glad to avoid this course, but a due regard for the interests of the holders of both old and new shares has, under existing circumstances, left them no alternative. Upon the payment of this call the paid-up capital of the undertaking will amount to £1,500,000, but a large portion of this sum is invested in unmarketable securities. At the half-yearly meeting of the company on the 11th ult. it was resolved to carry forward the balance £52,901 at the credit of profit and loss, chiefly on the ground that some of the securities held had considerably declined in value.

The report of the Sambre and Meuse Railway Company, to be presented at the half-yearly meeting, states that the account for the year 1874 received from the Grand Central Company shows that the Sambre and Meuse Company is entitled to a surplus over the fixed rental. This account, however, has not yet been settled, as the directors consider that this company is entitled to a further proportion of the excess receipts. They therefore now propose to declare the usual dividend of 4s only on the ordinary shares, subject to the resolutions being approved of at the meeting to be held in Brussels on the 14th of September next.

The directors of the San Paulo (Brazilian) Railway Company Limited have resolved to pay a dividend on the share capital of the undertaking for the half-year ended 30th June last at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, which, with that paid in April, makes 9½ per cent. for the year, carrying forward £18,353 to the reserve fund.

At a meeting, on Tuesday, of the General Steam Navigation Company, a dividend of 15s per share was declared for the six months, being at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum; and at a meeting of the South Essex Waterworks Company an interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

At the meeting, on Tuesday, of the India Rubber, Gutta Percha, and Telegraph Works Company Limited, the directors' report, which stated that the net profit for the half year was about £21,500, subject to the audit of the accounts for the whole year, was agreed to.

The report of Price's Patent Candle Company Limited, to be presented to the meeting on the 7th of October, shows a balance in hand of £21,925, against £10,702 at the corresponding period of last year. This sum is rather more than sufficient for payment of a dividend of 10s a share on the ordinary shares, in addition to the preference dividend; but as the company has not been in a position to pay an October dividend since 1863, and the subsequent discontinuance of such a dividend if now resumed would be injurious to the interests of the shareholders, the directors unanimously consider it best to carry forward to next half-year the £20,870 1s 4d which will remain in hand after paying the dividend on the preference shares.

At the general meeting of Hay's Patent Waterproof Glue Company Limited, a dividend of 20 per cent. on the company's capital was declared for the half-year ending June last.

At a meeting of the directors of the Surrey Commercial Dock Company, held on Thursday, it was decided to recommend to the proprietors, at the general meeting to be held on the 9th inst., to declare a dividend of 2½ per cent. for the half-year, free of income tax.

The Great North of Scotland Railway dividend has been fixed at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, leaving £797 to be carried forward. The distribution at the corresponding period of last year was 1½.

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	739	60,856	59,836
Glasgow and South Western	315½	19,557	18,751
Great Eastern	763	48,924	50,651
Great Northern	523	55,224	56,607
Great Western	1,525	117,060	115,628
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	75,754	78,580
London and Brighton	376½	39,204	38,194
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	25,277	24,847
London and North Western	1,587	185,144	190,074
London and South Western	626½	42,220	41,584
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,749	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	32,221	32,218
Midland	975½	121,463	115,885
Metropolitan	8	—	—
" " District	8	4,180	3,473
" " St. John's Wood	1½	—	—
North British	844½	47,039	45,898
North Eastern	1,400½	140,114	138,787
North London	12	7,114	6,769
North Staffordshire Railway	191	10,324	10,374
" " Canal	118	1,548	1,581
South Eastern	350	42,555	40,084

OUR LODGES.

The Masonic Lodge is in its intention similar to a well-ordered home. It teaches that truth, honour, industry and harmony are four corner stones on which a temple can be raised. To preserve these corner stones from being marked, marred, scarred or bedaubed is the duty of every Mason, as it is the duty of all the children of a family to work in harmony together to make the family name an honourable one and the home always a pleasant one. The brother who lies, steals, demoralizes the workmen or debauches society, is not a good Mason. He is guilty of unmasonic conduct. It is the duty of the brother who notices these spots that may grow into blemishes, to quietly call the attention of the thoughtless Mason to obligations he took before the Great Light in the East. It is not his Masonic duty or privilege to call the thoughtless brother a liar, in public, or to harden his heart, but to speak kindly and frankly to him as he would be spoken to. It is no privilege of Masonry to correct a Mason before profane listeners—in the presence of men who might say—"Behold these brothers! See how they quarrel!" The brother who is humiliated in public has a Masonic right to call his tormentor before the Lodge to make answer why he thus corrected a brother publicly. There he can plead his case and justify himself if he can. The defendant can, in the Lodge, correct his brother, but not with lashes. The brother who without cause or provocation assaults a brother with fist, foot, weapon or tongue, is guilty of unmasonic conduct, and it is the duty of the Master of the Lodge to order the trespasser into Court, to give hearing and teach discipline, exactly as a parent would correct his children when they do wrong. The true Mason will not wrong a brother. The Mason who is not true to his obligations comes under the ban of correction. The duty of the Master is to dress to the line.—*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.

—:o:—

SATURDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER.

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

MONDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)

87—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton le Moors.
90—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel Assembly Rooms, Preston.
125—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
135—Perpetual Friendship, Royal Clarence Hotel, Bridgewater.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
251—Loyal, Freemasons' Hall, Queen Anne's Walk, Barnstaple.
303—Benevolent, Masonic Hall, Teignmouth.
422—Yarborough, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Gainsborough.
431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Suffolk-street, Shields.
597—St. Cybi, Marine Hotel, Holyhead.
638—St. Cuthbergs, Masonic Hall, Wimbourne, Dorset.
804—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Havant.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Ashbourne.
977—Fowey, Masonic Rooms, Fowey.
1060—Gundolph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1061—Bowley, Masonic Lodge Room, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1302—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, Yorks.
1360—Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Liverpool.
1486—Duncombe, King's Arms Hotel, Kingsbridge, Devon.

TUESDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
1325—Boscontree, Led Lion, Leytonstone. (Instruction.)
1361—Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.

27—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
252—Harmonic, Freemasons' Temple, Stone-street, Dudley.
308—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
325—St. David's, Masonic Hall, Parade, Berwick.
421—Loyal Lodge of Industry, Freemasons' Hall, South Molton.
457—Loyal Monmouth, Freemasons' Hall, Monmouth.
680—Camaladunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorkshire.
996—Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverston.

WEDNESDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldersgate Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
84—Doyles Lodge of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
187—Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
304—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
323—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction).
661—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
669—Benevolence, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
731—Arboretum, Arboretum Hotel, Derby.
851—Worthing Lodge of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
906—Royal Albert Edward, Crown and Anchor Inn, Weston, near Bath.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1060—Marmion, Private Rooms, Tamworth.
1116—Falcon, Kirkgate, Thirsk.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.

R. A. 1260—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

THURSDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER.

1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 6. (Instruction.)

71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
150—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
195—Hengist, Belle Vue House, Bournemouth.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
232—Virtue and Silence, White Lion, Hadleigh, Suffolk.
333—Royal Preston, Victoria Garrison House, Fulwood, Lancashire.
341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye, Sussex.
426—Shakespeare, Town Hall, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.
467—Portsmouth, Masonic Hall, Highbury-street Portsmouth.
598—Elias de Derham, Masonic Hall, The Canal, Salisbury.
630—St. Cuthbert's, Parson Lane, Howden.
638—Lodge de Ogle, Black Bull Hotel, Morpeth.
658—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
659—Ragdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth, Northumberland.
753—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
769—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
787—Beauregard, Lion Hotel, Bridge-street, Belper.
1147—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1204—Royd, Belle Vue Hotel, Malvern.
1223—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
1343—St. John's, King's Arms Hotel, Grays, Essex.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.

FRIDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER.

177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1278—Hurlett Coats, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 200 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
170—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Melcombe Regis, Weymouth.
338—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
445—Fidelity, Pomfret Arms Hotel, Towcester.
607—Union, George Hotel, Colchester.
1087—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1385—Arkwright, Walker's Bath-terrace Hotel, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire.

SATURDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER.

308—Prince George, Station Hotel, Rottenne, near Todmorton.
1361—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—1—First Lodge of Ireland, Masonic Hall, Tuckey-street, Cork.
" 5—Waterford, Masonic Hall, The Mall, Waterford.
" 116—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Carlow.
" 122—Patrick, Masonic Hall, Dungannon, co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY—30—True Blue, Killyleigh, co. Down.
" 719—St. Albans, Private House, Main-street, Newtownlimavady, Derry.
" 881—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, co. Monaghan.
" 935—True Blue, Anne-street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—217—Tyrawley, 4 Dillon Terrace, Ballina.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
" 109—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Belfast, Antrim.
" 136—Londonderry, Londonderry.
" 248—Roscommon, Court House, Roscommon.
" 353—Castleblaney, Castleblaney, Monaghan.
" 411—Drogheda, Masonic Hall, Drogheda, co. Louth.
FRIDAY—178—St. John, Castle-street, Lisburn, co. Antrim.
" 811—Magherafelt, Court House, Magherafelt, co. Derry.
SATURDAY—13—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 90 Constitution-street.
WEDNESDAY—3—Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-street.
" R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—6—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—66—Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—333—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 556—Clydedale, 108 Rose-street.
" R. A. 119—Roselyn, 25 Robertson-street.
TUESDAY—34—St. John, St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street.
" 73—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 87—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
" 427—Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan.
WEDNESDAY—178—Scotia, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 333—St. George, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
THURSDAY—563—St. Vincent, 160 Kent-road.
" R. A. 80—Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street.
FRIDAY—360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
" R. A. 144—St. Rollox, Garngad-road.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge of Instruction held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules, Leadenhall-street, E.C., on Thursday evening last, 2nd September, Bro. J. S. Fraser in the chair. Present—W. Fraser S.W., J. Calverley J.W., C. A. Grammer Hon. Sec., Parker S.D., Blackhall J.D., Horsley I.G., Bro. Crawley P.M. 174, Preceptor, and numerous other brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. The ceremony of Initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Burr acting as candidate. Bro. Crawley P.M. intimated to the brethren that through very pressing business he was compelled, reluctantly, to relinquish the important post of Preceptor to this Lodge of Instruction. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a cordial vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Crawley, for the very efficient, fraternal, and able manner in which he had carried on the onerous duties of Preceptor. Bro. Crawley returned thanks, and the Lodge was then closed in due form, and adjourned to next Thursday.

Commercial Chapter, No. 79.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Friday, the 27th of August, at the Masonic Hall, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. Julius Brodé Z., J. Duthie 67 acting H., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 acting J., J. Munro Scribe E., C. McKenzie 1st S., J. McLeish 2nd S., J. M. Oliver 3rd S., J. Jennings J. Visitors—Comps. Muller Z. 50, Wallace P.Z. 50, Wheeler Z. 73, J. McLeish H. 144, and John Campbell Z. 150. Business—Nomination of officers for the ensuing year, after which the 1st Principal proposed, and the Scribe E. seconded a motion, that Comps. Miller Z. of 50, and Wheeler Z. of 73, should be affiliated as Honorary Members for the services they had always rendered to the Chapter. This having been carried by acclamation, the two Companions took the oath *de fidelas*, and were proclaimed members of Chapter 79. The election of officers for the 23rd installation takes place on the 24th proximo.

Union and Crown Lodge, No. 103.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, the 30th of August, at the Kilwinning Hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. A Muir Wright R.W.M., Bro. George Muir Deputy Master, J. Thomas S.W., J. Martin J.W., P.M. Bro. J. Bain P.G.B.B. Visitors—Bros. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, Wheeler 73, Adams 360, M'Innes 408, and several others. Business—The initiation of two gentlemen, which ceremony was very ably performed by Bro. Wright, the R.W.M., after which the Lodge was raised to the Fellow Craft degree. The R.W.M. having to leave, the chair was taken by Bro. J. Baw P.M., and Bro. G. Muir D.M. passed Bro. Duncan to the degree of Fellow Craft, after which the Lodge was closed in due form.

Lodge of Lights, No. 148, Warrington.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday evening last, at the Masonic Rooms. The W.M., Bro. Bowes P.M. P.Z. P. Prov. G. Reg., was supported by his officers, and a large number of members and visitors. After the minutes were read, Bros. Johnson, Peale and B. L. Pierpoint claimed preferment, and having sustained their claim,

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were entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, when the three brethren were separately re-admitted, and passed by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed in the 2nd degree, when Dr. G. W. Joseph, who had been previously balloted for and unanimously accepted, was duly and solemnly initiated by the W.M. The working tools were presented by the J.W., Bro. Thomas Tunstall, and the charge was delivered by Bro. P. J. Edelsten, W.M. No. 1134. There being no further business, the Lodge was closed.

Provincial Grand Chapter of Lanarkshire.—This Chapter held its quarterly meeting on Friday the 27th August, at St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street. Present—Comps. W. W. Smith P.G.J., J. Miller Z. 50 acting P.G.Z., J. Duthie Z. 67 acting P.G.H., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 acting P.G.J., J. Fraser P.G.S.N., J. Munro 79 Treasurer, J. Balfour P.Z. 73 1st P.G.S., J. Brodie Z. 79 acting 2nd P.G.S., G. Thallon Z. 119 acting P.G. 3rd S., G. McDonald P.G. Sword Bearer. Visitors—Comps. Wallace, J. McLeish, J. Lamb, J. Martin, and G. B. Adams. Business—Comp. W. W. Smith P.G.J. said he attended to apologise for the absence of Comp. F. A. Barrow, their respected Provincial Grand Superintendent, and as he had particular business to attend, he would leave Comp. J. Miller to preside. The P.G. Chapter was then opened in due form, the business, in the absence of the P.G. Superintendent, was only of a formal nature, but the Scribe was instructed to give notice that, at the next meeting, steps would be taken for the promotion of a Provincial Chapter of Instruction.

Commercial Lodge, No.—360.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Thursday, the 26th August, at their own Hall, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. John Munro R.W.M., J. Lamb Deputy Master, J. M. Oliver S.W., J. Brodé acting J.W., W. H. Bickerton Secretary. P.M. Julius Brodé. Business—Initiation of three gentlemen into the Order, and passing and raising of two brethren. Bro. Munro performing the work in his usual careful style.

Legiolium Lodge, No. 1542, Castleford.—On Monday the new Masonic Lodge, Legiolium, was duly consecrated by Brother T. W. Tew J.P. D.P.G.M. of the province of West Yorkshire, assisted by the brethen of the Provincial Grand Lodge, in the presence of a large number of the Craft. The Lodge is named after the ancient name of Castleford, where formerly stood the Roman camp, with which many historical facts of deep interest are connected. The Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at half past two, and were immediately joined by the other brethren. After the ceremony of consecration the first W.M. of the new Lodge (Brother W. W. Macvay) was installed by Brother C. Phillips, and having appointed his officers for the ensuing year, the brethren proceeded to the Parish Church. The prayers were intoned by Brother the Rev. A. W. Hamilton D.P.G.C., Vicar of Kimberworth. The lessons were read by Brother the Hon. and Rev. P. Y. Savile, Rector of Methley. The sermon was preached by Brother the Rev. W. T. M. Sylvester, Rector of Castleford, and Chaplain to the new Lodge of Legiolium, from the text Ephesians vi. 10, "My brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might." Brother Dr. Spark presided at the organ. The services were exceedingly well rendered by the choir of the church, and were highly commended by Brother Dr. Spark. The offertory, amounting to £10 14s 9d will be given to the fund for providing a new organ for the Parish Church, now being built by Denman, of York, at the cost of £400. After divine service the brethen adjourned to the Co-operative Assembly Room, where a most able address was delivered by Brother T. W. Tew, who, at the request of Brother W. W. Macvay and the brethen, has kindly consented to have it printed. Amongst the brethen present were T. W. Tew J.P. D.P.G.M. of the province of West Yorkshire; Major Parker, Clitheroe; Pearson, Mayor of Pontefract; Addyman, Leeds; Cadman, Ackworth; Dr. Sparks, Leeds; Rev. J. Dunbar D.P.G.C. Pontefract; W. Wilkinson, Dewsbury; J. Simpson, Castleford; Kingston, Northampton; Captain France, Dewsbury; Robert Critchley J.P. P.G.T., Dewsbury; and Henry Smith P.G.S., Wakefield.

We insert the following report at the special request of a correspondent, who is a member of the Lodge. The meeting was held some time since, and our rule is to exclude all notices which do not reach us within a reasonable time. We offer every facility to correspondents and subscribers. We are quite willing, and shall be but too happy, to place our columns, within proper limits, at the disposal of our constitutents, but news ceases to be news when it refers to matters of ancient date. In the present case, the Lodge is a young one. The desire of its officers and members to do good yeoman service in the interests of our Order is so apparent that we feel we should have behaved churlishly had we not heeded the request of our correspondent. Thus, we meet his wishes readily, and with very great pleasure, but we trust, in future, our brethren will give timely notice when they wish anything inserted.

Prudence Lodge, No. 1550.—The first annual banquet of Prudence Lodge, No. 1550, was held, on 5th July, at Mrs. Chubb's Hotel, Old Town Street, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Robert Bird. This Lodge owes its existence mainly to the efforts of Bros. Bird, Gover and Rogers, who have long seen the necessity of a Lodge in which brethren who are engaged as commercial travellers should form the principal element. Their occupations are so migratory that, hitherto, it has only been at great inconvenience to themselves that they could attend existing Lodges, and their attendance was so uncertain that there was little hope of their ever reaching the W.M.'s chair—the ambition of all true Masons. But now they have a Lodge of their own; they can fix their meetings to suit their own convenience; they have there excellent principal officers, and the start which they have made augurs well for their future success. The banquet to which they sat down was an excellent one in every respect. The viands were all that could be desired, and the waiting—a great essential to a good dinner—was perfect. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. L. P. Metham D.P.G.M. and Past G.D. of England, Col. Elliott P.P.G.S.W.; I. Latimer P.G.J.W.; the Rev. W. Whittley Prov. G. Chaplain, and Chaplain of 1550; J. Aubrey Thomas P.G.S.D.; Vincent Bird P.P.G.T.; J. B. Gover P.P.G.S.; L. D. Westcott P.P.G.S. Works; R. B. Twose I.P.M. 105; C. Stribling P.M. 70; J. Manley I.P.M. 230; J. J. Avery W.M. 70; C. Cooper W.M. 105; F. Hall W.M. 156; J. Rendle W.M. 1247; C. Godschalk W.M. 1256; J. Y. Avery S.W. 1550; J. P. Rogers J.W. 1550; N. B. Westcott S.D. 1550; J. G. Keverne J.D. 1550; W. Garland D.C. 1550; C. Philip A.D.C. 1550; F. Bond I.G. 1550; G. H. Emery Organist 1550; H. W. Thomas S.W. 70; A. S. Stuart, J. Arnold, A. Joyce, W. H. Blackmore, C. G. Smith, all of 1550; D. Box S.W. 156; E. Tarratt J.D. 70; C. Matten D.C. 1206; Gibbons J.D. 1205; E. Searle J.D. 1091; L. J. Webber 1247; E. Hart 1205. In proposing the health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, the W.M. referred to the recent demonstration in London, and said every Mason must be proud of the high position which His Royal Highness occupied in the Order. The spectacle presented to them on that occasion, was one which he was quite sure would never be effaced from their memories, and the magnificence of the demonstration must have surprised even the Prince himself. He hoped His Royal Highness would be spared for many years to preside over the Grand Lodge of the Order. (Cheers and applause.) Bro. Twose I P.M. gave the next toast, "The Prov. G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the Prov. Grand Officers of Devon." As Masons they were all acquainted with the qualities of those distinguished brethren. The Pro. Grand Master was well versed in Masonry,; he lived a truly Masonic life; in him they had a father, in him they had a pattern to all Christain men, whether inside or outside Masonry—(hear, hear)—his social qualities were known and appreciated by all, and he was beloved by rich and poor. (Applause.) Bro. Metham's earnest endeavours in the cause of charity were very well known: he was associated heart and soul with Masonry, and his life was mixed up with it. He always met his brethren with the same kind, genial face which he wore that day, and which he trusted was the precursor of many a happy meeting to come. (Applause.) Of the other Provincial officers he could only say that they always bore there honours well. Brother Metham who, on rising, was received with great cordiality, said he could only speak of Brother Huyshe as one man could speak of another who was his nearest friend in life, and he would do anything to serve him. (Hear, hear.) He was everything that Brother Twose had described him, and a great deal more. For himself he could truly say that he had never made an excuse which was not a valid one, for avoiding any Masonic gathering to which he had been invited. While he filled his present position he would do his work thoroughly or avoid it altogether. Before he sat down he would ask them to join him in drinking the health of their W.M., Bro. Bird. (Applause.) He congratulated them upon having started their new Lodge under such excellent auspices. As they had made Bro. Bird their first Worshipful Master, he had no doubt that they had every confidence in him. (Hear, hear.) At present the Lodge was an unwritten sheet of paper. It had its history to make, and the W.M. could have no excuse for treading in the faults of those who had gone before him. He had to mark out a path for himself, and in creating that path he (Bro. Metham) hoped that he would be more than usually careful that he did not deviate either to the right or to the left, because in so doing he would make a track in which others might be induced to follow. He felt great anxiety for the Lodge, because if the W.M. made mistakes it would be an excuse for others to do the same, but if he set them a good example there would be less excuse for others to go wrong. The Lodge had assumed a very ambitious name indeed, and he hoped that prudence would direct them, temperence chasten them, fortitude support them, and justice be the guide of all their actions. (Applause.) Bro. Bird responded in an excellent speech, in the course of which he said:—"As founder of Prudence Lodge, I am very gratified at the success which has attended my efforts in founding this Lodge, but I need hardly tell you how ably, readily, and successfully I have been assisted by many I see around me, especially Bros. Rogers, Gover and Avery. (Hear, hear.) I am confident we should not have succeeded so well; I might almost say we should not have succeeded at all, without the assistance of Bro. Gover. He stood by us and firmly did what I believe he felt to be his duty, and perhaps to some extent it was, for we were in a difficulty, and as one Mason should do unto another, he gave his assistance and steered us through all the intricate passages and windings that lay in our course, and finally placed us in the proud position we occupy to-day. (Applause.) The Lodge owes him a debt of gratitude which cannot easily be paid. He has been our consulting counsel, and I venture to think that in him we made a wise selection. Our case was safer in his hands than if we had several engaged in it; what he did was done willingly and with a true Masonic feeling—that feeling which should be always exhibited by Masons. (Hear, hear.) I regret to say we received great opposition when we were seeking to obtain the warrant for this Lodge. Numerous objections were raised, but we were only stimulated by this determined opposition to renew our efforts; we felt we were right, and you know if you believe a thing to be impossible, your own despondency is capable of rendering it so—(hear, hear)—but he who hopefully perseveres in a just cause, will ultimately overcome all difficulties. (Applause.) There are those in this part of the province, I am told, who think nothing can succeed in Masonry here unless they are in the front rank, but I trust our success will tend to remove such an erroneous impression from their minds and that they will remember that brotherly love teaches us to regard the whole human species as of one family, all

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being created by the same Almighty parent, and sent into the world for the mutual aid, support, and protection of each other. Freemasonry unites men of every country, sect, and opinion, and thereby cultivates a true and sincere friendship among those who may have otherwise remained estranged from each other. Let us in Lodge Prudence endeavour to show our Masonic brethren and those of the outer world, that we live and act in accordance with the principles and tenets of Freemasonry; let us never forget those great moral virtues—'Faith, Hope, and Charity'—Faith is the foundation of justice, the bond of amity, and the chief support of civil society. We live and walk by Faith, by it we have a Hope in the existence of a Supreme Being. By acting according to our profession we shall receive the reward promised to the faithful. Charity is one of the brightest gems that adorns Masonry. It has the approbation of Heaven and Earth,

'And, like its sister, Mercy, is twice blessed,
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes.'

Benevolence, attended by charity, is an honour to the country from whence it springs and by whom it was nourished and cherished. Happy is the man who has the seeds of benevolence sown in his breast. He envieth not his neighbour; he believeth not a tale when told by a slanderer; malice and revenge having no place in his breast, he willingly forgives the injuries he has received, and endeavours to blot them from his recollection. Let us remember we are brethren, ever ready to listen to him who might crave our assistance, or who is in want. Let us not withold a liberal hand. So shall a heartfelt satisfaction reward our labours, and the produce of love and charity will assuredly follow. Let a firm reliance in the Almighty's faithfulness animate our endeavours, and teach us to fix our desires within the limits of His most blessed promises. So shall success attend us, and may unity, peace and plenty abound among Masons until time shall be no more." Bro. Col. Elliott next proposed "The Senior and Junior Wardens of Lodge 1550;" and Bros. Avery and Rogers suitably responded. Bro. I. Latimer gave "The Treasurer and Secretary of Prudence Lodge," and remarked that he most heartily concurred in all that had been said about Lodge Prudence. He was very glad to do all in his power to promote its formation, because with the number of brethren they had who were engaged in employment which kept them very much away from the town, and who therefore could not work in other Lodges with any convenience to themselves; with such a large population as they had in the three towns, and with so numerous a Masonic community, he was convinced that the formation of such a Lodge was very desirable. He had a great esteem both for Bro. Gover and Bro. Avery, and was sure they would do all in their power to make the Lodge one of the foremost Lodges in the Province. (Applause.) Bros. J. J. Avery and Gover suitably acknowledged the compliment. Bro. H. W. Thomas proposed "The Senior and Junior Deacons and Assistant Officers of 1550," and Bros. Westcott, Kaverne, Bond, Garland, Philp, and Emery, returned thanks. The W.M. gave, in complimentary terms, "The Sister Lodges and Visiting Brethren," and Bros. Cooper and Mutten responded. The other toasts were, "The Newly Initiated Brethren, Bros. Smith and Blackmore," "Our Wives and Sweethearts," responded to by the W. Bro. Aubrey Thomas, and "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren." The various toasts were interspersed with songs, instrumental music, and recitations, under the direction of Bros. Emery and Gibbens, and joined in by Bros. Col. Elliott, J. Rendle, C. Mutten, Twose, H. W. Thomas, J. Y. Avery, and E. Hart. The latter acted very efficiently as toast master.

ATTWOOD OF THE THOUSAND POUND CHEQUES.—A relative of the late Benjamin Attwood asks us to correct an error in the statements that went the round of the newspapers after the death of this millionaire. He was not a bachelor, but a married man, without family, and long a widower. He adopted a niece, and brought her up from childhood. She lived under his roof till she married—without the consent of her uncle, who never forgave the offence, and never was reconciled to her. The lady and her husband now live near London, respected not less in the lack of the lost fortune. With regard to Mr. Attwood's life we have received some particulars, of which the following may be of general interest. He was a member of the well-known banking family of Attwood, but not personally connected with the Bank at Birmingham. He amassed a fortune as a glass merchant, having an office in Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, where the Royal Hotel now stands. He was also largely interested in the General Steam Navigation Company, and frequently went voyages in their vessels. Upon one occasion he visited the late Emperor Napoleon in Paris. He lived for many years of his life in the Grove End Road, St. John's Wood. He was a Fellow of the Zoological Society, and also of the Royal Botanical Society, which in its earlier years he aided by his purse and efforts. He was always ready to help any local charities, invariably requiring that his name should not be published. He usually attended a Baptist Chapel in that neighbourhood. Probably his great wealth was not known or suspected, or the demands upon him would have been heavy and unceasing. His wife, who died in 1853, was a large-hearted, generous woman, and had probably much influence in the disposition of his means. In his later years he gave his donations almost entirely through his bankers, and the secret of the much-discussed cheques was well sustained. We are assured, however, that the total said to have been given has been greatly exaggerated. In recording the large and generous gifts of Mr. Attwood, it is right to mention that surprise has been felt that he did nothing to relieve the dire distress caused by the failure of the Attwood Bank of Birmingham. It is true there was no legal claim, nor even any moral claim, yet it might have been in good taste and right feeling to have helped in such a calamity. An unusual proportion of the depositors were people in middle and humble life, and some aid to them would have been well-bestowed and generous charity. Other members of the Attwood family were applied to and refused to assist. Benjamin was not asked, so far as we have heard, but he must have been well aware of the circumstances of that ruinous affair.—*Leisure Hour.*

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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.

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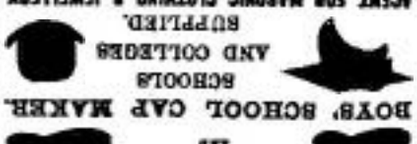
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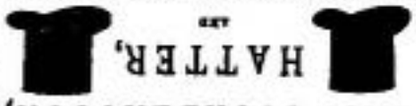
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W.M. Harrison
Sidney Lodge
Ennerdale

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 37. SATURDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

GENIALITY.

AKIN to that good fellowship of which we wrote last week, or perhaps we should say a prime element in its composition, is geniality, and the duties of Masonry necessitate a considerable leaven of this admirable quality. Softness of disposition—by which we do not mean weakness or any lack of intellectual vigour, but gentleness merely—is a necessary property of the genial man. Emollience, in the sense implied in the old familiar line, *Emollit mores nec sinit esse feros*, would best convey our meaning, but it savours somewhat of certain advertised soaps, and sounds pedantic withal. The evenness of temperament which is understood by contentedness is indispensable. The man who is dissatisfied with his position or prospects—we by no means imply that he should be hopeless of better things—such a man hardly comes up to our idea of a genial man. We call him genial who is gentle, contented, happily disposed towards his fellows, not unduly shy or reserved, for that implies a degree of coldness, and geniality and coldness run not together in the same channel; who, while not ignoring the dark side of things, is readier to acknowledge the silver lining, be it never so small, which philosophers tell us even the darkest clouds are furnished with; who can sympathise with the unfortunate, and cheer them in their efforts to make good their losses, who is both moral and religious, that is, respectfully observant of human and divine ordinances. The man who is, or strives to become, all this we are justified in regarding as the model of geniality. There is, however, a more modified form of this virtue with which our readers are more familiar, for the picture we have drawn of the genial man is what the Americans would call a "tall" ideal, not easily attainable by even the best of men. We mean the man who is all smiles and good wishes for every one he meets, who is a companionable fellow, one with whom you feel at home the moment you see him, who is the heart and soul of every entertainment, and always to the fore when some kind action is on the carpet. The rule of conduct he invariably follows, both at home and abroad, is known of all men as the *suaviter in modo*. He is easy and frank always, yet a man of resource and of ready wit, whom few *contretemps* are likely to ruffle. He goes through life thinking no evil. Being a man of the world, he knows well enough there are evil thinkers and evil doers—he dreads to think how many. Such as are incorrigible he avoids; while others with whom he is brought in contact he shames into good behaviour by the very force of his geniality. Such a man makes a good chairman at a banquet. He is the heart and soul of the meeting, and infects all with his lively humour. He is geniality in himself, and the source of geniality in others. Such a man is a tower of strength in the conduct of all charitable work. Who shall resist his happy pleadings for the worthy objects of our charity? We assume, and rightly too, that no unworthy object will meet with even the slightest degree of help from him. He will charitably abstain from all active opposition, though he will not support what is unworthy of support. Then the genial man is a good W.M., during whose reign the petty carpings of our weaker nature find no outlet for expression. With a genial Master to rule and direct it, the harmony of a Lodge runs no risk of being disturbed. Differences of opinion are likely enough to occur, nay inevitable, perhaps, but they involve no bitterness in the settlement. Again, the genial is a firm man as well as a kind and gentle. He is alive to the responsibilities of his office, and is fully resolved to brook no invasion of his right. He wields his sceptre gently yet resolutely. He disarms opposition by his very gentleness. He is an effective ruler, for obedience to his sway is no hardship, involves no sense of inferiority, no loss of self-respect. We respect the man of eminent abilities, of great attainments, of commanding genius; but the genial man we love, and love is of the very essence of Masonry. How often do we meet with men for whom we feel the deepest and sincerest respect, whose intimate acquaintance, however, we have no desire to cultivate. Old Cantanker, for instance, is not a bad fellow really. There is a splendid array of kindly actions set down to his credit. Most of these have been done by stealth, as though doing good were, in his sight, a vice. Many a distressed fellow being has he relieved, many an institution is indebted to him for liberal support, but men fight shy of him, for he has contracted the unpleasant habit of cultivating unpleasant thoughts, and worse still of giving expression to them when in the company of his fellows. His rough personalities, his invariable objection, "on principle," to any proposition that is made, his habit of grumbling, all these neutralise the effect of what good he does, and people go about saying, "Cantanker has some admirable qualities in him, but his presence in the social circle is unendurable." Then there is Cold Shoulder. Many a time and oft has he done a good turn to some well-deserving fellow. But there is no bearing his society, his very appearance is enough to freeze all the kindlier feelings of our nature. Nor is Shy Boots perceptibly more sociable. He is so uncomfortable, so painfully reserved, with never a word to say for himself, never a smile of hearty greeting, that we feel he is worse even than a wet blanket. We wonder of what use such men are in society, who seem incapable of helping either themselves or others. Yet Shy Boots has some excellent points about him. He, too, has given freely of his substance, and is written down as governor or patron of half-a-dozen, or it may be half-a-score, of institutions. There is the Shy Boots scholarship for the encouragement of political economy, and the Shy Boots exhibition for the highest proficiency in modern languages or modern history. All these are ordinary types of men whom we meet and associate with, under protest, of course, everywhere and every day of our lives. We know the good that is hid behind a most unprepossessing exterior. We respect that good, but we cultivate not the society of its owner, or at least we do so as little as possible, and then with a sort of mental protest, as we have said, against its being taken as a precedent to bind us in our future relations with him. To show the influence of geniality, a man has only to assume the outward and visible signs of it; let him talk kindly, be ready to fall in with even the slightest of our wishes, plunge into any conceivable business merely to oblige, and at once his shortcomings are overlooked and his peccadilloes forgiven. How popular he is. How every one sings his praises. What hosts of friends he makes, and, being worldly wise, what famous services he extracts from them. Some one at length discovers that the geniality was merely a cloak, under cover of which the fellow pursued his own selfish ends with earnest vigour, and, invariably, with success. Old Cantanker and the others had many excellent qualities about them, but they hid them from the world, and assumed or gave rein to a roughness of disposition which, in spite of their virtues, brought them unpopularity. The vicious man looked pleasant, while the virtuous seemed disagreeable, and the world, in the face of the old adage, "*Nimium ne crede colori*," was influenced by externals only. There is nothing very remarkable in what we have just said. We have

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adduced it only as evidence of the force of geniality, and we ask, if the semblably genial man exerts so great an influence and becomes popular, why should we not exert ourselves always to be genial? Why should our worthy friend Cantanker be always busy with his objections and innendoes? Why, being a good fellow at bottom, should he not be so outwardly as well? Why does he not strive to cultivate the *suaviter in modo?* The trouble he takes to make himself disagreeable would suffice to make him endurable in every society of men he might find himself in. Why be so frigid, Mr. Cold Shoulder? Why so reserved, Mr. Shy Boots? The average run of men are not ranging about for the purpose of destroying you. They have no evil designs on your property. In whatever circle we move, we endeavour to pass life as agreeably as we can. Even where the disagreeables predominate, a sensible man tries to make the best of it. We will not say it absolutely, but it occurs to us that crying involves more physical exertion than laughing. If it be so, this alone is a sufficient reason why we should court laughter rather than tears. Of the two ancient philosophers, Democritus, who laughed always, and Heraclitus, who was always weeping, we infinitely prefer the former as a companion, and as we have already hinted, the cultivation of pleasure is no more trouble than the cultivation of pain. But to point the moral of our remarks, we find some difficulty in picturing to ourselves an ungenial Mason, or even a semblably genial one. We meet in Lodge, firstly, for mutual instruction and the cultivation of virtue, and, in the next place, that we may learn to appreciate each other. This geniality, with the true ring in it, is requisite to make us good Masons. It is our duty, both in Lodge and out of Lodge, to speak well of all men, to treat them well, to be suave in manner, gentle in speech, willing to oblige, and contented with our lot. The man who fulfils this duty is a genial Mason. We need not go far afield for an unexampled illustration of geniality. The immortal Mr. Pickwick, in reading whose adventures we have spent so many happy hours, was nothing if not genial. He set out on his memorable travels in search of knowledge, and to do good to his fellow creatures. We do not call to mind a single instance in which he faltered from his purpose, or in which he failed of ultimate success. We will quote two extracts from the Papers of the Pickwick Club to prove the value of our statement. "'I shall never regret,' said Mr. Pickwick, in a low voice, 'I shall never regret having devoted the greater part of two years to mixing with different varieties and shades of human character, frivolous as my pursuit of novelty may have appeared to many. Nearly the whole of my previous life having been devoted to business and the pursuit of wealth, numerous scenes, of which I had no previous conception, have dawned upon me—I hope to the development of my mind and the improvement of my understanding. If I have done but little good, I trust I have done less harm, and that none of my adventures will be other than a source of amusing and pleasing recollection to me in the decline of life. God bless you all!'" And almost the closing lines of his history read thus:—"Mr. Pickwick is somewhat infirm now; but he retains all his juvenility of spirit, and may still be frequently seen contemplating the pictures in the Dulwich Gallery, or enjoying a walk about the pleasant neighbourhood on a fine day. He is known by all the poor people about, who never fail to take their hats off, as he passes, with great respect. The children idolise him, and so, indeed, does the whole neighbourhood Every year, he repairs to a large family merry-making at Mr. Wardle's; on this, as on other occasions, he is invariably attended by his faithful Sam, between whom and his master there exists a steady and reciprocal attachment which nothing but death can terminate." Surely Mr. Pickwick's was a good Masonic life, if not the life of a Mason. At all events, we shall have no cause to repent if we all imitate his chiefest virtue—geniality.

EAST, WEST AND SOUTH.

By a Wandering Freemason.

IV.

OUR domestic arrangements ended, we proceeded to examine in detail the surroundings of our claim, which gave great promise. We intended to work it in a similar way to that of Wai-kara-mumu, by digging a race about 300 feet long. This was preferable to the labour of carrying the soil to the creek and washing or cradling it, so we at once set to work. Maurice was fond of roving about *prospecting* after our day's work was over, and would sometimes return to the hut quite late. He more than once put me off with some pretence when I spoke of going with him. I thought this odd, and one moonlight evening determined to follow him up. His track was difficult; it led me to an open space overgrown with fern, through which great blocks of quartz cropped up at intervals. Beyond a copse bordering this open space rose a rocky ridge, which ascended and formed part of the rugged mountain range. On this ridge I found a pickaxe, which had been left on our claim, lying amid a pile of *débris*. Maurice sprang out of the shadows, and seeming rather confused, parried my enquiries; shouldering the pick, we marched home.

The next day our work came to a sudden stop, by our striking rock midway between the claim and the creek, with no possibility of evading it in our excavations. The matter became serious when we found the same to extend for some distance lightly covered with soil. Said Maurice, "We can't finish this without powder."

He seemed to have a good knowledge of the method of "blasting," and of finishing the *race* effectually, so that I relied on his experience. It was, therefore, arranged that I should go down to Tākaka to purchase powder. Having done this, I, one morning, started on my return, laden with an 8 lb. tin, fuzes, a piece of fresh beef and some small tools. This trip remains graven in my memory as one of the most annoying chapters of accident it has been my lot to experience.

I tried a short cut home by turning up a small canyon, which would strike "One Speck Gully" halfway, and save about three miles' detour. From the canyon diverged a creek which formed a confluence with that of "One Speck Gully" lower down. I found in this creek, to my surprise, a decayed dam (I heard afterwards that it had been constructed by the Germans we had seen at Miller's), in the inside of which the water was still deep, so that I was compelled to take to the bank. The soil on the bank was loose, and crumbling down a steep declivity; as I scrambled through it, ankle deep, I stumbled—and down fell the beef out of my *swag*, into six feet of water. I had to strip for a dive, depositing my burden, clothes and gold-belt* carefully in a hollow. I recovered the beef, but in struggling up the bank again, almost "tooth and nail," had the misfortune to clutch at my boots, which turned over and plunged into the gulf. I had to dive again to recover them, and pursued my way in rather a savage mood. I reached the hut at sundown, to be further chagrined at finding no fire, no supper and no Maurice. I supposed he was roaming as usual, and lighted the fire for tea and a broil. Tired and sleepy after supper, I turned into my blankets, having carefully suspended my boots over the fire to dry.

Surprised next morning to find that Maurice had not returned, I looked out, and was disgusted to see that the poles over the fire had given way, dropping my only pair of boots to perish. Maurice's swag was gone, but nothing else had been removed, and I was forced to the conviction that he had intentionally deserted. Remembering his nocturnal rambles and furtive manner, I suspected that even if our settlement had not been wholly and simply planned for his advantage, he had, since our arrival, made one of his specially lucky finds, and been unable to withstand the temptation.

I did not relish working on in solitude; the chance of getting a partner or a help was very remote, and yesterday's mishaps had rather sickened me, so I did not long ponder upon my position; I buried the powder, tools and effects inside the hut, and bidding a last adieu to "One Speck Gully" of evil omen, left it—a shoeless—though a wiser youth.

Over the boulders and shingle of the creek, through rough fern and *tauhi* bushes, along ridges covered with painful *needle-grass*, I reached Tākaka, with bleeding feet. There I found, encamped, a party of Maoris of the broken tribes of the Ngatitamma and Ngnatiraraa; they also were shoeless, but the contrast between their condition and my own made me ashamed of civilised effeminacy, and

* The gold-belt is worn next the skin; when stuffed with gold it is extremely distressing, but, like everything else, one gets used to it.

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awakened the desire to become as hardy as they. I had at Miller's a supply of sketching materials, of which I had made good use at Wai-Karu-mumu, and, getting them, sketched a native group, in colours. They surrounded me with admiration, and a contract was at once made for me to stay at their village, near *Motupipi*, until I had produced satisfactory portraits of all their chiefs, at the rate of £2 a head. At Motupipi, whence a schooner traded every month to Nelson, my baggage had been deposited, and it suited me well for my next halting-place.

I remained some weeks in their village, living as they did, with the exception of sleeping out under an open shed; the atmosphere of their long low *wharries* being too overpowering, to say nothing of the fleas. Potatoes and shellfish were our staple diet. It was a new sensation to find about an hour and a half after a hearty meal, that in the absence of solid animal food, I felt as hungry as ever. I swam in the creeks, waded in the mud-flats and partook of their sports and labours in the bush (bee hunting, &c.), until I could run fast over a rough shingle beach without the least inconvenience. I made duplicates of the portraits that doubtless to this day decorate the walls of their meeting-house, and retain some now in my possession. My most critical task was the accurate delineation of a large old *meri* or war-club, of greenstone, which had a sacred character as tutelary genius, and was called "Kaikanohi." The convolutions of every vein in white, green or grey, had to be exactly measured and reproduced. They paid me in pigs and potatoes, which the settler at Motupipi exchanged for gold-dust. To the chief "Ritemon" or "Richmond" (named after a well known member of the General Assembly) I became much attached. He was, in every respect, one of the finest fellows I ever met. The *physique* of all of them was splendid, and their *morale* to match, those who had been born in slavery excepted. They were Protestants, provided with testaments and good books, and could read and write in *Maori* fluently. This spoke well for the Missionaries, but I feel assured that the gradual influx of a low order of whites around them, must have since undone the good work. I left them with the fixed conviction that, physically, intellectually and morally they were the superiors of the Europeans with whom they came in contact. Communication was carried on in mixed jargon of Maori and English, much resembling the Pidgin-English of the ports of China.

Sending my baggage to Nelson in the schooner, I preferred to walk thither overland; having most keen appreciation of the beauties of the scenery on the way and of New Zealand summer air in the month of February. Discarding for ever the digger's dress, I donned a new tweed tourist suit with civilised boots again, and substituted an Alpine knapsack for the unwieldy *swag*. I passed a night at Miller's, one at Sparrow's in the valley, one with my friend Dr. Cottrell at Motueka, one at the German village on the Moutere, and on the fifth day, after substantial luncheon at the regular English Inn at Waimea, found myself on the last stage of the road to Nelson.

Some distance in advance, was marching vigorously a fine figure dressed in black, with an unusual *bellopper* hat. Being a fast walker, in good health and training, I began speculating as to which of us could walk the faster. Spurred by the comparison, I overtook and passed him, but was soon mortified by being passed in my turn. Putting on a spurt I passed him again, with the same result; I again overtook him, and both of us seeming determined not to be beaten, we went striding on abreast. A smile and jocose remark were soon exchanged; which, upon his asking whence I came, led to a long conversation. Being full of facts about the Maoris and the diggings, I had plenty to say, and the remaining eight miles of our walk slipped by unheeded. Arrived at the town, and our ways diverging, the stranger wound up with "Do me the pleasure of dining with me to-morrow, any one will show you my house—the Bishop."

"So!" thought I, "here have I, fresh from a lot of Maoris and unseemly diggers, been talking for ever so long with unguarded tongue, to a live Bishop, whose conventional notions and orthodox views I may have shocked again and again without being aware of it. Truly a Bishop in the Colonies must stand upon a broader platform than those dignitaries in England! He doesn't even know my name!"

These reflections were cut short, upon passing the open gates of a livery-stable yard, where a crowd was attending an auction. I lingered to look on. A fine Australian roan, but unmistakable buck-jumper, was being put up; the remarks which passed about the beast were interspersed with talk of his late owner. "Poor fellow! Lucky in everything but that! Nothing else would please him, and he caught it too hot! Wonder where that large nugget he showed me came from?" and so on. The description which followed my enquiries informed me that I was gazing upon the property of Maurice, my late comrade, who had purchased it at this stable a month before, and been pitched off, with a broken neck, on his first ride.

Poor Maurice! My animosity was gone; I remembered only his good qualities; I was not certain he had meant to defraud me, and he had taken away nothing of mine. Then, though the illustration was mean and ridiculous, his was an example of the end of an empty ambition. The hobby he had cherished and brooded over which, perhaps, he had sacrificed me to realise, had brought him—death.

Next day I dined at the snug villa of my pedestrian acquaintance, and found it replete with all the comforts and elegancies which the presence of ladies and refinement can bestow. Though I fear I was too wild and headstrong to profit much by friendly advice, I hold ever in grateful remembrance the kind courtesy and genial welcome of Bishop Hobhouse.

WALTER SPENCER.

THE LODGE *LES SAGES D'HELIOPOLIS.*

WE are indebted to our esteemed Bro. Caubet for the following details in connection with this Lodge, as set forth by him in the August number of *Le Monde Maçonnique*. *Les Sages d'Héliopolis*, Orient of Bucharest (Roumania), under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of France, has been working for less than two years, yet the results are eminently satisfactory, and merit the very flattering commendations our worthy brother bestows upon it. During the year, from 1st March 1874 to 28th February 1875, the Lodge held sixty-five meetings; namely, forty-seven in the 1st degree, eight in the 2nd, seven in the 3rd, besides two Lodges of Emergency and a Funeral Lodge in memory of a deceased member, and of all deceased brethren in the two hemispheres. Eleven Lodges of Conference and Instruction were likewise held. The financial state of the Lodge shows the following excellent results. According to the Treasurer's account, the receipts, including a balance in hand on 1st March, amounted to Frs. 28,021·84; the expenditure for rent, furniture, &c., &c., being Frs. 21,454·12, leaving a balance in hand, on the 28th February 1875, of Frs. 6,567·72. The fund of Benevolence for the same period showed receipts Frs. 10,017·47, inclusive of Frs. 886·67, being the opening balance in hand for the year; expenditure Frs. 4,733·98; balance in hand and set apart for the school of arts and trades, which the Lodge proposes to establish, Frs. 5,283·49. The aggregate of these funds amounts to Frs. 38,039·31, and if to this be added the sum of Frs. 13,670·63, received for the broken period of the preceding year, there will be a total receipt of Frs. 51,709·91 for the year and some months during which the Lodge has been in full working. From these figures we find the pertinency of Bro. Ascher's remarks as quoted by Bro. Caubet. "In the presence of a will so firm, of sacrifices so eloquent, what may we not hope," asks Bro. Ascher, in his report, "from a mere handful of men, resolute, and entirely devoted to the public good? For myself, I have the full conviction that if we go on as we have begun, we shall do honour to the name of Roumania, and, at the same time, fulfil our duties as good Masons."

Our attention is next drawn to the services rendered by the Lodge during the period of its existence. The Sanitary Section, composed of medical men, members of the Lodge, has, in the course of the year, given gratuitous advice and medicines to 747 at the Lodge Dispensary, and to 113 at their own residences, besides placing in the city hospitals fourteen others, whose cases were of a graver character. Altogether, 874 persons have been the subjects of medical relief administered on behalf of the Lodge by this section. The names of all these, who were of all nationalities and creeds, are entered in the Sectional Register. The Legal Section, composed of lawyers, has rendered services equally important. Besides numerous consultations held gratuitously on the Lodge premises, and sundry cases conducted in open court, without fee, by legal brethren for various of the non-

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Masonic world, who were too poor to obtain legal assistance, it was enabled to settle a very serious dispute between two Masons, strangers to the Lodge, by submitting the point at issue between them to a Board of Arbitration composed wholly of brethren. By this means, one of the interested parties was spared a considerable loss, and the other was preserved from dishonour. This section further conferred honour on our Order by supporting, in a very complicated commercial case, the legitimate claims of a brother's widow, who, without such powerful and completely disinterested support, might have been ruined. The Committee of Instruction has also been most actively employed, chiefly in obtaining the requisite funds for the establishment at Bucharest, of a School of Arts and Technical Education. Over and above the various sums collected for this purpose at every Lodge Meeting, and at the residences of the members; a brilliant theatrical representation was arranged under the committee's auspices, the result being a net profit of 2,785 frcs. The capital specially set apart for this project already amounts to close on 6,000 frcs., and the Lodge, in the course of its labours, is hopeful of success. We cannot too highly praise the persevering efforts it is making to attain its end. The Committee has further given, with the strictest Masonic impartiality, every encouragement to the Roumanian Schools. At the general examinations in 1874, there were distributed at its instance to the most zealous and active pupils a goodly number of educational works, the number thereof and the various institutions to which they were sent being as follows: To the Ministry of Worship and Public Instruction:—43 books for the pupils of the gymnasia, 24 for those of the seminary, 15 for the pupils of the Central Boarding School for Girls, 12 for those of the Central Day School for Girls, and 31 for the normal school, Charles I. To the Municipality of Bucharest:—50 for the pupils of the primary schools—boys, and 50 to the primary schools—girls. To the Board of Superintendence of the City Asylums:—51 books for the pupils of the Hellenic Asylum, and 42 for those of the Panhellenic Orphanage. To the committee of Ladies'—Infant School, 5 German books; to the Society for the instruction of the Roumanian people, 30 books for the pupils of the Normal School; to the Committee of the Evangelical School, 33 German books; to the Committee of the Jewish Schools, 20 Hebrew and other books; to the Committee of the Bulgarian Schools; 30 Bulgarian and other books; to the Committee of Armenian Schools, 20 Armenian and other books: Making in all 456 volumes distributed to the various schools in Bucharest, without regard to the religions which they taught in them severally. It is to the labours of this Committee of Instruction that the Lodge *Les Sages d'Héliopolis* is indebted for the inauguration of a series of scientific assemblies very noteworthy and singularly interesting. Among the conferences it is well to make mention of that of Bro. E. Protopoppesco on the motto of the Lodge, "*Droit, Liberté, Fraternité*," that of the same Brother on "Misery and its causes," those of Bro. MiKailesco on Education and Work, and that of Bro. Dr. Lowenthal, orator of the Lodge *Le Phare Hospitalier*, Orient of Ibraïla, on the evils that affect society and the remedies it is desirable to apply to them.

Further the Lodge has established a journal, *La Mistria*, which is most praiseworthy and successful in its efforts to propagate Masonic ideas in Roumania, and which already holds a good position in the press of the country. The Lodge also possesses a library, comprising a good number of volumes, among them being several rare Masonic works and most of the foreign Masonic publications. In fine, it is on terms of amity with 34 Lodges in different countries.

The concluding observations of Bro. Ascher, as quoted by Bro. Caubet, are worth reproducing.

"While there yet remains much to be done in order to attain the end we have in view, I think we may congratulate ourselves for the little we have succeeded in doing in the short space of less than two years which have elapsed since the revival of our Lodge. Let us go on as we have begun. Let us not hesitate either in the face of sacrifices to be made or fatigues to be endured, and I have reason to hope that we shall not fail in the means to realise the good we have in view, namely to be a credit to Freemasonry, and to deserve well of it and of our country."

We can only repeat what we said at the onset, that we most cordially endorse all the good wishes and kind compliments to which Bro. Caubet gives expression for the prosperity of the Lodge, *Les Sages d'Héliopolis*.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE,

UNITED STATES, NORTHERN JURISDICTION.

WE learn from the *Hebrew Leader* that the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Rite of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States, held its annual Session, at Portland, Maine, on the 17th-20th ultimo, both days inclusive. The usual address of the Grand Commander, Josiah H. Drummond, 33°, was first delivered, after which the several Committees set actively to work, in the transaction of important business. The deaths of no less than twelve members of the Supreme Council were recorded since the Session of 1874, held in Boston, Mass. Steps were taken at the first Executive Session, held on the afternoon of the opening day, to place Vermont on an equal footing with the other states as regards representation, and Ill. Bro. Tyler was elected an active member of the Council. Bro. Gen. William Sutton, Mass., in his seventy-sixth year, and the oldest member of the Supreme Council, was elected an active member of the Supreme Body. The Honorarium was conferred on thirteen S.P.R.S. 32 degree. The number and distribution of these, as well as of Initiates in this Jurisdiction, at the close of the year ending 10th July 1875, is as follow:

	Members	Initiates	Total
Maine	130	6	136
New Hampshire	137	0	137
Vermont	46	9	55
Massachusetts	810	40	850
Rhode Island	131	5	136
Connecticut	123	14	137
New York	0	0	0
Albany	171	16	187
Cosmopolitan	95	7	102
Central City	134	23	157
Rochester	184	34	218
Oneonngo...	67	1	68
Corning	174	6	180
Aurora Grata	198	13	211
New Jersey	237	21	258
Pennsylvania	596	63	659
Michigan	249	20	269
Ohio	458	46	504
Indiana	284	38	322
Illinois	677	40	717
Wisconsin	112	9	121
Grand Total	5,014	411	5,425

There are two consistories each in Rhode Island and Connecticut, four in Pennsylvania, three in Indiana, five in Illinois, and seven in New York, as given above, these last including 1023 S.P.R.S., or over one-fifth of the number enrolled in the whole jurisdiction, and it is estimated there are over a thousand unenrolled members, whose names are only to be found in the Roll Book of the Supreme Body. It is understood that the number of the Ancient and accepted Rite of all grades will be officially announced at no very distant date by the Supreme Body. The next Session will be opened in New York, in the Consistorial Chambers of the new Masonic Temple, on the third Monday in August 1876, when the triennial election of officers of the Supreme Council will be made public. The Ancient and Accepted Rite, thanks to the very liberal charter granted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is now a corporate body of very considerable proportions, both financially and otherwise. As might have been expected, the greatest harmony prevailed during the four days' Session.

THE ENLARGEMENT OF OUR INSTITUTIONS.

AT the banquet held last Saturday, at the Ship Hotel, Hallingford, Middlesex, under the presidency of Bro. the Rev. Dr. Brette of Christ's Hospital, Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Secretary Girls' School, replied to the toast, "Success to the Masonic Institutions." In the course of his remarks, Bro. Little contrasted the past and present position of the Craft, and pointed out that the rapid increase in the number of members brought with it greatly increased demands on the resources of our various charities. The officials of the three Institutions have been continually bethinking themselves how best to meet these additional demands. The numbers on the books, both of the

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Royal Benevolent and the Boys' School, have been greatly increased, but as regards the Girls' School, the premises at Battersea will not allow of any further extension, as the accommodation is only sufficient for the present number, one hundred and fifty. Already a notice of motion for its enlargement has been given in Committee by Bro. Joshua Nunn, and a scheme will shortly be laid before the subscribers. It has been found impossible to enlarge the present site, as no more land, in immediate contiguity, could be obtained. Doubtless the ground, at present occupied, is very valuable, and we doubt not, would realise a very considerable sum, with which other premises might be erected in some locality somewhat more remote from London, where land is cheaper. There is a growing tendency now-a-days to send all our big London schools into the country, where greater accommodation can be had at a lower cost, and the marvellously increased value of land in, and around the Metropolis, enables the governing bodies of these schools to do this without difficulty, as regards money, while the purer air of the country is an additional incentive thereto. We see no reason why the Masonic Girls' School should be an exception to, in this repect, the prevailing tendency of the day.

CHARGES OF A FREEMASON

BY CORNELIUS MOORE, EDITOR OF THE *Masonic Review*.

MERE seniority of years will not make up for a deficiency in essential qualities. It is safer, however, to select those who are mature in age, than the young and *necessarily* inexperienced. Wisdom and knowledge are more likely to dwell with gray hairs; but they alone are not sufficient. Seniority should not be the standard, but qualifications; and while these are more frequently the heritage of years, the industrious and studious youth may have acquired a fitness which age has not gained. The writer of this, totally unexpected to himself, was elected and installed Master of his Lodge in less than a year after his initiation. This was evidently in violation of a venerable law, which requires one to have served as Warden before he shall be eligible to the office of Master; but it was at a time when those laws were not well understood or very strictly obeyed. Besides this, it was an experiment that should very rarely be tried, for he was evidently unfit to perform the duties of that office—not having had sufficient time to acquire the requisite knowledge or experience. But while youth should sit at the feet of age, and learn wisdom from the lips of experience, qualifications, and not seniority, should be the passport to promotion and honour.

The great reason for this rule of preferment is, "that the lords may be well served." This was the rule when Masonry was exclusively operative in its character; and it is still a good rule in speculative Masonry. "The lords" were then "well served," when the buildings on which the Craft were engaged were skilfully and tastefully erected; when the material was well selected and accurately prepared, and the several portions properly adjusted in the building. Now the work is well done when the moral precepts of the Order are wisely and impressively taught, and the moral structure so reared that the supreme Grand Master will be "well served," and the temples built such as will meet his approbation.

The "mode and manner" of acquiring knowledge, such as will prepare a Mason for eminence among his brethren, cannot be "described in writing;" they depend upon the listening ear, the instructive tongue, and the faithful breast. The rituals of Masonry can only be acquired by diligent attention, oral instruction, and long experience. They can be learned nowhere but in the Lodge room, for the illustrations can be witnessed nowhere else. "Every brother must attend in his place, and learn them in a way peculiar to this Fraternity." The Lodge is the school room of the Masonic student; and while he may learn much from a constant study of the written charges and constitutional rules of the Order, as well as by "a diligent perusal of the Holy Scriptures—the great Light in Masonry," and its moral trestle-board—yet the illustration and application, which are absolutely essential, can only be found in the tyled recesses of the Lodge room. No Mason should fail to attend the meetings of his Lodge unless a higher duty interpose. This rule was important when the Craft was engaged in building. If there were more Craftsmen than there was work to do, some of them must be unemployed, and, having no other resources for a livelihood, must become a charge upon the brethren. The supply would be greater than the demand, and the evils resulting from this state of things would be serious. Hence the wisdom of this injunction,—not to "take an apprentice unless "there was "employment for him"—to instruct no more in the art than would be sufficient to perform the amount of work to be done. Persons should not be admitted to the Order merely to enjoy its benefits, for no mercenary motives should dictate their petition. "A desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish to be of service to his fellow creatures," should be his plea at the door of the Lodge. He should not come to share the honours or the benefits of Masonry so much as the faithful labours of the Craft, and their legitimate rewards. "*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*"

A candidate for Masonry must be physically perfect. As, under the Jewish economy, no person who was maimed or defective in his physical organism, though of the tribe of Aaron, could enter upon the office of a priest, nor a physically defective animal be offered in sacrifice, so no man who is not "perfect" in his bodily organization can legally be made a Mason. We have occasionally met with men having but one arm or one leg, who in that condition had been made Masons; and on one or two occasions we have found those who were *totally blind* who had been admitted! This is so entirely illegal—so utterly at variance with a law which *every* Mason is bound to obey—that it seems almost incredible, yet it is true.

If a man cannot see, how can he "learn the art" which is taught, in a great measure, by ocular illustration? If he cannot *see*, how can he recognise a call of distress which is addressed only to the sight? If his right arm be wanting how is he to discharge those peculiar duties which devolve upon him in the Lodge room, or in his intercourse with the Craft? So, also, if he be deprived of a leg or foot? It is impossible to explain, fully, the reason for this necessity for physical perfection, but the intelligent Mason will readily understand, by recurring to the duties and ceremonies, from a participation in which no one is exempt. "*A candidate must be perfect, having no maim or defect in his body.*" This is plain, positive, and admits of neither question nor cavil.

He must be perfect to enable him to "learn the art," to "serve his Master" and "be made a brother." He will be utterly incapable of any of these if he should be deprived of any of his limbs or his senses. Hearing, seeing, feeling—all are equally essential. But he must be perfect to enable him to work as a Fellow Craft; to examine and adjust the work, and see that it is well and accurately finished. If he cannot do the work himself, he cannot tell whether it is done well by others. Every person made a Mason should have the physical qualifications to discharge any duty required of him as a Mason, or to fill any office to which he may be called.

"*Term of years.*"—In earlier days a much longer novitiate was required than now. The great truths and duties of Masonry were not learned in a few weeks, or even months; it required *years*. And even now, in some portions of Europe, the rule is—one degree a year, until symbolic Masonry be passed, at least. One great evil now prevalent among the Craft in the United States is, that degrees are too rapidly conferred. No man can be a proficient in the knowledge of ancient Craft Masonry in less than one year, and very few will be in five. Yet how often we see him passing through a degree each month, when it is utterly impossible, in that length of time, for him to have made a "suitable proficiency" in understanding the degree already received. Perhaps in six months he is in the Chapter, and by the close of the year, has become a Royal and Select Master, and even a Knight of Malta! This is a work which should have occupied at least five years; and yet it has been accomplished in little more than twice that number of months. By this haste a two-fold injustice is done: first, to the candidate; and, secondly, to the Craft.

"It should be a rule of action, in the admission of new members, never to admit one, who, from any defect in body, mind, or moral qualities is not entirely eligible to the discharge of any duty, or to fill any office to which the Order may call him." The rule before us requires, among other qualities, that he should "be descended of honest parents"—that is, that he should have been born in lawful wedlock. It was a universal rule, and is still preserved in some Grand Lodge jurisdictions, that an illegitimate could not be made a Mason. One reason for this, in the olden days, was the prevalence of the laws of primogeniture, which deprived the illegitimate of many rights and privileges; it may also have been borrowed from the Jewish Laws, which, in cases of illegitimacy, visited the "sins of the father upon the children." But from whatever source it was borrowed, it is clear from the text that the "fruits of illicit love" were excluded from the rights and privileges of Masonry. We live too far from the times in which this law was enacted, to judge of its propriety. Masonry was, undoubtedly, then, as now, influenced a little by the laws and customs of society; hence we are not capable at this day, in this country of different laws and usages, properly to appreciate the reasons for excluding the class of persons referred to. That they were excluded, is perfectly clear from the text; and the principal reason, then given for excluding them, is by implication, that such persons were ineligible to the various offices of honour and responsibility in the Craft. They could not be Warden, Master, or Grand Master; therefore, they should not be admitted. It may have been a mere barbarous prohibition, and ceased to be operative when the usages from which it was borrowed passed away.

Degrees were not conferred so rapidly in former times as now. The first degree was always conferred by the particular Lodge to which the application was made; but the degrees of Fellow Craft and Master Mason were only conferred by the Grand Lodge or General Assembly. Hence it might be one, two, three, or half a dozen years, before an Entered Apprentice could reach the degree of Master; and many, it is most likely, never received it. These degrees were distinctions, not conferred as a matter of course upon every one who was initiated, but after long probation, and as a reward of singular merit. An Entered Apprentice was regarded as a Mason, and entitled to all the ordinary rights and privileges of the Order, even to the attendance upon Grand Lodge, and voting there on great questions affecting the interests of the whole body. If after a reasonable time he became distinguished as an artisan, and proved himself worthy, he was advanced to the degree of a Fellow Craft. After having received this degree, he could act as Warden of a Lodge; indeed, it would seem, from the language of the text, that he not only received the Fellow Craft degree as a reward for his industry and skill, but with a view to his eligibility to the position of Warden. After he had performed the duties of a Warden, and proved himself worthy as a Fellow Craft, he was rewarded with the sublime degree of Master, and could then legally preside over a Lodge. He could not be a Grand Warden unless he had before that been a Fellow Craft; his having previously received this degree was the evidence which was required by the Craft to show that he was worthy and competent. But to be a Grand Warden another qualification was necessary; he must be a distinguished man, as well as a skilful Mason. He must be either "nobly born," a gentleman of "the best fashion," an "eminent scholar, curious architect, or other artist, descended of honest parents," and be "of singular great merit in the opinion of the Lodges." These provisions speak for themselves, and need no com-

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ment or explanation. The times and the condition of society seemed to require that some one distinguished in the community should be at the head of the Craft.

If there was a member of the Royal family belonging to the Order, and he would consent to serve, he was always selected as Grand Master, while a nobleman, or some distinguished scholar or artist, served as Warden. If there were none of royal blood, then men of less note were selected, such for example, as was Inigo Jones, Sir Christopher Wren, and others, the ablest architects of their times. But the altered condition of society has rendered these precautions unnecessary; and in this free country, *where all are noble born*, personal merit has very properly become the only passport to honour and distinction.

It seems to have been the prerogative of the Grand Master, in ancient times, to select and appoint his own Deputy, but was limited in his selection to those who had served as Masters in subordinate Lodges. We are clearly of the opinion that the Grand Lodges of modern days have, in providing for the *election* of Deputy Grand Masters, departed from ancient usage. It would appear that, then, the Deputy had no power to act except as he was directed by the Grand Master, and that the duty he discharged became the act of the Grand Master,—for it was done in his name and by his command, and he was responsible for it. As at present arranged, there are in effect two Grand Masters in the same jurisdiction; for the Deputy can, on his own responsibility, do almost anything which the Grand Master can, except take precedence in Grand Lodge. He can grant dispensations, arrest charters, etc., etc., without consultation with the Grand Master, even while the latter officer is within his jurisdiction. This is *generally* the case, although some Grand Lodges restrict the Deputy to a narrower sphere of action. Notwithstanding it may be in the power of the Grand Lodge to confer upon the Deputy, in many things, equal power with the Grand Master, yet we are inclined to think the former practice the best; he should be the Deputy of the Grand Master, and not of the Grand Lodge, and should only act when directed by his superior officer, and in his name. If the Grand Master should die, or remove out of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge before the expiration of his term of service, of course the Deputy will succeed to his place, and discharge all his duties until a new Grand Master is elected, unless the regulations provide differently.

In every department of Masonry, obedience to superiors is absolutely necessary; not the obedience of the slave, but of the subject or citizen—an obedience springing from principle and reverence for law. Order must reign in all departments of the mystic temple; the officers, supreme and subordinate, are entitled to respect, and the Craft should render to their lawful commands a prompt and willing obedience. According to the rules laid down in this Charge, great care has been taken to secure worthy, competent, and judicious officers—men selected for their merit and skill in the Royal Art—men fully competent to govern; and they should be obeyed with "reverence, love and alacrity." It is true that when a man is promoted to office he is not thereby rendered infallible; but we have a right to presume that he exercises his best judgment; and should he err, obedience for the time being would be a less evil than discord and rebellion. The error can be remedied in the next Grand Lodge, but rebellion strikes at the foundation of all order and all government.

Of the management of the Craft when working.—All Masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holy days; and the time appointed by the law of the land, or confirmed by custom, shall be observed.

The most expert of the Fellow Craftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master, or Overseer of the lord's work, who is to be called Master by those who work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill language, and to call each other by no disobliging name, but brother or fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of cunning, shall undertake the lord's work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his goods as if they were his own; nor to give more wages to any brother or apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons, receiving their wages justly, shall be faithful to the lord, and honestly finish their work, whether task or journey; nor put the work to task that hath been accustomed to journey.

None shall discover envy at the prosperity of a brother, nor supplant him or put him out of his work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's work so much to the lord's profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the designs and drafts of him that began it.

When a Fellow Craftsman is chosen Warden of the work under the Master, he shall be true both to Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the work in the Master's absence to the lord's profit, and his brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their wages, without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master, till the work is finished.

A younger brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the materials for want of judgment, and for increasing and continuing of brotherly love.

All the tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No labourer shall be employed in the proper work of Masonry; nor shall Freemasons work with those that are not free, without an urgent necessity; nor shall they teach labourers and unaccepted Masons, as they would teach a brother or fellow.

Masonic tradition informs us, and it is confirmed by the great Light which shines from the altar of every Lodge, that Masons in ancient times adopted six days to labour, but the seventh was devoted to rest, to the solemn worship of God, and the contemplation of his glorious works. By the term "holy days," in the text, is meant the days set apart as Sabbaths. To "live creditably," on the Sabbath, is therefore to rest on that day from ordinary labour, and devote it to the worship of the Infinite One, to the contemplation of his sublime works in nature and Revelation, and to yielding our homage and our hearts to him. This is to live "creditably" on that day, according to Masonic law and usage. But in order that we may devote the seventh, or "holy" day to this purpose, we must work on the other six days; and it should be remembered that it is just as obligatory upon Masons to devote the six days to labour, as the seventh one, to rest; and no Mason can violate either duty without forfeiting his moral integrity and fixing a stain upon his Masonic character. It is worthy of observation that this, the highest Masonic law, does not fix the day which shall be set apart as "holy;" it does not name the "seventh" day of the Jews, nor the "first" day of the Christians; but the one "appointed by the law of the land, or confirmed by custom" of the country. In Christian countries, the "first day of the week," is set apart by law and custom both, as the day of rest—the Sabbath. If the Jews had a country under their own laws, the "seventh day" would be the "holy day." Masons should, therefore, in obedience to the law in the text, observe *the* day appointed by the laws of the nation in which they reside. They cannot be good, obedient, law abiding citizens or subjects unless they do. It should also be remembered that this is not merely advisory; "*All Masons shall*," is the imperative language of the text.

In this paragraph the principle of personal merit is again recognised. We have already seen that promotion among the Craft is to be regulated by this principle; and here it is repeated and confirmed. "The most expert of the Fellow Craftsmen"—those who have made the greatest proficiency in the art—are to be selected to fill the office of Master; the degree of Master Mason was then probably conferred upon him, and he was duly installed as "overseer of the lord's work," and was to be recognised and respected as such by those that work under him."

This paragraph not only requires the Craft to be respectful to the Master, but to be courteous to each other. They are to use no ill language; their passions are to be controlled and kept within the boundary prescribed by the compasses; they are to be kind, respectful, and agreeable to one another, and to call each other brother, or by some other fraternal designation. Masonry requires its members to be gentlemen—respectful, courteous, kindly: rough, uncouth, and boorish habits are to be laid aside—must be—under the refining and elevating social influence of our venerable association.

This was especially applicable when the Craft were yet engaged in operative Masonry. The Master was then not only the overseer of the work, but also the agent or steward of the "lord," or proprietor of the building. Honesty was a virtue particularly important in the Master; for, while he was required not to "give more wages to any brother or apprentice than he really deserved," he must, at the same time, have such a knowledge of the business as to enable him to do the work for a fair and reasonable price. He stands between the proprietor and the workmen, and must do justice to both: justice is one of the cardinal virtues, and must be constantly cherished by every one who would be a very consistent Mason or an honourable man.

FREEMASONRY AND THE BOURBONS.

IT is a fact not generally known, and yet which is worthy of ventilation, that the last three kings of the Bourbon line in France were Freemasons. The Chevalier Cæsar Moreau makes, in his *Precis sur la Franc-Maçonnerie* (pp. 1, 91), the following statement:—

By the new constitution (in 1772) three chambers were erected in the bosom of the Grand Orient for the administration of the Lodges of Paris and the provinces. The Duke of Luxemburg performed the ceremony of installation, and gave on this occasion a superb fête to the Grand Orient. "Paris had never seen," says Lalande, "a more pompous and brilliant Masonic fête." A Lodge was instituted at Court, and three kings, being then only Princes, Louis XVI., Louis XVIII., and Charles X., were made members of the Order.

Mr. George Long, in his work entitled *France and its Revolutions* (London, 1850, ch. VII., p. 41), partly confirms the statement in the following words. Speaking of the visit of Louis XVI. to Paris, three days after the capture of the Bastile by the populace, he says:—

"On reaching the Place de Greve, the Freemasons, who were there in great numbers, received the king with the honors which the Craft pay to distinguished brethren, by forming a double line and holding their swords crossed over his head. As soon as Louis set his foot on the ground to ascend the steps of the Hotel de Ville, the 'vault of steel,' as the crossing of swords was called, was formed. He walked with a firm step beneath the canopy of swords."

The subsequent unhappy fate of the king might suggest the inquiry how the Freemasons of France could permit this judicial murder without some effort to prevent it. The answer is found in the fact that from the very commencement of the revolution, the Lodges of France, disgusted with the political atrocities of the nation, had ceased to act. "After the events of 1789," says Rebold, "most of the Lodges of France *virent en sommeil*," that is, suspended their labours. For the follies and crimes of the "reign of terror" the French Freemasons were not responsible, for during all that time Masonry had in France, and especially in Paris, no organized existence. When reason resumed its sway the Lodges renewed their work. And this fact, which is amply confirmed by the French Masonic historians, is an all-sufficient reply to the calumnies of Barruel, Robinson, and the other anti-Masons, who have charged, and continue to charge, Freemasons with a revolutionary spirit.—*Voice of Masonry.*

CARD HORSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked is 3d per pack, 18s 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, 27 Barbican, E.C.

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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 Short Sketch of the Original Progress of the Italian Language. By R. Palumbo, Professor of the Italian, French, and Spanish Languages and Literature. London 1875.

This is what it professes to be, a clearly written and very succinct sketch of the progress of the Italian Language. The writer points out the meagreness of the materials which remain to us, and which in no way, or but to a very slight extent indeed, enable us to form a clear view of the rude beginnings of the most musical language in Europe. The Oscan and Latin elements are, in our opinion, justly placed high among the elements of which the present language is composed, and the close affinity between these two and others is also noted, as well as the changes which came over the spirit of the language by reason of the ever-growing influence of the Christian Church; thence we advance to the dark ages, when literature and literary pursuits were at their lowest. Then we approach the glorious epoch in which flourished the immortal Dante, Petrarca, and Boccaccio. This is rightly described as the Golden Age of Italian Language, and with the view of illustrating both the author's style and the character of his criticisms, we take leave to quote the following passages:

"The thirteenth century was called the Golden Age of Italian language; patriotism, religion, and love formed the great triumvirate of Dante, Petrarca, and Boccaccio. With their pen the native tongue acquired a new impulse. From the time of Dante and Petrarca it took a rapid stride. A multitude of barbarous words were eliminated, the nobler became separated from the base, and this latter was excluded from poetry. Meanwhile this language took some time to be generally cultivated. The different provinces of Italy still remained attached to their dialects; so the vulgar was at that time but little developed. We have a proof of this in the beautiful account Dante sent to Guido Novello on his mission to Venice; he wrote, 'How can I express the gross ignorance of these grave, venerable fathers? When I found myself in the presence of this grey-bearded and aged assembly, I naturally wished to fulfil my mission and communicate your message in the Latin tongue. Hardly had I pronounced my exordium when they sent to beg me either to seek an interpreter or to speak in another language. Half astonished, half indignant (I can hardly tell which sentiment predominated), I began to say something in that tongue which I first lisped at my mother's knee, and *even this* scarcely sounded more natural or familiar to their ears than Latin.'"

Bro. Palumbo then gradually traces the history of the language to the present time, and concludes his brief, but useful brochure, with the following remarks, which are as creditable to his patriotism as they are to his critical acumen, and his noble aspirations:—

"Comparing the past with the present, Italy may feel proud of the great work that her children have achieved in this nineteenth century, a work which yet will raise her to a first rank among nations. The Italians will never forget that they have risen to new life through the ever living spirit that breathes in every delineation of their art, in every note of their music, and in every tone of their language. The national freedom so nobly attained by these irresistible weapons, will ever be kept bright to preserve her independence; these are the instruments God appointed, wherewith Italy must fight the battle of life and educate her sons more highly. 'The proper study of mankind, is man,' said Pope. The noblest part of man is his moral and intellectual nature, and no nation knows better than the Italians the tremendous moto-force of philosophy and art. The divine light which illuminated with such radiant glory the minds of Dante, Petrarca, Vico, Michel Angelo, Alfieri, Manzoni, Cavour, Garibaldi and Mazzini will continue to shed a lustre upon her succeeding generations, and keep for ever fresh in the hearts of her people that spirit of freedom, without which no nation can achieve greatness."

In the *Westminster Papers* will be found much valuable information about "The Chess World," with several Problems and Solutions of Problems, several Hands at Whist, and a letter on "Honours—Dealer v. Non-dealer," in which the writer enters most minutely into a variety of calculations, which are marvellous enough to look at, and must be still more marvellous to have compiled. The editor, however, is fully equal to the task of meeting J.W.S. with weapons of the latter's choice, and parries his thrusts with counter thrusts of such marvellous figure-power, as to have made our very hair stand on end. There are, besides, a capital review of a recent well-known work by Mr. A. Trollope, some more wonderful "Calculations for Leader" in Ecarté, and a notice of Napoleon, a game with which we are not acquainted. Owing to the few theatrical performances going on now, there are no Dramatic Notes.

The New England Freemason (Boston, U.S.) for July devotes a considerable portion of its space to the visit of the Richmond Commandery of Knights Templar to Boston, in the month of June, regarding the event, as the whole Masonic world does, as a very significant and very pleasing episode in the history of the Craft. It contains also an account, abridged from the *Freemason's Repository*, of the laying of the first stone of the New City Hall, Providence, R.I. There are, besides, an article congratulating the Keystone on having entered on its ninth volume, a short biography of the Duke of Montague, whilome M.W.G.M., as well as one of Mercers' Hall, as one of the London Halls associated with Masonry, both signed "J. T. H.," and the concluding portion of a recent address by R.W. Bro. Cornelius Hedges, Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge, Montana.

We have received two small yet interesting pamphlets, one on the "Genealogy of the Brigantes or Dongbs," the other on the "Origin, Intent, End, or Purpose of Masonry," by Loyland Folliden. We purpose noticing them at some length in our next issue.

THE DRAMA.

"The Shaughraun" at Drury Lane Theatre.

THE opening of our national theatre is an event which interests all play-goers, heralding, as it does, the approach of another dramatic season. Under the judicious management of Mr. Chatterton, the star of Drury Lane has risen high of late years. It is too much to expect from private management that regard for art, and striving for artistic merit, which, in these days are incompatible with pecuniary success; they certainly cannot be expected from the m , who wrote that "Shakspeare meant ruin, and Byron bankruptcy;" but Mr. Chatterton may claim that his productions at Drury Lane have been at least harmless, and have not left any unpleasant taste in the mouth. For some years Mr. Halliday has had the honour of supplying the opening piece of the season, in the shape, generally, of an adaption from one of Scott's novels, but this year the author is changed, and Mr. Boucicault comes to the front with an Irish drama which has aquired some notoriety in New York, entitled *The Shaughraun*. We all know the materials of which Mr. Boucicault's Irish dramas are invariably composed: the inevitable faithful follower, with his keen appreciation of fun and his readiness to do anything right or wrong in the service of the master whom he loves, that master is always the same young Irish gentleman who has got into trouble through "wearing of the green," he is betrayed by that spy, generally also a process server, whom we know so well, and arrested by that familiar English officer who always brings his many stupid mistakes to a climax by marrying that wild Irish girl, the patriot's sister. All these are familiar to us; are they not sketched in the "Colleen Bawn," and drawn more boldly in "Arrah-na-Pogue?" It says much for Mr. Boucicault's ability as a playwright that out of such materials he can and does construct dramas which never fail to interest and please; it says little for his artistic feelings that with such undoubted ability he has written no work more worthy to endure than "London Assurance," a good, but very artificial comedy. Of all living British dramatic authors, Mr. Boucicault has most mechanical ability and most instinct for effect; but we think it extremely improbable that any one of his dramas will be played in the next generation. *The Shaughraun* is a fair specimen of his style; it is well constructed, contains some good situations, well led up to, and some touches of that mingled humour and pathos which Mr. Boucicault knows so well how to use: it has, too, the inestimable advantage of the acting of Mr. and Mrs. Boucicault, both of whom are inimitable in their respective lines: the always sound acting of Mr. David Fisher, the manly bearing of Mr. Terriss and Mr. J. B. Howard, and the really powerful performance of Mr. Shield Barry, all combine to make *The Shaughraun* an undoubted success; but we cannot think the piece worthy of Mr. Boucicault's genius, or of the great theatre in which it is played.

MACCABE.

Frederic Maccabe, the entertainer, who has recently returned from a long and, we believe, successful tour in the United States, has been appearing nightly to highly appreciative audiences at the Philharmonic Hall, Islington, and it may be said, with truth, that there is no "single-handed" entertainment going at all comparable to the musical and ventriloquial one entitled "Bygone Dull Care." Mr. Maccabe is like we don't know how many talented gentlemen rolled into one, for he composes the music, writes the songs, and enacts all the characters—male and female—in this varied, unflagging and thoroughly artistically finished entertainment; the only drawback, on the night we were present, was the excessively crowded state of the Hall, a fact attributable to the universal popularity of Mr. Maccabe, and to the tact and indefatigableness of Mr. Sutton, his business manager.

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	739	58,014	56,993
Glasgow and South Western	315½	19,538	18,058
Great Eastern	763	51,688	54,072
Great Northern	523	59,598	59,844
Great Western	1,625	113,038	108,358
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	72,681	70,491
London and Brighton	370½	40,464	38,886
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	26,705	24,947
London and North Western	1,587	188,035	187,218
London and South Western	626½	43,563	40,870
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,840	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	32,659	32,020
Midland	975½	118,894	114,727
Metropolitan	8	8,464	7,740
„ „ District	8	4,264	3,6[illegible]
„ „ St. John's Wood	1½	365	332
North British	844½	46,470	44,686
North Eastern	1,400½	—	—
North London	12	7,265	6,525
North Staffordshire Railway	191	10,559	10,046
„ „ Canal	118	1,587	1,600
South Eastern	350	47,812	44,572

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

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HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

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IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By BRO. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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ROYAL MASONIC INSTALLATION GALLERY COMPANY, 213 REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

1st September 1875.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Fourth Application—October Election, 1875.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is most earnestly solicited on behalf of

RICHARD THOMAS GARDNER, Aged 8 Years.

SON of the late Brother RICHARD RAVENSHAW GARDNER, of 13 Graham Street, Walworth, Surrey, Dancing Master, who died 22nd October 1870, after a long and painful illness, leaving a Widow and Four Children totally unprovided for; his lengthened infirmity having exhausted all previous savings. Brother Gardner was initiated in the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, in 1858, served the several Offices, and passed the Chair of that Lodge, and was generally respected by the numerous Brethren with whom his business brought him in contact.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren, viz:—

Bro. George Kenning P.M. 192, Past Grand Deacon for Middlesex.
Bro. Magnus Ohren P.M. P.Z. 33, P.M. and M.E.Z. 452, G.J. Warden for Surrey; Lower Sydenham, S.E.
Bro. William Hudson P.M. 315, Past Prov. G.J.D. for Sussex, P.Z. 732, P.M. Mark 75; Brighton.
Bro. Nathan Bryant Headon W.M. Great City Lodge, No. 1426; 65 Friday Street, London, E.C.
Bro. James H. Vockins W.M. Sphynx Lodge, No. 1329; 138 Blackwell Road, Brixton, S.
Bro. James Weavers P.M. 872, W.M. 1319, M.E.Z. 872, P.P.G. Organist, Middlesex; 45 Howland Street, Fitzroy Square, W.
Bro. Charles L. Marshall P.M.; 22 Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, S.E.
Bro. Mark Samuel Larkham J.W. 1216; York Street, Walworth, S.E.
Bro. James Freeman 1287, Treasurer 1425; 68 Friday Street, E.C.
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Bro. Thomas Moore P.M. 720; High Street, Clapham.
Bro. James Stevens P.M. 23, 720, 1216, 1426, P.Z. 720, M.E.Z. 771, P.G.O. Mark, &c.; 10; Clapham Common, S.W.

Proxies will be thankfully received by Bro. James Stevens, and by the Widow, 13 Graham Street, Walworth, S.E.

THE LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP should be made at once, in order to secure the advantages offered to the First Subscribing Members. Negociations are now pending for excellent Central Premises. All particulars may be obtained on application, personally or by letter, to the Secretary, Brother CAPTAIN LATHBURY, at the Offices, Victoria Buildings, 27 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

MASONIC MARK FESTIVAL AT GRIMSBY,

30th SEPTEMBER 1875.

CONSECRATION of Sutcliffe Lodge, No. 188, for Mark Master Masons, at 11.15 A.M.

FIRST Annual Lincolnshire Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons at 1.15 P.M.

BANQUET at the Town Hall, Grimsby, at 3.15 P.M., Bro. John Sutcliffe, M.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master Mason for Lincolnshire, will preside.

VISITING Brethren from neighbouring Provinces are earnestly invited.

ROBERT GOUGH, *Prov. Grand Sec.*

GRIMSBY, 8th September 1875.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE THEATRES, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.—PROMENADE CONCERTS, at 8.0, each evening.

DRURY LANE.—At 7, THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, THE HEIR AT LAW and THE WIDOW HUNT.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and THE BONNIE FISHWIFE.

PRINCESS'S.—At 8 each evening, Carl Rosa Opera Company. This evening and Tuesday, MARRIAGE OF FIGARO. On Monday, FAUST. On Wednesday, THE PORTER OF HAVRE.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FAMILY JARS. At 8, THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—On Monday, MY AWFUL DAD, &c.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, ACROSS THE CONTINENT, and THE DOGS OF ST. BERNARD.

OLOOS.—At 7.30, EARLY IMPRESSIONS. At 8.15, LOVE AND HONOUR, and THE WHITE BOUQUET. On Monday, TALBOT'S TRUST and THE BRIGANDS.

OPERA COMIQUE.—THE GRAND DUCHESS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, BROUGHT TO BOOK and DAGOBERT.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, GARDEN PROMENADE. On Thursday, FIREWORK DISPLAY and ILLUMINATION OF PARK. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, SKATING RINK, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, VOLUNTEER FETE, CONCERT and PROMENADE, VENETIAN FETE and WATER FIREWORKS, &c. On Monday and Tuesday, AUTUMN TROTTING MEETING. On Thursday, GRAND NAMBULA, FIREWORKS, &c. Open Daily.

POLYTECHNIC.—The CASTAWAY, New Ghost Scenes.—AUSTRALIAN MEATS and How to Cook them.—NEW ZEALAND, OR THE SOUTHERN WONDERLAND. WONDERS OF ACOUSTICS. New Lecture, SEA SIDE SKETCHES. Many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOK, daily at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—BAUTIER and FITZ-RENHARD, daily, at 3.0 and 8.0.

PHILHARMONIC.—MACCABE, every evening at 8.0.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE public mind is still exercised with certain collisions at sea that have occurred recently. A second inquiry into the loss of the Mistletoe is progressing at the moment of writing, but we have not noticed anything new in the way of evidence. We shall be curious to learn what, if any, verdict the Portsmouth jury will arrive at; or will they, as at the first inquest, separate without expressing any opinion whatever? Then there is the loss of the Vanguard—a loss which, taking everything into account, means something like half a million of money, caused by the butt of an Iron Duke's ram. Pity the merits of the latter's offensive power could not have been tried on some enemy, instead of putting in peril the lives of about five hundred of our gallant sailors. The Admiralty has ordered a court martial on Captain R. Dawkins and other of his officers, and this will be held at Devonport. No particular charge, we believe, will be raised, and the court will, in effect, be one of inquiry pure and simple. Meantime, steps are being taken to ascertain the extent of the damage which the Iron Duke has sustained, and all that is possible is being done by the divers in recovering the masts, &c., of the ill-fated ironclad. As for the hull, with its mass of iron plating, &c, it is said that no steps, if indeed any, can be taken to raise it till the spring of next year, and then, perhaps, a vast accumulation of sand may render the task still more difficult. Meanwhile, just to prove the truth of the old adage, "It never rains, but it pours,"

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another collision, off Holyhead, is reported, by which two lives were lost. It seems the Edith, one of the London and North Western Railway Company's boats, left the Company's wharf at 1.25 a.m. on Wednesday morning for Greenore, when an in-coming steamer, the Duchess of Sutherland, belonging to the same company, came into collision with it, the result being that, in three quarters of an hour, the former sank with two men, a fireman named Jones and his brother, on board. What makes the occurrence of the accident still more singular is that the weather was calm and clear at the time. There were from sixty to eighty passengers aboard the Edith when the two vessels collided, but these and the crew, with the exceptions named, were fortunately rescued, owing to the valuable assistance rendered by Captain Kendall, of the Royal Mail Steamer Connaught, and the boats of the R.M.S. Ulster, though Captain Owen of the Edith, and others, had a narrow escape. Three accidents at sea in about as many weeks hardly looks well for a maritime people. We shall soon be asking of each other—Does Britannia rule the waves, or is this only a myth?

It is not often our lot to record so well-merited a rebuke as that administered by Lady Strangford to Mr. J. Lewis Farley. It is a disgrace to Englishmen that whenever a petty internal outbreak against recognised authority occurs in any foreign country, there is always to be found almost ready to hand a committee of Englishmen who take upon themselves to foment these disturbances, and the matter on which we are about to comment is a case in point. A few weeks since a number of marauding blackguards took upon themselves to pillage, burn, destroy a number of villages in the Herzegovina, one of the provinces of European Turkey, just as Cumberland and Devonshire are among the provinces of England. No sooner does intelligence of the so-called outbreak against a so-called despotism reach this country than forthwith a committee of wiseacres—we might also describe them in stronger terms—is established, and the sympathies of a narrow-minded section of the British public with the insurrectionists is expressed formally. Reputable people are invited to lend their sanction to the action of this committee, and unfortunately for his reputation, one of our statesmen, no less a man than the Earl Russell, twice Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, and an ex-Foreign Secretary, has taken part and subscribed £50 towards the maintenance of a revolt against the just authority of a foreign sovereign friendly with Great Britain. Happily, however, a lady, the Lady Strangford, has had the courage to administer a veritable *coup de grâce* to the English advocate of foreign ruffianism. Mr. Farley, once a consul in the service of the Porte, appears to have invited Lady Strangford to allow her name to be placed on the committee for an object which we suppose we must describe as, at the very least, the destruction of Turkish property, and the slaughter of innocent Turkish families. Lady Strangford first reminds Mr. Farley of the labours of her late husband, Lord Strangford, in upholding the authority of the Turks in the late insurrection in Crete, and gives this as a first reason why she should hesitate before acceding to his request. She then suggests that Mr. Farley's views appear to justify every insurrection, "whether provoked or unprovoked," "whether likely to succeed or certain to involve unnecessary and unprofitable bloodshed," and, "whether, if unsuccessful, conducive to the peace of Europe, or only to the aggrandisement of those who disturb that peace." She then points out that no trustworthy accounts have yet been received of the disturbances; that no explanation has been made public of the objects of the insurgents; that no grievance has yet been suggested as the *fons et origo mali*. She then, with all the skill of a practised logician, directs Mr. Farley's attention to a work of his, published in 1872, dedicated to the Turkish Ambassador, and entitled, "Modern Turkey," and she calls upon him to justify, or, at all events, to account for the marvellous change of opinion which he has undergone in less than three years. She remarks: "Englishmen who have not the advantage you have enjoyed of serving as Consul in the service of the Porte, and thus becoming acquainted with the various races it includes, are sometimes misled by the arrogant and unfounded dogma, that in any and every difference between Mahommedans and non-Mahommedans, the latter must necessarily be the oppressed and the former the oppressors. This untenable and bigoted assumption has been, or ought to have been, long ago disposed of by those who read and those who travel." She then crushes Mr. Farley, with an extract from his own work, which we cannot do better than give as quoted, premising, of course, that as we have not read Mr. Farley's work, we are dependent on Lady Strangford for the accuracy of her quotation. The passage reads as follows: "'I wish some learned theologians would tell me, why it is that men are so much better, in all the social relations of life, under Mahommedan laws than under those of Christianity. It is unheard of for a Turk to strike a woman. He is always tender to women, children, and dumb animals; and if a dog howls with pain in the streets of Pera, you may be quite certain that it is not a Turk that has struck the blow. A Turk is truthful, and scorns a lie; he is sober, temperate, and never a drunkard or a gambler; he is honourable in his dealings, kind to his neighbour, and charitable to the poor. In Turkey no man, woman, or child can really want bread, much less die of starvation. Can as much be said for Christian countries?'" (p. 122.) We are very much grieved to find that it has been reserved for a lady to come forward manfully to do battle against the gross impertinences of self constituted British Committees who busy themselves in fostering domestic turmoils, the causes of which they are profoundly ignorant of, in foreign countries. We Englishmen know well enough how annoyed we were at the sympathy of the dregs of the American public with Fenianism, whose principal exploits were the murder of a harmless policeman, who was faithfuly discharging his duty, and the destruction of sundry property in Ireland. What should we say if Turkey merchants in Constantinople, took to supporting Fenianism, or agricultural or trade differences. We think Lady Strangford is entitled to the thanks of all England for the vigour and point of the refusal to join in resistance to the legal authority of the Sultan.

The British Association has been continuing its labours, about the most agreeable of which must undoubtedly have been the trip by a hundred of the members to Salisbury, and thence to Stonehenge. The excursionists were met on the platform at Salisbury by the Mayor and other leading citizens, and were by them conducted in the first instance over the Blackmore Museum, the American collection of Indian war weapons, which was highly eulogised by one of the party, General Carrington, of the U.S. army. Then they visited other places of interest in the town, and lastly the cathedral, over which they were conducted by Archdeacon Hare; and after paying a visit of respect to the venerable Bishop of the diocese, the party made for the Town Hall, where, at the invitation of the Mayor, the labours of the party were for a time suspended, in order that refreshment might be taken. After a few toasts, the party were called from refreshment to labour, and being placed in a number of carriages specially provided for them, drove to Stonehenge, a distance of about nine miles. Having examined this marvellous structure sufficiently, and having heard the learned remarks of the Rev. E. Duke, and Sir Walter Elliott, the excursionists drove back to Salisbury, and returned thence by train to Bristol, their hosts, the mayor and citizens, bidding them "God Speed" on their way home.

A great discovery has been made of certain most interesting relics of Peter the Great, who, it may be remembered, visited this country towards the end of the seventeenth century, and was for a long time successful in maintaining his incognito. It might have been imagined that after the lapse of nearly two centuries there would remain no further vestige of his presence among us, but a polish gentleman, M. Stanislaus, recently came across, in Great Tower Street, a sideboard, a bookcase, and an iron chest, all the work of His Imperial Majesty, and most minutely corresponding with the description given of them in the "*London Gazette*. Published by authority. Supliment from Monday, 6th February, to Thursday, 9th February 1698." They are in splendid preservation, and have now become the property of a Roman nobleman, who intends, it is said, presenting them to the Emperor Alexander II., so that they may be placed at Moscow among other mementoes of the Czar Peter.

Barnet Fair was held on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, and, the weather being magnificent, drew a large concourse of visitors from all parts, especially men of horsey and agricultural tastes. Why it is that one of the noblest animals should always find itself associated with the greatest blackguards, the most degraded brutes and ruffians, is just one of those paradoxes which a "fellow" may be pardoned for not understanding. Nevertheless it is so, and

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a "horsey" man or a "doggy" man is—well not over nice in his dealings with his fellow-men. Were there any doubt on the subject, any who were at Barnet Fair, and paid a visit to the field in which the horse fair was held, must soon have had it set at rest. The noise, the blasphemy, the flagrant cruelty shown to these animals, made the scene hideously disgusting. No doubt somebody benefits by it, but it is not the poor four-footed brutes, and still less the worthy people of Barnet, who must be thankful the fair, like Christmas, comes once a year only.

The energy of Bro. Mapleson, of Her Majesty's Theatre, Drury Lane, is such as to require little comment from us. There are few men who would take upon themselves the burden of such an enterprise as the building of a New National Opera House. All the more credit is due, therefore, to our respected brother for inaugurating so laudable an undertaking. Bro. Mapleson has been many years before the public in connection with the Italian Opera, and we note with pleasure that, on Tuesday afternoon, the first step was taken towards erecting the new building on the Victoria Embankment. The ceremony was very simple and unpretending. There was only a limited number of friends present to witness it, the principal actor being Mdlle. Titiens, whose name alone has been a tower of strength to the artistic company which acts under Bro. Mapleson's auspices. This ceremony was nothing more than that of laying the first brick of the new lyric temple, and it is superfluous to add that the fair lady already named performed her task both easily and gracefully. Mr. Fowler, the architect, Lord Alfred Paget, and Bro. Mapleson then, each in turn, went through the business of placing and mortaring bricks. Hearty cheers were given by those assembled, and the company then adjourned to refreshment and mutual congratulations. We wish the enterprise every success.

The week has not been unfruitful of interest at the Alexandra Palace. The chief event was on Thursday, which was set apart for the delectation of the youngsters, admission to the various amusements within the grounds being for the occasion reduced one-half. The day was a great success, and the weather being magnificent there was a capital attendance.

As usual, at this season of the year, the various agricultural societies throughout the United Kingdom have been holding their annual meetings. The exhibitions have been quite up to the high standard of excellence, for which the British Agriculturist is so renowned, but the prevalence in some parts of the country of foot-and-mouth disease has been a serious drawback in respect of the cattle. There have also been sundry sales of short-horn cattle, and in the case of one animal, only three months old, lately the property of our R. W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, the sum of 2,000 guineas was realised. In another case, a cow was sold to R. W. Bro. the Earl of Bective for 520 guineas.

The result of the inquiry into the Kildwick collision on the Midland Railway is that the jury have returned a verdict of manslaughter against Harrison Palfreyman, the driver of the express. They also censure Jonathan Baldwin, the signalman at Cononley Station for altering the signal from red to green one minute too soon. They add a rider to this verdict in the shape of a recommendation to the Railway Company to remove the passenger station and signal apparatus to a point at or near the railway bridge, so that the danger of similar accidents, of which there have already been several, may be reduced to a minimum.

Captain Webb's splendid swimming feat is still the theme of general admiration, nor of this only, for a very substantial sum has been collected, and this in due course will be presented to him, or at least invested for him in the manner most agreeable to his wishes. Miss Beckwith's swim from London Bridge to Greenwich has been followed by another performance, in which a young girl swimmer, Miss Emily Parker, sister to the London Champion, has shown her powers of endurance by swimming from London Bridge to Blackwall, a distance of seven miles, in a little over an hour and a half. Of course the attendance on her of wherries was very great, and there were demonstrations of encouragement, as she swam along, pistols, guns, and small cannon being fired at frequent intervals. We admire swimming, and we trust that the rising generation of Britons will make a point of trying their skill in the natatory art, but we trust these exhibitions will not become too frequent. They smack a little too strongly of the advertising "dodge." What made Webb's performance so generally admired was that it was a genuine attempt to accomplish an unexampled feat of skill and endurance. We hope swimming and swimming professors will be generally encouraged, but it is too manly an art to be mixed up with advertising schemes.

In the Dramatic World we note the opening, for the season, of Drury Lane, the piece chosen being written by Mr. Dion Boucicault, and entitled *Shaughraun*, to which we briefly refer in another part of our columns. At Covent Garden the Promenade Concerts still continue to attract large audiences, but we regret to see that some disturbances are alleged to have taken place, and have been thought serious enough to call for investigation before a police magistrate.

The news from abroad contains no new element of interest. The insurgents seem to be getting the worst of it, and we fancy the verdict of all order-loving people will be "Serve them right." The victories we have heard so much about their having gained, turn out to have been all moonshine, the only success that may fairly be placed to their credit, having been gained by fire and brutality over houses and helpless women and children. The Carlists are not yet annihilated, in spite of the heavy pounding to which they have been recently subjected. Paris has been thrown into a certain state of excitement by the publication of a letter written by Vice Admiral de la Roncière le Noury in command of the French Mediterranean Fleet. In this letter the gallant sailor announced his intention of supporting the existing order of things only so long as it continued to exhibit its present conservative tendencies, avowing his strong dislike for the promoters of the revolutionary movement of the 25th September 1870. The result of this ill-advised publication is that the Admiral has been removed from his command. It is always well for both naval and military men, when on active service, to fight shy of politics. They should sink the politician in the officer, and confine themselves wholly to the discharge of their official duties. We do not see how the government of President MacMahon, could have acted otherwise than it has done, if it were earnest in its attempts to make the law observed. Of course, the Bonapartists are not over pleased. Russia is again engaged in Central Asia, General Kauffman being *en route* for Khokland, and having inflicted heavy losses on the Khokanas. The Emperor of Germany is visiting Breslau, where his reception was most enthusiastic, this being the first visit since the conclusion of the war. The Crown Prince and Princess and the Duke of Connaught were of the party, the object of the journey being to witness the Autumn Manœuvres.

We have been favoured with an illustration of the jewel commemorative of the Installation of our M.W.G.M. It was designed by Sir Albert Woods, Garter, G.D.C., approved by the M.W.G.M., and is to be worn suspended by a ribbon of the Swedish National colours, yellow and blue. ONLY those are entitled to wear it who officiated as STEWARDS at the ceremony of the Installation. The artist to whom was entrusted the duty of providing these jewels is Bro. Lamb of St. John's-square, Clerkenwell, who appears to have fulfilled his task with his usual skill. When the 334 jewels had been made and supplied to Grand Lodge, the dies were destroyed. The jewel is a double star, five-pointed, surmounted by the coronet and the ostrich feathers of H.R.H. On the face is a medallion likeness of the Prince, with "Installed MDCCCLXXV," on a blue enamel ground, encircling it.

A Conclave of the the Ancient Ebor Preceptory of the Royal Exalted Religious and Military Order of the Temple will be held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-street, York, on Tuesday, the 14th of September next, at 7 o'clock in the evening. Two Companions belonging to the Zetland Chapter, No. 236, will be installed.

At a meeting held at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road, it was resolved to present the Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507, with an oil portrait of Bro. Jas. Willing jun., as a memento of the services rendered by that esteemed Brother as the first W.M. of this flourishing Lodge. The presentation will take place at the next regular meeting of the Lodge, in October, and the necessary arrangements have been entrusted to the following brethren, who have formed themselves into a committee, with power to add to their number:—Bros. Williams, Side, Rapkin, Shand, Berri, Yeate,

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H. B. Fowler and Carter. Bro. Baron Von Tettenborn has been commissioned to paint the portrait, while Bros. Scales and Stiles have been respectively appointed to the posts of Treasurer and Hon. Secretary.

The Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45, the oldest in London, purposes returning to its old quarters at St. John's Gate, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, on and after Monday, 13th inst.

At Brighton, the West Pier is nightly crowded, and the artistic selections from operas—ancient and modern—under the direction of Bro. W. Devin, are listened to with rapt attention. The Aquarium, too, still attracts its thousands, who flock to see the marvels of nature which are exhibited in the tanks. Thanks to Bro. G. Reeves Smith, Mr. Geo. Buckland, and Mr. Henry Lee, the public, both morning and evening, are entertained by talented artistes. On Saturday, Bro. Caravoglio and Madame Osborne Williams appeared, and during the week Miss Fanny Heywood has been delighting crowded and appreciative audiences. At the Theatre Royal, Mr. Charles Barrington's Clancarty Company, with Miss Helen Barry, have been the attraction. The Sisters Elliott have appeared in a new ballet; while Bro. H. Cox, of the Strand, and an old favourite of the frequenters of Bro. Chart's theatre, has performed in the farce of "Catching an Heiress." An engagement with Mr. and Mrs. Billington is also announced. Bro. Kuhe (Grand Organist) announces his first Subscription Concert, at the Dome, on the 18th instant, when he will be supported by the following artistes:—Mad. Adelina Patti, Madame Sinico, Sig. Urio, Sig. Campobello (violin), Therese Castellan (harmonium). Mr. R. Taylor and Bro. Kuhe will preside at the pianoforte.

The "Oxford," under the able direction of Bro. Botham, is nightly crowded. The bill of fare is highly attractive, the Sisters Lindon, in their excellent entertainment, gaining fresh laurels. Miss Annie Clayton appears in her serio-comic entertainment, and Bro. Herbert Campbell, in his artistic and talented impersonations of various characters, has lost none of his celebrity, he nightly gaining immense applause. At the conclusion of his engagement here, he appears at Bro. J. R. Sweasy's, the "Royal," Holborn.

According to the *Graaf Reinet Herald*, new Lodges will shortly be established in Uitenhage, Kimberley, and East London, Cape Colony. Our contemporary, having a firm belief in the efficiency of Masonic teaching, is rejoiced accordingly. At the same time he points out, very properly, that the constitution of new Lodges in small villages should be pursued with the greatest caution. In neighbourhoods where there are but few men of standing and influence, there is always the risk that the strictness of Masonic discipline may be relaxed.

These last few days we have been giving full rein to a sense of the supremest satisfaction. Any of our readers who may chance to have seen us either abroad or in the editorial sanctum must have noticed that our face was beaming, if not with seraphic, at least with truly Pickwickian smiles of happiness. And with good reason. In a recent issue we offered certain comments on the last report of the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin. These comments have been echoed back to us from the other side of the Atlantic by an esteemed contemporary of ours, the *Hebrew Leader* of New York. In its issue of the 27th ult. it gives expression to the very same ideas, and, with a few trifling exceptions, in the very same language. The fact that two editors, living some two thousand miles apart, should have adopted precisely the same views on a certain Irish Masonic Charity is of itself a sufficiently striking coincidence, but that these same Editors should have expressed the same views in almost *verbatim* the same language, this is about the most marvellous coincidence we ever remember to have heard or read of. That there can have been any pre-arrangement between them is impossible. We can personally affirm that the gentlemen in question are unknown to each other, even by name, much less personally. Our own remarks on this Irish Charity appeared on the 31st July. Those of our contemporary on, as we have said, the 27th August. It seems almost unmasonic to hint that the *Hebrew Leader* is indebted to us for the ideas he has formulated, and, in a fit of editorial abstraction, has forgotten to extend towards us, as he generally does, the courtesy of acknowledging the source of his inspiration. Be this as it may, we should offer our brother Editor our warmest congratulations on the justice of his remarks, only we should be virtually congratulating ourselves. We have a very lively recollection of the old copy-slip—"Self praise is no recommendation."

GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset held its meeting on Monday afternoon, at Wells, when there was a large attendance of Masons from the province, together with many visitors. The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro. G.M. of England, and Prov. G.M. presided, supported by a goodly array of P.M.'s. The minutes and accounts for the past year having been passed, the patent appointing W. Bro. R. C. Else (Bridgwater) as D.P.G.M. was read by Acting-Secretary Prideaux. The R.W.P.G.M. in investing Bro. Else with the collar of office, said he felt that in his selection of deputy he had chosen one who would study to fulfil the important duties of the office with satisfaction to all. Within the past few minutes a jewel had been placed in his hands, subscribed for by the brethren of the Bridgwater Lodge, as a token of the respect which they entertained for him (Bro. Else) in his new office. It was, therefore, an additional pleasure to him (the noble Earl) to adorn Bro. Else with the jewel of D.P.G.M., feeling assured that he would wear it with satisfaction to the province, and with credit to himself. Bro. Else assured them that although he already possessed several jewels earned by Masonic work, no jewel should be more prize than the one that had come from the brethren of his own Lodge. The R.W.P.G.M. then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year as follow:—Bros. Major Preston 41 P.G.S.W., Capt. Perkins 446 P.G.J.W., Bailey 261 and T. Gatehouse 437 P.G. Chaplains, E. T. Payne 53 P.G. Treasurer, W. Cox 329 P.G. Reg., F. K. Prideaux 291 P.G. Sec., W. H. May 135 P.G.S.D., W. Bennett 976 P.G.J.D., B. Atwell 437 P.G. Supt. Works, T. S. Lord 53 P.G.D.C., R. Baker 1197 A.P.G.D.C., Capt. W. Long 1199 P.G.S. Bearer, A. Down 772 P.G. Org., W. Channing 261 P.G. Purst., J. T. Knight 446 A.P.G.P., W. Woodward 291 P.G. Tyler, A. J. Salter 53 A.P.G.T., Forty 291, Ricks 135, Fry 437, Butter 1322, Hyatt 285, Taylor 772 P.G. Stewards. The R.W.P.G.M. then, in the course of some feeling remarks, alluded to the loss the province had sustained by the death of Capt. Bridges, the late D.P.G.M., and moved, "That this P.G.L. desires to place on record its great sorrow at the death of its beloved and esteemed V.W.D.G.M., Bro. Capt. H. Bridges, and its deep sense of the loss Freemasonry has sustained thereby." It was subsequently proposed by Bro. Capt. Perkins, "That a subscription be set on foot in the province to provide a memorial to the late V.W.D.P.G.M., this memorial to take the form of a scholarship at one of the Masonic schools, should the subscriptions reach to a sufficient amount, or such other form as the P.G.L. may decide on." It was also resolved, on the proposition of Bro. E. T. Payne P.G.D. of England, "That this P.G.L. receives with cordial assent and hearty congratulations the appointment by the R.W. the P.G.M. of Somerset, of their esteemed Bro. R. C. Else to be the D.P.G.M. of Somerset, in the room of their lamented friend and brother, Captain Henry Bridges deceased. The labours of Bro. Else on behalf of the province during many years are thus gracefully acknowledged, and the P.G.L. trusts that many years of usefulness may be granted to their valued brother in the more important office to which he has now been promoted." Some other formal business was then disposed of, including sundry charitable grants, which brought the business to a close. At three o'clock a banquet took place at the Shire-hall, the M.W.P.G.M. presiding. The repast, which was of a most *recherché* character, was served up in capital style by Bro. George, of the Swan Hotel. The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "M.W.G.M. of England, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," were proposed by the noble Earl. Bro. General Doherty, of Bath, proposed, in flattering terms, the health of the M.W.P.G.M., the R.W. Deputy G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers past and present, which the noble chairman acknowledged. The Grand Master then vacated the chair to leave by the train, and the duties of chairman devolved upon the V.W.D.P.G.M. Else, who commenced by proposing the health of Bro. H. C. Lopes, Q.C. M.P. S.W. 973 (Frome Lodge), which was enthusiastically received. Bro. Major Clarke (of London) proposed the health of P.W.D.P.G.M. Bro. R. C. Else, who appropriately replied in a brief speech. Bro. Else then proposed the health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Monmouthshire. Bro. Homfray replied. Bro. Payne, of Bath, proposed, in eloquent terms, the members of the Wells Lodge, coupling with the toast the name of Captain Perkins, who has done great things for the benefit of the Wells Lodge and the Craft in general. Captain Perkins suitably responded. The Chairman next gave the health of the visiting officers and brethren of the provinces. The W.M. of 973 (Frome), Bro. Malim Messiter, in a humorous speech, acknowledged the compliment. The toast of "Visiting brethren outside the province" was replied to by Bro. Wood P.M., of Brighton. "The Masonic Charities" was proposed by the Chairman, and responded to by Bro. Blockes, Secretary of the Boys' Masonic School. The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable gathering to a close.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Nervous debility often occurs at this season of the year, in persons otherwise healthy, but who, having overtaxed both mind and body in some one of the many ways so common now-a-days, suffer in consequence from an irritability of the whole nervous system, characterised more especially by sleeplessness, tremors, palpitation of the heart, and a general feeling of shakiness and sense of sinking fibre, more distressing even than actual pain. The muscular and vital energies in these cases seem almost as if they were utterly relaxed, and mental despondency, sufficient to alarm anxious relatives and friends, often accompanies this condition. No time should be lost, but immediate recourse had to these powerfully tonic and restorative remedies.

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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.

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SATURDAY, 11th SEPTEMBER.

1309—Prince George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, near Todmorden.
261—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

MONDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER.

46—Strong Man, St. John's Gate, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)

60—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High Street, Hastings.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
73—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
85—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleston, Norfolk.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
106—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
189—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
245—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham.
607—Chichester, Court House, Tarapstone.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
680—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
695—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
731—Eastnor, Feathers Hotel, Ledbury.
884—Derwent, George and Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, Derby.
869—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall.
941—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
1296—Bayons, Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.
1396—Morning Star, Queen's Hotel, Newton Abbot.

TUESDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER.

107—St. John's, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.
1225—Beaconstree, Red Lion, Leytonstone. (Instruction.)

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
131—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Truro.
169—Tyne Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
294—Shakspeare, Masonic Rooms, Warwick.
318—New Forest, Masonic Hall, Lymington.
371—Preseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, High Street, Huntingdon.
403—Hertford, Town Hall, Hertford.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Instruction.)
434—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Newton-in-the-Willows.
496—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
560—Vernon, Swan Hotel, Stourport.
624—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent.
630—Lansdowne Lodge of Unity, New Hall, Chippenham.
723—Panmure, Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
772—Pilgrims, George Hotel, Glastonbury.
786—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead.
814—Parrett and Axe, George Hotel, Crewkerne.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, Gosport.
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1158—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot.
1168—Carendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.
1269—Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, Surrey.
1302—Jordan, Masonic Hall, Torquay.

R. A. 291—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.

WEDNESDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER.

193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldwych Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

30—Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, Sun Tavern, Chatham.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
221—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
245—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
249—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham.
261—Unanimity and Sincerity, Clarke's Hotel, Taunton.
285—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Sheet-in Nallet.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
299—Enniskillen, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
301—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester.
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
324—Moira, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
329—Brotherly Love, Clough's Inn, Yeovil.
368—Samaritan, George Hotel, Sandbach, Cheshire.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
804—Berkhampstead, King's Arms, Berkhamsteead.
897—Zetland, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
931—Faith, Drovers' Inn, Openshaw.
991—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
996—Segontium, Masonic Hall, Carnarvon Castle.
1010—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
1025—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
1079—St. Davids, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
1081—Scarsdale, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Chesterfield.
1110—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
1162—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1213—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1242—Walton, St. Lawrence Boy's School, Croyland's Street, Kirkdale.
1255—Kirns, Masonic Hall, Home Park, Stoke, Devonport.
1317—Archer, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1345—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
1361—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe.

M.M. 175—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 16th SEPTEMBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Londenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)

1260—Hervey, 122 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1330—Blackheath, Crown Hotel, Blackheath.

70—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
98—St. Martin's, Grand Room, Town Hall, Burnley.
119—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydfil.
132—Union, White Hart Hotel, Ringwood.
258—Ancients Union, 32 Hope-street, Liverpool.
289—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.

THURSDAY.—Continued.

290—Worcester, Bell Hotel, Worcester.
425—Centrals, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.
620—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
649—Cecil, Sun Inn, Hitchin.
660—Cornubian, Freemasons' Hall, Hayle, Cornwall.
686—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter.
831—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool. (Instruction.)
963—Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
777—Royal Alfred, Angel, Guildford.
943—Philanthrophy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1382—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-le-Woods.

FRIDAY, 17th SEPTEMBER.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1307—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

516—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
1230—St. Peters, Three Swans Hotel, Market Harborough.
1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool.

SATURDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER.

149 Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham, Yorkshire.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.
453—Chigwell, Castle Hotel, Woodford.

IRELAND.

SATURDAY—13—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.
MONDAY—154—Prince of Wales' Own Lodge, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 230—St. George's, Enniscorthy, Wexford.
" 297—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 321—Tullamore, Court House, Tullamore, King's County.
" 431—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
TUESDAY—6—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
" 12—Truth, Masonic Hall, Arthur Place, Belfast.
WEDNESDAY—9—Muses, Masonic Hall, George-street, Dungannon, Tyrone.
" 141—Excelsior, Bishop Street, Tuam, Galway.
" 394—Cappagh, Masonic Hall, Omagh.
THURSDAY—95—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 129—Industry, Bundoran, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—180—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 63 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY—48—St. Andrew, Freemason's Hall
" 226—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-street.
" R. A. 152—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution-street.
FRIDAY—R. A. 83—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—102—St. Marks, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 219—Star, 12 Trongate.
" 362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
R.A. 69—St. Andrews, 170 Buchanan-street.
WEDNESDAY—117—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
R.A. 150—St. John, Shelkerton, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 465—St. Andrews, Garngad Road.
FRIDAY—360—Commercial, 20 Hope-street.
" 406—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

St. John's Lodge, No. 84.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, 7th inst., at St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Wm. Bell R.W.M., J. Mitchell S.W., J. Crombie J.W.; P.M. Bro. Fletcher J. Smilie. Business—The initiation of two candidates, and the passing of three brethren to the F.C., which was very ably performed by Bro. William Bell. A long discussion in reference to Lodge business ensued.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 17.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, the 7th September, at their Lodge room, 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, at 5 p.m. Present—Bros. G. McDonald R.W.M., Wm. McGregor S.W., J. Ambridge J.W., J. A. Ampleford Secretary, G. W. Wheeler Treasurer, Andrew Kay jun. S.D., J. Collins J.D., J. Richards Steward, T. Ham I.G., A. Kay Tyler; P.M. Bro. Geo. Weston. Visitors—Bros. Arthur 0, Winch 145, McDonald 177. Business—Mr. Joseph Bowker was initiated into the E.A. degree, after which, on the Lodge being raised, Bros. John Dean and Robert Brown were raised to the sublime degree by Bro. McDonald.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on the 6th inst. at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green. Present—Bros. Saul W.M., Stock S.W., Tolmie J.W., Killick Secretary, Read S.D., Walker J.D., Sparkes I.G., Christopher Tyler; P.M. Bro. Beckett Preceptor, and a numerous gathering of the members. Business—Lodge opened in the usual manner, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation rehearsed, Bro. Jones candidate. The W.M. worked the 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the 1st Lecture, assisted by the brethren, and Bro. Tolmie worked the 4th, the questions being answered by the W.M. Bro. Sparkes was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. Stock was elected W.M. for the next week. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in ancient form and perfect harmony. The meetings of this Lodge will in future be held at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell.

Caledonian of Unity Royal Arch, Chapter No. 73.—This Chapter held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 31st of August, at the Kilwinning Hall, Glasgow. Present—Comps. George Wm. Wheeler Z., G. McDonald H., David Gilchrist J., Jas. Balfour Scribe E., J. Bannerman Treasurer, J. McMurray 1st S., J. Gillos 2nd S., J. Douglas 3rd S., T. Yule Captain of the Veils, J. Kennard I.G., Wm. Jamieson Tyler. Past Principles D. Gilchrist J., G. McDonald. Visitors—Comps. J. Crabb P.Z. 50, J. Dunlop Z. 67, J. Andrews 87. Business—A Mark Masters' Lodge was opened, and ballot taken for Bro. E

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Arthur of Mother Kilwinning Lodge, No. 0, and Bro. T. Kennedy of 554, who were instructed in that degree by Comp. G. W. Wheeler. A Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was then opened, and at the request of Comp. Wheeler, J. Duthie Z. of 67 worked that degree. The Holy Royal Arch Chapter was then opened, and Comp. J. Crabb P.Z. of 50 exalted the two brethren named above. All the work was well done, and Comp. Wheeler proposed a vote of thanks to Compe. Crabb and Duthie for their valuable services, saying he always liked to give the Chapter the benefit of seeing able companions at work when they favoured him with a visit. Comp. Crabb suitably acknowledged the compliment.

St. Rollox R.A. Chapter No. 144.—This Chapter held an emergency meeting on the 3rd inst., at their Hall, Garngad-road. Present—Bros. J. Annand Z., James McLeish H., D. Gilchrist acting J., J. Booth Scribe E., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 acting 1st S., J. Collins 2nd S., J. Brown 3rd S., John Hughes Tyler. Visitor, Comp. E. Arthur 73. Business—A Mark Lodge was opened, when Bros. Brown, of Seaton, and Duglass, of St. Andrew, received that degree at the hands of D. Gilchrist P.Z. of 73. A Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was then opened, G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 presiding, who conferred the degree on two candidates. On the R.A. Chapter being opened, Comp. Gilchrist presided, and Comp. Wheeler took the place of 1st Sojourner, and the same two gentlemen were duly exalted to this sublime degree in Comp. Gilchrist's best style.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 8th September, at Bro. Chard's, White Hart Tavern, Aboburch-lane, E.C. Present—Bros. T. Croaker W.M., Berry S.W., Blackall J.W., J. P. Cohen S.D., Thomas J.D., W. Corner I.G., Christopher Tyler, John Constable Treasurer, and others, numbering 22. P.M. Bro. E. Gottheil Preceptor. Brethren present—Rose, Pare, Gomm, Cuthbertson, Crush, Turquant, Abell, Ansell, &c., &c. The business of the evening consisted of the rehearsal of the Fellow Crafts' degree by the W.M., Bro. Beddell acting as candidate. The first and second sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Gottheil, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Berry was elected Master for the ensuing week. Bro. Berry having returned thanks, a vote was passed in favour of the W.M., Bro. Croaker, for his efficiency in the chair for the first time. The third degree will be rehearsed on the 15th instant, until which time the Lodge was closed in regular form.

St. John's Lodge, No. 327.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on the 1st inst., at the Lodge Room, Lion and Lamb Inn, Wigton, Cumberland. Present—Bros. McMechan W.M., W. H. Headless S.W., Lascoby J.W., John Robinson Sec., H. Bewes Treas., Carvick J.D., T. Richardson Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Lemon P.P.G.S.W. P.G. Treasurer, Porter P.G.S.W., Pearson, Taylor, and Bewes. Business—To raise Bro. Robert Lawson to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. To appoint an Almoner to the Lodge, when Bro. Robinson, Secretary, was unanimously elected.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—This Lodge held an Emergency meeting on Thursday, the 2nd of September, at the Masonic Hall, Drogheda. Present—Bros. Jeffers W.M., Daly P.M. as S.W., Harbinson P.M. as J.W., Preston as Secretary, Glenny S.D., Griffin J.D., Hannan (Clerk) Chaplain, McCausland I.G., Browne Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Deane, Daly and Harbinson. Business—Bro. Carette was raised to the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason, and saluted according to ancient custom.

Windsor Castle Lodge, No. 771.—A Lodge of Emergency was called for the 6th inst., at the Masonic Hall, St. Albans-street, Windsor, by the W.M., Bro. Greville Horsley Palmer, in whose unavoidable absence the chair was taken by the Senior Past Master of the Lodge, Bro. Devereux P.P.G.S. of Berks and Bucks, and J.P. of the Royal Borough. Lieut. William Barker, of the 16th Queen's Lancers (en route to India), and George W. Johnson, Esq., solicitor, Fenchurch-street, London, were candidates for initiation. The ceremony was most beautifully rendered by the presiding Master, Bro. Devereux, who in addition to the usual ritual, gave, most impressively, the charge, as well as the first lecture on the tracing board, and Bro. Tolley P.M., Secretary, presided at the organ and gave appropriate anthems and voluntaries. Both visitors and members expressed their due appreciation of the dignified and solemn manner with which the ceremonies were conducted, and Bro. Barker said he should carry to India with him *first impressions* of Freemasonry never to be effaced. Present—Bros. Devereux S.P.M., Culler S.W., Cantrell J.W., J. S. Tolley P.M., V. Brown S.D., R. G. Barton J.D., Manley I.G., Captain McInnes P.P.D.C. of Warwickshire, Howard, Sharples, H. Reid P.M. 209, J. Johnson, Lorrance, Carter, J. Lester, W. Goddard, and Lieut. McInnes. The brethren adjourned to the White Hart Hotel, where a most elegant repast was provided for them by Bro. Joseph Johnson.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1176.—The Brethren of the above Lodge met on the 7th inst. at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. F. Walters P.G.P. P.M. occupied the chair as W.M., supported by Bros. F. Rose S.W., J. A. Smith J.W., F. H. Ebsworth P.M. Treasurer, W. Batchelor S.D., W. Lover J.D., F. Garbett I.G. and Dr. Dixon P.M., also Bro. W. Ough P.G. P.G.M., C. J. Hogg P.G.S. P.M., H. Keeble P.M., and E. W. Mackney P.M., also Bros. A. Tisley, J. Brooks, W. Brough, S. Markelis, J. Finch, A. C. Woodward, W. P. Tong, H. J. Clark, &c. The Lodge was opened, and after the confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Easterbrook, Savage and Nice were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts, and Bros. Bell and Shaw were raised to the 3rd degree. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. J. A. Smith J.W. was duly elected. Bro. F. H. Ebsworth P.M. was elected Treasurer, and W. J. Laing Tyler. The Lodge was then closed by Bro. Deakin, the W.M., and the brethren separated. Bro. P. Magee, No. 548, was present as a visitor.

Beacontree Lodge of Instruction, No. 1228.—If there is one section of the Craft more than others in the Metropolitan district in which Masonic energy is developed, the palm must decidedly be awarded to our brethren in the East. There, night after night, do we find enthusiastic Craftsmen devoting their spare time to assisting each other to obtain a knowledge of the beautiful precepts inculcated by our sublime ritual. Those brethren who are anxious to render themselves proficient in the duties of office are always sure of a kindly greeting at any one of the many Lodges of Instruction, and the visitor can always rely on meeting those who will most readily communicate to him the knowledge he is anxious to obtain. It is thus that we have great pleasure in announcing that the Beacontree Lodge of Instruction, No. 1228, was successfully inaugurated on Tuesday evening. The meeting was held at the Red Lion, Leytonstone, Bro. T. Barford being the W.M., and the following brethren likewise being present, viz:—R. J. Tucker S.W., J. Boulton J.W., G. E. Walters Secretary, W. G. Durrant S.D., I. Buscall J.D., W. Allen I.G.; Bros. W. Musto P.M. 1349, W. Hogg P.M. 1349, W. Allen 1471, J. Pinder 15 and 1445, Westfield 813, King 1056, W. W. Morgan 1385, Lewis Lewis 1426, Massey, Barton 548, Taplay 1076, G. Lewis 1076, and E. J. Anning 1364. The ceremony of Consecration was rehearsed by Bro. J. Terry, assisted by Bro. P.M. Barnes 933 and 554, acting as S.W., and Bro. Allcock I.P.M. 1228 as J.W., and the manner in which Bro. Terry fulfilled the office is worthy of the highest commendation. There was not the slightest hesitation in the discharge of this important duty, and considering that our worthy Brother had undertaken it at short notice, we heartily congratulate him on the success which attended his efforts. We offer the same gratulation to Bro. W. H. Myers, F.S.A., P.M. 820 and W.M. 1445, who acted as I.M., and who shewed a high order of proficiency in that capacity. The installation ceremony having been completed, the W.M. appointed his officers, and in due course the Lodge was closed. After a short interval a banquet was served, at which Bro. T. Barford presided, and the genial manner in which he conducted the business of the evening gave great satisfaction to all assembled. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren separated. It was announced that the Lodge will meet at the Red Lion, Leytonstone, on every succeeding Tuesday evening, at 8 o'clock, until the last Tuesday in May. The three ceremonies will be worked on each evening.

Star Lodge, No. 1275.—The installation meeting of this capital working Lodge was held on the 3rd inst., at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, Bro. Joseph Smith P.G.P. P.M. in the chair, supported by the Wardens and Officers. On the confirmation of the minutes the P.M. raised Bro. F. J. Lindsay, and initiated Mr. Chas. Marr. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. J. Limebeer S.W. was presented to the Lodge, and installed into the chair by Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient form, invested his officers:—W. H. Green S.W., R. W. Williams J.W., Rev. G. J. P. Collis Chaplain, J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. Treas. (re-invested for the 7th time), C. W. Williams J.D., W. Kipps I.G., E. W. Chetwynd D.C., J. Gilbert P.G. Tyler (Middlesex) re-invested Tyler. Votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. P.M., and F. Walters P.P.G.S., Middlesex, for the able and assiduous manner those brethren had discharged their respective duties as Treasurer and Secretary. The Lodge was then closed, and a very sumptuous banquet and dessert was provided. The usual toasts were given during the evening. Bro. E. W. Mackney sang several harmonious songs in his best style, and the brethren passed a very delightful evening. Among the visitors were Bros. G. T. Fox P.M. 78, W. Bourne P.M. 1348, G. A. Garrett P.M. 704, F. D. Vine 173, J. Barford 173, A. W. Farber 27, F. R. Vine 173, J. H. Kemp 27, H. Potter P.M. 11, J. Wright P.M. 1158, A. C. Barrell W.M. 1446, J. Hillhouse P.M. 228, T. Jennings P.M. 59, J. V. Watkins 1336, L. Dettimus 179, &c.

Prince Leopold Lodge, No. 1445.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Thursday, the 2nd of September, at the Lord Stanley, Sandringham-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. F. Green W.M., W. H. Myers P.M. 820 S.W., F. Wilkins J.W., J. Pinder Sec., W. J. Howe P.M. Treas., W. F. Stevenson S.D., J. Clark D.C., S. L. Green and S. E. Goddard Stewards, J. E. Simms I.G., Gilchrist Tyler, and the following members:—Joshua Moore P.G.S.B., G. Townsend P.M. 820 and W.M. 754, S. Hill, S. Clark, J. Bodkin, S. Howell, G. Lord, W. A. Ide, S. Cox, E. Smith, J. Rainbow, J. Jermy, J. H. Cambridge, J. H. Vellum, E. Blackmur, G. Mewl, J. C. Preston and G. C. Obey. P.M. Bro. W. J. Howe. Visitors—Bros. J. Wright P.M. 781 G. Pursuivant, P. de L. Long P.M. 114 Vice President Board of General Purposes, H. G. Buss P.M. 27 P.G. Treasurer Middlesex, W. Monckton P.M. 1063 G.S.D. Kent, E. Palmer P.M. 1414 P.P.G.D. Kent, S. Watkins P.M. 202, T. Grimes P.M. 881, T. J. Barnes P.M. 933 and 554, G. Kenning P.M. 192, H. Massey P.M. 609, F. W. Koch P.M. 820 and 1381, F. S. Knoyvett 58 W.M. 1495, A. Guthmann (Hungary), H. A. Robinson 65, S. Moss 202, G. C. Young 820, B. Candlick 1421, G. Williams 933, F. Fellows 192, W. G. Durrant 1056, and J. Green 27. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form, and after the usual preliminary business, Bro. W. H. Myers F.S.A. P.M. 820, was presented as the W.M. elect for the ensuing year. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Myers was duly installed in the chair of K. S. according to ancient rite, the ceremony of installation being most ably performed by Bro. F. Green I.P.M., who brought all his well-known histrionic powers to bear on this portion of our sublime ritual. After the usual proclamation and salutation in the three degrees, the newly installed W.M. then appointed and invested his officers in that perfect manner which is so habitual to Bro. Myers. The officers were as follow:—Bros. F. W. Wilkins S.W., J. Pinder J.W.,

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W. H. Howe P.M. P.G. Pursuivant Middlesex Treasurer, G. E. Walters Sec., J. E. Simms S.D., J. Clark J.D., S. L. Greco I.G., T. E. Goddard D.C., N. D. Partridge and C. Hubbard Stewards. After the proposition of five candidates for initiation, the Lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. G. M. Townsend. The evening was enlivened by the vocal and instrumental efforts of Bro. G. Young 820. The usual toasts having been duly honoured, the brethren separated at an early hour, thoroughly gratified with their entertainment.

Truth Lodge, No. 1458.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 6th of September, at the Royal Archer Hotel, Dale-street, Manchester. Present—Bros. Henry Smith W.M., Charles J. Kent J.W., John Kinder P.M. Sec., James Batcheldor S.D., Jas. Branton J.D., Robert Caldwell P.M. D.C., Thomas Sellers Steward, Robert Fallows I.G., Charles Beswick Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Jno. W. Turner, Caldwell and Kinder. Visitors—Bros. John F. C. Walton 422, Frontier City, Oswego, J. B. Williams 3, Cork. Business—The minutes of last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. asked the test questions preparatory to passing Bro. Brayshaw, which being answered satisfactorily, the candidate was entrusted and retired. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Brayshaw having been re-admitted, was passed by Bro. Smith W.M. Bro. Oldham was then questioned, before being raised to the sublime degree of M.M., and proving himself worthy, was entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, when Bro. John Kinder P.M., on the re-admission of Bro. Oldham, proceeded with the beautiful and solemn ceremony of raising; Bro. Oldham was evidently much impressed with the solemnity of the ceremony and the impressiveness with which it was delivered by the acting W.M., who took every member by surprise, each being highly delighted with Bro. Kinder's manner of working. The Lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees, and a communication having been read from Grand Lodge, the labours were brought to an end, and the Lodge closed at 6.20 p.m. An excellent banquet was provided by the host, Bro. Potts, and on the removal of the cloth, Bro. Turner I.P.M. took the chair, the W.M. Bro. Smith having to fulfil an engagement. The usual Masonic toasts were then proposed and duly honoured. Bro. Caldwell P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., coupling with it the health of the I.P.M., to which the I.P.M. responded in suitable terms. The Officers, Visitors and Wardens' toasts having been given, the brethren separated, having spent a pleasant evening.

Halsey Lodge, No. 1479. — This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, 8th inst., at the Town Hall, St. Albans. Present—Bros. Geo. Askew W.M., Arthur Godson S.W., Isaac Edwards J.W., F. Venables Secretary, W. Palin Treasurer, John Parrott S.D., Kent J.D., J. Reynolds D.C., R. Blakey Steward, Wm. Marks I.G., Kirby Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. Lowthin, Webster, Wingham, &c. After the routine business of the Lodge had been completed, the brethren adjourned to the Peahen Hotel, where supper was provided by Bro. Marks.

Alexandra Palace Lodge, No. 1541.—The second meeting of this newly consecrated Lodge was held on Saturday, at the Alexandra Palace. The W.M., Bro. J. C. Parkinson D.P.G.M. (Middlesex) being absent, Bro. J. K. King P.G.S. and S.W. occupied the chair; H. Dyte P.M. D.C. as S.W., J. Willing jun. W.M. 1507 as J.W., J. R. Stacey P.M. Secretary, J. H. Dodson S.D., W. W. Snelling J.D., J. Lee as I.G., and J. White W.M. 228 as I.P.M. The Lodge having been opened, the minutes were confirmed. Bro. J. Dodson, No. 55, was elected a joining member; Messrs. W. Dennison and J. E. Ward were initiated, and Bros. Daniel Larchin Chapman, Kensington and Matthews were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts, the latter ceremony being impressively delivered by Bro. J. R. Stacey, in his usual perfect manner. The same compliment may justly be paid to the acting W.M., Bro. J. K. King. Several propositions for joining and initiation were handed in, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards partook of a very capital dinner at the table d'hôte, the catering of Bros. Bertram and Roberts giving great satisfaction; the brethren had a quiet corner to themselves, the various toasts were given, and sociality and harmony prevailed. The visitors were Bros. J. Willing jun. W.M. 1507, Boys P.M. Camden Lodge, Styles 1507, H. Ralph 177, H. Thompson P.M. Great City Lodge, H. Potter, J. W. Berry 1185, C. Scales 1507, &c.

Lodge of Prudence, No. 1550.—The regular monthly meeting was held on Friday, 3rd inst., at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. R. G. Bird, the chair was occupied by Wor. Bro. J. J. Avery W.M. 70 Treasurer 1550, assisted by Bros. J. B. Gover I.P.M., J. Y. Avery S.W., J. P. Rogers J.W., J. G. Keverne S.D., W. Garland J.D., A. S. Stuart I.G., C. Philp D.C., Rev. W. Whittley Chaplain, L. D. Westcott Treasurer, J. Smith Tyler. The Lodge having been opened in usual form, Bro. W. H. Blackmore was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, and Bro. J. Faulder was passed to the second degree. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Roskruge and Westlake, and both were declared to be clear. Messrs. C. Foster and J. Trodinnick were proposed for initiation. After the accustomed prayer the Lodge was closed in the usual manner. The success of this Lodge almost exceeds the expectations of its founders.

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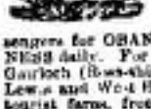
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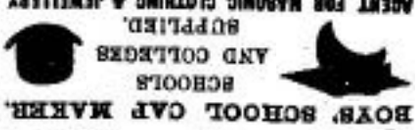
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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 38. SATURDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

ON Monday, 6th instant, the pupils of this Institution presented a very handsome and costly musical album to the Matron, Miss Hall. The presentation was made, before the assembled pupils, by the Head Master, the Rev. D. Morris, at their request and on their behalf, who, in addressing Miss Hall, said, he was extremely gratified by the request made to him to present the handsome testimonial of respect and esteem entertained for her by her young friends. The offering was entirely spontaneous, and hence its value in evidencing the sense felt by her young charges for the kindness which had, during her long term of office, characterised her domestic management. His brief experience would not allow him to say much on this head, but the fact of this testimonial having been subscribed for voluntarily, by the entire School, was the best assurance she could receive of the estimation in which she was held, and of the appreciation of her labours for the comfort and well-being of those under her care. Miss Hall offered a few feeling words in reply, expressive of the satisfaction and delight afforded her by this kind recognition of the manner in which she had discharged her duties. She thanked them most heartily, and should ever treasure the handsome present just given her.

It is always well when the services of an official are thus generously recognised. Those only can appreciate such a presentation who have had the same or similar duties entrusted to them, and it speaks well for the Matron of this Institution, that after a lengthened service, those under her charge have paid her this compliment. The duties of a matron are many and arduous; she occupies a position in which her temper is daily, nay, even hourly, tried. Boys will be boys, and in the exuberance of their abundant spirits, are often forgetful of the wear and tear of temper to which she must be subjected. Clearly her conduct, in this respect, must have given general satisfaction, or we should not be recording this interesting event. Nor in this respect only. The duties of a matron are very much those of a mother. She has all the responsibilities of a mother resting upon her shoulders. She must advise those in her charge in all their little troubles, soothing down any animosities that may have broken out amongst them, and reconciling disputants. A judicious matron may exercise a great deal of influence for good with the masters, and help not a little in the maintenance of discipline. It often makes all the difference between ease and difficulty in maintaining discipline if the matron be a judicious person. It is, we suppose, in the nature of boys to give trouble to those in authority over them, but feminine influence rightly employed does a world of good in reducing the exercise of this habit of our boy-nature to a minimum. Thus when the small school world takes upon itself to do such a graceful action as we have just had the pleasure of recording, we may be sure there have been good and sufficient reason for its action. The boys must be, as their fathers were before them, genial fellows, admirable chips from good old Masonic blocks, and the lady who has given such satisfaction in the discharge of her functions as Matron must be a genial and kind lady, and motherly withal. Boys are keen to learn whether or not a person over them is lovable and worthy of their respect, and it is very creditable to Miss Hall that she can show how thoroughly and properly her services have been appreciated, not only by the governing body, but by the governed likewise. We repeat most cordially our felicitations on this most pleasant occasion.

A FEW HINTS HOW TO MANUFACTURE A MASONIC SONG.

IT is passing strange, perhaps, yet indubitable, that Masons, as a rule, are not given to poesy. Our system is veiled in allegory, and our symbolism is most beautiful. Nevertheless, the poetic fancy is not strong among us. It may be some of the terms in use among the Craft are somewhat unpoetical in sound, and that more than the usual difficulties in the way of rhyme and rhythm are encountered by any brother who may essay to put his thoughts into verse. We remarked in some of our earlier numbers on the lack of feeling noticeable in most of our Masonic minstrelsy, and we quoted specimens from the best known *répertoire* of songs in proof of the hardness, we might almost say the woodenness, of very many of the lines. We have said this is somewhat strange, for there are those among us who indulge their imagination freely, while the principal tenets we profess, indeed, the worship of all that is beautiful and good, are both elements towards the making of tuneful verses. Some there are who write in true poetic language of the antiquity of the Order. The archæologists among us are, in truth, poets, for their flights of fancy are calculated to reach even the loftiest Parnassian heights. Some trace our Order straight back to King Solomon, others have taken us still further back into the remote past, and connect the origin of Craft Masonry with Moses, and through him with the patriarchs, of whom, from a Masonic point of view, Abraham is the most admirable. Others, again, go further back, even into the Garden of Eden, and make Adam the founder of Freemasonry. We are not aware if any have made researches beyond this epoch, but, doubtless, it is in the order of things that, as years roll on, and men become wiser, we shall hear of inquiries, extending not only as far back as the pre-historic period of the universe, but even into the glacial, and possibly, the pre-glacial periods, on the supposition, at least, that there was a pre-glacial period. Now these worthy brethren are, beyond all question, indued with a lofty imagination, and should be capable, with so grand a field before them, of producing one or two admirable poems. Mr. Tennyson, within narrower limits, has fashioned, out of the famous Arthurian legends, a series of magnificent idylls. May not some Bro. Tennyson, W.M. of the Lodge Poetic, contrive to equal, if not surpass, the efforts of the Poet Laureate? As it is, the only real poets among us are the Masonic archæologists who write in prose, while our *soi-disant* poet is nothing if not prosy. Hence has it occurred to us to offer our readers a few hints on versification, in the hope that some of them, having profited by our suggestions, may be encouraged to cultivate the art of poetry, and give us now and again some tuneful song.

The practice of verse-making is one of which all of us, no doubt, have had, more or less, experience. "Our Old Friend John" remembers, doubtless, that in the days "when we were boys together," one of the few intellectual games indulged in was "capping verses." Any number might take part in it, and the manner of playing it was very simple. One boy would quote a line from some favourite poet, another would cap it with a line that rhymed, taken from the same or any other poet. A greater test of poetic reading was to quote a sentiment, and cap it with other lines expressive of the same sentiment. The simpler form of the game accustomed our juvenile ears to the value of sound, while the severer necessitated a wider acquaintance with the poets of our own and other countries, and so led us gradually to the cultivation of

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poetic feeling. It is not for us to say whether or not these early games induced in us any greater sense of the poetical than what, if there were any, may have been innate, but we commend the game to the notice of those who may contemplate the making of Masonic verses. We have noticed, and no doubt our readers have noticed likewise, that Masonic poets are very indifferent about there being any sense in their songs and ballads. In practising this game of "capping verses," therefore, the nonsense of a stanza will be an additional feature, and one that will increase greatly the charm of this kind of versification. Let us illustrate our meaning. We will suppose five brethren, whom we will distinguish severally as A, B, C, D, and E, are playing. After a supreme effort the following is the result:

Bro. A: In eighteen hundred and fifty three,
" B: Hubbledy Gee! Hubbledy Gee!
" C: Brother Stiles
" D: Ran forty miles;
" E: Nonsense! Fiddledee!

The rhyming is admirable, the nonsense clear, the ejaculations being both ancient and modern, and displaying therefore a rigid impartiality between the two sections of Craftsmen—those who accept the "time immemorial" theory, and those who incline to the seventeenth century origin of our order. Add to this that the idea is unique, and the language simplicity itself, and we flatter ourselves the effort is a very moral of successful poesy. How much better it reads than:—

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.

Here is another specimen, the manipulators being four in number, namely, Bros. Menticent All, Won Der Ment, Fancy Bread, and Cynnic Call.

Bro. Menticent All: I know a bank whereon the wild thyme grows.
" Won Der Ment: You don't say so!
" Fancy Bread: I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls.
" Cynnic Call: More fool you!

Or again, *á la* Christy's Minstrelsy:

Up and down de ribber,
O-hi-O,
Him took him pretty coe, Susannah,
For a charmin' row!

The Ohio being, as the Americans say, a "big" thing in rivers is very properly assigned a whole line to itself. We might go on multiplying our illustrations *ad infinitum*, but we are too pressed for space to write a volume of Masonic songs. We hope the few we have given will find places of honour in every new song-book that may be published. They are right worthy of such distinction.

We have then two suggestions to offer, one that intending poets should cultivate the art of rhyming. As we have already noticed, a lack of rhyming power is one of the chief weaknesses which the Masonic poets of by gone-days have developed. It is not necessary to be particular about the words selected for practice, the only points worth attending to being rhyme and accent. For instance, a gushing brother meeting a friend will blurt out all at once the greeting, "Hów d'y' do?" with the first word well accentuated. This rhymes with "Hullaballoo." Another, who is of a phonetic turn of mind, and writes his words as he pronounces them, will exclaim, "And How d'yér do?" With this rhymes *pérdu* as pronounced in pure Anglo-French. A flippant brother, or one in a grievous hurry will salute with "Hów do?" this fits with "cow, too," or "row, too," the "too," in each case being thrown in without any particular meaning, but merely for euphony' sake. Then, there is the peculiar man, whose salute is "How dó?" with the accent throw well on the "dó'," which is pronounced long, and in a high falsetto key. A verbal representation of one kind of sneeze "A-tchish-ahóo" fits capitally with this, the "ahóo" being long, and uttered in a high squeak. We need not continue. The cases we have furnished are a few among many thousands, and will suffice as examples for the ingenious brother who has any rhyme or reason in his composition to imitate. Our concluding suggestion is this:—Some may ask, what class of poetry is the best for a sprouting Masonic poet to study? Our answer is, "Nursery Rhymes." The story of "Old Mother Hubbard," "Hey-diddle-diddle," "Jack and Gill," and the like are very beautiful. Masonic minstrelsy, with a few exceptions, contains nothing to equal them in the way of sense, rhythmic beauty, or thrilling interest.

If the outcome of these remarks of ours is no more than a simple song or ballad, we shall feel that our labour has not been in vain, and that our duty as a friendly critic has been successfully discharged.

A MASONIC DINNER.

WE dined the other day with an old friend and brother, Tobias Smollett; no relation whatever either of Hume and Smollett the historians, or Smollett the illustrious author of *Roderick Random*. It was the funniest thing in the way of dinners we remember to have participated in. As owing to a rather heavy traffic our cab was somewhat delayed, we were the very last to enter the drawing room, where the host and his guests were assembled, and were struck with no little astonishment on hearing the former put the question, "Whither directing your course?" and still more astonished at the answer, "To the dinner table, as soon as Bro. Toddlekins arrives." We being the Toddlekins in question, a move was accordingly made to the dining room, and in a very brief space of time the company were assembled around the gay and festive board of our respected W.M., host we should have written, who occupied the oriental chair, while his friends, S. W. and J. W. Jenkins, were located in the west and south respectively. The courses may be conveniently classified under the three several heads of fish, fowl and flesh, of the first of which there were seven different sections or kinds, the second having five, and the third three. There were also two capital soups à la Tracing Board, and a goodly array of game, which last may be looked upon as representing the high degrees. The vegetables were most conveniently arranged in squares and circles, and the different wines occupied favourable positions at intervals along the tesselated table.

We were very comfortably placed in close proximity to the wife of P.M. Snail on the one hand, and the wife of our own I. G. Thomas; the highly respected Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Steelpen, being almost our immediate *vis-à-vis*. It was very quaint to hear every now and then our excellent host pressing on the guests, in his own neighbourhood, if they would take a slice of Section III. à la Charles XIII., or a cut from Section V. à la loge d'adoption, while the brother in the direct west was equally impressive in bringing Sections II. and IV. Cod à la Grand Orient, and a mayonnaise of Salmon à la Porch under the notice of his fellow guests. In the direction of the Southern aspect was Bro. Loudvoice, who distinguished himself highly in conducting the distribution of the other items named on the *Carte*, consisting of Sections I., VI., and VII., severally represented by Turbot à la Triangle, Red Mullet à la Twenty-four inch Gauge, and Fricassee of Soles à la Gavel. It was casually remarked by a very hilarious Brother, in reference to the last of these dishes, that its presence was possibly in some way connected with a certain custom peculiar to the County of Kent, to wit, the custom of Gavelkind, and he was about enlarging on this point when he was interrupted by our W.M. asking his respected Bro. S. W. Jenkins, "What is our next duty in Freemasonry," to which the latter replied, with all that promptitude he has shown he possesses, "To order in a fresh supply of hock and sherry." This ended the first course and Lecture, and after a brief respite for the sake of digestion, discussion, and the re-ordering of our palates, with a view to further operations, we passed on to the fowl, or second course, and instituted a vigorous attack on a *compôt de pigeon*, Section VIII., varied with occasional references to Sections IX. and X., in which were represented all that is excellent in the way of Turkey à la Royal Arch, and Ducks à la Ancient and Accepted Rite. By way of interlude there came Sections XI. and XII., of which the first was made up entirely of Coxcombs à la Chine, while the latter was a very simple, but delicious, dish of larks, à la Level, and Sparrows à la Plumb Rule. So successful had we been thus far that nothing was needed to raise our hopes as we passed to the third course, or Lecture, of Meats, the veritable *piéces de résistance* of the most Masonic banquet we ever took part in. The first item on the *Menu* was Section XIII, in the shape of a sirloin of beef à la Misraim, fillet of veal à la Rite of Memphis, haunch of Venison, with a *sauce piquante*, fla-

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voured chiefly with extract of Knights of the Pelican. This ended, there appeared a variety of sweets, with game and other delicacies; after which the board was cleared, and the business of toast-drinking came into full operation. Amongst the principal wines we noticed port of the Prince of Libanus vintage, a very fine Amontillado named the Grand Pontiff, two or three excellent clarets, hocks, and Burgundies, among them an old claret of the Sovereign Grand Commander's, and a good Burgundy, the "Rose Croix." We did not break up till a somewhat advanced hour, when the sun was not at its meridian, except for purposes of Freemasonry. We have seen since then several of our fellow guests, and one and all unite in speaking most rapturously of this novel entertainment.

FRANCIS LAMBERT AND HIS PARADOXES.

From "The History of Protestantism," by Rev. Dr. Wylie.

Francis Lambert had read the writings of Luther in his cell at Avignon. His eyes opened to the light, and he fled. Mounted on an ass, his feet almost touching the ground, for he was tall as well as thin, wearing the grey gown of the Franciscans gathered round his waist with the cord of the order, he traversed in this fashion the countries of Switzerland and Germany, preaching by the way, till at last he reached Wittemberg, and presented himself before Luther. Charmed with the decision of his character and the clearness of his knowledge, the Reformer brought the Franciscan under the notice of Philip of Hesse. Between the thoroughgoing ex-monk and the chivalrous and resolute landgrave, there were not a few points of similarity fitted to cement them in a common action for the good of the Church. Francis was invited by the landgrave to frame a constitution for the Churches of Hesse. Nothing loth, Lambert set to work, and in one hundred and fifty-eight "Paradoxes" produced a basis broad enough to permit of every member exercising his influence in the government of the Church. We are amazed to find these propositions coming out of a French cell. The monk verily must have studied other books than his breviary. What a sudden illumination was it that dispelled the darkness around the disciples of the sixteenth century! Passing, in respect of their spiritual knowledge, from night to noon-day, without an intervening twilight, what a contrast do they present to nearly all those who in after-days left the Romish Communion to enroll themselves in the Protestant ranks! Were the intellects of the men of that age more penetrating or was the Spirit more largely given? But to pass on to the propositions of the ex-monk. Conforming to a custom which has been an established one since the days of the Emperor Justinian, who published his Pandects in the Churches, Francis Lambert, of Avignon, nailed up his "Paradoxes" on the Church doors of Hesse. Scarce were they exposed to the public gaze, when eager hands were stretched out to tear them down. Not so, however, for others and friendly ones are uplifted to defend them from desecration. "Let them be read," say several voices. A young priest fetches a stool—mounts it; the crowd keep silence, and the priest reads aloud. "All that is deformed ought to be reformed." So ran the first Paradox. It needed, thinks Boniface Dornemann, the priest who acted as reader, no renegade monk, no "spirit from the vasty depth" of Lutheranism to tell us this. "The word of God is the rule of all true Reformation," says Paradox second. That may be granted as part of the truth, thinks priest Dornemann, but it looks askance on tradition and on the infallibility of the Church. Still, with a Council to interpret the Bible, it may pass. The crowd listens and he reads Paradox the third. "It belongs to the Church to judge on matters of faith." Now the ex-monk has found the right road, doubtless thinks Dornemann, and bids fair to follow it. The Church is the judge. "The Church is the congregation of those who are united by the same spirit, the same faith, the same God, the same Mediator, the same Word, by which alone they are governed." So runs Paradox the fourth. A dangerous leap! thinks the priest; the ex-monk clears tradition and the Fathers at a bound. He will have some difficulty in finding his way back to the orthodox path. The priest proceeds to Paradox fifth. "The Word is the true key. The kingdom of heaven is open to him who believes the Word, and shut against him who believes it not. Whoever, therefore, truly possesses the power of the Word of God, has the power of the keys." The ex-monk, thinks Dornemann, upsets the Pope's throne in the little clause that gives right to the Word alone to govern. "Since the priesthood of the law has been abolished," says the sixth proposition, "Christ is the only immortal and eternal Priest; and he does not, like men, need a successor." There goes the whole hierarchy of priests. Not an altar, not a mass in all Christendom that this proposition does not sweep away. Tradition, Councils, Popes, and now priests, all are gone, and what is left in their room? Let us read proposition seventh. "All Christians, since the commencement of the Church, have been and are participators in Christ's priesthood." The monk's Paradoxes are opening the flood-gates to drown the Church and world in a torrent of democracy. At that moment the stool was pulled from under the feet of the priest, and, tumbling in the dust, his public reading was suddenly brought to an end. We have heard enough, however; we see the ground-plan of the spiritual temple; the basis is broad enough to sustain a very lofty structure. Not a select few only, but all believers, are to be built as living stones into this "holy house." With the ex-Franciscan of Avignon, as with the ex-Augustinian of Wittemberg, the corner-stone of the Church's organisation is the "universal priesthood" of believers.

MASONIC TEACHING—WHAT IT REALLY IS.

THE following letter, having been found by a worthy brother of ours, has been sent us for publication. The writer has evidently gone into his subject *con amore*, and if he should chance to see it in these columns, and would like to have his manuscript back, we shall have great pleasure in returning it, with many thanks for the use of it:—

My Dear Son and Brother,—Your last affectionate letter gave me more pleasure than I can well express. For I had looked forward, for many years past, to the time when age and circumstances would entitle you to claim Masonic brotherhood with me, and the fact of your having allied yourself with the Fraternity consummates my wish. The pleasure is further enhanced by the acknowledgment that your steps were guided by the purest motives, and a firm conviction of the truth of our principles, not by personal solicitation.

You must be aware of my enthusiasm in the cause of Freemasonry, and know full well that it never led me to overstep the bounds of discretion. Otherwise I might have been induced to express a wish that you should become one of us. When I took leave of you at Liverpool my tongue almost betrayed me to express it, but remembering the trials of bygone years, and the lesson instilled, the strictest silence was observed, and I have always avoided asking any one to join us. At the same time it is well to admit that I have been the means of inducing many highly intelligent and worthy men, by simply enunciating the true principles upon which the Order is founded.

Long years of close application have established my faith, and it is my intention that this letter should be rather of Masonic than of family interest. Ere I proceed with Craftsmen's characteristics or their principles, be assured there is nothing which follows which might be considered an infraction of my oath. If any subject or particular is omitted, remember it is purposely done, and you must refer for yourself to those shining lights of your Eastern Hemisphere for the deficient parts.

In early childhood you were taught to love, but it was a limited love only. Masons exemplify it more universally. Their love is brotherly, and teaches them to regard the whole human species as one family. Both high and low, rich and poor were created by the same Almighty being, and sent into the world for the support and protection of one another. By acting up to this principle you may be united to men of every country, sect and opinion, and by its dictates excite a true friendship amongst those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. The seeds of relief ripened early in your mind, and I remember well your earnest pleading on behalf of a poor creature who crossed our path when traversing the downs of Hampshire. Such a virtue is indeed noble, and it is a duty incumbent upon all men, particularly Masons, who are linked together in one indissoluble bond of fraternal affection, to relieve the distressed. Hence you are to soothe the unhappy, sympathise with their misfortunes, and, if possible, restore peace to their troubled minds. This is a grand aim to keep in view, and will establish you as a good Mason, while truth, being a divine attribute, will lay the foundation of every virtue. To be good and true is a lesson you were taught early, so that you might regulate your life and actions. Let hypocrisy be unknown to you, so that sincerity and plain dealing may prove your distinguishing characteristics, whilst heart and tongue join in promoting the welfare of others. Doubt not, my dear Son, what I say; have faith, for it is the foundation of justice, the bond of amity, and the chief support of civil society. Always live and walk by faith, as, by it, you will be justified, and finally received. True faith is the evidence of things not seen, but the substance of those hoped for; this, well and Masonically observed, will secure you eternal happiness hereafter. Hope is an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast. Have firm reliance in the Almighty. Keep your desires within the prescribed limits of His blessed promises; so will success attend you. Believe not things impossible, or despondency will render them so, but perseverance will overcome all difficulties. Above all, I pray you practise charity, but without detriment to yourself or connections. It is beautiful in itself, and the brightest ornament that can adorn a Mason, being the best test, and surest proof of his sincerity. Benevolence rendered by Heaven-born Charity is an honour to the nature whence it springs. Happy indeed is he in whose breast the seeds of benevolence are sown, for the fruit will destroy envy, refute slander, induce forgiveness, and blot out wrong from recollection. Be always ready to listen to him who may claim your assistance; so shall a heart-felt satisfaction follow your labour, and love and charity be your reward.

There is one thing it is necessary to call your attention to before I proceed further. It is too well known that the climate of India induces great thirst, therefore practise temperance. This means put a due restraint upon your passions and affections, so as to render

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the body governable, and the mind will be relieved from the allurements of vice. Temperance teaches you to avoid excess, and the contraction of any vicious habits which might lead you to disgrace. In order to prevent this, cultivate prudence; it is a firm support of the soul, the golden mean between rashness and cowardice, and will enable you to undergo any labour, pain, difficulty, or danger. Let this be deeply impressed upon your breast, as a security against any attack that might be made to extort a secret. And bear in mind that all these matters require prudence, which should guide your actions according to the dictates of reason. It is that habit of mind whereby men wisely judge, and determine upon whatever relates to their temporal and eternal welfare. Let this virtue be your distinguishing characteristic, not only for the regulation of your own conduct, but that you may set a pious example to all around. Above all, be just, for justice is an enlightened perception of moral right, and will teach you to render to every man his due. It is the essence of both divine and human laws. Without the exercise of justice, universal confusion would ensue, and social intercourse no longer exist, and as justice in a great measure constitutes the really good man, ever bear in mind the excellent injunctions you have received,—To be just and upright in all your dealings.

The first portion of my letter is nearing its close, and will be confined to a simple illustration of the distinguishing characteristics of every true Freemason; they are virtue, honor, mercy, and should they be banished all other societies, they will be found exemplified by faithful Craftsmen.

It is recorded in History that the Consul Marcellus erected two temples, to be dedicated to Virtue and Honor, and they were so contiguous, that the only avenue to the Temple of Honor was through that of Virtue, thereby inculcating the elegant moral, that virtue is the only direct road to honor. Virtue is the highest exercise and improvement of reason, the integrity, harmony, and just balance of the affections, the health, strength and beauty of the soul. The perfection of virtue is to give reason full scope, to obey the dictates of conscience with alacrity, exercise the defensive faculties with fortitude, the public with justice, the private with temperance, and the whole of them with prudence, that is, in due proportion to each other, with calm and diffusive benevolence; to love and adore God with an unrivalled and disinterested affection, and acquiesce in divine dispensations with cheerful resignation. Every approach to this standard is a step towards perfection and happiness, while every deviation has a tendency to vice and misery.

Honor may be considered the secret links of virtue's chain. It is the most manly and dignified sentiment of the human mind, the primeval standard of moral, social and obligatory acts, and the true foundation of mutual faith and credit, by which the intercourse of men is carried on with safety and pleasure. Honor differs from religion, still, the results are similar, the lines of action, though drawn from different parts, terminate in the same point.

Religion embraces Virtue as it is enjoined by the laws of God: Honor, as it is graceful and ornamental to human nature. Religious men fear, men of honor scorn an evil action; the latter considering vice beneath them, the former as offensive to the Deity, the one unbecoming, the other strictly forbidden, thus what some are prompted to by duty, conscience, or religion, others are by honor.

Men of true honour are not content with the literal discharge of duty as citizens, they raise and dignify it to magnanimity, giving where they might refuse, and forgiving where they might, with justice, resent, deeming it more honourable to forgive than resent injury. Rest assured that the only path to the temple of true honour is by that of virtue. Always bear in mind that you have been clothed with a badge more ancient and honorable than any other Order can boast; this alone will set you above the level of evil-minded men, and prove that you have been brought out of darkness. Let your light so shine before men that they, seeing your good works, may emulate your example, and glorify the G.A.O.T.U. So much has been said of mercy, and in a thousand forms, that my pen is loth to tread ground so delectable. Our immortal bard wrote:—

> "The quality of mercy is not strain'd,
> It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
> Upon the place beneath: It is twice bless'd,
> It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes:
> 'Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes
> The throned monarch better than his crown;
> His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
> The attribute to awe and majesty,
> Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings,
> But mercy is above this sceptred sway,
> It is enthroned in the hearts of kings:
> It is an attribute to God himself;
> And earthly power doth then show likest God's,
> When mercy seasons justice."

To be continued.

FREEMASONRY—AN ADVANCIVE SCIENCE.

IT is strange how the language of common life will find its way into the recesses of Science the most abstruse. Custom, it is true, is the law of language, and every idiom is permissible, if not strictly proper, "Si volet usus," as declared by the Augustan Poet. All which is permissible, and even proper, however, is not always agreeable to the laws of a pure taste; and it would seem that certain walks of Science, if not of Literature, itself a science, should be left in the undisturbed possession of their own vocabulary. But custom, as a law of language, is almost paramount, and the learned as well as the unlearned, the doctors of science as well as the unlettered labourers, the Masters in Israel equally with the bearers of burdens, all fall under its acknowledged sway, and speak even in their own fields, "si volet usus."

These reflections naturally arise out of a consideration of the subject indicated in the title of this article. The proclivity of man to evil is so much greater than his aptness for virtue, the progression downward is so rapid, the "facilis descensus" so plain and marked, while the effort to do good is so painful and slow, so great the "opus" and "labor," that the common mind, impressed with a firm conviction of its truth, will not believe but that all progression must needs be an advancement for evil. Thus, the phrases "Advancive age," "fast youth," and the like, are always used in this last and worse sense, and the thought of our people, so far at least as it is to be found in their language, one of the outward signs of that thought, would seem to ignore all advancement for good. It is to this cause we would impute the jealous honour entertained by some brethren, at the use of the word "Advancive in Freemasonry." We think that this feeling arises from a misapprehension of the meaning of the word, and, with the hope of reconciling in some degree the variant opinions held on this subject, propose to devote a short space to its consideration.

It is to be remarked that the different opinions now held, are held with equal zeal, pertinacity and earnestness, and that brethren of the greatest intelligence, and the most undoubted integrity and devotion to Freemasonry, are to be found on either side of the question,—and while some would not have a word out of place from what they have been taught as the Ancient Lectures, others would have, while they retain the substance, a new and more lively interest imparted to them, through the greater copiousness of illustration and wealth of imagery, furnished in the enlarged materials of a more advanced, and advancive state of Art and Science. This argues, we own, most conclusively, the great power of Freemasonry to attract and fix the regard of the intelligent and good, but at the same time it presents a case the most rare of want of agreement among debatants upon the terms of the question discussed. As we believe herein lies the whole difficulty, and that, rightly understood, there is really no point of difference between them, but that Freemasonry here, as everywhere, is a unit, vast, complete—we shall begin our enquiry by defining, if we may be able, what is meant by stating that Freemasonry is an Advancive Science. We must premise that advancement is not innovation—that there is an advancement in good—in virtue—as well as in evil. Slower, it is true, scarcely perceptible at times, we, perforce, must allow—but still, blessed be God, an advancement, unmistakeable, positive, sure.

And here it does seem strange, that a science which was in early times denominated Lux, and whose initiates are even now called "Sons of Light," should be claimed within itself, to contain its own definitions, an abnegation of the principles of the advancement. But this is error. The whole scope and design of Speculative Masonry is to produce advancement in morality and virtue. Her ritual, her degrees, her symbols all teach and encourage to the same. From the first step, when Light first beams upon the sense of the initiate, throughout he is taught to ask for more light, and more is constantly given. And the same advancement is sedulously inculcated in our outward and moral life in the world. We are taught, in the language of our lectures, that "We ought in youth, as Entered Apprentices, industriously to occupy our minds in the attainment of useful knowledge, the discharge of our respective duties to God, our neighbours and ourselves; that so, in age as Master Masons, we may enjoy the happy reflection consequent on a well-spent life, and die in the hopes of a glorious immortality"—thus pointing out the natural advancement of progression of goodness and virtue, to the final reward of the just.

The ritual of the three symbolic degrees especially declares advancement. The candidate, in the first, is made to enter upon the arduous road of reform and moral improvement. A new code of social conduct is given to him, and his attention directed to the Great Light whence are quarried all the moral truths of her teachings. In the second he is passed along the road of advancement, under the guidance of faithful conductors, until in the third he is raised to the full perceptions of his relations to God, his fellow-men and himself—that Great light ever burning before him as the precious Heart of his maker, displayed in His love and mercy towards the sons of men. If here is not advancement, what is advancement?

The same idea M.W. Bro. Scott, an American Masonic writer, of a high order of talent, in his "Analogy," thus developes: "There are three steps and three degrees in Symbolical Masonry. Each step or degree is an advance towards light and knowledge. There is more revealed in the Fellow Craft's degree than in the degree of the Entered Apprentice; and there is fullness of light and knowledge in the degree of Master."

Even in the "Ancient Charges," as we have them, an advancement in Masonry is acknowledged. For whereas it is said that "though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, whatever it was,—yet it is now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that religion wherein all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves, &c.—

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and thus to advance and more surely secure the great object of Freemasonry, to present to all a "centre of union, and the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance;"—thus assisting in the advent of that day, when all the earth shall know and acknowledge the one, true and living God, and bow no more unto "stocks and stones."

There *is* a sense, in which there can be no advancement in Masonry. And this is in relation to the ritual and landmarks of the Society. Advancement here would be no innovation. These are fixed and unalterable, and cannot be changed without changing the distinctive feature of Freemasonry itself. In this sense we are as bitterly opposed to "Advancement" as any, and admit as freely, and are prepared to depend as stoutly as any, "that it is not in the power of any men, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry."

But this is a confined sense. Without touching the ritual or the landmarks, we see no good reason why the brother, who is capable, should be debarred from amplifying and enriching the lectures with the stores of his own learning and experience. The only difficulty in the way of latitude here, is to be found from the vain-glorious and vaulting ambition of some who might fancy themselves capable, when the brethren would not be so ready to admit it. But does not herein consist the remedy for this? Aside from this, whenever the demands of the work will allow, we think it would not be without profit to encourage such lectures. "It is clear," says Dr. Oliver, "that the lectures of Masonry are arbitrary; and, with the exception of a few determinate landmarks, vary essentially in different countries; being constituted in such a manner as to agree with the peculiar habits and belief of the fraternity who use them; that the introduction of no startling facts or unacceptable doctrines may cause disputes or divisions to arise amongst a brotherhood who profess to be connected by the indissoluble chain of brotherly love.

For Masonry meddles with no system of religion, and leaves every member at full liberty to follow that way of faith to which he had been educated. So that the Mahommedan, the Israelite, and the believer in the new Dispensation may each in his own country tinge, in his imagination, the ceremonies of the Lodge with the hues of his own faith, without doing violence to the essentials of Freemasonry, and without cause of complaint from each other as brethren.

We would by no means be understood to wish to abrogate, nor do we infer that such was the wish of Bro. Oliver—any part of what are known among Masons, as the "Lodge Lectures." Those must necessarily remain the same, at least so far as they are in elucidation of the work. But, we do think, that here is the very design of our fathers, to allow the experienced and talented brother, according to his gifts and qualifications, to amplify, to beautify, to complete, and render more impressive on the candidate, their solemn and useful lessons. They are the mere skeleton, to be clothed upon, and filled out into perfect and attractive shape, by the stores of learning and experience, and of disciplined imagination, in the hands of the skilful and well tried brother.

The readers of the "CANADIAN MASONIC NEWS," we feel assured, will bear us out, in their own experience, as they call to mind the great difference they have themselves felt between the lectures thus vivified and vivifying, and the same lectures rehearsed in monotonous tone and pinched limits. It is the difference between the lifeless frame, the naked, lifeless skeleton, and the same skeleton clothed upon with flesh, and muscles, and arteries, and with the breath of life in its nostrils, moving before us in all the poetry of life, motion, and intelligence.

Encourager of the Arts and Sciences as Freemasonry is, it is reasonable to expect her to show that she is not blind to their advance, and that in the tropes and figures in her lectures she is able, with a Mistress' hand, to call from every field whatever she may desire for ornament or for conviction, thus giving indubitable evidence that her advancement is ever paced with theirs. For, though it may be, that all our boasted advance in Arts and Science, is more imaginary than real, and that we are only moving back in the great cycle of those to a point already witnessed and passed in Earth's ages, still it is advancement from the condition in which they stood in the "dark ages;" and Freemasonry were false to her own teaching did she not fail to adopt herself to the enlightment of her day

This is what we understand by advancement in Masonry. We would not disturb one stone in the Temple, where essentials are concerned. We mourn after uniformity of work, equally with any of our brethren. We want that work to remain ancient, intact. The principles of Freemasonry we would have the same, and count it sacrilege in any one to offer to change them. Founded on eternal wisdom, they are from everlasting to everlasting immutable, sacred. Indeed, all true principles are in their very nature indestructible and immutable; for what are they but the pulsations of the Great Heart of the Universe—even the unmoved God Himself. We believe if all understood advancement in Freemasonry to mean this, all would be content to have such advancement, and we cannot but suspect that it is only from a want of enquiring as to what it is they mean by "advancement" in Masonry that the difference is so wide among some of the brethren thereon. If this article shall contribute to a better agreement as to the definition of "advancement"—and any shall find, that misled by the popular use of the word, they have mistaken advancement for innovation, and that in truth there exists no real difference in the minds of the brethren on the subject, we shall be abundantly compensated. Not that the harmony of the workmen has ever been disturbed in consequence of these differences of opinion—for that is not so—but when there is *perfect* agreement, even on minor points, the work will be more effective. Brethren, Freemasonry has a great work before her. "Let us work while it is day, remembering the night cometh when no man can work."

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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 Land of the North Wind: or Travels among the Laplanders and the Samoyedes. By EDWARD RAE, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. London: John Murray, Albemarle-street. 1875.

THIS is one of the most genially written books of travels it has been our lot to read, and one which, from the slight knowledge the public possesses of the countries visited, is well calculated to excite the interest of the general reader. Both countries are far enough removed to be seldom explored by the almost ubiquitous British traveller. In fact we know of but one or two books of recent date which contain any record of travelling experiences in Lapland, and none which refers to the land of the Samoyedes. Hence Mr. Rae has conferred a service on the reading public, by setting before it the narrative of his and "the Doctor's" experiences, the success of which will, we think, be fully recognised by all. It is not necessary to enter into a long account of the narrative. By so doing we should anticipate the reader in his study of the work. Our object is to commend it to his notice, not to furnish him with such abundant extracts as to save him the trouble of perusing it. Moreover, there is an excellent map of the two journeys, and this will enable any one to follow the course of the travellers with the greatest ease. Let it suffice to state that the visits were paid in two consecutive summers, namely, those of 1873 and 1874; that the travellers simply equipped for the journey, that the weather was suitable, and that the explorations were accomplished without misadventure. Everywhere they experienced hospitality. Everywhere facilities for their progress were offered. Possibly, other Englishmen may follow in their wake. If so, we think they will do well to read this narrative before setting out. By so doing they will benefit by the experience of Mr. Rae and his fellow voyager, both as to equipment and the course they should pursue.

We have said that Mr. Rae is a genial writer, in fact, we feel ourselves at home with him after the very commencement of his journey, almost as though we were of the party. The start is from Hull, and we are immediately introduced to the *compagnons de voyage* with whom fate ordains that the author shall be associated on board the steamer. The early part of the journey, however, is uneventful, and accordingly we hasten forward to the early experiences in Lapland. On reaching *terra firma*, a guide is, of course, engaged, and Jones, the individual in question, is decidedly a character, the source of intense amusement to the travellers, if not remarkably efficient in the *rôle* he undertakes. In fact, but one half of the first stage to Kanto-Keino is accomplished, when it turns out, not seriously to the disturbance of Mr. Rae's equanimity, that Jones is as much in need of guidance as those whom he has undertaken to guide. Fortunately the right man turns up, and all goes well, the party reaching their destination in due course. This episode is most amusingly told. Strand, or, as he is afterwards named, Somerset, says Mr. Rae, "came in shortly, and said that Jones waited without: I said, desire Jones to step in. When Jones had stepped in he stood with his hair erect all over his head, his embroidered collar upright above his ears, and twirling uneasily in his hands his blue and red square cloth cap. His woeful, penitent, comical, uncomfortable expression, was too much to look at seriously: but I shook my head at him, and said, O! Jones, and has it come to this; and Jones, who was uncertain whether to fall upon his knees, burst into tears, or burst into laughter, then confessed everything, saying, finally, he would be content with any arrangement we might make as to his remuneration. We decided to give him his due proportion of money, and a present of two silver dollars and a pocket knife, upon which he advanced and shook our hands with effusion." Under Somerset's guidance Kanto-Keino is reached in good time, and safely. They approach a clean wooden building, and knocking for entrance, are met by a hard featured, wooden figured woman, but we had better quote the narrator's own description:

"A hard featured, wooden figured woman came to the door: and on catching sight of us, jerked her hands like a semaphore, and exclaimed 'Mangarich mafeesh,' meaning, in the Lapp tongue, Nothing to eat—no got to eat. This she said twelve or thirteen times, and went on jerking her hands; but we desired her to be calm, and walked into the clean birch-lined room, where she had been spinning, and sat down upon a comfortable couch. We said we were able to eat a little fish, a few dozen eggs, and one or two loaves of bread; otherwise, we said, we should swallow her wool and drain her lamp, oil, wick and all. She exclaimed, 'Sadazi probodn Vensis!' equivalent, we should think, to Oh, good gracious, and jerked herself out of the room. In another half-hour a snowy table-cloth, and clean knives, forks, cups, plates, and glasses were placed in front of us. We had forreted out of the hampers some biscuits, marmalade, and chocolate. Shortly notre dame en bois came in with a steaming dish of fried fish—eggs we could not have till to-morrow; but there was coffee, and there was delicious cream, and there was a vessel full of milk. We ate like panthers who have not seen a kid for three days, and then lounged upon the sofa in peaceful repletion."

This, we think, will give a very fair idea of the author's style, and will fully confirm our opinion as to the geniality of his narrative. But this is not his only excellence. His descriptive power is very considerable; witness his account of the descent of the Lappiafors on the Muonio River, a matter of some ninety feet, and dangerous withal, for there are jagged rocks and a swift torrent, yet the descent is accomplished, almost without misadventure, under the skilful guidance of Abraham. Not so the descent of the Kengis Fall, with another less able crew. It is touch and go with the boat, which is half filled with water, when shelter rounds nasty rock is found. At Kemi, the travellers see the mummy—one of five hundred, we are told—of a departed bishop. After various excursions in the neighbourhood of Hapar-

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under the travellers take boat to Uleaborg in Finland, and thence, after further adventure, pass on to Stockholm, and thence onward till they return to England. Thus ended their summer campaign of 1873. In 1874, they set out for the home of the Samoyedes, on the White Sea. Archangel was the first point, and here Mr. Rae and the Doctor, whose real name, by the way, is Mr. Henry Pilkington Brandreth, having obtained whatever was requisite in the way of passports, and also a *podorostowi*, or order for post-horses from station to station, the exploration is commenced. It is hardly needful, however, that we should dwell, at any length, on the writer's account. The journey was well worth undertaking, and the narrative is well worth reading. Little, perhaps, is known in England of this simple people, so that the account of this journey cannot fail to be instructive as well as interesting. The excerpts we have given are sufficient evidence of the proposition we stated at the outset. For the full particulars of—to use a commercial expression—those highly successful ventures, we refer our readers to the book itself, in the firm conviction that they will derive infinite pleasure from the study of its pages. We may add that the book is admirably "got up," as, indeed, is the case with all Mr. Murray's publications, that there are a few illustrations and an excellent map with the course followed by the travellers on each journey.

Carter's Catalogue of Fresh Imported Dutch Flower Roots, 1875.

Messrs. Carter and Co., the well-known seedsmen, are always foremost in their desire to furnish their patrons with the newest and choicest varieties of bulbs and other plants. As the season for cultivating the former is close at hand, those of our readers who wish to have their beds well filled with hyacinths, narcissus, tulips, crocuses, and the like, who confine their attention to the conservatory or the room, or a small amount of window decoration only, should take an early opportunity of laying in the needful supply of bulbs. For first come, first choice. Messrs. Carter and Co.'s collections are well assorted, and contain, according to price, named varieties of every description of bulb. Those for the conservatory and window decoration vary from half-a-guinea to four guineas, those for the conservatory and open ground from fifteen shillings to four guineas, and those for planting in the open from half-a-guinea to four guineas. Among the most costly varieties are "King of the Blues," dark blue and purple, marked seven and sixpence a root, "Lothair" and "Lord Derby," light blue, four and sixpence and three and sixpence a-piece respectively, "La Grandesse" and "L'Innocence," pure white, six and sixpence and five and sixpence a-piece; "Garibaldi," dark red and crimson, five and sixpence each, "Bird of Paradise," yellow, six and sixpence each. Other varieties good, but less costly, range from sixpence to two shillings, and two and sixpence per root. Among Lilies are the beautiful "Lilium Auratum" of Japan, varying from half-a-crown to half-a-guinea a-piece, and some new varieties of which the "Lilium Krameri," and the "Lilium Tigrinum Flore Pleno," range as high as a guinea each, while the "Lilium Giganteum" ranges from five to fifteen shillings each. Then there are Iris, Ixias, Ranunculi, Gladioli, &c., &c., all of the best class, and fair in price. But while the greatest prominence is given to these plants, others are included in the catalogue, among them being the beautiful foliage plants, the new crocus, "Duchess of Edinburgh," to which first class certificates were awarded last year and this, another coleus "The Mandarin," both being half-a-crown a plant, or three and sixpence if extra strong; the new Gloxinea, "Queen of England," half-a-guinea a piece, to which a first class certificate was awarded last year by the Royal Horticultural Society. Then there are Greenhouse Plants, Herbaceous Plants, Roses of every kind, besides Fruit Trees, Vines, Ornamental Trees and others. In fact, those given to floriculture will find no difficulty in obtaining what they want of Messrs. Carter and Co., whose anxiety to please their patrons is too well known to stand in need of any comment from us.

James Veitch and Son's Catalogue of Hyacinths and other Bulbous Roots. Autumn 1875. Royal Exotic Nursery, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W.

Messrs. Veitch and Sons confine themselves in this catalogue almost wholly to bulbs, of which they offer a great variety, some of their choicest specimens being those to which prizes were awarded at different exhibitions both last year as well as in 1871, 1872 and 1873. Here again the Hyacinths are in great force both as regards the number and quality of their specimens. There are Polyanthus Narcissus, Narcissus, Jonquils, Tulips, Scillas, Ixias, Sparaxis, Tritonias, Cyclamens, especially "Cyclamen Persicum Grandiflorum," five shillings and seven and sixpence each, to which the first class certificate of the Royal Botanic Society was awarded on the 22nd March 1871. The lilies also include the rarest varieties (L. Auratum, L. Giganteum, L. Brownii or Japonicum, L. Hamboldti, &c.), and Gladioli, besides varieties of vegetable seed for autumn sowing, and flower seeds for ditto, &c., &c. We are are confident the patrons of Messrs. Veitch and Sons will be well pleased with the quality of the purchases they make, but the purchases should be made soon, as the range of selection is necessarily greater.

Vita di Michel Angelo Buonarroti Narrata con l'aiuto di nuovi documenti di Aurelio Gotti, Direttore delle R.R. Gallerie di Firenze. Firenze: Tipografia della Gazzetta d'Italia Editrice. 12 Settembre 1875.

This year marks the fourth centenary of one of Italy's greatest sons, the painter, poet, sculptor and architect, Michael Angelo. Additional interest has been given to the fact by the appearance, on the 12th of the present month, of a new biography of the artist, from the pen of Signor Aurelio Gotti, Director of the Royal Galleries of Florence. In this are published for the first time, some important documents, preserved in the Buonarotti family, which lend to the work a value not possessed by the older biographies of Condivi, Vasari, Harford, and Grimm. The work moreover is executed with great skill, reverence, and discretion, and it can scarcely be doubted that it will henceforth be regarded as furnishing the most authoritative exposition of this extraordinary man's career. From the letters that are published in the second volume, we obtain a very clear insight into what is unquestionably the most interesting artistic epoch of modern times, the age of Raphael Leonardo da Vinci and Michael Angelo. Contemporary with these three men existed a crowd of painters and sculptors of an inferior, but yet high order, amongst whom jealousy of their greater fame became in many instances exalted or degraded into an all absorbing passion. The malignant envy of Baccio Bandinelli caused the destruction of one of Michael Angelo's greatest works, the cartoon executed for the Hall of the Grand Council of Florence, and of which but a few fragments remain.

It was of this grand work that the celebrated Benvenuto Cellini writes: "As long as the Cartoon stood it was the school of the world." To the jealousy of Bramante, however, we owe the scenes of scriptural frescoes which adorn the vaults of the Sistine Chapel at Rome. For, to quote Vasaris, he persuaded the Pope "to take Michael Angelo away from sculpture, in which they, Bramante and other jealous ones, recognised his perfection, and put him to painting, in which, as he had small experience in frescoes, they hoped he would produce less praiseworthy work than Raphael, and should he succeed, they still resolved to set the Pope against him, and prevent him from continuing, it being their intention, in one way or another, to get rid of him."

But it is needless to add that the artist's genius, on this as on other occasions, altogether confounded his adversaries. Perhaps the works in which Michael Angelo's powers are best shown are the painting of the "Last Judgment," and the finely sculptured tomb of Julius II. Of the former work one Signor Biagio ventured to express an opinion to Pope Paul. "Holy Father," he said, "if I might utter my thoughts, I would say that this painting is more fit for a tavern room than for the chapel of a Pope." The artist heard this not too flattering criticism, and revenged himself on the speaker by painting his portrait amongst the lost souls. The same Pope, at another time, took upon himself to find some fault with this work, and the fact was reported to the painter. "Tell Pope Paul," he replied, "to trouble himself less with correcting my picture, which it is easy for him to do, and to try and reform public manners, which he will find more difficult." Signor Gotti's work corrects some mistakes into which former biographers have fallen, and adds some facts which, being both interesting and new, would of themselves suffice to ensure for the work a hearty welcome.

Madeline, and other Poems. By J. Puntis. London: Civil Service Printing and Publishing Company. 1875.

This is an attractive little work, handsomely got up, and very well suited for a birthday or other present. The poetry is of a passable order, though more remarkable for promise than performance. As a fair average specimen of the quality of the work, we may quote the following poem:—

THE AMBUSCADE.

Hark! hark, my men, to the distant sound
Of the tramp of the coming foe;
Lie close! lie close to the shelt'ring ground,
Soon enough our presence he'll know.

Hist! hist, my men, a word do not breathe,
Their plumes are fast rising in sight;
Keep close! keep close, don't your places leave,
We will soon put them all to flight.

Be ready! fire! don't hurry! take aim!
That's a welcome they didn't expect;
Your rifle's music's like pat'ring rain!
See! they reel like a ship that's wreck'd.

Start up! start up! fix your bayonets fast;
Charge! charge with a ringing cheer!
March on! march on! hark, the bugles blast!
They'll be off before we get near.

They fly! quick, quick! oh, never mind me!
Hurrah! for my Queen I die!
On, on! just put me under that tree;
Till you come back there I will lie.

The Freemason's Repository (Providence, R.I.) contains part of the address, recently delivered, by the Hon. George B. Loring, at the dedication of the Masonic Hall, North Andover, Mass., on St. John's Day, 24th June. We commend it to the notice of our readers. There is a long and appreciative obituary notice of our late distinguished Bro. Dr. Winslow Lewis, whose Masonic career, extracted from this account, will be quoted in another issue, and summarised accounts of Masonic proceedings in various part of the United States.

Chamber's Journal contains the first eleven chapters of a new story from the pen of that well-known romancist, Captain Mayne Reid, whose previous tales have afforded so much pleasure to all classes of readers, but especially to those of the lively and more imaginative age boyhood. The other contents are unusually excellent, and we have noted with great pleasure the articles on the "Natural History and Sport of South America," "Edible Birds' Nests," "Factory Life in Lancashire," "Seventeen years among Savages," and "Holiday Botanism," the last being extracted almost wholly from the Queen, but none the less worthy of attention for being quoted. There are

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also some useful remarks "About Gas Meters," which will prove of interest to householders, intending or actual, as the case may be.

The principal features in *The Leisure Hour* are, in the first place, "The Siege of Stralsund," by Jacob B. de Liefde, whose *Great Dutch Admirals* and *The Beggars* have been so justly appreciated in the literary world. The siege was one of the leading incidents during the ever memorable Thirty Years' War. Wallenstein was the heart and soul of the Imperialists, while inside the revolted town prevailed at various times a number of serious dissensions, which threatened its safety. But though Wallenstein impiously swore he would take it even though it were tied to heaven by iron chains, the siege had to be raised. We have in the present number only a portion of the history, but what we have, and what, no doubt, will follow in future numbers, is eminently readable. Then Mr. Henry Walker discourses pleasantly of "The Birds of London," and some of our readers who have given little thought to the matter, who think, perhaps, the London sparrow and the pigeons at Somerset House and the Guildhall are about the only representatives of the feathered race this dirty metropolis of ours can boast, will be not a little surprised to find so many others included in the list. There are some pleasant "Natural History Anecdotes," a paper entitled, "Down the Road With a Gentleman Coachman," No. IV. of "Caricatures and Caricaturists," in which the career of the great Gillray is sketched, the majority of his best and happiest hits being re-counted. Lastly, we have brief notes of the "Norwich Vivisection Prosecution," and a short biography of Daniel O'Connell, *apropos*, of course, of the recent centenary celebration of the great Liberator's birth.

Sunday at Home is equally interesting. Dr. Edersheim's series of papers on "Jewish Life in the Time of our Lord," is continued, the subject of the present essay being "Commerce." There is a most valuable paper on the "Nusairiych and their Religion." These dwell in Palestine, in the neighbourhood of Antioch and its vicinity, and the writer furnishes an excellent account of them as well as of the tenets they profess. "The Kaiser's Gift" and "Jeannie Wilson of Lammermoor," are also pleasant reading, while the general matter exhibits all the usual points of excellence, for which this periodical is so justly known.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

MASONRY AND THE EGYPTIAN MONUMENTS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The articles that have appeared from time to time in your columns, upon the Antiquity of Freemasonry, have been read by me with deep interest. Though but a young member of the Craft, I take great delight in all that pertains to its history, and would fain discover if the great nations of antiquity comprehended its principles and obligations in the sense in which we understand them at the present day. I call to mind some verses I once read, entitled an "Address to a Mummy in Belzoni's Exhibition," in which the lines occur:—

"Perhaps thou wert a Mason, and forbid
By oath to tell the secrets of thy trade;"

And wonder if the recent deciphering of Egyptian inscriptions can have thrown any light upon this question. It is quite certain that the Egyptians in architecture, mechanics and astronomy had attained a very high degree of excellence. We need no further proof of this than is afforded by the pyramids and other architectural remains, and that even more remarkable monument still, the volume of Euclid's elements. My object in writing to you is to endeavour to obtain from you, or from one of your numerous correspondents, some elucidation of this, to me, most interesting question, or if not this, at least some information as to the sources from which such knowledge may be obtained. I cannot help thinking, Sir, that there are many of our fellow Craftsmen who would welcome, as I should, a series of articles showing what light, if any, has been thrown by recent researches upon the supposed connection existing between the ancient Egyptians and our glorious Craft.

I am, Sir, &c.

NEOPHYTE.

STEWARDS FOR OUR FESTIVALS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—I have been a subscriber to your paper from the first, and have watched, with great concern, the progress you have made to carry out the programme you set yourselves. You certainly seem not to have lacked energy. We have had presented all sorts of [illegible] you have been early in the field in giving us reports of the various gatherings that have been held during the year, and you seem to have tided over the slack period, if I may so express myself. In a few weeks we shall have our Lodges assembling, and the various questions so paramount to the success of the Craft will come under discussion. Arrangements will have to be made that the several Lodges shall appoint good men and true to work for our Old Men and Women, our Girls, and our Boys; we have done well it is true, it is true; but our numbers have materially increased, and larger amounts must necessarily be collected to meet the increased demands that are sure to arise from the accession that has been made to our numbers. I would strongly urge upon those brethren who may be called upon to serve as Stewards to consider well the responsibility they take upon themselves. It requires that a man should use great discretion in finding a fit and proper opportunity ere he solicits his acquaintances for their donations. I may mention an instance that occurred to me a short time back. A worthy and most energetic brother, one universally respected, called upon me, and exhibiting a long list of names, told me that he was about to pay them his outstanding business accounts, and that he meant to get something out of them for the Charity he was then working for as a Steward. This was perhaps all very well for the Charity, but it occurred to me that he was using a kind of thumbscrew, and that it might not raise our institution in the opinion of those interested, some of whom would, I venture to say, consider themselves victimised. A form in frequent use among a certain class is something of this kind: "Ah! Bro.—— I have put you down on my list for one guinea (or any other amount), same as the others; I suppose that is right?" and as this is, perhaps purposely, said in the presence of comparative strangers, it generally goes for "right." Then we have the over cautious brother, who is afraid to ask for subscriptions except by printed circular or a short letter, and although most of the best men in our Order never require asking twice, there are more who require a great deal, and among the latter class can be named men who, to use a business term, can best afford it. The characteristics of our Lodges are so different that I fear there is no hope of our ever having "A Royal Road to Canvassing," as what would be successful in one case might offend half the members in another.

YOURS, &c. ONE WHO HAS NOT YET SERVED.

A MASONIC LIST.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Notwithstanding the works and journals published in connection with Freemasonry, there is an obvious requirement that has not yet been fulfilled—one that I believe the brethren generally will acknowledge and support—I mean a complete list, not only of the various Lodges, but of their several members, officers, &c., with the dates of initiation of the former, and appointment of the latter. Such lists, if carefully revised annually, would be of great utility in scores of instances, as it would show at a glance the really active and effective members of our noble Craft.

I believe that Grand Lodge would approve of such a work, and that every secretary would gladly furnish the desired information.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

1227.

A ROUGH COMPUTATION.—On calling at the residence of the modest and unobtrusive medical practitioner, Leverrier refused to say who he was, but in the most abrupt manner, and in the most authoritative tone, began, "It is then you, sir, who pretend to have observed a new planet, and who have committed the grave offence of keeping your observation secret for nine months. I warn you that I have come here with the intention of doing justice to your pretensions, and of demonstrating either that you have been dishonest or deceived. Tell me then unequivocally what you have seen." The doctor then explained what he had witnessed, and entered into all the particulars regarding his discovery. On speaking of the rough method adopted to ascertain the period of the first contact, the astronomer inquired what chronometer he had been guided by, and was naturally enough somewhat surprised when the physician pulled out a huge old watch, with only minute hands. It had been his faithful companion in his professional journeys, he said: but that would hardly be considered a satisfactory qualification for performing so delicate an experiment. The consequence was that Leverrier, evidently now beginning to conclude that the whole affair was an imposition or delusion, exclaimed, with some warmth, "What, with that old watch, showing only minutes, dare you talk of estimating seconds? My suspicions are already well founded." To this Lescarbault replied that he had a pendulum by which he counted seconds. This was produced, and found to consist of an ivory ball, attached to a silken thread, which, being hung on a nail in the wall, is made to oscillate, and is shown by the watch to beat very nearly seconds. Leverrier is now puzzled to know how the number of seconds is ascertained, as there is nothing to mark them; but Lescarbault states that with him there is no difficulty whatever in this, as he is accustomed to "feel pulses and count their pulsations," and ran with ease carry out the same principle with the pendulum. The telescope is next inspected, and pronounced satisfactory. The astronomer then asks for the original memorandum, which after some searching is found, "covered with grease and laudanum." There is a mistake of four minutes on it when compared with the doctor's letter, detecting which, the savant declares that the "observation has been falsified." An error in the watch regulated by sidereal time accounts for this. Leverrier now wishes to know how the doctor managed to regulate his watch by sidereal time, and is shown the small telescope by which it is accomplished. Other questions are asked and satisfactorily answered. The [illegible]'s rough drafts of attempts to ascertain the distance of the planet from the sun, "from the period of four hours which is required to describe an entire diameter of that luminary, are produced, chalked on a board. Lescarbault's method, he being short of paper, was to make his [illegible] blank, and make way for fresh ones by planing them off. [illegible] mathematician, it may be remarked that he had not succeeded [illegible] the distance of the planet from the Sun. The end of it all was that Leverrier became perfectly satisfied that an extra-mercurial planet had been really observed. He congratulated the medical practitioner upon his discovery, and left with the intention of making the facts thus obtained the subject of fresh calculations.—*From "The Planets and Leverrier's Balance," in the "Cornhill Magazine" for September.*

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,
IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By Bro. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



Application for Circulars and for all particulars to be made to the

ROYAL MASONIC INSTALLATION GALLERY COMPANY, 213 REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Fourth Application—October Election, 1875.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is most earnestly solicited on behalf of

RICHARD THOMAS GARDNER, Aged 8 Years.

SON of the late Brother RICHARD RAVENSHAW GARDNER, of 12 Graham Street, Walworth, Surrey, Dancing Master, who died 22nd October 1870, after a long and painful illness, leaving a Widow and Four Children totally unprovided for; his lengthened infirmity having exhausted all previous savings. Brother Gardner was initiated in the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, in 1850, served the several Offices, and passed the Chair of that Lodge, and was generally respected by the numerous Brethren with whom his business brought him in contact.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren, viz:—

Bro. George Kenning P.M. 169, Past Grand Deacon for Middlesex.
Bro. Magnus Oliven P.M. P.Z. 33, P.M. and M.E.Z. 862, G.J. Warden for Surrey; Lower Sydenham, S.E.
Bro. William Hudson P.M. 316, Past Prov. G.J.D. for Sussex, P.Z. 732, P.M. Mark 75; Brighton.
Bro. Nathan Bryant Headon W.M. Great City Lodge, No. 1426; 65 Friday Street, London, E.C.
Bro. James H. Vockins W.M. Sphynx Lodge, No. 1329; 198 Stockwell Road, Brixton, S.
Bro. James Weaver P.M. 862, W.M. 1216, M.E.Z. 862, P.P.G. Organist, Middlesex; 46 Howland Street, Fitzroy Square, W.
Bro. Charles L. Marshall P.M.; 22 Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, S.E.
Bro. Mark Samuel Lanham J.W. 1216; York Street, Walworth, S.E.
Bro. James Freeman 1297, Treasurer 1426; 65 Friday Street, E.C.
Bro. William S. Webster P.M. 231, P.Z. 21; 17 Ely Place, Holborn, E.C.
Bro. Thomas Moore P.M. 720; High Street, Clapham.
Bro. James Stevens P.M. 25, 720, 1216, 1426, P.Z. 720, M.E.Z. 771, P.G.O. Mark, &c.; 18°; Clapham Common, S.W.

Proxies will be thankfully received by Bro. James Stevens, and by the Widow, 12 Graham Street, Walworth, S.E.

THE THEATRES, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.—PROMENADE CONCERTS, at 8.0, each evening.

DRURY LANE.—At 7, THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN and INTRIGUE.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, THE HEIR AT LAW and THE WIDOW HUNT.

LYCEUM.—At 7.0, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and THE BONNIE FISHWIFE.

PRINCESS'S.—At 8 each evening, Carl Rosa Opera Company.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FAMILY JARS. At 8, THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

STRAND.—At 7.0, RAISING THE WIND, WOODCOCK'S LITTLE GAME and FLAMINGO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD and Mr. GATHERWOOL.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, ACROSS THE CONTINENT, and THE DOGS OF ST. BERNARD.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, TALBOT'S TRUST and THE BRIGANDS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—MONEY.

OPERA COMIQUE.—MY WIFE'S OUT and THE GRAND DUCHESS.

CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, BROUGHT TO BOOK and DAGOBERT.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.

PHILHARMONIC.—MACCABE, every evening at 8.0.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REID. On Monday, "HOW TO MAKE FIREWORKS." On Tuesday, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, SKATING RINK, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, OPERA, RURAL FETE, ILLUMINATION, &c. On Monday, FLEMING NORTON. On Tuesday, FAUST, FIREWORKS, &c. On Thursday, MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS. Open Daily.

POLYTECHNIC.—The CASTAWAY, New Ghost Scenes.—AUSTRALIAN MEATS and How to Cook them.—NEW ZEALAND, OR THE SOUTHERN WONDERLAND. WONDERS OF ACOUSTICS. New Lecture, SEA SIDE SKETCHES. Many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, daily at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—BAUTIER, and FITZ-REINHARD, daily, at 3.0 and 8.0.

MASONIC MARK FESTIVAL AT GRIMSBY,

30th SEPTEMBER 1875.

CONSECRATION of Sutcliffe Lodge, No. 188, for Mark Master Masons, at 11.15 A.M.

FIRST Annual Lincolnshire Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons at 1.15 P.M.

BANQUET at the Town Hall, Grimsby, at 3.15 P.M., Bro. John Sutcliffe, M.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master Mason for Lincolnshire, will preside.

VISITING Brethren from neighbouring Provinces are earnestly invited.

ROBERT GOUGH, *Prov. Grand Sec.*

Grimsby, 6th September 1875.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE jury in the inquest on the body of the mate of the Mistletoe have given their verdict, but whether that verdict is calculated to throw any light on the accident is another question. Most people were already aware of the fact that the unfortunate fellow came by his death through drowning, and likewise that the Alberta and Mistletoe came into collision. There is, however, a rider, and in this the jury suggest that a better look-out should be kept on board the Royal Yacht, and a slower rate of speed adopted, especially in the summer months, while they believe that on the day in question the navigating officers were guilty of an error in judgment. We presume the jury mean by this that the accident arose through the fault of those in charge of the Queen's Yacht, in which case the rider and the verdict to which it is attached are inconsistent. An accident which is the result of negligence is hardly an accident in the strictest sense, and if the non-observance of certain precautions led to the collision, the fault lies with those who neglected such precautions. However, the verdict is given, and there is, we presume, an end of the matter. The Queen has written a letter, expressive of her wish that yachts should keep clear of the Royal Yacht, instead of steering alongside of it, from motives of loyalty or curiosity, as too often happens now; and this, we fancy, is the gist of the case. The Alberta was steaming as usual, pleasure yachts were flitting about in its neighbourhood as usual, and one of them, contrary to past experience, came to grief. People who mix in crowds occasionally get their toes trodden on. It may be they escape such a calamity for twenty times, but the twenty-first time they suffer in a way that must have been expected sooner or later. If people will act on the Queen's suggestion, and keep out of the way of her yacht, there will be no likelihood of an accident, even though it speed

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along at twice or thrice the rate she was going; and common courtesy suggests that her wishes should be respected.

As to the loss of the Vanguard, the Court-Martial on Captain Dawkins is still prosecuting its inquiries, while the divers are still at work on the sunken vessel, parts of which, or rather its top-gear, have already been recovered. Whether the hull can be got up now, or some future time, is a doubtful question. Twelve thousand tons, or thereabouts, is a goodish weight to lift, even in these scientific days. However, "impossible" is a word which all Englishmen strive to keep out of their vocabulary, and it may be that the Vanguard will appear again in company with the Iron Duke, the Warrior, and its sister ironclads. There is yet another accident, of which the results have been very serious. An overladen boat capsized in Plymouth Harbour, and some ten marines drowned. The usual inquiry was held, and the result is that Colonel Penrose, Commandant of the Plymouth Division of Royal Marines, and Staff-Sergeant George, as senior non-commissioned officer present at the embarkation of the men, are charged with being the cause of their death, Corporal Furness being completely exonerated. This verdict the Coroner was specially requested by the jury to forward to the Admiralty. Three such accidents as these; the collision of the Alberta and Mistletoe, the loss of the Vanguard, and the upset of a boatful of "jollies" coming so closely together, will cause people to inquire if our Navy is as efficient as it should be, if our seamanship is what it was half-a-century since. But misadventures seldom come singly, and nothing has happened that we wot of to shake our confidence in the Navy.

A trial is about being made—by the time these remarks come under the notice of our readers, will have been made—with the largest thing in the way of Woolwich Infants. The 81-ton gun has been tried at the butts, with what result our readers, no doubt, are already acquainted. A slight hitch occurred in getting it into position, but not from any of the causes the probability of which had been anticipated. The bridge stood the weight, the rails proved true, but the truck that bore the gun got off the rails, and a few hours' hard labour were necessary to get it back again. This, however, was safely accomplished, and the monstrous weapon reached its distination. This huge gun is expected to throw half a ton of metal a distance of eight miles, about from, say, Kensington to Poplar. What next? the Germans flatter themselves their Krupp Guns are the *ne plus ultra* in cannon. Can they outdo this? We fancy they will be a little puzzled to find us so much ahead of them in gunnery, especially as they are *the* military power, *par excellence*, of Europe—in their own estimation at least. But we must look out, too, for our laurels, for guns of a hundred tons calibre are being manufactured for the Italian Government, so we presume a hundred and sixty tonner will be the next novelty. But where will it all end? If a ton weight be sent a distance of some ten miles in the course of a few seconds, what will become of us all in the next war? The two opposing armies will kill each other without knowing it.

It is seldom we have to record so terrible a crime as that with which the man Wainwright is at present charged. We have no intention of discussing the evidence, or of saying a word that could prejudice the public against him, but there is nothing in the annals of crime so terrible since the days of the notorious Greenacre, except, perhaps, it be the murder of O'Connor by the Mannings. The man Stokes, to whom the discovery of the murder is due, deserves great praise for the energy he showed in following the cab, and we trust some proper recognition, in the shape of a handsome testimonial, will follow.

The third great racing event came off on Wednesday. The St. Leger was run at Doncaster, there was a field of thirteen, and after a good race the greater part of the way Mr. Crawford's Craig-Millar came in winner by some three lengths, Balfe and the Earl of Dartrey, with half a length between them, being second and third respectively. The winner was ridden by Chaloner, and is by Blair Athol, out of Miss Roland. His previous appearances in the field have been pretty successful, but as the winner of neither the Two Thousand nor the Derby was present on this occasion, there was less of interest than usually attaches to this event. The other principal event of the meeting, the Great Yorkshire Handicap, was won by the favourite, Mr. W. S. Mitchell Innes's Saint Leger, Louise Victoria and Polonnise being second and third respectively. The usual sale of yearlings passed off very successfully, Central Fire, for whom 1500 guineas was given, heading the list, while of the others Chillanwallah fetched 800 guineas, Muta 500, Waterloo 500. There only remain now two events of interest in the racing world, the Cesarewitch and the Cambridgeshire. The other noteworthy event of the week was the Trotting Meeting at the Alexandra Park. There was a capital attendance both days, and some good sport.

There is nothing particular to chronicle in the way of Cricket. There have been one or two matches, and Mr. W. G. Grace has made another brilliant score of 152. The excitement about Captain Webb's feat is not yet over. It must be somewhat trying for the hero himself to be fêted, &c., &c., wherever he goes, but this, we presume, is inevitable. It is satisfactory, however, to learn that the testimonial to him has already reached a good round sum, somewhere about thirteen hundred pounds having been acknowledged up to last Saturday. Tuesday at the Promenade Concerts was set apart as a Webb benefit, the proceeds being paid over to the general fund, and there have been other monies collected at the Alexandra Palace and elsewhere, all which help to swell the total. Besides this, a chronometer and an aneroid barometer have been presented to him. In fact there is every chance of the testimonial being a most substantial one, and right glad are we it is so. Such an achievement deserves to be recognised most handsomely. On Saturday was held a swimming fête in the Victoria Park ornamental water, by the London Swimming Club, Lord Henry Lennox having given his sanction. There were several competitions for prizes, presented by Bro. Sir John Bennett and others, after the racing was over Miss Emily Parker, accompanied by her brother, gave a display of ornamental swimming, which was greatly applauded. We gladly note the encouragement so generally given to swimming, an art which, considering we are a maritime people, has been pretty generally neglected in this country. We trust the day is not far distant when the swimming master or mistress will be looked upon as an essential member of every school staff in the kingdom.

The Ex-Premier, Mr. Gladstone, has latterly been giving more than one speech on the necessity for mental cultivation, Mr. Gladstone himself being one of the most brilliant living illustrations of the advantages of such cultivation. It seems also the right honourable gentleman varies his amusements by occasionally felling trees, truly a marvellous pleasure for such a man to indulge in. We wonder what other people must think of us as a nation. We have a score or two of eccentricities written down against us, and of these, felling timber by ex-premiers, we imagine is the latest. Henceforth, instead of singing, "Oh Woodman spare that tree," it will be, Oh "Gladstone," which is synonymous with woodman. A strange world this, in which the same statesman brings down Vatican Decrees and British oaks with equal skill! We naturally go back in our minds to the early history of Rome, and think of Cincinnatus, in his retirement from the cares of state, turning ploughman. We need never despair of our country, when we find our leading men voluntarily taking upon themselves laborious work, and exhibiting such skill in doing it. There must be good stuff in us somewhere.

We do some things very deliberately. It seems strange to be talking of Wellington monuments when the hero whom they are intended to honour has been dead some three-and-twenty years. Nevertheless, the monument a grateful country voted in 1852 to the hero of Waterloo is only just on the point of completion. It took the Iron Duke some seven years of hard fighting to drive the French out of the Peninsula, but more than thrice the length of time has been required by the artist to erect a monument to the hero's memory. However, as the gratitude we owe him is most profound, it is in keeping that we should extend our display of it over as large an extent of time as possible. It is satisfactory to know that the monument is worthy of the fame of our greatest soldier. But is it creditable that the Albert Memorial should have been finished first. The Prince Consort fulfilled his duties admirably, and in honouring his memory we are doing honour to the Queen his widow, but good men are happily not scarce among our people, while a great man turns up once only in the course of half-a-dozen centuries. We are improving however. It took some forty years to get Nelson perched up in the clouds, whereas Wellington is done for in about three-and-twenty, and the Prince Consort in about ten or a dozen.

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Macti Virtute, say we, and in time we shall be honouring our heroes before we know who they are.

Dr. Kenealy, it seems, is not to be allowed to pursue unhindered his system of abusing everybody who has the honour to differ from him. Mr. George Potter, a member of the London School Board, and Editor of the *Beehive*, applied, on Thursday, at Guildhall, for a summons against the ex-Q.C. for publishing a libel in the columns of the *Englishman*. In the articles complained of, Mr. Potter is described as "a rogue and a sham." Sir Benjamin Phillips, who presided, declared the article was undoubtedly libellous, and granted a summons forthwith. We are glad of this. It is, perhaps, an honour to be abused by such a man, but the lower and more ignorant classes are not capable of taking so high a view. It is nothing less than a public scandal that a journal should go on from day to day, vilifying every one who has the courage to think differently from its editor.

The management of the Alexandra Palace are unwearying in their exertions to cater for the public. The Trotting meeting was held on Monday and Tuesday. There have been a number of excellent musical and dramatic entertainments. To-day will be given Wallace's opera, *Maritana*, by the Carl Rosa Company. There will also be a grand rural fête and an illumination of the Grove. On Tuesday next, Gounod's opera, *Faust*, and there will be a grand display of fireworks. On Monday, the 27th instant, our worthy friends the Foresters will take their annual "outing," and no doubt the attendance will be on a very large scale. The Robin Hoods and Little Johns and Friar Tucks are genial good fellows, though given to the public display of a little finery. This, after all, is a very harmless weakness, and detracts nothing from the merits of the order, which does a large amount of good.

There has been a considerable fire in Bunhill-row, close to the grounds of the well-known Honourable Artillery Company of world-wide fame. Everything was burnt clean out, leaving only the bare walls standing. On Thursday an accident occurred through the fall of a portion of one of them, and for a time the lives of three men were seriously imperilled. Fortunately, exertions were made, and the three men were speedily extricated from the ruins, having met with some very severe contusions. They were conveyed at once to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and there received prompt attention from the medical officers, who at once dressed their wounds, after which they were taken to their homes. The party wall was in a very dangerous condition, and, if a high wind blew, would probably come down at once. However, the police take the necessary precautions to keep the too inquisitive from running any risk.

What might have proved a most serious accident occurred, a few days since, to the Empress Elizabeth of Austria. She was out riding, when her horse threw her, and she lay insensible for some time. Nothing more resulted than sundry pains in the head, and a few slight abrasions of the skin, which, by the latest accounts, have already disappeared. Indeed Her Majesty intends taking walking exercise shortly, so that, happily, she may be said to have wholly recovered already.

The latest novelty in the way of jokes has been handed to us by a brother, whose private residence is only about a mile or two from Colney Hatch. He draws a very terrible picture of the pious horror with which an old lady overhears the following brief dialogue between two of her sons: Charlie: "Where the deuce (a more powerful word appears in the original, which we have thought it better to tone down) where the deuce is Providence, Ned?" Ned: "Why in Rhode Island, you muff." Charlie is merely studying a little United States geography, but the old lady is struck at the flagrant irreverence of her darling boys, and lectures them accordingly.

The marauders in Herzegovina are not to have their own way. The great European powers recognise that burning and pillage and the slaughter of inoffensive Turks are not such virtuous actsas to justify their giving the Herzegovinese any countenance. We are glad that no political jealousies have been allowed to stand in the way of the fulfilment of this duty. The consuls from the leading powers are traversing the disturbed districts, and plainly hint to the people that they will get nothing in the shape of encouragement from their respective countries. Meanwhile the Turks have taken the bull by the horns, and are making short work of the animal. The insurgents are being famously trounced everywhere, and the authority of the Sultan seems likely enough to be maintained intact, in spite of Servia, whose ruler, Prince Milan, wisely inclines towards peace, and Mr. Farley, who has constituted himself judge of the Sultan's government and all its acts. By the way, this gentleman has replied to the letter of Lady Strangford we commented on last week. But, according to our notion, he begs the question entirely. Lady Strangford questioned the propriety of a few irresponsible persons in this country taking upon themselves to excite sympathy with insurgents against the Government of a friendly power, and we illustrated the case by asking our readers—What would their feelings be if a committee of Turks had met together, and solicited aid for the Fenians, when they were rebelling against the authority of their lawful Sovereign? Mr. Farley, however, thinks that if the Sultan does not conduct his government exactly as he (Mr. Farley) thinks should be done, rebellion is justifiable. We have heard of certain tailors of Tooley-street, but they are a mere shadow by the side of Mr. Farley, who has appointed himself judge of foreign potentates. We must advise Prince Bismarck, Prince Gortshakoff, Count Andrassy, M. Buffet, and other foreign prime ministers—to say nothing of the various sovereigns they serve so faithfully—to be careful how they offend this gentleman, or the consequences may be very terrible. But, joking apart, it seems monstrous that anyone should be allowed to foment rebellions against recognised authority. It is all very well to give liberty, but that liberty should not be allowed to degenerate into license. However, the rebellion seems to be pretty well on its last legs, and, if interference by Servia is forbidden, will soon die out, and with it the existence of Mr. Farley's Committee. As for Lord Russell's conduct, we have never given him credit for much political sagacity, but we had hoped he was old enough to have known better than to contribute to a fund in aid of rebellion.

As regards Spain, the course of Alphonsist victory seems to go on uninterrupted, and one stronghold of the Carlists after another seems to fall before the Royal troops. The other day it was Seo de Urgel, now we read of Oyarzun having been captured. Meantime there has been a change of ministry, and General Jovellar is the new prime minister. We wonder what is the average duration of life in a Spanish ministry. How many ministries have there been in the course of, say, the last five years, which is about the time a good English ministry usually endures. We do not object, however, to a new ministry every day in the week, if only the miseries of the war can be brought to a close. Nor are we particularly concerned as to which of the twain—Carlism or Alphonsism—prevails in the long run, provided that something prevails at an early date, and the sooner the better for Spain.

The Mark Festival at Grimsby will take place on the 30th inst. The Constitution of Sutcliffe Lodge, No. 188 of Mark Master Masons, at 11.15 a.m., and the 1st annual Lincolnshire Grand Lodge of Mark Masons at 1.15 a.m. The banquet at the Town Hall, Grimsby, at 3.15, on which occasion Bro. J. Sutcliffe, R.W.P.G. Mark Master, will preside.

The 15 sections will be worked at the Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction, No. 1278, Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria Park, by Bro. M. Gross, on Friday evening, the 24th inst., commencing at 7 o'clock. Some of the most skilled brethren in Freemasonry have given their names, and promised to be present to assist Bro. Gross.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. D. D. Pankhurst, Past Grand Steward, at his residence, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, at the age of 57.

Bro. G. Reeves Smith, the manager of the Aquarium at Brighton, has been presented, by Mr. George Westley, of West-street, with a sword. The sword was recovered from the bed of the sea; from the hilt to the tip of the blade it is covered, like a sheath, with pebbles that have grown thereon. It will be on view at the Aquarium. A new Skating Rink was opened on Wednesday, at the Queen's Park, Brighton. The opening was a great success, and was numerously attended. Mr. H. Malcolmson is the lessee. The asphalte was laid down under the superintendance of Bro. Barnett (of Barnett's Patent Asphalte Com-

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pany) and Mr. C. Sadler, Clerk of the Works. The band of the Scots Greys, by the permission of commanding officer attended. Mr. M. V. Bligh is the manager, and Bro. W. Devin's band will play each morning andafter noon. Bro. John Billington and Mrs. Billington have been playing at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, during the week, in Mr. Paul Meritt's comedy of "Rough and Ready," assisted by Miss Meryck, Mr. D. Gresham, and a powerful London company.

Some weeks since we gave an announcement of the death, at sea, of Bro. W. Curtis, formerly proprietor of the *Brighton Gazette*. The P. and O. steamer "Gwalior" brings the following particulars, from a letter of the ship's purser to the sorrowing widow. "It seems that Mr. Curtis was brought on board the ship, very ill, at Hong Kong, on the 31st July, he having been ordered home by his medical attendant. His health did not improve, and on the morning of the 3rd August he expired." The steward also wrote: "It will be some consolation to you to know that his last moments were peaceful, and that he was free from pain, and had every care and attention paid to him. His remains were consigned to the deep on the same day he expired."

In another page appears an article, entitled "Freemasonry—an Advancive Science," which we have extracted from the *Canadian Masonic News* for September. We have referred on previous occasions to this admirably conducted periodical.

Bro. J. L. Toole, the celebrated comedian, made his first appearance, since his return from America, at the Theatre Royal Manchester. The house was crowded in every part, and he received a perfect ovation. He makes his appearance in London, at the Gaiety Theatre, on the 8th November.

Bro. J. Fitzgerald, late of the Strand, and of Miss Lydia Thompson's Company, has been engaged as chef d'orchestra at the Globe Theatre, which opened on Monday last, under the management of Mr. Fairlie.

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	739	58,405	57,991
Glasgow and South Western	315¼	16,299	17,434
Great Eastern	763	53,984	50,820
Great Northern	523	59,424	60,382
Great Western	1,528	117,143	113,955
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	69,511	65,913
London and Brighton	376¼	40,937	37,572
London, Chatham and Dover	163¼	25,113	23,116
London and North Western	1,597	185,854	188,521
London and South Western	626¼	42,836	39,980
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,632	—
Manchester and Sheffield	260¼	34,134	32,669
Midland	975½	119,427	117,891
Metropolitan	8	8,696	8,037
" " District	8	4,274	3,790
" " St. John's Wood	1½	388	370
North British	844½	45,445	43,730
North Eastern	1,400½	130,639	129,103
North London	12	7,175	6,830
North Staffordshire Railway	191	11,239	10,696
" " Canal	118	1,590	1,623
South Eastern	360	45,731	42,120

A Summary Execution.—In connection with this affair, the treatment of Boyer, the Mayor of Bodmin, was cruel in the extreme. Prior to their advance on Exeter, the Cornish rebels formed a camp near Bodmin, the inhabitants of which compelled the Mayor to give them supplies. Soon after their defeat, the Provost Marshal of the Army, Sir Anthony Kingston, arrived there to punish certain fugitives, and sent Boyer notice, that, with certain followers, he would dine with him on a certain day. He was received with the greatest hospitality and, before dinner, he whispered to Boyer that one of the townspeople was to be hanged, and ordered the gallows to be erected. When dinner was over the Mayor answered that "all was ready," on which Kingston took his arm, and they walked together to the place of execution, when he asked him, if he thought the gallows was "strong enough." "Doubtless," replied the Mayor. "Well then," said the Provost, "get thee up speedily, for it is prepared for you." "I hope," urged the poor Mayor, "that you mean not as you speak?" "In faith! there is no remedy, for thou hast been a busy rebel;" and so the Mayor was hanged without further ceremony.—From "*British Battles on Land and Sea*," by James Grant.

THE DRAMA.

Mr. Charles Matthews at the Gaiety—"Talbot's Trust" at the Globe.

It is difficult, except for a modern Methusaleh, to fix the time when Mr. Matthews first appeared on the stage. It is still more difficult, indeed impossible, to find any occasion on which he has not been watched and listened to with delight, and the time is yet, we hope, far distant when he shall be finally lost from our standing dishes of amusement. Mr. Matthews is fairly in his element at the Gaiety; the character of the theatre, the light, bright airiness of its decorations, accord admirably with the style of his acting. The chief piece in which he appears at present is one adapted by himself from *Le Père Prodigue*, and entitled *My Awful Dad*. Major Adonis Evergreen is a gay youth of fifty, possessing a son, Wick, a staid barrister of twenty-seven. The usual relation of father and son are, in their case, reversed. The Major is a reckless, gallant spendthrift, whilst Wick supplies the funds, as far as possible, and is a most respectable member of society. Some amusing imbroglios result from this; the Major intends going to a *bal masqué*, as "Punch," and orders his costume to be sent to his son's chambers in the Temple. Whilst dressing there, in his son's absence, a client arrives, and the Major, slipping a barrister's gown over his absurd dress, takes the place of the absent Wick. The client proves to be a young widow, Mrs. Weddagain, come to take opinion on the validity of her late husband's will, which provides that she shall not marry a man under the age of fifty. After a most amusing impromptu address by the Major to an imaginary jury, the difficulty is solved by his marrying the widow himself, and the son also is satisfactorily disposed of. We have indicated enough of the plot to show to ordinary playgoers how much capital might be made out of it by Mr. Matthews, and his acting will quite come up to any sanguine anticipations. The buoyant bearing; the careless, joyous ease of manner of a man who feels himself above the reach of time, are admirably pourtrayed, and Mr. Matthews, young as he always is, is equal to the task of making up well as a man of fifty. He is well supported by Mr. Royce, whom we noticed lately playing well in *Tom Cobb*, and who now makes a good character part out of the son, Wick. The minor parts are well filled, more particularly those played by Mr. Maclean and Miss Henderson. We are glad to chronicle the success of a piece which is earned by such good workmanship, witty dialogue, and bright acting.

The Globe has been re-opened, with a programme consisting of *Talbot's Trust*, a new drama, by Mr. T. A. Thorp, and of a translation of Offenbach's *Les Brigands*. It is difficult to convey in words an idea of the utter weariness and dreariness with which *Talbot's Trust* oppresses the spectators. The incidents are so inconsequent, the dialogue so vapid, the characters such dummies. Talbot does not appear in the play at all, and his "Trust" consists of his property, his widow and his daughter, which are all left in the care of a friend, Harold Garnet. Mr. Garnet first makes love to the widow, then, by dint of forgery, obtains possession of the property, and then deserts the widow for another young lady. Pursued, by detectives, for the forgery, he is smashed up in a railway accident, but recovers sufficiently to forgive everybody, and die at the widow's house, just as the detectives arrive. It is impossible to criticise the merits of a piece which, to our thinking, has but one, that of consisting of only two acts; but we should like to point out to Mr. Lin Rayne that many more performances by him such as that of Harold Garnet, must inevitably lower the position on the stage which he has earned so well. He would appear to be making an attempt to acquire the style of transpontine melodrama, very good in its way no doubt, but slightly out of date. Miss Dubois and Miss Ada Ward are both very well dressed. After such a preparation as that of *Talbot's Trust*, a less lively opera than *Les Brigands* would be welcomed. As it is not by any means new to London, we shall only note that its performance is better than at any previous production. The acting of Miss Dubois and of Miss N. Bromley is arch and piquant, and their singing is careful and discreet. Signor Barri is hardly equal to the part of Falscappa, his singing is decidedly weak, and his acting still weaker. His lieutenant, Pietro, is admirably played by Mr. J. A. Shaw, and with such an exhibition of tasteful dresses, pretty faces and well developed limbs, "The Brigands" should be an attraction for some time to come.

MASONRY IN EAST LANCASHIRE.

These "brethren of the mystic tie" who are resident in Ramsbottom and the immediate neighbourhood labour under the disadvantage of being located about four miles from any Lodge—the nearest meeting places being Bury on the one hand and Haslingden on the other—and with a view to remove this difficulty, a meeting was held at the Railway Hotel on Tuesday evening, under the presidency of Bro. S. Porritt S.W. of Lodge No. 215 (Haslingden), when it was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Bro. Peak P.M., seconded by Bro. John Scholefield, that a petition be drawn up praying the Provincial Grand Master (Colonel Le Gendre Starkie) to issue a warrant for the holding of a Lodge at the Railway Hotel. It is not improbable that the new Lodge will be named "The Cheerydle Brothers"—the late Mr. John Grant, of Ramsbottom, one of the brothers made famous in Dicken's "Nicholas Nickleby," having been a member of the Masonic Order.—*Bury Times*.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—It would be startling to many were it possible to state accurately the number of persons who have been restored to health and relieved by these remedies, and if all the details connected with such individual case could be collected, the enormous amount of pain and suffering which has been soothed and got rid of would be beyond belief. These remedies are so well known in the present day, east and west, south and north, that it is strange any individual should remain in ignorance of their suitable qualities in correcting all blood impurities, whether hereditary or acquired, the ill effects of which they effectually modify and counteract, rendering the sickly and feeble physically strong.

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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.

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SATURDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER.

148—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham, Yorkshire.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.
453—Chigwell, Castle Hotel, Woodford.

SUNDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Boothdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER.

45—Strong Man, St. John's Gate, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
328—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
382—Royal Union, Checquers' Hotel, Uxbridge.
540—Scientific, Victoria Hotel, Wolverton.
872—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
926—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
1057—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1073—Greta, Court Buildings, Keswick.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.

TUESDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
1228—Beaconstree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1441—Ivy, Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark-bridge Road.

27—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
446—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
*696—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
1008—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day Scorrier, Cornwall.
1089—Du Shorland, Fountain Hotel, Blue Town, Stourbridge.
1256—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Lancashire.
1364—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Widnes, Lancashire.
1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER.

Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at 6.
181—Confidence, White Hart, Aldwarch Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
177—Salopian, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
*865—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction).
1232—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High-street, Weston-super-Mare.

THURSDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1260—Hervey, 185 Fulham-road at 8. (Instruction.)
1481—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, E.

51—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
103—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
694—Downshire, 22 Hope Street, Liverpool.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.

FRIDAY, 24th SEPTEMBER.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1388—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—795—Ashfield, Private Room, Coothill Co. Cavan.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
95—Ellis, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112 St. John, Fisherrow, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—36—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—224—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—372—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 536—Tyrian, 196 Bath-street.
" K.T.—St. Mungo Encampment, Annual Meeting, St. Mark Hall, Buchanan-street.
TUESDAY—34—St. John, St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street.
" 74—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 87—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
" 427—Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan.
WEDNESDAY—549—Maryhill, 367 Main-street, Maryhill.
THURSDAY—578—St. Vincent, 180 Kent-road.
R.A.—All the Chapters in the Province meet for the Election of Officers for ensuing year.
FRIDAY—133—Royal Arch, Schiehouse, Pollokshaws.
357—St. John's Operative, New Hall, Rutherglen.
SATURDAY—R.A. 161—Robert Burns, Masonic Hall, Hobgtown.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

St. John's Lodge, No. 3.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Monday, the 13th inst., at their Hall, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bro. Wm. Bell W.M., J. Neilson Deputy Master, J. Gillon S.W., Jones J.W., J. Dick Secretary, Brownlie S.D., J. Jameson Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Fletcher, McMillan. Visitors—Bros J. Munro E.W.M. 360, J. Bannerman Deputy Master 73, and several others. There was a large amount of business on the cards; first the initiation of two candidates, who were received by the Master, Wm. Bell, in a very impressive manner. A Fellow Craft's Lodge was then opened, and five brethren received that degree at the hands of Bro. Dick, Secretary. The Lodge was then opened in the sublime degree, and, at the request of the Master, Bro. Munro, R.W.M. of the Commercial 360, raised seven brethren, in the solemn manner for which he is celebrated, and for which he received the unanimous thanks of the Lodge. Bro. Munro expressed the pleasure it had given him to be allowed to work in this old and well-conducted Lodge. Thereafter the Lodge was closed by Bro. Fletcher P.M.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, 13th September, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Present—Bros. Stock W.M., Tolmie S.W., Read J.W., Killick Secretary, Walker S.D., Lake J.D., Cooke I.G., Christopher Tyler. Business—Lodge opened in usual manner, and the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. Bro. Pettett passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Tolmie worked the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th sections of the second lecture, assisted by Bro. Saul and brethren. Bros. Main P.M. 813, Swales 813, W. Partridge 882, and T. W. Ockenden 1512, were elected members.

St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 69.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 14th September, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. Dr. T. D. Humphries, Ph. Dr., Z., George Herron H., G. W. Wheeler acting J., J. M. Oliver Secretary, W. Thomas Treasurer, J. Balfour 1st S., T. Anderson 2nd S., J. Moon 3rd S., David Ramsay Tyler. Visitors—Comps. J. Duthie Z. 67, G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, J. Balfour S.E. 73 P.G. 1st S., Jas. Anderson Z. 76, M. Nicholl J. 76. At the commencement of the business, Comp. Anderson Z. of 76, Abbey Chapter, Paisley, asked the favour of 69 exalting for him two brethren of the Paisley Lodge, 370. This request was at once acceded to, and a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was opened, when Comp. Wheeler conferred that degree on the two Paisley brethren. A Holy Royal Arch Chapter was then opened, and the same brethren were duly exalted to that degree by Comp. Wheeler Z. of 73, his Scribe E. the Provincial Grand Sojourner acting as 1st S. Comps. Anderson and Nichol, on behalf of the Paisley Chapter, returned thanks to the Z. of 69 for granting permission for the ceremony to be performed, and to the two Comps. of 73 who had done the work. The Chapter then nominated the officers for the ensuing year.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Friday, 9th August, at their Hall, 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, at 6.30 p.m. Present—Bros. G. Wm. Wheeler acting W.M., J. B. Hardie S.W., J. Ambridge J.W., J. Bannerman Treasurer, A. McLeod S.D., J. Kay J.D., E. Ramsay I.G., A. Kay Tyler. Visitors—Bros. E. Arthur No. 0, and J. W. McCallum 147. Business—A proposition for the initiation of Mr. Robert McIver, engineer, was read and unanimously passed. He was then introduced by Bro. McLeod, and initiated by Bro. Wheeler. A Lodge of Fellow Crafts was then opened, and a brother passed to that degree. The Lodge was then raised to the third degree, when Bros. Robert Nichol and John McIver were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons by Bro. Wheeler, as Bro. McDonald, the R.W.M., was out of town, and unable to be present.

The Union and Crown Lodge, No. 103.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Monday, the 13th inst., at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bro. A. M. Wright W.M., attended by all his office bearers. Business—The initiation of two gentlemen into the Order, which ceremony was ably performed by Bro. Bain P.M. P.G.B.B. The Lodge afterwards made arrangements for a presentation to that worthy brother for the services rendered by him for many years to the Lodge.

Domatic Lodge, No. 177.—An emergency meeting of this flourishing Lodge, which is famed for its working and the harmony existing among its members, was held on Friday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bros. G. Everett W.M. in the chair, Treadwell S.W., Jas. Willing jun. J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. Treasurer, Williams Secretary, Palmer S.D., Buscall J.D., Spink I.G., and P.M.'s Time, Kent I.P.M., and Bros. Plummer, Montague, Morris, Beesly, J. Ambrose, J. Jones, Willis, Crane, Robinson, Holder, &c. The Lodge was opened, and Bro. Fowler, No. 244, by the courtesy of the W.M., was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Ballots were then taken for the admission of Messrs. G. L. Everett, R. Osborn, Captain A. S. Gilbert (late 70th Regt.), F. Wigmore, and F. Harding, who were initiated into the Order by the W.M. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Clemow, the W.M. presiding. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts and complimentary speeches were given. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Sir John Bennett, No. 1, who made a very capital speech; Sumner P.G.W. British Burmah, Thompson W.M. No. 233, Gardner W.M. No. 1381, D. Still P.M. No. 1293, Kent No. 209, Fowler No. 244, and Read 1507.

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Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—The weekly meeting was held at Bro. Chard's, Abchurch-lane, on Wednesday. As announced last week, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, in a very able manner, by Bro. Berrie as W.M. We congratulate him upon his efficiency, and urgently recommend those brethren seeking instruction to attend this Lodge, which is conducted under the able presidency of Bro. Gottheil. The sections in connection with the degree were worked by Bro. Gottheil, assisted by the brethren. The remaining officers were Bros. Cohen S.W., Blackhall J.W., Tolles S.D., Corner J.D., Croaker I.G., Christopher Tyler, Gottheil P.M., Constable Treasurer. The following brethren were also present:—Bros. W. W. Morgan, Abbott, Rose W.M. 185, W. D. Bailey J.D. 185, D. Posener J.W. 185, R. T. Bloomfield P.M. 185, G. S. Pare S.D. 185, S. L. Hickman W.M. 188, and several others. We were gratified at hearing the formula of closing down the Lodge, which is so seldom gone through in regular form; it was carried out with such exactitude that the pleasure was greatly enhanced. Bro. Cohen was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and Bro. Constable is to work the ceremony of installation; after which the first degree will be worked. A vote of thanks was accorded the W.M. for his genial conduct and able performance of the duties of the chair, it being the first time he had officiated therein.

Tyrawley Lodge, No. 217.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 8th September, at Dillon-terrace, Ballina. Present—Bros. P. L. Petrie W.M., M. Scott S.W., P. Atkinson J.W., J. R. Durgeon Sec., James Beatty S.D., Wm. Beatty J.D., D. Taylor I.G., Robert Massey Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Gilbert, Reid, T. Scott and Petrie. Business—Night of meeting was changed from second Wednesday to second Monday in each month. Bro. C. Petrie was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Dr. Thomas Boyd, having been successfully ballotted for, was admitted to E.A. degree. Ballot for affiliation of Bro. Russell 411, Drogheda, was also successful.

Drogeda Lodge, No. 411.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, 9th September, at the Masonic Hall, Drogheda. Present—Bros. Jeffers W.M., Whitty S.W., Dean P.M. as J.W., Preston as Secretary, Harbinson P.M. as S.D., Griffin J.D., Appleyard as I.G., Browne Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Morton, Harbinson and Dean. Business—Three new members were proposed for initiation, ballot in each case to take place next regular night of meeting. Bro. Hatch was raised to the high and sublime degree, and afterwards saluted.

St. John's Lodge, No. 795.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at the Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead, Bro. G. Bubb P.M., in the absence of the W.M. Bro. C. W. Moule jun., occupied the chair, J. Sadler S.W., H. H. Hodges P.M. Secretary, C. Gammon P.M. Treasurer, J. E. Foulger P.M., and several brethren were present. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. C. S. Dugan was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Bros. Burgan, Bell and Sherman were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts by Bro. G. Bubb P.M., whose correct working was listened to with attention. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. J. Sadler S.W. and I.P.M. of the Highgate Lodge (who on the previous evening had installed his successor in that Lodge), was unanimously elected. Bro. C. Gammon P.M. was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Nowell Tyler. A sum of £7 was voted from the funds of the Lodge to the retiring W.M. Bro. C. W. Meale. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to banquet, where, under the genial presidency of Bro. C. Gammon P.M., the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren returned to town, in a saloon carriage specially provided for the brethren by the R.W. Sir Daniel Gooch D.P.G.M. for Berks and Bucks.

Dalston Lodge of Instruction, No. 975.—At the weekly meeting held on the 8th inst., the fifteen sections were worked to celebrate the first anniversary of the Lodge, Bro. W. Gilchrist P.M. 933 in the chair, Bro. Fieldwick I.G. 1361 S.W., Bro. Lee W.M. 1524 J.W. 975 Junior Warden. There was a large attendance of the brethren, and all expressed themselves gratified at the skilful Masonic working. Votes of thanks were unanimously given to the W.M. and the visiting brethren for their services. Several brethren were elected joining members, and the Lodge was closed and adjourned. This highly prosperous Lodge of Instruction, although only established twelve months, numbers over sixty members, and has been well attended every Wednesday evening throughout the past year; a fact which speaks well for the interest taken in our ancient Craft in Dalston and its neighbourhood.

Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 16th, at the Approach Tavern, Victoria Park. We regret that space prevents our giving detailed particulars of the proceedings, which were of a very interesting character. There were present the following brethren:—Harris W.M., Crutch S.W., Toy J.W., Crouch S.D., Lazarus I.G., Gilchrist Tyler, Terry P.P.G.D.C., Herts Treasurer, Verry P.M. Sec., also P.M.'s Ashburner and Lloyd, besides an array of visitors numbering twenty. Upon the confirmation of the minutes Mr. Aitken was initiated, and Bro. Ferry passed. The following were ballotted for as joining members, Bros. J. J. Berry S.W., and T. Jennings, both of the Yarborough Lodge. A vote of thanks was recorded on the minutes, and offered to Bros. Terry and Verry, for their able and energetic efforts in carrying out the arrangements for the presentation of the Album to the Baroness Burdett Coutts. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. Jas. Terry with more than usual ability, who placed Bro. Crutch in the chair of K.S., according to ancient rite. The W.M. appointed the following as his officers, Bros. Toy S.W., Crouch J.W., Terry Treasurer, Verry Secretary, Lazarus S.D., Christian J.D., Gross I.G., Barker W.S., Gilchrist Tyler. All business being ended, the brethren adjourned to banquet, provided by the host, Bro. T. Lloyd, in the most *recherché* style. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were gone through with strict brevity, and quite in accordance with the views we entertain. The W.M. performed his duties with proficiency, and fully realised the expectations of the brethren. One fact was particularly noticeable—the various officers were letter perfect in their duties, and we have no hesitation in saying that such heads as guide this Lodge will ensure this happy condition while they last. Bro. Terry was very facetious in his criticisms of the Officers of the Lodge, and created much amusement; as did the many others who contributed songs and recitations. The brethren adjourned at an early hour, much pleased with the proceedings.

Addiscombe Lodge, No. 1558.—This very young Lodge, only two weeks old, met on the 11th inst., at the Alma Tavern, Addiscombe, for the first time after the consecration. Bro. Turquand, the newly installed W.M., presided, assisted by Bro. Mullett S.W., J. Parson Smith J.W., and the rest of the officers. Five gentlemen were initiated by the W.M., who performed his task with more than average ability. This Masonic sapling has every chance of speedily gaining strength, especially when watched over by a brother whose earnestness of character is sufficient guarantee of the nursling being carefully attended to. A plain but ample repast followed the labours in the Lodge, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, the name of His Royal Highness being received with prolonged acclamations, and heartfelt wishes were expressed for a successful voyage and safe and speedy return to his native shores. Amongst the visitors were P.M.'s Bros. Dr. Dickson, E. Gottheil, Drew, and Bro. Brownson J.W. of the Gore Lodge.

MASONIC POWER.

THAT the institution of Freemasonry is one of great influence will readily be admitted by all who are acquainted with its mystic organisation; but it is not, as some suppose, an institution of sinister power, for, though it doubtless benefits many of its members in their business interests, this is not its mission or its special purpose. Many men who are not Masons, as the world knows, do just as well in the fortunes of trade and business as any that are Masons, and therefore it should not be alleged that Masons support one another in business and in pursuit of office and place, for it would not be true. Indeed, we should be glad to see more mutual support in business among the Craft than generally obtains in these days, as it would give a much brighter reflection upon the practical workings of the Order than we now see.

To be sustained in either his business or office a Mason must be something else than a mere member of the Craft. If he is a true man, imbued with the spirit and principles of Masonry, he will be found right in any position, and he may hope for success in any calling or undertaking. In Masonry, as it is in other institutions, the spirit and manners and principles of the man give him success much more than any nominal relationship ever can do.

The power of Masonry, where it has any, is chiefly found in its fraternities and charities, and these many never experience, because they so act as to ask no favours of any one. They are Masons because they love the principles and philosophic teachings of the Order. They have seen something of its work, and they have joined the association because they believed that the organisation is one of brotherly love, relief and truth. All such connections as these show its great moral power, as well as its distinguished relative worth.

As an institution of *patronage*, we believe the Masonic is not even as good as many others, for anything like clanishness or partiality or especial patronage, except for cause, is contrary to the spirit and general teachings of the mystic circle.

Masonry loves to show its power, especially in grand humanities and in free and generous fraternities, where liberality of sentiment is intelligently tolerated, and where none is made a favourite at the expense of the many. Intelligent qualifications, of course, give prominence in any association, and so it often is in Masonry, and yet at the same time personal ambition and sinister aspirations are considered at all times out of order.

As an organisation of moral power it perhaps stands unequalled, for its obligated intelligence is more binding and of stronger influence upon the general actions of life than those of any other society with which we are acquainted.

This power no doubt makes many better men and better citizens than they would have been if they had never become Masons. Yet we yield the point that true and honourable men anywhere are as good as any Masons, though they never belonged to the fraternity. The Mason may probably understand more of the systematic theory of fraternity and charity, and yet he may not excel his outside brother in any of life's higher nobilities. It will therefore be seen that some men are good Masons in spirit and principle and honour who never were Masons, while others have utterly failed to become Masons though they have taken all of its degrees.

The seed sown by the mystic fraternity can only germinate and grow in good soil, and this may be given as the reason of that Masonic defectiveness we sometimes see, and which at times reflects such great dishonour upon the fraternity itself. Making no pretensions to civil power or government, or any attempts at theological or religious dictation, it quietly takes its position in society and goes on in its work without any boastings or display, or ever asking for a word of praise from any class of men, whether they are in power or out of it.

As harmless to the outside world as the child at the breast of its

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mother, and ruled by the law of non-interference in regard to all other organisations and associations, its operations are quiet and peaceful, and its history therefore is one of "peace on earth and good will to man."

It makes no litigations, creates no discords, sheds no blood, makes no widows, and knows nothing of orphanage, except in its sympathies and charities.

It never proscribes, because it has no faith in proscription as a theory of reform or of human government. Its liberality of sentiment is the measure of its charities, and wherever it fixes its empire it is only to stay while it has its supporters, and where it is not wanted it retires with becoming grace and without a single murmur.

Men and organisations of different kinds have for ages been waging war against its very existence without even knowing the alphabet of its genius or the power of its name. What it is, they have often tried to divine without a single success, and all their efforts to destroy it have been equally abortive. Its very being has continued to be a mystery, while its solemn tread through the nations has astonished the whole world of Propagandists of every faith and order.

It has no permanent investment fund to live on, and it sends out no missionaries to make proselytes or to extend its dominions. It claims no territory of earth as the boundary of its rule, and it asks no patronage at the hands of any Church or State. Its very existence indeed is *sui generis*, while its conservative system of operations never interferes with either the rights or privileges of any other organisation, whether civil, religious or fraternal.

It ignores dogmatisms, laughs at all persecutions, and pities the brainless folly of all enemies, as it well knows that the wildest storms may howl around it, and the fiercest thunders roll above it, without even harming a fibre of its mantle or staining the integrity of its organic character, and therefore it makes no defence even when the mightiest come against it. Its own Lodge rooms is its favourite retreat, for there it can go in safety when the world turns against it.

Governments have been its foes, and the oldest Church on earth to this day is its enemy, and the old mother of all is imitated by a number of her spawns in the same sort of bigoted vindictiveness. Still the institution of Masonry lives and flourishes in spite of them all. What they are Masonry does not desire to be, for if she once yielded to *their spirit* the genius of Masonry would hie from the earth like an insulted angel, and we should hear of it no more for ever.

Masonic power, like its genius, lives in the atmosphere of a charitable intelligence. It cannot breathe anywhere else, for it is a child of the higher humanities, and drinks only of pure crystal streams. Its temples, lit up by the *lights* of intelligence, humanity and charity, have kindled a sanctified glory over the world and given to the benevolent of all classes examples which they cannot ignore without destroying their own prestige and inflicting upon themselves the pitiful contempt of the intelligent, the sympathetic and the noble. So mote it be.—*H., in Masonic Advocate.*

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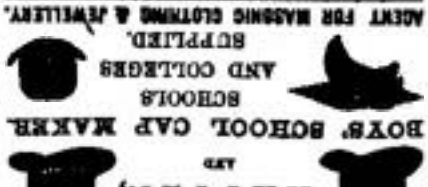
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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 39. SATURDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

MASONIC TEACHING.

OUR readers have doubtless noted with some degree of interest the first portion of a mislaid letter which appeared last week, while the remainder will be found in another part of our columns. This letter, which was forwarded to us under circumstances that are somewhat strange, is written by one Bro. Lionel Harrison, to his son and brother, whom, in ignorance of his proper designation, we will designate as Bro. Harrison jun. The point we are anxious to insist upon in connection with this letter is one that will have especial weight with our readers. It demonstrates, beyond all doubt, that Masonic teaching is not only perfectly harmless, but that it far transcends, in respect of value, the doctrines inculcated by the most illustrious teachers of morality of the past or any age. Nor is this its only merit. Of late, and, indeed, at various times more or less frequent, Freemasonry has been seriously attacked by sundry spiritual advisers, whose Christian charity should have induced them to avoid all hostility to an Order which, before all things, inculcates the divine virtues of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Not only this, they should have utilised the doctrines of Freemasonry to the common good of mankind. They should have striven to show that a Society, which struggled so persistently to unite men of all creeds and nationalities in one common brotherhood, was worthy of the greatest support possible; that while, for sufficient reasons, it veiled its teachings in language more or less mysterious and inappreciable by the profane, or outer world, it yet sought to inculcate the purest virtue, and a sincere and heartfelt belief in the Grand Creator of the Universe. Yet, in spite of the purity of our morality, we are constantly invited to believe that Freemasonry is dangerous, and likely to prove subversive of all that good and true and religious men deem most worthy of respect. Let us, then, take the text of this mislaid letter, written by our unknown yet worthy brother, Lionel Harrison.

Bro. Harrison is anxious that his son, who is also, in Masonic parlance, a Brother, should benefit to the utmost by the teachings of Masonry. He bears in mind the sacred nature of his own obligations, and regardful, no doubt, that even in these days of progress the miscarriage of a letter is not only possible but probable, he is content to limit his paternal and personal instruction to sundry general directions, the value of which no man in his senses will venture to set at naught. Bro. Harrison, in the first instance, insists on the holy value of love. Love is instilled into the mind of every child, but the range of Masonic love, like that of charity, is universal. Masons love each other and all mankind, not merely as a whelp loves its dam, of sheer instinct, but as a matter of duty. Thus is set forth that love must be genuine, and from the heart; that is, there must be no hypocritical display of this brotherly love, and, as necessary to the attainment of this, Masons must have a firm faith in the merits of their system. "Faith," says Bro. Harrison, "is the foundation of justice, the bond of amity, and the chief support of society." How, otherwise indeed, could society exist without love in the first instance, and faith in the general excellence of human kind in the second. Charity, again, is urged with a solemn impressiveness. We bear in mind the doctrine of the Evangelist as to "Faith, Hope, and Charity, but the greatest of these is Charity." Whosoever ignores the just demands of Charity falls short of his duty, not only as a Mason, but as a man. Then again temperance is a virtue of which both heathen and Christian philosophers have spoken in the highest terms of praise and commendation, and the observance of this is rightly insisted upon, not merely in its narrow, but in its widest signification. We are enjoined to be temperate in all things, not only in our affections, but in our passions, so that, by a strict governance of the reason, we may "be relieved from the allurements of vice." In order to attain temperance, however, we must be prudent, which is rightly described as "the golden mean between rashness and cowardice." Prudence enables a man to judge wisely, and to determine fully whatever pertains "to their temporal and eternal welfare." Besides prudence, the full value of justice is inculcated, for this virtue guides us to render every man his due. Honour, again, and virtue, and mercy—as illustrated by our greatest poet—are further inculcated, and in the teaching laid down, even the Pope himself, we venture to affirm, can find nothing which is in the slightest degree devious from the strictest code of morality. Lastly, mercy is insisted upon, with an eagerness that is highly commendable. Men are weakly by nature. They experience in their course through life many vicissitudes, many temptations. The result frequently is that they fall, yet *humanum est errare*. The best among us fall short in the performance of our duties, and for these shortcomings it is imperative we should crave indulgence occasionally. Thus mercy is "as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath; it is twice blessed—it blesseth him that gives and him that takes." So says Shakspeare, so says Freemasonry, so says Christianity, and with such a concurrence of opinion who shall gainsay the correctness of our view?

We shall not prolong this article much further. The casual finding of a letter, unintended for publication, has led us to make these remarks. We fully believe they are in keeping with our general teaching, and we express most firmly our opinion that if the *profanum vulgus* will but give heed to these few comments of ours there will never be the slightest doubt as to the efficacy of Masonic teaching.

We have offered these few remarks in the most genuine spirit. We are actuated by the purest motives. We feel that Masonry has no claim on the respect of mankind if it cannot show itself to be actuated, as it is in very truth, by the purest, the most disinterested, and the most virtuous of all laws, both human and divine. Care we, then, if others doubt our virtue? Yea, forsooth, for we pride ourselves, not unnaturally or unbecomingly, on the virtues we possess. At all events, till something more alarming than slander can be directed against us, we are content to remain as we are; charitably disposed towards all men, brothers or non-brothers, eager to do good wherever good may be done, or to allay differences where differences may have arisen. We strive humbly to cultivate charity, prudence, mercy, and the kindred virtues. If we fail, it is owing to the frailty of nature. But we trust continently in the help of the G.A.O.T.U. We believe in His power to aid us, and shall, sooner or later, be the better for our faith. May the doctrines laid down by our Bro. Harrison find a full responsive echo in the breasts of all Masons!

GENTEEL MENDICANTS.

THE society for the repression of Mendicity is, we believe, doing a great and good work. It is endeavouring so to organise charity that our old and absurd fashion of indiscriminate almsgiving may be, in a

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measure, discredited. It has already done much to expose the crowd of hungry needy beggars, who will starve rather than work; but, as far as we can judge, it has done little to repress that vast mass of genteel mendicity which finds a home in a great city like London. We are not speaking of the professional begging letter writers, or of the rogue, of gentlemanlike manners, who has seen better days. These harpies, without character, having been through the gamut of villainy, must, sooner or later, come within the clutches of the law. By genteel mendicants we mean those persons who, with characters apparently unspotted, make begging a profession. We are thinking of the widows of clergymen and schoolmasters, who imagine all the world is bound to help them. Of the needy half pay officers and their wives, who, in obscure country towns, beg credit of poor little tradesmen, and never pay until they are compelled; who run bills with the butcher, and turn up their noses when they meet him in the streets. We are, in short, thinking of people who are capable of any dirty or mean action which will save them from the necessity of working for their bread. Here, for example, is a genteel beggar, who has been the round of half the genteel charities in the metropolis, and she finds the game a paying one. She is a lady of "irreproachable character." Her husband was a clergyman, and during his long career he never obtained a larger stipend than £120 per annum. She is the sister of a colonial bishop, one of those poor and much despised preachers of the Word, who, when they do visit our shores, appear to be in a state of perpetual wonder at the magnificence of their own gaiters and aprons. Our heroine learned the trade of a genteel beggar whilst she and her family were starving on a pittance of £80 per annum. Like very many of the educated, and so-called refined classes, she is utterly devoid of fine feeling. A poor charwoman would blush for shame to be caught importuning the mistress of the house for a few cast-off clothes, but our fine lady, who can rattle off a symphony of Beethoven and speak French with the accent of a Parisian, has no such *mauvaise honte*. When she, or rather her husband, was curate of Dunder-cum-Puddenhead, she had managed to make her woes known to all the grand people in the neighbourhood. She had always some bill to meet, or the brokers to pay out of the house, or a baker's bill to settle; and if cash came in but slowly to her urgent and masculine appeals, she was quite ready to accept payment in kind. When her husband obtained a better post, far away in the north of England, she canvassed her friends, and actually contrived to raise enough money to pay *second* class fare for the family. Of course she could not ride in the third class. She, a clergyman's wife, and sister of a "colonial," could not think of "pigging"—that was her refined way of putting it—with artisans and labourers, in those horrid carriages, which railway companies provide for the common herd, who pay their way with hard earned money. She had to think of her girls, whose morals might be contaminated by the "creatures" who might chance to be their fellow travellers. She had to think of her own dignity, as the wife of the new curate of Slocum Podger, and so the family travelled second class, on charity. Her boys were educated at charitable institutions, and grew up to manhood with the fixed impressions that they would never be compelled to sully their genteel fingers by hard work, but that light and agreeable employment would be found for them by the good people who had so kindly provided mamma with ways and means. Our enterprising heroine was in active treaty with certain powerful friends, who had half promised to help the lads in their first battle with the world, when her husband unfortunately died; and his widow was now enabled to throw in her weeds as an invaluable portion of the stock in trade of the genteel mendicant. Letters were written to all and singular who might be interested in so charming a family circle. The bishop of the diocese was dunned; the clergy were importuned for help, the Poor Clergy Relief Society heard of her misfortunes; and the ground having been thus carefully prepared the crop of alms began to come in. A subscription, amounting to a respectable sum, was invested for her benefit. The Poor Clergy Relief Society sent her, from time to time, large boxes of cast-off clothing. The best of these articles, and some of them were really excellent, were at once sold for ready cash, and the charming widow, who, during her husband's lifetime, had never known what prosperity was, now found herself on the high road to that agreeable goal. She discreetly made the metropolis her head quarters, and plenty reigned at her table. Her benevolent friends had kindly paid all her debts, but it was impossible for a lady who all her life had had her leisure enlivened by duns to avoid getting on the wrong side of the tradesman's ledger. Fresh liabilities were immediately incurred, and the family rioted in plenty, while the begging epistles were daily going out to excite the compassion of the charitable. Nothing came amiss to this bold veteran mendicant; her husband, in his early days, had become a freeman of a City Company, and this body was importuned for cash, and not, we are sorry to say, in vain. A place in the Civil Service was found for the eldest son, and the other was taken into the counting house of a soft-hearted merchant, who was overcome by the vivid picture of the colonial bishop which his mother conjured up before his pitying eyes. The lad, it is true, in spite of his educational advantages, could not spell, or cast up a column of figures, but our merchant, a big parvenu, pleased himself with the idea that a lad with high connections was grinding in his commercial mill. Our widow tried desperately to get up a flirtation between her daughter, a girl gifted with red hair and an enormous appetite, and the son of an old college chum of her husband, but the affair came to grief, and the charming young lady left the parental nest to take charge of the education of the children of a friend. Thus far all had gone swimmingly with our heroine, she had indeed made strenuous efforts to change her own condition, but a widow devoid of personal charms, and encumbered with seven children, is heavily weighted in the matrimonial race. With responsibilities lightened, a certain but small income, and such help as her boys could afford, she should at least have found it possible to make both ends meet; but some people, as the Frenchman remarked, are never happy unless they are miserable, and at this moment she is working all the charitable agencies in the metropolis with a view of lightening in some measure her vast load of debt. We are of opinion that such persons as the widow of the brazen face and resolute heart should be summarily suppressed. It is scandalous that such a person should be permitted to trade upon charity, and make a good thing of the calling. We are happy to know that our Masonic charities are not so shamefully abused as some that we could name. The brotherhood have indeed made it impossible for an adventuress such as the lady we have sketched to live upon the charity of the Order, but if the husband of our heroine had been a Mason she certainly would have tried her arts upon the directing spirits of Grand Lodge. One contribution she might have obtained, but she certainly would not have received a second.

PLAGIARISM.

OUR readers must remember that among the games of their boyhood one appropriately known as "Follow my leader." The boy selected as leader usually possessed, in a pre-eminent degree, the qualities of skill and courage, combined with a certain amount of humour and fertility of expedient, judgment, of course, being necessary in the exercise of these qualities. For instance, the leader having first gauged, or already knowing, perhaps, the powers of those who were to follow him, would hardly attempt or do what it was impossible for them to repeat. His feats must be pretty well within the limits of their ability, or the game would resolve itself into leading only, without the followers. Now this following a leader is one of those boyish things, which as men, we do not cast aside, only what was done for pastime in our boyhood is become a business or a duty in our manhood. Some one marks out for himself a particular line of conduct, others, from a variety of motives, think it their duty, or make it their business to adopt such line of conduct for themselves. Some one originates a new system of ethics, or he inaugurates a new theory respecting the planetary system, or he invents a patent; immediately there is a goodly number of people who adopt his views or follow in his footsteps. Others again denounce these systems and theories, and invent counter systems and theories of their own. These, too, find a multitude of followers. All this is natural enough, and, in the main, proper. Yet is there one kind of lead the following of which is generally reprehended. We mean that adoption or imitation of ideas which is known in journalism, and generally throughout the world of literature as plagiarism. One man racks his brains with a view to writing a book. The book is written, and then, forthwith, some one else

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helps himself more or less, yet generally more than less liberally, to the contents of the work, appropriating them to his own ends. Another writes an article for some newspaper, whereupon another article, almost, if not *verbatim*, the same, makes its appearance in some other newspaper. One editor lays down for himself a particular kind of programme, which, in his opinion, will most conduce to the success of his journal or periodical. Another editor, too lazy or too incapable to initiate a programme, adopts the former's, without the slightest hesitation or scruple. In all these cases the man who follows is a plagiarist, or appropriator of his leader's ideas, and the press, indeed the whole world of literature, has set its face strongly against the practice, and condemns it with just severity. As Freemasons we, of course, view any Appropriation Act of this kind with the most fraternal tenderness, but as journalists we feel bound in duty to object on principle, when our ideas or contents are copied or adopted without acknowledgment. We are careful, however, to express our objections as courteously as possible, we remonstrate only in the most friendly spirit imaginable, we do our utmost to observe, not only the laws of journalism, but its amenities likewise. Thus, whenever we feel called upon to express our concurrence with, or disapprobation of the policy pursued by our Masonic contemporaries, we do so cordially in the former case, in the latter gently, and with all the courtesy we can command. Thus the week before last we drew attention to a most marvellous coincidence, none other, in fact, than the appearance, with one or two verbal differences only, in two journals, ours and the *Hebrew Leader* of New York, of the very same article on a certain Masonic charity—not simultaneously, but in these columns on the 31st July, in those of our contemporary on 27th August. A few weeks previously we noticed that an article of ours on the late Dr. Oliver had re-appeared, after a brief interval of rest, in the columns of the *Keystone*. In both these cases we suggested, with becoming courtesy, that the omission of the usual acknowledgment was the result of an oversight. We gave them credit, in fact, for those good intentions which they had previously extended to us when quoting from our columns, which in the case of the *Keystone* have been most handsomely extended to us since, and which the *Hebrew Leader*, if it should do us the honour to utilise any of our articles, will doubtless put in practice for the future. These are the only two cases of the utilisation by other journals of articles which made their first appearance in our paper to which we have directed our readers' attention, but they are very far from being the only ones that have occurred. Thus far have we dealt with our American Masonic contemporaries. Coming nearer home, we find that sundry of the main features of our programme are not unfrequently followed by an English contemporary. To give one or two illustrations of our meaning. After the presentation of chairs by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts to the Lodge bearing her name, we had a leader on the subject, entitled "What Next?" wherein we discoursed pleasantly about this novel episode in Masonry, and pertinently inquired, "What next is going to happen?" The week following, our contemporary had also an article entitled "What next?" We will do him the justice, however, to say there was this difference between the two leaders. Ours was *à propos* of something very particular, while his was *à propos* of nothing in particular, and would have borne any other title just as well. With a very slight change

"The rose, by any other name, had smelt as sweet."

Again, as we have never seen any just cause or impediment why our readers should not have a digest of the week's news, or why that digest should not contain mention of the events, political, scientific, social, athletic, &c., happening from day to day in the outer world, we introduced and commented upon, among other matters of public interest, various athletic achievements. No long time passes, when our contemporary, once careless about such mundane trifles, follows suit, and discourses pleasantly, if not scientifically, of similar matters. In our issue of the 11th inst., we gave an account of the Lodge *Les Sages d'Héliopolis*, our authority being Bro. Canbet's article in *Le Monde Maçonnique*, which we reproduced, according to the best of our poor ability, in English, in the belief that our readers would be pleased to note the difference in working between a foreign Lodge, under the Grand Orient of France, and our English Lodges. Last week our contemporary gave a summary of the same article. We might go on multiplying these instances in which our contemporary has, to use a common phrase, taken a leaf out of our book, but these will suffice to show that, while some of our Transatlantic Masonic contemporaries have thought our articles worth utilising, our Cisatlantic contemporary is not too proud to copy our ideas. Yet, funnily enough, this same contemporary has calmly ignored us from the very first moment of our existence, and persistently describes himself in his advertising columns, as *The* Masonic Journal of the period in this country. But there is something funnier even still. In one of our earliest numbers we quoted something from *Pomeroy's Democrat*, with the usual acknowledgment. For so doing a correspondent of our contemporary took us somewhat severely to task, a week or two afterwards, calling in question our Masonic good faith. We shall not describe this writer's onslaught as a vulgar attack on an inoffensive journal. We are not called upon to express any opinion on the character of the letter, nor is our contemporary responsible for the opinions of his correspondents. It is enough that his attempt to ascribe a fault, had any been committed, to the wrong journal was a complete failure, and doubtless the writer has long since repented in sackcloth and ashes the error of his ways. Grave inconsistency of human, to say nothing of Masonic human nature, that any English contemporary should suffer us to be attacked in its columns, nor hesitate to utilise our titles and ideas, yet not even acknowledge our existence.

After all, though we have felt these few remarks are not uncalled for, we have made them in all good nature. It is impossible to be otherwise than courteous and contented when so many of our Masonic contemporaries so often pay us the graceful compliment of quoting our articles and adopting our ideas. We are fairly entitled to regard the frequent adoption or imitation of some part of our weekly issue as a tribute of respect to such humble merit as we may have given evidence of possessing. We necessarily feel that such slight services to Masonry as it has been in our power to render have not been wholly unrecognised or unappreciated. When the most youthful Masonic journal in the world is thus liberally quoted, when its views find favour with its elder brethren in journalism, we may be pardoned if we unconsciously yield to a slight yet delicious feeling of self complacency; we should be less than human, indeed, if we did not. We are quoted often abroad, mostly with, yet occasionally without acknowledgment; we are respectfully imitated at home. Our place in the periodical literature of the Craft is everywhere recognised, either directly or indirectly. We are grateful, and express publicly our gratitude. What more in the way of thanks it is in our power to render, will be rendered willingly, even to the uttermost "thank."

CAMBRIDGE SLANG, A.D. 1795.

TURNING over the pages of the *Freemason's Magazine* for February 1795, I lighted on a very amusing account of the slang then in vogue at Cambridge University, written by one who signed himself "A friend to *Alma Mater*, but an enemy to all ambiguity." This brought a rejoinder, the month following, from "A Cantab," and as a sketch of the two letters may be interesting to your readers, I have jotted down the following details.

The writer of the first letter, having occasion to visit Cambridge on business, accepts an invitation to dine at the rooms of an old Yorkshire schoolfellow, in the expectation he should hugely enjoy, as he says, "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." He first introduces to his readers' notice the company in which he finds himself. These included a *Harry Soph*, a *fellow-commoner* and *senior soph*—occasionally also "called an *empty bottle*; whilst, *è contra*, a bottle decanted was, from time to time, denominated a *fellow-commoner*"—a *junior soph* and *pensioner*—who "talked much of his *independence*, of his having refused *exhibitions*, and (what gave me no good opinion of his learning) declared he had no pretensions to either *scholarship* or *fellowship*—a jolly fat fellow—"by nature formed 'to lard the lean earth as he walked along'"—who was a *non ens* and had not yet been matriculated; and, lastly, a *sizer* and *questionist*. His next experience is that those who go in for honours come out *plucked*, *senior* or *junior optime* and *senior* or *junior wranglers*, having previously *kept* all their *acts*. Their names are printed on a *tripos*—"a long piece of whited-brown paper, like that on which our commonest ballads are printed." When the cloth is removed, one of those present exclaims, "D—n those *retros*! My *Jip* brought one in this morning, faith! and told me I was *focussed*. I resolved in this dilemma to *smile my tutor*; but, as I lately *came over him* for a good round sum, I was forced to run *the rig* upon him. Luckily, I crammed him so well, that at last *honest Jollus tipped me the cole*." Another

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said "he had just been convened in the *combination* (query *commination*) room, and was very near *rustication*, merely for *kicking up a row* after a *beakering* party. 'So ho, Jack!' briskly rejoined another, 'almost presented with a *travelling fellowship*? very nigh being *sent to grass*, hey?'" He next learns that the men at the different colleges are known, some as *Jesuits*, some as *Christians*, some as *Johnian Hogs* or *Trinity Bull-dogs*, some as *Clare Hall Greyhounds*, others as *Sidney Owls*, &c. But he can make nothing of the uses of the words *cut* and *sport*. A man is *cut* in hall, *cut* at afternoon lectures, *cut* at a ball, &c., while, on the other hand, he *cuts* a figure, *cuts* chapel, *cuts* gates, *cuts* examinations, &c. Some, says the writer, even "*cut* their tutors. I own, I was shocked at the latter account, and began to imagine myself in the midst of so many monsters." But his horror is increased when he hears "a lively young man" assert "that, in consequence of an intimation from the tutor relative to his irregularities, his own father came from the country to *jobe* him: 'but, faith!' added he, carelessly, "I no sooner learned he was at the Black Bull (an inn so called, in High Street) than I determined to *cut* the old codger completely.'" Still worse is "one most ferocious spirit," who declares that he is "resolved to *cut* every man of Magdalen College; concluding, with an oath, that they were a parcel of *rippish* quoses." As to the word *sport*, he learns that men "*sported* knowing, and they *sported* ignorant; they *sported* an *agrotat*, and they *sported* a new coat! They *sported* an *ovat*, they *sported* a *dormiat*, they *sported* their *outer*, a *lion*, a *lioness*, a *cat*, and a *levant*." The astonishment of "A friend to *Alma Mater*, but an enemy to all ambiguity," may be more easily imagined than described.

In the rejoinder, "A Cantab" first of all remarks on the absence of all mention of the *Wooden Spoon*—the last on the list of the *junior optimés*, the third and lowest class of those who have taken honours. Even the lowest of the *hoi polloi*, who are his inferiors, make him their butt, and reiterate the stale and perennial remark, "that *wranglers* are born with *gold spoons* in their mouths, *senior optimés* with silver, *junior optimés* with wooden, and the *hoi polloi* with leaden ones." As to the *hoi polloi*, he says, if there be one only, he is "a *Bion, who carried all his learning about him, without the slightest inconvenience*;" if two, they are dubbed "the *Scipios, Damon and Pythias, Hercules and Atlas, Castor and Pollux*;" if three, "*the three Graces, or the three Furies, or the three Magi, or Noah, Daniel and Job*; if seven, "*the seven wise men, or the seven wonders of the world*;" if nine, "*the nine unfortunate suitors of the Muses*;" if twelve, "*the twelve apostles*;" if thirteen, "they deserved a round dozen, or, like Americans, should bear *thirteen stripes on their coat and arms*;" and so on, in addition to which they were known also as "*constant quantities* and *martyrs*." "A Cantab" then explains the titles of the various undergraduates—the fellow-commoner, pensioner, *tizer*, &c.—with only one of which I need trouble your readers. He says, "*a Harry or errant Soph* I understand to be either a person four-and-twenty years of age, and of an infirm state of health, who is permitted to dine with the fellows, and to wear a plain, black, full-sleeved gown; or else he is one who, having kept all the terms by statute required previous to his law-act, is, *hoc ipso facto*, entitled to wear the same garment, and thenceforth ranks as bachelor by courtesy." Later on he adds, "The *Jesuits* are the inhabitants of *Jesus* College; the *Christians*, those of *Christ's*; the *Johnian hogs* were originally remarkable, on account of the squalid figures and low habits of the *students*, and especially of the *sizers*, of St. *John's* College; *Catherine-Puritans*, inhabitants of *Catherine Hall*, so pruningly called from *Katharo*; they are also yclept *Catharine-doves*, for the same reason—*doves* being emblems of *purity*. Hence, perhaps, we derive the epithet of 'a plucked puritan.' *Trinity bull-dogs*, from their ferocious deportment, in consequence of peculiar immunities attached to their college, and of their remarkable dress. I am yet to learn the etymology of *Sidney Owls* and of *Clare Hall Greyhounds*." He closes his letter with two stanzas from a poem by Kit Smart the poet, himself of Pembroke—written in 1741, while yet at college—and "intituled *The Pretty Bar-keeper of the Mitre*." They are as follow:—

"Her snuff-box if the nymph pull'd out,
Each *Johnian*, in responsive aire,
Fed with the tickling dust his snout,
With all the politesse of bears.
Dropt she her fan beneath her hoop,
Ev'n stake-stock Clarians strove to stoop.
The sons of *culinary Kays*,
Smoking from the eternal treat,
Lost in ecstatic transport, gaze,
As though the fair was good to eat;
Ev'n *gloomiest King's men*, pleased awhile,
Grin horribly a ghastly smile.

Q.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked is 3d per pack, 1s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 10s 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, 27 Barbican, E.C.

MASONIC TEACHING—WHAT IT REALLY IS.

(Continued from page 180.)

I have no desire to attempt an addition to this, it embraces all that could well be said, but having learnt another form more particularly appertaining to ourselves, I may be permitted to repeat it. So refined a virtue, if possessed by a monarch, adds lustre to every gem that adorns his crown; if by the warrior, it imparts unfading freshness to the wreath that shades his brow. It is the companion of true honour and the ameliorator of justice, on whose bench, when enthroned there, interposes on behalf of the victim a shield of defence impenetrable by the sword. As the vernal showers descend to refresh the vegetable creation, so mercy acting upon the heart returns nature to its source in a purer stream. It is the attribute of the Deity on whom the best of us must rest our hopes and dependence, for at the final day, when arraigned at His bar, and the actions of life are unveiled to view, though justice may demand the fiat, let us hope His mercy will avert the awful doom.

My object was to have sent this to you last mail, but finding the task longer than anticipated at the outset, anxiety to complete it must plead an excuse for delay. The second portion combines various subjects more or less symbolical, and were I to give details of them your patience would be sorely tried, and I fear my integrity impugned; hence reference must again be made to those skilled in the liberal arts and sciences for more particular information. I may, however, proceed with what may be termed the moral advantages of geometry. It is one of the first and noblest of the sciences, and the basis upon which the superstructure of Masonry is erected. By geometry we may trace her various windings to her most concealed recesses, discover the wisdom, power and goodness of the G.A.O.T.U., and view with delight the beautiful variety which decorates and graces the vast machine; by it we may discover how the planets move in their orbits, and mathematically demonstrate their various revolutions; by it also we may rationally account for the return of seasons, and the mixed and beautiful variety of scenes each season displays to the discerning eye, and how numberless worlds all formed by the same Almighty being, and governed by his unerring laws roll around in the vast expanse of space. Whilst such objects engage our attention, how ought we to improve, with what grand ideas should such knowledge fill our minds? It was a survey of nature and an observation of her beautiful proportions which first induced man to imitate the divine plan, and study symmetry and order. This gave rise to society every useful art. The architect began to design the plans then laid down, and having improved by time and experience, produced those beautiful works of art which have secured the admiration and imitation of every succeeding age. Knowing that your Biblical knowledge is extensive, I shall merely refer you to the portion of the sacred volume respecting the building of the temple, and content myself by observing it is from the plans of K.S. to carry on and complete that structure that we deduce the origin of our system of government. The two great pillars placed at the entrance to the temple were intended as a memorial to the children of Israel of the happy deliverance of their forefathers from bondage, and in commemoration of the miraculous pillars of fire and cloud, which had two wonderful effects, the fire having given light to the Israelites and facilitated their escape, whilst the cloud proved darkness to Pharaoh and his host, and retarded their pursuit. K.S. ordered them to be placed at the entrance to the temple that the children of Israel might have the happy event before their eyes in going to and returning from divine worship.

You may not perhaps concur in the general opinion that speculative Masonry, as practised, has arisen out of operative; be that as it may, it is not my intention to enter the arena of discussion upon such a point, or say one word disparagingly of those worthy students of the Craft whose efforts may be accepted as proofs of erudition and zeal to promote the interest of the Order. Suffice it for me to say that architecture has gone hand in hand with civilisation, while for the rise of the various orders (laying aside our interpretation) consult your books of reference.

Ere this you will have gained some information as to Masonic symbolism. A prominent feature therein is that in connection with the seven liberal arts and sciences, and of these I purpose giving a definition so far as my memory will serve.

Grammar teaches the proper arrangement of words according to the idiom or dialect of any particular country or people, and is that excellency of pronunciation which enables us to read or write a language agreeable to reason, orthography, and the strict rules of literature.

Rhetoric teaches us to speak fluently upon any subject, not merely with propriety, but with all the advantages of force and eloquence, wisely contriving to captivate the hearer by strength of argument and beauty of expression, whether it be to entreat, exhort, admonish, or applaud.

Logic enables us to guide our reason discreetly, and to direct

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our inquiries after truth as well for our own improvement as for the instruction of others. It consists of a regular train of argument, whence we infer, deduce, and conclude according to certain premises laid down, admitted, or granted; in it are employed the faculties of conceiving, reasoning, judging, and disposing, and through the whole of which we are led on from one gradation to another, until the point in question is finally determined.

Arithmetic treats of the powers and properties of numbers as they are variously expressed by figures, tables, and instruments. By this science reasons and demonstrations are given for finding out any number, the relation and affinity of which to another number is already known and determined.

Geometry treats of the powers of magnitude in general where length, breadth, and thickness are separately and collectively considered. By this science, the architect is enabled to form his plans and carry out his designs; the general to arrange his army, the engineer to mark out ground for the intended encampment, the geographer to give us the dimensions of the world, delineate the extent of seas, and specify the divisions of empires, kingdoms, and provinces. By it also, the astronomer is enabled to make his observations, calculate and fix the duration of time, seasons, years and cycles. In fine, geometry is the foundation of architecture and the root of mathematics.

Music is the art of forming concords, so as to produce delightful harmony by a mathematical and proportionate arrangement of sounds. This art, by a series of experiments, has been reduced to a demonstrable science with respect to tones and the interval of sound; it enquires into the nature of concords and discords, and enables us to find a due proportion between them by numbers, nor is it ever heard to greater advantage than when employed in the praise of the G.A.O.T.U.

Astronomy is that sublime science which enables the contemplative mind to soar aloft, and there read the wisdom, power and goodness of the G.A.O.T.U. How nobly illustrative of the Supreme being is the celestial hemisphere. It is the most magnificent herald of His glory, it speaks to the whole creation, and there is no people so barbarous, or nation so far distant, but its voice is heard amongst them. Assisted by astronomy, we obtain a knowledge of the laws governing the heavenly bodies, ascertain their size, and determine their distance, become acquainted with the general phenomena, whereby we are enabled to correct the fallacy of the senses by the light of truth. Can anything be more wonderful than these observations? Yes! there are truths far more astounding, scenes far more extensive, for as there is no end to the Almighty's goodness, so can no imagination set a limit to his creative hand. Could we soar beyond the moon, pass through the planetary choir, wing our way to the furthest apparent star, and there take our stand upon the loftiest pinnacle of heaven, we should see the sky constantly expanding before us, other suns darting their inexhaustible beams; other, perhaps nobler, worlds in unknown profusion through the illimitable expanse of space. Nor do the dominions of the Grand Geometrician of the Universe terminate here, for at the end of even this vast tour we should find ourselves no further advanced than into a suburb of creation on the frontier of the Great Jehovah's Kingdom. Thus, what an august idea of the Creator's power does astronomy afford! As it scarcely admits of doubt that the fixed stars are suns, so is it rational to infer that each sun is the centre of a system, hence ten thousand times ten thousand worlds burst upon the mental eye all arranged like our planet in beauteous order, rapid in motion, yet harmonious and serene, and invariably keeping the bounds the great law giver first prescribed. Surely, then, it is not too presumptuous to conclude, as the all wise Creator has made nothing in vain, that each world in every system is peopled with myriads of intelligent beings, candidates like ourselves for the dominions of bliss and capable of endless progress in felicity and glory; then, as so much wisdom is displayed throughout the universe, how great! how glorious! and how worthy of adoration must He be who created, sustains, and controls the whole?

In conclusion, let me beg of you always to remember the sacred retreat of peace and friendship.

Amid all cares and employments, forget not the sacred duties which have been inculcated and so strongly recommended; therefore, be discreet, prudent, and temperate.

Remember also that you have voluntarily and solemnly vowed to befriend and relieve every brother who shall need your assistance, that you have promised to remind him in the gentlest manner of his failings, and to aid his reformation, to defend and vindicate his character whenever wrongfully traduced, and to suggest the most favorable circumstances, even when it is most liable to reprehension and blame: thus shall the world see how dearly Masons love one another. But, my dear Son and Brother, you are to extend these noble and generous sentiments even further; let me impress upon your mind, and let it be instilled into your heart that every human being has an undoubted claim to your kind offices. I therefore, strictly enjoin you to do good to all, while I more particularly recommend to your care the household of the faithful, so that by diligence and fidelity in our various avocations, by liberal benevolence and diffusive charity, by constancy and sincerity in your friendship, by being uniformly kind, just, amiable and virtuous in your department, you may prove to the world the happy and beneficent effects of our ancient and honorable institution.

Let it not be said that you have laboured in vain, for your work is before God, and your recompense is with Him.

Finally, My dear Son, live in peace, and may the God of love and mercy delight to dwell with you and bless you evermore.

I shall reply to your letter in a mail or two with full domestic particulars. Meantime, be assured of our undying love, and believe me,

My dear Son and Brother,

Your affectionate Father,

LIONEL HARRISON.

THE DRAMA.

"Flamingo" at the Strand—Recent Changes.

IF any unsophisticated playgoer is desirous of seeing how a bright and amusing French comedy may be metamorphosed into a dull and meaningless English burlesque, he will best satisfy his wish by going to see *Flamingo*, at the Strand. *Gavant, Minard et Cie*, of which *Flamingo* is supposed to be an adaptation, is not quite what would be called a moral play, in fact it would hardly, at first glance, be considered a fit subject for production on the English stage; but, at least, it is amusing, and deserves a better fate than that of being converted into a weak imitation of *Nemesis*. It is difficult to appreciate the humour displayed in the invention of such names as Rumb the Renown, and Sobil the Simple, in place of the original Gavant and Minard, and the laughter gained by the exhibition of grotesque dresses is not such as is likely to assure the success of any play. *Flamingo* affords parts for most of the leading favourites at THE STRAND. Mr. Edward Terry, as the senior partner, acts with all his amusing eccentricity, and sings one capitally written song on the perplexities of arithmetic; Miss Claude always looks charming, and plays the servant, Alisarina, as well as has been her custom to play lately. The chief success in the piece was gained by Miss Lottie Venne, an immensely improved actress, whose vivacious acting and quiet fun would have saved a worse piece than *Flamingo* from failure. M. Marius also acts well, as, indeed, he invariably does, and, owing to the efforts of these clever artistes, the piece was well received; but it must be acknowledged that their talents are, to a great extent, wasted, and that the fountain of success at THE STRAND, which opened so well with *Nemesis*, has, apparently, run dry.

Money again opens the season at THE PRINCE OF WALES'S, and, judging from appearances, its attractions are undiminished. Little change has been made in the cast, with the exception that Mr. A. Wood plays the part of Graves, in place of Mr. Honey. The comedy is most admirably acted all round, and two particular performances in it will bear comparison with any acting of the present day. Mrs. Bancroft as Lady Franklin, and Miss Ellen Terry as Clara Douglas, affords a real treat to all admirers of good acting. The piquancy and finesse of the one, combined with the womanly feeling and passion of the other, afford a series of charming scenes. Whenever time shall necessitate a change in the programme at this theatre we shall lose a general performance which does credit to the English stage.

The production of *Macbeth*, at THE LYCEUM, announced for last Saturday, was, at the last moment, postponed until to-night, when Mr. Irving's numerous and enthusiastic admirers will assemble in great force, to witness, we hope, another great success.

A change in the programme at THE MIRROR is promised for Monday next, when *Self*, the new drama by Messrs. Oxenford and Wigan, will be produced, preceded by a new comedietta, by Mr. J. M. Morton.

Mr. J. S. Clarke has been playing in *The Toodles*, and *Among the Breakers*, during the week at THE HAYMARKET, where a new comedy, by Mr. Byron, is promised for speedy production.

GOOD NIGHT.

(*To be sung at the Closing of Lodge.*)

Good-night! the spirits of the blest and good,
From Masons walls go with you and abide
In hours of sorrow, hours of solitude;
Or, when the hosts of melancholy brood
And cloud your mind, may angel-spirits glide
From the WHITE THRONE, and give you great delight,—
Dear Friends, GOOD NIGHT!

Good-night! good-night! and joy be with you all!
May sickness never blight, nor poverty;
May slanderous breath your spirits ne'er appal;
May no untoward accident befall—
But all things prosperous and happy be;
May morning's sun rise on you fresh and bright—
Dear Friends, GOOD NIGHT!

Good-night! and when the shadows of the grave
Close in around you; when the labouring breath
Draws heavily; and unto Him who gave,
You yield the spirit; be He strong to save,
Who is our GUIDE and MASTER unto death!
Then may dear friends and heavenly hopes unite
To say GOOD NIGHT!

Canadian Masonic News.

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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:—

Memoir of the Life of Admiral Sir E. Codrington. Edited and abridged from the larger work, by Lady BOURCHIER. London: Longmans. 1875.

To a maratime nation like England, the lives of its great admirals must ever possess a deep and abiding interest. The names of Drake, Howe and Nelson can only be forgotten when the country, whose flag they so often bore to victory, has fallen from her position in the scale of nations. The Memoirs of Sir Edward Codrington offer peculiar features of interest, covering, as they do, one of the most thrilling periods of England's naval history. Almost the first engagement in which he held command was the ever memorable Battle of Trafalgar. It is interesting to note with what eagerness the officers of the fleet awaited the arrival of Lord Nelson during the few weeks which preceded this great engagement. Admiral Collingwood is described as a "Stay-on-board," and the question is repeatedly asked, in our hero's letters, "Is Lord Nelson coming out to us again?" On September, the 4th, he writes, "I anxiously hope he may be coming soon." Again, on September the 20th, "For charity's sake send us Lord Nelson, oh, ye men of power." At last comes the intelligence, "Lord Nelson is arrived! A sort of general joy has been the consequence." The great battle follows close after this, and Lord Nelson is no more. Glorious as the victory was, the death of its hero seemed to nullify the disposition to rejoice over it. Codrington commanded the "Orion" in this action, and greatly distinguished himself by his coolness and vigour. The letters of Sir Edward, from which there is a large number of extracts, prove him to have been a man of very keen perceptions, and kindly sympathies. All who take a pleasure in reading of England's triumphs by sea will hardly fail to enjoy a perusal of the volume.

Plea for Mercy to Animals. I.—Claims of the Lower Animals to humane treatment from man. II.—Various forms of needless suffering inflicted by man. III.—Means of prevention, legal and educational. IV.—Vivisection and other experiments on Living Animals. By JAMES MACAULAY, A.M., M.D. Edin. Editor of the *Leisure Hour*. London: Religious Tract Society, 56 Paternoster Row.

We feel confident that no appeal for mercy to the lower animals will be made in vain to Freemasons. Those who make it their chief delight to cultivate all the kindlier feelings of our nature are sure not to confine the practice of human kindness to men only, but will extend their consideration even to the humblest among the lower animals. How can we picture to ourselves a genuine Mason who spends all his days in a state of peace and goodwill with all mankind being otherwise than humane in his treatment of animals. A Mason who could beat unmercifully a horse, or, a dog, or would work the former when ailing, were certainly a paradox. Kindness to our fellow-creatures, must surely include kindness to cats, dogs, horses, and other members of the animal world. Besides, the folk who are not kindly disposed towards animals, are not usually kind towards their fellowmen. Just as we have pointed out that a truly kind man could not maltreat an animal; so, it seems to us, must the converse proposition hold good—that one unkind to animals cannot be a truly kind man towards his fellows. It is, however, becoming more and more recognised every day as a duty we owe to humanity —to place it on no higher ground—that all animals should receive the gentlest treatment at our hands. And with the rapid strides that are being made in educational improvement, we shall soon begin to find a higher and more refined tone of feeling developed among the lower classes of men. Not, indeed, that cruelty towards animals is unknown among educated people, or kindness towards them among the uneducated. But the preponderance of virtue in this, as in all other respects, will be found among the former, and of vice among the latter. Undoubtedly education softens the minds of men, and helps to eradicate the brutality that is innate in them. We must first, therefore, as Dr. Macaulay very properly points out, look to education to aid us in developing a kindlier treatment of animals among all classes. Our next help will be from wise legislative enactment. The idea that we shall succeed in making people either kind or virtuous by Act of Parliament is, of course, ridiculous. But the mere fact that Parliament recognises more stringently than it does now the claims of animals to kind treatment cannot fail to have a general deterrent effect. But Dr. Macaulay is not content with pressing only the above points. He adduces the example of some of the most civilised nations of antiquity in support of his plea. He cites for instance, the case of the Egyptians, among whom very many animals were held sacred, and again that of the Jews, among whom a love for animals was strictly enjoined by the Mosaic law. We are glad, indeed, to find that the author brings forward so gallant an array of reasons in support of his thesis, the justice of which, however, is self-evident. But there are still further reasons, as the author points out. Those animals which are brought more immediately into contact with man possess a very high order of intelligence. The horse, the ass, the dog, the cat, these soon become attached to man, and it is surprising that folk after knowing this to be the case should not be more urgent in pressing their claims for merciful treatment. Yet, as we remarked the other day in relation to Barnet Horse Fair, we invariably find the greatest human brutes associated with the greatest and most intelligent animals, the horse and dog being notable instances in evidence of our assertion. Other grounds are urged, but many of them will probably suggest themselves to the minds of our readers. However, in any case, we commend this *Plea for Mercy to Animals* to their notice in the firm belief that having once read it they will direct their minds towards the attainment of that object which Dr. Macaulay is so strenuously seeking.

We need not dwell longer on the *Plea*. We have shown that it is earnestly written, that it naturally commends itself to all right thinking people, and that in the course of time, the advocacy of such writers as Dr. Macaulay, and the example of such eminent persons as the Baroness Burdett-Coutts and the late Sir Arthur Helps, will certainly be productive of good. Meanwhile, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals deserves our warmest sympathies and support, and we trust it will find itself at no distant date in a position to carry matters with a far higher hand against those brutes in human form, of which the number, even in these highly civilised days, is Legion.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Look to your Health.—Any abrupt change in the weather always causes much disordered action in the human body. It is a matter of primary importance to rectify every irregularity without delay, which it is in the power of every one to do by taking Holloway's Pills. These Pills are the best preventives of indigestion, and the mildest aperients ever prescribed. They purify and cool the blood, and equalise the circulation through the system, even to the minutest vessels of the skin. They act admirably on the liver and kidneys. By these salutary effects many ailments are averted, and more serious illness prevented. Persons subject to bilious attacks, flatulency, gout, rheumatism, and rheumatic gout, will be benefitted by this treatment.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

OUR FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Like your correspondent who signs himself a "Neophyte," I have been hoping that you would continue your articles on the "Archæology of the Craft." I am sure you can throw great light upon this subject, and I am quite certain that a very large body of the brethren are interested in antiquarian researches having for their object the elucidation of obscure beginnings of the Order of Masonry. I have myself devoted some little time to the study of the archæology of Egypt, and I am of opinion that the monuments of that mysterious land will, if carefully studied, throw great light upon the early history of speculative Masonry. You have already directed attention to the fact that the Egyptian Osiris and the Greek Bacchus are one and the same, and this fact, carefully sifted, should afford a clue to matters of the deepest interest. It is well known that the Egyptians excelled in practical Masonry. Their works were the wonder and admiration of the Greeks, in the days when the Greeks had themselves achieved a high degree of skill in the constructive arts. When Manetho wrote his summary of Egyptian Chronology, the wonderful past upon which he expended his learning and skill had become invested with all the characteristics of a hoar antiquity. Egyptology has, in these days, assumed the dignity of a science, and it is possible that we may soon know more of Egypt and its wonderful artificers than was known to Herodotus; at all events, the works of Bunsen and others should afford material for the study of the place which Masonry held in Egyptian social life.

Trusting that you will further elucidate the Masonic past,

I remain, Sir,

Yours fraternally,

London, 23rd September. G. J. L.

DISCIPLINE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Discipline is justly placed in the foremost rank of Masonic qualifications, and, as a rule, irregularities find no place in our procedures. The spirit of loyalty reigns supreme among Craftsmen, and no one ever willingly or knowingly deviates from the path laid down for our guidance in the regulations of the Order. Exceptions do, however, sometimes arise, probably from the fact of carelessness or neglect on the part of some whose business it should be to make themselves perfectly acquainted with the laws of the Constitution. A Worshipful Master, whose position imposes upon him the government of his Lodge, should be sufficiently learned in what may with propriety be termed Masonic Common Law to enable him to check even an approach towards illegality. I have been led to enumerate these trite remarks by a report which has reached me, the authenticity of which I have no reason to question considering the reliable source whence it emanated. A very youthful suburban Lodge, whose name I will for the present forbear to mention, elected a W.M. for the ensuing year, in the usual course. At the next regular meeting the majority refused to confirm the minutes, therefore the W.M. could not be installed. So far the proceedings were right, according to law. Under those circumstances, the existing Master is bound by his obligation not to vacate his position until "the next regular period of election within the Lodge, or until a successor shall have been *duly elected* and installed in his stead." Now, the "next regular period" cannot again occur until after the lapse of twelve months. This our sapient brethren either did not know or

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ignored. Seeing that, without the confirmation of the minutes, the W.M. elect could not be constitutionally installed, they decided upon the anomalous course of proceeding to election *de novo*. I need not point out the irregularity of this act, which I am sure can never be sanctioned by the authorities. I trust the brethren will perceive the error before it is too late to escape the penalties which must of necessity follow should so clear a breach of the laws of the Constitution be persisted in.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

A MASONIC LIST.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I observe a letter in your impression of Saturday, 18th September, we may presume to be written by a member of Lodge Upton, No. 1227, Upton, Essex, in which he advocates the propriety of printing and publishing, not only the names of the officers, but every member of each Lodge, &c.; and, in addition, he suggests that Grand Lodge would sanction such a proceeding.

I venture to say, the brother has had little experience in Freemasonry, or he would never have made the suggestion. I do not know what advantages would arise from such publication, but I do know what it would do in a contrary direction. Itinerant vagabonds, calling themselves Freemasons, and trading upon the liberal and careless members of the Craft, find sufficient means already to extract contributions, till the more prudent brethren have found it necessary to use great caution; and, so far as I have been able to ascertain the custom prevailing here, relief is seldom given without due enquiry, and no one is allowed to give the name of another brother but the one appointed by each Lodge to attend to applicants for relief. By inserting these few hastily written lines, you will greatly oblige a

WEST YORKSHIRE FREEMASON.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W.—According to the Book of Constitutions, no person can be initiated under the sum of five guineas, but many Lodges have lately increased the initiation fee, and also restricted the number of members.

VERAX.—No jewels are permitted to be worn in Grand Lodge, excepting Past Masters', Presentation and Royal Arch, and those only in connexion with the two former degrees.

MARRYING A MASON.

"Had I known you were a Freemason, I should never have married you."

On a snug and well cultivated farm, but not of large extent, in one of the western counties of Western New York, had been erected a cosy and convenient little cottage, yet large enough to answer the present needs of the family which was to occupy it. A much travelled road passed it a few rods in front, leaving abundant room for the display of horticultural taste, which opportunity had been freely improved. The centre was a mass of bloom, gravelled walks conducted to unexpected and half concealed beauties, while a thick forest of the common evergreens, spruce, cedar and pine formed a protecting wall against the freezing blasts of winter, and a screen from the piercing heats of summer.

Around, and in the rear of the residence, were the usual appliances of a thrifty farm, and the neighbourhood gave evident and abundant proof that industry, frugality and taste had regenerated the sterile soil, and that the owners were the masters and not the slaves of labour. To the eastward, through the thick foliage of the evergreens, could be seen the white spire of the one church where nearly every family in the neighbourhood assembled on the Sabbath to worship God, and on an opposite corner of the street had been reared the necessary adjunct of a well governed community—a schoolhouse of such dimensions and used under such regulations as precluded the necessity of any child growing up in ignorance and consequent vice. All the surroundings seemed fitted for engendering pure and salutary influences over those who come within its reach.

The school building, which was of two stories, and of a more pretentious character than most edifices used for that purpose in the country at the period of which we write, had a portion of the space beneath its roof devoted to other matters than

"Teaching the young idea how to shoot."

It was occupied to teach the maturer generation the way of duty—in fact, it was a Masonic Lodge Room. There could have been but little of the anti-Masonic element in the community, else a building erected by a general tax, would hardly have been rented for a purpose which, in that case, must have been obnoxious to a portion of the proprietors. And this little community prospered and were happy, and no element of discord was mixed with the public disposition.

It was into this arcadian paradise that William Walton brought his newly wedded bride. She was a daughter of the Puritans, and self-reliant; a little opinionated, and had been taught that Freemasonry was the source of great evil in the community, and that Freemasons were not very inactive emissaries and worshippers of his "Brimstone Majesty." It may be as well to say that Walton, previous to his migration from Vermont, had largely shared in that opinion; but a few years' residence in New York, where the Fraternity was tolerated, and an acquaintance with many of the active members, convinced him there was much good in the Institution, and just before he set out on his journey to bring to the home he had prepared his wife, he received the degree of Master Mason.

It was only a few days after the happy pair had become settled in their beautiful and love-lighted home, that one of the brethren called, and during the conversation that ensued, casually asked Walton if he would attend the Lodge on the next regular communication. His reply was in the affirmative, when the wife, who was present, arose, and demanded, in a voice hoarse with excitement:

"William Walton, are you a Freemason?"

"I am," was the reply.

"Had I known you were a Freemason, I should never have married you," she fairly screamed, her face livid with anger; and before an answer could be given, she left the room, and retired to her own apartment. Of course the brother apologized on the score of ignorance that his question would introduce an unsettled controversy, and left the husband to smooth the anxieties of the "ragged edge of connubial difficulty" as best he could.

But that task was not so easily performed. The lady uniformly refused to listen to what the culprit had to offer in his own justification, and whenever he undertook that task, either left him alone, or replied so bitterly that it required all his self-command to prevent him from retorting in a similar strain. Thus passed the years. Children were born unto them, acres were added to acres, barns were pulled down that greater ones might be builded, a new and more pretentious house was erected in the evergreen grove; all the evidences of prosperity were about them, and still the controversy on the Masonic question was unsettled, and the stereotyped phrase which stands at the head of this article was often yet repeated.

The family had commanded the respect and esteem of their neighbours; its head had been chosen by his fellow citizens to fill high and honourable places in the public service; he had achieved a reputation for honesty and capability which is possessed by few in this age and country; he was a good husband, a kind father, a trusty public officer, and an honoured man; and still if his wife had known he was a Mason she would never have married him.

A man with an honest principle and purpose, is likely to give too much credit to others for honest, and this frequently leads him to place his confidence and trust where they will be abused and betrayed. Walton had extensive dealings in real estate, "endorsed for a friend" occasionally, but managed to keep things square and easy during his lifetime, though his property was sometimes considerably encumbered with mortgages.

It so happened that business took him to New York City. There was a collision of trains—several were killed, some were desperately wounded, among whom was Walton, and others escaped unhurt. Fraternal hands ministered to his wants, and heeding his request to be taken home to his family, accompanied him, and, as far as human skill could compass that end, relieved him from his sufferings. But it was written that he should die, and soon the Lodge, of which he was a member, was called to pay the last tribute of respect which the living can perform for the dead. As it was the expressed wish of the deceased that he should be buried by the Fraternity, with all the impressive forms and rites of the Order, the widow could scarcely object, however much she felt like doing so, and the burial was performed under the sole auspices of the Lodge.

On examination of the affairs of the estate, they were found to be in a far worse condition than any one had anticipated. The executor was compelled to sell all the real estate except the homestead, and the proceeds of these sales barely were sufficient to pay the legal demands against the estate, including several indorsements amounting to about twenty thousand dollars; leaving the homestead, with a mortgage of two thousand, for the family. The widow, with her family, seemed likely to be turned out upon the cold charity of the world.

The Lodge, however, without consulting her, had determined otherwise. That portion of the homestead which was situated between the house and the river, was laid out in town lots, some of the more wealthy of the members purchased a number of them, and through their influence "Walton's addition" became popular as a place for residences. Real estate in that quarter increased rapidly in value, and in an incredibly short time the mortgages were paid off, and a sum realized in addition sufficiently large to secure a respectable livelihood to the bereaved family.

When the final settlement was accomplished, the executor, who was also Master of the Lodge, as the safest securities with which he was acquainted, invested the surplus in United States Bonds. It was a pleasant day for the Lodge, as well as for the family, when those bonds, representing a sum, the interest of which placed the widow and her children in comfortable and independent circumstances, were reported as the result of the effort to save the homestead, and it would be difficult to say which was most pleased with the successful administration of the estate, but from that day the widow forgot to repeat the old refrain, that had she known her husband was a Mason she never would have married him. But it was soon known to the Craft, she had said privately to some of her intimate friends, that no daughter of hers should marry a man not a member of the Lodge, with her consent, and that her sons should all be Masons if they were found worthy.

We leave the reader to decide when she acted most wisely—when she was sorry she had married a Mason, or when she was desirous that all her children should participate in the benefits of the Institution? and would only say, there are many Mrs. Waltons in the world. —*Voice of Masonry.*

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. MORRAN, 67 Barbican.—*Adet.*

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,

IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By BRO. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



Application for Circulars and for all particulars to be made to the

ROYAL MASONIC INSTALLATION GALLERY COMPANY, 213 REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Fourth Application—October Election, 1875.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is most earnestly solicited on behalf of

RICHARD THOMAS GARDNER, Aged 8 Years.

SON of the late Brother RICHARD RAVENSHAW GARDNER, of 13 Graham Street, Walworth, Surrey, Dancing Master, who died 22nd October 1870, after a long and painful illness, leaving a Widow and Four Children totally unprovided for; his lengthened infirmity having exhausted all previous savings. Brother Gardner was initiated in the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, in 1856, served the several Offices, and passed the Chair of that Lodge, and was generally respected by the numerous Brethren with whom his business brought him in contact.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren, viz:—

Bro. George Kenning P.M. 192, Past Grand Deacon for Middlesex.
Bro. Magnus Ohren P.M. P.Z. 53, P.M. and M.E.Z. 452, G.J. Warden for Surrey; Lower Sydenham, S.E.
Bro. William Hudson P.M. 219, Past Prov. G.J.D. for Sussex, P.Z. 732, P.M. Mark 75; Brighton.
Bro. Nathan Bryant Headon W.M. Great City Lodge, No. 1426; 65 Friday Street, London, E.C.
Bro. James H. Vockins W.M. Sphynx Lodge, No. 1329; 138 Stockwell Road, Brixton, S.
Bro. James Weaver P.M. 902, W.M. 1319, M.E.Z. 862, P.P.G. Organist, Middlesex; 46 Rowland Street, Fitzroy Square, W.
Bro. Charles L. Marshall P.M.; 22 Gloucester Park, Camberwell, S.E.
Bro. Mark Samuel Lathan J.W. 1216; York Street, Walworth, S.E.
Bro. James Freeman 1382, Treasurer 1426; 68 Frisby Street, E.C.
Bro. William S. Webster P.M. 231, P.Z. 21; 17 Ely Place, Holborn, E.C.
Bro. Thomas Moore P.M. 730; High Street, Clapham.
Bro. James Stevens P.M. 33, 720, 1216, 1426, P.Z. 720, M.E.Z. 771, P.G.O. Mark, &c.; 18; Clapham Common, S.W.

Proxies will be thankfully received by Bro. James Stevens, and by the Widow, 13 Graham Street, Walworth, S.E.

MASONIC MARK FESTIVAL AT GRIMSBY,

30th SEPTEMBER 1875.

CONSECRATION of Sutcliffe Lodge, No. 188, for Mark Master Masons, at 11.15 A.M.

FIRST Annual Lincolnshire Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons at 1.15 P.M.

BANQUET at the Town Hall, Grimsby, at 3.15 P.M., Bro. John Sutcliffe, M.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master Mason for Lincolnshire, will preside.

VISITING Brethren from neighbouring Provinces are earnestly invited.

ROBERT GOUGH, *Prov. Grand Sec.*

Garnsby, 8th September 1875.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

THE THEATRES, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN. — PROMENADE CONCERTS, at 8.0, each evening.

DRURY LANE.—At 7, THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN and INTRIGUE.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, AMONG THE BREAKERS, RED TAPE AND FOX AND GOOSE.

LYCEUM.—At 7.0, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY and THE BONNIE FISHWIFE.

PRINCESS'S. — At 8 each evening, Carl Rosa Opera Company.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FAMILY JARS. At 8, THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

STRAND.—At 7.0, RAISING THE WIND, WOODCOCK'S LITTLE GAME and FLAMINGO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD and Mr. GATHERWOOL.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, ACROSS THE CONTINENT, and THE DOGS OF ST. BERNARD.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, TALBOT'S TRUST and THE BRIGANDS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—MONEY.

OPERA COMIQUE.—MY WIFE'S OUT and THE GRAND DUCHESS.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.

PHILHARMONIC.—MACCABE, at 8.0. Last Night.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED. On Tuesday, THE WIFE'S SECRET. On Thursday, FIREWORKS and ILLUMINATION. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, SKATING RINK, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, OPERA, RURAL FETE, ILLUMINATION, &c. On Monday, FORESTER'S FETE, FIREWORKS, &c. On Thursday, OPERA. Open Daily.

POLYTECHNIC.—The CASTAWAY, New Ghost Scenes.—AUSTRALIAN MEATS and How to Cook them.—NEW ZEALAND, OR THE SOUTHERN WONDERLAND. WONDERS OF ACOUSTICS. New Lecture, SEA SIDE SKETCHES. Many other Entertainments. Open [illegible], at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (GARGE) HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, daily at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—BAUMER, and FITZ-RENHARD, daily, at 3.0 and 8.0.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

LATTERLY we have had but little to chronicle of the movements of the Royal family, but this week has been more stirring. The Queen left Balmoral on Tuesday evening, on a visit to His Grace the Duke of Argyll, at Inverary Castle, which was reached shortly after 1 p.m. on Wednesday. The family of the Duke were in attendance to receive Her Majesty, and along the whole route were evidences of the most loyal welcome. The town of Inverary was quite *en fête*, several thousands being assembled, and triumphal arches, illuminations, decorations, and so forth, formed, as usual, the chief outward features which marked the reception. It is the intention of Her Majesty to spend some ten or twelve days with the Duke. Among those present to receive her were the Marquis of Lorne, H.R.H. the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, the Ladies Campbell, daughters, and Lord Colin, the youngest son of the Duke, Lord and Lady Dufferin, the sheriff, and other officials of the county. On Saturday morning the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their children, left Abergeldie for Marlborough House, *en route* to Sandringham, where they will remain till the time arrives for His Royal Highness's departure for India. Wherever the train conveying the Royal party stopped, crowds had assembled, and lustily cheered them. The correspondent of the *Standard*, in describing the journey, declares the Prince and Princess were highly gratified with the loyal demonstrations, while their children "were evidently highly tickled." Is this really a fact, or merely the result of a too active imagination on the part of our contemporary's representative? Fancy the grave indecorum of tickling young princes and princesses. If they tickled themselves, or their parents tickled them, well and good; but if any of the Royal suite or any one else were guilty of such liberties, they have

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committed an act little short of high treason. However, an eminent poet once remarked, and less eminent people have frequently repeated it:—

"One touch of Nature makes the whole world kin."

It is at least a satisfaction to know that the flesh of young princes and princesses is as sensitive as the flesh of ordinary mortals. We hope to hear, however, of no more similar indiscretions at the expense of the Royal boys and girls. But to pass on. The preparations for the Prince of Wales's visit are now nearly complete. The officers and crew of the Serapis have taken up their quarters on board that vessel, which has been thoroughly overhauled and magnificently furnished for the reception of the Prince and his suite. It is expected she will leave harbour forthwith, so as to await His Royal Highness's arrival at Venice, whence he will be conveyed on board by the Royal yacht, Osborne, the draught of the Serapis being too great to allow of any nearer approach to the Queen of the Adriatic than within a distance of seven miles. The arrangements, as thus far made, are, we believe, as follow: The Prince will leave London on the 12th prox. for Paris, reaching Venice the 16th. The Serapis will then proceed to Corfu, or it may be direct to Athens, where the Prince will visit his brother-in-law, King George of Greece. On reaching Ismailia the Prince will disembark for the purpose of visiting Cairo and other places. At Suez he will again embark on the Serapis, and after calling at Aden will reach Bombay, about the 8th November. After a stay in this presidency of some eight or nine days, the Prince will proceed to Calicut, where he will land and visit Mysore. Thereafter he will go to Colombo in Ceylon, where a stay of ten days will be made, in order that His Royal Highness may enjoy some shooting, and visit some of the coffee plantations. A move will then be made to Calcutta, which will be reached a day or two before Christmas day. Visits will be paid to Delhi, Lucknow, and other important cities, and the Prince will gradually work his way back to Bombay, which he is expected to reach by the 17th March, thence returning home by the same route as on the outward journey. It is needless to add that every preparation is being made for the reception of His Royal Highness, and no doubt the visit will have an excellent effect in cementing still closer our grand Indian dependency with the British Crown. We anticipate nothing but good from this visit. The Prince will become known to a part of his future subjects, and will be able to judge also, with his own eyes, of the magnificent resources of our Eastern Empire, so grandly acquired, last century, by the energy and courage of a Merchant Company, and so heroically preserved a few years since by the valour of our troops.

The court of inquiry into the loss of H.M. Ironclad Vanguard is still progressing. A mass of evidence has been given as to the circumstances under which the collision occurred, and the second part of the inquiry has been entered upon, namely, as to what happened after the collision had taken place. Thus we anticipate that no long time will elapse before the court will deliver its opinion as to the conduct of the officers and men now on their trial. As to the loss of the Edith, which was run down some time since on the Mersey by the steamer, Duke of Sutherland, the verdict is that the collision was accidental, but a rider is appended that the captain of the latter vessel committed an error in judgment in steaming into port at such a speed when he knew another steamer was outward bound. The loss of the Mistletoe is still on the carpet, and much misconception appears to have arisen in connection with a letter written to Lord Exeter by the Queen's command, in which the wish is expressed that yachts should give Her Majesty plenty of sea-room. When crossing the Solent we see no reason why Her Majesty's wishes should not receive the most respectful attention. She has a right to move freely about from one residence to another without being pressed too closely by the over curious. We do not imply by this that the owner of the unfortunate Mistletoe exhibited any such curiosity, for in his evidence he most emphatically disclaimed any such idea, but all yachtsmen are not as courteous and considerate as Mr. Heywood. We note with pleasure that the families of the captain and mate of his yacht have not been lost sight of by the Queen, who has right royally placed certain moneys at their disposal, while the Lords of the Admiralty have taken the cases into their consideration, and, under the circumstances, have awarded gratuities to the captain's widow of £500, and to the mate's of £400. Their lordships, however, require that guarantees shall first be given that no claims whatever will be made on H.M. Government for compensation in connection with the recent accident.

We never knew of an excursion season passing without a multitude of accidents. We presume they are inevitable, yet some half-dozen occurring at or about the same time is rather more than we have a right to expect. But, considering the multitude of what Mrs. Partington has described as "exertionists," we have no reason to be surprised at the number of casualties occurring from time to time. People will travel, and points and signals and railway officials have a knack of getting out of order or doing the wrong thing at dangerous conjunctures. Perhaps we must congratulate ourselves the accidents are so few.

Cricket is all but over, and very soon football will reign in its stead, when we shall read of little else but "hots," and "scrummages" "punts out" and "touches down," three-quarters, half, and quarter-backs" and so forth. Meanwhile we note that Mr. W. G. Grace has just achieved his highest score this season—210, but with one or two chances in its manipulation. This was against eighteen of the Hastings District, who, though a strong team, appear to have made little stand against the United South Eleven, opposed to them. Two other extraordinary feats have been accomplished. One Perkins has walked eight miles in fifty-five seconds under the hour. We have no intention of challenging Perkins in pedestrianism, unless, perchance, he will consent to give us a five miles' start, in which case we fancy we might contrive to hold our own. In the other case, a Mr. John Alcock, of the Oxford Tavern, Macclesfield, backed himself to walk backwards from that town to Buxton, a distance of twelve miles, within three hours. The task was accomplished with sixteen minutes to spare. This almost beats "that sprightly Scot of Scots, Douglas, that run o' horseback up a hill perpendicular." Soon we shall have people running upside-down, and hanging on by their eyelids to the ceiling. Truly a topsy-turvy world this!

There have been the usual attractions during the week at Alexandra Palace, but the weather somewhat interfered with the display of fireworks on Tuesday. The Carl Rosa Company, however, have been highly successful with their English Opera. On Thursday the Christy's Minstrels made their last appearance at the Palace this season, and to-day, if the weather proves fine, there will doubtless be a considerable gathering to hear *Faust*. On Monday a special programme has been prepared for the annual fête of the Foresters, which will conclude with a grand pyrotechnic display, illuminations, &c. The chief event, at the Crystal Palace, has been the Exhibition of Bees, under the auspices of the Bee-keepers' Association. In the musical world there have been two important annual festivals held—that of Norwich, and that of the Three Choirs at Worcester. The former has proved a grand success, but the latter has been less satisfactorily attended than usual, as the festival has been shorn of some of its greatest attractions

Our friend from the neighbourhood of Colney Hatch is quite proud that we exposed one of his eccentricities last week; so proud, indeed, that he has honoured us with another specimen of his mental weakness. He writes, *Il y a, en Angleterre, deux Angots—l'Angot qu'on chante, et l'Angot qu'on adore*. Madame Angot has certainly achieved greatness in this country; this is indisputable, and ingots are not to be sneezed at; yet we tremble for the consequences if our correspondent is permitted to continue his wild career unchecked. Heaven knows what will befal him if he does not soon pull up and repent him of his evil ways.

Another of our numerous correspondents has asked us to describe the difference between "organic" and "inorganic" matter. We confess we feel a little nervous about the answer we shall give him. We are not a little unscientific in our ideas—we say it with much sorrow. We can only hazard an answer, but this, we can only hope, will prove not unacceptable. We consider "organic matter" is harmony gone mad, while "inorganic" is the barrel and other apparatus which provides the discord.

The sea-serpent has made its appearance again, not, however, in the sea—so far as our knowledge goes, but in the columns of the *Daily Telegraph*. We presume our contemporary has been less successful than usual in procuring a seasonably big gooseberry, and, in default, has fallen back upon this ancient mariner or monster, whichever he may be. One of our contemporary's correspondents, it seems, in his eagerness to lasso one of these serpents, only some eighty or ninety feet long, managed, in his excitement, to overbalance himself, and went head over heels into the sea within easy

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reach of the serpent. But the latter was frightened, dived some few hundred fathoms, and reappeared shortly after, but quite out of sight of the frightened sailor, who thought his last moment had come. We have never seen a sea-serpent, and have no desire to cultivate his acquaintance. We are not quite sure if we know what he is like. Is he an *eel*-longated kind of a brute?

We cannot say we altogether sympathise with the ill-used letter "H." To us it seems a very wilful kind of letter. It slips away when its presence is necessary, and turns up again at most inconvenient times, just when it ought to keep out of the way. A cockney, for instance, a most intelligent sort of fellow, is quite willing to lend a *hand* to any friend in difficulty. But letter "H.," meanwhile, has worked himself into a fit of obstinacy, and the result is that our friend the cockney is only able to lend a *'and*, a mere conjunctive particle, of no use whatever by itself, but only as conjoining two things or persons together. Another intelligent cockney, who is a great admirer of landscapes, thinks Muswell *Hill* and the neighbouring palace is "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever." Unfortunately, letter "H.," however, is again obstinate, and Muswell *Hill* degenerates into a mere Muswell *'ill*, which, if we remember rightly, is one of those nasty uncomfortable little things which all human flesh is heir to. This is not paying Muswell Hill a very great compliment. Of the perverse conduct of letter "H." we had a most extraordinary illustration the other day. Two friends, or acquaintances, were in the same compartment of a carriage on the Great Northern Railway. A difference of opinion arose between them as to which of the two, Crouch Hill Station, or Crouch End Station, was on the Great Northern, which on the Midland line. The question was authoritatively solved thus: "Crouch *Head*" is on the Northern, "Crouch *'ill*" on the Midland. We had previously been suffering from a mild attack of dyspepsia, but the information was so good that we forgot at once all our *ail*ments, and spent the rest of the journey in little else than chuckling and grinning over the improper uses to which "H." is weak enough to lend its countenance. "H." has, in fact, been hanging ever since in the passage between guttural and pectoral. In other words, it has been obstinately sticking in our throats, and we know not when we shall get rid of it.

The latest illustration we have heard of the familiar saying about adding insult to injury was brought, a few days since, under our notice by a friend of ours who is on the staff of a contemporary. Paying an early visit, one morning, to the printer's, for the purpose of handing in more copy, he was met by the manager of the composing department, who, with a hesitation that may have been natural, but which was certainly considerate under the circumstances, remarked, "Mr. ——, the first sheet of your last copy was simply dreadful. It was blotted, and all that, and none of us could make head or tail of it." "Ah," said Mr. —— in reply, "I admit that was a most picturesque study, but this"—writter, if possible, at least a thousand times worse—"is simply beautiful." Mr. Manager, on looking at the said copy, at once subsided into tears, but whether of rage or sympathy our informant deponed not.

We hear of a very heavy storm having recently visited Texas, and caused serious loss, both of life and property, especially at Galveston. Elsewhere, similar disasters have happened, and we hear that notice has been given at our various ports that the approaching equinoctial gales may be expected to prove of greater severity than usual. So, say we, look out for squalls. If we were nautically given we should offer further advice as to "furling taupsails and foretaupsails, &c., &c., but we are ashamed to say we are not, so our readers must look out for themselves. Let them study one of Marryatt's sea novels—*Peter Simple*, for instance—they will find all the needful technical terms, and far more than they will probably understand.

Foreign news, as the saying is, is "pretty much of a muchness." That is to say, the telegrams we read yesterday will probably hold good for nearly every day in the week. From Bosnia and the Herzegovnia we still hear of Turks being mutilated and Turkish dwellings burnt to the ground. The valiant upholders of liberty seem, at their best, to be merely a parcel of marauding ruffians, gathered together from the four winds of heaven—wild, unruly people, who know about as much of true liberty as we do of Chinese, and whose sole delight is to take part in every disturbance that breaks out, provided only it be an uprising against legitimate authority. We hope the Turks, who are gentlemen at all events, even though they may conduct their government in a manner different from what we are accustomed to at home, will make short work of these disturbers of the public peace. We are not very blood-thirsty, but we think the world would get on better if the ruffian classes were less considerable in numbers. From Vienna we learn that the Empress of Austria is progressing favourably, after her late severe accident, and there is every prospect of her complete and immediate restoration to health! As to the Emperor of Germany, he is making a rare progress through his dominions, being received everywhere with the greatest enthusiasm. It seems also settled that His Imperial Majesty will visit King Victor Emanuel early next month. No doubt Kaiser Wilhelm will meet with a magnificent reception, and justly, too. Is not the complete consolidation of the Italian kingdom, by the acquirement of Venice, and subsequently of Rome, due to his alliance with the Italian monarch. Italy is not likely to forget these services, and will, no doubt, welcome her late ally and present friend with effusive loyalty. In France the usual military manœuvres have been taking place in various parts of the country. The war in Spain is still being pursued with considerable energy on the part of the Alphonsists. Some eight hundred Carlists having crossed the French frontier have been interned. This, of course, means the deduction of a considerable strength from the already weaker side. We care not how soon this struggle is brought to an end, though, as regards Spain itself, it seems to us a simple case, which of the twain shall be king over her, King Log or King Stork. From Copenhagen we hear H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, with his wife, have reached and left Copenhagen on their return to England, while his brother, the Duke of Connaught, who has been appointed on the staff at Gibraltar, will shortly take up his appointment in that garrison.

The members of the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, which meets at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, will work the fifteen sections on Thursday, 30th September, at seven o'clock p.m. precisely. Bro. Mander, W.M. 1201, will preside, and the following brethren will assist:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section by	Bro. A. C. Barrell	... ...	... P.M. No. 1446
2nd "	" Bro. Harrison ...	... ...	... No. 180
3rd "	" Bro. A. Cameron	... ...	... P.M. No. 180
4th "	" Bro. D. M. Belfrage	... ...	... D.C. No. 179
5th "	" Bro. J. H. Watts	... ...	... S.W. No. 1201
6th "	" Bro. J. Wheeler	... ...	... No. 1446
7th "	" Bro. T. Call ...	... ...	... I.G. No. 1446

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section by	Bro. B. H. Swallow	... ...	... P.M. No. 382
2nd "	" Bro. J. W. Wright	... ...	... S.W. No. 1298
3rd "	" Bro. T. H. Pulsford	... ...	... P.M. No. 1158
4th "	" Bro. W. S. Lee ...	... ...	... No. 1201
5th "	" Bro. A. Bachr ...	... ...	... No. 1446

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section by	Bro. E. J. Scott...	... ...	... P.M. No. 749
2nd "	" Bro. W. C. Parsons	... ...	... W.M. No. 180
3rd "	" Bro. E. Farwig ...	... ...	... W.S. No. 180

Madame Patti (Marquise de Caux) and the Marquis arrived in Brighton on Friday, and were met at the railway station by the Mayor, Bro. Alderman Brigden, the Mayoress, Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows, Bro. Kuhe, Mrs. Kuhe, Bro. George Reeves Smith, &c. They proceeded to the Norfolk Hotel, and at half-past ten in the evening Bro. Devin's band played some very excellent pieces. At the conclusion, Madame Patti sent for Bro. Devin, and complimented him on the performance, and the taste displayed by him in the pieces selected. Bro. Kuhe may be congratulated on the success of his first subscription concert. The elite of Brighton filled every available seat. Madame Patti's singing was faultless, and she was presented with a very splendid bouquet by Miss Harriet Young, and another by the Mayor. Madame Campobello Sinico also received a deserved share of applause. Madame Castellan played artistically on the violin. Signors Ciro and Campobello sang several songs with great effect. Bro. Kuhe's appearance was a signal for loud and prolonged cheering. The second concert takes place on the 27th, when Madame Albani, in conjunction with Madame and Bro. Patey, will appear. On Saturday, despite the

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counter attractions, the Aquarium was crowded, the opera recitals being a great attraction. In the morning the Bohemian Girl was the selection, supported by Bro. Geo. Perren, Miss Blanche Terri (soprano), Miss Palmer (contralto), and Geo. Fox (basso). The evening concert was also well attended, Wallace's opera of Lurline proving equally attractive.

The Prospectus has been issued of the Briton Life Association, which is formed for the creation of a "new series" of the Briton Medical and General Life Association on a perfectly independent basis, and entirely free from any of the existing liabilities or engagements of the parent institution. The capital required is £500,000 in £1 shares, of which 100,000 are now offered to the public. Shareholders will receive an annual interest of 5 per cent., payable half-yearly, in addition to 20 per cent. of the net divisible profits. In the ten years ended the 31st December 1873, the New Annual Premiums of the old Society amounted to an average of £21,698 per annum; hence the prospects of the new Company, which has been formed in connection with the 2,000 old established agencies, are unusually encouraging.

The Peckham Lodge, No. 1475, will hold its future meetings at the New Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road.

Bro. Henry Samuel is a candidate for the vacancy created in the Ward of Castle Baynard by the resignation of Alderman Sir Sills John Gibbons, Bart. Bro. S. C. Hadley P.A.G.D.C. is also a candidate, and from the numerously signed requisition he has received, has a probable chance of success.

Grand Lodge has voted to our worthy Bro. Superintendent James Mott the Steward's Jewel, as a testimonial for the services rendered by him at the Installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M.

A military Lodge, that had hitherto held its meetings in the Garrison at Chatham, has been ordered in future to discontinue doing so.

A new drama, entitled *Olive Branch*, by Paul Merritt, Esq., preceded by *Who Speaks First*, and concluding with *A Bank Holiday*, has been drawing good houses during the week at Bro. Nye Chart's Theatre Royal, Brighton.

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	739	58,922	57,786
Glasgow and South Western	815½	18,747	18,469
Great Eastern	763	54,114	51,859
Great Northern	523	69,246	67,890
Great Western	1,534	117,818	113,309
Lancashire and Yorkshire	480	69,702	66,362
London and Brighton	376½	40,303	36,668
London, Chatham and Dover	158½	25,124	22,866
London and North Western	1,580	189,514	186,809
London and South Western	620½	45,612	41,071
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,577	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	36,185	34,437
Midland	975½	120,668	115,533
Metropolitan	8	8,712	8,077
" " District	8	4,307	3,967
" " St. John's Wood	1½	397	376
North British	844½	44,727	42,293
North Eastern	1,400½	136,616	138,484
North London	12	7,162	6,742
North Staffordshire Railway	191	11,199	10,348
" " Canal	118	1,667	1,630
South Eastern	350	46,017	41,712

The Medical Times, in alluding to Felice and Sons' "Specialité" Sherry, states, it is "A very pleasant light wine, with no heat; a real vinous flavour, which, unlike that of the majority of Sherries at low prices, leaves an impression on the palate of belonging to a real wine. * * * * It is exceedingly pleasant to the eye; the taste is soft, round, and not acid; the flavour is vinous and dry, without any suggestion of artificial bitterness. We have no doubt that as a moderately stimulating accessory to the meal of a patient suffering from a tonic dyspepsia it would be valuable."

THE LATE COUNTESS OF CARNARVON.

The granite and marble tomb of the late lamented Countess of Carnarvon has just been completed, and presents a very chaste and massive appearance. It is situated at the west end of the mortuary chapel in the cemetery in Highclere Park, near Newbury. The monument is composed of axed Peterhead granite, with a fine polished grey granite kerb. Within this is an open space for flowers; and in the centre is a slab of red Aberdeen granite, surmounted by a cross of white Sicilian marble. The red slab is splayed, and has the following inscription cut in raised letters on a rusticated ground:—"Evelyn Georgina Katherine, wife of Henry, fourth Earl of Carnarvon, Born, 3rd November 1834, Died, 25th January 1875." On the plinth of the red granite slab is the following inscription:—"We asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest her a long life, even for ever and ever." The monument was designed by Mr. T. H. Wyatt, architect. —*Standard*.

FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

The District Grand Lodge of Bengal has appointed a committee, under the resolution passed on the 24th June 1875, which has for its object the building and maintaining a Masonic hall worthy of the Freemasons of Bengal and of the capital of India. The committee met at the Freemasons' Hall in Bentinck-street, Calcutta, on the 3rd July last, and the whole of the necessary resolutions were passed to carry out the scheme for the building of the new Masonic Temple. A company has been created, and is called "The Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Company," with a capital of 1,50,000 rs., divided into 100 rs. each, bearing interest at 6 per cent., and the necessary officers and directors have been appointed. The site for the new Temple has been fully determined upon, and nothing remains but the completion of the list of shareholders, which already numbers 150. There are still some 500 shares at the disposal of the committee, and it is hoped some of the Craft in this country may feel disposed to assist the undertaking. It is anticipated that everything will be in readiness for the commencement of the building during the visit of the Prince of Wales to India, and that a very forcible appeal will be made to his Royal Highness to lay the foundation stone himself.—*Daily News*.

SEWAGE.—Sewage consists of the entire water-supply of our towns after it has been used for domestic purposes, of the excreta of man and animals, of the rainfall of the town area, and of earthy matter washed and worn from the streets. It contains valuable fertilising matter in an extremely dilute condition. This can be demonstrated by analysis, and many eminent chemists having examined town sewage at various times, have given us a tolerably accurate idea of its composition. Phosphoric acid, nitrogen, and potash, are the three principal ingredients of agricultural importance. These substances can be purchased in the form of guano, "superphosphates," potash salts, and other manures; and since these substances are marketable, an estimate can readily be formed as to the cheapest rate at which they may be obtained. Thus, it may be shown that ammonia may be purchased in the form of some manurial substance at the rate of, say, £20 per ton. Hence, a commercial value may be attached to the three substances above mentioned, and by finding the proportion in which they exist in town sewage, an estimate may be formed as to its value. It is needless here to enter further into detail, and it is sufficient to state that the value of sewage, calculated upon purely chemical grounds is 1·8d per ton, varying, of course, according to season and other conditions. The result of sewage irrigation agrees closely with this estimate, being more usually below than above it.—From "*Cassell's Technical Educator*" for September.

A FAMINE INCIDENT.—Just about the time Lord Dufferin came of age a dreadful famine broke out in Ireland, and he and a friend, the Hon. Mr. Boyle, went over to Skibbereen together to see for themselves the actual condition of the people, and to devise what schemes they could for their assistance. They published, under their joint names, a brief history of their journey; and the profits arising from the sale of the book were devoted to the relief of the sufferers. The amount of good effected by the journey could, however, be scarcely measured by the monetary product of this little work, which did much to awaken the attention of the general public to the terrible condition of things that prevailed in the district described, and to incite them to assist in ameliorating it. The narrative is written in a very broad, plain, straightforward way, and is thoroughly matter-of-fact. There is no attempt made at effect. The facts are left to speak for themselves, and the result is a narrative of singular pathos and vigour. One part of the story is remarkably affecting in its simplicity. It relates how the two generous young fellows bought a huge basket of bread for distribution among the starving populace, and how they were besieged when the fact of this provision was made known. Something like an orderly distribution was attempted, but the dreadful hunger and impatience of the poor wretches by whom the donors were surrounded rendered this absolutely impossible, and the bread was thrown out to the crowd, loaf by loaf, from a window. It seems that there was nothing better to be done; but the struggles of the famished women, over what was after all but a very indifferent supply, were dreadful to witness. When Lord Dufferin and his companion left the town, the vehicle in which they rode was impeded by the crowds which followed, invoking blessings and praying for further relief.—From "*Cassell's National Portrait Gallery*" for September.

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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.

—:o:—

MONDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
177—Hope and Charity, Lion Hotel, High-street, Kidderminster.
909—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER.

200—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford, Kent.
573—Perseverance, Shenstone House, Hales Owen, Worcester.
1228—Beaucourse, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1303—Hamer, 92 Everton-road, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER.

186—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
187—Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
603—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
996—Bendix, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.

THURSDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

29—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Fore-street-hill, Exeter.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
906—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
1126—Oakwood, Stockdove Inn, Romily, Cheshire.
R. A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.

FRIDAY, 1st OCTOBER.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

41—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
242—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.
601—St. John's, Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Salop.
709—Invicta, Corn Exchange, Queen-street, Ashford.
1032—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester.
1333—Athelstan, Town Hall, Athelstone, Warwickshire.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—124—Serpentick, Masonic Hall, Banbridge, Co. Down.
" 186—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
FRIDAY—87—Hiram's, Masonic Hall, Arthur-square, Belfast.
" 110—Kilrea, Kilrea, Co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 228—Gorey, Gorey.
" 691—St. John's, Town Hall, Enniskillen.

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—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

SATURDAY—R.A. 143—Robert Burns, Masonic Hall, Hollytown.
MONDAY—219—Star, 12 Trongate.
" 362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.
" 541—Marie Stuart, Prince of Wales's-terrace, Crosshill.
" R.A. 122—Thetis, 35 St. James-street.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
" R.A. 67—Cathedral, 22 Struthers-street.
" R.A. 73—Caledonian of Unity, 170 Buchanan-street.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 553—St. Vincent, 162 Kent-road.
FRIDAY—275—Shamrock and Thistle, 22 Struthers-street.
" 116—Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 512—Thornlee, Thornliebank.
" 175—Greenock St. John's, St. John's Hall, Greenock.
" 459—Kelburne, Cumbrae Hotel, Millport.
SATURDAY—28—St. John Kilwig, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
" 458—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Busby.
" 544—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Coatbridge.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—The above Lodge met at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules, Leadenhall-street, E.C., on Thursday last, 23rd September. Present—Bros. Hocking W.M., Brown S.W., Fraser J.W., C. A. Grammer Hon. Secretary, Hollands S.D., Webb J.D., Ellis I.G., Austin P.M. Preceptor, and numerous other brethren. The first and second ceremonies were worked by Bro. Hocking, and the third ceremony by Bro. Brient. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony. The fifteen sections will be worked in this Lodge of Instruction on the fourth Thursday in October, when it is hoped that there will be a full attendance of brethren.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, the 20th of September, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, St. John's-square. Present: Bros. Tolmie W.M., Read S.W., Walker J.W., Killick Secretary, Lake S.D., Crawley J.D., Robinson I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Master Bro. Beckett, Preceptor, and a full meeting of the members. Business—Lodge opened in the usual manner, and the minutes of previous meeting confirmed. The W.M. worked the third ceremony, with traditional history, and raised Bro. Saul to the degree of M.M. The W.M. worked the 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the third Lecture, Bro. Beckett dictating the answers. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the next ensuing meeting. The revised bye-laws will be finally considered at the next meeting, and the fifteen sections worked on the 4th of October proximo.

Industry Lodge, No. 129.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Thursday, the 16th inst., at Graydon's Hotel Masonic Rooms. Present—Bros. Thomas Hyacinthe Dickson W.M., Charles E. Eccles S.W., Capt. James Nias Croke J.W., Capt. R. W. M. Jenkins Secretary, Francis Fawcett Treasurer, Hyacinthe Dickson S.D., Doctor Wm. Erwin J.D., John Reynold Dickson D.C., W. A. Graydon Steward, Richard Hamilton I.G., Patrick Morrow Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. W. Dickson I.P.M. and Johnstone. Visitors—Bros Wilson, Kennedy and Henry Burton. Business—To ballot for and if approved initiate Mr. Michael Drummond. The ballot was unanimous, and consequently Mr. Drummond, Barrister-at-Law, was initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry by Bro. J. Reynolds Dickson P.M.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 186.—The usual place of meeting of this Lodge, being occupied for that night by the Royal Alfred Chapter, the brethren adjourned to Cannon-street Hotel, on Wednesday last. Bro. J. P. Cohen occupied the chair. The proceedings commenced with the usual preliminaries, after which the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of the first degree, Bro. Ockenden acting as candidate. Bro. Cohen is only a Mason of scarcely three years' standing, yet displayed abilities in the performance of his duties which many might reasonably envy, for he showed a perfect acquaintance with every detail of the ritual, which he delivered with remarkable ease and intelligence. Bro. John Constable next worked the ceremony of Installation. It would be superfluous to comment upon that brother's performance. All who know him are aware that whatever he undertakes he does thoroughly and well. The brethren expressed their appreciation of the services of Bros. Cohen and Constable by an unanimous vote of thanks, which was duly recorded in the Lodge book. A curious incident occurred in the course of the evening. A French Brother, whose credentials show him to be the present Master of the Lodge of Ceremony at Brussels, presented himself, and after proving his acquaintance with the necessary etceterns of an Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft, flatly refused to proceed to the third degree, on the plea of his not being sure that we are assembled as a regular Lodge, he perceiving a want of the usual regalia, &c. In vain was it explained to him that we had only met as a school of instruction. The French eloquence of the whole assembly (which, by the way, appeared extremely limited) was employed in the endeavour to convince him that under the circumstances he could not be permitted to remain in the room, and, still continuing stubborn, he was politely but firmly requested to retire. As soon, however, as it became clear to his comprehension what was required of him, he made his exit, with profuse bows, hand shakings and expressions of fraternal goodwill, his impression all the time remaining unaltered that we had met as an irregular Lodge. The officers present were Bros. Ayton S.W., D. Posener J.W., Abell J.D., J. Levy I.G., J. K. Pitt Hon. Sec., J. Constable P.M. Hon. Treasurer, E. Gottheil P.M. Preceptor, Past Master Bloomfield, Hickman W.M. 180, John Rose W.M. 185, and a number of brethren.

Union Lodge, No. 332.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 20th inst., at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. J. McNair R.W.M., J. Gilles S.W., J. Jackson J.W. P.M.'s Bros. R. Mitchell and Belfour. Visitors—Bros. Grange No. 3 Bis, G. Wheeler No. 73, J. J. Duthie P.M. No. 362. A considerable amount of business relative to the future prospects of the Lodge was discussed and amicably disposed of.

Probity and Freedom Lodge, No. 367.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Bull's Head Hotel, Smallbridge. Present—Bros. John James Ashworth W.M., W. Schofield S.W., W. Beswicke Secretary, C. M. Jones P.M. and Treasurer, W. J. Kinder S.D., A. T. Shore J.D., J. Midgley Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. England and Rigg. Business—The Lodge was opened at 7.30 p.m. in due form by the Worshipful Master. The minutes of last regular meeting having been read, were declared correctly recorded. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Henry Ashworth, and it being favourable, he was regularly initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Jones P.M. Bro. Swift was passed to the second degree by Bro. Davies P.M. The Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 9.30 p.m. The brethren and visitors then sat down to a substantial banquet.

Socrates Lodge, No. 373.—The installation meeting was held at the George Hotel, Huntingdon, on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., and was made the occasion of presenting a testimonial to Bro. J. Marsom, P.P.G.S.W., P.G.D.C., P.M. 373, in recognition of his valuable services as Secretary of the Lodge. Beside the officers and six Past Masters, the brethren assembled in great force, to witness the installation ceremony and to do due honour to their much esteemed Secretary, who, while accepting an oak cabinet and a Masonic jewel, appropriated the sum of £25 (being the cash portion of the testimonial) to the Masonic Charities. As Bro. J. Marsom is a Provincial Grand Officer this generous act must secure him an increased fraternal regard beyond the limits of this Lodge.

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St. Vincent Lodge, No. 553.—The first visitation of this season took place on Thursday, the 16th September, when Bro. F. A. Barrow D.P.G.M. acting P.G. Master was accompanied to the St. Vincent Lodge by the following P.G. Officers:—A. McTagarth, M.A., P.G.S., J. Walker P.G.T., J. Gelles P.G.S.D., G. Thallon P.G.J.D., J. Fraser P.G.A.M., J. Balfour P.G.D.C., Wm. Phillis P.G.S.B., J. Sinclair Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund, and J. B. Hardie P.G. Tyler. The Lodge having been previously opened by Bros. R. McDougal P.W.M., assisted by D. Stark S.W., J. Best J.W., R. Cleland T., J. Halley S., R. Stevens S.D., J. Clayson J.D., and J. Cullis I.G., the provincial deputation were received with all the honours of the St. Vincent Lodge, and a number of visitors were present. The P.G.S. then read the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge relative to the examination of the books, and made a few comments thereon. The D.P.G.M. rose, and said, As this is only a young Lodge, and it is our first official visit of inspection, we wish to show the brethren that, at any rate in this province, visitations are not mere matters of ceremony at which the members of Provincial Grand Lodge may appear in their official clothing for the purpose of receiving honour at the hands of the rest of the brethren, but to practically test the working of the Lodge, to overhaul their books, and see that they were kept correct, and their expenditure properly vouched. He had felt a great interest in the establishment of this Lodge, as he had long thought a west end Lodge was wanted in that locality, and he was glad to find, from their books, that though scarcely twelve months since he was in that hall to consecrate the Lodge they had initiated 76 gentlemen. He would advise them to raise their fees, and be sure of the quality of the materials they were bringing up for the building. He thought, from the sample before him, they had been doing so, but it was always wise to give a word of caution. He also trusted they would be very careful with their books; the P.G.S. had detected a slight inaccuracy, and called attention to it. No doubt it was susceptible of explanation, but he mentioned that the young Masons who constituted the Lodge might have greater confidence by seeing that even if there was any little error committed by their Secretary there was a supreme body who would be sure to detect it; altogether he must highly congratulate them on the progress they had made as a Lodge. The R.W.M. said he was pleased to hear these encomiums from the acting P.G.M. who had already proved a good friend to them at the time when they obtained their charter. The slight error they had noticed had arisen from two causes, the neglect of the Grand Lodge to send them a roll book at first, and the vast amount of labour involved upon the young Secretary; few could say they had time to fetch up the account for 76 entries in so short a time. He was determined, with the aid of the members, to get a better hall in which to meet—this was only a temporary place. The fees, as suggested, should then be raised, and by this time next year he trusted to be second to none in the province in any respect. The P.G.M. having expressed his satisfaction with the explanation given, the deputation then retired. The Deputy Master, Bro. Stark, then initiated six gentlemen into the Order. After this amount of labour the J.W. took charge, and a very substantial supper was served, about 40 of the brethren, who remained, spending a few hours in harmony, the geniality of the R.W.M. putting all at their ease. The Lodge was again resumed, and then closed in due form.

Star in the East Lodge, No. 650.—There was a large muster of the Brethren of this Lodge on the 13th inst., to witness the installation of Bro. Geo. Gard Pye, of Dovercourt and Colchester, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed in a very able and impressive manner by the V.W. Bro. Chas. J. Martyn P.G. Chaplain England. At its close the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follow:—Bros. J. Durrant I.P.M. and D.C., J. Doulop S.W., S. Dutton jun. J.W., S. Dutton sen. Secretary and Treasurer, J. Cartlidge S.D., W. Axenham J.D., S. J. Newton I.G., W. Downs and G. A. Smith Stewards, and R. Barlow Tyler. The Brethren afterwards sat down to a sumptuous banquet at the Pier Hotel, the catering of Bro. Brice giving great satisfaction. During the evening the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily drunk, and the proceedings passed off most successfully. Among the Brethren present, in Lodge or at the banquet, besides those already mentioned, were the R.W. Bro. Matthew E. Clark D.P.G.M. Essex, Bro. John Wright Carr P.G. Secretary, Bros. A. Welch W.M., T. J. Ralling Secretary, J. J. C. Turner Organist, J. Hasly I.G., E. Hannemeyer, T. A. Middleton, T. Rix, A. R. Staines and C. Gunner, Tyler of Angel Lodge, No. 51, W. Rivers P.M. 74, A. Tennant No. 158, late 178, W. Westgate P.P.G.D.C. Suffolk, F. Wright 213, 697, and 1,500, A. E. Clench W.M., T. Eustace P.M. S.W., H. Everett, T. Downing and W. G. Siggers, of No. 697, W. Richey P.M. 700, W. F. Laxton P.P.G.S.D. Middlesex, P.M. 1,238, and the following members of No. 650:—Bros. J. W. C. Butcher P.M., R. T. Dickson P.M., W. O. Ward P.M., S. H. Wymark P.M., C. F. J. Barker, W. Walker, S. J. Newton, J. Warren, Charles Lucas, J. H. Robinson, T. W. Naylor, R. Guy, W. Nickerson and G. L. Jackson. Letters expressive of regret at their inability to attend were received from the R.W. Bro. R. J. Bagshawe P.G.M., the R.W. Bro. R. Bolton Barton LL.D., P.P.G.M. Western India, &c.

Yarborough Lodge, No. 811.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 18th, at the Masonic Rooms, Pavilion, Brighton, Bros. Rev. Dr. O'Brien W.M., Rev. Edward Walker S.W., M. B. Tanner Treasurer, G. De Paris Secretary, and Past Masters Bro. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., P.P.G.M. Isle of Wight, C. Horsley P.P.G.R. Middlesex, Wood P.G.S.B., P.P.G.W. Sussex, Cunningham, P.P.G.S.W. Sussex, and Bro. Aldermen Abbey, the future Mayor of Brighton. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed, Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B. of the Grand Lodge of England, P.P.D.G.M. for the Isle of Wight, then occupied the chair, and a Board of Installed Masters was formed. Bro. Rev. Ed. Walker, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented to the Lodge, and Bro. Hyde Pullen installed him into the chair in a very perfect and impressive manner. The W.M. having been saluted, invested his officers. At the conclusion of the ceremony the newly installed W.M. requested Bro. Charles Horsley P.M. to present Bro. Hyde Pullen P.M., in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant gold jewel, with suitable inscription, in recognition of the services rendered to the Lodge; Bro. C. Horsley, in the course of his remarks said, he hoped he might live long to enjoy it, as he was one the Lodge was proud of, and the unanimous manner the jewel was voted was a proof how he was appreciated and respected (cheers). Bro. Hyde Pullen then returned thanks, and said he felt proud of the honour shewn him; he had already received so many acts of kindness from every Bro. in the Lodge that he felt additional pride in receiving the jewel. He had at a very early period been associated in the formation of the Lodge, in conjunction with Bro. Wood, and he was pleased to say that their exertions were crowned with success (cheers). Bro. Chalk, a son of an old and respected P.M. of the Lodge, was then proposed as a joining member. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, at the banqueting hall. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Hyde Pullen returned thanks for the toast of the Grand Officers, and Bro. Wood, P.P.G.W. Sussex, responded to the toast of the R.W. Lord Pelham P.G.M. Sussex, and the rest of the Grand Officers; Bro. Major Clark P.P.G.W. returned thanks for the toast of the Visitors—who were Bros. B. Turner P.G.D. and Pros Grand Master for Sussex, Dixon P.P.G.D. Sussex, and S. Rosenthal P.P.G.W. Middlesex, &c. The toasts of the W.M., Wardens and Officers were given, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable and harmonious evening.

The Dramatic Lodge, Glasgow.—This new Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 15th September, at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Dobson W.M., H. C. Jackman S.W., J. Seevewright J.W. There was a goodly number of visitors. Business—The initiation of a candidate, which was performed in a superior manner by Bro. Dobson. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Jackman S.W. presented the Lodge with a box of working tools. The Master, in accepting the gift, said it was only an additional proof of the great interest their S.W. felt in the Lodge, and another augury for its success.

St. Mungo Encampment of Knights Templar.—This Encampment held its annual meeting in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, on Monday, 20th September. Sir Knight Bell E.C. presiding. Comp. J. Rotherham, who had taken the Esquire degree in July, was duly introduced by Sir Knight J. McLeish, and was duly dubbed a Knight, and afterwards created a Knight of the Temple by the E.C., assisted by Sir Knights G. W. Wheeler as Prelate, C. McKenzie as Marshall, and J. McLeish as Warder. The election of the whole of the officers for the ensuing year then took place, and the following Sir Knights were unanimously appointed to the respective offices:—R. Bell eminent Commander, Sir Knight's T. Clanachan Sub-Commander, Rev. J. C. Stewart Prelate, F. Bates Treasurer, S. Scott Recorder, J. Johnson Chancellor, R. Mitchell Almoner, M. Clanachan Chamberlain, J. McDade Bannerenneter, R. Currie Vexillium Bell, J. McLeish 1st Aide-de-Camp, R. Muir 2nd Aide-de-Camp, R. Smith 1st Warder, J. Smith 2nd Warder, J. B. Hardie Sentinel, with G. W. Wheeler and R. Mitchell as auditors. The Encampment was then closed in ancient form.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF NEW JERSEY.

THE Seventeenth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey met at New Brunswick, on Tuesday, September 7th inst. It was quite a gala day, and the Conclave was heralded by a Templar parade, in which nine commanderies participated—Coeur de Leon, No. 8, Ivanhoe, No. 11, St. John's, No. 9, Cyrene, No. 7, Palestine, No. 4, Helena, No. 5, De Molay, No. 6, Hugh Hugh de Payen, No. 1, and Damascus, No. 5—all with banners displayed, and bands of music, escorting the Grand Officers in carriages. After proceeding through the principal streets of the city, the parade concluded with a grand inspection and review. All then partook of the hospitalities of Coeur de Lion Commandery, in the Masonic Hall, ample arrangements having been made for eight hundred guests. The Grand Commandery then assembled in the Blue Room, the principal Lodge and Commandery Rooms not being yet completed, the Deputy Grand Commander, Sir W. L. Newell, presiding, in consequence of the unavoidable absence of the R.E. Grand Commander, who sent his sincere regrets, together with the report of his proceedings for the past year, which was listened to with marked attention. The Grand Officers were then elected and installed for the ensuing Templar year, and Camden was selected as the place of the next annual Conclave, so as to be adjacent to the Centennial City during the observance of our National festivities in 1876. The celebration incident to the holding of this 17th Annual Conclave concluded with a grand promenade concert, tendered by the Knights of New Brunswick to their visiting fratres. It was very largely attended by the Knights and their ladies, all of whom enjoyed the occasion.

The Masonic Hall just erected by the Masonic Building Association of New Brunswick is a magnificent structure. On the second floor is a fine Opera House; the lower portion is rented for stores, there is a large Assembly Room, Music Hall, and Offices on third floor. In the upper stories are the Lodge Room, of splendid architectural design, by Bro. Windrim, of Philadelphia, and a commodious Commandery Room, not yet completed, of which we shall speak further on the occasion of its Dedication, which, judging from the energy of our New Jersey brethren, will not be long delayed.—*The Keystone.*

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NO APPEAL TO THE LODGE FROM DECISION OF THE MASTER.—It is well known Masonic law that the decision of the Master cannot be appealed from to the Lodge; it can only be taken to the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. Why this is so, however, is not so well understood, and we give the view of Bro. ALBERT PIKE on the subject, and believe in its correctness. The origin of such law had its existence in the fact that, anciently, Lodges were composed of apprentices and craftsmen, and the Master being a Master Mason, the same rule which prevailed in Operative Masonry was carried into the Speculative organization, viz.: The workmen could not appeal from the decisions of the overseer or master of the work, for he alone was responsible for the designs laid down on the "trestle board." So is our present system, although Master Masons compose the Lodge, the ancient law still prevails, for the Master is now responsible only to the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. From this rule of supremacy by the Master, he can call the Lodge together at pleasure, and close the same at will, and it cannot be adjourned by vote of the members; he can also close debate when unnecessarily protracted, and the "previous question" cannot be called for by any member. It is a wise provision for the preservation of harmony and to expedite business.

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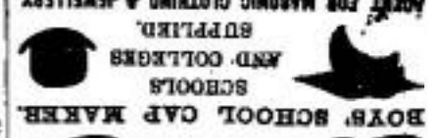
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VOL. II.—No. 40. SATURDAY, 2nd OCTOBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

CLIQUES.

MAN has been defined as a gregarious animal, but in his highly civilised condition he is gregarious only to a limited extent. He loves the society of his kind it is true, but then it must be such society as he fully approves. He has often little sympathy for those members of the human family who do not move in the rut in which his existence is cast. He looks down with contempt upon those who are poorer than himself, and devotes a considerable portion of his time to the task of getting into a clique a degree above him in the social scale. The human family, in these latitudes at least, is indeed cut up into sections which are as sharply defined as the arbitrary distinctions of the Hindoo. We have discarded "caste" and the "tribe," and have substituted the clique as the most reasonable method of sub-dividing the human family. Tribal or caste distinctions might be difficult to maintain in a country like ours where so many persons are ignorant that they ever had great grandfathers; but the clique fulfils all the exclusive demands of the British snob without taxing too severely his power of inventing a pedigree. We can enter a clique readily enough provided we can prove to the satisfaction of the members of it that we possess the necessary littleness of mind, and the other trifling distinctions which are demanded by the rules of the Fraternity. The clique literary, for example, is usually composed of second rate journalists, and authors who have formed themselves into a mutual admiration society for the sake of puffing each other's work. To become a member of this mysterious circle you must spend many years in a condition of probation. Your best articles will be rejected by the members as beneath their notice, and your novels will be "jumped upon" in the literary reviews. But when you have reached the condition of a literary hack, and can write nothing that possesses originality or merit, the members of the little coterie will welcome you to their circle with open demonstrations of good will. You have become one of themselves, you have graduated into the condition of a mere dealer in platitude. The rich strata of mental treasure which was in your brain has been worked out, and you are at last regarded as an equal by men who never in their lives were able to jingle two ideas together in their own feeble heads. We could point to periodicals once powerful, which, having passed into the hands of these people, have become mere vehicles for the display of the imbecility and the folly of creatures who were not worthy to loose the shoestrings of the men they have succeeded.

Again, there is the clique scientific, represented by persons like the tailor in Gulliver's Travels, who took the measure of a customer with a quadrant. These people talk a detestable jargon, compounded of Greek and English in equal proportions. Their leading idea is that science should be made mysterious to the vulgar, and with that laudable end in view they veil simple things under a cloud of words. In the jargon of the clique of geologists, for example, the great fossil lizard becomes the *Ichthyosaurus* or fish reptile. The fossil tapir becomes the *Palæotherium* or ancient wild beast; another monster is the *Megatherium* or great wild beast. But these names are mere trifles; such words as *Megalonyx* and *Scelidotherium* have been applied by these worthies to distinguished allied species, and we are required to believe that these "jaw breakers," as the Scotch would call them, are all necessary for the elucidation of simple scientific facts. The truth is, that without the assistance of a veil of words the geologists would soon find their preserves invaded by persons with whom the clique would not care to associate. The man who can call a fossil tapir *Palæotherium*, and who can dub the study of fossils with the title of palæontology imagines he has achieved a victory over the vulgar, and no doubt he has. That there are medical cliques every person knows who has had occasion to consult a physician. The member of the medical clique feels your pulse, looks at your tongue, and scrawls his prescription in a jargon as nearly like the gibberish with which school boys amuse themselves, as anything of such serious import can well be. But the "dog latin" of his prescription is innocent compared with the outrageous rubbish, in the shape of coined words, with which the medical journals are filled. The members of the medical clique cannot describe so simple a thing as the amputation of a limb, or the cure of an enlarged artery without the use of words which belong to no language that ever existed. The jargon is used to warn off intruders from the sacred preserves of the clique, and it no doubt effectually serves its purpose.

Then we have the clique composed of the rich and vulgar, who require ample proof that your balance at the banker's is satisfactory before they will deign to countenance you. You might be a Milton or a Shakspeare for aught they know or care. The treasures of the mind are nothing in their estimation, and men are classified by their money bags, and scorned or venerated accordingly. These people exist merely to display their wealth. Their houses are filled to overflowing with art treasures, and the art trumpery which is now so fashionable. The members of the clique regularly attend Christie and Manson's sales, and squabble and outbid each other over a celebrated daub, merely for the fame which will accrue to them from the purchase of a "masterpiece" at a fabulous price. Snobson glories in being pointed out as the man who gave £20,000 for a piece of blackened canvas, upon which scarcely any traces of the pencil of the painter remain. He flings away his money upon crockery, because it is fashionable to do so, but, in his heart of hearts, he thinks the drop scene at the Gaiety a finer picture than any *Claude* in his gallery; and his cut glass decanters he secretly holds are superior to the Portland vase. He pretends to love art because it is the fashion, but he knows no more about it than a savage, and satisfies himself for his extravagance by dreaming of the fame which will accrue to him when his collection comes to the hammer.

Such are some few of the cliques into which our complex society has become divided. We might particularise others, but we weary of the task. The world is, indeed, composed of cliques. What, indeed, is a nation but a clique on a gigantic scale, and Masonry, were it not for the breadth of the principles which it teaches, might almost be regarded as a clique of mystery men, banded together for the purpose of indulging in the universal weakness for the *outré* and the marvellous.

PREJUDICES.

PREJUDICES are partial judgments in favour of, or against certain persons or things, and, for convenience sake, may be ranged in two categories—those which are, comparatively speaking, harmless, and those which are harmful. Under the former category we include those which, be they favourable or the reverse, people exhibit

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towards one of their fellows, for a particular line of conduct, the observance of certain customs, the adoption of certain theories, or the use of certain things. Among the latter are numbered class or caste prejudices, as well as national, political, social, and religious prejudices. As regards the former, they are, as we have said, for the most part innocuous. We are prejudiced, for instance, against a person whom we know but slightly or not at all, because he is taciturn or loquacious, reserved or forward, or, in short, for any one or more of an infinite variety of reasons. But accident brings us into closer acquaintance with him, and we find that his taciturnity is merely a natural and very proper reserve; his reserve, a native modesty, which forbids him to be over curious about other people, or what concerns them; or his forwardness merely a kindly readiness to help whenever and whomsoever he can. These prejudices, we say, are comparatively harmless, easily overcome by closer intercourse, or even if they are permitted to remain, the effect is trivial. It is the other class of prejudice which is so offensive and so difficult to deal with. These are scrupulously observed by some, by some even religiously worshipped, nor will any amount of sense, common or uncommon, avail to overcome them. Of course, those we exhibit towards others are perfectly orthodox, while those are heterodox which others exhibit towards us. We cling like grim death to the former; no condemnation is strong enough for the latter. Occasionally, when others prove loyal to the prejudices they have inherited or formed, we leaven our condemnation of their conduct with a certain amount of cynical good nature. We call them deluded beings, more or less wilful, whom a little of our own enlightenment will soon undeceive. But should they be bold enough to regard or describe us as deluded, we at once reject the imputation with the most intense scorn. But to consider more minutely sundry of these more dangerous prejudices. Nations, both in ancient and modern times, have often regarded each other with the bitterest prejudices. No allowance is made for any differences of habit or of sentiment such as may be naturally engendered by differences of nationality. Thus, for ages, and indeed till quite recently, all but a few enlightened Englishmen looked upon all Frenchmen as their natural foes, and Frenchmen were not behindhand in returning the compliment. Had not Kings of England carried fire and sword through some of the finest provinces of France? Did they not owe their glory to the victories they had won over French armies? Did we not hold Calais for over two centuries, and whenever a war prevailed in Europe in which France seemed disposed to take part, was it not our bounden duty as a nation to take the opposite side, the merits of the quarrel which had induced the war being a matter of secondary consideration altogether? We are wiser in this generation than we were formerly. We fully believe it possible for England and France to co-exist without jealousy of each other's fame and influence. We find we can march together along the path of civilization; that, while one country may possess certain admirable qualities, the other also possesses certain other qualities equally admirable of their kind, we recognise that both nations have the good of humanity ever before them, though the means which each employs in promoting that good may vary considerably. But it has taken us centuries to arrive at this knowledge, and it is sad to think how much blood and treasure has been expended ere the conviction dawned upon both that a hearty co-operation of the two peoples was more desirable than a constant antagonism, the result of mutual distrust and prejudice. Then there is the prejudice of caste, exemplified often in the course of our history. Many generations passed away before the Norman and the Saxon, the conqueror and the conquered became one people. The former despised and the latter hated the other. It was, of course, natural that at the outset the former should do their utmost to secure their conquest, and that the latter should eagerly seize every opportunity of throwing off the yolk. But it was not till long after the Norman Henry I. had set his subjects an excellent example, by marrying a Saxon Princess, that the two races found they could live together in peace and harmony; that each possessed many eminent qualities, and that together they would form a strong and powerful people, able to hold their own against even excessive odds. The Cedric the Saxon and Front de Bœuf of Sir Walter Scott are but typical of the caste feeling which long prevailed under the Norman and earlier Plantagenet sovereigns of England. Class jealousies are similarly strong, and equally difficult to allay. It may almost be said, indeed, that these rarely, if ever, die out. The aristocrat—in the common, not in the refined and proper sense of the word—looks down upon the *hoi polloi*—the latter hate, if they do not fear the former. There is no sort of sympathy between the two, and unhappily less now than formerly. We are not speaking of the true aristocrat, the man of patrician birth and of exalted mind, who would forfeit his life ere he would be guilty of any petty vulgar act, or entertain any petty vulgar thought. Nor have we in our mind the patrician by nature, who, though ignoble by birth, possesses a mind of the very highest order. We refer, rather, to the *parvenu*, the mushroom aristocrat, the man who is patrician in name perhaps, yet exhibits none of those grand and noble qualities we naturally associate with men in high places. Numerous instances of such have we before us, of men who have thought themselves greater, the more they affected a lofty contempt for their inferiors in position. It is these who perpetuate class prejudices, who widen more and more the gulf that separates the more fortunately from the less fortunately placed, and whose wilful perversity not seldom leads to a temporary subversion of the political and social *status quo*. Then there is political, or, as we more commonly call it, party prejudice. Conservatives and Radicals, the Right and the Left, alike believe that nothing good can emanate from their opponents. A conservative must be inherently bad in the eyes of a radical; the right can do good in the eyes of the left. But all measures are not wholly bad, as all men are not wholly despicable. The impartial, the unprejudiced man recognises this; the prejudiced ignore it. Hence, oftentimes, the course of politics is as proverbially unsmooth as the course of true love, and, worse still, there is no renewal of the old ties which bound men together in the earlier times ere party politics were heard of. Men serve their party as the rank and file of an army serve their general, with an abject obedience to all his commands, and with a genuine hostility to the foe. This unreasoning obedience to the general, this stern hostility to the foe, are admirable qualities in the subordinate soldier, but in the party-man obedience is desirable, and hostile feeling towards the opposite party is uncalled for. We may differ in politics without hating each other. But the worst of all prejudices, infinitely more terrible in their consequences than all the national, political and social prejudices that have ever been exhibited are those originating in differences of religious faith. All religions lay it down that men shall love each other, shall do their best to promote the common good. But difference of creed, whether it be as wide as that which distinguishes Buddhism from Christianity, or merely sectarianism, invariably results in the most intense hatred. That others may be influenced by conscientious motives seems incredible to the followers of this or that creed, the members of this or that sect. The most terrible wars, whether internal or external, the most violent animosities, and those attended with the most fearful consequences, have been the outcome of religious prejudices. In France, the wars of the League and the Massacre of St. Bartholomew's, in Germany the terrible Thirty Years' War, in the Netherlands the wars of Independence induced by Philip II.'s bigoted attachment to the Inquisition, at home the Smithfield Burnings, the Gunpowder Plot, the so-called Popish Plot in Charles II.'s reign, and the Gordon Riots, all these owed their origin to violent religious partiality for a particular form of Christian worship. At the present moment the Pope himself, the head of Roman Catholicism, is illustrating his extreme bigotry by his condemnation of Freemasonry, on the ground that it recognises all religious faiths. It is prejudiced in favour of no one creed, but leaves it to men to adopt that which they deem most worthy of belief. The section of the Roman Catholic Church to which the Pope belongs denies to men their inherent right to honestly worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. We need not of course dwell upon this question, which has already attracted so much attention both here and abroad. It shows, however, into what extremes prejudice will lead men who, in all other respects, are bent only on the most conscientious performance of their duties.

The point to which the foregoing remarks tend will probably have suggested itself long since to the minds of our readers. It is the special aim of Freemasonry to overcome prejudice of every degree and kind, as far as possible. Men of diverse views, both religious and political, meet together in the same Lodge. All political and religious discussions are strictly forbidden, yet Masons are enjoined to be political so far as obedience to the laws of the country in which they live is essential to the welfare of

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the body politic, and to be religious so far as it is the duty of every man to acknowledge one Supreme Being, the Creator of the Universe. But apart from these general charges, men may be monarchial or republican, Christian or Mohammedan; so long as they are good citizens and worship God conscientiously, they are safe Masonic examples to take pattern by. In a body of men thus constituted, we necessarily attain the minimum of prejudice. As regards personal likes and dislikes, we are enjoined not to meet in the same Lodge any brother from whom we are, momentarily perhaps, estranged, but as regards the more dangerous class of prejudice, if the laws of Masonry are properly observed, there is no fear of any of those terrible dissensions breaking out which have so often endangered the progress and even the very existence of Christianity and other faiths.

THE ANTIQUITY OF FREEMASONRY.

[COMMUNICATED.]

YOU published, in a late issue, under the *nom de plume* of "Neophyte," a letter bearing on the much disputed question as to the ancient or modern origin of Freemasonry. Your correspondent expressed a desire to know whether the recent elucidations of Egyptian and other monuments had thrown any light on this subject. I am not surprised at such a query being put, but I fear that an adequate reply is hardly yet obtainable. The best authorities differ so widely on the matter that nothing like certainty can at present be looked for. On the occasion of the Installation of the present Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Pro Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon, spoke of the great antiquity of the Craft, "an antiquity ascending into the sphere of immemorial tradition," and forthwith Bro. W. P. Buchan and other respected brethren hastened to contest the assertion. According to Bro. Buchan, our Freemasonry is not of great antiquity. "No evidence," he asserts, "has been produced of its existence even so recently as two hundred years ago." Who shall decide where doctors disagree? We can but trace the records, and form, each one for himself, his own conclusion.

According to some writers, Freemasonry in its principles is coeval with the creation. This notion I confess I am unable to comprehend; for even the fig leaf, which certain rather profane Masonic songs allege to be the antitype of the apron, is of a somewhat later date. The tradition that King Solomon was the founder and first Grand Master rests, I fear, upon but little firmer foundation. The theory which traces the origin of Masonry to the Cabirian mysteries bears, I think, a somewhat greater appearance of probability. Herodotus has some remarks about being "initiated in the Cabirian mysteries which the Samothracians learned of the Pelasgi." The historian further remarks that, "by them (the Pelasgi) the Athenians were first of all instructed to make the figure of Mercury with an upright priapus; for the which the Pelasgi have a sacred tradition, which is explained in the Samothracian mysteries." Who the Cabirians were, is, I believe, still a matter of doubt amongst the learned, but it is tolerably certain that they were believed to be three powerful deities. Here, then, we have some mysteries, associated apparently with religion and sculpture, a process of initiation, and the mystic number three; a slender beginning perhaps, but no more insignificant than the tiny rivulet which, by and bye, swells into the gigantic river. The Dionysiac artificers of Ionia may also be cited as furnishing some analogies to modern Masonry, though rather to practical than speculative Masonry. Professor Robinson, in an article in the Edinburgh Cyclopædia, remarks that "the Dionysiacs of Ionia were a great corporation of architects and engineers, who undertook, and even monopolised, the building of temples and stadia, precisely as the fraternity of Freemasons monopolised the building of Cathedrals and conventional Churches in the Middle Ages." "Indeed," the Professor continues, "the Dionysiacs resembled in many respects the mystic fraternity now called Freemasons. They allowed no strangers to interfere in their employment; they recognised each other by signs and tokens; they professed certain mysterious doctrines, under the tuition and tutelage of Bacchus, to whom they built a magnificent temple at Teos, where they celebrated his mysteries at solemn festivals, and they called all other men profanes, because not admitted to these mysteries."

With regard to the Freemasons of the middle ages, it is probably true that their's was also an operative and practical rather than a speculative and theoretical Freemasonry. But it would seem to offer sufficient analogies both with the guild of Iona and the Freemasonry of the present day to make good its claim to be the connecting link between the two. There is said to be a Latin document extant, purporting to be a proclamation of the Freemasons of Europe assembled at Cologne in 1535 for the purpose of vindicating themselves from the charge of having attempted to revive the order of the Temple. This document declares that the Freemasons are called the "Brethren dedicated to St. John," that prior to the year 1440 the association was called the Johannite Brethren, but that about that time it began to be known by the name of Freemasons. If this document be authentic it would seem to fix the name, at all events, of Freemasons as of older date than Brother Buchan appears disposed to allow for Freemasonry itself. These craftsmen of the middle ages formed, undoubtedly, a most remarkable sect. Michelet, in his "History of France," has noted with admiration their self-denial in leaving no record of their names in connection with those wondrous Cathedrals and Abbeys which centuries of scientific advancement have left unrivalled.

Prior to the eighteenth century I think there can be no doubt whatever that Freemasonry, under whatever form or name it existed, was entirely or mainly associated with operative masonry and architecture. Amateurs were occasionally admitted into the Fraternity, but, speaking generally, it was an association of practical men, formed for eminently practical ends. With the dawn of the eighteenth century modern Freemasonry may be said to have commenced, and from that period to the present day the Order has extended its ramifications throughout the civilised world, admitting into its ranks men of all classes. During the last two hundred years, and this is probably what was meant by Bro. Buchan, Freemasonry, from being a mere trade union of architects, sculptors and masons, has gradually been expanded into a gigantic fraternity, comprising men of all honourable vocations, actuated by common principles of unity and benevolence. The trowel, the plane, the compasses, formerly the active implements of the Craft, are to-day its chief emblems and insignia. But the old cordiality, the active sympathies, the elevating principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth survive to dignify the social bond, and encourage noble effort and kindly feeling amongst the brethren.

Briefly, then, Freemasonry in its present shape is the birth of modern times. It is the direct offspring of the operative Freemasonry of the middle ages, and can thus be clearly traced to the eleventh if not the tenth century. According to Roman Catholic authorities, who describe it as a remnant of Manicheeism, it has an antiquity ascending to apostolic times; and this contention, absurd as it may be thought, is at least worth something as pointing to an early origin. Cicero's remarks on the Eleusinian mysteries, "Eleusina sancta illa et Augusta; ubi initiantur gentes orarum ultimæ," carry us also to, and even beyond, the Christian era. The links required to connect this period with that of the Cabirian mysteries may not all be forthcoming, but surely a fair inference may be drawn from the similarity existing between their recorded characteristics and those of more modern Craftship. I have felt some little diffidence in touching upon a question where opinions have been so various and contradictory, and would gladly welcome any new light that your correspondents may be disposed to throw upon this most interesting topic.

W. G. B.

A general meeting of the committee of the Girls' School was held on Thursday, the 30th ult. at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Thos. W. White P.G.S. in the chair. Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, Secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting. Several discussions in reference to the various notices of motion were discussed and one petition was read, but deferred, the child not being in attendance. The meeting was then adjourned. There were present Bros. Wm. Roebuck, Joshua Munro, Wm. Paas, John Boyd, Benjamin Head, John A. Rucker, Walter Wellsman, Henry Moore, Richard Spencer, A. H. Tattershall, H. Massey, Col. J. Peters, H. Browse, H. A. Dubois, Robt. B. Webster, John Mason, S. H. Finney, H. M. Levy.

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PROGRESS OF THE MARK DEGREE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS, LINCOLNSHIRE.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

GOOD fellows are by no means infrequent in Masonry, but it does not fall to the lot of every Province to be under the sway of such a right worshipful good fellow as the Provincial Grand Mark Master of Lincolnshire.

On the morning of Thursday, 30th September, the Provincial Grand Officers proceeded by early trains to Stallingbro' House, the residence of R.W. Bro. John Sutcliffe, where, after a sumptuous breakfast, they were photographed as a group, in full costume—the first Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters held in Lincolnshire—which, it will be remembered, was constituted some eleven months ago at Lincoln.

This, in the early morning, was quick work; the consecration of a new Lodge, named after the hospitable Chief, having been advertised to take place at 11.15 at Grimsby. Thither, nevertheless, by the aid of special trains, all in due time assembled. The consecration ceremony was performed by the Grand Secretary, Bro. Frederick Binckes, in his customary able manner, and the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Rev. Daniel Ace, D.D., being called upon to improve the occasion, delivered an impressive extempore oration, upon the moral bearings of the Degree. He observed that earliest records had disclosed to us how the Supreme Artificer had specially marked both persons and things for the maintenance of His Glory, with the object of assisting our infirmities: for without forms or figures we could derive no ideas. From the Psalms we learned that the Lord had *set apart* men that were godly for Himself. *Marks* were upon the Tabernacle and on the Temple, and Mr. Godwin's work, "Marks on Stones," demonstrated the same of other ancient edifices. The Hebrew Tau was a sign used by the Prophet Ezekiel as a *mark* of the Almighty to be set upon the Jews; and such a *mark* was used by the Egyptians in the shape of a Cross, prior to the Christian Era. As in architecture, the copestone is essential to the perfect arch, so the rejected stone of Mark Masons proved to be the most valuable, the head of the corner. The Mark, then, is indicative of him who possesses it, that he possesses distinguishing mental and moral qualities; and a Mark Mason who should fail to cultivate these would disgrace his Order. The Rev. brother concluded with a solemn invocation to the G.O.O.T.U.

The officers of the new "Sutcliffe Lodge" were appointed and invested; the Lodge was closed, and at about half-past one the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened, it being a noticeable fact that every officer was there present in his place, a diligence not always noted at similar gatherings. The Province contains the following Mark Lodges:—

The St. Botolph.
The Remigius.
The John O'Gaunt.
The Sutcliffe.

The Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were appointed:—

W. Watkins, S.W.
Bland, J.W.
Kirk, M.O.
A. Watson, S.O.
A. Bates, J.O.
Dr. Ace, Chaplain,
Gough, Secretary, &c., &c.

After which the P.G.M., in a forcible speech, urged upon his hearers the duty of not relaxing for an instant the strenuous efforts which the Province had been making in the sacred cause of Charity, but to keep the Province well in the front as a supporter of our charitable Institutions.

The brethren adjourned to the banquet at the Royal Hotel, where, as throughout all the arrangements, the kind and careful forethought of the P.G.M., were sufficiently evident. During the evening a numerous contingent of brethren from Yorkshire, headed by R.W. Bro. Th. Perkinton, their P.G.M., vied with those of Lincolnshire in rendering honour to the chairman, and in evincing, by every means in their powers, their appreciation of the "entente cordiale."

To the toast of the "Bishops and Clergy," the Rev. Dr. Ace, Prov. G.C., responded, and observed that many among the Clergy are now active in Masonry. It was not always so, for there was a time when they did not understand it, when some of them derided it, and others thought their dignity would be compromised by their mixing with it. Such would, however, find that they would be respected in Masonry, both for their work and office sake. He would briefly advert to a proposition he had made, relative to raising a tangible memorial to the venerated memory of Dr. Oliver, once a clergyman of this town. He had received encouraging letters from all parts, urging him to continue that task—to set on foot a testimonial which should benefit some poor boy from our Masonic School, by procuring for him a University Scholarship.

The health of the Prov. G.M. was proposed by his R.W. colleague of Yorkshire, in pithy but telling terms, "What need to descant upon the good qualities of one so well known, who is here present amongst you? You know him, what could I say to increase the honour and estimation which he has won." The R.W. brother did not propose to paint the rose, or gild the lily, and he was right. In addition to the Masonic Mark salutes, this toast was followed by spontaneous musical honours.

The health of the Deputy Prov. G.M., Dr. Harris, was also drunk with enthusiasm. Bro. W. H. Prince, of Rochdale, addressed a few feeling remarks to the chair, and some of the speeches (not excepting those of Bros. F. Binckes and J. Terry) were much above the average. A gathering happier in the perfect good understanding which subsisted between all, cemented by love and respect for the occupant of the chair, has never been witnessed in Masonry. If the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters has other provinces after the manner of Lincolnshire, its members need not regret the technical objections which prevented the incorporation of their degree into Craft Masonry.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF AYRSHIRE.

LAYING OF A MEMORIAL STONE AT KILWINNING.

SATURDAY, 25th September, was a day that will long be remembered in the annals of this quiet Ayrshire village, as that on which Colonel Mure, M.P., P.G.M. of Ayrshire, attended to lay the memorial stone of the new schools, erecting by the School Board, for the children of this large parish. Kilwinning, as is well known to all Masonic students, claims to have been the cradle of British Freemasonry, inasmuch as the builders of the old abbey, whose ruins still grace the village, are said to be the oldest members of the Craft in this Isle of whom we have any authentic record, and whose descendants have continued to hold their meetings up to the present time. For a long time after the formation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the Kilwinning Lodge not only held aloof, but she continued to grant charters to daughter Lodges, and when a reconciliation was effected it was only by conceding to her her priority over all the other Lodges, and allowing her to call herself Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, with the privileges of her members paying less for the registration and diploma than other Scotch Masons, and also granting her this unique privilege that the Master shall, from time to time elect, become thereby, *ipso facto*, the Provincial Grand Master for the whole of Ayrshire. This honourable office Colonel Mure, of Caldwell, M.P., has long held, and very worthily filled, and when it was known that the School Board had asked him, in that capacity, to lay the memorial stone of the splendid new schools they are erecting to meet the wants of this populous parish, it was determined that the occasion should be made worthy of the place and its memories. Notwithstanding that Friday was a very stormy day, and that the morning of Saturday was equally unpropitious, a goodly number of the mother's bairns resident in Glasgow obeyed the summonses of the Proxy Wardens—Bros. Ferguson and Tweed,—and went in special carriages by rail to this old and picturesque village. They were accompanied by a deputation of the following:—Glasgow Lodge, St. John's, No. 3½, a Lodge which lays claim to equal antiquity with Kilwinning, but one always ready to assist the mother Lodge; they were headed by their respected Master, W. Bell, P.M. Fletcher, and other influential brethren; Thistle and Rose, No. 73, were next followed by No. 116; while the Clyde, No. 408, with its banner, her Master, and both his Wardens, and a fair proportion of the brethren, brought up the rear of the Glasgow contingent. Bro. Wyllie, the indefatigable P.G.S. of Ayrshire, had a band in waiting at the station to escort them into the town, and up to the oldest Lodge room in Scotland, where they were welcomed by Colonel Mure, Lord Eglinton, D. Murray Lyon, the Masonic historian, Sir James Ferguson, late Governor of New Zealand, W. R. Partrick, of Woodhouse D.P.G.M., and the élite of the Masons of Ayrshire. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in the Temperance Hall, as the largest available building, by the P.G.M. Colonel Mure, M.P., R. Montgomery D.P.G.M., J. Partrick S.P.G.M., D. Murray Lyon S.W., Dr. J. Campbell R.W.M., J.W. of Maybole, No. 11, R. Wyllie S., J. Winton Treasurer. A procession was then formed by A. Bryce, the Grand Tyler of Scotland, in which the following Lodges took part:—Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, St. John's, No. 3½, Maybole, No. 11, St. John, Kilmarnock, No. 22, Thistle and Rose, No. 73, Troon, No. 86, St. Marnock, No. 109, St. John, Rutherglen, No. 116, Ayr, No. 124, St. James, No. 125, St. Andrew, No. 126, Stewton, No. 127, Tarbolton, No. 135, Operative, No. 138, Irvine, No. 149, Ayr, No. 165, St. Mungo, No. 179, Maybole, No. 198, Muirkirk, No. 201, Cumnock, No. 230, Girvan, No. 237, Johnson, No. 242, St. John's, No. 248, Dalry, No. 290, Ardrossan, No. 320, Galston, No. 331, Dalmellington, No. 433, Neptune, No. 442, Catrine, No. 497, Hurlford, No. 505, Stranraer, No. 519, and Patna, No. 565, Darby Ferguson, St. James. On reaching the building, which is at the outskirts of the town, the Earl of Eglinton, in the name of the committee, presented Col. Mure with a handsome silver trowel, who gracefully acknowledged the compliment, and promised to transmit it as a heirloom to his family. The stone was then laid with the accustomed Masonic honours. Colonel Mure, M.P., P.G.M., then addressed the assemblage. He said it was a very long time ago now—he thought it was in the year

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1814—since the Freemasons of Kilwinning were employed in a similar ceremony as that which had just been completed. On that occasion they laid the foundation of the kirk tower, which was familiar to them. He had no doubt a great many of them, and particularly the ladies, who, generally speaking, were supposed to be more curious than men—(laughter)—might wonder what the object of Freemasonry was. Well, the object of Freemasonry was in itself a most excellent one, as the Craft consisted of a vast number of men, throughout the whole world, banded together in order to promote that which is good. People might sometimes say to themselves, "Are Freemasons better than any other body?" All he knew was that if they were not, they ought to be, because they bound themselves by solemn vows to be better than other people. (Laughter and applause.) With regard to education, he would say this for the Freemasons in Ayrshire, that, quite independent of the great educational movement which had been going on for some years in this country, they had tried to do a little for education, because they had already collected a subscription among themselves by which they could afford to give £20 a-year to enable the son of a Freemason to leave the parish school with the prospect of securing a higher education, and do, as many Scotchmen had done before him, raise himself in condition and intellectual power. That was not a very great great thing, but it was a step in the right direction. (Hear, hear.) He quite admitted, however, when he knew what a vast organisation Freemasonry is, and when he looked at the enormous ramifications of Masonry throughout the world, that he would not grumble if they did a little more good than they had done. (Applause.) The gallant Colonel then referred to the various emblems which had been used in the ceremony, and explained their meanings and applications. In the course of his remarks on these heads, he observed that when he took the sheaf of corn in his hand he could not help thinking that it formed in some parts of this island not only the emblem of prosperity, but in some sense it might be said to be not an unfit emblem of the ignorance that prevailed in certain parts of Her Majesty's dominions. He alluded to the wretched condition of the children employed in agriculture in the South of England, and in various counties in this country; and when he thought of that, and also remembered that it was not so very long ago that the standard of their education was lowered, in order to meet the blind folly of the farmers of England, he could not help congratulating himself that in Scotland, at least, our farmers had not come forward and said, "We cannot afford to collect the gift of a bountiful Providence unless our children are kept in ignorance." (Hear, hear.) That in itself was to him a subject of sincere congratulation, and looking, as they ought to do, with a more extended eye, let them hope the day was not far distant when the compulsory powers we had in this happy part of Her Majesty's dominions might be welcomed by all classes and trades in the whole of this great and otherwise prosperous island. (Applause.) The hon. gentleman then commented on the harmony which had prevailed at the school board, congratulating the gentlemen engaged on having set aside their religious differences in their desire that little children who were ignorant might be taught. He also congratulated the people of this country that while the leading men of other nations had to take up their time considering questions which stirred up the worst passions of their countrymen, or questions of peace or war, our great men devoted themselves to public education, and to efforts to improve the condition of the children of the country. By our future Acts, by our reformatories, by our industrial schools, and by this great effort—this great educational scheme—he hoped, by the blessing of God, we would become before many years were passed a happier, better, and more Christian people. (Applause.)

The Hon. Mr. Vernon, on behalf of his colleagues, the members of the School Board of Kilwinning, thanked Colonel Mure and those who assisted him for their kindness. Referring to an observation which fell from Colonel Mure regarding the importance of unanimity, he remarked the board had worked most harmoniously and unanimously.

Colonel Mure acknowledged the compliment. Three cheers were then given in succession, for the Queen, for Colonel Mure, and for the members of the school board. The Freemasons subsequently formed into procession, and marched into town, followed by the people who had witnessed the proceedings at the ceremony.

In the evening a large company of gentlemen, including the members of the school board and others who took part in the ceremony, met at dinner in the hall connected with the Eglinton Arms Hotel. The Hon. Mr. Vernon occupied the chair, and Mr. Roger Montgomerie, M.P., and Mr. Ralston Patrick officiated as croupiers. After dinner, the Chairman intimated the receipt of letters of apology for absence from Lord Rosslyn, Sir Wm. Cuninghame, M.P.; Dr. Taylor, secretary to the Education Board; Mr. Smollett, and other gentlemen.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

BY command of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire was held on Thursday, the 23rd of September, in the Mechanics' Institution, at Hyde, which is situated a few miles from Manchester, for the purpose of transacting the annual business of the province. The Masonic province of Cheshire comprises Chester, Stockport, Birkenhead, Cheadle, Stalybridge, Runcorn, Congleton, Seacombe, Egremont, Newton, Macclesfield, Hyde, Nantwich, Northwich, Knutsford, Crewe, and other towns, there being altogether about 40 Lodges, and each of these sent representatives, some in large numbers, to attend the annual meeting of the province. Besides the R.W.P.G.M., there were present about 40 Provincial Grand Officers, about 300 W.M.'s, P.M.'s, officers and members of Lodges in the province, and nearly 50 visitors from East and West Lancashire and other provinces. The town of Hyde, which is certainly not attractive in situation nor surroundings, wore quite a holiday aspect, banners and flags floating in nearly every direction, and at various points the motto "Welcome to Lord de Tabley" was displayed, this welcome being given especially by the members of the Lodge of Industry, No. 361, Hyde (which sent 61 representatives), and the Clarendon Lodge, No. 1166, Hyde. The annual meeting was held under the auspices of these Lodges.

Business was announced to begin at half-past twelve o'clock, and shortly after that time Lord de Tabley opened the Provincial Grand Lodge in due form. Letters and telegrams of apology for non-attendance were read from Bro. G. Cornwall Legh D.P.G.M., Bro. Lord Grosvenor, and others; after which the rolls of P.G. officers and Lodges were read. The minutes of the last annual meeting at Chester on the 17th September 1874, were also read and confirmed, as well as the minutes of the committee of the Fund of Benevolence, held at Crewe in March, of which Bro. Captain Cope P.G.S.B. of England was unanimously re-elected chairman.

Bro. Lord de Tabley P.G.M., in accordance with his custom in previous years, then addressed the brethren on the present position and prospects of Masonry in his province. It was to him a great happiness to be able to continue the same congratulation which he expressed last year in reference to the Craft in his division. Freemasonry was flowing on uninterruptedly in its prosperity—increasing in numbers, and he hoped increasing in the influence it exercised on the opinions of the society in which it existed. He had the greatest pleasure in seeing the Lodges of the province over which he had the honour to preside so fully and numerously represented as they were that day; and it was also a source of satisfaction to him to have the welcome given to the P.G. Lodge in that North-east portion of the province—a welcome, he was sure, which would long remain green and fresh in their memories. He had before spoken of the care which ought to be exercised as to the respectability of those initiated into their Order, and he would again urge them to exercise this caution, striving not to secure mere numbers, but assuring themselves of the characters and sterling worth of those they introduced. (Applause.) He would also say that, proud as he was of the number of the Lodges over which he presided, he was above all anxious for the stability of those Lodges in every part of the province. The minute books of the different Lodges, he said, had been carefully kept, and showed considerable improvement; but he would remind the secretaries of Lodges of the necessity of stating in each case in the minutes, and also on the circulars, the cause for holding Lodges of Emergency. The gift of a pulpit, which they had last year made to the cathedral at Chester, was still incomplete owing to the whole of the promised subscriptions not having been received; but he was certain he had only to mention this to have the moneys paid up without delay. He had no doubt that he would soon be able to report that the pulpit, which was being erected under the direction of Mr. Gilbert Scott, would be one in every respect worthy of their Craft. (Hear, hear.) Their charities had again been very successful during the year, and they had succeeded in electing one old woman for the London institution, and there was every prospect of their boy candidate being elected in October. He trusted that their charity in the future would enable them to be successful in connection with coming elections, and he cordially urged the claims of all their charities on the hearty support of the brethren. His lordship then referred to the deaths of prominent members of the Craft in that province during the year, alluding specially to Bros. Crutenden, Dr. Evans, Terry, and William Bailey, each of whom had done honour to Masonry.

The P.G. Treasurer stated that the balance to the credit of the funds of P.G. Lodge amounted to £406 7s 9d, and the sum of £1,236 18s 6d was the balance to the credit of the fund of benevolence. The financial report was adopted, and Bro. F. Jackson was unanimously re-elected P.G. Treasurer.

Bro. G. W. Latham P.P.G.Reg. then moved, "That a grant of 500 guineas be made from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge for the purpose of aiding in the purchase of a perpetual presentation to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; such grant to be on the condition that a sufficient additional sum be raised in the province to make up the amount required by the governors of the institution for such privilege." He stated that this was probably the largest sum which the brethren had ever been called upon to vote for charity, but he had no doubt they would cordially fall in with the proposition. The usual cost of a perpetual presentation was 1,500 guineas, but the governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys had generously agreed to reduce it to 1,000 guineas. The raising of the other 500 guineas would take some consideration, but he thought a way was already seen by which the sum might be raised. He also proposed that Bros. Horatio Lloyd P.G.S.W., J. Wood P.G.Reg., G. W. Latham P.P.G.Reg., and J. E. Williams P.M. of the Cestrian Lodge, Chester, be appointed a committee to confer with the governors of the Cheshire Educational Institution, and also with the governors of the Boys' School, London, with reference to the matter.

Bro. Bailey seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The following were then appointed P.G. officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. G. Cornwall Legh D.G.M., Horatio Lloyd P.G.S.W., Captain H. A. Bennett P.G.J.W., Rev. R. Hodgson P.G.C., Rev. J. S. Durrell P.G.C., F. Jackson P.G. Treas., J. Wood P.G. Reg., E. H. Griffiths P.G. Sec., J. E. Williams P.G.S.D., J. Hibbert P.G.J.D., R. J. Bowden P.G.S. of W., Wilmot Eardley P.G.D.C., P. Wadsworth P.G.A.D.C., Captain Arrowsmith P.G.S.B., J. Travis P.G.O., R. Sykes P.G.P., J. Swindells P.G. Tyler, and Bros. J. Bardman, F. Broadsmith, M. H. Bradley, W. Berry, G. Hesketh, and J. Turner, P.G. Stewards.

Bro. Horatio Lloyd P.G.S.W., in a few well-chosen words, conveyed to the P.G.M. the pleasure felt by the brethren at his restoration to health, which would enable him to stay during the whole of the day's proceedings. Lord de Tabley briefly acknowledged the kind expressions of sympathy by the brethren. The P.G.M. then presented charity

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jewels to Bros. C. Dutton, H. Bennett, Goodacre, and Matthews, which they received in consequence of serving the office of stewards at the festivals in London in aid of the Masonic Schools.

On the motion of the P.G.M., thanks were voted to the Rev. W. H. Lowther for the use of the church and the schools, and to the directors of the Mechanics' Institution for the use of that building.

After Lord de Tabley had intimated his intention of holding his next Provincial Grand Lodge at Knutsford, the business proceedings closed.

The whole of the brethren then marched to St. George's Church, where a sermon was preached by Bro. R. Hodgson P.G.C., the musical portion of the service being conducted by P.G.O. Bro. J. Travis. A collection was made on behalf of the fund of benevolence and of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution.

A banquet was served by Messrs. Jennison and Co., of Manchester, in St. George's Schools, to which about 250 brethren sat down, under the presidency of Bro. Lord de Tabley. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given during the evening. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Travis P.G.O., who presided at the piano, the vocalists being Bros. Edmondson, Stafford, Dumville, Ball, and Roscoe.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

FRIENDLY CORRECTION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—In the *Answers to Correspondents*, of last week's issue, in reply to *J. W.*, the Editor states that the minimum Initiation Fee under the Grand Lodge of England is "*Five Guineas.*" Such is not the case, but *three* guineas, exclusive of the fees for registration and certificate (17s), which make the sum total *Four pounds*. The minimum is accordingly *Four pounds*, the whole of which is payable on the night of Initiation, and no portion can be left unpaid on any pretext whatever. I much wish the authorities would make this fee double the present low amount, which has continued thus at *Four pounds* all this century, notwithstanding that the relative value would be nearer *eight pounds* at the present time. It seems to me that at least *Six guineas* should be the minimum fee, and as the charge for warrants has been increased, I fail to see on what plea a similar change should not be made respecting the costs of Initiation. Under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, not only are some of our fees higher, but we have some excellent rules in force respecting the initiation of gentlemen away from their usual residences, which it would be well for England, Masonically, if they were accepted there also, as indeed some of its provinces have done. Another correction I should like to make (if needed) has reference to a letter by Bro. E. Gottheil, who speaks of the doings of a "suburban Lodge." Bro. Gottheil's remarks appear to me to favour the notion that under the Grand Lodge of England, when the minutes of the election of a W.M. are not confirmed, the member cannot proceed afresh to the election of a W.M. at the following Lodge, but must wait for the *next regular period of election*.

I have before me the small edition of the Constitutions for 1875, doubtless well known to our brother, and to the English Craft generally, and in it I find that when the minutes of such election are not confirmed, "then a summons must be issued for the following *regular* meeting of the Lodge," and the brethren must proceed to the election of the W.M. as before.

Clearly then, in the case our brother refers to, it is the duty of the W.M. for the time being to proceed to the election of his successor at the next regular meeting of his Lodge (even if it be the succeeding month), and at the following Lodge, the minutes being confirmed, and the W.M. elect installed, he becomes relieved of his duties as W.M.

I am, yours fraternally,

MASONIC INVESTIGATOR.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S.W.—Brethren who are Life Governors of the three Masonic Charities, and have served as Stewards for two of them, are entitled to wear the Charity Jewel. They can also wear bars with the dates of each succeeding Stewardship.

M.M.—In the absence of the W.M., the immediate Past Master can occupy the chair. If he be not present, the oldest Past Master takes precedence.

M.M.M.—Send the numbers to our Publishing Office, they shall be bound, and the volume returned to you. Thanks for your good wishes.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This medicine has resisted every test which time, prejudice, and vested interests could impose upon it, and it at length stands forth triumphant as the most reliable remedy for those derangements of the system so common at the change of seasons. When the air grows cooler and the functions of the skin are retarded, an occasional dose of Holloway's Pills will rally on the liver and kidneys for greater activity and compensate the system for diminished cutaneous action. As alteratives, aperients, and tonics, these Pills have no equals. To every aged and delicate person, whose appetite is defective, digestion infirm, and tone of health low, this medicine will be a priceless boon, conferring both ease and strength.

REVIEWS.

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

—:o:—

The Day Dreams of a Sleepless Man. By FRANK IVES SCUDAMORE, C.B. London: Griffith and Farran. 1875.

THIS is a republication of a series of papers contributed to the *Standard*, *Scotsman*, and *Glasgow News*. The author, whose name has for many years been associated with one of our principal public departments, here gives evidence of the possession of literary, or we should rather say, journalistic qualifications of no mean order. His papers are written in a pleasant, humorous and gossippy style, eminently well suited to while away agreeably a vacant hour. The author describes himself as a "sleepless man," and those who have known him most intimately will probably recognise the applicability of the expression. He has tried all the reputed remedies for sleeplessness, and has found that the best resource after all is to get up and walk about. Before cock-crow, he tells us, he has often been on his rambles, wending his steps now in the direction of Billingsgate, now towards Covent Garden, anon perhaps away from the busy hum of men. Like Dickens, and indeed most extremely active minds, he seems to have found something resting to the spirit in walking through crowded thoroughfares. Most of the papers here reproduced relate to a holiday excursion, which the author appears to have recently made in the North West of France. Abbeville, Neufchâtel, Descres, Crecy, and the little village of St. Pol are all lightly touched upon, and some amusing incidents are recorded, illustrative of the manners and customs of the natives. There is a tradition existing amongst them, of a game which used to be played with a large ball, the players being divided into two hostile bands, and our author asks whether this may not have been our English foot-ball, introduced into France during the English occupation, and forgotten soon after the occupation was over. At St. Pol, the writer and his companion are regarded with some suspicion by the village *Gend'arme*, and even placed under temporary arrest, until a communication has been received from their friends, attesting the harmless intentions of their journey. It seemed to be the opinion of the local functionaries that no rational being would pay a visit to such a place without some sinister motive. Pedestrian excursions, in fact, are generally looked upon with a kind of doubt by the provincial French. We remember, on one occasion being stranded at a small out-of-the-way French village, about five or six miles from the town where we were staying. No train was due for at least a couple of hours, and we calculated that we could walk the distance in about half that time. We consulted a native as to the road. He looked at us with blank astonishment; but, immediately recollecting himself, pointed to the Railway Station we had just quitted. *Merci, ye veux marcher*, we cried; "Ah! Monsieur!" he answered, *C'est impossible*. In vain we attempted to reason with the man, assured him that the distance was but a trifle, and that we could walk double or treble the distance in perfect comfort. The scoundrel was obdurate, and other natives, to whom we afterwards applied, were equally impracticable. They could not countenance so reckless an experiment, and we were thus compelled to await the arrival of the train. Our author is at times discursive. The mention of St. Fonctiard reminds him that he once himself received a flogging from a certain Dr. Rice, and this again calls to his mind the story of a certain well-known pedagogue, who, in his later years, whenever he heard speak of a rising man, would remark, "Yes! yes! a clever man! a clever man! I've thrashed him many a time." The book is interesting, as exhibiting the holiday aspect of a man of affairs, and well worth the time spent in its perusal.

W. Cuthbush and Son's Bulb Catalogue, 1875. — This contains a large and varied assortment of the newest and choicest kinds of Hyacinths, Ixias, Snowdrops, Anemones, Lilies, Tulips, Narcissus and Polyanthus Narcissus, Gladioli, &c., &c. As regards double Hyacinths the price per dozen varies from fifteen to eighteen shillings, for which the finest named bulbs, suitable for exhibition, are supplied, but a good class of bulb may be had at from eight to twelve shillings. For a single bulb the price ranges from eight pence to four shillings. In the case of Hyacinths the very finest range from one to two guineas per dozen, the next class from fifteen to eighteen shillings, and a dozen of good bulbs from eight to twelve shillings. As to varieties we have noted "Kob-i-noor" (double) four shillings per bulb, and, among singles, the following:—Single Red "Howard," three shillings; "Linnæus," three-and-sixpence; "Vanrbak," five shillings; Single White, "La Grandesse," six shillings; and "Snowball," four-and-sixpence; Single Blue, "Czar Peter," four shillings; "King of the Blues," seven-and-sixpence; "Sir James Graham," five shillings; Single Black, "Blackbird," and "Lamplighter" each half-a-crown; And Single Yellow, "Bird of Paradise," seven shillings. For collections of named varieties, assorted as to shade, the price varies from ten pounds to three pounds fifteen shillings per hundred, and from five guineas to two pounds per fifty. Cheap Hyacinths for beds may be had at thirty-two shillings per hundred, or four shillings and sixpence per dozen, while mixed Hyacinths of all shades are twenty-five shillings per hundred, or three shillings and sixpence per dozen. There is an excellent selection of Tulips, both single and double, early and late, while, among Lilies, we have marked L. Auratum at from half-a-crown to half a guinea each, L. Californicum from seven and sixpence to a guinea; L. Humboldtii from seven and sixpence to half a guinea, L. Pardalinum and L. Washingtonianum, each from seven and sixpence to half a guinea, and L. Tigrinum flore pleno from five shillings to half a guinea. Similarly, the prices for other bulbous plants vary according to the class of root selected. There is also an excellent selection of Strawberries specially prepared for planting. A few good named

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practical hints as to the cultivation of Hyacinths are prefixed, and each is fully described. Those of our readers who may visit the Cutbush Nurseries at Highgate, will have an ample and a choice field to select from, and we are convinced they will have every reason to be pleased with their purchases. It is, of course, desirable they should go early, for then there will be a chance of obtaining roots of the finest varieties. In so simple a matter as the purchase of Hyacinths, as in the graver concerns of life, "delays are dangerous," if the buyer, at least, is anxious to make a good selection.

A List of Lodges on the Roll of the United Grand Lodge, A.D. 1814. By William James Hughan P.M. 131, &c., &c. Truro: W. Lake, Steam Press, Princes Street. 1875.

It is not necessary we should offer any lengthened comments on this—which is, in fact, a corrected issue of the List appended to Brother Hughan's well-known *Memorials of the Masonic Union*, the merits of which we endeavoured to do justice to in one of our earliest issues. The list will prove of great value to all students of Masonry, and it is as well that it should have been published separately. In a brief notice like this we can hardly do more than refer to the labour which Bro. Hughan must have gone through in the compilation of such a List. Thoughtless readers will imagine that a work of this kind is all plain sailing. Experienced people alone can estimate the trouble entailed in the performance of such a task, and probably there are very few brethren, who, had the compilation devolved upon them as a duty, would have had the patience or the ability to accomplish it.

Installation Song.—"Our M.W.G.M., Albert Edward, Prince of Wales." Composed by the Rev. H. John Hatch, S.W. 160, Prov. Gr. Chaplain, Essex. London: George Kenning, 198 Fleet-street.

We think this song is likely to be very popular with the Craft, not because it is above the average of Masonic songs; it is neither better nor worse than most of the ballads to which Masons rejoice to listen when the labours of the day are over; nor is the melody particularly enchanting; nevertheless we feel, as we have said, that it will meet with many admirers, and as it is far from difficult to sing and play, we shall probably hear it pretty frequently now that the Craft has resumed its labours.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

Those of our readers who have watched the progress of events in the serial story current for some months in *Blackwood*, and entitled "The Dilemma," will not be surprised at the turn events have taken in the present instalment. That the Residency of Mustaphabad should be relieved when almost *in extremis* was inevitable; that one of the principal characters in the story should be struck down in the performance of his duty, must have been long regarded as a necessary point in the story. But though the principal events contained in this Part VI. may have been foreseen, the manner in which they are described is highly effective, enabling us to realise, as far as it is possible to realise such scenes, the terrible nature of the duties which our scattered garrisons in India had to fulfil in the summer of 1857. We must not enter too minutely into detail, but we may mention that Colonel and Mrs. Falkland, Yorke, Bradden, Major Peart, and others, all do their duty manfully, as we know was the case throughout our gallant army during the whole period of the mutiny. Of the other articles, we have read with particular pleasure the long and exhaustive account of "The British Sea Fisheries," an able paper on "Money;" "Wrecked off the Riff Coast," in which the Riff pirates, as regards one of the boat's crews—to use a common phrase—come off second best, and a description of the every day routine of business in "The London Police Courts." The life and works of "Michael Angelo" form the subject of another interesting paper.

The present number of the *New Quarterly* will be found quite equal to any of its predecessors. The fiction is decidedly good, both Mrs. Cashel Hoey's tale of "No Sign," and the shorter, yet well conceived tale of Mr. Mortimer Collins, entitled "The Summerfield Embroglio." Students of art and poetry will find something that accords with their taste in Mr. Carr's paper on "The Artistic Spirit in Modern Poetry." There are two biographical sketches, one of an old English Dramatist, "Philip Massinger," by Mr. G. Barnett Smith, and the other of a great Italian patriot, "Nino Bixio," who played so conspicuous a part in some of the leading events of the recent struggles by Italy for establishing, not only her independence of foreign rule and native tyranny, but likewise her homogeneity. He was one of those gallant soldiers to whom Italy owes it that she is no longer what an eminent statesman, not so many years since, described her as being—a mere Geographical expression. Bixio was one of the famous thousand who landed at Marsala with Garibaldi, and was, in fact, one of that hero's most favoured lieutenants. Mr. Goddard's paper on the "Dolomites of the Tyrol," and Dr. Lear's review of "Tennyson's May Queen," are eminently readable contributions.

The chief features in the *Gentleman's* are "Red Spinner's" paper entitled "In the Peak Country,"—not unknown, perhaps, to some of our readers in connection with one of Sir Walter Scott's most famous novels, *Peveril of the Peak*, in which that pleasant writer discourses agreeably, as is his wont, of the streams that flow through that part of England; and Mr. McCullagh Torrens' inquiry "Are good recruits worth paying for?" We can well imagine the answer, that ninety-nine out of every hundred readers will give to this very proper question, which, it should be pointed out, is most ably argued from every point of view by the writer. Those who love Irish scenery and adventures will find that "Back O' Whiddy" will fully satisfy their tastes. Mr. and Mrs. Cowden Clarke's "Recollections of writers known to an old couple when young," are admirable sketches, written lightly, yet genially, and with great effect. Coleridge and Mrs. Shelly, widow of the poet, are among those to whom we are introduced this month. The Table Talk is good, and our interest in the two serials is well kept up. An English Jew writes thoughtfully of "Modern Judaism."

We note in the *Argosy* that "A Secret of the Sea" is rapidly approaching its termination. The point at which for the present we take leave of the story is a critical one, and it is clear that but little remains to dispose of the chief personages and events. The writer, who is known in these papers, and elsewhere, as "Johnny Ludlow," concludes his tale of "Chandler and Chandler." Tom, who has been hardly used, first by his uncle and afterwards by his cousin, prospers famously, and marries, while his cousin Valentine falls into evil ways, and has to emigrate to Canada, in order to start afresh in life.

Of *Belgravia* we may remark, as to the illustrations, that they are admirable—particularly Mr. French's, "All that I have is yours," and Mr. George Kirby's "At the Stile." Among the contents we have noted an amusingly written paper by Mr. G. Augustus Sala—"The Ghost of Barbarossa lately encountered on the coast of Africa," a somewhat similar kind of paper by Dr. Gordon Stables, entitled "A Reminiscence of Zanzibar." The article on "Criminals" urges, and rightly, we think, strong measures in dealing with the wife beaters and similar brutes. There is a prettily descriptive paper by Mr. Escott, "In the New Forest," a neatly told tale by Percy Boyd, "How I shot my first snipe," and well-deserved laudation of "The Midland Railway and its hotels." Of the other contents, we commend to our readers' notice, Mr. James Grant's "Strange Story of the Duchess of Kingston," and if they wish for something to excite their anger—"Revelations of a Critic." The latter may be amusing perhaps, but had better have been left unwritten. It has not even the merit of novelty.

The fare provided in *Temple Bar* is solid and substantial as usual. The tale of "Leah: A Woman of Fashion," is concluded; "Her Dearest Foe" is still current. There are, also, a short tale, well told, entitled "Basil's Faith," a pretty "Lapland Legend," and sketches of "Two Danes," Thorwaldsen and Anderson, two of the most illustrious sons of Denmark. We subjoin "the Poet's Last Song," translated by Hans from the original Danish of Anderson's.

Like to the leaf which falleth from the tree,
O God, such only is my earthly life.
Lord, I am ready when thou callest me.
Lo! Thou canst see my heart's most bitter strife—
'Tis Thou alone canst know the load of sin,
Which this my aching breast doth hold within.

Shorten the pains of death, shake off my fear,
Give me the courage of a trusting child.
Father of Love, I fain would see Thee near.
In pity judge each thought and act defiled—
Mercy, I cry! dear Lord, Thy will be done,
Save me, I pray, through Jesus Christ, Thy Son.

We cannot say we are quite satisfied with the turn events have taken in Mrs. Banks's story—"The Manchester Man"—the first serial in *Cassell's Family Magazine*. Jabez Clegg still prospers, and the services he renders Mr. Ashton are more and more valuable each day. But Augusta Ashton seems to have lost her head entirely, nor do we see that the exigencies of the story demanded the sacrifice. It would have been in better keeping with the proprieties had Aspinall *père* not lent himself to his son's vagaries. Altogether, though there is the same force exhibited, the same vivacity in the dialogue, while incidents, well depicted, of an interesting, nay even, of an exciting character come thick and fast upon us, we think Mrs. Banks might have spared her heroine the disgrace of becoming Mrs. Lawrence Aspinall. As to her father, he behaves well throughout, and he yields to the force of circumstances, which prove too powerful for him, only that his daughter's life may not be sacrificed to her silly passion. We have, further, in this number, a sketch of the "Rise of Good-Templarism" by Joseph Malins, Grand Worthy Chief Templar of England, who, if any one, should speak with authority on the subject. For ourselves, we think Good Templarism admirably suited for weak-minded people. "My Balloon Adventure" is a very exciting story. If it really happened, it must have been far more pleasant to narrate than to experience. A Navy Surgeon should go on writing about "Home-Baths and Bathing," not that he will add much to the force of the very sensible remarks we have to thank him for here, but on the principle of writing till you have worried people into taking your advice. We, too, know by experience the luxury of the morning tub, and how few people there are even now who indulge in it. We fully endorse "A Navy Surgeon's" remarks as to the not uncommon omission in families of the healthy practice of tubbing, and equally with him are we convinced that the health of the country generally would be vastly improved if this practice were more constantly indulged in. "Small economies" are those which it is most necessary to be careful about; what these are, and how to observe them, we learn from Phillis Browne. "The Gatherer" also has culled a sensible assortment of hints and views.

In the *Voice of Masonry*, for September, we have read with great pleasure a paper by Bro. William James Hughan, on the origin of "Freemasonry in North America," in which some very interesting evidence is furnished, bearing on the question when the first Masonic Lodge was constituted in America. Another paper which we commend to the notice of our readers bears also on a question which has recently excited no little interest—"The Earliest Attack of the Church against secret Societies," by Albert G. Mackey, M.D.

Cuts Hoyle Patience Cards.—Mogul Quality, packed in 36 per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. second in par pack, 10s per dozen packs. 1d by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bezique, Euchre, &c., Mogul Quality 30s per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 27 Berners, E.C.

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INSTALLATION OF H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,

Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,

IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By Bro. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Fourth Application—October Election, 1875.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is most earnestly solicited on behalf of

RICHARD THOMAS GARDNER, Aged 8 Years.

SON of the late Brother RICHARD RAVENSHAW GARDNER, of 13 Graham Street, Walworth, Surrey, Dancing Master, who died 22nd October 1870, after a long and painful illness, leaving a Widow and Four Children totally unprovided for; his lengthened infirmity having exhausted all previous savings. Brother Gardner was initiated in the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, in 1856, served the several Offices, and passed the Chair of that Lodge, and was generally respected by the numerous Brethren with whom his business brought him in contact.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren, viz:—

Bro. George Kenning P.M. 169, Past Grand Deacon for Middlesex.
Bro. Magnus Ohren P.M., P.Z. 33, P.M. and M.E.Z. 462, G.J. Warden for Surrey; Lower Sydenham, S.E.
Bro. William Hudson P.M. 218, Past Prov. G.J.D. for Sussex, P.Z. 732, P.M. Mark 76; Brighton.
Bro. Nathan Bryant Headon W.M. Great City Lodge, No. 1426; 65 Friday Street, London, E.C.
Bro. James H. Vockins W.M. Sphynx Lodge, No. 1329; 158 Stockwell Road, Brixton, S.
Bro. James Weaver P.M. 862, W.M. 1319, M.E.Z. 862, P.P.G. Organist, Middlesex; 46 Howland Street, Fitzroy Square, W.
Bro. Charles L. Marshall P.M.; 22 Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, S.E.
Bro. Mark Samuel Lazham J.W. 1216; York Street, Walworth, S.E.
Bro. James Freeman 1267, Treasurer 1426; 65 Friday Street, E.C.
Bro. William S. Webster P.M. 231, P.Z. 21; 17 Ely Place, Holborn, E.C.
Bro. Thomas Moore P.M. 720; High Street, Clapham.
Bro. James Stevens P.M. 25, 720, 1216, 1426, P.Z. 720, M.E.Z. 771, P.G.O. Mark, &c.; 18; Clapham Common, S.W.

Proxies will be thankfully received by Bro. James Stevens, and by the Widow, 13 Graham Street, Walworth, S.E.

THE THEATRES, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN. — PROMENADE CONCERTS, at 8.0, each evening.

DRURY LANE.—At 7, THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN, and A NABOB FOR AN HOUR.

HAYMARKET. — At, 7.30, MARRIED IN HASTE, and SPRING GARDENS.

LYCEUM.—At 7.0, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and THE BONNIE FISHWIFE.

PRINCESS'S. — At 8 each evening, Carl Rosa Opera Company.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FAMILY JARS. At 8, THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

STRAND.—At 7.0, RAISING THE WIND, WOODCOCK'S LITTLE GAME, and FLAMINGO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD and Mr. GATHERWOOL.

MIRROR.—At 7.45, SELF, and THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, TALBOT'S TRUST, and THE BRIGANDS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—MONEY.

OPERA COMIQUE.—MY WIFE'S OUT, and THE GRAND DUCHESS.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.

PHILHARMONIC.—LES GEORGIENNES, THE ZOO, and TWO TO ONE.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT. On Monday, FIREWORK MAKING. On Tuesday, "STILL WATERS RUN DEEP." On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, ANNUAL CAT SHOW. On Thursday, FIREWORKS and ILLUMINATION. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, SKATING RINK, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, OPERA, VENETIAN FETE, ILLUMINATION, &c. On Tuesday, OPERA, HARVEST CELEBRATION, FIREWORKS, &c. On Thursday, OPERA. Open Daily.

POLYTECHNIC.—The BEAUTY, the BEAST and the BARGAIN, with Ghost Scenes, &c.—AUSTRALIAN MEATS and How to Cook them.—NEW ZEALAND, OR THE SOUTHERN WONDERLAND. WONDERS OF ACOUSTICS. New Lecture, SEA SIDE SKETCHES. Many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, daily at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—BAUTIER, and FITZ-RENHARD, daily, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place, W. — Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, commencing on Monday next.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

ST. JOHN'S HILL, S.W.

OFFICE: 5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.

PATRONS.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M., President.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution, will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, the 9th day of October 1875, at 12 o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to consider notices of motion as follows, and to elect 6 Girls into the School by ballot from a list of 30 approved candidates. The election will commence at 1 o'clock (or after the usual business is over), and close at 3 o'clock precisely.

By JOSHUA NUNN, ESQ., P.G.S.B., Vice-President.

"With a view to enable the Institution to accomodate a greater number of Children, found necessary by the increase of applications (Four-Fifths of the applicants at the next Election cannot be admitted for want of room), and the vastly extending growth of the Craft generally, with the circumstance that space cannot be obtained on the limited site of the present School, as it is so hemmed in by railway lines and buildings, and which, at no distant period, will be required for partially or for increased railway accommodation, that year by year has extended since the School has been at Wandsworth.

"That, a sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand pounds (£25,000) be expended out of the Funds of the Institution in the purchase of Land, and the erection of a suitable School-House and buildings, to educate and support two hundred children, and to be so arranged that in the event of the existing School being removed, space be found for extending the same, so as to contain all the Children under one roof.

"In the event of my proposition being carried: That a Sub-Committee be formed out of the General Committee to carry out the details, and complete the same.

Pursuant to the recommendation of the General Committee:

By JOHN A. RUCKER, ESQ., P.G.D., Vice-Patron.

"That in the opinion of this General Court it is advisable that arrangements be made for the admission of an increase in number of children to the benefits of the Institution.

"That a Sub-Committee, consisting of nine Members, of whom not less than Four shall be Members of the House Committee, together with the Treasurer and Trustees of the Institution, be appointed, three to form a quorum, to consider and report to the General Court on the arrangements to be made for the admission of from thirty to fifty more Children to the benefits of the Institution; that in case of need a Special General Court be summoned to receive such report, and that such report be read for information at any House Committee, or General Committee, that may meet between the completion of the report and the meeting of the (Quarterly or Special) General Court.

By RAYNHAM W. STEWART, ESQ., P.G.D., Vice-President.

"That in view of the large expenditure involved by Bro. Joshua Nunn's motion, a more desirable mode of proceeding under existing circumstances is: That the new Infirmary be utilised for the purpose of educating an increased number of younger Children with a separate Superintending Governess and staff.

"That in lieu of the present Infirmary, a house of a proper size be rented and properly furnished for the reception of invalid Children.

"In the event of the foregoing motions being carried: That it be moved that the whole of the approved Candidates be at once admitted."

"To move for a Committee to enquire as to the cause of the Head Governess's (Miss Moss) resignation, and also as to the legality of the appointment of Miss Davis as Head Governess.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE (Prov. S.G. Warden Middlesex), Secretary.

FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE Queen returned to Balmoral on Wednesday, from her visit to the Duke and Duchess of Argyll. She was favoured, for the most part, with excellent weather,

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with what, in fact, is commonly known as Queen's weather, and appears to have been well pleased with the reception accorded to her. On Friday last, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales with their family left Marlborough House for their Norfolk residence, Sandringham, where they will remain, we presume, till the Prince starts for India. In connection with this visit we have to note that the Serapis, which is to convey his Royal Highness from Venice, has already started, while preparations for his reception at Bombay, Calcutta, and other cities, where it is proposed he should make anything of a stay, are being pushed forward. In fact, it is no exaggeration to say that all India is on the tiptoe of expectation to receive the eldest son and heir of the Empress who sways her destinies. The Duke of Connaught has returned to England after a somewhat lengthened continental tour; Prince Leopold has been visiting the West of Scotland, as the guest of Colonel Campbell, and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh have returned from their visit to St. Petersburg.

The inquiry into the loss of the Vanguard has terminated. The court have strongly censured Captain Dawkins and those of his subordinate officers whose conduct was the subject of inquiry, and the sentence as regards the Captain is, that he be severely reprimanded and dismissed his ship, while as regards the others, Commander Tandy and Navigating Lieutenant Thomas are severely reprimanded, and Mr. R. Brown, chief engineer, and Mr. D. Tiddy, carpenter, reprimanded. The main grounds on which the court found this sentence are, first, the high rate of speed at which the squadron was proceeding whilst in a fog; the unnecessary reduction of speed by Captain Dawkins without orders from the Vice Admiral, and without signalling properly to the Iron Duke; the increased speed of the latter vessel; the Iron Duke improperly steering out of line, and the want of fog signals on board of that vessel. They are further of opinion that the foundering of the vessel might have been delayed, if not averted altogether, had more energetic measures been taken by Captain Dawkins. As to the latter expression of opinion we are not in a position to offer any suggestion; but it occurs to us that, as regards the earlier portion of the finding, in the first place, there is something contradictory; and in the second, the majority of the reasons affect not Captain Dawkins, but others. Thus, Captain Dawkins is not responsible for the speed at which the squadron was moving, nor is he to blame that the Iron Duke sheered out of the line or increased its speed; while, as regards the too high rate of speed, the Captain exercised a wise discretion in reducing his rate. Had he not done so, he would probably have run down the Norwegian barque, of which, by the way, no notice appears to have been taken.

As to matters Civic, we note that the new Sheriffs, Mr. Alderman Knight and Mr. Breffit, were sworn in on Tuesday at the Guildhall with the usual ceremonies, as also were the new made sheriffs, Messrs. Baylis and Crawford. The occasion was signalised by the revival of a procession—a custom that has been in disuse for nearly twenty years—and the procession, a kind of Lord Mayor's show in miniature, was most cordially received as it wended its way to Guildhall. After the ceremony was over, the procession was reformed, and on reaching the Albion, the company adjourned to a most *recherché* banquet. On Wednesday, being Michaelmas Day, a successor to Lord Mayor Stone was elected to fill the Civic chair during the year 1875-6. The election fell on Mr. Alderman Cotton, one of the Parliamentary representatives for the City, who was next on the roll of Aldermen. Mr. Jones, as usual, distinguished himself by putting sundry questions to Alderman Cotton, whose answers may be taken to have been eminently satisfactory. The Lord Mayor, who presided, was honoured with the usual vote of thanks for his great services during the term of his Mayoralty. This is never a mere formal expression of opinion on the part of the Common Council, and less so than ever in the instance before us, for few Lord Mayors have been more popular than our respected Grand Junior Warden.

We print in another part of our columns, an extract from the *Standard*, containing the gist of the answer given by the Masonic Convention, at Lausanne, now in session, to the attacks recently made on us by the Pope and his emissaries. We need offer no remarks on the clearness and precision, as well as the singular force of this reply; its value will be best understood when we take notice of the outcry which it has raised among the various organs of the Roman Catholic press in France. Thus, the *Pays* insists that Freemasonry "dabbles in politics,—and very unwholesome politics too." It does not see why the Government tolerates it, and it describes its faith as mere "humanitarian humbug." We have survived a good many onslaughts, and we have little doubt we are strong enough to survive a good many more. As for the miserable attack of the *Pays*, we look at it much in the same light as the great big navvy did at the blows of his pigmy wife. They did him no harm, while they pleased her.

The Revenue for the half-year ended on the 30th ult. must be looked upon as very satisfactory. No great increase was expected; but the budget estimate seems to stand a very fair chance not only of being realized, but leaving also a fairly respectable surplus over and above what the Chancellor of the Exchequer anticipated. Apart from all political views, the prospect is highly gratifying.

In the fashionable world an event worth recording was solemnised on Thursday. This was nothing less than the marriage of Mr. W. H. Gladstone, M.P. for Whitby, the eldest son of the ex-Premier Mr. W. E. Gladstone. The bride was the Hon. Gertrude Stuart, youngest daughter of Lord Blantyre. The marriage was celebrated at St. George's, Hanover-square, but owing to the recent death of an uncle of the bridegroom, only the nearest relatives and friends of the two families were present. After the breakfast, which was at Lord Blantyre's house, in Berkeley Square, the happy pair left for Cliveden to pass the honeymoon.

According to a paragraph in the *Lancet*, the street purveyors of ice creams take as much as seven or eight shillings a day, but our contemporary has no very high opinion of the quality of the creams sold. It points out that if the creams were not iced, those who indulge in them would reject the stuff of which they are composed with absolute scorn. It adds that people should avoid these luxuries. It is perilous to introduce a frigid mass into the stomach, and still more perilous when the mass is composed of highly objectional matter. The *Lancet* suggests either that the sale of these ices should be discontinued, or that a better quality of material should be purveyed.

The directors of the Alexandra Palace have provided, this week, two Exhibitions of a somewhat novel character. The first was held on Wednesday and Thursday, and proved a very interesting International Potato Show. There was a considerable number of exhibitors, and the quality of the fruit merits the highest commendation. Some specimens, both kidney and round potatoes, were simply magnificent, and we confess we should have liked there and then to have tested the merits of a "murphy" or two. Yesterday, was held a cab show, over £200 being awarded in prizes for new kinds of cabs, the best appointed cabs in use, and to cabmen possessing well-established characters for honesty and ability in their calling. It will be somewhat of a novelty to read of a prize cabby. We imagine the man who attains to this pinnacle of good fortune will get considerably chaffed by his fellows, and that will be no light ordeal to endure. We shall give the results of the show next week.

We are happy in being able to place before our readers a full account of the meeting held on Thursday, at Great Grimsby, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons. We may be pardoned if we take some little credit to ourselves for being able to place this report before our readers thus early. However, we hold to this very sensible maxim—that stale news is no news, and we shall always make a point of being as soon in the field as possible.

There have been one or two more railway accidents inclining to the more rather than to the less serious. In one of them the cause was a runaway train, which went bang into a passenger train. A slight misfortune also has befallen the twin ship Castalia, in its passage from Calais on Tuesday. The weather was so very rough that one of the paddle-wheels was disabled and four floats broken. This, of course, will necessitate cessation from running for a brief time.

Among our advertisements will be noticed one in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, whose next Quarterly General Court is fixed for next Saturday. Our readers will notice that sundry propositions, all bearing upon the same important question will be brought forward. The object is to enlarge the scope of the Institution, which from the fact of its being now enclosed by other buildings, is now necessarily limited in its accommodation. The

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first motion on the agenda paper is by Bro. Joshua Nunn, who will move that a sum of five-and-twenty thousand pounds be expended out of the Funds of the Institution in the purchase of land and the erection of school premises, so as to accommodate two hundred children, care being taken that, if the present school be removed, the new buildings may be extended so as to contain all the children under one roof. Bro. Rucker proposes the appointment of a sub-committee to inquire into and report upon the best means of providing additional accommodation for thirty or forty more children; while the third proposal is that the present infirmary be utilised for the accommodation of additional children, a suitable house being rented and furnished for the reception of the invalids. These motions are satisfactory proof of the growing interest which the Craft generally is taking in our several institutions. Whichever of the propositions is carried, the end in view is the same—namely, provision for an increased number of girls, and, we doubt not, a means will be found to secure this desirable end. We see no reason why the Masonic Girls' School should not follow the example of other large metropolitan schools, and seek a new field, at some little distance from town, where land being cheaper, larger premises could be had for far less a sum than in London. There would also be greater space obtained for recreation, while communication with head-quarters would be as easy under the new as under existing arrangements. Whatever is done, the scheme for the enlargement of the School will have our best wishes.

Blackburn has just been in all the feverish excitement of a Parliamentary Election. One of its two representatives, Mr. Fielden, died a short time since, and at first it seemed as though the election of Mr. Thwaites, or, at all events, of the Conservative candidate, would have passed unchallenged; but Mr. Hibbert, who held a subordinate post in Mr. Gladstone's Ministry, was induced to come forward in the Liberal interest. However, victory declared decisively for Mr. Thwaites, who headed his opponent by nearly a thousand votes.

Generally speaking there is a dearth of home news. We are, indeed, in a kind of transition state. The holidays are about over, yet serious work has hardly recommenced. A few weeks, however, will set things right. We are beginning to think of the Lord Mayor's show, November fogs, buying presents and Christmas pudding, and when this is the case, we know we are in for work.

It is not often we hear of a female cab-driver. However, on the 30th ult., a cab proprietor of Surbiton was summoned before the Kingston-on-Thames magistrates for having, some days previously, unlawfully interfered with one Mrs. Maria Denman, also a cab proprietor, and holding a driver's license, and hindered her from taking up a fare. It was proved in the evidence that the defendant had used language to the detriment of the complainant at the moment a lady was stepping into the latter's cab, he advising the lady that the horse could not draw, or the complainant drive. The case was proved, and the magistrate fined the defendant £1 7s 6d, including costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment, the chairman stating that his conduct was most ungenerous and unmanly, and that if such conduct were repeated, the full penalty would be imposed.

Foreign news is not very cheerful. From Paris we learn that the Count de Molin, the Spanish Ambassador, had a very narrow escape a day or two since. A car ran into his carriage, in the Champs Elysées, and badly damaged it, but fortunately the Count and his son escaped with only a few bruises. The military manœuvres at Vernon appear to have been admirably conducted, and all the foreign officers who were present bear willing testimony to the skill and ability of the rival generals, and the good form and endurance of the troops. So far there is nothing of any very serious moment. But from Spain, we hear nothing very satisfactory. We hope and trust this miserable Carlist war will soon come to an end, and as there seems to be little doubt that the Carlists are being thoroughly worsted, we hope some *Convenio* will be arranged, and Spain again enjoy the blessings of peace. We say not this in the interest of the Alphonsists, for, in our opinion, it matters not a brass farthing, as the saying is, whether Don Carlos or Don Alfonso reigns. But patriotism must suggest to the former that a struggle, once it is shown to be hopeless, ought not to be maintained a moment longer. Unhappily, this is not the only trouble in store for this unhappy country. The Papal Nuncio has been issuing a circular, and, as other Papal Nuncios have done before, has been showing the utmost contempt for the government of the young King. If there is a spark of courage in the advisers of Alphonso, the Papal Nuncio will be politely escorted over the border. Yet the Pope talks of the interference in politics of Freemasons. As to the Eastern question, there is good reason for the disquiet that prevails about the insurrections in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is, we think, a good thing both for Servia herself and the peace of Europe generally, that the Skupschina has voted a reply in accordance with the address from Milan. This, at all events, confines the sphere of operations to the present limits. So far satisfactory, but we still read of so-called insurgent victories, of mutilated Turks, and refugees over the border. Turkey seems showing a considerable amount of energy, and will, doubtless, stamp out the insurrection at an early date. Yet there will have to be some reforms, which we hope that Turkey, once victorious, will be magnanimous enough to grant to all her subjects. As to the visit of Emperor William to Italy, that, we hear, is fixed for about the 15th or 17th of this month.

On Wednesday, at the Town Hall, Maidstone, a life-size portrait, painted by Mr. Sant, R.A., was presented to Mr. J. Monckton, who had been town clerk for 37 years. The presentation was made by the Mayor, H. Hughes, Esq., and it was requested the portrait should hang up in the Town Hall, as a remembrance of the respect in which the original was held. We may add that Mr. Monckton is the father of Bro. J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes, and Town Clerk of the City of London.

The Albert Assurance Arbitration having come to an end, Bro. Thomas Preston (Great City Lodge, 1426), the Secretary of the Arbitration, has received a testimonial from the solicitors who were engaged in the business, addressed to Lord Cairns, the Arbitrator, in which they say:—

"We, the undersigned, having had opportunities of judging, beg leave to express to your Lordship our satisfaction at the way in which Mr. Thomas Preston has discharged the duties of the office of Secretary of the Albert Life Assurance Company Arbitration, in relation to the legal practitioners concerned.

The magnitude, intricacy, and novelty of the work demanded special qualifications, and Mr. Preston has proved himself in all respects equal to the occasion, and we beg leave respectfully to submit this to your Lordship as a testimonial to him."

This testimonial was returned to Bro. Preston, with a letter from the Lord Chancellor's principal secretary, in which he says:—

"The Lord Chancellor directs me to say that it has given him much pleasure to note such a recognition of your services as Secretary of the Arbitration, and that he is himself fully cognizant of the diligence and intelligence with which you have discharged the duties of that office."

Morning and afternoon swimming fêtes have taken place at Brills Baths, Brighton, under the special patronage of the Mayor, Bro. Sir Cordy Burrows, and Sir John Bennett. Mr. Giles, the swimming master, distinguished himself by his masterly performances. Mr. H. Smith, an old professional swimmer (nearly 70 years of age), walked into the water in his ordinary clothing, undressed himself, and showed various modes of swimming, concluding by imitating a drowning man; Mr. Giles undertook the task of rescue, and dived from the railing of the top balcony. Mr. Hutton exhibited on the trapeze, while Mr. Attwood, in an illuminated tank, showed some wonderful feats of natation. An aquatic quadrille was performed by Misses H. E. Dick, and H. Saigeman (who had previously swam from Shoreham to Brighton), and Messrs. G. Rowell and H. Evans. Youths' races and other competitions followed, and the crowded audience thoroughly enjoyed the display. During the evening, at the Aquarium, Bro. Sir John Bennett (who came from London specially to present the prizes) made a very humourous speech. Great credit is due to Mr. Dyer, the Secretary of the company, for the admirable arrangements. Bro. Thos. Hadley Prestage, V.P.S.C., acted as starter, whilst Bro. Devin's band played some excellent music during the performances.

Mr. Coleman's benefit, postponed from June, will take place at the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday morning, 6th November. The *School for Scandal* will be represented, with Miss Fowler as Lady Teazle, her first appearance in

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that character. Mr. Phelps will give her his support, as Sir Peter Teazle. Mr. Henry Neville and Mr. Creswick will also appear respectively as Charles and Joseph Surface.

We gather from the *Standard* that "the Freemasons assembled in 'Convent' at Lausanne have thought proper to reply to the attacks and insults levelled against them, chiefly by the Pope and the organs of the Papacy in France, by the publication of a declaration of principles. Subjoined is the text of this curious document:—

'Freemasonry proclaims, as it has already proclaimed from the time of its origin, 'the existence of a creative principle under the name of Great Architect of the Universe. It places no limits to the research of truth, and it is in order to guarantee that liberty to all that it enacts from all toleration. In its workshops it prohibits all political and religious discussion; it receives all the profane, whatever be their religious or political opinions, which are things that do not concern it, provided they should be free and their morality good. The object of Freemasonry is to fight intolerance in every shape; it is a mutual school whose programme may be thus summed up: 'To obey the laws of one's country; live in conformity with the precepts of honour; love one's neighbours; work incessantly to promote the happiness of mankind, and prosecute its progressive and peaceful emancipation.' These are the rules Freemasonry adopts, and the adoption of which it imposes upon those who wish to belong to the Masonic family. But simultaneously with this declaration of principles, the Convent deems it necessary to proclaim the truths and doctrines on which Masonry is founded; it desires that every man should know them. To raise man in his own eyes, to render him worthy of his mission upon earth, Masonry lays down the principle that the Creator has given him liberty as the most precious of all blessings—liberty, the patrimony of the whole of mankind, a ray from above which no power has the right to diminish or suppress, and which is the source of all feelings of honour and dignity. From the preparation for the first degree to the attainment of the highest degree in Scotch Masonry the first condition, without which nothing is granted to the claimant, is an unblemished reputation for honour and honesty. To these men, for whom religion is a supreme consolation, Masonry says:—'Practice your religion without let or hindrance; follow the dictates of your conscience.' Freemasonry is not a religion; it has no form of worship; therefore it wishes for the establishment of lay education, and its doctrine may be summed up in the beautiful tenet—love thy neighbour. To those who dread with so much reason political dissensions. Freemasonry says—'I banish all discussions from my meetings; be for thy country a faithful and devoted servant; thou hast no account to render us.' The love of country, moreover, accords with the practice of all virtues. Masonry has been charged with immorality! Our morality is the purest morality, the holiest morality! It is based on the first of all virtues—humanity. The real Mason does good; he extends his benevolence to all the unfortunate without distinction, within the limit of his means; he therefore rejects immorality with disgust and contempt. Such are the foundations on which Freemasonry is built up, and which secure among all members of that great family the closest union, whatever be the distance that separates the various countries they dwell in; fraternal love reigns among them. What can better prove that truth than the meeting of our Convent, unknown to each other, coming from widely different countries? Hardly had we exchanged the first words of welcome when the most intimate union prevailed between us; hands were fraternally grasped, and it was in the midst of the most touching concord that our most important resolutions were passed with unanimous assent. Freemasons of all countries, citizens of all nations, such are the precepts, such are the laws of Freemasonry, such are its mysteries! Against it the effects of calumny will remain unavailing, and insults without echo; marching peacefully from victory to victory, Freemasonry will extend each day its civilising and moral influence over the world.'"

On Tuesday evening Mr. Denzil Onslow, M.P., at a special Lodge of Emergency of the Royal Alfred Lodge, was initiated into the Order. A numerous and influential assemblage of the brethren took place on the occasion.

Bro. J. S. Sweasey, the respected proprietor of the Royal Music Hall, Holborn, announces his 10th Anniversary Concert on Tuesday, 12th October. On that occasion, in addition to the regular company, a host of talent will appear.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SUSSEX.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Sussex, was held in the Music-room, at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Thursday afternoon. Bro. E. J. Farmer P.G.D. Deputy Prov. G.M. presided, and there were about 130 members present. Two o'clock was the time fixed for the commencement of the proceedings, but it was nearly three before the meeting began. The first business on the agenda was to receive a letter from Lord Pelham Prov. G.M. requesting Bro. Farmer Dep. Prov. G.M. to transact the entire business of the province in his stead and during his pleasure. The letter was read, and the Dep. Prov. G.M. explained that the Prov. G.M. was led to make this request in consequence of continued indisposition. The letter was ordered to be recorded in the minute book. Bro. C. J. Smith, of Cliftonville, moved that the letter should be re-considered. He thought that the long continued illness of the Prov. G.M. was one reason why he should resign the reins of office to the man upon whom its labours really devolved. His proposition, was, however, ruled out of order. A letter respecting the funeral of the late Bro. Pocock having been read, the Acting Prov. G.M. proposed the following resolution:—"It is with feelings of deep regret that the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex record in their Minute Book the decease of Bro. Gavin Elliott Pocock, which took place on the first day of the present year. His untiring exertions during the twenty years of his Provincial Grand Secretaryship were duly acknowledged by a unanimous vote of thanks at the annual meeting, two years ago, and the high estimation in which he was held by his Masonic brethren was evinced by the testimonial which was presented to him last year; so that it is unnecessary now to dilate upon his worth. The melancholy duty, however, of formally declaring the loss Freemasonry has sustained by the removal from its ranks of so distinguished and so devoted a brother still remains, and, therefore, the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge resolve to place on their minutes this record of their sorrow at the death of Bro. Pocock; and further, in order to perpetuate the recollection of the high regard in which he was held by them, and in recognition of the great services he rendered to Freemasonry, both as regards its ceremonies and its charities, they vote from the funds of this Provincial Grand Lodge the sum of fifty guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, to be registered in the books of that Institution as the 'Pocock Memorial,' the privileges of this donation to be exercised in perpetuity by the Provincial Grand Master for the time being." Bro. S. R. Ade proposed that the word "Deputy" before the term "Prov. Grand Master," be retained in the last clause of the resolution, but subsequently withdrew his proposition, and the resolution was agreed to in its original form. The report of the Finance Committee was presented, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. G. Tatham was re-elected Pro Grand Treasurer; and the following Prov. Grand Officers were appointed and invested:—Bro. E. J. Farmer Deputy Prov. G.M. acting as Prov. G.M., Bro. J. Cunningham as Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. W. H. Hallett Prov. G.S.W., Bro. L. J. Brigden Prov. G.J.W., Bro. C. A. Woolley Prov. G. Registrar, Bro. J. H. Scott Prov. Secretary, Bro. W. H. German Prov. G.S.D., Bro. J. Dorman Prov. G.J.D., Bro. J. O'Brien Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. J. Dixon Prov. G.D. of C., Bro. R. Fidcock Prov. G.A.D. of C., Bro. J. M. Reed Prov. G. Sup. of W., Bro. C. Walker Prov. G. S. B., Bro. Boutcck Prov. G. Purst., and Bros. W. Smith, J. Eberall, Crunch, and W. Read Prov. G. Stewards. Bro. Trollope P. Prov. G.J. Warden, proposed the following motion, of which he had given notice:—"That Bro. John H. Scott and Bro. V. P. Freeman, the brethren appointed to act as Stewards for the Province of Sussex on the occasion of the installation of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., be presented from the funds of this Prov. Grand Lodge with the jewel, struck by order of Grand Lodge, to be worn only by those who acted as Stewards on that memorable day." The resolution was unanimously agreed to, the Prov. Grand Secretary following it up with a few appropriate remarks. There was no ordinary business to be transacted. The Lodge was closed in proper form and with solemn prayer. It was followed by a banquet, served by Messrs. Mutton Brothers, King's-road, Brighton, in the Banqueting-room, in their best style, about one hundred brethren partaking of it.

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	739	57,772	56,528
Glasgow and South Western	315½	20,725	20,595
Great Eastern	763	51,628	52,337
Great Northern	523	58,723	60,784
Great Western	1,634	113,984	116,610
Lancashire and Yorkshire	431	68,052	65,966
London and Brighton	376½	39,073	36,592
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	22,261	21,706
London and North Western	1,586	180,802	187,501
London and South Western	626½	38,416	36,302
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	2,304	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	33,668	33,186
Midland	975½	119,168	117,067
Metropolitan	8	8,753	8,124
" " District	8	4,415	4,034
" " St. John's Wood	1½	394	376
North British	844½	44,740	42,972
North Eastern	1,100½	133,917	135,111
North London	12	6,705	6,967
North Staffordshire Railway	191	10,512	10,920
" " Canal	118	1,554	1,650
South Eastern	350	43,159	41,890

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 revolving balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican.—*Advt.*

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

SATURDAY, 2nd OCTOBER.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
420—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street (Emergency).

MONDAY, 4th OCTOBER.

25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell at 8. (Instruction.)
[27—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton-le-Moors.
70—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley.
91—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Bath.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel Assembly Rooms, Preston.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
135—Perpetual Friendship, Royal Clarence Hotel, Ridgewater.
166—Harmony, Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
226—York, Masonic Hall, York.
251—Loyal, Freemasons' Hall, Queen Anne's Walk, Barnstaple.
303—Benevolent, Masonic Hall, Holland's-road, Teignmouth.
325—Guy's, Crown Hotel, Lewisham.
422—Yarborough, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Gainsborough.
431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Suffolk-street, Shields.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Cambridge.
497—St. Cybi, Marine Hotel, Holyhead.
652—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimbourne, Dorset.
805—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Havant.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Ashbourne.
977—Fowey, Masonic Rooms, Fowey.
1088—Gundolph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1181—Rowley, Masonic Lodge Room, Atherstone, Lancaster.
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry.
1302—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, Yorks.
1340—Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 5th OCTOBER.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.

7—Royal York, Freemasons' Hall.
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
1381—Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.
57—Hunter, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
70—St. John's, Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
120—Paladin, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
253—Harmonic, Freemasons' Temple, Stone-street, Dudley.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
333—St. David's, Masonic Hall, Parade, Berwick.
454—Union, Masonic Hall, Grey Friars'-road, Reading. (Instruction).
421—Loyal of Industry, Freemasons' Hall, South Molton.
447—Loyal Monmouth, Freemasons' Hall, Monmouth.
669—Claremont, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorks.
948—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard.
995—Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverston.
1228—Beaconsfield, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)

WEDNESDAY, 6th OCTOBER.

183—Confidence, White Hart, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
177—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
184—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, London Hotel, Belmouth.
186—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
279—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Halford Street, Leicester.
282—Bedford, Private Rooms, Abbey, Tavistock.
293—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Barthol. (Instruction.)
327—St. John's, Lamb and Lion, Wigton, Cumberland.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
429—Sincerity, Angel Hotel, Northwich.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction).
536—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
1010—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship-street, Hull.
1062—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, St. George's-street, Leeds.

THURSDAY, 7th OCTOBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
45—Strong Man, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.
1260—Hervey, 162 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

24—Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
31—United Industrious, Guildhall, Canterbury.
38—Union, Council Chambers, Chichester.
41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath.
51—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lewes-hill.
110—Loyal Countess, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydfil.
264—Trinity, Castle Hotel, Coventry.
280—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds.
360—Minerva, Pig and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
380—Pomfret, George Hotel, Northampton.
392—Doric, Private Room, St. Peter-street, Grantham.
442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.
463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
579—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.
591—St. Helens, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
607—Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.
649—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
1072—Aberystwith, Belle Vue, Royal Hotel, Aberystwith.
1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirby Lonsdale.
1282—Authelme, Forester's Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1284—Trent, Masonic Hall, Globe Road, Top-pan.
1301—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Bank-street, Horncastle.
1305—Bernalmaster Manor, White Hart Hotel, Bannchester.

FRIDAY, 8th OCTOBER.

177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1240—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
176—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Melrosale Wells, Wednesbury.
318—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
415—Fidelity, Pomfret Arms Hotel, Towcester.
[illegible]—Union, George Hotel, Pontefract.
1065—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1205—Pelham, Masonic Hall, Lewes.
1466—Ashburnham, Walker's Rutherford Hotel, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire.
R. A. 237—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.

SATURDAY, 9th OCTOBER.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.

206—Prince George, Station Hotel, Hounslow, near Edmonton.
1731—Commercial, Freemasons' Hotel, Essex-st.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—1—First Lodge of Ireland, Masonic Hall, Tuckey-street, Cork.
" 5—Waterford, Masonic Hall, The Mall, Waterford.
" 116—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Carlow.
" 122—Patricks, Masonic Hall, Drumon, Co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY—36—True Blue, Killyleigh, Co. Down.
" 171—Duke of Clarence, Dublin.
" 719—St. Albans, Private House, Main-street, Newtownimavaly, Derry.
" 881—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, Co. Monaghan.
" 935—True Blue, Anne-street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—51—Temple, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
" 70—Waringsford, Tullynisker, Down.
THURSDAY—32—Royal Shamrock, Lodge Room, Clave's Place, Waterford.
" 111—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 372—Gilhall, Princes-street, Dromore, Co. Down.
" 825—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—176—St. John, Castle-street, Lisburn, Co. Antrim.
" 211—Magherafelt, Court House, Magherafelt, Co. Derry.
SATURDAY—13—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—423—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 90 Constitution-street.
THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James Hall, Writer's-court.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

SATURDAY—29—St. John Kilwig, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
" 426—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Busby.
" 544—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Coatbridge.
MONDAY—219—Star, 12 Trongate.
" 558—Clydesdale, 106 Rose-street.
" R.A. 119—Rosslyn, 25 Robroyston-street.
TUESDAY—34—St. John, St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street.
" 73—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 87—Thistle, 30 Bridge-street.
" 437—Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan.
" 560—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Dalmuir.
WEDNESDAY—4—Kilwinning, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 117—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
" 128—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
" 344—Caledonian Railway, 233 Buchanan-street.
" R.A. 57—Shamrock and Thistle, 12 Trongate.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 233 Buchanan-street.
" 461—St. Andrew, 80 Gallowgate-road.
" 518—St. Vincent, 142 Kent-road.
FRIDAY—18—Kilwinning, Masons Hall, Dunbarton.
" 170—Leven St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Renton.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, the 27th ult., at the St. John's Gate Tavern, Clerkenwell, Bro. Walker in the chair, Lake S.W., Stock J.W., Piercy S.D., Read J.W., Cooke I.G., and a numerous attendance of members. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Jones being the candidate. A long discussion took place upon the bye-laws, which it had been decided should be revised. The S.W. of the evening, Bro. Lake, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. After a vote of thanks to Bro. Walker, for his efficient services as W.M., the Lodge adjourned. The installation ceremony will be rehearsed on Monday next, the 4th instant.

Cathedral Chapter, No. 67.—This Chapter held its annual meeting on Thursday, 23rd of September, at 22 Struthers-street, Glasgow, when the following officers were elected:—Comps. James Duthie M.E.Z. (3rd year), Pridie H., Ronald J., Goldie Scribe E., J. Mason Scribe N., Wood re-elected Treasurer, Binland 1st Soj., Sloan 2nd Soj., Dickie 3rd Soj., R. Crawford Tyler. A meeting was also held on Tuesday, 28th September. Business—The exaltation of two Companions, which ceremony was carefully performed by Comp. Duthie and his new staff of officers. The yearly financial statement was also read, which gave great satisfaction, as, owing to the large accession of members, the funds are in a flourishing state.

Caledonian of Unity Chapter, No. 73.—This Chapter held its annual meeting on Tuesday, the 28th September, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, for the election and installation of its officers, with the following results:—G. W. Wheeler re-elected M.E.Z., John Stewart H., J. Kennard J., J. Balfour re-elected Scribe E., E. Arthur Scribe N., J. Bannerman Treasurer, Wm. McGregor 1st S., J. Gillos 2nd S., T. Yule 3rd S., J. Ambridge 1st Captain of the Veils, J. Kay 2nd Captain, S. Penman 3rd Captain, Wm. Jamison Tyler. J. Balfour, P.G. 1st S., G. Macdonald P.G.S.B. Visitors—Comps. Crabb P.Z. 50, Oliver S.E. 69, Dubbie P.Z. 119, McMurdo P.Z. 143, H. J. Shield Z. 143, Barker H. 143, Bell P.Z. 144, J. Johnson H. 122, and Currie 76 (I.C.) Business—A Lodge of Mark Masters was opened, when G. W. Wheeler, as Mark Master, assisted by Comps. McDonald as S.W., Gilchrist as J.W., and Balfour as S.D., admitted Brother D. Anderson, of St. John, to that degree. The Chapter having been opened by Comps. Wheeler, McDonald and Gilchrist, the election took place, when Comp. Crabb P.Z. 50 installed the officers, and also installed H. J. Shield, the newly-elected Z. of the Robert Burns Chapter 144. After the Chapter was closed the companions spent some time in harmony.

Lodge of Lights, No. 148, Warrington.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday evening last, when the W.M. Bro. John Bowes P.M. P.Z. P.P.G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmorland was supported by his officers, a goodly number of members, and several visitors. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed. The W.M. read a letter of apology from Bro. Dr. Joseph, who was due for preferment, but who was unable to be present. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bros. Johnson and Peake sought advancement, and having sustained their claim, were entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, when the two brethren were separately re-admitted, and raised by the W.M., the working tools being pre-

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seated and explained by the S.W., Bro. W. H. Robinson. The Lodge was closed down when the remaining business was transacted, and when finally closed the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The W.M. presided, and was supported by the I.P.M., Bro. John Harding, Bro. Tomlinson W.M. of the Good Samaritan Lodge, Sandbach, Bro. Tongue, of Crewe, and others. The West was well cared for by Bro. Joseph Pickthall S.D. After supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given; the visitors warmly complimenting the W.M. on the excellent working they had witnessed. After an evening pleasantly spent the Tyler proposed his toast and the brethren separated in harmony.

Thetis Chapter, No. 122.—This Chapter held its annual meeting on Monday, the 27th September, at the Masonic Hall, 25 James-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. John J. Scott M.E.Z., John Johnston H., John de Neif J., J. Quigley Scribe E., H. McLauchlin Scribe N., J. Gunn Treasurer, Wm. McAlister 1st S., Wm. Gunns 2nd S., George Bird 3rd S., Daniel Gillies Tyler. Visitors—Comps. J. Duthie Z. 67, G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, G. Thallon Z. 119, Wm. Dobbie P.Z. 119, J. Ranald J. 67 elect. Business—The installation of the office bearers having being ably performed by Comp. J. Duthie, assisted by the other Z.'s present, Comp. Wheeler, by the consent of the Chapter, installed Comp. J. Ranald as J. of Chapter 67. The companions then passed a vote of thanks to the retiring officers, especially to Comp. J. O. Park, who had filled the chair of Z. since the formation of the Chapter.

Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 152, Leith.—This Chapter celebrated its autumnal equinox festival on Thursday evening, 23rd September, previous to which Bro. James A. Laurie was exalted to the Holy Royal Arch Degree. Comps. James G. Atkinson, R. Davidson, William, J. V. Bindon and P. Law were affiliated full members of the Chapter. Scribe E. read the minutes of former meetings, which were confirmed, the Chapter then proceeded to elect and install their office bearers for 1875-76. The officers in the Mark Masters and Excellent Masters' Lodges being installed, the following were elected in the Chapter:—Comp. John Laurie Z. (re-elected), Comps. G. Hudson H., D. Turner J., John S. Matheson P.Z., M. P. Galloway D.Z., David Laird Scribe E., John Neill Scribe N., E. Drummond Treas., E. Milner 1st Soj., J. W. Scales 2nd Soj., G. A. Laurie 3rd Soj., J. Reid C., G. M. Davidson D.M., G. J. Laurie Org., T. Elliott S., Alexander Henderson Janitor. The companions then sat down to an excellent supper, purveyed by Comp. Elliott, the viands being all that could be desired. Comp. Laurie Z. occupied the chair, Comp. Drummond Croupier. The usual loyal, patriotic, and complimentary toasts were duly given and responded to, they being interspersed with songs, and instrumental music under the direction of Comp. G. M. Davidson; several excellent glees being rendered by the choir, thus bringing to a close a most enjoyable evening. This young Chapter, which was consecrated last year by the Earl of Mar and Kellie, now boasts of having upward of sixty members on its roll. The paraphernalia and working tools of this Chapter are handsomely got up, and their working is second to none in the province, which is greatly due to the assiduity and energy of the First Principal and hearty co-operation of his office bearers.

Industry Lodge, No. 186.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at Bro. Cole, the Westminster Palace Restaurant, Bros. Wyllie W.M. in the chair, Dyer S.W., W. Mann P.M. Secretary, Hook Organist as I.G.; and P.M.'s T. S. Mortlock, Tallent, W. Dehmer, Seex; and Bros. Grant, Mitchell, Dr. White, Cole, Robinson, Downey, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Godden was raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Taffs and Crews were passed to the 2nd degree. Several notices of motion were handed in, and a special vote of the Lodge was unanimously carried to present, from the funds of the Lodge, the sum of five guineas for the Installation Jewel. The Lodge was then closed, and a very capital banquet was provided by Bro. Cole. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, also the routine toasts. Bros. Wallbank P.M. 144, Cox, Benit, &c. were present as visitors.

Lodge of Mona, No. 212, Castledown, Isle of Man (I.C.)—Happening to be on a visit near the metropolis of "Ellan Vannin," we received a courteous invitation to "visit" the above Lodge on the occasion of its last meeting, Monday, 20th September, and were much pleased with what we saw and heard. The chair was occupied by the W.M. Bro. the Rev. R. Ferrier, M.A., Government Chaplain of the Island, Bro. John Bowes, W.M. 148, was honoured by being requested to take charge of the West, while Bro. M. J. Backwell occupied the Junior Warden's chair. Among the other brethren present were Bros. James Mylchreest P.M. acting Organist, R. Watterson P.M., Dr. Edwards, George Quayle Hon. Sec., H. S. Mylchreest I.G., Cloona J.D., and others whose names we do not remember. The Lodge was opened in due form. The minutes were then read and declared to be correctly recorded, and by them we learned that the Lodge had forwarded, through the governor of the island, the Hon. H. R. Loch, himself a member of our brotherhood, an address of congratulation to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master of English Freemasons. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Paterson, a candidate for our mysteries and privileges, which proving "clear," and that gentleman being present, he was duly initiated by Bro. Past Master James Mylchreest. On the conclusion of the ceremony, the chair was again assumed by Bro. Ferrier, who read a telegram just received from a gallant Colonel, who intended to be present to claim preferment, but who was unexpectedly detained at Douglas. After some routine business a vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. J. Bowes, and a request that on the occasion of his next visit he would meet the members at a Lodge of Instruction. There being no further business, the Lodge was closed in solemn form. The brethren then adjourned to light refreshments, and all separated in perfect harmony. We cannot close this report without giving expression to the pleasure our visit to the Lodge of Mona afforded us. We have attended many Lodges, but never saw one better worked. Our brethren in the Isle of Man, however, labour under one disadvantage—they have no Provincial Grand Lodge—and we suppose this arises from the fact that the Lodges hail under two Grand Lodges—England and Ireland. If all the Lodges could be placed under one jurisdiction, and the Lieut.-Governor be constituted Provincial Grand Master, it would add to the progress of Masonry, and the advancement of its members. We noticed that one of the bye-laws of the Lodge of Mona wisely provides "That all officers quartered at Castletown, who are Masons, shall be deemed honorary members during their stay."

Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction, No. 1278.—On the 24th ult. the 15 sections were worked by Bro. M. Gross. The S.W. and J.W. chairs were occupied by Bro. Austin P.M. and Bro. Stevens P.M., of the Great City Lodge. The following brethren answered the questions: Bros. Horsley, Ashburner, Chitson, Allen, Yetton, Fieldwick, Pindar, Crane, Stevens, Verry, Austin, Gilchrist, Musto, Burr and Lowe. There was a strong muster of P.M.'s and brethren from other Lodges, proving practically that P.M.'s have not forgotten they owe a duty to the Craft, and that the brethren in the lesser degrees require their instruction. A vote of thanks to Bro. Gross, for his efficiency in the chair, was moved by Bro. Yetton, also that he be elected an honorary member of the Lodge; Bro. Yetton remarking that he had never heard the sections better worked. It was seconded by Bro. Verry, who said this proved what could be done if a brother applied himself diligently to the work. He himself gave Bro. Gross his first lesson in Freemasonry some three years ago. The motion was carried unanimously. The brethren then retired, having spent an enjoyable and instructive evening.

Stanley Lodge, No. 1325.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 21st of September, at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool. Present—Bros. Henry Ashmore W.M., J. Bryan S.W., J. W. Burgess J.W., C. Hodson as Secretary, C. Hodson Treasurer, J. W. Davis S.D., J. H. Bradshaw J.D., C. Leighton P.M. D.C., A. Samuels Steward, G. D. Gilbert I.G., P. Larson Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Jones P.M., Hayes P.M., Seddon, Armstrong, Smith and Bryant. Business—Lodge opened in due form by H. Ashmore W.M., who initiated Mr. David T. Dick and Mr. H. Braddock. Opened in the second degree, passed Bros. Ashton, Burgess, Winskill, Macnally, McConnell, Ewing, Foulkes, Thomas, Hughes, Armstrong, Quale, and Marshall. The Lodge was then closed, and the officers, visitors and brethren adjourned to an excellent supper, provided by Bro. Casey. The usual Masonic toasts were drunk, and the evening was enlivened by a few choice songs, &c.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.—This Lodge held its first meeting of the season on Friday, the 24th of September, at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet. Present—Bro. Hayward Edwards W.M., James Cubbush S.W., Dr. Livingston J.W., G. Askew Secretary, W. Cubbush P.M. Treasurer, R. F. Young S.D., F. Venables J.D., Gray as I.G., Goddard Tyler. Past Master Bro. John Lowthin, Prov. S.W. Herts, and a goodly attendance of brethren. Business—The minutes of last meeting were read, and duly confirmed. Bro. W. Fred. Taunton having answered the usual questions, was passed to the degree of F.C. After some routine business the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

THE DRAMA.

"Macbeth" at the Lyceum—"Self" at the Mirror.

IT may be as well to say at once that we consider the performance of "Macbeth" at the Lyceum to have been a distinct failure. Probably not one of Mr. Irving's friends expected any other result. Whilst wishing him the most thorough success, they must have felt that they were really hoping against hope, and that it was impossible for a man of his physical powers to play the part in such a way as to satisfy audiences accustomed to most robust renderings of the character. We shall not attempt to lay any blame for the non-success of the play on Mr. Irving's shoulders, it was not, we are sure, out of any vanity or self-conceit that he attempted the part of Macbeth. From the time when he played Bob Gassitt at the Queen's, Mr. Irving has worked heartily and conscientiously in the cause of dramatic art, and his present prominence on the stage is owing to no self-obtrusion, but is the recognition due to one whose genius is an ornament to the national drama. It is impossible in the limited space allotted to us to enter into any detailed criticism of Mr. Irving's rendering of Macbeth: we have already indicated the cause of its failure, and we must also say that, in common with his Hamlet, it "smells too much of the lamp." The spontaneous passion which we admired so much in "The Bells," is wanting here: everything is done as with an effort, and much as we may wonder at the hard work and self-sacrifice of the artist, we cannot help feeling that in watching his exertions our attention is diverted from the play. Many new points are made by Mr. Irving, and he gives us a fresh version of the character: but whilst we thank him for the scholarly care which he has lavished on the production of the play, we must say that a little less care, and a great deal more vigour would have produced a more satisfactory result. Much interest was felt in Miss Bateman's performance of Lady Macbeth; and, again, we have to express our disappointment: her acting is very uneven at times, but very rarely rising to the level of the character, generally much too tame and subdued: the sleep-walking scene, usually the most effective in the play, falls flat and dead from her hands. Apparently following the lead of Mr. Irving, her acting, and especially recollecting her Leah, seems very spiritless. In other respects the cast of the play is fairly up to the usual mark,

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and we may mention for special praise the Macduff of Mr. Swinbourne, and the Witches, well played by Mr. Mead, Mr. Archer and Mrs. Huntley. The appointments and scenery are good and appropriate, and the usual stage business, although a little too noisy, is done unusually well. The production of the play does credit to a management already famous in the theatrical history of the present day: we can only regret that, from uncontrollable causes, the enterprise displayed is not likely to meet its just reward.

We return to a failure of a very different kind. "Self" is just the kind of drama which deserves to fail, and we feel no compunction in hastening it to its doom. M. Sardou's works do not as a rule bear translation well: in the process of boiling down they lose their flavour, of which "Self" had little to begin with. The story is a most unhealthy one: a man afflicted with an attendant demon is not a pleasant personage anywhere, nor is it attractive to see him portrayed on the stage. The principal actor in "Self" bears a burden of this kind. Arthur Carew, finding himself driven into all kinds of vicious courses and naughty actions by his familiar, conceives the idea that, by marrying an innocent girl, Florence Talbot, he may rescue himself from his unwelcome companion. Out of pity, perhaps, she consents to marry him, but as the demon is, as might be expected, worse after marriage than before, she is finally reduced to the expedient of burning the house down, with herself and her husband in it. Luckily for himself and mankind generally, he dies on the occasion, and on his death his attendant demon is pictured on the wall, bearing his own image, and thus explaining the title of the play. "Self" is only noticeable for the much improved acting of Miss Rose Coghlan, as Florence Talbot, which on several occasions saved the play from impending ruin. It would be unfair to condemn Mr. Allerton as a bad actor, merely from the chances afforded to him as Arthur Carew. The Polytechnic effects, rendered necessary for the due appearance of the demon, would have upset any actor, as they proved too much for the equanimity of a long forbearing audience. "Self" is followed by a burlesque on Auber's "Diamons de la Couronne," written by Mr. Reece. Well played by Mr. Atkins, Mr. Standing and Miss Brabant, well written and full of fun, the burlesque is sure to run.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 41. SATURDAY, 9th OCTOBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

THE MASONIC LIFE BOAT ENDOWMENT FUND.

WE have been favoured by the Secretary of the National Life Boat Association with a copy of the annual report which he is in the habit of preparing for the information of Parliament, the press, and the generous public who support this admirable institution. It is a very remarkable document, and enters fully into the details of the numerous casualties which occur each year on our stormy coasts. The report ranges over the twelve months ending June 30th of the present year, thus affording the public, for the first time, the opportunity of seeing the total winter wrecks summed up in one statement. The total number of casualties for the year 1873-4 was 1,803; of this number 408 involved total loss, and 130 were attended with loss of life. The number of lives sacrificed was 506; and we are comforted by the assurance that this large number is 222 less than that of the year ending June 1873. It would seem, therefore, that Mr. Plimsoll has indirectly been the means of saving many gallant seamen from a watery grave. The noble fleet of the Life Boat Association was instrumental in saving the lives of 713 persons. This fact alone speaks volumes as to the great usefulness of the Association; and it must be our excuse for again directing the attention of our readers to the question which was discussed some months since in these columns. Our readers will remember that we then ventured to suggest that an Endowment Fund for the Masonic Life Boat should be started, and the idea was readily taken up by several Lodges. Some subscriptions reached our hands, which we still retain, pending the appointment of a committee empowered to make an authoritative appeal to the Fraternity. We shall be glad to hand this amount, which lies in the hands of our bankers, over the moment such committee is formed. We venture to think that the present moment is an opportune one, and that our brethren will rally round us for our endeavours to inaugurate a new point of departure in the history of the National Life Boat Association. We are assured, by the Secretary, that such an endowment fund as was proposed in our columns would be a real boon to the institution. No difficulty is found in providing new boats as the old ones are worn out and declared unfit for further service; but the Council of the Association is obliged to strain every nerve to raise the £30,000 or £40,000 per annum which is absolutely essential to meet the current expenses. A new Life Boat station cannot be provided at a less cost than £1,000 at the outset, including the cost of the Life Boat, transporting carriage, equipment, and boat house; and about £70 per annum is afterwards needed to keep up the establishment in a state of efficiency. The Masonic Life Boat which was presented by the Fraternity to the Association therefore entails a permanent charge of £70 per annum, which amount must, in the existing state of things, be obtained from the general public. We have no doubt whatever that our brethren would long ere this have responded to an appeal so consonant with their feelings and inclinations, but it happened that at the time when that appeal was made, a number of events of great and absorbing interest to Masons at large occurred to distract attention from a scheme of benevolence not purely Masonic. The installation of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was an event of sufficient importance to throw other matters of less apparent interest into the shade. Pressure of business, in the shape of anniversaries, has since prevented us from devoting our space to the subject of an Endowment Fund for the Life Boat; but now that the rails are clear, and as we are looking forward to the Lodge meetings of the autumn and winter, we think the time has come for the final settlement of this question. Masonic zeal in the cause of the suffering and the distressed is not confined to the mere boundaries of the Order. We credit our brethren with the desire to relieve the wretched, of whatever degree or class, and we are sure they are not indifferent to the sufferings of the gallant fellows who man our mercantile navy; nor are they careless of the claims of that noble voluntary Association which is charged with the sacred duty of saving life at sea. The season of heavy gales is rapidly approaching. Within a month we shall probably hear of dreadful casualties on our coasts, involving the loss of precious human lives. In the midst of the storms of the ensuing season it would be consoling to the members of that Order, which is based on charity and brotherly love to know that they had done all in their power to ameliorate the condition of the wretched. It is not creditable to us, as a great and wealthy corporation, to allow the Life Boat Association to incur an annual charge for the boat, which was certainly not intended to be a permanent burden to its resources. A few shillings from each Lodge in the kingdom would place her for ever above the donations of the charitable public. With the fund an accomplished fact, we should have the satisfaction of knowing that, as we have hinted above, we had done something to direct the overflowing stream of public charity into new channels. The Life Boat Association does not want for boats, but it needs capital. It will be a lasting honour to the cause of Masonry if we show the world how that capital may be realised. We urge the immediate formation of a Life Boat Endowment Fund Committee, and we need not add, in conclusion, that, in the event of its formation, we shall be glad to aid it by every means in our power, and that our columns will be open to it for the publication of subscription lists, and for the ventilation of its views in reference to the details of this most interesting question.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

A SLIGHT incident, recorded in our issue of the 25th ult., offers fair ground for calling attention to the somewhat anomalous position which our Lodges of Instruction occupy. Our readers may remember that in our usual weekly report of the labours of the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193, for Wednesday, the 22nd September, it was stated that a French—it should have been a Belgian Brother—J. Pelaster, of the Lodge Les Vrais amis de l'Union et du Progrès, under the Orient of Brussels, presented himself, and having proved his acquaintance with all the essentials of the E.A.P. and F.C. degrees, declined to submit himself further for examination in the third degree, on the plea that he was not sure it was a regularly constituted Lodge, the usual regalia, &c. being conspicuous by their absence. As soon as it was made clear to Bro. Pelaster that, under these circumstances, he could not be permitted to remain—and this, it seems, was a labour of some difficulty—the worthy brother withdrew himself, amid the usual ecstatic demonstrations of mutual admiration and friendship. Thus abruptly terminated a very unusual occurrence, not likely to happen more than once in a "blue moon." Now, among English brethren, where the constitution of our Lodges of Instruction is properly understood, no difficulty of this kind is ever likely to occur, but

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an incident of the kind just recorded brings home to us the question—Are our Lodges of Instruction, we will not say as duly, but as formally, constituted as they might be? Is all done that can be done, in order to make them legitimate and regular, not only among the brethren of this country and our Scotch and Irish brethren, but among Masons of other countries, who are not, perhaps, well acquainted with our usages. The main ground of Bro. Pelaster's refusal was the absence of the usual warrant, without which the idea not unnaturally suggested itself to his mind, that the Confidence Lodge of Instruction was irregularly constituted. The endeavour to persuade him that all was *en règle*,—that the Lodge of Instruction worked under the authority of the parent Lodge, and in conformity with the laws and regulations of Grand Lodge, as laid down in the Book of Constitutions, was of no avail. Indeed, a far greater amount of eloquence than our worthy brethren of the Confidence Lodge of Instruction possessed, and a far greater familiarity with the French language would, it seems, have been necessary to persuade Bro. J. Pelaster that all was as it should be. Now the laws as to this description of Lodge are, to say the least, very bald. It is enacted (1) that "no general Lodge of Instruction shall be holden unless under the sanction of a regular warranted Lodge, or by the special licence and authority of the Grand Master. The Lodge giving its sanction, and the brethren to whom such licence is granted shall be answerable for the proceedings, and responsible that the mode of working adopted has received the sanction of the Grand Lodge. Notice of the times and places of meeting of Lodges of Instruction, within the London district, shall be given to the Grand Secretary. (2) Lodges of Instruction shall keep minutes of all brethren present at each meeting, and of brethren appointed to hold office, and such minutes shall be produced when called for by the Grand Master, the Board of General Purposes, or the Lodge granting the sanction. (3) If a Lodge which has given its sanction for a Lodge of Instruction being held under its warrant shall see fit, it may, at a regular meeting, withdraw that sanction, by a resolution of the Lodge, to be communicated to the Lodge of Instruction: provided notice of the intention to withdraw the sanction be inserted in the summons for that meeting." These are the only three points laid down by law as to Lodges of Instruction. They must be held under the sanction of a warranted Lodge, or by special licence of Grand Master. Their minutes must be produced when called for. They may be dissolved after due notice given by the sanctioning Lodge. Mackey defines them to be "assemblies of brethren congregated without a warrant of constitution, under the direction of a lecturer or skilful brother, for the purpose of improvement in Masonry," and further he says, "these bodies should consist exclusively of Master Masons; and though they possess no Masonic power, it is evident to every Mason that they are extremely useful. . . . ." Dr. Oliver, in his *Masonic Jurisprudence*, likewise attaches great value to these Lodges, provided a strict supervision is exercised over them. To us it seems that the law is somewhat defective, or how otherwise could such an incident as we have taken as the text of this article have happened? And, be it remembered, that, though a matter of the very rarest occurrence, yet it is quite possible that a similar case might happen again and again, and foreign brethren, seeking instruction within the body of an Instruction Lodge, who may wish to satisfy themselves of its regularity, must content themselves with a less satisfactory amount of evidence than can be furnished by a regular Lodge, or be denied the pleasure of joining in its labours. It occurs to us this is a case with which the Board of General Purposes might fairly deal, with a view to bringing it under the notice of Grand Lodge, so as to secure a more regular recognition for these Lodges. Why should not the Grand Master issue his licence in every case? There would be no great difficulty. Lodge No. 96 or No. 1096 sanctions the formation of a Lodge of Instruction; thereupon Grand Lodge issues a warrant, confirming the sanction of No. 96 or No. 1096. This warrant is placed in charge of the Instruction Lodge, so as to be producible if ever the regularity of the Lodge should be called in question. There would not be the slightest necessity for abrogating the existing laws. The sanction would still issue as now, in the first instance from a warranted Lodge, or the Grand Master, and it might be withdrawn, as now, after proper notice. There would simply be an additional guarantee from the highest Masonic authority in the Kingdom as to the legality of such Lodges. Proof, in the shape of the warrant, would be forthcoming at all times, that such a lodge was working under the sanction of Grand Lodge, and the doubts that might have arisen in the mind of any strange brother as to the regularity of its constitution would immediately be dissipated.

After all, it is mainly to our Lodges of Instruction that we must look for an extension among brethren of a knowledge of the Sacred Truths which Masonry inculcates. The regular warranted Lodges have but a short time available for this purpose, and do not often turn the available time to proper account. Their meetings, moreover, are infrequent, and, consequently, insufficient to afford the needful instruction to members. It must be borne in mind that Masonry consists in something more than the observance of certain forms and familiarity with certain signs and tokens. There is a ritual to be learnt—a ritual that must be learnt, moreover, from memory, not from the study of books. Such a ritual can only be thoroughly mastered by constant practice—in a parrot-like fashion in the first instance—but afterwards, when a brother has become letter perfect, he must be taught the meaning of it all. This, of course, can be done to a slight extent in regular Lodges, but the Lodge of Instruction is the proper theatre for study, while the regular Lodge is the place to utilise the knowledge that has been there acquired. Hence, then, everything that tends to improve and strengthen the status of the former should be done, and so small a matter as the grant by Grand Lodge of a warrant confirming the sanction given by the Mother Lodge will suffice to put every Lodge of Instruction on a securer and more regular basis. There seems to us to be no just cause or impediment why such warrant should not be issued to every Lodge of Instruction now sanctioned, or that may be sanctioned hereafter. As to expense, this need be no obstacle, for a small fee would suffice to reimburse Grand Lodge for the trouble and expense involved. Perhaps some of our readers may have given their attention to this matter, and may have some practical suggestion to offer. If so, our columns are at their disposal.

FREEMASONRY AND ARCHITECTURE.

THAT the history of Freemasonry should be found to comprise much that belongs with equal right to the history of architecture would surprise but a few; and probably fewer still would seriously question the fact when once plainly stated. We do not think, however, that the obligations of Architecture to Freemasonry have been sufficiently acknowledged by the generality of writers on this art. To us it seems little less than a marvel that the subject could possibly be treated at any length without some mention being made of the part played by the great Masonic guilds and fraternities that seem to have flourished in every age. Yet we look in vain for any such mention in some of the most esteemed works on Historical Architecture, even in cases where Freemasonry would appear to afford a ready explanation of much that was otherwise inexplicable. We do not now refer so much to the Architecture of the Ancient Egyptians and Hebrews, though there are not wanting indications of the existence of Masonic agencies, even so far back as this. Our immediate concern is with the architecture of the Middle Ages, and in particular with the style of architecture known as Gothic. Take, for example, the great German critic, Frederick von Schlegel. He confesses to "a decided predilection for the Gothic style," declares that when he is so fortunate as to discover a Gothic monument, however ruined or defaced, he examines it "with unwearied zeal and attention;" and yet, when he essays to consider the origin of the style, the only conclusion he can come to, is that it certainly is *not Arabic*. Another German, Dr. George Möller, in his celebrated treatise "On the Origin and Progress of Gothic Architecture," sums up the various hypotheses on the subject as follows:—

1. From the holy groves or thickets of the Ancient Celtic nations.
2. From huts made with the entwined twigs of trees.
3. From the structure of the framing in wooden buildings.
4. From the pyramids of Egypt.
5. From the imitation of pointed arches generated by the intersection of semi-circles.

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To our thinking, the question of the origin and development of the Gothic order of Architecture is no such mystery as these writers would have us believe. In the first place it is surely unnecessary to point out how closely, in its more primitive and general forms, the Gothic arch resembles the interlacing boughs of a Northern forest. Nor need our readers to be informed that all arts are of necessity imitative. The early Celtic and Teutonic builders constructed their rude huts from the timber which surrounded their settlements, and when they desired to erect more imposing dwellings they naturally took their ideas from the appearance of forest groves. Before long the builders became a distinctive body, and the services of the most skilful were sought far and wide for the erection of fortresses and churches. The migratory character they thus acquired was of itself sufficient to raise them above the common herd. In their wanderings they probably very soon came in contact with the Collegia Mariorum of Rome, and the traditions of these old schools would in time and in part be grafted on their own. In process of years there would come to be recognised amongst these artificers a certain bond of fellowship, based upon their possession of a common knowledge and their pursuit of the same occupation. Like the Dionysiacs of old, and the Freemasons of to-day, they were naturally jealous of any interference from without, and carefully avoided committing to paper the secrets of their calling and organisation. No one could be admitted into the fraternity without undergoing some sort of apprenticeship or noviciate, in addition to the formal process of initiation. The value of such a confederation to the cause of art can hardly be exaggerated. At a time, so different from the present, when books were scarce, and the *cacoethes scribendi* confined to the learned few, these guilds were the means of keeping alive, from century to century, the principles of the art. The pupil of the one generation became the teacher of the next. Nor is this all. The enthusiasm which all the initiates were taught to feel for the cause of art and the glory of the Order, prevented in a great measure those petty jealousies and personal antagonisms which so frequently mar the lives and works of great artists. Who, that has ever studied the life of painter or sculptor, will not recognise the force of this consideration? The architects of the Middle Age avoided personal rivalries, by ascribing the glory of their productions, first of all to the Great Architect of the Universe, and in a secondary sense to their Craft. If any memorial of authorship was inscribed on the edifice at all, it was not the name of the individual designer, but a symbolical indication of the fraternity. The architect of the magnificent Cathedral of Cologne, which, in its design, forms probably the grandest conception that ever proceeded from the mind of man, remains unknown to the present day. The edifice itself is incomplete, but the original design is, we believe, extant, complete to its minutest detail.

We know of but one other Association that can in any way be compared to these Masonic guilds, in the respect to which we have just alluded. The *Comédie Française*, it cannot be doubted, has exercised a most salutary effect upon the art of acting in France. Here, as in the old Masonic fraternities, the *Sociétaires* are bound together by a kind of constitution, and every individual has a distinct voice in the management. The various officials are elected by the majority, and no one can be admitted to membership in opposition to the will of the existing members. When the *Comédie Française* came to England, some few years since, English audiences were astonished to see actors of world-wide reputation playing, at times, subordinate parts. The hero of one night's performance would, perchance the night after, appear in a part that did not contain a dozen words. The individual was content to sink his own importance to secure the general effect, and to enhance the credit and honour of the institution. Thus it was with the Masonic Guilds of the Middle Ages, with the further advantage, however, that the bond of union partook of a quasi-religious character, and was consequently of a more abiding and effective character. Students of the History of Architecture who omit this important factor from their consideration will find the rise, progress, and decline of Gothic art involved in mystery. Let them but recognise the value of these confederations, based upon lofty and enduring principles, inspired by a noble enthusiasm, by friendly emulation and fraternal sympathies, cemented, moreover, by a profound veneration for the Great Supreme, and by the mediæval rule of life, *laborare est orare*, and they will begin to comprehend how those colossal monuments of human ingenuity, those marvellous embodiments of religious fervour, which be-stud Teutonic and Celtic Europe, were wrought to so high a summit of perfection.

LODGE QUARTERS.

IT is in the order of things, perhaps, that when a new Lodge is constituted, or an old one changes its quarters, some difficulty should occasionally arise in selecting a desirable habitation. Masonic Halls are not numerous in England. We have a host of Lodges distributed throughout the country, and many of them are in sparsely populated districts, where, as a matter of course, a Lodge room is not easily to be met with. Were any confirmation of this needed, it would be found in a letter that was recently forwarded to us for publication, but which, as it appeared in the columns of our London Masonic contemporary last week, we have thought it unnecessary to reproduce. We may state, however, that Bro. Gomperts, P.M. and Secretary of the Gresham Lodge, 869, and P.P.G.P. Herts, experienced no small amount of difficulty in finding new quarters for his Lodge. There had, for some time past, been a general desire on the part of the members to make a move from the Four Swans, Waltham Cross to some other neighbourhood. The taverns were unable to afford the necessary accommodation, and at last it occurred to Bro. Gomperts to ask Bro. Rev. C. Erskine Mayo, Prov. Grand Chaplain, Herts, if he would allow them the use of the Banqueting Hall of Cheshunt Great House, Cheshunt Park, formerly one of the palaces of Cardinal Wolsey. The request was no sooner made than it was acceded to, and the Gresham Lodge is to be congratulated on having thus secured such admirable quarters. Our object in noticing a matter of apparently so little moment is to draw attention to a much vexed question as to the propriety of holding Lodge meetings in taverns. It is not every Lodge that can afford to build a hall of its own. In towns, of course, a hall can be used by several Lodges, and the expense is thus distributed over a wider field. In some country places there is a town-hall available for Masonic meetings, but generally speaking, and especially in remote districts, a Lodge must fall back on the tavern. This is most unfortunate, but we do not see any way out of the difficulty. In towns where there is an inn of the good old-fashioned type, such as were in full activity in the fine old coaching days, there is every reason why, in the absence of the accommodation, such inn should be selected for Lodge meetings, and we see no reason why, in such cases, more than one, or even half-a-dozen Lodges in the same neighbourhood, should not assemble in the same inn or hotel. It would only be necessary to arrange their meetings for different nights in the week. It is not, of course, to be expected that so loyal a brother as the Rev. C. E. Mayo will be met with often. Town Halls do not exist everywhere, and are not always securable when found. Masonic Halls are less numerous still. There is, then, in too many cases, no option but to fall back on taverns. Thus this use, which has been so frequent a subject of regret, and even of outcry, must be looked upon, to a certain extent, as a necessary evil.

There are always plenty of people on the look out for profitable, and at the same time safe investments. A high rate of interest has been described as involving a great amount of risk, but a good substantial profit may, nevertheless, be obtained in many cases without the slightest danger of loss. A case in point is the Lombard Deposit Bank Limited, which has been in existence for the last six years, and during that time has been working steadily, and most profitably, so that, by strict economy and skilful management, the investors have benefited to the extent of ten or twelve per cent. on the amount invested. Being a limited company, the shareholders' liability is necessarily limited to the amount of their shares, which the fact that the bank has existed for six years, and has enjoyed throughout an uninterrupted course of prosperity, fully justifies the hope that the future progress of the company may be equally satisfactory, as will be seen from the advertisement in another part of our columns, the Offices of the Lombard Deposit Bank are at Nos. 43 and 44 Lombard-street, City, and 277 and 279 Regent-street, W.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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 TEACHING," &c.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have been much interested in reading "Masonic Teaching," by Bro. Lionel Harrison, and consider the *Illustrations of the Craft* exceedingly appropriate and suggestive.

Something similar has just been issued by our Grand Lodge (Ireland) in what is termed the "Masonic Ritualist and Lecturer," which is bound up with the new edition of the "Book of Constitutions." Many advocate an authorised Manual respecting our *esoteric* teaching, and were such a *vade mecum* issued, it would undoubtedly partake of the character of the admirable Masonic explanations and principles addressed by Bro. Harrison to his dutiful and attached son (and brother.)

We fail to see any just reason why our Masonic Illustrations and teachings should not be made more public than they have been hitherto, for certainly were they better known all clerical opposition to our Order on the part of the Roman Catholic priests would fall harmless. As it is, no one can be led to think less than they should of the ancient Craft if they are "*forearmed*" with letters like those of Bro. Harrison's, but *many know really nothing of the tendency of the Masonic society.* If any think we advocate too much being published with respect to our secrets, we reply that these illustrations of Masonry are not *esoteric*, and so no harm is done, but, on the contrary, much good. Preston's "Illustrations of Masonry" in 1772 was published by the authority of the Grand Master of England, who was (strange to say) a Roman Catholic, and the Grand Lodge of Ireland even publishes the prayers and other portions of Lodge ceremonials.

Yours fraternally,

MASONIC INVESTIGATOR.

THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON A MASON.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—There is no doubt, I believe, about the late illustrious Duke of Wellington having been initiated into Freemasonry. I have seen the fact mentioned in several places, and somewhere, I think, it was said he occasionally acted as Senior Warden in Lodges held in Kensington under the presidency of our late M.W.G.M. the Duke of Sussex. The other day I came across the following footnote in Oliver's "*Preston's Illustrations*," Edition 1861. I give it in full as it may be interesting to your readers.

"The Duke of Wellington, when Colonel in the 33rd Regiment of Foot, was initiated into Freemasonry in Lodge 494, which was at that time held in the Castle of Dangan, County Meath; the late Earl of Mornington, his grace's father, being W.M. at the time. He was duly passed, after the usual examination; and in the phraseology of the Lodge entered at the Southern gate, and afterwards raised. The following brethren being members, were present; many of them, in the words of the Irish bard, "have been famous in story." Bros. Sir James Somerville Bt., Sir Benj. Chapman Bt., Hen Gorge, M.P., Delvin, late Earl of Westmeath, Rob. Uniacke M.P., Rich. Boyle M.P., John Pomeroy, Wm. Forster, George Lowther M.P., Earl of Mornington, Marquis Wellesley, F. North, Earl of Guilford, Robt. Percival, Robt. Waller, Richd. Leslie, Arthur Wellesley."

My object in writing, however, is not to announce publicly that I have read this eminently interesting fact, but to inquire if any of your Irish or English readers can tell me the day and the year when the initiation took place. It was at Dangan Castle, I think, the late Duke was born 1st May 1769, and he was in command of the 33rd at Seringapatam in 1799, having previously served in the Netherlands under the late Duke of York. Soon after this he attained the rank of General Officer, so that his initiation would have taken place some time during the last decade of the eighteenth century. Lodge No. 494, I perceive from the *Masonic Calendar*, hold its meetings at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin. Perhaps some member would have the kindness to favour you with these, and any other particulars which may be of interest to the Craft.

Yours fraternally,

Q.

DISCIPLINE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Under the above heading your worthy correspondent, Bro. E. Gottheil, volunteers a little lecture to W.M.'s, on what he terms "Masonic Common Law," but I submit that he is entirely wrong in his own interpretation of such law on the point to which he calls attention.

If he refers to the Book of Constitutions (p 76, edition 1867) "of Masters and Wardens of Lodges," he will find it thus written: "Should the minutes of such election of Master not be confirmed, then a summons must issue for the following regular meeting of the Lodge, setting forth that the brethren were again to proceed to elect a Master, and on the confirmation of the minutes of that election at the following regular meeting of the Lodge, the installation of the master will follow:"—There is nothing here, or in the obligation taken by every W.M. on installation, binding the outgoing W.M. in the case in question to act for another twelve months, which would be a monstrous hardship, and inconvenience in many cases, and is, therefore, wisely provided for by the above regulation quoted from the Book of Constitutions.

Yours fraternally,

W. G. M., P.M. 227.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—"Masonic Investigator" is perfectly correct in his assertion that "if the election of W.M. is not confirmed, then a summons must be issued for the following regular meeting of the Lodge, and the election must then be proceeded with. That is just what the brethren of the Lodge in question failed to do, and, therefore, must be deemed guilty of, "not to put too fine a point on it," an irregularity, which, should it come to the knowledge of the Board of General Purposes, the collective wisdom of that august body will be bound to take cognisance of. I trust that at least some members of that board subscribe to "THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE," as I should much like to learn what measures are taken in a case of the kind under discussion.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

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 Spirits' Book, containing the Principles of Spiritual Doctrine. Collected by ALLAN KARDEC. Translated from the hundred and twentieth thousand. By ANNA BLACKWELL. London: Trübner. 1875.

THE rise and spread of spiritualism during the last twenty-five years, regard the matter from what light we may, form assuredly one of the most astonishing religious phenomena of the present century. Not only in America, where the apostles of this faith claim to be able to count their converts by millions, but in England, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, and Russia, the countries the most advanced in civilisation, this belief in the active intervention of spirits has taken a powerful hold upon the imaginations of men. In England, at the present day, we have some three or four periodicals to represent their views, whilst in France, Italy, Spain, and America, the subject has been discussed from almost every point of view, in books and pamphlets that have commanded as extensive a sale as a popular poem or novel. The present volume, for example, is a translation of a French work, *Le Livre des Esprits*, by Allan Kardec, which has, in its original tongue, gone through the almost incredibly large issue of one hundred and twenty thousand copies, besides being translated into Italian, Spanish, and other languages, with great, though inferior, degrees of success. We are assured by the translator, Miss Anna Blackwell, that the number of periodicals now devoted to the advocacy of the Kardec philosophy in various parts of the world, is over forty, and when it is considered that this school includes only a part of the great multitude who acknowledge Spiritualism as a great and living truth, it must, we think, be obvious that the movement can no longer be adequately disposed of by a smile of derision, or a curt condemnation. Spiritualism, if a fraud, is certainly one that has achieved a gigantic success—so gigantic, in fact, that stronger weapons than a mere "Pooh! pooh!" are required to overturn it. If it be only a delusion, whence comes it that our spiritual teachers, our priests, our professors, our government appointed instructors, have never been able to demonstrate its absurdity? Instead of this, dot a few of those to whom the multitude look for advice have gone over to the enemy. Goldschmidt and Flammarion, the astronomers, Wallace, the naturalist, Hoeffle and Crookes, the chemists, Varley, De Morgan, Secchi, and we know not how many more have given in their adhesion to the new philosophy, and maintain it in their published works. For our own part, we can only marvel that men of science have shown themselves so indifferent to the spread of these opinions. Here we have a book of some four hundred pages, purporting to contain a series of communications upon matters of vital interest to every human being, which the writer declares to have been directly inspired by spirits. The book has had a wonderful sale on the Continent, and now, translated into terse and vigorous English by the facile hand of Miss Blackwell, who will say that it may not find its thousands of readers in this country? And yet, our newspapers are constantly telling us that Spiritualism is played out. The book is admirably printed, and does credit to the taste of its authors and publishers.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

SECOND NOTICE.

THERE is still the usual amount of serial fiction in *Tinsley's*, and with one exception, to which we have before referred, we feel that we can cordially recommend them, as before, to the notice of our readers. "With Harp and Crown," by the authors of "Ready-money Mortiboy," indeed, is a specially interesting tale. Dr. Davies's "Social Status Quo" is not quite so ecclesiastical or clerical this month; he seems to have felt the force of sundry criticisms, and pleads that "'Tis my vocation, Hal." Be it so, but the writer of this class of article should not yield too readily to a very natural temptation. He

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should consider that his "vocation" may not be as interesting to his readers as to himself. We like to read about parsons, but not to the exclusion of other classes. However, Dr. Davies this month does what it was only natural so capable a writer should have done. He is not wholly parsopic this month, in spite of his vocation. Accordingly we find his present contribution a most genial one, one that we are persuaded will be read with a great deal of pleasure. "Two Strings to one Bean" is a clerical experience, very amusingly written, and there is, likewise, "An Italian Novel," well worth reading. The poetry, as we have again and again remarked, is so admirable, that we wish we had space to transcribe more of it. As it is, we must content ourselves with quoting the following, being No. VII. of "Dreams of a German Jew."

In dreams have I been weeping;
I dreamt that thou wert dead.
I woke, and still the tear-drops,
Down from my cheeks were shed.

In dreams have I been weeping,
That thou forsookest me;
I woke, and still was weeping—
Yea, weeping bitterly.

In dreams have I been weeping;
To me thou still wert good.
I woke, and yet for ever,
Streams on the tearful flood.

Baily, as is invariably the case, contains an excellent series of papers. Among other contributions we have noted chapter XX. of "Frank Raleigh of Watercombe," and Mr. Frederick Gale's admirably written reminiscences of "Tom Spring's Back Parlour," in which we have apparently a life-like picture of that illustrious worthy of the P.R. "A run in the Woldshire Country in December 1872," and "A Day in a Punt," together with "My Last Day's Sport in Africa," are excellent reading. "Our Van," if a little less racy than usual, is full of lively writing, notes, and anecdotes. There is, in one part, a kindly reference to the "Old Shekarry," a well known sporting writer, the early termination of whose career will be a source of regret to every true lover of sport.

The *St. James's* has a goodly programme. The early chapters of Mrs. Townshend Mayer's serial, "Sir Hubert's Marriage," are the opening contribution, and there are further chapters of Henry Kingsley's romance, "The Grange Garden." Mr. John C. Paget asks the pertinent question, "Can we support Turkey?" His answer appears to be to the effect that Turkey, sooner or later, will crumble to pieces. The old story of the sick man of the days of Czar Nicholas reappears, and his suggestion about our appropriating Egypt appears to be the only consolation Mr. Paget has to offer for abandoning a consistent course of policy as regards the irrepressible Eastern question. Mr. Gibbs's poem, "The Battle of the Standard," is as attractive as ever, and the editor's "Olla Podrida" smart and genial.

The story of the "Siege of Stralsund," by J. R. de Liefde, is still in progress in the *Leisure Hour*. Besides this we have noted "Natural History Anecdotes," "The National Melodies of Ireland," "Port Royal," by the Rev. Fred. Arnold, and No. V. of "Caricatures and Caricaturists," in which is sketched, with illustrations, the career of George Cruikshank. There is a good assortment of appropriate reading in *Sunday at Home*.

Once a Week includes several excellent contributions, "Jack Hamilton's Luck," "Grace's Lovers," and the notes of "The Casual Observer." There are several illustrations, in respect of merit considerably in advance of our previous experience, yet not quite up to our idea of what illustrations should be in so well-known a periodical as this.

GRAND LODGE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE annual gathering of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons belonging to the province of Northumberland, was held in the ancient town of Hexham, under the banner of the Northern Counties Lodge, 406. The brethren assembled in goodly numbers in the Town Hall, which was very beautifully decorated for the occasion by a rich assortment of green and hothouse plants, ferns, &c., which were kindly lent by Mr. Ralph Robson, of Hexham, and the massive, elegant new furniture of the new Albert Edward Lodge gave to the spacious hall an imposing and impressive appearance. The assembly was presided over by the Right Hon. Earl Percy, M.P., the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Northumberland. The S.W. chair was occupied by Bro. T. B. Winter P.G.S.W., and the J.W. chair by Bro. A. Potter P.G.J.W. The minutes of the previous Lodge having been read and received, the various reports for the past year were read and received, from which it transpired that the Ancient Order was prospering within the province. The proceedings of the day were rendered highly interesting by the consecration of a new Lodge in the town of Hexham, called the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1557. The solemn and impressing ceremony was duly performed, with all the accustomed rites and usages, by the Provincial Grand Master and his officers. The Lodge having been duly consecrated, Bro. George White, of Dilston Villa, was duly installed into the chair of S.S., as the first Worshipful Master of the Albert Edward Lodge. The business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served up in first rate style by Messrs. Bell and Bolam, of the Crown Hotel, Claytra Street, Newcastle, in the Corn Market. The banqueting hall was also beautifully decorated. The chair was occupied by the Right Hon. Earl Percy P.G.M., and the vice-chairs by Bro. B. J. Thompson and Bro. C. Jarvis W.M. Tyne Lodge. Upwards of 200 brethren partook of a recherché repast.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF THE NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS.

FROM "THE HULL PACKET."

THE annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons in the above Ridings was held on Wednesday, at Hull, when there was a large and distinguished assemblage of the members of the Craft. Many years have elapsed since Hull was last selected as the place of meeting for the Prov. Grand Lodge; and on its becoming known that the invitation of the W.M., officers and brethren of the Minerva Lodge, No. 250, to pay another visit to this town had been accepted, great interest was manifested in the event. Every arrangement necessary to accord to the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master and his officers a fitting and hearty welcome was carried out with spirit; and the compliments passed on Wednesday by the Earl of Zetland on the cordiality with which the Prov. Grand Lodge had been received in Hull, must have been eminently satisfactory to all who had taken part in the planning and carrying into effect the general arrangements for the meeting. The Mayor (Bro. Charles Wells P.P.G.J.W.), with his wonted urbanity and kindness, placed the banqueting-room of the Town Hall at the disposal of the Craft, neither of the ordinary Lodge-rooms of the town being sufficiently large to accommodate the numbers that were expected. The whole of the apartments at the Town Hall were thrown open for the purposes of the meeting, and at two o'clock the general body of the brethren assembled in the Council Chamber, those holding present and past grand rank proceeding to the robing-room adjoining. The brethren, having partaken of the hospitality of the Mayor, proceeded to take up their positions in Grand Lodge, the interior of the banqueting-hall having been superbly fitted up for the occasion as a Lodge-room. Shortly before half-past two o'clock a flourish of trumpets in the vestibule announced the approach of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zetland, who was accompanied by a long procession of present and past Provincial Officers, amongst whom we observed:—Bro. J. March Prov. G.S.W., Bro. J. H. Bennet Prov. G.J.W., Bro. W. Valentine Prov. Grand Chaplain, Bro. R. W. Hollon Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. M. C. Peck Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. J. Fearne Holden Prov. G.S.D., Bro. J. Hudson Prov. G.S.W., Bro. W. Potchell Prov. G.S.B., Bro. T. Oates Prov. G.O., Bro. J. Ward Prov. Grand Pursuivant, Brothers T. Marshall, W. K. Brown, J. W. Bennet, and W.H. Wellsted Prov. Grand Stewards, Bro. T. Crier Prov. Grand Tyler. A large number of past Provincial Officers were also present. Nearly all the Lodges in the province were represented, brethren attending from Scarborough, Driffield, Hornsea, Richmond, Whitby, Middlesbro', Redcar, Selby, Howden, Cleveland, Beverley, York, Bridlington, Filey, Malton, &c. It is computed that about 400 brethren in all were present at the imposing ceremony. The R.W. having taken his place, the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and the Earl of Zetland was saluted with grand Honours. Letters of apology were read from Bros. Sir Harcourt Johnston and Sir James Neave, who had been prevented from attending on the occasion. The Prov. Grand Secretary (Bro. M. C. Peck) then read the minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge, and the Board of Benevolence meeting, from the latter of which it was learnt that the office of Prov. Grand Steward to the Masonic Charities, held up to the time of his death by the late Bro. James Walker, had been conferred upon Bro. John Thompson, of Hull; and the Board recommended the sum of £30 to be handed over to Mrs. Walker, in acknowledgment of the services rendered by her late husband. Bro. Charles Wells said he had great pleasure in supporting the recommendation of the Board with reference to their late Bro. Walker. He had had the opportunity, personally, of witnessing the indefatigable exertions used by him for the benefit of the Craft, and those truly benevolent objects which were his peculiar care and study. Other references having been made to the late Bro. Walker's assiduity and zeal on behalf of the Masonic Charities having been made, the minutes were confirmed. The appointment of Provincial Officers for the ensuing year was then made, the brethren being invested with their collars by the Earl of Zetland, and duly installed into their respective chairs:—Prov. Grand Senior Warden, Bro. Thomas Smurthwaite, of York, Prov. Grand Junior Warden Bro. W. H. Purritt, of Bridlington Quay, Prov. Grand Chaplain Bro. the Rev. — Wade, of York, Prov. Grand Registrar Bro. Thos. Sissons of the "Kingston" Lodge, Hull, Prov. Grand Treasurer Bro. R. W. Hollon, of York (re-elected), Prov. Grand Secretary Bro. M. C. Peck, of Hull (re-elected), Prov. Senior Deacon Bro. W. H. Delemere, of the "Denison" Lodge, Scarborough, Prov. Junior Deacon Bro. John Brooke W.M. of the "Minerva" Lodge, Hull, Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies, Bro. T. C. Davidson of the "Marwood" Lodge, Redcar, Prov. Grand Sword Bearer Bro. John Thompson of the "Minerva" Lodge, Hull, Prov. Grand Supt. of Works, Bro. John Kemp of the "Constitution" Lodge, Beverley, Prov. Grand Organist, Brother Johnson, of "Marwood" Lodge, Redcar, Prov. Grand Pursuivant, Bro. John Ward, of York, Prov. Grand Tyler, Bro. Thos. Crier of Hull. After the transaction of other Lodge business the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, before closing the Lodge, said he was not aware that there was any matter of business or other subject of particular interest by adjourn to which it was necessary for him to detain them. At the last meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge he had the pleasure of intimating that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales had accepted the office of M.W. Grand Master of England; and he need hardly remind them that since then his Royal Highness had been duly installed into that exalted position (applause). All who were present at that Grand Lodge must have witnessed a spectacle which would be deeply rooted in their memories, and in it they would have seen ample evidence of the loyalty of Freemasons in this country (renewed applause). In this Province they had much cause for congratulation. They were now assembled in a town which had been designated as one of the strongholds of Freemasonry in the country for many years—new additions where being constantly made to the Craft; and he was informed that there was a

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prospect soon of another Lodge being added to the province (applause). He and the other members of the Prov. Grand Lodge were much obliged to the W.M., officers and brethren of "Minerva" Lodge for the very cordial reception which they had accorded them to-day. Thanks were also due to the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hull, who had so kindly lent them the Town Hall on this occasion. All the arrangements for the holding of this meeting in Hull had been most effectively and praiseworthily carried out. (Applause.) Two invitations had been received for the next Prov. Grand Lodge, namely, from Richmond and Redcar; and his lordship intimated that that from the "Marwood" Lodge at Redcar had been accepted for 1876. The noble earl concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hull for his hospitality, and the vote having been seconded by the Prov. Grand Senior Warden, was carried with acclamation. Bro. Charles Wells, in acknowledging the compliment paid him, said he had some difficulty in expressing the gratification he felt that the visit of the Provincial Grand Lodge to Hull had fallen in his year of office as chief magistrate of the town. He had thus had the opportunity of following in the footsteps of one of his predecessors, and placing this hall at the disposal of the Craft. He regretted that the accommodation afforded in the hall was not greater, so that he might have offered to the brethren that hospitality which he was anxious to dispense to them. However, he had done the best that laid in his power (loud applause), and he thanked the brethren present for the hearty and kindly manner in which his name had that day been received. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and, the procession having been reformed, the Prov. Grand officers passed along the corridors to their robing room amidst the flourish of trumpets and strains of music from the organ within the Lodge. A splendid instrument was provided for the occasion from the establishment of Bro. J. S. Stephenson, in Whitefriargate, and the musical selections of the day were ably performed by the Prov. Grand Organist, Bro. Thomas Oates, W.M. of the Alexandra Lodge, Hornsea

In the evening a banquet was held in the Public Rooms, Jarratt-street, when about 120 brethren sat down under the presidency of the Earl of Zetland. The R. W. Prov. Grand Master was supported by Bro. George Marwood P.D.P.G.M. (who had officiated during the day in behalf of the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. J. Pearson Bell, prevented from attending in consequence of indisposition) the R.W. the Mayor of Hull, Bro. Charles Wells P.P.G.J.W., Bro. Walter Reynolds, P.G.D.C., Bro. S. Moseley P.P.G.J.W., Bro. J. Fearne Holden P.P.G.S.D., Bro. the Rev. J. K. Saunders P.G., Chaplain, Linc., Bro. R. W. Hollon P.G.T., Bro. Terry P.G.S.B. of England, Bro. T. Clasons P.G., Registrar, Bro. John Brooke P.G.J.D., and W. M. of the Minerva Lodge, Bro. C. M. Norwood M.P., Bro. J. L. Seaton P.P.G.J.W., Bro. H. J. Atkinson J.P., &c., Amongst the other brethren we noticed—Bro. W. Tesseyman P.M., Bro. George Hardy P.M., Bro. Scherling P.M., Bro. Thomas Thompson P.P.D.C., and J. S. Warman (Richmond), Bro. Camidge P.P.G.O. (York), Bro. Dixon P.P.G.D. (Beverley), Bro. Harrison P.M. Bro. Henry Preston P.M., Bro. W. Hunt P.M., Bro. John Thompson P.G.S.B., Broomhoft P.M., Bro. J. Ward P.G.P. (York), Bro. J. H. Emes P.M., Bro. Haigh P.M., Bros. H. J. Amphlett, R. Gale, S. Walliker, B. L. Wells, B. Barnett, T. Hockney, R. Toogood, J. Reynolds, Joseph Dyson, W. Goodall, J. Shackles, J. Glover, C. Newton, Duvers, C. H. Hunt, J. S. Stephenson, G. Eaton, &c. A sumptuous repast was provided by Bro. George Peacock, whose arrangements, as usual, gave unbounded satisfaction. At the conclusion of the repast a large company of ladies were admitted to the orchestra, and by their presence greatly conduced to the enjoyment of the evening.

The toast of the "Queen and the Craft" having been legally received with full musical honours and organ accompaniment.

The Earl of Zetland said the toast he was about to propose was always received with enthusiasm, and he had great pleasure in giving "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England" (loud and prolonged cheering). It had been said that in other countries—perhaps in the darker periods of history—Freemasonry had been connected with plots and seditions against the governments of other nations. He thought he might say that in England at all times the case had been singularly the reverse (hear, hear). Those who witnessed the installation of their M.W. Grand Master, last spring, must have been duly impressed with what they then saw, and which he regarded as an embodiment of the fact that loyalty was one of the first grand principles of Freemasonry in this country (cheers). The Prince of Wales was not only most popular throughout the country for his zeal for the benefit of the Craft, but also from the manner in which he had on every occasion endeared himself to his subjects in this realm. He associated with the toast the other members of the royal family (cheers).

The Earl of Zetland then proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale R.W. Deputy Grand Master, with the present and past Grand Officers." In doing so his lordship thought he might say the Earl of Carnarvon was personally known to many of the brethren present, and he was known, at all events by reputation, to every one in that assembly. He was deserving of every honour for the ability and energy which he invariably displayed for the benefit of the Craft generally. He would couple with this toast the name of Bro. Hollon, Past Grand Sword Bearer of England (cheers).

Bro. R. W. Hollon begged to acknowledge the toast which had been so kindly proposed by the noble earl in the chair. It was not necessary for him to allude to the zealous and efficient manner in which their excellent Pro Grand Master performed his duties. The returns made periodically told plainly as to how well Masonic matters were attended to, and how admirably the Craft was flourishing everywhere. He might say that, in the case of both the Masonic rulers whose healths had been proposed, they evinced every wish and determination to perform their respective duties with fervency and zeal. (Cheers).

Bro. Marwood P.D.P.G.M., then proposed "the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland R.W. Prov. Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire" (loud cheers). In discharging this important duty his words might be very few, but they would be none the less hearty; and as such he hoped every brother present would take them. Almost all of them had seen the manner in which the noble earl had done his work to-day; and he (the speaker) felt sure that, from the steady and efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, they must all have felt that he was a worthy scion of the house of Dundas, which for the last three generations at least had taken a great interest in promoting the interests of Freemasonry (cheers). The manner in which he had acquitted himself in the exalted position he had filled to-day showed that he was a worthy successor to their late dearly beloved Grand Master, and with very hearty good wish for his long life and happiness he called upon the brethren present to drink to the health of the Earl of Zetland, their most excellent Grand Master of this province (enthusiastic cheering).

The Earl of Zetland, who was greeted with fresh outbursts of applause, said, in rising to respond to the toast which was last proposed, he found it somewhat difficult to express in words his thanks for the very flattering reception which had been given to his name. This was the first opportunity on which he had had occasion, in his present capacity, to pay a visit to the town of Hull; and he must say that it had been a day which would be long remembered by him. They had always heard that Hull was one of the principal strongholds of Freemasonry in the Province of North and East Yorkshire; and what he had seen to-day had in every way verified that which they had been told on previous occasions. He felt that, in following in the footsteps of his predecessor, he had a somewhat difficult position to fill; at the same time it was a very great satisfaction and pleasure to him to know that such perfect harmony prevailed throughout every Lodge, and that Masonry was so decidedly on the increase in the province. (Cheers.) He begged to thank them again most heartily for the cordial reception they had given him in Grand Lodge to-day and also for the hearty manner in which his name had been received by the company present on this occasion. (Renewed cheers.)

Bro. S. Moseley P.P.G.J.W. next gave "the W. Bro. John Pearson Bell, M.D., J.P., Past Senior Grand Deacon of England, and Deputy Prov. Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire," (cheers). He felt sure they would all deplore, with him, the cause of Bro. Bell's absence on this interesting occasion (hear, hear); and he trusted that he might soon be restored to health and strength, in order that he might continue to discharge the duties of that office he had so long and worthily filled (cheers).

Bro. Marwood P.D.P.G.M. said he felt quite sure that his old friend, Bro. Bell, would hear with great pleasure of the kindly way in which the mention of his name had been received this evening. He feared that their excellent Deputy Grand Master must be very ill, for he felt sure that nothing short of serious indisposition would have kept him away from this event. Ill as he was, he expressed his intention that morning of attending the Lodge; but when he (Bro. Marwood) was called upon to officiate in his behalf, he took it as his dear friend's tacit intimation that he had broken down. They must all feel, with him, great regret at the circumstance, and the sincere hope that Bro. Bell might soon be restored amongst them (cheers). It would cheer his heart to hear of the manner in which his health had been proposed and received by that company (renewed applause).

Bro. J. Fearne Holden P.P.G.S.D. said he rose with great pleasure to propose the next toast, though it was a pleasure which he was willing to admit had something of a selfish element in it, because the object of his toast was one that would so commend itself to their approbation that it would deprive him of any feeling of nervousness he might otherwise naturally experience in submitting it to this company. He knew for himself, and he believed he was speaking for a majority of the brethren in North and East Yorkshire when he said that the most earnest and pleasant associations in Masonry were connected with the health and personal acquaintance and patronage of the excellent brother whose health he had the honour to propose. No one in the province had attained eminence more deservedly, or was held in higher estimation among the brethren than their respected brother, George Marwood (cheers). For his part, he could remember that when a mere child in Masonry he had the highest respect and veneration for—and if he had been a naughty boy he might have had no little dread of—his name (laughter and hear, hear). When, through the illness of their late Grand Master or other causes, Bro. Marwood was called upon to preside over their assemblies, they always, whilst deploring the absence of the Earl of Zetland, felt in a great measure compensated by the knowledge that they were so ably presided over by one under whose care all matters would be so truly Masonically treated as they would be by Bro. Marwood. He knew the sentiments of the Hull Masons, and knew that in no part of the province was he more welcome than amongst them, at all times—because they knew Bro. Marwood to be a true and good Mason, and that best type of an Englishman, an English gentleman (cheers). Without further comment he called upon the company to drink, with all the Masonic honours, the health of Bro. Geo. Marwood, the Past Deputy Grand Master of the Province (cheers).

Bro. C. M. Norwood, M.P., said he felt it to be a high honour to be entrusted with a toast on this occasion, and especially so as his was a toast that would certainly be received with enthusiasm. He asked them to join with him in drinking to the health of "The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hull, W. Bro. Charles Wells, the Past Prov. Grand Warden." (Cheers.) Bro. Wells had done good service to the cause of Freemasonry in this town in days gone by. (Hear, hear.) He believed he was right in saying that some years ago, when the fortunes of one of their Hull Lodges were not so high as at the present time, Bro. Wells threw himself into the position of W.M., and with his usual business ability and strong will, greatly infused strength, and interest, and power into that Lodge. Since that time he had been returned time after time by his fellow citizens to the Council Chamber of this great town, and he had performed his duties with such great ability that two years ago he was

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elected Sheriff of the borough (hear, hear). He (the speaker) trusted he might be permitted to bear his testimony to the impartiality and ability with which Bro. Wells performed his duties on that occasion (applause). At the present time he occupied the highest position which it was in the power of the town to confer upon him; and he reminded them that these honours were not to be obtained without sterling worth in their possessor. There must be integrity, strong will, and ability; and he believed Bro. Wells possessed all these essentials (cheers). He had had considerable difficulties to contend with in his year of office, yet he (Bro. Norwood) believed he would pass from the mayoral chair of this borough with the respect of his constituents, and of the town at large. (Cheers.) It must have been a great pleasure to Bro. Wells—good Mason as he was—to have had the pleasure of receiving the Earl of Zetland and other members of Prov. Grand Lodge at the Mansion House to-day. It was not his good fortune to be present as his attendance was required elsewhere in the town; but he should not forget the time when, with his dear friend, the late James Clay, he attended a Grand Lodge held in this town some years ago. The kind hospitality he had shown, and the facilities he had offered for the holding of this meeting, entitled him to their heartiest thanks, and he felt sure the toast would be most cordially received. (Cheers.)

The remaining portion of this most interesting Report has been unfortunately delayed en route, but will appear next week.—EDITOR FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

IS FREEMASONRY CHANGING?

WE sometimes hear it said that Masonry is not now what it was even twenty years ago—that when the Lodge is at labour this and that old-time word and phrase are dropped, and others substituted, and the old work is being superseded by the new. Now, there is just as much, and no more, truth in this assertion as there is in the statement that human nature, or the human race, has changed during the same period. In a minor sense, and to superficial observation, all things are changeable and changing; but to him who views both nature and man philosophically, the characteristic of both is their unchangeableness. Surface changes are going on throughout humanity and the world, but in substance all persons and things are the same. There is nothing new under the sun, as King Solomon wisely said. Even the same sun rises in the heavens to-day that did in Adam's time. Masonry is just as unvarisble as nature and man, and to demonstrate this fact, and prove that this nineteenth century is Masonically the heir of the ages that have preceded it, is the object of our present article.

Freemasonry has both an historic and a pre-historic era, analogously to man and nature, and concerning the facts, or alleged facts of both, men are not entirely agreed. This is not surprising. Unanimity of belief, upon any subject, seems to to be unattainable. In religion, morality, commerce, law, science, philosophy, and—Masonry, opinions differ. But there is a weight of evidence in favour of certain views—a majority of individuals who entertain them, that makes us reasonably sure of the truth. The large majority of those who have investigated the origin, development, and present status of the Fraternity of Freemasons, are of opinion that in spirit and principle the Brotherood to-day is precisely the same that it was in the time of its founders, although in form it is doubtless changed. But forms are only the garb of thought. Were you to apparel yourself in the flowing dress of a Turk to-day, in the blanket of an Indian to-morrow, and the dress-suit of an American gentleman the next day, you would nevertheless be the same man. So it is with Masonry. The same great heart beat within the breasts of it true representatives, and the same moral purpose stimulates their actions now that did centuries ago.

The Masons of the nineteenth century are not exclusively, or mainly, architects and builders, as they once were, and hence the work of Masonry is necessarily changed—but changed as little as possible, under the circumstances. We do not use the twenty-four inch gauge and the common gavel, the plumb, level, square, and trowel, for the same purposes that our predecessors did, but for more noble and glorious purposes—to teach lessons of brotherly love, virtue, and morality; to develope the intellectual man, and fit him for the Spiritual Temple of the great hereafter. But we use the same implements as our forefathers did, and with more effect, since we build for both time and eternity, while they build only for time.

The Masons of the seventeenth century were almost exclusively practical, operative Masons. They have been slurringly termed, by some, bread-and-butter Masons, because Freemasonry was the business of their lives, from the practice of which they derived their daily support. But well-directed labour is never ignoble, and we honour the Craftsmen of centuries ago who erected the splendid churches and cathedrals of the Middle ages. The Guild Theory, by which our descent is deduced from the stone masons of yore, is the one adopted by the most critical and highest authorities in the Craft of the present day, and to it we give our unqualified assent. It is reasonable in principle, and well supported by facts. It explains the existence of the Fraternity during its historic period. But anterior to it is its pre-historic era. This word pre-historic is often misunderstood. It does not refer to a period so far removed from the human as to be characterised by the existence of giants and other abnormal phenomena, but only to that epoch about which we now have no certain data. A very few years ago, all time prior to the year 1717, was pre-historic in Masonry—that is, concerning it we had only traditions—since then we have recovered reliable Lodge minutes which extend back to A.D. 1598, and other documentary evidence reaching as far back as 1462. Over four centuries have elapsed between the last dates and the present, but then, as now, Freemasons met in extra Lodges, imparted their secrets only to initiates, and exemplified in stone the noble art of architecture which we now exemplify purely in a spiritual sense. The invention of the art of printing, more than any other cause, produced this peaceable revolution in the Craft. As our Brother Victor Hugo eloquently has written: "*Le livre va tuer l'edifice. L'architecture est detronde.*"

The traditions of the Craft extend the operative existence of the Fraternity back to the age of King Solomon. This is our true pre-historic era. But we cannot tell how soon or how far it may be reclaimed and remanded into the region of the historic and the actual. The acumen and research of skilled archæologists are rapidly making history for the Craft, changing hypotheses into theories, and supporting these by incontestible facts.

Through all this extended historic and pre-historic existence of Freemasonry, there runs the same golden cord of Brotherhood, and related recondite mysteries. The germ is the same throughout. Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, from the beginning to the end, have been the Craft's aims. Forms and ceremonies have changed, but principles never. Freemasons have always being builders, once for time, now for eternity, once with stone and timber to form material Temples, now with intelectual and spiritual natures to form a Spiritual Temple, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.—*Keystone.*

THE DRAMA.

"Married in Haste," at the Haymarket.

MR. BYRON has a happy knack of writing plays which, whether intrinsically good or not, are sure to be acceptable to the public. The very points which, when examined from an artistic point of view, seem his weakest, frequently turn the scale of popular opinion in his favour. Improbabilities in plot, impossibilities in dialogue are all forgiven for the sake of the laughter produced by a smart repartee or a quaint bit of word twisting. Being tolerably certain then, that his work, whatever its quality, will bring grist to the mill, Mr. Byron is to some extent justified in the evident haste with which his plays are written; but the artistic feeling which he undoubtedly possesses must often reproach him for his want of care of his literary reputation. "Pot boilers" are as necessary to dramatic authors as to artists in any other line; but an author like Mr. Byron ought, in justice to his own genius, to produce occasionally a play worthy of a place in an "Academy" of dramatic works. Although the plots of Mr. Byron's plays are usually threadbare, they possess at least one merit; they are neither "adapted" nor boldly stolen from French authors; neither faults nor excellencies are slavish copies from foreign originals. The incidents of "Married in Haste" may almost be guessed from the title. Augustus Grenville, a tutor in the house of a retired merchant, Mr. Grainger, falls in love with the daughter, Ethel, and, on the discovery of the attachment, which is mutual, is abruptly ordered to quit the house. The arrival of Gibson Greene, a friend of Grainger's, throws a new light on the scene; Greene states his knowledge that the tutor's real name is not Grenville, but Vere, that he has great expectations from a rich uncle, Mr. Percy Pendragon, and is in fact merely playing the part of the Lord of Burleigh. On this representation Mr. Grainger's opposition is withdrawn, and the young couple marry. Mr. Pendragon, justly irritated at not having been consulted on this important step, withdraws the allowance hitherto made to Vere, and the couple married in haste are left to repent at leisure. Taking to painting as a means of living, Augustus discovers that his wife's pictures are more valued than his own, and a little jealousy on this score, increased by some misunderstanding as to his attentions to a Lady Lister, results in a separation. The double reconciliation between husband and wife, and between uncle and nephew, is wrought out in a charming scene, of which the chief burden falls on the shoulders of Pendragon and Ethel, and of course all ends happily. We need only say of the dialogue that it is up to the level of Mr. Byron's style, and contains the usual quantity of his verbal fireworks. The acting is unusually good all round; Miss Carlotta Addison, whose progress has been both rapid and continuous, plays admirably as Ethel, showing much more power than she has hitherto been credited with, and acting throughout with admirable consistency of purpose. The Percy Pendragon of Mr. Vezin is another finished performance; good actor as Mr. Vezin always is, he has not often been seen to greater advantage than in this character. In writing the part of Gibson Greene Mr. Byron was writing a part for himself, and fitted it admirably to his own idiosyncrasies. The cynical, yet good hearted man of the world, always at work for one of his friends, and yet apparently too lazy to do more than drawl out his witty sayings, is excellently portrayed by Mr. Byron. Mr. Howe, always a safe actor, appears as Mr. Grainger, and Miss Emily Thorne plays the part of his wife. The piece is well mounted, and, in comparison with some recent productions, deserves, as it will no doubt obtain, a long and successful run.

WHAT ARE YOU WORKING FOR?—"How busy you are this lovely morning," said the butterfly to the spider. "I am spinning, merely spinning," said the spider, demurely. "How good the spider is. She is just like you, always at work. I found her at home, just now, on the rose bush, hard at her spinning," cried the butterfly to a sage old bee that was gathering honey with all his might. "Like me!" exclaimed the bee. "No, friend, no; I am never idle; I love industry and practise it; so far you may compare me to the spider, but there we part. My labour is spent in preparing sweet food for others: hers is spread to spinning snares wherewith she catches the unwary for her own devouring. Work and wages are to be judged, not by the skill and pains taken, but by the end proposed. My mission is one of love and life; hers is malignant, and has death for its object."—*Leisure Hour.*

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,
IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By BRO. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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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.

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 11th day of October 1875, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To consider the recommendation of the General Committee, on notice of motion given by Bro. Jesse Turner.

That the right to the presentation of a properly qualified Boy in perpetuity for admission to this Institution be secured to the "Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution," on payment to the funds of this Institution of the sum of £1,050.

To elect by ballot Ten Boys (in lieu of nine, as stated in the Voting Papers, one additional vacancy having occurred since the list was completed), from an approved list of 58 Candidates.

The Chair will be taken at 12 o'clock at noon precisely.

The ballot for the election of Ten Boys will open at 1 o'clock (or sooner, should the business of the Court be concluded), and will close at 3 o'clock.

2nd October 1875. FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G. Steward), Secretary.

*** The Seventy-eighth Anniversary Festival will be held on Wednesday, 16th June 1876, on which occasion the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Warwickshire, has kindly consented to preside. The names of brethren willing to represent Provinces, or Lodges, as Stewards, will be gratefully received.

THE THEATRES, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN. — PROMENADE CONCERTS, at 8.0, each evening.

DRURY LANE.—At 7. THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN, and A NABOB FOR AN HOUR.

HAYMARKET. — At 7.30, SPRING GARDENS, and MARRIED IN HASTE.

LYCEUM.—At 7.0, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and THE BONNIE FISHWIFE.

PRINCESS'S. — At 8 each evening, CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FAMILY JARS. At 8, THE TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

STRAND.—At 7.0, THE DOCTOR'S BROUGHAM, and KIND TO A FAULT.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD, and Mr. GATHERWOOL.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, A CONJUGAL LESSON. At 7.45, SELF, and THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE, and THE BRIGANDS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—MONEY.

QUEEN'S.—MACBETH, this evening only, for the benefit of Mr. Ryder.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.

PHILHARMONIC.—LES GEORGIENNES, THE ZOO, and TWO TO ONE.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, Inspection of Volunteers, &c. Open daily, AQUARIUM, PICTURE GALLERY, SKATING RINK, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, OPERA, RURAL FETE, ILLUMINATION, &c. On Monday, SWIMMING FETE. On Tuesday, OPERA, HARVEST CELEBRATION, FIREWORKS, &c. On Wednesday, "MONEY." Open Daily.

POLYTECHNIC.—The BEAUTY, the BEAST and the BARGAIN, with Ghost Scenes, &c.—AUSTRALIAN MEATS and How to Cook them.—NEW ZEALAND, OR THE SOUTHERN WONDERLAND. WONDERS OF ACOUSTICS. New Lecture, SEA SIDE SKETCHES. Many other Entertainments. Open twice daily, at 12.0 and 7.0. Admission, 1s.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE) HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, daily at 3.0 and 8.0.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—BAUMER and FITZ-RENHARD, daily, at 3.0 and 8.0.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place, W. — Mr. and Mrs. GERMAN REED.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.
Fourth Application—October Election, 1875.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is most earnestly solicited on behalf of

RICHARD THOMAS GARDNER, Aged 8 Years.

SON of the late Brother RICHARD RAVENSHAW GARDNER, of 13 Graham Street, Walworth, Surrey, Dancing Master, who died 23rd October 1870, after a long and painful illness, leaving a Widow and Four Children totally unprovided for; his lengthened infirmity having exhausted all previous savings. Brother Gardner was initiated in the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, in 1866, served the several Offices, and passed the Chair of that Lodge, and was generally respected by the numerous Brethren with whom his business brought him in contact.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren, viz:—

Bro. George Kenning P.M. 192, Past Grand Deacon for Middlesex.
Bro. Magnus Ohren P.M. P.Z. 33, P.M. and M.E.Z. 488, G.J. Warden for Surrey; Lower Sydenham, S.E.
Bro. William Hudson P.M. 315, Past Prov. G.J.D. for Sussex, P.Z. 732, P.M. Mark 75; Brighton.
Bro. Nathan Bryant Headon W.M. Great City Lodge, No. 1426; 65 Friday Street, London, E.C.
Bro. James H. Vockins W.M. Sphynx Lodge, No. 1329; 13a Stockwell Road, Brixton, S.
Bro. James Weaver P.M. 862, W.M. 1319, M.E.Z. 862, P.P.G. Organist, Middlesex; 45 Howland Street, Fitzroy Square, W.
Bro. Charles L. Marshall P.M.; 37 Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, S.E.
Bro. Mark Samuel Lazihan J.W. 1216; York Street, Walworth, S.E.
Bro. James Freeman 1297, Treasurer 1426; 65 Friday Street, E.C.
Bro. William S. Webster P.M. 27, P.Z. 21; 17 Ely Place, Holborn, E.C.
Bro. Thomas Moore P.M. 720; High Street, Clapham.
Bro. James Stevens P.M. 23, 720, 1216, 1426, P.Z. 720, M.E.Z. 771, P.G.O. Mark, &c.; 19; Clapham Common, S.W.

Proxies will be thankfully received by Bro. James Stevens, and by the Widow, 13 Graham Street, Walworth, S.E.

FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THEIR Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, till the last few days, had been entertaining a number of illustrious guests, among them being the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, and the Prime Minister. The Prince and Princess are now returned to Marlborough House, which the former will leave on Monday for Dover, en route, *viâ* Paris and Brindisi, for India. The suite that will accompany His Royal Highness will include the Duke of Sutherland, Sir Bartle Frere, Lord Alfred Paget, Lord Suffield, Lord Aylesford, Lord Carrington, Lord C. Beresford, Colonel Ellis, and Mr. F. Knollys, his private secretary. The Prince will remain at The Bristol during his brief stay in Paris, and will leave for Turin on Wednesday evening, and go thence to Brindisi, which he is expected to reach on Saturday next. He will touch at Athens on the 18th, and after a stay of two days with his brother-in-law, King George, will resume his journey. At three o'clock to day His Royal Highness will receive an address from the Corporation of London, previous to his departure for India. The Duke of Cambridge has paid his usual visit of inspection to the Garrison at Portsmouth. On Wednesday the troops were engaged

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in a sham fight on Hayling Island, a few miles east of Portsmouth. On Monday the Duke will travel by the same train as the Prince of Wales to Dover, in order to witness a fight near Folkestone, between the Dover and Shornoliffe troops, which has been arranged for the day following.

Some time since it was announced that warnings had been sent to the various ports, that the equinoctial gales were expected to be much severer than usual, and the forecaste has been since amply verified. There has been a succession of gales, and considerable damage to both life and property has been the result. In addition to this we have witnessed what we suppose we must describe as the complete break up of the season. We have been treated this last fortnight to a superabundance of rain, though during the last few days the sun has shone out bravely and brilliantly, if not with its usual warmth. We cannot say the year thus far has been a particularly fortunate one as regards the weather. The winter was a long and trying one; of spring we had very little to boast, and the summer was distinguished by a succession of most disastrous floods, which severely damaged the hay and cut crops. Following this, we had a few weeks of glorious warm summer weather, which, happily, proved very serviceable to the crops, and enabled the farmers to gather in their harvest without hindrance, so that though the yield is somewhat below the average, the expectations of the pessimists have not been realised to the extent that was expected. Not having the gift of prophecy, we are unable to state if we are fortunately in for another spell of fine weather. We content ourselves with hoping so.

Having delivered ourselves thus oracularly on the subject of the weather, a subject of such interest to all Englishmen that any two of them who should meet and not offer some remark, more or less sapient, as to its being warm, cold, dry, or damp, would deserve to be immured for the rest of their days in the nearest lunatic asylum, we pass to other and it may be more general topics. First then the Fifteenth Church Congress commenced its session at Stoke-on-Trent in the Potteries on Tuesday. The proceedings commenced with divine service in the Parish Church, the sermon being preached by the Lord Bishop of Rochester, while the Bishop of Ontario performed a like service at another church, St. Mark's, Shelton. The Congress met in the afternoon, at the Congress Hall, and after a few preliminaries, Bishop Selwyn delivered the inaugural address, in which the Rev. Prelate set forth the scope and purpose of the meeting. After this the first discussion was opened, the subject being "The Church of England, and the Churches in communion with her; how they may be drawn more closely together." On Wednesday, the principal discussion turned on the important question of "Woman's work in the Church." The subject evoked considerable difference of opinion among those present, but all the speakers exhibited a very earnest desire to treat the question impartially, though the views enunciated were in some instances in direct conflict with each other. We may fairly assume that a Congress which has reached its fifteenth session feels that it is making some progress with the work it is engaged upon. At all events, all endeavours to promote deeper religious feeling among the masses will be cordially welcomed by all Masons, even though we pride ourselves on excluding all religious disputations. Hence we refer to this Congress, not because it is under the auspices of the Church of England, but because its object is to spread a knowledge of the broad truths of religion among the more ignorant classes of people.

Simultáneously with the Church Congress we have the Social Science Congress assembled at Brighton, this being the nineteenth year of its existence. There were present Lord Aberdare, President of the Congress and of the Departments, Sir Edward Creasy, Jurisprudence and the Amendment of the Law; Lieut.-Colonel Du Cane, Repression of Crime; Sir Charles Reed, Education; Dr. Richardson, Health; and Mr. Grant Duff, M.P., Economy and Trade. The inaugural address was delivered by Lord Aberdare, who entered, at great length, into the very wide range of subjects which the Congress sought to deal with. The most prominent among them are the repression of crime, the extension of education, and the promotion of sanitary science. We heartily sympathise with every body of men engaged in such beneficent work. Whatever tends to raise the masses must be a benefit, not to them only, but to the community of which they form a part. Decent dwellings, fresh air, and education are the surest means for improving the condition of our less fortunate fellows. We have no doubt whatever that much practical good will result from sundry of the theories propounded at this Congress, and we heartily wish it every success. While on the subject of science we may note that the Yorkshire College of Science, at Leeds, which has been established for the purpose of supplying instruction in the sciences applicable to the manufactures, engineering, mining, and agriculture of the county, was inaugurated by the Duke of Devonshire, on Wednesday. There were present, besides His Grace, who is Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, Dr. Lyon Playfair, the Marquis of Ripon, Lord Hampton, Lord Frederick Cavendish, President of the College, Sir Andrew Fairbairn, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. W. E. Forster, the Mayors of Leeds, Huddersfield, Halifax, and several other men of distinction connected with the County of York. Lord Frederick Cavendish having explained the object of establishing such a college, the Duke of Devonshire formally declared it open, after which the company adjourned to luncheon at the Great Northern Station Hotel, His Grace occupying the chair. A number of toasts were given and appropriately acknowledged. The proceedings were brought to a close in the evening, when a meeting was held in the Town Hall, for the purpose of hearing an address by Dr. Lyon Playfair. If the success that has attended Owen's College, Manchester, may be taken as affording a just criterion, we may anticipate that a long and honourable career is in store for this new College of Science.

This being the season when Members of Parliament make a clean breast of their Parliamentary performances, and take counsel with their constituents as to the present and future state of the political world, it is a matter of course that nearly every issue of the *Times*, and other daily papers, should contain accounts of these extra Parliamentary utterances. Among the latest and most noteworthy of these have been the addresses of Messrs. Norwood and Wilson to their constituents at Hull, the most important topics to which the honourable gentlemen referred being the shipping interest, the legislation in connection therewith, and the crusade of Mr. Plimsoll against unseaworthy ship owners. Mr. Leatham, at Huddersfield, scarcely knew how to express his regret at the retirement of Mr. Gladstone from the leadership of the Liberal party. And lastly, though the occasion hardly comes under this particular category of extra parliamentary speeches, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has been paying a visit to Middlesborough, for the purpose of inspecting the grand improvements now in course of progress with a view to improving the navigation of the river Tees. The interest on this occasion centered in the ceremony of laying the first stone of the Normandy Graving Dock, a ceremony which was very skilfully performed by Sir Stafford Northcote, amid great enthusiasm. The right honourable gentleman had previously inspected the extensive works undertaken by the Tees Conservancy Board, being afterwards entertained at luncheon in a tent erected for the occasion on the iron platform on which stands the Fifty Buoy Lighthouse. After the labours of the day Sir Stafford returned to Marton Hall, the seat of Mr. Bolckow, M.P. for Middlesborough, whose guest he is during his visit.

After laying the foundation stone of the Normandy Graving Dock, the Chancellor of the Exchequer improved his Masonic experience by laying the first stone of the Cleveland Library and Philosophical Institute, at Middlesborough, on Thursday. This Institution dates its origin only about twelve years back, when a library was commenced and an annual course of lectures established for the education of all classes, in matters of local interest, such as geology, botany, and the staple industry of the district. The Society now numbers between 400 or 500 members, and so great has been the increase in members, that the original quarters have become too small. Hence it was resolved to erect new premises, at about a cost of £4,000, and it was of this new structure that Sir Stafford Northcote laid the first stone on the day mentioned. The ceremony having been duly performed, a cordial vote of thanks was voted to the Right Honourable gentleman, who then, in company with Messrs. Bolckow, Dodds, and others, made a short excursion to the Cleveland Hills, and inspected the mine, some 500 feet deep, which is justly regarded as the most interesting feature in the district. In this mine a seam of ironstone, sixteen feet thick, is being worked, and though the Company are only working to about one-fourth of their power, a thousand

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tons of ore are being raised daily. Having explored the different workings, lunch was served in a temporary dining room extemporised and tastily decorated for the occasion in one of them. In the evening Sir Stafford was entertained at a banquet given by the Mayor and Corporation in the Odd Fellows' Hall, over 200 guests being invited to meet him. The toast of the evening was, of course, that of "Her Majesty's Ministers," with which was coupled the name of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is needless to add that the toast was cordially received and appropriately acknowledged.

The contest for the vacancy in the Court of Aldermen, caused by the retirement of Sir Sills John Gibbons, Bart., Ward of Castle Baynard, was a very close one; Bro. S. C. Hadley receiving 121, and Mr. Geo. Cockerell 120 votes. At first the latter gentleman announced his intention of challenging the verdict, but he has since given up the idea, so that Bro. Hadley's election to the honourable position of Alderman is now assured, and will be publicly announced by the Lord Mayor on Wednesday next. The Lord Mayor elect, Mr. Alderman Cotton, is endeavouring to introduce some novel features in this year's civic pageant. He has suggested to the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs' Committee, now sitting at Guildhall, the propriety of inviting the leading trades to send in plans and designs of trophies to form part of the Show. In the event of their falling in with this suggestion, Alderman Cotton farther suggests that the Civic Guilds should support such trophies with their banners, and in any other way that may seem feasible. It is also proposed that detachments of all the Metropolitan volunteer regiments, and from other parts of the county, should form part of the procession. If the idea be carried out, we shall have something quite out of the common in the way of Lord Mayor's Shows this year. But even if the idea should not find favour, the City Marshal and the Civic Coach will, we doubt not, prove as attractive as ever, especially to country cousins, and the little citizens and citizenesses not yet in their teens.

Though the weather last Friday was not quite so favourable as might have been wished, the novel idea of a cab show at the Alexandra Palace proved a great success. The show included cabs, cab-horses, and designs for cabmens' shelters, nor was cabby himself over-looked, for prizes were awarded to those who could give the best evidence of good conduct, who had been longest in the service of one employer, who had restored the greatest number of articles left in cabs, and who had had the longest experience as temperance men. As cabmen are known for their skill in chaffing, we think there might have been added prizes for those who have uttered the greatest number of decent *bons mots*. No doubt *Punch*, *Judy* and *Fun* would have come forward liberally with donations for a class of men who have figured so successfully and so amusingly in their columns. But this by the way. The exhibition was under the patronage of Lord Carrington, Lord Grosvenor, M.P., Sir Charles J. Palmer, Cardinal Manning, and Mr. Roger Eykyn, all of whom were present. Among the judges were Professor Fleming and Sir Edward Lee, together with two practical cab owners, nominated by the Cab-drivers' Benevolent Association, namely, Mr. John Turner, badge 8149, and Henry Sayer, badge 1672. Among the exhibitors was H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who sent a splendid specimen of a hansom. In Class 1, for the exhibitors of the best conditioned cab-horse and best appointed two wheeled cab, in service for not less than six months, G. Bishops, of Taunton Mews, took the first prize, and W. Rees, of Eglon Mews, the second. In Class 2, for Proprietor of best horse and four-wheeled cab, under the same conditions, John W. Dove, of Edward Street, Dorset Square, was placed first, and W. James, of Trinity Mews, second. Messrs. Forder of Wolverhampton took the first prize in Class 3, the most convenient and economical two-wheel cab; Mr. C. Thorne, of Norwich, being adjudged second honours; Messrs. Martin and Co., of Birmingham, and G. R. Blackwell, of John Mews, Gray's-inn-road, were first and second respectively in the four-wheeled cab class. In class 5, for best conditioned cab-horse in actual work for three years, the prizes were awarded to D. H. Lewis, Chalk Farm, and John Dove. G. Bishops took the prize in class 6 for the best horse driven for over four years in the shafts of a cab. In class 7, for horses that had served over five years, W. C. Holland, Chelsea, and Mary Dale, Brunswick-square, were respectively first and second. Mrs. Ruth Parson, of Kennington Cross, with her bay-mare, in constant work for over seventeen years, took the prize in class 8, horses over eight years in work. John Dunn, badge 1091, took first prize for good conduct, having seen forty-six years of service as a driver; George Hardy took the prize for having been the longest time in the same employer's service, namely thirty-five years. Mr. John Gibson, architect, took the prize offered for the best and most economical design for a cabman's shelter. Altogether the directors of the Alexandra Palace and cabmen have every reason to be pleased with the result of this first experiment, and we trust it may be only the first of a long series of similar exhibitions. On Saturday there was a Venetian fête, on Tuesday an effective rendering of *La Sonnambula*, by the Carl Rosa Company, and for to-day is announced Balfe's favourite opera, *The Bohemian Girl*.

On Tuesday the Seventh Annual Cat Show was held at the Crystal Palace. There were considerably over three hundred animals exhibited, ranged in no less than forty-nine classes. One of the judges was Mr. Harrison Weir, and among the numerous patrons may be mentioned Lady D. Nevill, Mrs. Cashel Hoey, and Mr. Darwin. The exhibits included every variety of the domestic cat, and many of them were splendid specimens of feline beauty, the best in the whole show being an English short-haired tabby, weighing just 18 lbs. On Saturday last the twentieth season of winter concerts opened, with an average good programme, the first piece on the list being the late Sir Sterndale Bennett's overture "The Naiades," with selections from Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Gounod, and last of all, Herr Wagner's overture, "Der fliegende Hollander." The second of this series, to-day, will include selections from Mendelssohn, Haydn, Chopin, and a new overture by Mr. W. G. Cusins, "Love's Labour Lost." The vocalists are Madame Sinico and Mr. Vernon Rigby; pianiste, Mdlle. Anna Mehlig; and the conductor, Mr. A. Manns. Among other novelties here may be mentioned the new Skating Rink, which will be under cover, and be opened to-day. This evening is announced as the opening night of a series of Promenade Concerts at the Agricultural Hall, Islington.

Mr. George Potter, Editor of the *Beehive* and member of the London School Board, is determined, and very properly we think, to bring the *Englishman* to task for describing him as a rogue and a sham. The first summons against Dr. Kenealy failed, it being shown that Dr. Kenealy was neither Editor nor proprietor of the journal in question. But nothing daunted by this, Mr. Potter's Counsel applied for a summons against Mr. Bradley as the publisher, and it is proposed to indict Mr. Maurice Kenealy at the Sessions. The result, as regards Mr. Bradley, is his committal for trial by Alderman Sir Robert Carden, bail being allowed, however, himself in £100, and two securities in £50 each, afterwards altered to a single security of £100.

There is little to record in the way of sport. Pheasant-shooting commenced on the first instant. There has been a Croquet Tournament at Brighton, and Captain Webb is still the hero of the hour wherever he goes. The subscription list by this time must be a tolerable heavy one, as it should be, for his feat is unexampled. Coursing commenced last month, and the season for football is just being entered upon, so that, as we have remarked before, we shall soon be studying all the wonderful mysteries of drop kicks, behinds, forwards, half and quarter-backs, scrummages, hots, posters, goals, tries, &c., &c. If any of our readers are anxious to know what all this means, let him refer to Mr. Alcock's admirably compiled football annual for this year, and he will there obtain all the needful information.

A fire of greater magnitude than usual broke out on Thursday evening, at the newly erected mansion of Mr. Henry A. Hankey, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster. The house, indeed, has not yet been inhabited, for the workmen were still engaged in putting the last touches before Mr. Hankey moved into it. The house was very large, being five stories high, and some idea of its value may be gathered from the fact that the building and its contents were insured in the London and Liverpool and Globe Company, for between £40,000 and £50,000. Most of the furniture was saved, but nearly the whole of the building was completely destroyed, leaving only the bare walls standing. The first engines to arrive were those of the Wellington Barracks and these did great service in arresting the progress of the flames. The fire steamers arrived shortly, but though the men worked with a will, only two out of the twenty bedrooms were saved, as were the dining and billiard-rooms, but the drawing-room, concert-hall, and reception-room

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were destroyed. No life was endangered as the warning came early enough to ensure escape, but a drummer and private of the Coldstream Guards were injured, the latter so severely that his removal to the hospital became necessary. One of the firemen, too, on whom a beam fell was also conveyed thither.

From France we hear of dissensions in the Ministry. Considering what a heterogeneous body it is, we are by no means surprised at this report. Great difficulties are anticipated at the beginning of the approaching session. From Spain we learn that six Alphonsist columns have been organised for the better pursuit of the Carlists in the province of Gerona. The latter are bombarding Pampeluna, but the damage done by the shells seems to be immaterial. There is, in fact, a good deal of fear among the inhabitants, but fortunately no serious amount of danger. His Holiness the Pope has received an envoy from the Shah of Persia. The latter thanks the Pope for his letter and presents, and promises that all Roman Catholics in Persia shall be protected and respected in the exercise of their religion. Might not Pius IX. take a leaf out of the Shah's book, and leave Freemasons unmolested in the exercise of their religion? The approaching visit of the Emperor of Germany to Milan is being pretty generally discussed, and no doubt the Italians from the King downwards will accord his Majesty a most enthusiastic reception. They are directly indebted to Prussia for Venice, and indirectly for Rome, so there is every reason why they should greet him heartily. As regards the Herzegovina, we imagine the insurrection must be pretty well on its last legs. We hear of occasional engagements, in which, whenever Turkish troops are engaged, they send their enemies to the right about in double quick time. If now and again we hear of insurgent *successes*, we fancy the telegram should be read *excesses* at the expense of inoffensive Turkish women and children and their property. The Earl of Derby has recently stated that when the European Consuls were lately traversing the disturbed districts, the principal difficulty they experienced was in finding any insurgents. So much for the boastful telegrams about great defeats of Turkish troops, which a fortnight or two since came in such numbers from Servia and Vienna. Happily the Great Powers have determined upon following a policy of non-intervention. Turkey, for once, will be left to deal with her own subjects. Doubtless, when the disturbances are at an end, we shall hear of the Sultan having acceded to the prayers of his subjects for certain reforms. Our difficulties with China and Burmah, according to the latest advices, appear to be in a fair way of being settled, but we must not be too hopeful. It is no good shouting till you are out of the wood. The Chinese are as great in deception as in failing to carry out their promises. John Bull may yet find it necessary to chastise John Chinaman, and will do so certainly if the murderers of one of her Majesty's Consular servants are not duly punished by the Chinese Government. By advices from America we hear that the recent storms in Texas have been very disastrous both to life and property. Over a hundred lives have been lost, and property destroyed to the estimated extent of five million dollars. The velocity of the wind is said at one time to have been at the rate of fifty miles an hour. We doubt not steps will be promptly taken to repair the damage, and equally certain are we that, if subscriptions are opened in this country, a good round sum will be raised.

The election at the Quarterly Court of the Needlemakers' Company was held on Thursday, and Brother J. C. Parkinson, Deputy Provincial Master for Middlesex, and W.M. of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, was unanimously elected Master for the ensuing year. Bro. Sir George Elliott, Bart., and Dr. Ramsey were elected Wardens.

Bro. Fred Godfrey and the Band of the Coldstream Guards played at the Aquarium, Brighton, on Saturday, and Bro. Maclagan has been re-engaged, his artistic performances having been received with great applause.

On Wednesday, the 20th instant, a new Lodge will be consecrated in the province of Essex. By special permission of the Earl of Rosslyn P.G.M. Scotland, this Lodge will be designated the "Rosslyn Lodge," and will stand No. 1543 on the roll. The ceremony of consecration will be performed by the M.W. Bro. C. J. Martyn, P. Grand Chaplain, assisted by the V.W. Rev. Spencer R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, and other brethren. Two o'clock in the afternoon is the hour fixed for the ceremony.

H.R.H. Prince Leopold will take up the freedom of the City, to which he is entitled by patrimony, at a special meeting of the Court of Common Council, on the 25th instant. After the ceremony the Prince will be entertained at a *dejeunér*.

We regret to have to announce that Bro. R. W. Little, P.G.W. Middlesex, and Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, is labouring under severe indisposition, with an affection of the throat. We fear he will not be able to be present at the Election this day (Saturday).

The election of six candidates for the Girls' School will take place to-day, the poll opening at 1 p.m. and closing at 3 p.m. On Monday there will be an election of 10 candidates for the Boys' School, the number of applicants being 58. The ballot will in this case also commence at 9 a.m. and close at 3 p.m.

The fifteen Sections will be worked in the Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27, at the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, City, E.C., on Thursday evening, October 28th, 1875, at seven precisely. Bros. Austin P.M. 933 W.M., Horsley 933 S.W., Williams 933 J.W. The Sections will be worked by the following Brethren:—1st Lecture—Brown 174, Calverley J.W. 1349, Ellis 933, Briout 933, Hoare P.M. 27, Horsley 933, Gross I.G. 1278. 2nd Lecture:—Crane 933, Musto P.M. 1349, Fieldwick I.G. 1364, Lowe P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. 1445. 3rd Lecture:—Hocking 933, Webb D.C. 174, Williams 933.

The marriage of Viscount Castlereagh, eldest son of Bro. the Marquis of Londonderry, with Lady Theresa, eldest daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury, premier Earl of England, was celebrated last Saturday at Alton Towers, the seat of the noble Earl.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.—It was in Philadelphia that Franklin first became a printer on his own account; but he had previously visited England, and worked as a journeyman in a London office. This was in 1725, when he was only nineteen: by the middle of 1726 he was back in Philadelphia, and it was in that city that he made his first advances to independence. His industry was boundless; no labour that was honest he considered beneath him; he never stooped to the vulgar folly of setting himself above his work. The ingenuity of his mind and the readiness of his hands made him so varied a master of his craft that he could cast types, make printer's ink, cut wood-engravings, and execute vignettes in copper. Opening an office of his own, he was chosen by the Pennsylvanian Assembly to be their printer. Philadelphia was his foster-city, and he owed to it more than to the city of his birth. It was there that he speculated and wrote; it was there that he started a newspaper; it was there that he published "Poor Richard's Almanack," and delighted the thrifty with the proverbial philosophy of money getting. In Philadelphia he resided the greater part of his life, advancing education, founding libraries and philosophical societies, promoting social improvements, and making those experiments in electricity which have tamed the lightning, and converted it from the brilliant terror of the heavens into the orderly servant of man. He was not an idealist in science; he brought it down, literally, to the fireside, and to the lamp upon the table. But, though nothing of a poet, he loved music, and invented the harmonica, the knowledge of which he is said to have concealed from his wife until the instrument was perfect, when, waking her with it at night, she thought it was the music of angels.—From "*Cassell's History of the United States*" for October.

THE ELIZABETHAN POETS.—The land was full of song in Elizabeth's time. Music of the voice was cultivated, part-songs and madrigals were a common social pleasure. Educated men, who had no thought of calling themselves men of letters, could write pleasant verse, and sing it too. To be able to write pleasant verse was a mark of good breeding in England, as in Italy, and this was caused in some degree by imitation of Italian fashions. Much of the verse written, and more or less valued, in Elizabeth's reign, has passed away. The good remains; but of the good, perhaps, there has been as much lost as preserved.—From "*Cassell's Library of English Literature*."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The extraordinary variations of temperature attending the early autumn are extremely trying to the delicate clerical, the weak, and nervous. All troubled by these affections should resolve to resist no longer strengthening and regulating medicine immediately commence its use, and thereby set at that feeling of restlessness which before disordered digestion and defective secretion of bile. One of Holloway's Pills taken at or near bed-time and followed at bed-time by a dose sufficiently large to act aperiently, will speedily recruit the failing functions and restore order throughout the whole system. A treatment so safe in operation and so successful in result should be known and practised when cold and sundry other evils are attempting to gain a vexatious footing.

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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.

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SATURDAY, 9th OCTOBER.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.

309—Prince George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, Eastwood.
1491—Commercial, Freemasons' Hotel, Leicester.

MONDAY, 11th OCTOBER.

Quarterly General Court, Boys' School, Freemason's Hall, at 12. (Election, &c.)
45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, 8. (Instruction.)
967—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

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.
85—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleston, Norfolk.
98—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
99—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
102—Unanimity, King's Arms, North Walsham.
106—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
169—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
268—Salopian, Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury.
295—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
369—Prudence, Three Tuns, Halesworth, Suffolk.
411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham.
607—Chicheley, Court House, Thrapston.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
685—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
761—Eastnor, Feathers Hotel, Ledbury.
855—Sympathy, Swan Hotel, Wootton-under-Edge.
884—Derwent, Georgeand Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, Derby.
933—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall.
941—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
961—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Stow-on-the Wold.
1208—Bayons, Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.
1305—Morning Star, Queen's Hotel, Newton Abbot.
1403—Duncombe, King's Arms Hotel, Kingsbridge, Devon.

TUESDAY, 12th OCTOBER.

187—St. John's, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.
1258—Benconsfree, Red Lion, Leytonstone. (Instruction.)

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
131—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Truro.
160—True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
264—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, Warwick.
329—New Forest, Masonic Hall, Lymington.
371—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
373—Hospitals, George Hotel, High Street, Huntingdon.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Instruction.)
474—Union, Masonic Hall, Grey Friars'-road, Reading.
494—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Newton-in-the-Willows.
496—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
560—Vernon, Somn Hotel, Stourport.
624—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent.
626—Lansdowne of Unity, New Hall, Chippenham.
723—Panmure, Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
786—S. John, Ray Head Hotel, Maidenhead.
814—Parrott and Axe, George Hotel, Crowkerne.
963—Gosport, Indin Arms Hotel, Gosport.
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croxton.
1007—Hope and Charnwood, Bulls Head, Loughboro'.
1067—Royal Forest of Dean, Lodge Rooms, Newnham.
1139—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot.
1165—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.
1269—Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, Surrey.
1402—Jordan, Masonic Hall, Torquay.
1465—Uckenham, Talbot Hotel, Uckfield, Sussex.

WEDNESDAY, 13th OCTOBER.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
13—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldwychdelane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1260—Harvey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
81—Duties of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
125—Prince Edwin, White Hart, Hythe, Kent.
167—Royal Sussex of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
204—Caledonian, Freemasons Hall, Manchester.
257—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
301—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester.
323—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
335—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Bedford.
339—Brotherly Love, Chequers Inn, Yeovil.
368—Separation, George Hotel, Southwich, Cheshire.
384—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
510—Palatine, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
535—Segontium, Masonic Hall, Carnarvon Castle.
640—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
658—Benevolence, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
691—Sandale, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Chesterfield.
731—Athenæum, Athenæum Hotel, Derby.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Sussex Hotel, Worthing.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1054—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1095—Mannion, Private Room, Tamworth.
1149—Falcon, Kirkgate, Thirsk.
1429—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
M.M. 146—Constantine, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.

THURSDAY, 14th OCTOBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.
1360—Harvey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
112—St. George, Masonic Hall, Fore-street-hill, Exeter.
130—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
132—Unity, White Hart Hotel, Ringwood.
180—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
195—Hengist, Bells Vue House, Bournemouth.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
339—Virtue and Silence, White Lion, Hadleigh, Suffolk.
383—Royal Pressen, Victoria's Garrison House, Fulwood, Lancashire.
341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye, Sussex.
436—Shakespeare, Town Hall, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.
479—Scientific, Private Room, Ringley.
480—Cornubian, Freemasons' Hall, Hayle, Cornwall.
486—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Worcester.
477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
487—Portsmouth, Masonic Hall, Highbury-street, Portsmouth.
506—Elias de Derham, Masonic Hall, The Canal, Salisbury.
530—St. Cuthbert, Parson-lane, Howden.
536—De Ogle, Black Bull Hotel, Morpeth.
569—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth, Northumberland.
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
787—Beauvepar, Lion Hotel, Bridge-street, Belper.
946—Abbey, Abbey Council Chambers, Abingdon, Berks.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-le-Woods.
1094—St. George's Priory Rooms, Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Monmouthshire.
1147—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1304—Royd, Bells Vue Hotel, Malvern.
1323—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
1343—St. John's, King's Arms Hotel, Grays, Essex.
1420—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
R. A. 1305—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet.

FRIDAY, 15th OCTOBER.

1276—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1307—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
404—Watford, Freemason's Hotel, Watford.
475—Bedfordshire of St. John the Baptist, Town Hall, Luton.
616—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
1145—Royal Denbigh, Assembly Rooms, Denbigh.
1330—St. Peters, Three Swans Hotel, Market Harborough.

SATURDAY, 16th OCTOBER.

140—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Maltham.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—154—Prince of Wales' Own, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 217—Tyrawley, 4, Dillon-terrace, Ballina.
" 270—St. George's, Enniscorthy, Wexford.
" 297—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 321—Tullamore, Court House, Tullamore, King's County.
" 431—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
TUESDAY—8—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
" 23—Truth, Masonic Hall, Arthur Place, Belfast.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
" 109—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Belfast, Antrim.
" 136—Londonderry, Londonderry.
" 245—Roscommon, Court House, Roscommon.
" 382—Castleblayney, Castleblayney, Monaghan.
" 411—Drogheda, Masonic Hall, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—103—St. Mark, St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street.
" 219—Shuter, 12 Trongate.
" 362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.
" 536—Clydesdale, 106 Rose-street.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 48—Neptune, 31 St. James'-street.
" 441—Glasgow, 22 Struthers-street.
R.A. 69—St. Andrews, 170 Buchanan-street.
WEDNESDAY—128—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
" 339—Marchill, 167 High-street, Maryhill.
R. A. 113—St. Patrick, St. Mary's Hall, Partick.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 468—St. Andrews, Garngad-road.
R.A.—50 Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street.
FRIDAY—380—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
" 406—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 323—St. Andrew, Public Hall, Helensburgh.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

Shamrock and Thistle Lodge. — This Lodge held an Emergency meeting in the Star Hall, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 5th October. There was a good attendance of the brethren to assist Bro. J. Yuill in the arduous duty of raising eight members to the sublime degree of Master Masons, passing six and entering one.

Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 4th of October, at Freemasons' Hall, Bolton, at 6 p.m. Present:—Bros. James Walker W.M., W. H. Horrocks S.W., R. Mill Freeman J.W., G. R. Brockbank P.Prov.S.G.D. Sec., James Brown S.D., Samuel Crowther J.D., Walter Pennington P.M. as I.G., Chas. Walker Prov. G. Tyler Tyler. P.M.'s—Bros. S. W. Knowles, Newton, W. Slater P. Prov. S.G.D., T. H. Winder P. Prov. G. Reg., Robt. Harwood P. Prov. Sup. of W.; Bros. W. J. Challinor, F. A. Winder, H. Weavers, Booth and Forrest. Business—Opened 1st degree at 6 p.m.; read and confirmed minutes; balloted for Bros. Jas. D. Porteous, Postmaster of Bolton, P. Prov. J.G.W. Renfrewshire, East Scot. Cons., and A. Dobson, of Bolton, formerly Lodge 51, Irish Cons., both approved; proceeded to 3rd degree, Bros. Booth and Forrest raised to sublime degree of M.M.; closed to 1st degree; read summons from Prov. G. Sec., calling meeting of Prov. G. Lodge, to be held at Heywood, on 3rd November next; read portion of Ancient Charges, and Lodge closed at a quarter past eight o'clock.

Egyptian Lodge, No. 27.—The regular meeting of this old

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established Lodge was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, Bro. Lamble W.M. in the chair. Green S.W., Atkins P.M. as J.W., H. G. Buss P.G. Treas., Poole P.M. Sec., Walker as S.D., Pattenden J.D., Richards I.G., D. H. Jacobs P.M. W.S., T. Maidwell D.C. P.M.'s—Bros. J. Coutts P.G.P., Harris, C. B. Payne, D. H. Jacobs, Hoare, T Shepperd and Lebbes. The Lodge was opened and minutes confirmed; Bro. Riches was raised to the 3rd degree, and Bros. Howell Maidwell and Young were initiated, the working being perfectly rendered. The brethren then sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Clemow and superintended by Bro. Smith. The W.M. proposed the usual routine toasts, Bro. Coutts P.M. P.G.P. responded in his usual happy and genial manner. Bro. Atkins I.P.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M., who suitably responded. The visitors were Bros. Dyer 449, Smith P.M. 177, F. W. Bryant 49, Lee 1524, Limebeen W.M. 1275, Smith 180, Grubb 73, I. C. Waring 1472, Grinwood 1224, E. Cooke P.M. 9, H. P. Steel 781, and Power 889, Bros. Maidwell, Howell and Young severally returned thanks in appropriate terms. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Past Masters and Bro. Atkins I.P.M. responded. The officers followed: the W.M. complimenting them on their working; Bro. Walker returned thanks. The Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening's enjoyment.

Cathedral Chapter, No. 67.—This Chapter held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, 5th October, at 22 Struthers-street, Glasgow, Comp. J. Duthie Z. presiding, assisted by Compa. G. Purdy H., G. W. Wheeler, Z. of 73, acting J., J. Goldie Scribe E., T. Mason N., J. Dickie 1st S., and others. A Mark Lodge was opened, and Bros. Dove and Macdonald were advanced to that degree, they were afterwards exalted as Most Excellent Masters. The Chapter was then opened, and thereafter, the 1st Sojourner being absent, Comp. Wheeler acted in that capacity, assisted by Comp. Duthie, to exalt these two gentlemen to the Royal Arch Degree.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its regular meeting at 170 Buchanan-street, G. McDonald presiding, W. MacGregor S.W., J. Ambridge J.W., G. Weston P.M., and a large number of members. Two candidates were duly entered, and one passed to 2nd degree.

Roslyn Chapter, No. 119. — This Chapter held its annual meeting on Monday, 4th October, at 25 Robertson-street, Glasgow, G. Thallon M.E.Z. presiding. There was a large attendance of visitors, amongst whom we recognised J. Duthie Z. 67, D. Ranald J. 67, G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, R. Muir 69 S.W., J. Pearson 87, R. Minian 122, and Wm. Dobbie P.Z. 119. The Chapter having been duly opened, Comp. Duthie, with the assistance of the other Principals present, proceeded to instal the officers of the Chapter. G. Thallon re-elected Z., G. W. Hogg H., A. Rotherford J., G. Fraser scribe E., J. McMellan N., R. Leadbitter T., J. Stevenson 1st Sojourner, C. Gallally 2nd S., R. Glass 3rd S., and T. Warwick Janitor. The newly installed Z. immediately proceeded to open a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters, and in an able manner conferred that degree on Bro. James Strong. A Royal Arch Chapter was again opened, when Comp. G. Wheeler Z. 73 exalted Bro. Strong. Thereafter the M.E.Z. proposed, and H. seconded, a motion that in recognition of past services in the Chapter, Comps. G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, D. Ranald J. 67, and R. Minian of 122 be made honorary members of the Roslyn Chapter, which concluded a lengthy evening's work.

Perseverance Lodge, No. 164.— This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 6th of October, at the Masonic Hall, London Hotel, Sidmouth. Present—Bros. W. Hine Haycock P.M. P.G.S.D. W.M. pro tem, W. M. Mitchell S.W., F. H. H. Orchard J.W. pro tem, George Beard Secretary, B. T. Hodge P.M. P.P.G.D. 30 Treasurer, W. J. Rogers J.D. pro tem, W. File P.M. I.G., T. H. Paul Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. J. Albert Orchard P.M. P.G.S., J. Godfrey. Business—The business transacted was of a formal nature, after which, the W.M., in the name of Bro. W. Hodge P.M., presented the Lodge with a coloured plate, representing the various Masonic symbols and emblems, and also with a coloured likeness of the M.W. Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, in acknowledgment of which, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded the donor.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—A numerous assemblage of the brethren met at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, City, on Monday, the 4th. This being the first meeting since the vacation, owing to the work on the Agenda Paper the meeting was called for 3.30. Bros. S. L. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson, S. W. Lazarus J.W., E. P. Albert P.M. Assistant Grand Pursuivant Secretary, M. Spiegel as S.D., Campion as J.D., L. Auerbach I.G., P. E. Van Noorden Organist, and Past Masters O. Roberts, L. Alexander, H. M. Levy, Berkowitz, J. Phillips, Israel Abrahams. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Bitton, Dixon, Snelling and Botibol were passed to the 2nd degree, and Bros. Davis, Lindenbaum, Sessell and Sissen were raised to the 3rd degree. Messrs. Nourick, Wasserbery and Schuldenfice were duly initiated into the Order. The resignation of a Past Master was accepted with regret, and several propositions for initiation were handed in. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 108 in number, sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. W. G. Jennings, of the Albion Tavern Company, and superintended by Bro. Kieping. The W.M., in proposing the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., alluded to his intended visit to India, and he, as well as every one present, wished him God speed on his voyage and a safe return. He was sure in India His Royal Highness would be received with that brotherly love and enthusiasm that was always accorded him in England. Bro. E. P. Albert P.M. returned thanks for the toast of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Benevolent Fund attached to the Lodge, and stated the Fund was in a prosperous state; they had over £1,100 in hand, and he had much pleasure in informing the brethren that Bro. A. Auerbaun, who had just returned from the Cape of Good Hope, had given the sum of five guineas to the Fund, Bro. H. Hymans had given four guineas to constitute him a Vice-President, and the newly initiated brethren, Bros. Nourick and Wasserbery had contributed the sums of one guinea each, while Bro. Schuldenfice had given the sum of half a guinea. (Cheers.) Bro. M. Spiegel returned thanks for the toast. Bro. Nourick replied to the toast of the newly initiated brethren. Bro. Obed. Roberts I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., was received with loud and prolonged cheers, showing the popularity of the W.M. He said, it was a pleasing duty to propose that brother's health. The Lodge may be congratulated in having one to preside over them who was so thoroughly proficient in his various duties; he hoped they would drink the toast with that amount of enthusiasm the W.M. so well deserved. (Cheers.) The W.M. said he thanked Bro. Roberts for the high encomiums he had passed on him, and the brethren for their approbation, his only aim was to do his duty to the Lodge, and he hoped ever to merit their regard and esteem. He then proposed the toast of the Visitors, Bros. Perryman 3, L. Salomon 1017, Cohen 205, Kemp 27, J. H. Dodson 55, Johnson 1423, Offenbach late 188, Soppet 55, Herman 860, L. Myers 205, H. Hanss 860, Klein 1269, H. Gloster 153, Coombes, C Woodman 1275. Bros. Offenbach, Herman and Cohen severally returned thanks. The toast of the Past Masters followed, Bro. Israel Abrahams P.M. returning thanks. Bros. Dodson and L. Lazarus returned thanks for the toast of the Wardens. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the junior officers, regretted the absence of Bro. Miller through domestic affliction. The junior officers were all able to discharge any duty in connection with the Lodge, and they had to thank Bro. Spiegel for the assistance he had rendered to the officers on many occasions. The toast of the Secretary, Bro. E. P. Albert, and the Tyler's was given, and the brethren separated after enjoying a very excellent musical entertainment provided by the W.M., under the direction of Bro. P. E. Van Noorden, the Organist of the Lodge, who accompanied the artistes and sang some of his characteristic songs. Bro. Arthur Thomas and Miss Julia Sydney sang some operatic selections very artistically; the Misses Ward and York sang some songs and duets that gave great satisfaction.

Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Thursday, the 30th of September, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. Present—Bros. J. Mander W.M. Lodge 1201 W.M., J. Wheeler Lodge 1446 S.W., W. S. Leigh 1201 J.W., T. Call I.G. 1446 Secretary, A. C. Burrell P.M. 1446 Treasurer, A. Stewart 1148 S.D., E. S. Harrison 180 J.D., A. Boehr 1446 I.G. Past Masters, Bros. B. H. Swallow P.M. 382, P.G.S. Middlesex, John Beckett P.M. 45, Joseph Bentley P.M. 193, E. J. Scott P.M. 749, T. B. Pulsford P.M. 1158. Visitors—Bros. Wheeler, Lee, A. Stewart, Harrison, Neighbour, J. D. Paine, W. B. White, J. W. Wright, Honeyman, Belfrage, Fletcher, Farwig, Kist, Blundell, Setter, Matthews, Tolmie, Watts, Secker, Shand, Holden, J. W. Lakin, W. C. Parsons and Dairy. Business—The 15 Sections were worked (under the direction of the preceptor, Bro. James Mander W.M. 1201) by the following Brethren:—1st Lecture, Bros. A. Stewart 1148, E. S. Harrison 180, E. Farwig W.S. 180, D. M. Belfrage D.C. 178, J. H. Watts S.W. 1201, J. Wheeler 1446, T. Call I.G. 1446; 2nd Lecture, B. H. Swallow P.M. 382, J. W. Wright S.W. 1298, R. G. Tolmie 861, W. S. Lee 1201, A. Boehr 1446; 3rd Lecture, Bros. F. Honeyman S.W. 1238, W. C. Parsons W.M. 180, E. Farwig W.S. 180.

St. Peter's Lodge No. 442.—On Thursday evening, 23rd ult., the brethren of St. Peter's Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons met at the Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, in response to notice issued by the W.M., Bro. E. H. Griffin, to receive, as a gift to the Lodge, a large and beautiful likeness of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, photographed from life by Watkins, and beautifully coloured by hand, framed by Bro. Gladwell, to which is annexed the following inscription: "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of England. Presented by H.S.H. the Dowager Countess Gleichen to St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442, to commemorate the Royal Installation on the 28th April 1875. Brother Keddy had the honour of representing the illustrious donor, in formally presenting this gift, at a Lodge of Emergency, held at the Masonic Hall, Peterborough, the 23rd day of September 1875. Brother E. H. Griffin W.M., Brother W. Dixey Secretary." The following brethren were present:—Bros. Griffin W.M., Pilcher J.W., Bockle P.M., E. Vergette P.M., Parisar P.M., Penk Treas., Dixey, Sec., E. Vergette jun. S.D., Jones J.D., Marson P.G.D.O.C., Keddy, Beeby, Pearson, Bays and Rotherford; Foskey S.D., and Allen P.M. P.P.G.S.W. Lodge No. 373; Robertson, Lodge No. 261. Several brethren who were previously engaged for the evening sent letters of apology to the W.M., regretting their absence, and the inclemency of the evening prevented many from the country being present. The Lodge being opened, the Secretary (Brother Dixey) read the circular letter convening it. Brother Keddy rose, and, in due and ancient form, presented the picture to the W.M. for the benefit and use of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442. Brother Keddy remarked that it was gratifying to himself that he was permitted, in the name of Her Serene Highness, to offer for the acceptance of the Lodge so appropriate a present as this tribute of respect to Masonry, as represented by His Royal Highness. The Grand Master of English Freemasonry had already proved himself worthy of the high and honourable position, and His Royal Highness had honoured Freemasonry by accepting the office as head of the Craft, whilst Protestantism would also be the gainer, for the cardinal principles of Freemasonry were inspired by the Holy Bible. It was to be hoped that His Royal Highness might favour Peterborough with his presence at the next annual provincial gathering in May next. The Countess knew nothing of St. Peter's Lodge, but as she insisted on making

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him a present for services rendered, extending over a period of several months, he (Brother Keddy) suggested to Her Serene Highness, who was residing in the county of Suffolk, that such a gift as this portrait would be the most gratifying to himself and also most acceptable to the brethren. The Countess left England on the 16th ult. for Bombay, en route for her home in the Punjab, where she took up her residence shortly after her bereavement, and since then, for nearly twenty years, had devoted her life to the education and care of the young, and was known and beloved by all classes. She was the first lady who drew the attention of the Government to the importance of the work to which she was devoting her life, and she had the gratification to find that, in order to carry out her desires, funds from the Treasury were placed at her disposal. Bro. Bays observed that this presentation was, he felt certain, the greatest honour that had been conferred upon St. Peter's Lodge. Bro. Ed. Vegette P.M. and Bro. Buckle P.M. made a few observations expressive of their appreciation of the gift. The W.M. said he had great pleasure and honour in accepting this very beautiful and admirable likeness of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in his official clothing as Grand Master of England; and closed his observations by thanking Bro. Keddy for having been the means of the Lodge becoming possessed of such a valuable tribute to loyalty and Masonry. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to her Serene Highness. At the close of the Lodge the brethren partook of an excellent supper, Bro. Vergette P.M. having presented an excellent haunch of venison. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to, and after a most agreeable evening the brethren retired to their respective homes.

Rowley Lodge, No. 1051.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 4th day of October, at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster. Present—Bros. James Taylor W.M., Henry Longman S.W., Richard Taylor as J.W., J. Daniel Moore M.D. P.G.S.B. England Secretary, William J. Sly P.M. Treasurer, George Sutton S.D., George C. Barker J.D., Sly as I.G., John Watson and John Beeley Tylers; Past Masters—Bros. J. L. Bradshaw I.P.M., Bro. Grant King E.A.P. Business—Mr. George Thomas Taylor, of Kendal, initiated by the W.M., the working tools being presented by Bro. Longman S.W., and charge given by Bro. Bradshaw I.P.M. Bro. Grant King passed to degree of F.C., the working tools being presented by the J.W.

Grosvenor Lodge, No. 1257.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 5th inst., at the Westminster Palace Hotel. Present—Bros. John C. Cox W.M., Thurkle S.W., Hughes J.W., Cottebrune P.G.P. P.M. Secretary, Meredith P.M. Treasurer, Elliott S.D., Cantle J.D., Morley I.G.; P.M.'s Bros. Bethell, Parker, Lowenthal and Bull, and a goodly assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Mr. Frederick Jackson Wray and Mr. George Edwin Saunders were initiated. Bros. Barrow, Cumbers, and Ochsenbein, were passed to the 2nd degree; and Bros. Dovey, Oakshette, and Bause, were raised to the 3rd degree. After the transaction of some routine business the Lodge was closed, and the meeting adjourned till Tuesday, 7th December next.

Truth Lodge, No. 1458.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 2nd of October, at the Royal Archer Hotel, Dale-street, Manchester. Present—Bros. Henry Smith W.M., John Kinder P.M. Secretary, Thomas Tyers P.M. Treasurer, James Batcheldor S.D., Robert Fallows I.G., Beswick Tyler; Past Masters, Bros. John W. Turner, Kinder, and Tyers. Visitors—Bros. Henry Moxon, W.M. Faith, 581, J. Moorhouse, Imperial George, 78, John Taylor Secretary, Ashbury, 1459. Business—Minutes of last regular meeting read and confirmed. Ballot was taken, and proving favourable, for Mr. Walter Nicholson, he was regularly initiated by the W.M. A communication having been read from Provincial Grand Lodge, and hearty good wishes given by the visitors, the Lodge was closed at 6.40 p.m. The brethren sat down to an excellent supper provided by Bro. Potts. After the usual Masonic toasts had been given and responded to, the W.M. proposed that of the visitors, and laid particular stress upon having his friend and brother, the W.M. of the Faith, amongst them, the toast was received with great enthusiasm, and in response Bro. Moxon said he had received great pleasure in being at the meeting, in fact, he had enjoyed himself so much that he felt quite at home; he also spoke in glowing terms of the excellent working of the Lodge. After the toasts of the W.M., I.P.M., and officers had been duly honoured, the W.M. called upon the S. and J. Wardens for their toasts, after which the brethren separated at 9.30 p.m.

Duncombe Lodge, No. 1486, Kingsbridge.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday last, a pleasant feature which this young and flourishing Lodge has inaugurated being noticeable, the interchange of fraternal courtesies with neighbouring Lodges. Bro. John Heath P.M. P.P.G. Officer, and other brethren of Pleiades Lodge, Totnes, responded to an invitation of the W.M., Bro. James Haynes, and attended at the labours of the evening, Bro. Heath effectively and impressively performing the solemn ceremony of raising. A proposal was made by Bro. Charles Fox I.P.M., and seconded by Bro. Haynes W.M., to contribute £2 2s to the proposed memorial window in Plymouth Guildhall, in commemoration of the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, which proposition was unanimously agreed to, the brethren showing their enthusiasm by voluntarily raising a quarter of a guinea each from several members, by which it is hoped that a sum of five guineas may be thus devoted. Duncombe Lodge, as the youngest Lodge in the Province, was specially noticeable in the celebration, and thus peculiar interest is felt in the memorial of the event. The Lodge being duly closed, the brethren adjourned for refreshments, over which the merits of the Fortescue Annuity Fund (Devon), and the Boys' and Girls' Schools were discussed, a suggestion being thrown out that every brother should contribute one shilling monthly to Masonic Charities. The brethren then adjourned at an early hour, the visiting brethren having to drive thirteen miles to their home.

Lodge of Prudence, No. 1550.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday, the 1st of October, at the Huyshe Temple, Plymouth. Present—Bros. Robert G Bird W.M., John Y. Avery S.W., John P. Rogers J.W., J. B. Gover Secretary, James J. Avery Treasurer, B. Westcott S.D., Charles Philp J.D., W. Garland D.C., R. Pengilley Steward, A. S. Stuart I.G., J. Smith Tyler, G. H. Emery Organist. Past Masters, Bros. J. Latimer P.G.S.W., J. B. Gover P.P.A.D.C., J. J. Avery. Visitors—Bros. J. S. Bunce S.W. 105, J. Box J.W. 189, W. Crimp I.G. 1255, F. Pinkham 105. Business—After the minutes were read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for several candidates, and having been declared unanimous, Mr. T. Westlake was initiated. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Henry Longman was passed. The W.M. then introduced the subject of the Masonic Memorial Window in the Guildhall, to commemorate the visit of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales at the opening of that building, expressing his confidence that the Lodge would be liberal in their contributions. Bro. J. Latimer, Past Provincial Grand Senior Warden, then gave a very clear and lucid explanation of the scheme. Bro. James Avery Treasurer proposed, and Bro. J. P. Rogers J.W. seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the sum of five guineas be voted, and that sum to be further augmented by the Lodge if necessary. The brethren of the Lodge contributed about ten guineas independent of this vote. Such an example by the youngest Lodge of the Province is worthy of notice and commendation. The Lodge was closed with the accustomed prayer at 9.30.

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1875 Freemason Pitcairn Island Commonwealth

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 42. SATURDAY, 16th OCTOBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

THE *FREEMAN'S JOURNAL* AND BISHOP DUPANLOUP'S PAMPHLET.

THE appearance of an English version of the Bishop of Orleans's recent pamphlet against Freemasonry affords the *Freeman's Journal* another opportunity for attacking our Order. We cannot congratulate our contemporary on the achievement of a very brilliant success. There was nothing new to say, but occasionally it is convenient to traverse the same ground. The "damnable iteration" of the same folly at length assumes, in the eyes of some people, an appearance of wisdom. There are folk who are weak-minded enough to believe that a lie repeated many times becomes a truth. Therefore it is we do not severely blame the *Freeman's Journal* that, in carrying out its policy of denunciation against us, it should keep on pegging away, for an occasional convert to its views may be the result. But some will ask, Why, then, notice these attacks? Well, we have faith in an offensive defence rather than in one that is purely defensive. Having reviewed the tactics of our enemy, we have come to the conclusion that the mine it is so anxious to explode against us is best met by a counter mine. Our generalship may not commend itself to all, but the line we have adopted appears to us the fittest under all the circumstances. Thus it is we meet the enemy, boldly instead of spurning him quietly. Whether this policy is superior to all other policies, or, rather, till it is shown that some other policy is more desirable, it is the one we shall follow in all such cases.

We have said the *Freeman's Journal* advances no new arguments in support of its attack on the Craft; there were none to advance. Wisely, then, has it contented itself with repeating the stock arguments as to Freemasons being a body of men without religion, and animated by the most profound hatred for all legally constituted governments. Rather be it said, this organ of Popery says "ditto" to these statements of the Rev. Bishop of Orleans. It endorses, also, another argument, which is decidedly unoriginal on the part of Monsignor Dupanloup, that the kings and princes, and, generally speaking, the men in high places, who join our Order are studiously kept in ignorance of the real secrets of Masonry. Their presence in our ranks lends an *éclat* to the Craft which it could not hope to obtain by any other means. We enrol them accordingly, and initiate them into a few of the more harmless mysteries, but the secrets of the Order, its true aims and purposes, these are sacredly guarded from their knowledge, for this reason: were they known to the royal and princely Masons, they would fly from us in the greatest horror. All these statements sound well. They have a certain air of plausibility about them, and it is very probable they may seduce thoughtless and weak-minded people into believing them. It occurs to us, however, to ask, in the first instance, is a man who has most grossly perjured himself exactly the kind of man whose *ipse dixit* we accept unreservedly. Masonry is not obligatory upon anybody. They only enter who seek entrance of their own free will and accord. Some of those who bind themselves to guard certain secrets, in due time, and to serve their own foul ends, divulge them to others. Is it in accordance with reason or common sense that such men should be accepted as truthful exponents of the secrets of Masonry. Had they bound themselves to secrecy under some overwhelming sense of fear, or as the only means of escape from some dreadful calamity, the world would to a certain extent absolve them from the crime of perjury. But they voluntarily bound themselves to accept a certain obligation, and in the most shameless manner they break faith. Would the evidence of such a person carry weight with it in any court of law? It is possible, of course, that a liar may for once in his life speak the truth, but the worst of being a liar is that one's word is never accepted. The testimony of a man who has deliberately forsworn himself is worthless, even were his evidence true. It is the reverse of creditable to the Bishop of Orleans's common sense and his knowledge of the world that he should attach the slightest value to the statements of men who have lied in the open day. But there may be concurrent testimony. Where? Why, in the rituals. But a published ritual that contained all or any of the secrets of Masonry is as direct and flagrant a violation of Masonic law as an oral statement of our secrets. Only a dishonourable man would dream of putting pen to paper and describing what he has bound himself not to reveal. Thus the rituals which the Bishop has become possessed of, even if they contained the secrets of Masonry, are as worthless as the oral testimony of the perjurer. Again, certain of our customs are described as being silly. Admitting, for the sake of argument, the accuracy of the description, we bear in mind what a certain poet of old has said:—*Dulce est desipere in loco*. Horace, heathen as he was, had evidently studied human kind to greater advantage than our French ultramontane prelate of the nineteenth century. Allowing that a table napkin is called a banner, a knife a sword, a glass a cannon, and that toasts are drunk as described by the Bishop, what after all is there but a little harmless folly, as far removed from atheism and political plottings and conspiracies as is the North from the South Pole. We fancy if the Bishop were at a Scottish banquet and saw the toast of the evening drunk with the full honours, he would smile a smile of pity, if not of contempt, that grown men should comport themselves so strangely. Yet a true Scot thinks it no sin to show his enthusiasm in the manner prescribed of custom in his country. The cynic may urge that a "Kentish fire," is an act of lunacy, that to drink a toast with musical honours is directly opposed to the dictates of common sense. We recal what Horace said, "It is pleasant occasionally to make a fool of oneself," and contentedly abandon the cynic to his cynicism. Then as to the various ceremonies of initiation as described by the Bishop. There are one or two passages in his account which justify us in believing that his reverence must have been studying the pages of Verdant Green, and has taken for solemn fact what the author of that exceedingly funny book intended only as a good joke. The next time the Bishop contemplates writing a pamphlet against Freemasonry, let him invest in a French version of the late Captain Marryatt's *Percival Keene*. He will find in it a most interesting and, as a matter of course, a most authentic account of how is given the sign by which Freemasons make themselves known to each other by day, at all events, if not by night. We need not dwell, however, on what the Bishop regards as the ludicrous aspect of Masonry. We have our customs, and some of them may strike the non-Mason as being extremely silly, but every nation under the sun has certain customs, and each looks upon the other's customs as more or less ridiculous. What is sacred with one people is unholy in the sight of other people, nor has the Bishop any greater right to laugh at Masonic ceremonials, supposing him to have formed a right conception of their nature, than a Mahommedan or Hindu has to ridicule the rites and ceremonies of the Christian Church. However, the climax of absurdity is reached when the Bishop proceeds to show

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that the society of Masons is always engaged in an unholy war against religion and order. We have frequently pointed out that Freemasonry, while enjoining on its children the most perfect respect for all religions, forbids the discussion of religious questions. It does not say, the moment you enter the precincts of a Masonic Lodge, you cast aside all religious belief and become an atheist. It lays it down absolutely there shall be no religious disputations. The reason is obvious. In Masonry, which respects all creeds equally, as in society, the friendly intercourse of men professing different faiths would be impossible if such discussions were not prohibited. Similarly with subjects political — these are strictly forbidden, and on the same ground. What sort of harmony would prevail at a meeting composed of monarchists, republicans, imperialists, if it were permitted to discuss the merits of the several forms of government which each professed to admire most. There have been Masons who were also political agitators, but these kept their politics outside the portals of the Lodge. What they did had no Masonic sanction. It may be that in some foreign countries the Bible has been banished from some Masonic Lodges, the reason for such banishment being that the members of such Lodges are what are known as free-thinkers. This, however, we regard as a deliberate violation of the first principles of Masonry, and as we should not consider the merits of Christianity properly exemplified in a perjured Christian, so we ask others not to judge of Masonry by what some Lodges or Brethren may do in open violation of its principles. But the completest evidence, to our mind, of the utter worthlessness of the Bishop's denunciation of the Craft, is his promulgation of the theory that there are virtually two systems of Masonry, into the least important of which only is it that princely and noble brethren are admitted; the other system, which contains whatever is dangerous to religion and order, being strictly concealed from them. No one who was truly acquainted with our secrets would knowingly advance so monstrous a proposition. True, there are different phases of the Masonic system, but the scope is the same in each. There are Craft and Arch Masonry, Mark Masonry, Templarism, the Ancient and Accepted Rite, the Rites of Misraim and Memphis, &c., &c. But there is no obstacle to a worthy Brother being elected and initiated into all these various systems if he have time and leisure to pursue his Masonic or quasi-Masonic studies. It is not a brother's rank which keeps him outside the pale of certain systems. It is simply a matter of inclination. If Bishop Dupanloup wishes to know what true Masonry is, let him be initiated. We dare swear he will find that the worst that can be urged against it is not one ten-millionth part of the tithe of what has been urged against Jesuitism. We shall not then, perhaps, find the *Freeman's Journal* justifying "the continual and uncompromising warfare prosecuted by the Catholic Church against a secret brotherhood which is shown to be a veritable mystery of iniquity, and the hidden ulcer of modern society." We are not quite sure we thoroughly understand this description of the brotherhood. We imagine it means something disagreeable, and are content to leave it without further inquiry.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

WITHIN the last few days there have been held the elections, to fill sundry vacancies in these institutions, and the results will be found elsewhere in our columns. As regards the Girls' School, which we naturally place first in the order of precedence, it is to be noted that six were elected to a corresponding number of vacancies, there being thirty candidates, while for the Boys' School there were fifty-eight candidates, of whom the ten highest, as regards votes, were chosen. It is further noteworthy that in the case of the former institution all, and in the case of the latter, eight out of the ten successful candidates were provincials. Whence come the elect is a matter of comparative indifference, but it is a grand testimony to the will as well as to the perfect organisation of the committees which work for the provincial candidates, that in the one case all, and in the other, four-fifths of the chosen few should have been successful. The metropolis is the head-quarters of Masonry, and there naturally we expect to find the greatest amount of energy in connection with everything that is Masonic. But our provincial brethren apparently beat us hollow in the matter of zeal and organisation on behalf of those whose cause they advocate. *Verbum sap.* We trust this excellent example will have a due effect on the London brethren, and that when a London candidate is started for either of our institutions they will do their *devoirs* Masonically as well as manfully. It is immaterial, of course, as we have said before, whence come the successful ones, but any case that is worthy of being entertained is worthy of the most active and zealous support.

But to pass to other matters. As announced in our advertisement columns of the 2nd instant, at a Quarterly General Court of the Girls' School, held last Saturday, three propositions, all having the same object in view, were submitted for the consideration of the governing body. The first of them emanated from Bro. Nunn, and had for object the appropriation, out of the funds of the Institution, of a sum of twenty-five thousand pounds to the purchase of land, and the erection of suitable premises, large enough to accommodate 200 children, instead of the 150 now accommodated. This, though an admirable proposition of its kind, was not adopted. The second proposal was Bro. Rucker's, to the effect that the idea of extending the benefits of the Institution, so as to receive an addition of from thirty to fifty pupils, should be referred to a Select Committee, and that, if necessary, a special general court should be assembled for the purpose of entertaining any proposal the Select Committee might think fit to recommend. Bro. Stewart was the author of the third proposal, that the Infirmary should be utilised for any further increase, room for the invalid girls being obtained in some convenient house. The court appears to have acted with great wisdom in adopting the second of these three ideas, to wit, that the question should be referred to a Select Committee. The idea that naturally suggests itself at the outset is that reference to a Select Committee means shelving the question *sine die*. Not so, however, in the case before us. Each of the three proposals had for object the enlargement of the School. The only question to be determined was, how best could such enlargement be managed. We cordially endorse the view adopted by the court, not because it was adopted, but because we believe it essential before all things that a matter of this kind should be thoroughly ventilated. We think it unwise that all the invested funds should be utilised for any purpose, be it never so imperative. It is impossible to fix the expenditure at the outset of this or any other similar project. There may be other plans better or worse than that of Bro. Nunn's, but daily experience teaches us that to fix an absolute hard and fast line in the matter of expenditure is well nigh impossible. Bro. Stewart's proposal could only have served the exigencies of the moment. Thus, as far as our poor opinion goes, there was no alternative but to adopt the suggestion of Bro. Rucker—that a Committee of Inquiry should be constituted to determine as to the most desirable plan to be adopted for the extension of the Institution.

As regards the Boys' School a somewhat similar proposition was made—to the effect, namely, that the benefits of the Institution should be extended. As to the desirability of this proposal there can be no second opinion. The Craft plumes itself—and with great reason—on the aid it renders to distressed brethren, and the children of deceased or indigent brethren, and the more that can be done in this direction the more it redounds to our credit. The subscription lists of the current year have been beyond all precedent. The numerical strength of the Craft is daily increasing, and we do not doubt the subscriptions to our Charities will keep pace with our increase in numbers. Yet it behoves us to be discreet in our forward movements. We must be just to the Craft before we are generous in the fulfilment of our Masonic impulses. We must see our way first to securing a regular and stable progress before we think of embarking in a heavy expenditure. Hence it is that, while we feel that a great extension of the benefits of our Masonic Charities is quite possible, and assuredly desirable, we are equally certain that every progressive movement should be cautiously directed. Apathy is a vice that is not unknown, and it may not always be in our power to record such magnificent contributions to our various Masonic Charities as we have recorded this year.

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

WE learn, from *le Monde Maçonnique* for September and October, that this body held its meeting on the 13th—18th ult., both days inclusive. The first session took place at 9 a.m. on Monday, the 13th, Bro. de Saint Jean, President of the Council of the Order, in the Chair, there being present some two hundred Venerables and Delegates. After the usual preliminary formalities, the President referred, with considerable emotion, to the death of Bro. Massol, lately a Vice-President of the Council, a reference which the Assembly received with the customary salute. The Assembly then distributed itself into its several committees for the purpose of electing a President and Secretary for each. The second session was held at 2.30 p.m., in the afternoon, when Bro. de Saint Jean, by 142 out of 185 votes, was chosen President of the Assembly for the meeting of 1875. On Tuesday the names of those appointed by the Council to assist the President in the labours of the session having been announced, the Assembly proceeded to business. The first two propositions were unavoidably adjourned; consequently the third order of the day, having for object the discontinuance of the half-yearly meetings of the Council, was at once proceeded with. Eight of the nine bureaux having pronounced themselves in favour of the proposal, and only one for the maintenance of the existing law, the motion was forthwith carried. An amendment to article 122, proposed by a Lodge in Guadaloupe, *les Elus d'Occident*, was then discussed. By the article in question metropolitan Lodges cannot initiate a profane till they have first submitted his name to the Grand Orient, which keeps a register of all profanes who have been refused admission, and which, consequently, can oftentimes furnish valuable information respecting candidates proposed for initiation, but Lodges beyond sea are subject to no such rule. The amendment proposed was to the effect that Lodges beyond sea, and in other countries, should furnish to neighbouring Lodges the names of rejected candidates, and, if necessary, the motives for rejection. Six bureaux reported in favour of the proposition, two were ready to accept it in an altered form, while one only was opposed. It was therefore adopted. The next motion was that the election of delegates to the Assembly should be governed by the same prescriptions as the election of Venerables. After a long discussion the Assembly adopted, by a considerable majority, a motion to the effect that delegates should always be chosen from active members of the Lodge of at least two years' standing as Master, and of one year's active membership of the Lodge. On Wednesday the names of those who retired from the Council, but who were eligible for re-election, were announced. These were thirteen in number, including Bro. Massol deceased. After further business a modification of Article 28 of the Constitutions to the effect that Presidents of Lodges provisionally suspended should be tried by the Council of the Order, and so also the Orator who may have been suspended for neglect in causing the Constitutions to be respected. This proposition was rejected, and one adopted to the effect that every President or Orator, so suspended, should have the right to be tried by the Chamber of Appeal as organised under Article 2 of the Judicial Regulations, such appeal to be made within eight days, or the suspension to be sustained. In consequence of the adoption of this latter proposal, Bro. de Saint Jean quitted the chair, and tendered his resignation; but at the pressing instance of all present, the resignation was withdrawn, and Bro. de Saint Jean resumed his presidency.

On Thursday, a proposal to establish courses of English, Spanish, Italian, Geography, &c., &c., as well as German was referred to the Council. Other business of importance having been decided, the session closed, and on Friday the election of thirteen members of Council was proceeded with, several of the retiring members being re-elected. On Saturday, after the accounts for 1874 had been approved, and various financial propositions accepted, Bro. Penchinat delivered a most eloquent address, and the session was brought to a close. The Council then met and elected its officers for the year, the following being the members on whom the choice fell. Bro. de Saint Jean, President; Bros. Cousin and Armand, Vice-Presidents; and Bros. Caubet and Poulle, Secretaries. At the banquet, which closed the proceedings, and was served at 7 p.m., about two-hundred and fifty brethren sat down. In the course of the evening, the patriotic conduct of the Lodges of Alsace and Lorraine, which, when summoned to break off their relations with the Grand Orient of France, preferred to break up their Temples, was referred to by the President, and loud applause followed his remarks.

FREEMASONRY AND RELIGION.

WE have, on more than one occasion, remarked upon the relations existing between Freemasonry and Religion. We have represented the Mason as a devout man, as a sincere man, as a man who thinks liberally, and loves to bestow with a generous hand. Truth and charity are his watchwords, whilst his highest honour and worship are rendered to the Great Supreme, the Divine Architect of the Universe. As in the present, so has he ever been in the past. The earliest traces of Freemasonry extant are invariably associated in some way with religion, and generally with a religion of a higher and nobler type than that prevailing at the time. Whether we seek the source of Masonic fellowship amongst the builders of Solomon's temple, or with the initiated in the ancient Cabirian mysteries, we find that religion lay at the very root of the system, and that, in fact, the very bond itself partook of a sacred and mystic character. The Dionysiacs, again, held principles of religion which show a considerable advance upon the crude and imperfect notions current in their day. They acknowledged a One Supreme Being, from whom all power proceeded, and to whom all honour should be rendered; and many of the doctrines and mysteries which they are asserted to have taught, bear a striking resemblance to the doctrines of Christianity. Coming down to comparatively recent times, we find the Masons taking the lead in, and indeed monopolising for a time the study of, religious Architecture. Then arose those vast and stupendous Cathedrals, which seem to have been wrought by Titans, imbued with a sense of art and religious grandeur above the ken of man. In almost every capital of Europe these monuments of Masonic devotion may be found, but, alas, too often only the beautiful remnants of their pristine glory and magnificence. Occasionally these artists were engaged on secular work, and the Palace of Louvain and other kindred buildings are still extant to demonstrate the greatness of their success. But as a rule they appear to have reserved the best of their work for ecclesiastical structures. The first fruits of their toil they laid at the feet of their Creator. In the Dome at Cologne, in the little church of St. Ouen at Rouen, in the Convents, Abbeys, and Episcopal palaces which the diligent traveller so frequently discovers throughout Saxon and Celtic Europe, in these and such like works we find the choicest specimens of Gothic art scattered with a lavish hand.

We have said that in the past Masonry has very often been associated with religion of a purer and higher type than that generally obtaining at the time. And the reason of this is obvious. The Freemasons as a body have always enjoyed a certain degree of distinction. During the practical period of the Craft in the age of Cathedrals and Churches they were much sought after by the nobility and clergy for their knowledge and skill in architecture, and they were consequently great travellers. They thus, from contact with men of various shades of belief, and different degrees of rank, acquired a breadth and liberality of thought unusual in that age. There is, moreover, ample evidence to be found in their works that they were men of refined culture, and excellent and even sublime conception.

Like other sects, a little in advance of their age, too, the Freemasons have frequently been the object of religious intolerance and persecution. The Romish Church, even at the present day, looks upon Masonry as a confederation of wicked men for evil ends. But its animosity, as will be gathered from another article in to-day's issue, is now confined within the limits of vituperation and misrepresentation. In former times, when the Church had more power, it evinced its hatred in a more unmistakable fashion. We hope on an early occasion to give a sketch in these columns of the persecutions to which the Craft has from time to time been subjected. The fact itself reflects credit on the Order. What Socrates suffered, what the early Christians suffered, what the Lollards, the Lutherans, the Scotch Covenanters suffered, it is surely no disgrace, but rather

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the reverse, that the Freemasons also have endured with constancy and fortitude.

That Freemasonry should, in the present day, be ever associated with particular religious sects we think a misfortune. The Craft should be broad and comprehensive, recognising only grand and general principles, and disregarding the minute diversities of creed and ceremonial. It has been well said that God made religion, but the Devil invented theology; and it is certain that the Craft has nothing to gain and much to lose in respectability from mixing itself in the strife of contending sects.

OUR CHARITIES.

On Saturday, the 9th inst., a Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, St. John's-hill, Battersea-rise, was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, Bro. Major Creaton P.G.D. V.P. in the chair, supported by a numerous attendance of Life Governors and subscribers. After the general business, an election took place for six children from a list of thirty approved candidates, when the following were declared duly elected:—

No. on List.	No. of Votes.
19. Lucy Maria Taylor	1431
18. Edwina Russel Jones	1385
5. Mary Louisa Bowler	1376
30. Minnie Eliza Cowley	1348
12. Fanny A. W. Saunders	1293
5. Alice Elizabeth Kelley	1128

Amongst those present we noticed:—R. J. Spiers, Joshua Nunn, Benjamin Head, F. Tyerman, Robert Kenyon, H. Browse, J. A. Rucker, A. H. Tattershall, H. G. Warren, Thomas Hill, Henry Smith, J. L. Hine, Raynham W. Stewart, John Sutcliffe, R. Else, John Symonds, T. J. Sabine, J. Terry, Griffith Smith, H. A. Dubois, T. W. White, Edward Cox, R. B. Webster, R. Spencer, John Bodenham, Henry Dubosc.

At the Quarterly General Court of the Boys' School, held on Monday, and referred to elsewhere, on the recommendation of the General Committee, the Court accepted a motion proposed by Bro. J. Turner and seconded by Bro. Major Creaton, to the following effect, namely—"That the right to the presentation of a properly qualified boy, in perpetuity, for admission to this Institution, be secured to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire on payment to the funds of the Institution of £1,050." It was farther resolved to admit one boy by purchase on 1st January next. The following is a list of the successful candidates:

No. on List.	No. of Votes.
46. Ernest Lavers Price	2157
28. Alfred James Green	2081
47. Herbert Henry Sutton	2008
50. John Lewellyn Jones	1992
18. James Archibald Barclay	1925
25. Elwood Blake Tibbits	1893
1. Henry Morrison Shipway	1858
20. Percy James	1839
2. Robert Duff	1802
4. William Reginald Hunter	1675

The regular monthly meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Bro. Major Creaton V.P. in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry read the minutes of the former meeting, and the report of the finance committee, which gave great satisfaction. Bro. Dennison submitted an estimate for a fence for the exterior of the building, £50; which was accepted. Four male and two female candidates were placed on the lists of annuitants. Permission was given to one of the male annuitants to get married. It was announced that the Most Worshipful Bro. Lord Skelmersdale had consented to preside at the next anniversary festival. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, H. Browse, H. J. Warren, B. Head, Tattershall, J. Smith, J. Stevens, W. Stephens, T. W. White, Robert Wentworth Little, Stewart Wordsworth, H. M. Levy and C. Hogard.

Cuts Hows 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, Bésigue, Euchre, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 8s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 27 Barbican, E.C.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

By command of Bro. the Right Hon. Earl Bective, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland, the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Crown Hotel, Penrith, on Friday, 1st inst., for the purpose of transacting the annual business of the Province. The meeting was held under the banner of the Lodge of Unanimity, No. 339, Penrith, of which Sir R. C. Musgrave is W.M. It was first fixed for Kirkby Lonsdale, and the brethren would have been entertained in a similar way to that of 1867, when the Earl of Bective, M.P., R.W. Provincial Grand Master, was M.W. of the Underley Lodge, which position his lordship holds this year; but the death of his daughter, a fortnight ago, necessitated fresh arrangements, and the place of meeting was changed to Penrith.

There was a numerous attendance of brethren from Penrith, Kendal, Keswick, Kirkby Lonsdale, Appleby, Carlisle, Whitehaven, Workington, Cockermouth, Maryport, Wigton, &c., every one of the eighteen Lodges in the Province being represented. Sir R. C. Musgrave W.M. of Lodge Unanimity was unavoidably absent.

The following Provincial Officers were present:—Bro. John Whitwell R.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. Jas. Porter S.G.W., Bro. John Talbot J.G.W., Bro. the Rev. F. W. Wicks P.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Wm. Beeby, M.A., Assistant P.G. Chaplain, Bro. John Lemon P.G. Treasurer, Bro. W. B. Gibson P.G. Secretary, Bro. Joseph Bintley P.G. Superintendent of Works, Bro. William Gill P.M. 872, P.G. Director of Ceremonies, Bro. William Armstrong Assistant P.G. Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Peter T. Freeman P.G. Organist, Bro. Edward Atter P.G. Pursuivant, Bro. James R. Bain P.G. Steward, Bro. James Postlethwaite P.G. Steward.

The following Past Provincial Officers were present:—Bro. Joseph Nicholson P.P.S.G.W. 371 Maryport, Bro. Thomas B. Arnison P.P.G.S.B. 339, Penrith, Bro. Jas. Kirkbride P.P.G.P. 339, Penrith, Bro. Jas. Wickham P.P.S.G.W. 339 Penrith, Bro. George Brocker P.P.G.P. P.M. 962 Workington, Bro. John Holme P.P.G.W., Bro. Edward Busher P.P.G.S.W. and P.P.G.S. &c. and J.G.S.B. of England, Bro. John Bowes P.P.G. Reg. 129, Bro. Thomas Robinson P.P.G.S.W. 336, Bro. W. Tattersall P.P.S.W. 129, Bro. Wm. Kirkbride P.P.G. Sec. P.M. 339, Bro. J. Pearson P.P.S.D. 1002, Bro. W. James P.P.G.S.D. 1074, Bro. Alexander Taylor P.P.G.D.C. 310, Bro. W. R. Gregg 1074, Bro. Wm. Lamonby P.G.T. 1073, Bro. H. Ranthwell P.P.G.D.C. P.M. 129, Bro. David Page P.G.S.B. P.M. 1074, Bro. C. W. Braithwaite Wilson G.S. 259, Prince of Wales 1299 and 1074, Bro. Joshua Tyson P.P.G.S. and C. of Bective Lodge, Carlisle, Bro. Robert Rutherford P.P.A.P.G.D.C. and P.M. Greta Lodge 1073 Keswick, Bro. John Gate P.P.G.S. 327, Bro. H. W. Hayward P.P.S.G.W., Bro. T. R. Holme P.P.G.C. 812 P.M. 872, Bro. Chas. J. Smith P.P.G.J.D. I.P.M. 339.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in the billiard-room, at the new Crown Hotel, which proved of far too limited dimensions, and caused much confusion amongst the large number present. Colonel Whitwell, M.P., R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Past Grand Warden of England, presided, in the absence of the Earl of Bective, M.P. After the minutes had been read, the Grand Treasurer's accounts were approved and adopted, as also the Charity Committee's report, in which it was recommended that the support of all Lodges and individual subscribers in the province be accorded to the son of a deceased brother of Solway Lodge, Silloth, in order to insure his admission to the Freemasons' Boys' School in London.

A notice of motion, signed by Bro. Thomas Dodgson, of Millom, was then taken into consideration, to the effect that it was desirable to form an institution in the Province for the education and advancement in life of the children of deceased and distressed Freemasons. A committee was thereupon formed, to report to next meeting, amongst the members being Colonel Whitwell, M.P., Lord Muncaster, M.P., Sir R. C. Musgrave, Bart., Rev. Dr. Simpson (Kirkby Stephen), Rev. E. Cockett (Upperby), &c.

Bro. John Lemon P.M. St. John's Lodge, Wigton, P.P.G.S.W. was unanimously re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer; and Bro. J. Gardiner P.M. 371, Maryport, was elected Provincial Grand Tyler for the ensuing year.

The officers for the year were invested by the R. W. Acting Grand Master as follow:—

Deputy-Provincial Grand Master, Brother John Whitwell, Esq., M.P., Right W. Past Grand Warden of England P.M. and P.Z. 129, Kendal.
Senior Warden, Brother James Porter P.M. 327, Wigton.
Junior Warden, Brother William Todd P.M. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale.
Chaplain, Brother Rev. William Beeby W.M. 371, Maryport.
Assistant Chaplain, Brother Rev. C. H. Gem, 327, Wigton.
Treasurer, Brother John Lemon P.M. and P.Z. 327, Wigton, P.P.G.S.W.
Registrar, Brother Sir Richard Musgrave, Bart., W.M. 339, Penrith.
Secretary, Brother W. B. Gibson P.M. and P.Z. 119, Whitehaven, P.P.S.G.W.
Senior Deacon, Brother C. J. Smith P.M. 339, Penrith.
Junior Deacon, Brother John Barr P.M. and P.Z. 119, Whitehaven, P.P.G.S.B.
Superintendent of Works, Brother J. R. Bain W.M. 1400, Harrington.
Director of Ceremonies, Brother T. B. Arnison P.M. 339, Penrith, P.P.G.S.B.
Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Brother W. Armstrong P.M. 371, Maryport.
Sword Bearer, Brother W. Pratchett P.M. 310, Carlisle.
Organist, Brother P. T. Freeman, 1073, Keswick.
Pursuivant, Brother James Cook W.M. 1532, Carlisle.
Tyler, Brother James Gardiner P.M. 371, Maryport.

Provincial Grand Stewards.

Brother W. M'Meehan W.M. 327, Wigton.
Brother Dr. Dinwoodie W.M. 812, Appleby.
Brother James J. Beattie P.M. 962, Workington.

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Brother A. Hodgetts P.M. 872, Whitehaven.
Brother W. F. Lamonby W.M. 1002, Cockermouth.
Brother J. W. Young, 1400, Harrington.

After the officers were invested, the Right Worshipful the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Colonel Whitwell, addressing the brethren, said they would all remember that at the recent installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the Order, two brethren were appointed from this Province to attend as stewards. They were brethren highly esteemed amongst them, one from the south and the other from the west, and they had discharged their duties on that occasion—no doubt at considerable expense of time and money—in a highly satisfactory manner, and he would suggest that in commemoration of that great event and as a mark of their appreciation of the services of the two brethren, that the stewards' jewel which they were entitled to wear should be presented to them by the Provincial Grand Lodge. A motion embodying the suggestion having been proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed to, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, with some highly complimentary remarks, referring to the long and valued services of Brother Lemon, Provincial Grand Treasurer, and to the energy and zeal Brother H. Ranthmell, Past Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, had displayed in Freemasonry, presented to each of them the jewel specially designed by Sir A. W. Woods, Garter, G.D.C. England, which was approved by his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and is to be worn suspended by a ribbon of the Swedish national colours by the stewards who officiated at the installation of his Royal Highness, 28th April 1875. Bro. Lemon thanked the brethren in feeling terms, and said that the jewel they had just presented to him would be highly prized and valued as a token of their regard so long as he lived, and that it would be handed down as an heirloom to generations that would come after him. Bro. Ranthmell said, in thanking the Prov. Grand Lodge, that it did not need this additional proof to convince him of their kindly feelings towards him. He assured them that he felt it was a very great honour to have been appointed to represent as steward so important a province as that of Cumberland and Westmorland on the occasion of the installation of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master of their Order. Whenever he looked upon the jewel which they had just presented to him it would be with two-fold gratification and pleasure; it would recall to his memory that brilliant scene he witnessed in the Albert Hall, in which he had the honour of taking a part, and secondly, but not less, he should value it for the kindly sentiments that had accompanied its presentation from the Provincial Grand Lodge.

A hearty vote of sympathy was unanimously passed to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, on his recent severe bereavement. A vote of thanks was also given to the brethren of Unanimity Lodge for their kind entertainment of the Provincial Grand Lodge at so short a notice.

After the Lodge was closed, the Brethren were marshalled in order of procession, and marched to the Parish Church, Bective Lodge heading the procession, where an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. F. W. Wicks, St. Nicholas's, Whitehaven, Provincial Grand Chaplain, from the following text:—Ephesians, c. ii., v. 21—"In whom all the building fitly framed together, groweth into an holy temple in the Lord." Bro. Freeman, Provincial Grand Organist, presided at the organ. Returning to the New Crown Hotel, a banquet was served, Colonel Whitwell, M.P., presiding.

The arrangements of the meeting were admirably carried out under the experienced and energetic management of Bro. W. B. Gibson P.M. and P.Z. 119, Whitehaven, P.P.S.G.W. and Provincial Grand Secretary, assisted by Bro. William Gill P.M. 872 P.P.G.D. of Ceremonies, and Bro. W. Kirkbride P.M. Secretary of the Lodge of Unanimity.

The town was quite busy at the time of the procession, and the bells of the church rang out peals during the day, and a flag floated from the old tower.

According to the *Monde Maçonnique*, fourteen Freemason, of Porto Rico have been condemned to imprisonment for the sole crime of being members of the Craft. The sentence upon three of these unfortunates is imprisonment for four, and upon the other eleven for two years.

The *Hebrew Leader* of the 1st instant contains a very gracefully worded apology for having, some weeks since, utilised, without acknowledgment, an article that had previously appeared in these columns. We were convinced at the time that the omission of the usual credit was the result of an oversight, and we gladly record that such conviction of ours has been borne out by the facts.

The *Keystone* records, with deep feelings of regret, the death of Bro. Rev. Thomas Chambers, Grand Chaplain of both Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. The Rev. brother was admitted a member of Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia, 22nd May 1851, exalted in Oriental Chapter, No. 183, on 17th April 1856, created a Knight at Templar in St. John's Commandery, No 4, and one of the Charter members of Kadosh Commandery, No. 29. Bro. Chambers died at the ripe age of 78, beloved and respected by all his Brethren and Companions. He was buried with Masonic honours on the 27th ult., Past Grand Masters Bro. John Thompson, Hon. Richard Vaux, Samuel C. Perkins, and Grand Master Bro. Alfred R. Potter acting as pall-bearers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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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LODGES OF INSTRUCTION AND LODGE QUARTERS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—Lodges of Instruction have been the chief theatre of my labours for the last six and thirty years. I have given them a large amount of attention, and have often wondered why they were not more immediately under the supervision of Grand Lodge. Considering the importance of proper Masonic instruction, I am fully persuaded that it is far too generally left to look after itself. When asked by members, gentlemen of standing and education, how they were to acquire a perfect knowledge of our ritual, I have invariably recommended them to visit some Lodge of instruction presided over by an able preceptor. But, as with the parent Lodge, so with the Lodge of Instruction, they are too frequently held in taverns, and gentlemen do not care to push their way through a crowded bar as is too often the case. I quite agree with you that a better status should be given to Lodges of Instruction. This would be done if a warrant were issued, while if an extra shilling per member throughout the London Lodges were required to be paid annually by each, a sum would be raised that would be sufficient to establish several such Lodges in suitable places, where there would be none of the discomforts which are so often and, in my opinion, with so much reason objected to now.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother,

Fraternally yours,

A WELL WISHER OF THE CRAFT.

THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON A MASON

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I beg to inform your correspondent "Q." that he will find an article in the JANUARY number of the *Masonic Magazine* for this year, "Was the Duke of Wellington a Freemason?" the particulars of which were furnished by a member of 494, and from which I extract the following:—

"The Hon. A. Wesley, who came of age in May 1790, was then a lieutenant in the 12th Light Dragoons, stationed at Dublin, and was returned a member of the Irish Parliament for the Borough of Trim in August of that year; the family name of Wesley was subsequently altered to that of Wellesley. The exact date of the Duke's being made cannot be ascertained, as the minute book has been lost, and it is not recorded in the G.L. records; but by another minute-book it appears that the Lodge met in Trim on the 16th February 1795, the Rev. Wm. Elliott in the chair. Bro. Reynolds, the treasurer, announced that the following were the seven subscribers to the Lodge special subscriptions:—Rev. W. Elliott, the Hon. A. Wesley, John Mockler, Wm. Carshore, James Allen, George Askin and Henry Reynolds;" and in another paragraph it is stated that "During the period of one Bro. Edward Carleton's being secretary, he proposed to the Lodge that they should obtain the sanction of his Grace the Duke of Wellington to call the Lodge 'The Wellington Lodge.' Bro. Carleton having communicated this resolution to his Grace, received a reply from him, declining to allow the Lodge to be called after him, inasmuch as he never was inside any Lodge since the day he was made."

From the above it proves that the Duke was a Freemason, but from his own statement it proves that he could not have held the office of Warden in any Lodge held at Kensington.

Yours fraternally,

Emsworth. T. F.

AN ARAB TRADITION.—The Arabs have a strange tradition amongst them about the origin of the cat. Whether the dwellers of the desert really believe it or not cannot easily be settled; certainly it is written in their books, and told gravely in their tents. At the time of the Deluge, they say, Noah was greatly tormented at the rapid increase of the mice, for of course he had taken in some mice with him along with all the other animals; but here they were overrunning the ark, destroying clothes and nibbling provisions—damaging everything in all directions. So the patriarch prayed that the ravages of his little enemies might be stopped. And lo! one of the lions, seized with a violent fit of sneezing, sneezed forth a cat. Away it scampered instantly to exterminate all the enormous mice to the great delight of Noah and his family. Thus, [illegible] the first cat came into the world.—From "*Little Folks*" for October.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Help under Suffering.—No diseases which affect the human body are more difficult to cure, than skin diseases, whether superficial sores or deep ulcerations. Holloway's Ointment has proved itself a remedy for these maladies; it checks all scaly incrustations, heals up cracks and fissures, reduces unnatural heat, mitigates irritation and inflammation, and if at once rubbed into the wounds, and works out a sound and lasting cure more certainly and much rapidly than any other application. In those affections which [illegible] constitutional or chronic, debilitated habits and [illegible] Holloway's Pills should be taken to increase the salutary effects of his unguent.

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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 Royal Masonic Cyclopædia of History, Rites, Symbolism, and Biography. Edited by KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE, IX°. ("Cryptonymus.") London: Bro. John Hogg, 15a Paternoster Row, E.C.

WE have received Part I. of what promises to be a most valuable contribution to Masonic Literature—a work, indeed, which, if carried out as it has been begun, will form not only a complete, but, as far as a somewhat hasty perusal has enabled us to judge, a thoroughly trustworthy compendium of Masonic history in all countries. The utmost care has evidently been taken to make the work as clear and concise, yet at the same time as complete in all its details as possible. This indeed forms the basis of an apology for the delay that has occurred in bringing out this first instalment. We do not think any apology was needed. At all events, the reason for the delay—that the utmost pains have been taken, and that this involved a greater amount of labour, and a longer extension of time than had been originally anticipated—is a just one, nor will any sensible brother object to such delay, if he ultimately becomes possessed of a work whose value will be the greater the greater the labour bestowed upon its compilation. The task of the editor has been admirably performed, and the appearance of the Part does ample credit to the publisher, Bro. Hogg.

About Buying a Horse, &c., &c. By F. C. BURNAND, Author of "Happy Thoughts," "More Happy Thoughts," "My Health," "The New Sandford and Merton," "Out of Town," &c., &c. "Occasional Happy Thoughts." London: Bradbury, Agnew and Co., 9 Bouverie-street. 1875.

THE "Happy Thoughts" of Mr. Burnand have for some time past been one of the most amusing features in that most amusing contemporary of ours, *Punch*. Ordinarily, an idea carried out again and again becomes somewhat wearisome. Not so is the case with Mr. Burnard's humorous papers. The idea is repeated, but not the humour. Unlike Paganini, Mr. Burnand is not continually playing on a single string. Or at least, when he does so, with a view to show his marvellous skill, he produces an infinite variety of humourous ditties, and the result is always something new. The whole of the volume before us is most amusing. The main feature is "About buying a horse," and we heartily confess that if buying a horse in company with Mr. Burnand were accompanied with such agreeable fun as is recorded in these pages we should be careful to indulge in the outlay very frequently. The happy thoughts that occur to the writer are too numerous to record and too amusing to reproduce, save, at least exceptionally, or we should anticipate the pleasure of the reader, yet are there some few excerpts we cannot forbear to make. Here, for example, is a pleasant piece of writing, and true to nature, at p. 11:—

"*Happy Thought.*—By the way, to assume every one to be something merely for the purposes of conversation, must lead to discussion.

"For example, assume a man to be a soldier; talk to him of the latest invention in breechloaders (if you can—I can't), manœuvres, campaigns, the exemplary conduct of the Light Cavalry in Abyssinia (if you know anything about it—I don't), and so forth. He will join you satisfactorily for some time, then you can put such a test question to him as would tend to elicit his opinion with regard to 'the probable expense of a museman's kit,' or any such professionally military-sounding inquiry. Should he really happen to be in the army, then he will probably stick his glass in his eye, seem puzzled, and ask you 'What the deuce you mean?' in which case you can retire behind your trenches (I haven't the faintest notion what effect this would have on an enemy, but I have often met the phrase in print, and like it), and pleasantly beg to be pardoned if your "phraseology" (use the word) is incorrect; or say, 'technically incorrect,' which does look as if you had some acquaintance with the subject—and add that you yourself are not a military man.

"Should he, however, have to excuse himself on the same score, you can take high ground (all part of metaphorical operations with trenches and 'high ground'), and observe that you had asked for information, under the impression that he was in the army. This will flatter him as a rule, and he may afterwards confide to you, with a smile, that he travels in the wool trade."

In further illustration of the same happy thought, we read—

"Assume a banker to be a distinguished artist, and he'll be delighted. Assume an artist to be a Queen's Counsel, and he'll be immensely pleased. Assume a gentleman at large to be the secretary attached to some foreign legation, with a secret mission, and he'll be highly gratified. Assume that a literary man would have made a first-rate preacher, and that a philosophical writer would have made his fortune if he had only stuck to the violoncello, and you will increase the number of your friends everywhere.

"On the strength of these assumptions, they will everywhere speak of you as a 'deuced sharp chap,' a man who 'sees below the surface,' one who can read you up,' and so forth. And why? Because you've struck the key note of that general dissatisfaction which every one feels, and which is the strongest reason for every one so working in his 'station of life,' as to make the best of it."

There is an amusing hit at the facility with which testimonials are obtained. A "Bun cure" is suggested, and the following is one of the numerous testimonials supposed to be received in testimony of the wonderful efficacy of the new cure, from a Bishop:—

"*Sir,—I have now taken one of your Buns, per diem, for three months, and have not had a return of the Thingummies, (whatever it may be), to which I had previously been a martyr. I can now preach for three hours at a stretch, without the slightest inconvenience.*

"*Yours,*

"BATH AND QUITE WELLS."

The visit to Boulogne, and the imaginary incident at Folkstone, after returning, are capitally told, as indeed are the various experiences connected with this purchase of a horse. Cases in point, are "the station master," who "won't be a party to any duplicity about this horse," and the post master, "a long young man, loosely put together, as if he'd been made up gradually, and added to at different times whenever there might have been some large bones to spare," and whose face, "which is broad and round, and with a very uneven surface, is expressive of chronic astonishment at everything and everybody."

In Chapter XXII. the subject of "Freemasonry in Relation to Horse Dealing" is discussed, the result being two or three pages of very laughable matter. The imaginary conversation is carried on as between the writer and one Casell. We extract the following as to the utility of Masonry in travelling:—

"'I've heard,' I say, in order to show I am not bigoted, 'that Masonry is very useful in travelling.'

'It is,' answers Casell, decidedly.

'How?'

'How?' he returns. 'Oh, lots of ways.' He considers awhile, then he resumes: 'Well, it is a passport to society in some places. It's of great use if you get into a difficulty. You pick up companions; and, in fact,—Oh, there are heaps of instances where Freemasonry has been of the greatest possible service. I recollect a man saying how he was had up before a magistrate in Naples, and the case was just going against him, when he made a sign to the bench, and the magistrate returned it. I forget whether he got off or not, but I know that it benefited him somehow. Why,' he continues, hurrying on, as if to avoid being too closely questioned about this last interesting incident, 'when I was on the Continent, I was all alone somewhere, and I didn't know what on earth to do with myself; and I found the landlord where I was stopping was a Mason, and so was another fellow staying there, and we got quite chummy, and we had a rubber with dummy in the evening.'"

One result of bargaining for a horse is that the writer catches a severe cold, and adopts his aunt's remedy, the old-fashioned one, of "feet in hot water at night, hot rum before going to bed, and 'jump into bed directly you've drank it, and keep yourself well covered up,'" with the following result: "Not being accustomed to spirits, least of all rum, and finding it uncommonly nice, I took three doses of it, one after the other. On this occasion I certainly kept myself well covered up at night, for I found myself in bed with my boots on in the morning. *My cold had gone, however.*" This suggests the following: "*Happy Thought* (*for receipt*). Go to bed with your boots on. Also don't wind up your watch at night. I didn't. And what's more, I don't exactly know how or when I got into bed. I mention these details because they must form part of a cure for a cold—as most certainly I was cured."

We need say little further. Besides the occasional Happy Thought "about Buying a Horse," we have others, such as, "The story of my Legal Examination," "My Aunt's great Police Case," and "Our Representative Men," in the Isle of Wight, Brittany, and elsewhere. In the course of these last experiences we take leave to cite the case of the "Well-Informed Friend," who is great on architecture in particular, and on every variety of subject as well, and who is always making mental resolves "to look up the whole subject the instant he should get home among his books." Our readers who may wish to enjoy a hearty laugh—and who does not?—will find frequent occasion for satisfying such wishes in running through the pages of these "Occasional Happy Thoughts." We hope to read many more such Thoughts from the same delightful pen.

We have much pleasure in stating that Bro. Robert Wentworth Little was so far recovered as to be able to be present at the committee meeting of the Royal Benevolent Institution on Wednesday last.

Bro. S. C. Hadley, P.A.G.D. Grand Lodge of England, was elected Alderman of the Ward of Castle Baynard, by a majority of one.

A crowded audience was present on Thursday evening, at the Royal Music Hall, Holborn, at a complimentary benefit to Bro. J. S. Sweasey, on the occasion of his tenth year of proprietorship. A host of talent was present.

Bro. Herr Schubert, No. 186, has returned from the Continent, after a successful tour, and the concerts of the Schubert Society will commence in December, where rising artists will have an opportunity of appearing before select and fashionable audiences.

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NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

See also page 251.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—This Lodge held a meeting on Wednesday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Present—Bros. J. Hogg P.G.D., W.M., Harrison S.W., Southwood J.W., Geo. King jun. P.M. Secretary, Hollingworth S.D., Ward J.D., Goodacre I.G., Speight Tyler; Past Masters Bro. George King, &c. together with Bros. R. Grey G.D., D.M. of Prince of Wales's Lodge, 259, Cubitt P.G.P. and P.M. 157, J. G. Dufries S.D. 45 and 1278, Baron Tettenborn 150, Ballard 571, Nuthall, Atkins I.P.M. 27, J. Green S.W. 27, H. Thompson P.M. 177, 1158, and 1428, W. W. Morgan 1385, Dr. Rosenthal P.G.C. Staffordshire, and others as visitors. The Lodge, having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, was advanced to the second and third degrees, and Bro. Hall was raised, the W.M. performing the ceremonial most impressively, and with his usual ability. Bro. Foot was subsequently passed, and Messrs. G. T. Salmon and A. L. Rosenthal having been unanimously elected, were severally initiated. This done, the W.M. rose, and in the course of his remarks spoke in the most eulogistic terms of the eminent services which Bro. Hervey had rendered to the Craft, and especially to the tact and judgment he displayed in the fulfilment of his arduous official duties. He also expressed, on behalf of the Lodge generally, how fully the gift of Bro. Southwood, the J.W., was appreciated. The portrait was then formally unveiled, and the opinion was unanimously expressed that the artist had been most successful in his delineation of Bro. Hervey. The inscription on the picture is as follows:—"The V.W. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, &c., of the Grand Lodge of England, presented to the Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, October 13th, 1875, by Bro. J. H. Southwood, Junior Warden." It should be stated the portrait was painted by Bro. Baron Tettenborn, after only a single sitting from Bro. Hervey, an excellent photograph having been the artist's principal guide. The Lodge was then closed, and the members adjourned to Simpson's Hotel, Strand, where an excellent dinner was served. The usual loyal toasts were given, that of the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Officers being very happily acknowledged by Bro. Grey G.D. The health of the initiates was next proposed, and in doing so the W.M. gave a sketch of the antiquity and influence of the Order. Bro. Grey proposed the toast of the W.M. This was most enthusiastically received, and cordially responded to. Bro. Cubitt P.G.D. acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors," Bros. Thompson and Morgan that of "The Press," while Bro. Baron Tettenborn gracefully replied to the toast of his own health as painter of the portrait of Bro. Hervey which had been unveiled that afternoon. Other toasts followed, and at length a most agreeable evening was brought to a termination. We should add that two beautifully embroidered cushions for the third degree were presented to the Lodge by Bro. Harrison S.W., a gift for which the Lodge passed a very cordial vote of thanks. The brethren appeared in mourning, owing to the lamented death of Bro. Kingcombe I.G., for whose untimely decease the deepest regrets were expressed.

St. John's Lodge, No. 795.—The Installation Meeting of this Lodge was held at the Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead, on Tuesday, the 12th inst. Bros. C. W. Moule jun. W.M., J. H. Sadler S.W., J. H. Turner J.D., C. Gammon P.M. Treas., H. H. Hodges P.M. Sec.; P.M.'s. R. Turner, G. Bubb P.M. 180, and J. R. Foulger P.M. 177. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. J. Bell, J. A. Bargan, and W. Sherman were raised to the 3rd degree. Bro. J. W. Bennett, No. 181, was elected a joining member. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. J. H. Sadler was presented to the Lodge. Bro. G. Bubb P.M. performed the ceremony of installation perfectly and impressively. The newly installed W.M. then invested his officers:—Bro. H. Turner S.W., A. Pinto Leite J.W., C. Gammon P.M. Treasurer, H. H. Hodges Secretary, J. R. Foulger P.M. S.D., W. H. C. Sharpe J.D., Slater I.G., Bell W.S., and C. Nowell Tyler. A special and cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. G. Bubb P.M. for the able manner in which he had given the various ceremonies. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet provided by Bro. Deacon. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. H. Hodges P.M. and Prov. P.G.R. Berks and Bucks, returned thanks for the toast of R.W. Sir Daniel Gooch P.G.M. Berks and Bucks, and the rest of the Grand Officers. The W.M. proposed the toast of the I.P.M. Bro. C. W. Moule jun., and presented him with a very elegant Past Master's Jewel, as a mark of respect from the Lodge. Bro. Moule, in brief, but appropriate terms, returned thanks for the testimonial. Bro. C. Gammon P.M., in his usual happy and genial manner, responded to the toast of the Past Master, and Bro. H. Turner for the officers. The Tyler's toast having been given the brethren returned to town in a saloon carriage specially provided by Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch.

Victoria Chapter, No. 1055.—The installation meeting of this highly prosperous Chapter took place on the 4th inst., at Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., Comp. Eenhaus in the chair, assisted by the two other Principals, G. Newman, and J. C. Taylor, as also by the usual staff of officers. Comp. Noehmer, the J. elect, being a first Principal in another Chapter, was duly inducted into the third chair, Comp. E. Gotthiel P.Z. then installed Comp. J. D. Taylor into the second chair, after which Comp. Geo. Newman, the Z. elect, was duly installed into the first chair by Comp. Pendlebury P.Z. A banquet followed, served in Comp. Gosden's best style, to which it is needless to observe every one present did ample justice. The usual toasts were then proposed and responded to with commendable brevity. In the course of the evening, a handsome P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. Eenhaus, facitiously denominated the "Royal Dane," he being a native of Denmark, and, indeed, at present a resident in that country, from which place he contrives, by judicious arrangement, to attend regularly to his duties in the Chapter. Comp. Newman complimented the I.P.Z. upon his success in securing the love and esteem of all who knew him, and assured him that when far away in his native land he is ever borne in remembrance by the Companions of the Victoria Chapter. Comp. Eenhaus replied in a very feeling manner, and said the Companions may rest satisfied that when in his far away home he will look upon this memento with pride, and it will always give him the most heartfelt satisfaction to have been in the proud position of First Principal of so important a Chapter. The evening was enlivened by songs from Comps. Gomperts, Musto, and Forsyth, and magnificent whistling of Comp. Moore. The visitors were Comps. R. Looker 1293, T. Copesteak 192, H. Wagstaff 141, Alf. Moore 862, Chas. Payne P.Z. 177. It should be stated that the new staff of officers, besides the Principals, were Comps. J. Brett P.Z. Treas., Pendlebury P.Z. S.E., Hooper S.N., Musto P.S., Forge 1st Asst., Green 2nd Asst., and Grant Janitor.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the Bridge-house Hotel, Southwark. Bro. C. Deakin W.M., assisted by his officers, initiated three gentlemen into the Order. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Dr. Dixon installed Bro. J. A. Smith J.W. into the chair. The appointment of officers resulted as follow:—Bros. Batchelor S.W., W. T. Lover J.W., F. H. Elsworth P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.M., P. Prov. G.P., Middlesex, Secretary, F. Garbett S.D., J. Stock J.D., J. Wootton I.G., J. Porter D.C., P. J. Grace P.M. W.S., and W. J. Laing P.M. Tyler. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Dr. Dixon for the excellent manner in which he had performed the ceremony. The Lodge was then closed, and a very good banquet followed. During the evening an elaborate jewel was presented to Bro. C. Deakin I.P.M. There were about fourteen visitors present.

Era Lodge, No. 1428.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 9th inst. at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, Bros. J. W. Baldwin W.M., E. H. Thiellay S.W. P.G.A.P. (Middlesex), J. Baxter Langley J.W., T. J. Sabine P.M. P.P.G.S.B. (Middlesex) Treasurer, F. Walters P.M. P.P.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary, E. W. Devereux S.D., S. Wolff J.D., A. F. Lose I.G., R. Wright D.C., W. A. Simmons, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Dr. Gillispie (late 78th Highlanders) was initiated, and Bros. Henreux, Harvey and Rumbelow were passed to the second degree, the W.M. performing the ceremony very correctly. Three brethren were appointed as Stewards for the forthcoming festivals for Masonic Charities in 1876; several propositions for joining and initiations were given, also a notice of motion to alter some of the bye-laws, after which the Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to a banquet. The visitors were Bros. W. H. Leary P.M. 45, R. W. Williams 1326, &c.

Royal Military Lodge, No. 1449, Canterbury.—On Monday last the ceremony of installation took place, being the second since its formation. The Lodge was opened at 1.30 by Bro. Wade P.M., in the unavoidable absence of the Master, Bro. Greenwood. Sergeant-Major Cairns R.H.A. having been duly balloted for was initiated into the ancient mysteries. The ceremony of installing Bro. Moorehouse, the W.M. elect, was then proceeded with, which ceremony was most impressively performed by Bro. Wade P.M., No. 1449, assisted by Bro. Knight P.M., No. 31, S.W., Bro. John Hall P.M., No. 31, J.W., Bro. Smeeth P.M., No. 1208, and Bro. Pilcher P.M., No. 972. After the ceremony the brethren sat down to a most sumptuous banquet, supplied by Bro. Shurby in his usual liberal spirit. After the cloth was cleared, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren dispersed, after having passed a most enjoyable evening.

Metropolitan Royal Arch Chapter of Improvement.—The first meeting of the session was held on Tuesday, 5th October, at the Jamaica Coffee-house, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill. Present—Comp. John Boyd Treasurer, who took the chair of M.E.Z., and appointed Comps. Gotthell H., John Wyer J., Thomas William White S.E., John Ramsey S.E., A. H. Lilley S.N., E. Gilbert P.S. There were also present Comps. G. Lemann, R. Wyatt, W. H. Kempster, J. Allsopp, William Stephens, and R. W. Goddard. The ceremony of exaltation was completely rehearsed. The audit committee elected Comp. Edward S. Norris, who was unavoidable absent, as assistant S.E. The officers for the ensuing fortnight were elected, and the Chapter was closed.

Addiscombe Lodge, No. 1556.—At a meeting of this Lodge held on the 9th instant, Bro. Turquand W.M. presiding, Mr. Wheeler, of Addiscombe, and Mr. Lowrie, of South Penge Park, were duly initiated into the Order, and Bros. L. Turquand, Carpenter, A. Lambert, S. W. Lambert and F. W. May were passed to the second degree. The Bye-Laws were passed and ordered to be printed. The ancient charge in the first degree, and E.A. song to be bound up with them. A substantial repast was provided for the brethren, who spent a very enjoyable evening in peace and harmony. Bros. Bishop S.W. of Lodge No. 63, and Jahn, of the Lodge at Stutgard, honoured the brethren with their presence, the former giving a most effective speech in reply to the toast of the Visitors, in which, after eulogising the W.M., he recommended very strongly the members of the Lodge (and more particularly the officers) to attend the best Lodge of Instruction they could find in a district that would suit them, so as to ensure a regular attendance, in order to secure smooth working in the Lodge. The brethren are very much encouraged by the success which has thus far attended the Lodge.

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,
IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By Bro. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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ADELPHI.—At 6.45, TURN HIM OUT, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS.

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VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD, and Mr. GATHERWOOL.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, A CONJUGAL LESSON. At 7.45, SELF, and THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS. On Monday next, ALL FOOLS' EVE.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE, and THE BRIGANDS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—MONEY.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, MY WIFE'S OUT, at 8.15, LA PERICHOLE and TRIAL BY JURY.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This evening at 8.15, PROOF POSITIVE.

CRITERION.—At 8, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK. At 8.30, FLEUR DE THE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS, St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, S.W.—At a Quarterly General Court of this Institution, held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Field, W.C. on Saturday, 9th October 1875, Major John Creaton, Trustee and Vice-Patron, in the chair, after the general business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the election by ballot of Six Children into the Institution, from a list of thirty approved Candidates, when the following were declared duly elected:—

No. on List.		No.	No. on List.		No.
19.	Taylor, Lucy Maria	1,421	30.	Cowley, Minnie Eliza ...	1,348
23.	Jones, Edwina Russell ...	1,286	12.	Saunders, Fanny A. W. ...	1,295
8.	Bowler, Mary Louisa ...	1,276	18.	Kelley, Alice Elizabeth ...	1,139

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 eligible.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE, Secretary.

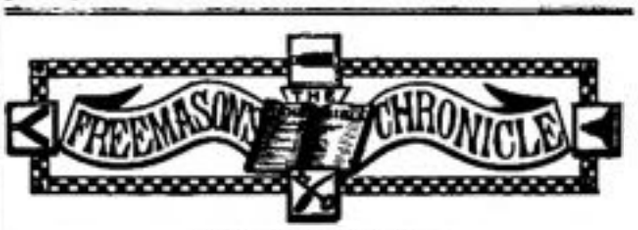
ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS, Wood Green, London, N.—Patron: Her Majesty The Queen. President: Field Marshall H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W.G.M.—At a Quarterly General Court, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Monday, 11th October 1875, Bro. John Symonds, Esq., V. Patron and Trustee (P.G.A.D.C.) in the chair. A ballot took place for Ten Boys, from a list of 58 Candidates, and the following were elected:—

1.	Price, Ernest Lavers ...	2,167	6.	Tibbits, Elwood Blake ...	1,809
2.	Green, Alfred James ...	2,081	7.	Slipway, Henry Morrison ...	1,858
3.	Sutton, Herbert Henry ...	2,006	8.	James, Percy	1,838
4.	Jones, John Llewellyn ...	1,982	9.	Duff, Robert	1,832
5.	Barclay, James Archibald ...	1,935	10.	Hunter, William Reginald ...	1,675

Lists of Candidates, successful and unsuccessful, with full particulars of polling, &c., may be had on application at the office.

11th October 1875. FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

*** The Seventy-eighth Anniversary Festival will be held on Wednesday, 24th June 1876, on which occasion the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Warwickshire, has kindly consented to preside. The names of brethren willing to represent Provinces, or Lodges, as Stewards, will be gratefully received.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE departure of the Prince of Wales for India is now an accomplished fact. On Saturday he received a deputation from the Corporation of the City of London, composed of the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and other civil dignitaries, the object being to offer His Royal Highness an address congratulating him on his approaching journey, and wishing him Godspeed and a happy return to old England next spring. The Prince briefly but graciously acknowledged the good wishes of the Corporation. On Monday evening the actual journey commenced. Their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess, drove in an open carriage to the Charing Cross Station of the South Eastern, where already were assembled crowds of people to witness the departure, and where a guard of honour of the Scotch Fusilier Guards, with colours, band and bagpipes, were drawn up on the platform set apart for the Royal train. Among those who came to bid farewell, the first to arrive were the Duke and Duchess of Teck. Then came, in rapid succession, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Leopold, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, the Princess Louise and Marquis of Lorne; and among other persons of distinction, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, the Earl

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and Countess Spencer, the Earl of Derby, Mr. Ward Hunt, &c. On the arrival of the Prince and Princess, the latter, assisted by the Duke of Cambridge, passed at once to the train, but the Prince experienced some difficulty in making his way thither, so hearty and continuous was the hand-shaking, and so overflowing the enthusiasm of all present. At length having reached the carriage, his brothers and sisters took leave of him, and the train, in charge of Mr. Shaw, moved slowly from the station amid the most vehement cheers, and to the strains of "God bless the Prince of Wales." At Dover, where the train was due a few minutes before 10, the gathering, owing to the lateness of the hour, was comparatively small. Detachments from the 78th Highlanders, 24th, and the 104th Regiments were drawn up as a guard of honour and the Earl Granville as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, with the countess, Mr. Freshfield, one of the members for Dover, the Mayor and sundry members of the Corporation and Major General Parker, commanding the South Eastern district, were in waiting. An address from the borough functionaries having been presented, the Prince and his wife passed on board the Castalia, and when the luggage was aboard, the ship cast off her moorings, the troops presenting arms, the band playing a few bars of the National Anthem and then changing to God Bless the Prince of Wales. On reaching Calais, which was accomplished in a little over the hour, the Prince took farewell of his wife, and left with his suite for Paris, the Princess of Wales, who slept on board the Castalia, returning to town the next day. Paris was reached on Tuesday, Lord Lyons, our Ambassador in the French capital, being at the station to receive him. Here, too, he was met by Marshal MacMahon, who was off for a day's shooting at Compiégne. The Prince then drove to the Hôtel Bristol. On Wednesday, the Marshal called upon him, and had a brief but cordial interview *d'adieu*. After dinner the Prince drove to the railway-station, accompanied by Lord Lyons and his suite, and left for Turin by the 8.40 p.m. train. A part of his suite preceded him, and reached Bologna on Wednesday evening. The Prince is expected to reach Brindisi to-day, where he will immediately embark, stopping, *en route*, at Athens, which will be reached on Monday next. On Wednesday the Princess of Wales left Marlborough House for Sandringham, her children having preceded her.

The Duke of Cambridge, having accompanied his Royal cousin to Dover, held a review of the Shorncliffe and Dover brigades on Wednesday, the scene of operations being a few miles from Folkestone. A series of movements took place, and at the end of the operations the Duke addressed a few words to the commanding officers, commenting on the operations of which he had been an eye-witness. The troops that took part in the proceedings were, on the one hand, the 41st, 93rd, and 104th regiments, F battery Royal Artillery, a company of Engineers, and two squadrons 12th Lancers; on the other, the 24th, 78th, a company of Royal Engineers, two squadrons 12th Lancers, six foot batteries, and a field battery.

The Rev. Mr. O'Keeffe's name has been for some time past before the public in connection with some clerical differences. Matters ran so high that the rev. gentleman's house and chapel had to be protected by a strong force of police. All but two of them were withdrawn a few days since, and the result is that the house and chapel have been sacked by a mob of roughs. This is the most recent illustration of Christian charity.

It only needed a bright sunshine to make the visit of the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London to Epping Forest a complete success, and, unfortunately, this element was, as the saying is, conspicuous by its absence. A steady downpour was the feature of the day; but, nothing daunted by the inclemency of the weather, a party, some 600 strong, and including many of the leading civic functionaries, the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs, Aldermen, Common-Councillors, together with a fair sprinkling of M.P.'s made their way, at the appointed time, to the new and splendid terminus, in Liverpool-street, of the Great Eastern, where a special train was in attendance. A short journey of some minutes sufficed to convey the party to Snaresbrook, where a sufficient number of carriages were in waiting. Having been duly marshalled, and headed by a body of mounted police, the procession set off, and circumambulated the forest, or at least so much of it as, thanks to the exertions of the City of London, yet remains for the purposes of public recreation. As the rain was continuous, the beauties of scenery, which are both numerous and admirable, offered no very effective picture. They were there, however, though not enjoyable for the moment. Having completed the circuit, the party found itself in the vicinity of "Fairmead Lodge," where a marquee, large enough to accommodate the numerous visitors, had been erected. Here, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, was held a *dejeûner*, which in great measure helped to dissipate the discomforts of the weather. A series of toasts were given, when the wants of the inner man had been satisfied, and a photographic album was presented to the Lord Mayor, by Mr. Young, as representative of the Epping Forest Preservation Fund, as a souvenir of that occasion This graceful compliment was as gracefully acknowledged by his Lordship, who announced that it would be placed in the Corporation Library, as an interesting memento of a most auspicious event. The company broke up shortly afterwards, returning to town by rail or otherwise, as was most convenient. We need hardly say that the preservation of 5,000 acres of Forest is an event worthy of celebration, and that to no public body save the City Corporation could the celebration have been entrusted with so much propriety. It is due entirely to its gallant struggles for the preservation of the rights of the Commoners, that Londoners have any forest left to enjoy themselves in, and we could have wished the clerk of the weather had been more considerate.

By the way, it is well for our reputation that we did not indulge in any cheerful forebodings as to a continuous improvement in the weather, for the said clerk already referred to has been seriously misbehaving himself since. There have been a series of floods in many parts of the country, and especially in the Midlands, and, unhappily, there have been severe losses both of life and property. At Rugby three men were drowned, at Banbury one, and at Husband's Bosworth, in Leicestershire, another was washed away, while three other lives are reported to have been lost in the same county. A severe gale likewise caused considerable damage to the shipping at Yarmouth, Plymouth, and elsewhere, and several lives are reported to have been sacrificed. Such visitations as these are to be expected at this season of the year, yet it seems to us that we have suffered far more severely than usual.

Lord Derby's public addresses are invariably distinguished by their good sound practical sense. He appeals so directly and so successfully to the minds of his hearers. His address on distributing the prizes of the Society for the Promotion of Scientific Industry at the Exhibition, Cheetham-hill, Manchester, is a case in point. He explained in a few telling sentences the advantages of such a society, and urged upon his audience to do their utmost to increase its numbers and extend its influence thoughout the district, to the ultimate benefit of the many and important industries which had raised Manchester to its present flourishing condition. After this his lordship distributed the prizes, which consisted of gold, silver, and bronze metals, together with a number of honorary certificates. A vote of thanks to the noble Earl brought the proceedings to a close.

The Social Science Congress at Brighton has brought its present session to a close. Everything was done to contribute to the pleasure of members, and the Railway Company organised a number of cheap excursions to various places, such as Hastings, Lewes, &c., within convenient reach of London-Super-Mare. Visits of inspection were likewise paid to the various places of interest in the town itself, such as the public Free Library and Museum, the Children's and County Hospitals. During the session many important and highly interesting papers were read in the various sections of the Congress, and we can only hope that some practical good will be the result. There have been other meetings of a similar character, among them a Trades' Union Congress, but we do not know that we need do more than refer to them thus briefly.

Of extra Parliamantary Speeches we would draw attention especially to one by Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., Financial Secretary to the Treasury, who, on Wednesday evening, presided at a meeting of the Public Library Committee, Watford, held for the purpse of receiving the annual report, and to distribute the prizes. This being so, it is not surprising that education should have formed the principal if not the sole topic on which Mr. Smith expressed himself. This speech, for which we must refer our readers to the daily papers of yesterday, is well worth reading, and contains, as might well be expected from so eminently practical a man as the member for Westminster has always shown himself to be, good sound advice. Mr. S Cave,

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M.P., has also spoken publicly, at an agricultural meeting in East Devon, in response to the toast of Her Majesty's Ministers. Upon this address however, we need offer no sort of comment.

The crowner's quest into what is now known as the Whitechapel tragedy, has resulted in a verdict of "wilful murder" against Henry Wainwright. The accused had previously been committed to take his trial by Mr. Benson.

The Alexandra Palace directors are zealous as ever in catering for the amusement of the public. On Monday, was held a swimming fête, Miss Beckwith displaying her skill and powers, and Captain Webb afterwards distributing the prizes. On Tuesday was performed an opera by the Carl Rosa Company, while in the evening there was a second harvest display of fireworks. To-day will be performed, Flotow's opera of Martha, and for the last time this season there will be an illumination of the lake. Next Tuesday and two following days are fixed for a Great International Poultry and Pigeon Show, and as the entries are said to be tolerably numerous, a great display may be expected, and will doubtless be properly appreciated by the fancy, and those who affect poultry *en amateurs*. At the Crystal Palace the chief attractions are the Winter Promenade Concerts, the third of which will be held this day. On Wednesday next will take place the Great Harvest Celebration and Musical Festival.

On Sunday last a fatal accident occurred at the Hornsey Station on the Great Northern line, by which a gentleman lost his life when attempting to get into a carriage when the train was in motion. The usual inquiry was adjourned, as the jury were anxious to ascertain whether the regulations of the company had been carefully observed.

We know very little, and have no desire to know, about what are known as Magna Charta associations, but we notice that wherever they are held there usually occur disturbances, more or less serious. If it be true, as reported, that Dr. Kenealy has incited his followers to attack his opponents, the sooner these meetings die out the better. Perhaps this dire catastrophe is not very remote, for happily Dr. Kenealy seems to be less cordially received than formerly.

From Paris we learn that M. Gounod, the celebrated composer, has sustained a severe fracture of one arm, owing to his foot slipping as he was descending a staircase. The Permanent Committee of the National Assembly has held several sittings lately, and M. Buffet has notified that the Electoral Bill will be brought forward as the soon as the Assembly meets. Owing to indisposition, and the advice of his physicians, it appears that Prince Bismarck will not accompany the Emperor William on his journey to Italy. For this event great preparations are being made. There will be a State entry into Milan on the 18th, and among the other "fixtures"—to use a sporting term—are a grand banquet and a review. The Emperor will set out on his return on the 22nd instant. The Herzegovina insurrection and the Carlist war in Spain still drag their weary length along. There is a war in Liberia, a negro republic on the West Coast of Africa, and our difficulty with China is not yet settled. It is even reported that our minister, Mr. Wade, has left Pekin for Shanghai. If so, and our legitimate demands are not conceded, we are clearly in for another Chinese war. There is a new and Conservative Ministry in Servia, so that we shall probably hear nothing further of Servian sympathy with the insurgents against Turkish rule. The interest in America centres for the most part about the recent elections, in which the republican party appear to have scored one or more important victories.

The Consecration of the University Conclave of Knights of Red Cross of Rome and Constantine will take place at 29½ Green-street, Cambridge, on Wednesday, 27th October, at 4 o'clock precisely.

Bro. Alderman Paterson, whose death occurred on the 8th instant, was in the 58th year of his age, and was only elected to an Aldermanic gown in 1873 in succession to the late Sir David Salomons, Bart. Bro. Sir John Bennett, who was then beaten by the late Alderman, is again a candidate for Aldermanic honours.

Bro. ex-Sheriff Jones has been elected Master, Bro. Sir F. Perkins, M.P., Upper Warden, and Bro. Sir John Bennett Under Warden of the Loriners' Company.

THE DRAMA.

Fleur de Thé at the Criterion.—The Prince of Wales's.

WE had hoped that the palmy days of Opera-Bouffe, as presented on the English stage were over, and that a style of piece which has given just offence to even the most charitably-minded censors of the stage would in future be conspicuous by its absence. It has been reserved, however, perhaps appropriately, for the theatre under the roof of our largest public refreshment house to produce the piece which was, in the original, probably the most suggestive of indecency of all that noble array of sinners let loose upon us by the success of "La Grande Duchesse." Lecocq is a worthy pupil in that school of which Offenbach is still the chief: we get from him the same kind of catching melodies and of charming serenades, the same light sparkling music wedded to libretto of which the morality is noticeable for its absence. And inasmuch as in any opera the composer of the music benefits most by its success, it is only fair that he, too, should bear the chief blame of its faults. *Fleur de Thé* is a Chinese princess, living at Pekin, the disposal of whose hand in matrimony is left somewhat to chance, as the first man who sees her face is to be compelled to marry her. This fate is reserved for Pinsonnet, the cook of a French corvette, anchored in the harbour, who, with his wife, Césarine, has landed to see the sights. Césarine exacts from Pinsonnet a promise that, although obliged to marry *Fleur de Thé*, he will not treat her as a wife, but only as a friend, and in order to test his fidelity, contrives, by a stratagem, to take *Fleur de Thé's* place in the nuptial chamber. The success of this ruse may be guessed from the fact that Césarine's accompaniment to her husband's account of the innocent nature of his proceedings, runs, "How he lies! Oh, how he lies!" The piece has been toned down with some amount of success, but that the flavour of the old Adam is still too strong was evident on Saturday night in the strong disapproval expressed by a portion of the audience. The music of *Fleur de Thé* is not so catching and will never be so popular as that of *Madame Angot*, and the acting is hardly up to an effective standard. Mr. W. H. Fisher, who played Pinsonnet, was suffering from hoarseness, which marred the effect of his music, but his acting retains all its bright and pleasant qualities. A lady new to London, Miss Bessie Sudlow, was the Césarine: she possesses a clear and pleasing voice, and will prove, with practice, an acquisition to the stage. Miss Barville filled the part of *Fleur de Thé* fairly well. The opera is creditably put on the stage, and, as the CRITERION is not a large theatre, may have a fairly long run.

A new farce, adapted from the French, by Mr. E. Mannel, was produced at the STRAND, on Saturday last, under the title of *The Doctor's Brougham*. A doctor without patients has secured a brougham on trust, and drives round to visit his friends, calling on an old schoolfellow, now a barrister, without clients, but rejoicing in a pretty wife. The latter is an object of attraction to a Prussian Count, who has seen her in the street, and followed her home, and who is only too glad to feign serious illness in order to remain in her company. Out of this some amusing complications arise, the humour of which is made the most of by M. Marius as the Prussian Count, and Mr. H. Cox as the doctor.

There is good news from the PRINCE OF WALES'S. "Masks and Faces," specially revised by its authors, will shortly be produced with Mrs. Bancroft as Peg Woffington, and a hint is given of new pieces from the well-known pens of Mr. Wilkie Collins and Mr. Byron.

IRISH JIGS.—These may be described as of several kinds, of which the principal are—the common or "double jig," the "single jig," the "hop jig," the "reel," the "hornpipe," and various country dances and "set figures.' The common or "double jig" is in six-eight time, usually consisting of two parts of eight measures each, each of these measures usually presenting two quaver triplets throughout the tune, and each part being always played twice. In these general features this most common variety of the Irish dance tune only differs from the great majority of the old clan marches in the somewhat greater rapidity of the time in which they are performed: in is almost certain that very many of these common jigs were originally marches, and were anciently used for both purposes. The "single jig," like the common jig, is a tune in six-eight time, and of the same number of bars or measures. But it differs from the former in this, that the bars do not present, as in the "double," a succession of triplets, but rather of alternative long and short or crotchet and quaver notes. Thus, in dancing, the floor is struck only *four* times to the bar instead of six times, as in the "double." The "hop jig," popular in Munster from remote times, is in nine-eight time, a structure peculiarly Irish. It seems probable that many of the dance tunes in this time current in England and Wales were originally Irish, and passing into those countries became naturalised. The "reel" is identical in feature with that of the same name in the sister country. In both it is common time, consisting of two parts of eight bars each and generally presents a uniform succession of eight quavers (or semi-quavers, if written in two-four time) in each bar throughout the tune. There is, however, this difference between the reel-tunes of Scotland and of Ireland, that while the former are, perhaps, more marked by a sunshine of mirthfulness, the latter have usually more melody and expression of sentiment. Further, it may be worthy of remark that the reel, though now, and for a long time, regarded as the national dance of Scotland proper, was anciently known only to the Irish and Hiberno-Scoti, or Highland people, and that it does not appear to have ever been common to, or adopted by the Anglo-Saxon people of England or the cimbric people of Wales. —Dr. Rimbault in the "*Leisure Hour*."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

EXPOSITOR.—Twelve Grand Stewards were first appointed in 1728.

VIGO.—H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence (William IV.) was initiated into Freemasonry in 1787, and the Boys' School was instituted in 17[illegible].

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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.

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SATURDAY, 16th OCTOBER.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
444—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.

MONDAY, 18th OCTOBER.

Quarterly General Court, Boys' School, Freemason's Hall, at 12. (Election, &c.)
45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
185—Tranquillity (Emergency), City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
253—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
872—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
938—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
1087—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1079—Greta, Court Buildings, Keswick.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.

TUESDAY, 19th OCTOBER.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
1338—Benconsfree, Red Lion, Leytonstone. (Instruction.)
57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
402—Royal Sussex, George the Fourth, Nottingham.
445—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
803—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
980—Camalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorks.
986—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
1008—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day Scorrier, Cornwall.
1040—St. Andrew, Bush Hotel, Farnham, Surrey.
1089—De Sherland, Fountain Hotel, Blue Town, Sheerness.
1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Lancashire.
1364—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Widnes, Lancashire.
1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
R. A. 463—Frederick, of Unity, Station Hotel, Sutton.
M. M. 604—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Havant, Hants.

WEDNESDAY, 20th OCTOBER.

General Committee, Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence at 6.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Hotel, Gresham-street, E.C.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
Consecration of the Roseyln Lodge, 1563, Town Hall, Great Dunmow, at 2.
20—Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, Sun Tavern, Chatham.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
221—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
243—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
249—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham.
261—Unanimity and Sincerity, Clarke's Hotel, Taunton.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
324—Moira, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge. (Instruction.)
502—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
637—Zetland, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
681—Faith, Drovers' Inn, Openshaw.
691—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
810—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
826—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Gosscop.
879—St. Davids, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
982—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Werkington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1094—Walton, St. Lawrence Boy's School, Croylands-street, Kirkdale.
1305—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.
1312—Kine, Masonic Hall, Home Park, Stoke, Devonport.
1324—St. Alban's, Royal Hotel, Great Grimsby.
1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1345—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
M. M. 175—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 21st OCTOBER.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
49—Gihon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
95—Constitutional, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1260—Hervey, 182 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1339—Stockwell, Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill.
50—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
119—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydvil.
203—Ancient Union, 23 Hope-street, Liverpool.
249—Peiciise, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
280—Worcester, Bell Hotel, Worcester.
425—Cestrain, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool. (Instruction.)
665—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
940—Philanthrophy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.

FRIDAY, 22nd OCTOBER.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
249—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road.
861—Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1260—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1278—Prince Leopold, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)

SATURDAY, 23rd OCTOBER.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
1541—Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—494—Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 750—Ashfield, Private Room, Cornhill, Co. Cavan.
" R. A. 85—True Blue, Anne-street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—4—Music, Masonic Hall, George-street, Dungannon, Tyrone.
" 162—Excelsior, Bishop-street, Tuam, Galway.
" 358—Cappagh, Masonic Hall, Omagh.
THURSDAY—93—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 130—Industry, Sandycan, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.
405—Hide, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—190—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 65 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY—48—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall
" 226—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-street.
" R. A. 153—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 66 Constitution-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—333—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 550—Clydesdale, 106 Rose-street.
" K.T.—St. Mungo Encampment, Annual Meeting, St. Mark Hall, Buchanan-street.
TUESDAY—31—St. John, St. John's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 73—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 97—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
" 441—Glasgow, 23 Struthers-street.
WEDNESDAY—117 Partick St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
" 334—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street.
R. A. 160—Shettleston, St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
THURSDAY—37—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 466—St. Andrews, Garngad-road.
FRIDAY—R. A.—79 Commercial, 30 Hope-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held it usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hartnles, Leadenhall-street, on Thursday evening last, 14th October, at 7.30. Present—Bros. Hollands W.M., Webb S.W., Ellis J.W., Burr S.D., Parker J.D., Maidwell I.G., C. A. Grammer Hon. Sec., and numerous other brethren. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Salmoneso acting as candidate. The first three sections of the First Lecture, and the first three sections of the Second Lecture, were worked by Bro. Horsley, assisted by the brethren. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The fifteen sections will be worked in this Lodge on Thursday, 28th October, at 7 p.m.

United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury.—The first regular meeting of the Winter Session of the Lodge, the oldest but one in the province of Kent, was held on Thursday, 7th inst., at the Guildhall Concert-room, for the purpose of installing Bro. John Green Hall as W.M. for the ensuing year, when a numerous assemblage of the brethren was present, the beautifully solemn ceremony of installation being ably and impressively performed by Bro. Higham P.M. At its conclusion the following brethren were appointed and invested with the respective collars and jewels of their office:—Bros. B. Browning S.W., Wiltshier J.W., Higham P.M. Treasurer, John R. Hall P.M., P.P. Assistant G. Secretary, Hon. Secretary, Plant S.D., Dean J.D., Tice I.G., Longhurst Organist, Prisguer Tyler. After the Lodge was closed the brethren sat down to the customary annual banquet, at the Rose Hotel, provided by Bro. Coppin, in his usual very excellent style.

Royal Cumberland Lodge, No. 41.—This Lodge held its first meeting on Thursday, the 7th October, at 7.30 p.m., at the Masonic Hall, Bath. Present—Bros. James Clark W.M., F. J. Brown S.W., F. Wilkinson as J.W., George Faulkner Secretary, T. P. Ashley P.M. Treasurer, C. Wilkinson S.D., P. Braham J.D, S. G. Mitchell as D.C., F. S. Gammer as I.G., J. Broom Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Major Preston, Capt. Peel Floyd, Dr. Henry Hopkins, J. Rubie. Business—This being the first evening of the season, the attendance was small, and the business (limited to merely formal matters) was soon over.

Strong Man Instruction Lodge, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, the 11th of October, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Present—Bros. Killick W.M., Pearey S.W., Stock J.W., Killick Secretary, Read S.D. Ockenden J.D., Emery Walker I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Master Bro. Davies P.M. 228. Business—Lodge opened in usual manner in first and second degrees, and Bro. Good passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Tolmie worked the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th sections of second lecture, assisted by Bro. Saul. Lodge closed in second degree. Bro. Davies P.M. 228 unanimously elected a member, and Bro. Pearey unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge closed punctually and in perfect harmony.

Shamrock and Thistle Chapter, No. 87.—This Chapter held its first monthly meeting with the new office-bearers on Wednesday, the 6th, at 12 Trongate, Glasgow, J. McNairn Z., J. Singleton H.J. They were favoured with a visit from the Provincial Grand Chapter of Lanarkshire. F. A. Barrow, Grand Superintendent, being accompanied by Comp. Fraser G.S.N., F. Hallett G.P.T., G. Thallon P.G.C., and J. Duthie Z. of 67. The P.G.Z. expressed himself pleased with the state of the Chapter.

Unanimity Lodge, No. 89.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 11th of October, at the Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield, Cheshire. Present—Bros. John Hartley W.M., John Clayton S.W., Thomas Arthur Field J.W., William Thomas Goddard Secretary, Isaac Bates Treasurer, George Partington S.D., James Halliwell I.G., Abraham Jeffreys P.M. Tyler. Past Masters, Bros. Amos Ogden, Michael Coffey. Visitors, Bros. James F. Willis 1322 Waverley, W. F. Fowle P.M. 815 Blair, J. P. Sowter M.M. 815 Blair, James Oxon M.M. 830 Endeavour. Business—Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting. Initiation of Mr. Frank Coldwell. Raising of Bro. David Bates. After the business of the Lodge the brethren partook of an excellent supper, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, &c.

Constantine Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 145.—A

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meeting of the members of this Lodge was held on Wednesday evening last, 13th inst., for the purpose of the installation of Bro. Thomas Rix as W.M. The ceremony was very ably and impressively performed by Bro. Rev. R. N. Sanderson P.M. Past Grand Chaplain of Ipswich, and the W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follow:—Bros. Rev. C. J. Martyn S.W., Rev. E. H. Crate J.W., W. P. Lewis I.P.M., T. Eustace M.O., T. Williams, S.O., W. H. Bateman J.O., Fred. A. Cole Treas., T. J. Ralling Sec., Alfred Welch Reg. of M., J. Hanly S.D., E. Hennemeyer J.D., W. P. Lewis P.M. D.C., T. W. Naylor I.G., and C. Gunner Tyler. At the conclusion of the Lodge business, the brethren adjourned to the festive board, when the usual toasts were honoured, and a most harmonious evening was spent.

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 102.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 11th October, at their own Hall, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. James Mitchell R.W.M., Capt. J. R. Greig Deputy Master, J. McColl Substitute Master, M'Cann S.W., G.W. Wheeler as J.W., J. Smith Secretary, J. W. Patterson Treasurer, J. Nicholls, S.D., J. B. Hardie Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. T. Holkel, J. Barmfother. Visitors—Bros. A. Youl R.W.M. 275, D. Butler R.W.M. 27, E. Arthur, J. R. Smith Mother Kilwinning, J. Leslie 84, Euraker Marie P.M., and several others. Business—Initiation of Messrs. Crawford, Campbell, and McIver. Bro. Butler requested the Lodge to allow a candidate of his, who was leaving the country, to take the 2nd and 3rd degrees also with those candidates, which was at once acceded to, and after honorary affiliation had been given to Bros. Butler and Stewart, the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and the Master passed two brothers as F.C. The Lodge was then raised to the 3rd degree, and Bro. T. Holkel raised one brother for St. Marks, and one for St. Mungo in his usual careful manner.

Domatic Lodge No. 177.—The first regular meeting since the vacation was held on Friday, the 8th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bros. G. Everett, Treadwell S.W., G. Willing jun. J.W., J. Smith P.M. P.G.P. Treasurer, Williams Sec., Palmer S.D., Buscall J.D., G. Clarke I.G., and Past Masters P. Kent I.P.M., Jas. Brett P.G.P., Taylor, Time, T. Adams P.G.P., Walford, W. F. Smith, Haydon, and Bros. Plummer, Harris, Spink, Crane, Plenderleith, Richards, Jones, Jennings, Kent, Ralph, Goodfellow, McLean, Anley, Orchard, Herbage, &c.; nearly 100 brethren were present. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Several brethren who had been initiated and passed their 2nd degrees in the Lodge, had taken their third degrees in other Lodges; as Master Masons, they would then have had an opportunity of being present at the Installation of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales. Bros. C. L. Everett, Gilbert, and Osborne were passed to the 2nd degree Messrs. W. Jennings, R. Pierpoint, R. Pinhey, and W. J. Sherlock were initiated into the Order. Bro. T. G. Ell, St. John's Lodge, No. 1306, and J. Kent were unanimously elected joining members. Several propositions for ballot at the next meeting were handed in, after which the Lodge was closed. A very excellent banquet was provided by Bro. Clemow, superintended by Bro. Smith, the W.M. presiding with his accustomed ability. The usual toasts were given and responded to, and a very agreeable evening was passed. The visitors were Bros. Batt S.W. 700, Hudson 315, R. Turner P.M. 735, Beckett P.M. 865, Sterne 1305, Lucas 192, Goldring 1216, Simner P.D.G.W. (Burmah), Bathard 1237, Kingston 862, Walton P.M. 382, Walls 141, A Swanborough 1319, Stone 1298, and Hawkes S.D. 315.

Scotia Lodge, No. 178.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 13th of October, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Joseph Singleton R.W.M., P. Hepburn J.W., S. Scott Secretary, R. Gardiner S.D. Past Master, Bro. J. Mathison. Business—The case of a widow of one of the members was considered, and a sum to relieve her immediate necessities voted from the funds, her case to be also laid before the Provincial Benevolent Fund as well as the Grand Lodge Fund by the Master. The Picnic Committee made their final report on their visit to Campsie, which was approved of. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, when the Master passed two brethren to the Fellow Craft degree in his usual style.

Tyrawley Lodge, No. 217.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 11th October, at Dillon-terrace, Ballina. Present—Bros. P. L. Petrie W.M., Matthew Scott S.W., Charles Boyd J.W., J. R. Dudgeon Secretary, P. Atkinson Treasurer, James Beatty S.D., P. McDonnell J.D., George Beatty I.G., R. Massey Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Reid and Gilbert. Visitor—Bro. Anderson, 14, Galway. Business—Bro. Thos. Boyd was admitted to Fellow Craft degree. Mr. Geo. Thompson was initiated into E.A. degree. The following were nominated officers for 1876:—Bros. P. M. Scott W.M., C. Boyd S.W., J. R. Dudgeon J.W., Taylor S.D., J. Beatty J.D., and P. McDonnell I.G. A ballot for Mr. Thos. Gilbert was successful.

Star Lodge, No. 219.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 11th October, at 12 Trongate, Glasgow. Present—Bros. J. Morgan R.W.M., J. Goldie S.W., J. Herron J.W., J. Crawford Secretary, Anderson Treasurer, G. Lawrence S.D., G. Annin I.G., P. Pearson Tyler. P.M. Bro. Willson Annon. Business—This was the quarterly night set apart for harmony, and the Lodge was honoured by deputations from most of the sister Lodges in the Province, who were received with that cordiality and courtesy that characterise the brethren of the sister Craft, and it was a truly harmonious meeting.

New Forest Lodge, No. 319. — This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 12th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Quay-street, Lymington. Present—Bros. H. Sims W.M., T. J. D. Rawlins S.W., J. R. Colston J.W., H. T. Bath P.M. Sec., H. Dorman P.M. Treas., J. Hidden S.D., B. Watson J.D., J. W. Whitworth D.C., W. S. Mansell Steward, H. Masters I.G., J. Rogers Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. S. S. Pearce and S. Dore. Visitor, Bro. J. Blasey, No. 1193. Business—The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Horton, Maltby, Grinyer and Shields, who were unanimously elected by the brethren. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, when the W.M. asked the test questions preparatory to raising Bros. Taylor and Dawe, which being answered satisfactorily, they were entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, when Bros. Taylor and Dawe having been re-admitted were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. The Lodge was then closed in the third and second degree, when Bros. Lamble, Fellows, Laker and Sawyer were questioned before being passed, and having proved themselves worthy, were entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when they were introduced and passed. The Lodge was then closed in the second degree, when Messrs. Horton, Maltby and Shields were initiated. A very pleasing incident was the presentation, by Bro. Reginald M. Mackinnon, of a fine photograph of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, wearing the insignia of his office as M.W.G.M., photographed from life, and elaborately coloured by hand, which was set in a splendid frame. The gift is to commemorate the royal installation on the 28th of April 1875. A vote of thanks to Bro. Mackinnon having been unanimously accorded, the labours were brought to an end, and the Lodge closed at 6.30 p.m. A cold collation was provided by the D.C., Bro. J. W. Whitworth, which gave great satisfaction to the brethren. The usual toasts having been duly honoured, the brethren separated at an early hour.

St. George's Lodge, No. 333.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 13th of October, at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Alex. Thompson R.W.M., James Findlay Substitute Master J. McFarlane Deputy Master, James Forsyth S.W., Robert Anderson J.W., Archibald McIntyre Secretary, T. H. Thompson Treasurer. Visitors—Bros. J. T. Scott R.W.M. 419, J. Bannerman Deputy M. 73, R. Grange 34 and W. B. Fisher 125. Business—After the minutes of last meeting had been confirmed, applications from the widows of two members were presented; a sum of money was voted in one case, and a deputation appointed to make enquiries into the other, as this Lodge is always liberal where the applicants are found worthy. The Lodge having been opened in the second degree, the Substitute Master, Bro. Findlay passed a brother to the F.C. degree. The Master then said as the Grand Lodge Laws provide for the the working of the Mark degree, and the Grand Chapter has fully admitted its right to do so, and the Lodge had decided to act on that decision, he now begged them to accept a pair of Mark stones he had prepared for them. Bro. McFarlane Deputy Master, in the name of the Lodge, received the stones, and thanked the R.W.M. for his valuable present. The Lodge was then closed, and Bro. Findlay opened it in the Mark degree, and confirmed that degree on the office bearers to enable them to work it at the next regular meeting.

Socrates Lodge, No. 373.—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, the 12th October, at the George's Hotel, Huntingdon. Present—Bros. George Thackray W.M., W. H. Smith S.W., E. B. Heeling J.W., J. Marson Secretary, John Parlett Treasurer, Rev. F. S. Westbook Chaplain, H. Foskey S.D., W. Jackson J.D., S. Mills Steward, J. H. Brown I.G., R. Hearn Tyler and P.M.'s Bros. B. Aller, I. Ingram, J. Smith and W. Cluff. Visitor—Bro. Henry Smart W.M. of Sondes 990, East Dereham. Business — To raise Bros. J. Chapman and J. Carpenter. Ballot for an honorary member Bro. Edward Cox P.P.G.S.W., Northamptonshire and Hants, P.M. 360 and 657 and P.Z. 12, Patron Boys' School, V. Pres. Girls' School and V. Pres. Royal Benevolent Institution. Bro. Ingram P.M. and Bro. B. Allen P.M., in proposing and seconding Bro. Cox, spoke in high terms of his courteous and valuable assistance to this Lodge at the Albert Hall Installation, and his valuable assistance to this province at the Masonic Elections, &c. Bro. E. Cox, was unanimously elected honorary member. The Secretary thanked the Lodge on behalf of Bro. Cox for electing him an honorary member, and stated that Bro. Cox was utilising and adding to our voting power for future elections. Proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that the Provincial Lodge be petitioned to grant one hundred guineas to the Girls' Institution, and one hundred guineas to the Boys' Institution, in May next. Mr. Arthur George Dilley, aged 21, auctioneer, was proposed and seconded to be balloted for at the next Lodge, and if elected, to be initiated.

The Athol Lodge, No. 413.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 12th of October, at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Jas. Wallace R.W.M., Colin McKenzie S.W., Burns J.W., J. Leetitt Secretary, P. Agnew Treasurer, J. Harr, S.D., G. W. Patterson J.D., J. Gardner Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Dubis 219, Lerpth 84, J. Scott 86. Business—The initiation of Mr. J. McCalman, which was ably performed by Bro. Wallace and his officers. There being no further business, the Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony.

St. Vincent Lodge, 553.—This Lodge met on Thursday, 7th Oct., at 162 Kent-road, Glasgow, Bro. R. McDougall R.W.M. in the chair, assisted by Bros. R. Paxton as S.W., A. McLean as J.W., and J. M'Lellan, P. Steven S.D., J. Comston J.D. The Lodge having been duly opened, Bro. McLean presented the Lodge with a very handsome jewel box in three compartments. Bro. Paxton as S.W. then presented a ballot box of a new construction, made of cedar-wood. The Master, in very graceful terms, on behalf of the Lodge, accepted those presents, remarking they should take care of their jewels, and prize as jewels those who evinced such care for their well-being. While the cedar-wood box should remind them of those cedars of Lebanon that Solomon employed in the building of the temple, and as the cedar-wood was said to keep off moths from the clothing, so he hoped his box would keep out those figurative moths that might desire to enter the Lodge, as one or two moths might damage the Masonic

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clothing that should adorn all true Masons. Both gifts, he could assure the donors, would be highly prized by the Lodge. A Fellow Craft Lodge was then opened, and at the request of the R.W.M., Bro. G. W. Wheeler passed Bros. Watson, Marshall, Smith, McColl and McLean to the second degree, and the Lodge was thereafter closed in harmony.

Windsor Castle Lodge No. 771.—This Lodge held its first regular meeting of the season on Tuesday the 12th of October, at the Masonic Hall, St. Albans-street, Windsor. Present—Bros. Greville Horsley Palmer W.M., Cutler S.W., Scott J.W., J. S. Tolley P.M. Secretary, Fleck S.D., Brown J.D., Cantrell I.G., Nowell, Tyler; Rev. Arthur Robins Chaplain; Past Masters Devereux, Wigginton, Grisbrook, Bingham, &c. The business of the evening, which was of a most interesting character, commenced at six o'clock, when there was a most numerous attendance, not only of the brethren, but of visitors, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Wm. Stephens, Wm. Hookvale, H. Whitfield, J. H. Reid, G. Kelly King, J. Ashley, W. Grist, W. Young, and W. W. Morgan. The Lodge was opened, after solemn prayer, by Bro. G. H. Palmer W.M. The minutes were read by Bro. J. S. Tolley, and duly confirmed. Bro. George Johnson was examined as to his proficiency in the first degree, and having answered the usual questions was entrusted. Bros. Joseph Johnson and Joseph Mitchell were then introduced, as candidates for the third degree, and after giving satisfactory replies to the usual questions, were entrusted, and retired. The brethren then repaired to the inner chamber of their beautiful Lodge, when Bros. Johnson and Mitchell were raised to the sublime degree, the ceremony being admirably rendered by Bro. Joseph Devereux, the senior P.M. of the Lodge. The candidates, as well as all the brethren present, were deeply impressed with the manner in which Bro. Devereux, who possesses elocutionary powers of a high order, conducted the ceremony. The Lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and Mr. Ernest Cecil Devereux, Mr. Robert E. Hannis, and Mr. Frank Willett were severally initiated into the Order. The next part of the evening's proceedings was the presentation of a beautifully illuminated address, on vellum, to Bro. Joseph Devereux, of which the following is the text:—

"We, the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Warden, Officers and Brethren of the Windsor Castle Lodge, No. 771, in Lodge assembled, offer you fraternal greetings and heartfelt expressions of respect and esteem. It is our desire to place upon record our deep sense of the invaluable services you have rendered to the Windsor Castle Lodge, of which you were a founder, in A.D. 1859, and to thank you most sincerely for the Masonic zeal and assiduity you have always evinced, not only to the Windsor Castle Lodge, but also to the Craft in general. We congratulate you upon the rise and progress of our Lodge during the many years you have watched over its interests, and it is with pleasure and approval that we record the fact that you have on two occasions been unanimously elected to the office of Master, in the performance of which duty you commanded the admiration of the brethren by the unique and perfect rendering of our Masonic rites and ceremonies. It is to your indefatigable energy that the Freemasons of Windsor owe their beautiful Temple, consecrated and dedicated to Masonic purposes alone, together with its embellishments and adornments which so effectually contribute to the solemnity and dignity of the ceremonies. That the G.A.O.T.U. will give you health and strength to enjoy the fruits of your Masonic labours for many years to come, is the sincere wish of,

Yours fraternally,

THE WINDSOR CASTLE LODGE.

Bro. Devereux sen. suitably acknowledged this address, which was enclosed in a very elegant box. The very heavy business of the meeting having made great inroads on the time that was available, and several of those present being obliged to leave by an early train, the proceedings were brought to a close, but we here subjoin the following prayer, which was offered by the Chaplain during Lodge, and also the verse of the National Anthem, with a stanza bearing special reference to the visit of the Grand Master to India:—

Almighty God and Merciful Father, Supreme Architect of all our destinies, we beseech Thee to hearken to our prayers and supplication on behalf of Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, our Grand Master, now journeying from our shores to a distant land. Into Thy loving care we commit and commend him. King of kings, Lord of lords, the only ruler of princes defend him from the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and from the arrow that flyeth in the noon-day. Help him ever to be mindful of Thy commandments, and to set forth the honour and praise of his God and Saviour in all things. Grant that the beams of Thy divine love may ever lighten his path, inspire him with heavenly wisdom, replenish his soul with ghostly council, bring him safely home, and bless his going out and his coming in, now and for evermore, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—AMEN.

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save our Queen.

Our Lord, thou King of Kings,
Shield with thy mighty wings,
Our Prince from harm.
O'er him thine arms extend,
For Britain's sake defend
Our Brother, Prince, and Friend,
God save the Prince.

Those of our readers who are familiar with *Preston's Illustrations* will recognise the concluding lines of the stanza, as having been, it is said, composed impromptu by the great Sheridan on the occasion when the late George III. was fired at in the Royal Box, at Drury-lane Theatre, by one Hatfield. We may add that Bro. Tolley's performances on the organ were of a most effective character. The brethren afterwards adjourned to a slight repast, at the White Hart Hotel. The remainder of the evening passed in a most agreeable manner, the usual Masonic toasts being greeted with the customary enthusiasm.

Gresham Lodge, No. 869, Herts.—An emergency meeting was held last Saturday, at the new quarters, for which the Lodge are indebted to the fraternal kindness of the Rev. Bro. Mayo. Present—Bros. A. C. Wylie P.P.G.S.B. Herts, W.M., J. E. Grocott S.W., W. H. Etherington J.W., Rev. Bro. Mayo Chaplain, F. D. R. Copestick P.P.G.S.B. Treasurer, W. G. Gompertz P.P.G.P. Secretary Dr. E. G. Pottle S.D., T. C. Chapman J.D., Thos. Stevens I.G., and W. G. Gomperts jun., J. Dickie, C. B. Cheese, J. C. Wylie, J. H. Brown; Young and Cuthbertson, visitors. The Lodge was opened at 2 p.m., the chair being shortly after vacated by the W.M. in favour of Bro. Gompertz P.M., who was desirous of initiating the new members and who in the performance of that ceremonial, displayed his wonted ability. The initiates were Mr. William Layton, proposed by Bro. Forsyth seconded by Bro. Copestick P.M., and Mr. J. R. Rigsall, proposed by Rev. Bro. Mayo and seconded by Bro. Wylie W.M. Bro. G. F. W. Mugliston M.D. I.P.M. 1421 and S.W. 1228 was elected a joining member. This ended, a vote of thanks was moved by Bro. Wylie to the Rev. Bro. Mayo, for his great kindness in placing the banqueting-hall of Cheshunt Great House at their disposal for holding their meetings. The motion was carried with acclamation and appropriately acknowledged. A vote of thanks was also proposed and agreed to, conveying thanks to Bro. Hunt, the worthy host of the Four Swans, Waltham Cross, for his past kindness and attention to the Lodge during the fourteen years of its existence. Bro. Hunt in acknowledging the vote, hoped yet to see the day when a Masonic Hall should be built in the province of Herts, and expressed the great pleasure he experienced on finding the labours of the Lodge carried out in some other locality than a tavern, a sentiment worthy of a brother who is himself a landlord, and which we most cordially endorse. The Lodge having been closed, an adjournment was made to the "Green Dragon," Church-gate, where an excellent repast was provided, while the wines were of a character far superior to those usually supplied to brethren at their banquets. We may attribute this to the district being a secluded one as well as the fact that the wine cellar of the "Green Dragon" is not an institution of yesterday. On the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts were given with marked brevity and responded to loyally, that of the W.M.G.M. the Prince of Wales in particular being acknowledged with more than ordinary enthusiasm. As a matter of course His Royal Highness's visit to India was referred to by the W.M. The latter, in acknowledging the toast of his own health, stated that he had just returned from Russia, a country in which Freemasons' lodges are forbidden to be held. Bro. Wylie expressed his regret, especially as English Masons were there denied the opportunity of meeting together. However, as the two countries were on the most friendly terms, and had recently become, by the marriage of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh with the only daughter of the Czar, still more directly united, he hoped the day might not be far distant when the Craft would enjoy the same privileges in Russia as in other countries. The toast of the visitors was acknowledged by Bros. Young P.M. 1327 and Cuthbertson, 27. The other toasts were regularly disposed of, every one of the speakers expressing himself highly pleased with the success of the day's proceedings, Bro. Gompertz being particularly happy in his remarks on the improved status of the Lodge.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1509.—An Emergency meeting took place on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road, for the purpose of lightening the labours of the next regular meeting, that being the occasion of the installation of the W.M. The two large rooms had been thrown into one, and the lighting and ventilation was appreciated by the numerous brethren present. Bros. Jas. Willing jun. W.M., Michael S.W. and W.M. elect, Williams J.W., Tims P.M. 177 Secretary, Child S.D., Kingham J.D., Scales W.S. as I.G. in the absence of Bro. John Douglass of the Standard theatre, owing to a severe accident, and Bros. Stiles, Side, Levy, Little, Hatton, Stainsbury, Clarke, Jones, Rogers, Simond, &c. The Lodge was opened, and Bro. Beale, of the Domatic Lodge 177, was raised to the 3rd degree, by the courtesy of the W.M., and Bros. Simond, Little, Rogers, and Levy were passed to the 2nd degree. Messrs. L. Solomon and H. Stiles were balloted for, and duly initiated into the Order. The W.M. gave the various ceremonies in a perfect and impressive manner. Bro. Ormestou, St. John's Lodge, 262, and Walters, of the Felix Lodge, 355, Scotland, were elected joining members. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. The W.M., in responding to his health, remarked it was the last time he should have the pleasure to preside over them at the banquet table. He took the opportunity to thank the officers of the Lodge for the efficient manner in which they had assisted him during his year of office; he also thanked the brethren for the attention they had paid during the ceremonies; he was sure those brethren who had been initiated in the Lodge were genuine supporters of the great principles on which our Order is founded. The toast of the officers was given, and some capital harmony emanated from the brethren. The Lodge of Instruction attached to this Lodge meets every Friday evening at the Club, where the brethren can receive the benefit of good Masonic instruction under the preceptorship of Bro. T. A. Adams P.G.P., to whose able tuition the efficiency of the officers of this Lodge is mainly due.

For other Notices of Meetings, see page 247.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 43. SATURDAY, 23rd OCTOBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

ON THE CUSTOM OF SHAKING HANDS.

WE observe, from a recent issue of a French journal, that another revolution is about to be inaugurated in that land of change and surprises. The democratic custom of "shaking hands," or, as the reformers prefer to style it, of "shaking the body by the arm," is forthwith to be abolished. The Abbé Defourny, of Beaumont, the ostensible leader in this movement, calls for the reprobation, by ecclesiastical authority, of "a most disrespectful usage," which, he declares, originated with the Freemasons, and which "consists in shaking by the *poignée de main à l'Anglaise* the body of the person whom it is intended to salute." The reverend Abbé suggests, as an improvement upon this mode of salutation, an inclination of the body, coupled with the greeting, "Let Jesus Christ be praised," *Laudetur Jesus Christus*. In certain cases, as in the salutation of parents and superiors, this may also be accompanied by the kissing of hands. The Holy Father at Rome, to whom an application on the subject has been addressed, has given a somewhat hesitating approval of the proposed innovation. The case is now, therefore, fairly before the world, and we may expect to hear of some warm discussions between the advocates respectively of the old system and the new.

We have described the custom of shaking hands as the old mode of salutation, but probably the learned Abbé would join issue with us on this point. It would seem, from his remarks, that he regards this habit as of comparatively modern origin, instituted, in fact, by that wicked sect, the Freemasons, to displace the system formerly obtaining in Monarchical France. If the reverend gentleman, however, were not above consulting his Greek history, we think he would discover that the custom of *joining* right hands, at all events, is as old as the time of Pythagoras, else would not that philosopher have given the advice "*me panti emballein ten dexian*," that the right hand should not be given to all men, meaning, as we would interpret the expression, that one ought not to make friends with everybody. Homer, Aristophanes, and other Greek writers make use of similar expressions.

Whether the Egyptians and other nations of antiquity acknowledged the same custom may well be doubted, although Josephus describes "the giving of the right hand" as an unquestionable pledge of fidelity amongst the Persians. Even from the remarks of this writer, however, it is evident that the "giving of the right hand" was not their usual mode of greeting. From Herodotus we learn that the form of ordinary salutation amongst them depended upon the respective rank of the individuals. If they were of equal position, they kissed each other on the mouth. If there was a slight disparity of rank, they only kissed the cheek. But if one was greatly inferior to the other, he prostrated himself on the ground. The modern mode of salutation in the East is somewhat different. The greeting of a Mussulman consists in an inclination of the head, great or little in accordance with the rank of the person addressed, accompanied by the raising of the tips of the fingers to the forehead. The custom of "shaking the body by the arm" seems never to have commended itself to the grave Orientals. Even the Hebrews, though regarding the right hand as the symbol of truth and fidelity, do not appear to have, even in their own country, considered the joining of hands as a pledge of faith. St. Paul is the first of the sacred writers to speak of giving "the right hand of fellowship" to his co-workers; and he, in all probability, derived the expression from the Greeks. Amongst the Romans the joining of right hands was unquestionably a very common mode of evincing mutual regard, and of exchanging pledges of good faith. Hence the expression "*jungere dextras*," to join right hands—came to signify to enter into an agreement, to give a mutual pledge. The Roman goddess, Fides, the patroness of fidelity and honesty, was accordingly characterised by two hands clasped together.

Various have been the customs of salutation amongst barbarians, prostration on the ground being perhaps the most usual, the rubbing of one another's noses the most curious. But we have adduced sufficient evidence to show that the custom of grasping hands is of greater antiquity than the Abbé Defourney appears to think. If the custom really takes its rise from the "Masonic Grip," we have here an additional proof of the ancient origin of Freemasonry. But for our own part, we are inclined to think that, old as Freemasonry undoubtedly is, the pernicious usage complained of is more ancient still.

We believe that Polish peasants have a form of salutation very similar to that which the Abbé proposes to introduce in Western Europe. When one of them meets another he says, "the name of the Lord Jesus be praised," the other replies, "for ever and ever." Amongst the earlier Christians, too, and amongst the Jews in the time of their persecution, some such mode of greeting appears to have prevailed, but notwithstanding these and such like precedents, we cannot hold out much hope of success to the apostles of the new crusade. We think the time is yet far distant when an Englishman, or even a Frenchman, will be content to greet his fellow with a cold "laudetur Jesus Christus," or to reply with the still more chilling formula "in secula seculorum." The custom of shaking hands once grafted upon the character of a nation is likely to be as stable and permanent as the national character itself. When Dutchmen can be converted by a sermon into Frenchmen, and Chinamen in like manner can be changed into Scotchmen, then in all probability the *Abbé's* project may arrive at a successful issue. Until then we think his prospects are more than doubtful.

HOW MASONRY SAVED MY LIFE.

I BECAME a Mason before I obtained my majority in the — regiment of foot. I joined a celebrated Lodge in the Metropolis, and although at first I took but a languid interest in the business, I soon became interested, and endeavoured to make myself familiar with the teachings of the Order. My regiment was at this time stationed at Chatham, but I always contrived to run up to town to attend Lodge, and I usually found the Masonic banquets much more enjoyable than the mess dinners. I had taken two or three degrees in the Order, and was looking forward in due time, to fill some honourable office in the Lodge, when war broke out between England and Russia. We had been expecting hostilities, and immediately upon the publication of the Queen's proclamation my regiment received orders to hold itself in readiness for active service. I had at once to give up all my dreams of Masonic advancement, and prepare myself for the stern duties of the field. My readers will doubtless remember the stirring incidents of the period of which I am writing, and I need not dwell upon the details connected with our departure for the Crimea. We were among the first troops to embark, and, with our luggage, we were crowded into one of those uncomfortable

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troop ships of the *Urgent* type, which were the best means of transport our Admiralty then possessed. The magnificent *Jumna* and *Serapis*, with their sister consorts, were not then in existence. Some of the regiments were embarked on board of hired transports, and others were accommodated on board the line of battle ships, which formed a portion of the fleet which was to attack the forts of Sebastopol. The voyage was an unpleasant one, but we did not mind that. Our fellows were delighted at the thought of active service in the field, and no one dreamed of the hardships and sufferings which we were fated to endure. Our landing at Eupatoria, and the victory of the Alma, are facts of history too well known to need any reference here. We were in the hottest of the fire at the Alma, and our men behaved splendidly. We had many raw recruits in our ranks, but they bore themselves on this memorable day like seasoned soldiers, and gallantly upheld the traditional fame of the old ——th. Some of us were sanguine enough to believe that this victory had decided the fate of the Russians, but we soon discovered that our task was only beginning. When the trenches were opened, we were among the troops ordered to the front, and from first to last we got more than our share of the fighting. We should not, however, have minded that if we had been properly cared for. We were a fortnight without tents, and when we got them, they were a poor defence against the weather; mere rags in fact, which admitted every breadth of wind. I, and two or three of the officers messed and slept together in a small tent, to the right of our position, and we soon found that the mess was a mere fiction. Hard bread and salt junk, with *green* coffee, were indeed served out to us, but we had no comforts, and our private stores, upon which we had based our hopes, were safe on board our ship in Balaclava harbour, and we had no chance of getting them. Often have I, after spending a night on the damp ground, with no other shelter than our flimsy tent and a blanket, risen to breakfast off biscuits and cold water. The men of course were no better off than ourselves, and as winter approached a great many of them were obliged to cut up their knapsacks into leggings, to defend their limbs from the wet and mud of the trenches. What awful nights those were which we spent on duty at the front! We did not care about the enemy; an occasional sortie from the garrison was welcomed as a relief from the dreary monotony of our watch. The excitement revived us, and the danger was as exhilarating as wine. A brush with the enemy, at the point of the bayonet, was a trifle, but to stand under arms for hours at a time, up to the knees in mud, this was a trial to test the powers of the strongest. After a night spent in this manner we frequently marched to the rear, to find that there was nothing for us to eat. Foraging was out of the question. The troops in the rear managed occasionally to pick up a day's rations in this way, but there was no such luck for our fellows. Salt junk, or salt horse, as the sailors call it, was beginning to tell upon us, and our mess at least was suffering from that indiscribable longing for fresh meat, which must be felt to be understood. The regiment which was quartered near us was French, and the men possessed a brute of a dog, which somehow or other managed to keep a little flesh on his bones, we longed to shoot and dine off the rascal, which was constantly prowling about our tent, but honour forbade us to attempt such an outrage. "Gaston" was known to be a great thief, and we strongly suspected that he made free with our scanty rations; but we could never catch him in the act, until, one memorable night the rogue, forgetting his usual caution, slipped into our tent, and snatched a piece of pork before our very eyes. O'Flannigan of ours had been cleaning his revolver, and as the brute rushed passed, with the meat, he struck him a tremendous blow on the head with the but end of the weapon. Poor Gaston rolled over, with a cry which was a cross between a howl and a shriek, dropped the meat, turned up the whites of his eyes, and gave up the ghost. We were not long in disposing of the body, and I must confess that roast dog is an excellent dish. I wonder our lively neighbours who have added horseflesh to the dietary of man do not think of the canine race. I might perhaps at the present time prefer a mutton cutlet to a broiled puppy, but when we were starving on salt junk and sea biscuit anything in the way of a fresh bite was a luxury. We had to pay for Gaston though through the nose. His comrades in the regiment soon cleared up the mystery of his disappearance, and O'Flannigan and I had to exchange shots with a couple of fire eaters, who felt bound in honour to burn powder over the affair.

But this little incident keeps me from the pith of my story. I have to tell how Masonry saved my life, and I hasten at once to the denouement. Our lines had been steadily pushed forward towards the Russian batteries, and we were almost every day expecting a sortie, when, one evening, as I was looking over the earthern parapet in the direction of the battery, which had been playing upon us all day, I thought I saw a dark and moving mass advancing upon our left. I hinted my suspicions to Major L——, and we both watched carefully. Presently we saw the glitter of steel. "That was the sword of an officer," said L——, "the fool has been using the flat of it upon the back of a laggard. I am satisfied now that a large force is advancing upon us." A few minutes sufficed to make our few preparations to receive the enemy, and we awaited the attack in sullen silence. The moment the head of the attacking column was plainly visible, we commenced playing upon it with grape and canister. The Russians rushed forward with a loud shout, and we replied with a volley of musketry. The enemy was truly in great force, and had soon reached the parapet of our works, when a desperate attack, on our part, with the bayonet, drove him back in great confusion. We rushed out of the trenches, and a hand-to-hand conflict took place in the darkness the like of which I have never seen since, and hope I shall never see again. The Russians were ably supported by reinforcements from the rear, and we were assisted by a brigade of French Infantry which came up as soon as the firing was heard. We had driven the enemy to the counter scarp of his own works, when he rallied, and made a desperate charge, under which our men reeled and retreated for a moment. In the struggle I received a bayonet wound in the side, and fell. A fresh column of Russians had come out to relieve their comrades, and these fellows covered the retreat in a most masterly style. I expected every moment to receive the *coup de grace*, for the retreating Russians cruelly bayoneted our wounded as they lay helpless on the ground. A brute of a fellow had, indeed, brought his bayonet to the charge, with the intention of finishing one, when, with a sudden inspiration, I sprang to my feet, seized the hand of an officer who stood near, and gave him the sign. Fortunately he was a Mason, he of course instantly returned it, while, with his sabre, he thrust back the deadly point which was levelled at my breast. My brotherly foe immediately gave an order for my removal, and I was carried into the shelter of the battery by the very men who, but for my happy thought, would have given me a happy despatch to the other world. My wound was instantly attended to, and the next morning I received a visit from my preserver, who brought with him a surgeon, who soon made me as comfortable as circumstances would admit. The story of my miraculous escape soon spread through the division, and I received many kind visits from Masons, who proved themselves to be brothers in word and deed. Many little comforts were contributed by these good fellows, with the view of making my captivity as pleasant as possible. I was of course *hors de combat* for the remainder of the campaign. I was taken into the interior as soon as I could be moved, but my story went with me, and I everywhere received the kindest treatment from the Russian officers. My captivity was not of very long duration, and I need not dwell upon the subsequent events of the war. The death of the Czar hastened the peace, and I was among the first of the prisoners who returned to England. I need scarcely add that I have ever since been a most zealous Mason, and shall cherish the principles of the Order as long as I live. When I hear people railing against Masonry, or when captious critics demand to know what practical good the Order has achieved, I usually tell my story, and I am tempted to relate it once again in the enduring form of letter-press, in the hope that the moral of the incident may compel conviction in the minds of those who are too ready to believe that Masonry is merely humbug in disguise.

D. A. G.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Each quarter of the year tests the constitution, and discovers its weakest link. By the variable temperatures of the present season, the human system is severely tried; chest complaints, disordered digestion, and biliousness are generally more or less frequent. The wisest will save both pain and hazard by the early use of these infallible remedies. Holloway's Ointment, well rubbed upon the skin nearest the seat of disease, exerts most wonderfully purifying powers, never fails in expelling all noxious matters and removing all temporary obstructions, thus restoring healthy action to the organ. While the Ointment gently re-arranges disordered action, Holloway's Pills should be taken to remove all contaminations from the blood.

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BRO. B. PENCHINAT'S ADDRESS AT THE CLOSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE G.O. OF FRANCE.

TRANSLATED FROM *le Monde Maçonnique*.

BRETHREN: each time it has been permitted me to take part in the proceedings of the General Assembly of the Grand Orient, I have been penetrated with the feeling that it would be difficult to exact of the members who compose it a better spirit. In the discussion, more or less animated, but always serious, of the questions set down on the various orders of the day, each one brings to it, so to speak, the distinctive marks of his own character and temperament. Yet, in spite of divergencies of opinion, and though it is well nigh inevitable, there should be, as in every case, triumphant majorities and defeated minorities, the spirit of brotherhood, of conciliation and reciprocal affection is never absent in our Masonic relations. Whatever may be the results of our ballots, we never fail to extend to each other and grasp cordially, and without distinction, the right hand of fellowship. What is the cause, what the reason of this mutual tolerance of which we feel so proud, of this touching harmony, which nothing disturbs? It is that we all, within these walls, have but one object in view, it is that all of us are in pursuit of one and the same ideal, the noblest that can be proposed to our energies as men; it is that, while it is possible we may differ in opinion as to the means by which we hope to attain our purpose, it is impossible we should have but one and the same end to attain. You know, as I do, what this aim, this ideal, this purpose is; it is the greatness of our beloved Masonry. As regards this, struggles and disputes are out of the question. We are of one mind; our hearts beat in unison, and that love of self, which we meet with everywhere in the profane world, is powerless to make headway in face of our firm faith, our profound convictions, our inextinguishable love for this grand work of justice and truth. Our union on this basis is indissoluble, and hence our debates leave behind them no trace of bitterness, no memory of unworthy language, of wounded feelings, or of injured self-respect, and when the hour of separation is at hand, we leave behind us no angry nor rancorous feelings, for we all know that each brother has fulfilled his duty in the conscientious performance of what he believed to be good and useful, and for the common weal.

At the opening of this long and laborious session, you nominated Bro. de Saint Jean to preside over your labours. It was a just tribute of respect to one whose whole Masonic career has been one of perpetual devotion to our cause; it was a testimony of recognition for those numerous services he has rendered, and is willing to render, and I trust he will permit me, on behalf of the brethren present, to express to him our gratitude. We rely implicitly on him, and are firmly persuaded that, in all circumstances, he will know how to protect the sacred interests of that Masonry which is so dear to our hearts.

I shall not enter into details upon all the questions you have settled. Your votes inspired by the single desire to see our Order prosperous, to improve our regulations, and to bring our constitution into perfect harmony with the progress of society, will, I trust, be attended with happy results. It is when we come to put them in force that we shall learn their value; it is the practical application of the changes we have made that will prove whether we have been labouring under a delusion, or if our work has been beneficial. I earnestly hope that our labours may have been profitable, and that our conditions of life, as regards our Lodges, may improve day-by-day. Perfection is not of this world, but human institutions are capable of being perfected, and it is with this perfectibility that we busy ourselves whenever we meet within these walls. But there is one of your decisions on which I shall permit myself to dwell. The Council of the Order, which ordinarily leaves to the Lodges within its jurisdiction the initiative in respect of all bills which have for object the amendment and improvement of the constitution, has this year submitted for your consideration a plan, to which it appears to have attached the greatest importance, and by the terms of which it claimed for itself the right to deal summarily with Venerables and Orators who may have been guilty of violating the Constitution. From the general purport of the proposal it is easy to see, and none of you can have been mistaken—that among the Masonic crimes of which a President of a Lodge or an Orator is likely to be guilty, the scheme had specially in view the case in which they might have permitted political or religious controversies in the Lodge; and in order to render more effective the authority of the Council, which always in such cases has the right to stop them in pursuing a line of conduct so much to be deplored, by suspending them from office, demanded the power of withdrawing them from their common rights, and from a trial before the ordinary tribunal, with a view to making them amenable to a still higher jurisdiction. You know the result, and I have no intention of re-opening the question, but as regards the causes which brought forward this grave question, I have the right to tell you what I think.

For the last two or three years, and especially within the last few months, Freemasonry has been assailed with the greatest violence; it has been denounced, calumniated, turned into ridicule, or represented as an element of disorder and revolution. We might say with truth that a great fiat has been issued, for there is not one of our opponents that has not thought it his duty to mingle his voice in this grand concert of imprecations and anathemas. Have we done aught that could justify, even in the slightest degree, this campaign so rudely undertaken against us. I have searched in vain, and I neither see nor know of anything, whether as regards the Lodges or the Grand Orient of France, of a nature to account for this deluge of invectives, or these denunciations before the civil power of our Order. Freemasonry has never deviated from the path it has marked out for itself. It has always maintained that it was unworthy of it to engage in the struggles of party, and regulating its actions in accordance with its principles, it has always confined itself within the lofty and serene sphere of a generous philosophy, the ruling spirit of which is love of humanity. By all means let Masons in their character of citizens have this or that conviction, let them enrol themselves under this or that banner, and give expression to their views in their private assemblies, or by their writings,—what matters it? They are citizens, they are free, it is their right. But when they meet in the Lodge as Masons, then it is important the Masonic constitutions should be scrupulously observed, that Masonic principles should be rigorously acted upon; in a word, that only Masonic questions should be discussed and determined. It is at the very time, when this ambiguous charge has been designedly urged against us in public by means of the press, and which consists in confounding the moral being of the Lodge with the political or private conduct of some of its members, that we are represented as conspirators, unceasingly sapping the foundations of society, plotting the overthrow of all civil and religious authority, and seeking in our Lodges, under the mask of a cold and passionless course of inquiry, the means for perpetrating the most horrible crimes. Nothing is further removed from the truth; deceit and injury are the weapons of those who are embarked in an unholy cause. Silence should be our only answer, were there not the risk that these lying assertions at length find credit, and get propagated; and thus we should become the victims of this terrible conspiracy against an institution, the noblest, the most honourable, the most worthy of consideration, esteem, and respect. At Basle, we protested with all the force of which we were capable against these calumnies; and we shall protest always. But, my Brethren, side by side with these protestations which issue, in spite of ourselves, from our indignant souls, we have a certain line of conduct to follow, if we would pass, with any chance of safety, the crisis that is before us, and permit me to explain this duty to you in a few words: as citizens, moderation, prudence, respect for established laws, and confidence in the future; as Masons, passive obedience to the Constitution we have sworn to uphold, and the most scrupulous regard for our statutes and regulations.

It was with a view to put down any possible violation of Masonic law, a violation which under present circumstances would prove so dangerous, not only to the Lodge that might have committed, but also to the whole Order, that the Council demanded of you that it should be armed with sufficient powers. Well, in thanking that body for its solicitude, let us here solemnly bind ourselves to prove, by our acts, that its fears were groundless, that not one among us, nay, not one, is tempted to foolishly compromise the sacred interests of our beloved Masonry, and never, be the circumstances what they may, to expose ourselves to the accusations of our adversaries by deviating from our strict line of duty, or from the obligation we have contracted.

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Ah! my Brethren, have we not a sufficiently wide field for our studies, our researches, and our labours? Are you unmindful that the care of humanity should be our constant preoccupation; that so long as the voice of the cannon thunders forth its commands throughout the world, and war cuts off human beings by thousands, so long will there be sufferings to administer to, ignorant to instruct, vices to eradicate; so long as the moral and intellectual level of mankind is not as high as we wish it to be, so long shall we have to labour unceasingly? Is it not enough, then, that you have before you this overwhelming task, to which generations of men have devoted themselves, which will last out your lifetime without attaining its completion, and which our descendants in future ages will still carry on? Let us not, then, I beseech you, quit our proper sphere of action; and if we have to combat for our colours, for our principles of liberty, and the enfranchisement of human reason, let it be without passion as without weakness, let it be the performance of a Duty impressed upon our conscience, nothing less, yet nothing more.

I speak of combat. Is it not strange that we should be forced to pronounce this hated word, we who profess for all mankind the deepest love? Ah! forsooth, this combat, we have not sought it, we have given no provocation to our implacable and eternal foes. It is they, the enemies of liberty and of freedom; it is they, the partisans of slavery, as their aim, and of ignorance as the means, who have entered into the contest with such unheard of violence. Summoned by our principles to defend that liberty of conscience which our forefathers have conquered from clerical despotism, can we, I ask you, lay down our arms and quit the field of battle? Further, have we not been directly accused? Do you not bear in mind that burning philippic which recently emanated from a man of eminence in that party which ardently wishes for our death?

Defence then is legitimate, and we will defend ourselves by all possible means, at the same time keeping within the limits which the laws of the State and Masonry impose upon us. We shall enter into no religious controversy—Article 2 of our constitutions forbids it; but we shall set forth the principles of our philosophy, of our morality: and the country, and, may I not say, the whole world shall decide which are they who, be it among them or us, enjoy a greater community of ideas, and are more completely in harmony with those who of old, on the shores of the Lake of Tiberias or Genesareth, substituted for the law of hatred which ruled the ancient world this law of love and of freedom.

These provocations to the struggle have afflicted, but not surprised me. Our adversaries find before them, in the accomplishment of their unholy mission, an invincible obstacle, and one before which they will utterly break down if they succeed not in crushing it. This is Human Reason, which the philosophers of last century emancipated by instructing and elevating it, and by instilling into it its rights and its duties. It is this they proscribe and insult, and which they would annihilate. But we who lay it down that without this Reason there is nothing but error, deceit, or fanaticism; we who hold that, from the day it is annihilated, there will be an end once and for all to the dignity of manhood, this Reason that is thus cursed, we defend it, and will defend while there is a breath of life left in us.

There, my brethren, is the true cause of those accusations which are launched against us. In order to give their charges a semblance of justice, they pretend that Freemasonry means atheism; they represent us as the sworn enemies of all religious faiths. It is in vain we have pointed out to them that, were this the case, we should be, as they are, sworn to intolerance; that, on the contrary, we respect the opinions, faith, and religious convictions of all our brethren, in the name of that liberty of conscience which forms the motto of our Order; that in order to avoid clashing with each other, and never to disturb that harmony which should exist among us, all discussions of this character are rigorously forbidden in our Lodges, and scrupulously respected; that if Freemasonry professed any religion it would be its duty to give it full effect, and that thus it would violate our grand principle of liberty; that it should be lay, but not atheist, and that the confusion between these terms, so essentially different from each other, is a defect of logic and of good faith. Vainly have we answered all these things; they will not listen, and it is to be feared they never will consent to listen to this language of common sense and of reason.

Our conscience, sole judge of all our actions, imposes on us the obligation in these grave circumstances of rising to the height of our duty. Indeed, I am not very far from the conviction that this warfare, this persecution may, perhaps, in the end, be of service to our Order. Danger not uncommonly reawakens the listless, excites devotion, arouses in the mind a greater activity, and in the soul, a greater enthusiasm. We no longer live, thank God, in days when thousands upon thousands of men pay with dear life for the crime of heresy, that is to say, for the revolt of reason against the despotism of a religious sect. Resistance in these days is less dangerous, but were it dangerous, is it for us to hesitate? Already I see men who have attained eminence by their character, their talents, and the services they have rendered to science and their country, coming to us, and seeking admission into our temples. This is a feature that must certainly strike you, and cause you to indulge in the firm hope of approaching triumph. When allies of such worth come and ask of their own free will, and actuated by an impulse, of which they may well be proud, to fight under the banner of Masonry, we have the right to say boldly, and with head erect, that our cause is that of right, of truth, of eternal justice, since it is embraced by those who have made justice and truth the constant aim of all their efforts and labours.

A modern philosopher, Herbert Spencer, in the course of his remarkable work, *Introduction to Social Science*, makes use of a comparison, the justice of which has struck me, and which I will make known to you, because it tells its own tale, and is applicable to our present situation. When a man undertakes to ascend a lofty mountain, in order that, as an artist, he may feast his eyes on the grand and majestic beauties of nature, at first he sets out, alert and joyous, satchel on his back, stick in hand. But the hours pass; his pace slackens, the ascent becomes more difficult; by degrees his strength is exhausted, his enthusiam evaporates, and he sits on a rock fatigued, ready to abandon his project, discouraged by the incessant difficulties and numberless obstacles which, at each instant, beset his path. All of a sudden he pulls himself together, he marks the distance he has accomplished, he sees that he has traversed more than half the route, and that the summit is not as distant as he had at first supposed; hope returns to him, he finds fresh strength to put himself once again on the road, and, thinking of the ideal pleasure which awaits him, he makes a final effort and attains the summit. We also, my brethren, have our mountain to scale, at the summit of which is found the realisation of our wishes and the limit of our labours. It is long since we undertook this trying journey, and from all appearances, it will last yet a long time. But is it the right moment to abandon the struggle, when the dangers are more formidable and more pressing, when there is greater need of calmness and presence of mind, of daring and energy, when we should exert to the utmost all the strength we possess? Is this the moment for us to give in? Certainly not. Let us turn a glance behind us, let us measure the distance that has been traversed, the difficulties that have been surmounted, and let us bear in mind that each step brings us nearer to our goal. Let us take heart, then; let us gird our loins, and forward!

My dear Venerables and Delegates, you are about to return to your respective Lodges. Hide not from our brethren the gravity of the present circumstances, reawaken their zeal, do battle with indifference, appeal to their feelings as Masons, if they be so in reality and in their hearts. It behoves us to marshal our ranks in order to meet the enemy which menaces modern civilization, and, as a consequence, our French Freemasonry, on the standard of which are inscribed the watch-words of humanity and progress.

Liberty, equality, fraternity, sacred triad, magic formula, which hast freed our fathers from the oppression of the despot, be ever present to our minds, direct our actions and our thoughts, enlighten our hearts, grant us the needful strength, and may we, by thy help, in a not distant future, prove victorious over our enemies, less for our own glory than for the happiness of mankind.

CARD 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, Euchre, &c., Mogul Quality 2½d per pack, 2s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

THE half-yearly meeting of the Governors of this Institution will be held on Thursday, the 11th November, for the purpose of transacting the ordinary business, the election of two pupils from the list of candidates hereunder, and also for the election of the Honorary Officers and Committee for the ensuing year. The rules as to the election of pupils are briefly:—That no candidate shall be under nine or over eleven years of age on the day of election; all elections shall be by voting papers; no candidate who has been three times on the voting papers, and not, on any occasion, obtained twenty votes, shall be again put forward as a candidate; vice patrons (donors of £60) are entitled to nine votes for each vacancy, and two extra votes for each additional £10; vice-presidents (donors of £30) to three votes for each vacancy and two extra votes for each £1; life governors (£10) and annual governors (£1) to one vote for each vacancy, and one extra for each additional £10 or £1 respectively. An official governor, who is also a governor in his own right, may vote in both capacities. Voting papers are to be sent in by the 4th November.

PARTICULARS AS TO CANDIDATES.

No.	Name of Applicant	Age next birthday	No. of Father's Lodge	Held at	Years subscribing to Lodge	Votes forward
1	Ballantine Wills	11	88	Belfast	4	64
2	Blundell Thomas H.	12	308	Ballymahon	9 Mo.	29
3	Gill George H.	11	73	Limerick	2	87
4	Harvey Francis W.	11	935	Wexford	7	16
5	Hitchcock George S.	10	6	Dublin	20	—
6	Irwin Herbert K.	10	102	Lifford	5	—
7	Leggett John A.	10	197	Dundrum	14	—
8	Little William S.	11	158	Hollymount	*	232
9	Mathews Charles L.	12	431,205	Ballymena	*	122
10	Robinson Alexander	12	197	Dundrum	*	42
11	Welsh James M.	13	77	Newry	3	—

* Not stated.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

A GENERAL meeting of the Governors will be held at the School House, on Tuesday, 7th December, for the purpose of transacting the ordinary business, for the election of the Honorary Officers and Committee for 1876, and for the election of four out of eight candidates. The rules for the election of pupils are:—That all elections shall be by voting papers; no candidate shall be under seven or over twelve years of age; only two sisters shall be in the School at the same time, and the second shall not be elected till one year after the election of the first; no child who has been thrice on the voting papers, and not received more than twenty votes, on any occasion, shall be again brought forward; annual Governors (£1) and Life Governors (£10), shall have one vote for each vacancy, and one extra for each additional pound or ten pounds; officers of Lodges or Chapters who are] both officially and in their own right governors, may exercise their privileges in both capacities. Voting papers are to be sent in by the 30th November.

PARTICULARS AS TO CANDIDATES.

No.	Name of Applicant	Age next Birthday	No. of Father's Lodge	Held at	Years subscribing to Lodge	Votes forward
1	Anketell Ida F.	10	131	Mullingar	*	585
2	Bradburne Laura	11	12,525	Dublin	11¼	—
3	Burdge Truella L.	14	14	Galway	5	76
4	Cullinan Lilla J.	9	60	Ennis	1¼	—
5	Hall Mary L.	12	291	Stewartstown	*	383
6	Hendley Florence	9	242	Boyle	31	464
7	Kewley Eliza J.	10	212	Castletown	5¼	171
8	M'Intyre Margaret	12	642	Kilkenny	*	407

* Particulars not supplied.

FELTOE AND SONS' (27 Albemarle Street, W., late of Conduit Street) "Spécialité" Sherry is a very pleasant light wine, with no heat; a real vinous flavour, which, unlike that of the majority of wherries at low prices, leaves an impression on the palate of belonging to a real wine. . . . . It is exceedingly pleasant to the eye; the taste is soft, round, and not acid; the flavour is vinous and dry, without any suggestion of artificial bitterness. We have no doubt that as a moderately stimulating accessory to the meal of a patient suffering from atonic dyspepsia it would be valuable.—*Medical Times.*

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY AT WHITEHAVEN.

THE annual Convocation of the Sun, Square and Compasses Chapter, No. 119, Whitehaven, was held at Freemasons' Hall, College-street, on Wednesday, 13th October. The Chapter was opened by M.E.Z. Comp. John Barr, E. Fearon H. and John Bowes P.Z., &c., as J., assisted by Comps. W.B. Gibson P.Z., Kenworthy P.Z., and James Porter P.Z., No. 327, Wigton, after which the remainder of the Comps., an unusually large number, were admitted. Several candidates were balloted for and afterwards exalted by the M.E.Z., the Historic Lecture being delivered by Comp. E. Fearon. After some routine business had been disposed of, Comp. W. B. Gibson P.Z., in the name of the Chapter, presented to the M.E.Z. a handsome gold P.Z.'s jewel, which bore the following inscription: "Presented to M.E. Comp. Barr in recognition of his invaluable service as M.E.Z. of the Sun, Square and Compasses Chapter, No. 119. October 13th 1875."

The M.E.Z. then called upon E. Comp. John Bowes P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., West Lancashire, to take the chair as Installing Principal, who Installed the Principals, and invested the officers as follow:—Comps. John Barr re-elected Z., E. Fearon H., W. Sandwith J., John Tickle S.E., W. Armstrong S.N., E. Tyson P.S., J. M'Kelvie Treas., John Rothery and W. F. Lamonby Asst. Sojs., and W. Corrie Janitor. On the conclusion of the ceremony, E. Comp. W. B. Gibson P.Z., said they were in the habit of according to their kind Comp. Bowes annually a vote of thanks, but he had an addition to propose on that occasion; it was that, in consideration of the great assistance afforded by E. Comp. Bowes to the Chapter for a long time past, he be elected an honorary member for life. This proposition was seconded by Comp. Fearon, supported by Comp. Tickle S.E., and unanimously agreed to. The Chapter then voted ten guineas to the Boys' School. The business of the Chapter being concluded, the Comps. adjourned to the banqueting-room, where an elegant repast awaited them. The chair was occupied by the M.E.Z. Comp. Barr, supported on the right and left by Comps. W. B. Gibbon P.Z., Jas. Porter P.Z., E. Tyson P.S., John Bowes P.Z., &c., Kenworthy P.Z., M'Kelvie Treas. The cross tables were presided over by Comps. Tickle and Armstrong. The chairman proposed the usual loyal toasts.

Comp. Bowes then proposed "The three Grand Principals of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England," and in doing so referred to each individually, and said that with such chiefs they had every reason to be proud of that, the highest order of recognised Freemasonry. Comp. W. B. Gibson P.Z., proposed "the M.E.Z. Comp. John Barr." He said they were all deeply indebted to their M.E.Z. for the zeal and ability with which he had managed to work the Chapter, and therefore it was the unanimous desire of the members that he should retain the position another year.

The M.E.Z., in responding, said that he was deeply indebted to the Companions for their kindness. He assured them that it was no easy task to master the ceremonial part of his labour; that he had succeeded was owing in no small degree to the untiring exertions of their Preceptor, Comp. Bowes.

Comp. Pagen proposed "The Second and Third Principals and Officers of Chapter No. 119." He said he could not but echo the feelings of regret expressed by the M.E.Z., in Chapter, at the enforced absence of their worthy and E. Comp. Dr. Henry, H. elect. He had written from London to say how sorry he was that he could not be with them to receive the benefit of installation at the hands of his friend, Comp. Bowes, and they shared his sorrow, and sincerely hoped that his health, ere long, would be completely restored. He had great pleasure in proposing the toast, because he felt confident that the Chapter would be efficiently worked by their present staff.

Comps. E. Fearon, W. Sandwith, McKelvie, Tickle, Armstrong, Tyson and Rothery severally responded

Comp. McKelvie proposed "The P.Z.'s of Chapter No. 119." He said the age of their Chapter precluded them from having many P.Z.'s; but out of the small number, two were present, Comps. Gibson and Kenworthy, and two more worthy brethren and trusty Companions could not be found. Their zeal in the Masonic cause was well known and appreciated in the province. They were both Past Senior Wardens of the Province, and as they all knew, Comp. Gibson was at present Prov. G. Secretary, their interest in Masonry was unabated, and they, therefore, might congratulate themselves that they had their names on their muster roll.

Comp. Gibson thanked them heartily for the kind manner in which the toast had been proposed and received, and said Comp. McKelvie was not far wrong when he said his friend, Comp. Kenworthy, and himself took a warm interest in Masonry. Their engagements were frequent, and it afforded them great pleasure to undertake the duties which they were invited to discharge.

Comp. Kenworthy also responded, and expressed the great delight he experienced in witnessing the efficient manner in which their Chapter was worked. When they lost their friend and Comp., Capt. Mott, it occurred to him, when M.E.Z., that Comp. Bowes would take the Chapter under his care, and put it in working order. This desirable object had been achieved, and they rejoiced on all sides.

Comp. Fearon proposed "The Installing Principal, E. Comp. John Bowes, P.Z. P. Prov. G.S.B. West Lancashire, complimenting him upon the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony of the day. He said Comp. Bowes was always both ready and willing to impart instruction to those who required it. On reaching the town, the night before, he at once expressed a wish to meet the officers in the Chapter Room to talk about the work they had successfully completed that day. He had very great pleasure in proposing the toast.

Comp. Bowes, in responding, said that, having lived in the county, and some of his oldest friends still living in it, he was naturally attached to Cumberland. With respect to Freemasonry, he had been a "working" brother for many years; but he was one of those who did not wish to keep the work in his own hands. When he first visited their Chapter, which he did on the invitation of his old friend, Comp. Kenworthy, they could do little of themselves. He offered his services to any Comp. who desired instruction, and Comp. Barr

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came forward. What they had witnessed that day was a proof that they were both sincere. No one could have listened to the ceremony of exaltation without feeling that they were deeply indebted to the M.E.Z. for the labour he had bestowed upon the requirements of this office. He (Comp. Bowes) never remembered having a more apt pupil. He would only add that his best offices should always be at the disposal of the province. He was rejoiced to see that due care and oversight of Royal Arch Masonry was about to be inaugurated. A new Chapter was shortly to be consecrated at Kirby Lonsdale, with Lord Bective at its head, and then they might soon hope to see a Provincial Grand Chapter constituted. He thanked them very heartily.

Comp. Alsop proposed "The Principals, Officers and Members of Chapters in the Province," and coupled with it the name of Comp. James Porter P.Z., of Wigton, who responded. Comp. Kenworthy, in proposing "The Visiting Companions," said he had much pleasure in discharging that duty, as he should couple with it the names of two Cumberland men now resident in far distant climes, but who happened to be on a visit to the land of their birth.

Comps. George Glasse, of Victoria, Hong Kong, and John R. Smith, of Chicago, N.S. America, responded, and were warmly received. Comp. McKelvie proposed "The newly exalted Companions," and Comp. Cowman responded. Comp. Gibson proposed "The Masonic Charities," and in doing so alluded in gratifying terms to the recent election to the Boys' School of Robert Duff, of Silloth, due in a great measure to the active personal exertions on the spot of Comp. James Porter, with whose name the toast was coupled. Comp. Porter responded in a most interesting and instructive speech. Comp. Bowes asked permission to propose a toast not on the list. The officers had all been considered, but there was an unofficial member who, if they would excuse the parador, was always in office, and one to whom the Chapter was deeply indebted, he referred to Comp. White. The toast was heartily received.

Comp. White briefly responded. The Janitor's toast completed the list. During the evening a number of companions kindly favoured the company with songs, &c., under the able direction of Comp. Cooper Organist.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

A PROVINCIAL Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday last, under the banner of the Wentworth Lodge, No. 1239, and presided over by the R.W. Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., J.P., D.L., R.W.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield. The officers of the Wentworth Lodge opened the Lodge shortly before one o'clock, and soon afterwards the R.W.P.G.M., the W. Deputy Provincial G.M., and Provincial Grand Officers entered, and were received in due form. The meeting was a very large one, representatives being present from almost every Lodge in the Province, including the Mayors of several towns.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, after opening the Provincial Grand Lodge, said: Brethren,—In the first place, allow me to compliment the Wentworth Lodge for their preparations for the reception of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which has been held under the banner of the Wentworth Lodge for the first time. And I take the earliest opportunity of congratulating the brethren on the magnificent reception they gave to our M.W.G.M. of England in August last, and the remarkable manifestation of loyalty exhibited during the visit of our most illustrious Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and his amiable consort. Whilst I deeply regret the worshipful Mayor of Sheffield was not a member of our Craft, and that etiquette prevented an official recognition of Freemasonry, I am glad to be assured that the Craft is prospering to such an extent in Sheffield that it is proposed to enlarge and greatly improve the present Masonic Hall, and however much we feel grateful for the loan of the present building for this great gathering I trust we may soon meet in premises dedicated solely to Freemasonry in this most important centre of industry. Brethren, I thank you for your salutation. The great gathering I see before me on this occasion shows the interest manifested by you all in the Masonic affairs of the province, and trust that under my leadership the principles of Freemasonry may be upheld with the same consistency with which they were advocated by my distinguished predecessor, the Marquis of Ripon, and his able deputy, Bro. Bentley Shaw. It must be a matter of congratulation to this province that it has been enabled to command, this year, considerable accession of voting power at the Charity elections. Notwithstanding the numerous losses it has sustained through death, West Yorkshire alone has made the munificent contribution to our three great Charities of £2,000. This amount has been subscribed by 174 brethren only, so that there are something like 2,000 brethren in the province who have not directly helped our Charity Committee. Brethren, I must still say, what the Marquis of Ripon repeatedly told you, viz., that he always saw the old names on the subscription lists year after year; and I, like him, am naturally anxious that our subscriptions should be collected from those in the province forming the majority, and not left to the few. With 58 candidates for the Boy's School and only ten vacancies, with 30 applications for the Girls' School and only six vacancies, West Yorkshire should do more in the future than what has been done in the past, if it means to be successful with its own orphans. West Yorkshire was never in such difficulty as it has been in this October election. Had not the greatest efforts been made among the brethren, there was little hope of carrying even one girl. These efforts, however, has resulted in the election of the two girls, and one boy also has got in. For this we have to thank our Bro. Thomas William Tew D.P.G.M.; Bro. Thomas Hill, Chairman of our Charity Committee; Bro. H Smith, our Provincial Grand Secretary; and Bro. Simpson, of St. Oswald's Lodge, who acted as a scrutineer. With respect to the collection of voting papers, there is still great room for improvement. On the 5th October Provincial Grand Secretary Bro. Smith wrote to my deputy, Bro. Tew, that 1,800 boys' and girls' votes had still to come in, and on Saturday, the 9th October, and Monday, the 11th, the fate of our candidates was sealed. Henceforth, I beg and entreat all the brethren when they receive these voting papers to sign and send them back to our Provincial Grand Secretary without the loss of a single post. It has never been the object of Freemasonry to degenerate into a mere benefit society, or become a club in the popular acceptation of the term; and as admissions into Freemasonry are greatly on the increase I do earnestly impress on the Masters of Lodges Bye-laws 47 and 48 of this Provincial Grand Lodge with reference to joining brethren, and to the initiation of new candidates. This Province cannot be to particular who it initiates and who it receives. There are Lodges in the provinces which are Clubs and Lodges. I need hardly tell you it is necessary for the interests of Freemasonry that these Masonic Clubs should conform strictly to the law of the land, and whatever the hour of closing be in populous towns, these clubs and Lodges should close at that hour too. By extending Lodge gatherings to unstatutory hours, Freemasonry is liable to be brought into disrespect and disrepute. Lodges should be colleges for the purpose of operative and speculative Freemasonry, and for the inculcation of morality and philosophy, and not clubs for recreation alone. Since I last had the honour of addressing this Provincial Grand Lodge my indefatigable Deputy, Brother Tew, has consecrated two new Lodges. One of them has set a good example of charity by endowing two of its chairs for the Girls' School; and the other regrets, for the present, it has not a private room away from the public-house at which to hold its meetings, and in which the furniture could remain in its place without being taken away after every meeting. This is a sentiment in the right direction, and I and my deputy earnestly desire that every Lodge in West Yorkshire should soon have private rooms of its own. I cannot conclude my remarks, brethren, without referring with deep sorrow to the loss we have sustained by the death of Bro. Freeman, of Huddersfield, who rendered most valuable assistance in the revision of our P.G. Bye-laws. Bro. Jonas Hill has also been taken away from us. You will regret to hear that Bro. Thomas Hill contemplates resigning his chairmanship of our Charity Committee next April. We hope, however, he will reconsider his determination. We sincerely hope so; we really cannot spare him. I have only to add that I trust the discussions which may arise from the business before us will receive that impartial attention which is justly due to a Congress of this kind. (The R.W.P.G.M. was repeatedly cheered during the delivery of his address, and resumed his seat amidst loud applause.)

The rolls having been called, and the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, holden at Dewsbury in July last, confirmed,

An important discussion arose on a motion, of which notice had been given, by Bro. J. Cawthorn P.M. 458, P.P.G.A.P., "That this Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire take into consideration the necessity of thoroughly investigating the management and expenditure of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to the end that a more economic system of collecting and dispensing the funds of this Institution may be arrived at, so that candidates who from time to time are excluded from its benefits by reason of the present system may, by a more judicious and less expensive management, be enabled to participate in the benefits of the Charity." The motion was carried after an animated discussion, as it was generally considered that the cost per head for the education and maintenance of the children did not in figures compare advantageously with the cost in other educational establishments of a similar kind. At the same time the idea of imputing anything irregular to the House Committee or Managers of the Institution was distinctly disclaimed. Indeed, such an investigation, it was believed, would be for the good of the Institution itself, would tend to secure its stability, and would ensure to it the brethren's confidence and support, which were at the present time to some extent shaken by the statements in circulation. It was resolved, on motions by Bro. the Rev. E. B. Chalmer P.P.G.C., and Bro. J. Cawthorn P.P.G.A.P., that, for the purpose of making the desired investigation a committee of twelve be appointed, to consist of six members of the Charity Committee, and six independent members to be named by the R.W.P.G.M., and that they report the result of their inquiries at the next Provincial Grand Lodge.

It was resolved, on the motion of Bro. W. H. Gill P.M. 1019 P.P.G. Reg., that the sum of one hundred pounds be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, and that the sum of one hundred guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at the respective Festivals in 1876.

After the transaction of some other business, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

A banquet was then held in the Cutlers' Hall, the R.W.P.G.M. presiding. There was a large attendance, and the proceedings were of a most enjoyable character. The toasts were as follow:—The Queen, M.W.G.M.E. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales K.G. &c. &c., R.W.P.G.M.E. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Officers and Past Officers of Grand Lodge, R.W.P.G.M.W.Y. Lieut-Col. Sir Henry Edwards Bart. J.P. D.L., W.D.P.G.M., Bro. T. W. Tew J.P., and the Officers and Past Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, P.G.C., and our Clerical Brethren, the Masonic Charities, W.M.'s and P.M.'s of Lodges, and the Visiting Brethren.—*Sheffield Daily Telegraph.*

A crowded meeting of residents of Nine-elms and the neighbourhood was held yesterday evening, for the purpose of taking measures to free Vauxhall and other metropolitan bridges from toll. It was stated that the sum necessary to make Vauxhall-bridge open to the public would be £42,000, which ought to be granted by the Government, and its future maintenance should be divided between the counties of Middlesex and Surrey. A petition to this effect to the Chief Commissioner of Works was adopted.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the *Editor of* THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A pamphlet, signed "T. W. Tew and O. G. D. Perrott," reached me on Saturday, and has, I believe, been very widely circulated. To reply to it in your columns is impossible, but I hope you will allow me to ask your readers not to accept as truthful the accusations with which this unique production is replete. The twin authors are pleased to describe my case "as very weak," but, judging from the numerous notices and personal expressions I have received and heard, such is certainly not the general opinion. The pamphlet under notice reiterates the charges in the first (by Mr. Tew), which have been proved to be groundless—and adds others which have about the same foundation as the former. Let one instance suffice. At page 29, portentous prominence is given to the case of "James Gasson," the palpably evident construction being that the second record of a grant of £10 is not only a duplicate record, but increased to £10 for the purpose of fraud. The facts are—On 4th May 1872, Gasson received a grant of £5, for the usual outfit given on leaving the school. He could not find employment for some months, when Mr. Jackson, Watchmaker, Bethnal-green (that is "the lad's employer's name" as given), offered to receive him as an apprentice, on condition that the sum of £10 could be found. The boy being an orphan, and entirely friendless, I brought his case before the General Committee, who kindly made a grant of £10—£5 to be paid at commencement of his time, and £5 at the expiration of a year. This simple explanation could have been afforded, if asked for, but such a simple course of fair play is not understood by the pamphleteers in question. Equally easy of explanation is every other accusation so unjustly charged, and equally susceptible of solution is every apparent difficulty to which allusion is made.

In drawing attention to my salary, it is stated that I receive "£581 9s 6d, besides commissions and other remuneration." The £81 9s 6d was spent in the service of the Institution, and was money out of pocket, allowed under well-considered rule. What is intended by "commissions" is a base and unfounded calumny. What is meant by "other remuneration," I have not the slightest idea.

With the characteristics of the late Head Master I am so thoroughly acquainted that I feel no surprise whatever at his share in this "Reply to the Secretary," and if Mr. Tew elects to associate himself with him he must be content to accept the consequences.

I have a right to complain that these charges and accusations have been sown broadcast, based as they are on assumptions treated as facts without any opportunity for explanation. Condemnation has preceded enquiry, the old English maxim reversed, and officials are deemed as guilty until proved to be innocent. In fact, the motto of these specimens of Masonic practice is, "Try first and hang afterwards." This is apparent from "par. 6, page 3, second edition" (altered from par. 6 in first edition), which runs:—

"*We* demand the appointment of a new Committee, the dismissal of the Secretary and Matron, *and a thorough investigation.*" Have the latter, by all means, if wished and deemed advisable; but pray let it precede, not follow, the *sus. per coll.* of the Committee, the Matron and myself.

It is just possible that of the thousands who so generously support the Institution, there may be some whose views are not those of "T. W. Tew and O. G. D. Perrott."

Surely, if I write somewhat strongly, the contents of this pamphlet fully justify my doing so, and I appeal to the Governors and Subscribers of the School for a fair field and no favour.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,
Yours faithfully and fraternally,
FRED. BINCKES, Secretary.

19th October 1875.

[We have received a copy of the Pamphlet referred to in the above letter. We had hoped to have taken notice of it in this issue, but the pressure on our space is such that we must defer our remarks till next week.—ED. F. C.]

REVIEWS.

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

1.—*The Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George. A Review of Modern Impostures, and a Sketch of its true History.* By His Imperial Highness the PRINCE RHODOCANAKIS. In two parts. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1870.

2.—*Reply to a Criticism in the Saturday Review on the Imperial House of Rhodocanakis.* Westminster: Nichols and Sons, 25 Parliament-street. 1870.

ALTHOUGH it is somewhat late in the day, we readily give publicity to this dispute between the claims of the Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George and the Masonic Red Cross Order, as we think our readers should have information upon this branch of Masonry, and the discussion which has been inaugurated thereupon by the present Grand Master Mason of Greece.

Some of our readers will be aware that, outside the degree of Master Mason, there is a Chivalric fraternity which has existed in this country for sixty or seventy years, called the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, the ceremonials of which claim that it was instituted by Constantine the Great for those Masons who aided him in his war against Maxentius, which gave him eventually the throne of Constantinople. A few years ago this degree was revived in London, and a new claim to represent the State Order of the Byzantine Empire was added, with an assertion in the statutes that the degree had been planted here by the Abbé Giustiniani, whilst acting in London as Venetian Ambassador.

In the first chapter of the first part of the *Review* the Prince Rhodocanakis completely disposes of the Masonic Red Cross Order as having the slightest pretensions to derivation from the Byzantine State Order; and in the second chapter he ably disposes of the "Anzoli" claims, and the alleged Grand Mastership of Giovanni Andria Angelo Flavio Comneno, whom Pope Innocent XIII. and his relative, Francis Farnèse, set up to make a sale of the most ancient Order in Christendom. The Prince adds:—

"Thus terminated an intrigue, remarkable in the history of popular deception, by which the historian already referred to, and probably one of its supporters, was nominated a Grand Cross—not, indeed, as he would have us believe, of the true Byzantine Order, but of its *imitation*, concocted between the puppet Angelus himself, and the house of Farnèse."

In the second part of the work the Prince goes on to explain the descent of his House from Nicephorus Ducas, King of Rhodes (914-929)—who descends from the father of Constantine the Great—and the subsequent marriage of H.R.H. Prince Demetrius Rhodocanakis with Theodora Palæologina (b. 1594, m. 1614, d. 1665), heiress of the Byzantine Empire, from which marriage his House derive their chief title to the Order in question.

In the *Reply*, Prince Rhodocanakis, Appendix A, gives a list of fifty-three works from A.D. 1546, "in which the Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George is noticed and recognised as the first Order in Christendom." In Appendix B a list of twelve works from A.D. 1496, "in which the House of Rhodocanakis is duly mentioned and recognised." In Appendix C a list of works from A.D. 1600, "in which members of the family of Rhodocanakis appear as authors." Appendix D contains "Extracts from Byzantine Historians, in which the attempt to seize the Crown of the Byzantine Empire by Constantine Ducas in A.D. 913, the nomination of his brother, Nicephorus Ducas, as King of Rhodes, and the origin of the House of Ducas and Rhodocanakis are fully recorded."

The discussion brought the Masonic Red Cross Order to close quarters, and caused the issue of the following document:—

"TO all members of the Masonic Order, known as the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, and to all others whom it may concern.

WHEREAS the Masonic Order, now known as the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine (hereafter concisely called the Red Cross Order), has been recently revived in England, and occupies a prominent position as a chivalric branch of the great fraternity of Freemasons; and WHEREAS discussions have arisen whether the Red Cross Order has or has not any alliance with the ancient Chivalric Order known as the Constantinian Order of St. George, and as it is expedient that such discussions shall be terminated by a declaration of the claims of the Red Cross Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas Taylour, commonly called Earl of Bective (Lord Kenlis), the Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross Order, do hereby, for myself, and on behalf of the Council of the said Order, signify and declare as follows:—

THAT the Order of the Red Cross does not claim, or proposes to have, any connection with the ancient public Order of Knighthood known as the Imperial Constantinian Order of Saint George.

THAT the Red Cross Order claims to be a revived branch of the Masonic brotherhood which formed part of the system of the Baron Hünde in or about the year 1750, and which has since been working in England under various auspices until the establishment of a Grand Council of the Order in or about the year 1796.

THAT the Order as now conferred is, with certain modifications, the same as that over which the late Duke of Sussex presided from 1813 to 1843.

THAT the Red Cross Order claims to be a chivalric institution of Freemasonry for reception into which the degree of a Master Mason is a necessary qualification.

THAT the above articles were approved at a meeting of the Council of the Order holden at Freemasons' Tavern, London, on Friday, the 19th May 1871.

(Signed) BECTIVE,
Grand Sovereign.

L.S.

A true copy.
(Signed) R. WENTWORTH LITTLE,
G. Recorder.

London, 29th May, 1871.
To His Imperial Highness
The Prince Rhodocanakis, of Scio,
Knight Grand Cross of the Constantinian Order of St. George,
&c., &c., &c.
The Clarendon Hotel, New Bond-street, London."

We may add, for the information of our readers, that about the date mentioned in this Red Cross document there was a degree called the Red Cross of Babylon, which is very similar to the English Royal Arch Degree; but that we have as yet seen no satisfactory evidence which will connect the "Masonic Red Cross of Rome and Constantine" with Hünde's Rite, or, indeed, any of its offshoots, and that, in all probability, it has no history in this country much beyond the time of its Grand Master, Judge Waller Rodwell Wright, in 1811. When the Templar degree began to be popular in this country it was the fashion of Finch, and other lecturers, to invent degrees embodying the claims of all the ancient Chivalric Orders of Christendom; and the absence of the "Red Cross of Rome and Constantine" from foreign Rites would favour the supposition that the birth-place of the Order is England. We should be pleased to receive any proofs of higher antiquity.

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,
IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By Bro. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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HAYMARKET. — At 7.30, SPRING GARDENS, and MARRIED IN HASTE.

LYCEUM.—At 7.0, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, TURN HIM OUT, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY, and THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS.

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STRAND.—At 7.0, THE DOCTOR'S BROUGHAM, KIND TO A FAULT, and FLAMINGO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD, and Mr. GATHERWOOL.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, A CONJUGAL LESSON. At 7.45, ALL FOR HER, and THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE, and THE BRIGANDS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—MONEY.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, MY WIFE'S OUT, at 8.15, LA PERICHOLE and TRIAL BY JURY.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, A TEMPTING BAIT, at 8.15, PROOF POSITIVE.

CRITERION.—At 8, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK. At 9.30, FLEUR DE THE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.

PHILHARMONIC.—LES GEORGIENNES, THE ZOO, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, OPERA, BICYCLE CONTEST, &c. On Monday, BANQUET and FETE, in commemoration of the Balaklava Charge, CONCERT, FIREWORKS, &c. On Tuesday, OPERA. Open daily.

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MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Half-yearly Meeting of the Governors will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on THURSDAY MORNING, the ELEVENTH of NOVEMBER 1875, to transact the ordinary business, to receive the Report of the Scrutineers of the Ballot for the Election of TWO PUPILS from the approved list of Candidates, and to elect the Honorary Officers and Committee for 1876.

Breakfast on the table at half-past eight o'clock precisely.

Brethren becoming Governors on or before Thursday, the 4th of November, will be entitled to vote.

By Order, SAMUEL R. OLDHAM, *Assistant Secretary.*

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

NOTICE is hereby given that a General Meeting of the Board of Governors will be held at the School House, on TUESDAY MORNING, the SEVENTH day of DECEMBER, 1875, to transact the ordinary business, to elect the Honorary Officers and Committees of the School for 1876, and to receive the Report of the Scrutineers of the Ballot for the Election of FOUR PUPILS from the List of approved Candidates.

Breakfast on the table at half-past eight o'clock precisely.

Brethren becoming Governors on or before Tuesday, the 30th day of November, will be entitled to vote. By Order, SAMUEL R. OLDHAM, *Assistant Sec.*

FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE voyage of the Prince of Wales continues, amid the warmest demonstrations of good wishes for a successful journey out and home. Quitting Brindisi on Saturday, he reached the Piræus on Monday, when King George of Greece went on board the yacht to received him, and conducted him to Athens. The Prince landed at a few minutes after noon, amid the salutes of various men of war in harbour. On disembarking the Prince entered a royal carriage with the King, and drove to the station, the people lining the route showing great enthusiasm. This was also the case when the party reached Athens and drove to the Palace; in the afternoon the Royal guest visited the Acropolis, and afterwards there was a state dinner. On Tuesday the event was the grand display of fireworks, and on Wednesday the King and Queen of Greece lunched with the Prince on board of the Serapis, his departure from harbour taking place in the evening. By this time doubtless he is well on his way to the Red Sea. A single *contretemps* has marked the journey thus far. The Serapis broke both cables in taking up her moorings, carrying away the bowsprit of the King of Greece's yacht, and nearly running foul of the Osborne. Happily the Hercules and Swiftsure brought her up in time and further damage was prevented. What in the name of fortune has befallen our navy that the vessel, on board which is the Prince of Wales, cannot take up its moorings without running a muck among the other vessels in harbour? There must be something rotten in the state of the navy when our ships of war and Serapises are so dangerous to each other.

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In commercial circles the great event of the last few days has been what is known as the repudiation by Turkey of sundry of its pecuniary obligations. We are not, as Masons, much concerned about matters of this kind, but it occurs to us that Turkey must be singularly blind not to see that in matters financial "honesty is the best policy." She has vast undeveloped resources, which even a small amount of energy would enable the Government to turn to good account, and then if she should want money again, she would experience no difficulty in obtaining it; now we fancy she will find it no light matter to raise the wind if occasion demand it.

There have been several speeches lately by members of Parliament. Mr. Russell Gurney, the Recorder of London, made the Admiralty Circular about fugitive slaves, now, however, withdrawn, the text of his address to a Working Man's Association at Southampton, and Sir Stirling Maxwell, after commenting on the work done during the past session, received a vote of confidence from his constituents. On Friday last the chief secretary for Ireland, Sir M. H. Beach, delivered a speech on Irish Education, on the occasion of the degrees being conferred by the Queen's University of London. Considering the strange manner in which the mob have been treating the Rev. Mr. O'Keeffe, it strikes us a little more education, with a view to a little more enlightenment, is imperatively necessary. But possibly the Roman Catholic hierarchy are not of the same mind. The Home Secretary, Mr. Cross, also addressed a Working Man's Association in Edinburgh, returning thanks for the address they had presented to him, and expressing his belief that the labour laws passed last session would prove very beneficial.

This week the Alexandra Palace has been the scene of a Poultry and Pigeon Show on an unprecedently large scale. The entries exceeded 2,500, and were ranged in 147 classes, of which 84 were poultry, and the rest devoted to pigeons. The show took place in the Great Central Hall, along which were placed rows innumerable of pens. The music was not what usually greets the visitors to this magnificent place of recreation. There was more of discord than harmony about it, but after all it was an agreeable kind of discord, and one with which most of us are familiar, only not to such an extent. The crowing, the cooing, the cackling of a few thousand poultry for a few hours was very exhilarating, but not as melodious as the symphonies and sonatas more generally heard within the walls of the Palace. But, this apart, the show was a grand success, most of the best known breeders contributed of their stock, and had the weather been other than it was, the exhibition must have been as financially successful as it was in all other respects. There were splendid specimens of Dorkings, coloured, silver-grey, white, &c., of Cochins, buff, partridge, white and black, of Brahmas both dark and light, of Houdans, Crêvecœurs, Polish, Hamburgs, Game, Bantams, with some representatives of geese, ducks and turkeys. To enumerate the many varieties of pigeons were almost impossible, but those who delight in these pretty birds must have been pleased with what they saw. We hope the attendance on Thursday, which, if not a brilliant, was at all events not wholly a rainy day, may have made some amends for the dulness of Tuesday and the extreme moisture of Wednesday. On Monday takes place the Balaklava Banquet when as many of the gallant "six hundred" as are yet alive and able to be present are invited to celebrate their gallant deed of arms. The directors, with their usual liberality, came forward when there seemed a chance of the project falling through, and placed the Palace at the disposal of the gallant fellows, who moreover are invited to bring their wives and sisters with them. Several of the officers who were present at the battle will also be present. Subscriptions are flowing in, and there seems every prospect of the celebration passing off most successfully. There is one point that strikes us as a little out of character. The artist, Miss Thompson, whose picture the Roll-Call chanced to be praised by the Prince of Wales, will honour the occasion with her presence. We look for modest retirement in ladies far more than we do in men, and we do not see how having painted one or two battle pieces raises her to the dignity of a public Institution. This kind of way in which a person's fame is dinned into the ears of the public, smacks a good deal of trade advertisement. However, it matters not, if the veterans enjoy themselves. As *Jupiter Pluvius* is no respecter of persons, we imagine the Great Harvest Festival that was fixed for Wednesday must have been a failure as regards attendance, whatever it may have been in other respects. Let us hope to-day will be bright and sunshiny, so that admirers of the winter promenade concerts may not be kept away.

Floods in various parts of the country appear to have become *current* news for every-day of the week. If the rains come down like this much longer we shall require a few immense sheds to be erected on the higher ground, so that when we swim to our friends in different neighbourhoods, we may be able to dress and undress with some degree of comfort. Or as the season is, just now, not particularly warm, we might take to paddling our own canoes to the doors of our friends, or of the theatres, concert rooms, or other temples of pleasure. Now is the time, when the country is partially under water, to think of erecting a National school for swimming. Let the gallant Captain Webb be installed Professor, with a well qualified staff of assistants. Teachers might be found, too, for the ladies, who would, doubtless, soon acquire the art under the able tuition of Miss Emily Parker and Miss Beckwith.

It seems as though our difficulty with China were likely to be settled—*tant mieux*. But the Chinese are a treacherous lot—*tant pis*. We shall consider the affair is settled, when the satisfaction is granted, but not till then. From Berlin we learn that the appeal of Count Arnim against the decision of the Court below has been affirmed by the Court above, with costs against the Count. While at home we have just lost an eminent and zealous Churchman, as well as great scholar, in the person of Dr. Hook, Dean of Chichester, we hear from Paris of the death of another eminent man, and one whose loss, as his reputation was more widely spread, will be more generally felt. We are referring to Professor Wheatstone, whose name in association with electric telegraphy has for years past been a household world. When men of this calibre die, their places are not easily or quickly refilled. The report of Professor Wheatstone's illness came upon us very suddenly, and caused general sorrow and anxiety when it was known in how critical a condition he was. On Tuesday the worst fears of his numerous friends were realised, and he died, as we have said, in Paris. The most fitting tribute of respect the country can render to his memory is to let him lie among our statesmen and poets, and men of science in the grand old Abbey at Westminster. From Copenhagen is announced the approaching visit of the King and Queen of Denmark, who will be accompanied by their daughter, the Princess Thyra. The visit will last, it is said, some four weeks, and will, doubtless, help to dissipate the comparative loneliness of the Princess of Wales during the absence of her husband in India. But perhaps the most noteworthy event we have to record from foreign parts is the visit of the Emperor of Germany to the King of Italy. This had long been talked of, but the illness of his Imperial Majesty proved more than once an obstacle in the way of its accomplishment. At last, however, the fates have been propitious, and Milan is, or rather till to day was, *en fête*. The reception of the Imperial guest was a grand success, and it appears to have produced a great impression on the visitor. We can hardly realise the emotions that must have passed through Victor Emmanuel's mind when he contrasted, as no doubt he must have done, the difference between Italy as it was in 1858 and as it is now—then a number of petty states — a mere "geographical expression" — Now a well-knit political body, increasing in strength and influence every year. To the late minister, Count Cavour, to his own firmness and loyalty, to the late Emperor of the French, and lastly to the King of Prussia, now his guest as Emperor of a consolidated Germany, is Italy indebted for its present condition of prosperity. All this no doubt occurred to the Milanese likewise, and those who flocked into their city from other parts of Italy, thus we readily understand how the reception accorded the German Emperor must have been more than usually demonstrative. Of the occurrences which signalised this auspicious event we need not speak, but incidentally we may remark that the Archbishop of Milan contrived to be absent from the grand banquet, owing to ill-health. The Carlist war is not yet ended; the insurrection against Turkish rule still slumbers on a feeble existence, and Prince Milan of Servia has been married. This is about enough in the way of budget as regards foreign matters, while at home there can be but little that is very exhilarating so long as this "demnition" moist weather prevails. While this lasts we are enjoying a perpetual wet blanket, not only round our necks but enveloping us entirely.

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The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln-inn-fields. Bro. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. in the chair, Bro. James Brett P.G.P. S.W., E. P. Albert Asst. G.P. J.W. Grants to the amount of £135, voted at the previous meeting, were confirmed. Twenty-four new cases were relieved, to the amount of £555. There were present —Bros. S. Rawson D.G.M. China, J. Savage P.G.D., S. May P.G.S., W. Smith P.G.S., T. Sabine P.G.S.B. Middlesex, C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., F. Binckes P.G.S., Secretary Boys' School, H. Garrod, W. Stephens, W. Mann, W. C. Parsons, C. Moody, C. E. Lacey, Keys, Reed, Bingemann, Hunt, Marsh, H. Dicketts P.G.S., Head P.G.S., Moore, Dilley, Baldwin, Lewis, G. Brown, Thurkle, Fry, W. Steward, Tomkins, Wood, Cobham, Austin, Voikins, Keays, Thompson, Vyse, H. M. Levy, J. Hervey G.S., H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, &c.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Watford, on Thursday, 28th October, at half-past three o'clock, for the installation of the Most Excellent Companion, Thomas Frederick Halsey, M.P., P.Z. 404, as Provincial Grand Superintendent, and for the transaction of the general business of the Province.

The contest between Bro. Sir John Bennett and Mr. George Swan Nottage for the Aldermanic gown of Cordwainers' Ward, vacant by the death of Bro. Alderman Paterson, has resulted in the defeat of the former by a majority of 31 votes. The poll opened at ten o'clock and closed at 4 p.m., the Lord Mayor, attended by his assessor, Mr. Orton, presiding during the whole of the six hours. The numbers were declared to be for Mr. Nottage 162, for Sir John Bennett 131.

Monday is fixed for the presentation to Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold of the Freedom of the City. A special Court of Council will be held for the purpose, and when the ceremony is over, His Royal Highness will be entertained at a *déjeûner*.

The following is the present constitution of the Grand Orient of Peru:—Grand Master, Bro. Dr. D. Blas José Alzamora, Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, Judge of the Supreme Court; Deputy Grand Master, Bro. J. Sanchez Sylva; First Grand Master, *adjoint*, Bro. Manuel Vargas Guimel; Second Ditto, Bro. Elizondo; Grand Secretary, Bro. Arthur M. Wholey; Treasurer, Bro. John Hern.—From *le Monde Maçonnique*.

On Tuesday, 2nd November, the 15 sections will be worked in the Faith Lodge of Instruction, No. 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, Westminster, by the members of the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Mander W.M. 1201 will preside on that occasion.

With deep regret we have to announce the death of Bro. David D. Bock. He was initiated in the Industry Lodge, No. 186. On the 25th February 1874 he was elected M.E.Z. of the Industry Chapter, and on Tuesday, the 19th inst., he was to have been installed. He was one of the founders of the St. John of Wapping Lodge, No. 1306, and was W.M. in 1872. He installed his successor, and was presented with a very valuable gold watch, and a gold P.M.'s jewel of the value of £10 10s. He died on the 13th, and was buried on the 19th inst., at Nunhead Cemetery, followed by a numerous circle of friends and brother Masons, by whom he was greatly respected and deeply regretted. He was 48 years of age, and leaves a sorrowing widow and 5 children, the eldest being 15 years of age.

Miss Emily Mott, a daughter of Bro. James Mott, who made a successful début some time since, announces her annual concert, which will take place at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, on 1st November. Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Miss Blanche Cole, Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Lewis Thomas will sing on that occasion.

The fifteen Sections would be worked in the Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860, on Tuesday, 26th inst., Bro Marx Gross in the chair. This Lodge meets at Bro. Allen's "Royal Edward," Triangle, Hackney.

THE DRAMA.

"Proof Positive" at the Opera Comique—"All For Her" at the Mirror.

"I KNOW the face, but I can't put a name to it," is the keynote to Mr. Burnand's play, at THE OPERA COMIQUE, of which theatre he has recently undertaken the charge. Hardly a sufficient foundation for a three act comedy, even though the defect of memory is carried to such an extent as to allow a man to mistake a strange lady for his wife, yet, out of this slender thread of an idea Mr. Burnand has, in some way or other, managed to construct a play. It is needless to say that a story of this kind, the whole point of which rests really on the self-conceit of a forgetful man, can excite no humour, interest, or sympathy. This fault is apparent in every work of Mr. Burnand's; he hits off the foibles of mankind with admirable cynicism; he has a very keen eye for the failings and frailties of his fellows, but there is a total want of sympathy between him and his public. One laughs always at, never with, Mr. Burnand's characters; they excite one's derision, never one's pity. It is impossible to get up any interest in the doings of a man who is so utterly idiotic as to mistake a strange lady for the wife from whom he has been divorced, and to imagine that, having been divorced in France, he has, under English law, committed bigamy in marrying again. The idea is one for burlesque, not for comedy. It is not only in conception, but also in execution, that Mr. Burnand has failed. What dramatic author, worthy of the name, would so construct his three act comedy as to bring its interest to a climax at the end of the second act? And yet this is precisely what Mr. Burnand has done, for, at the end of the second act, it becomes evident to everybody not a born idiot that the Mrs. Wellesley, whom Mr. Beckford mistakes for his first wife, cannot be anything of the kind, and the third act is occupied with the retangling of an unravelled skein. Of such workmanship as this it is impossible to speak in terms too strong. Mr. Burnand is, no doubt, very clever; at all events, one man thinks so, but he is not a dramatist. The piece serves to bring forward some old favourites, first and foremost of whom we welcome Miss Oliver, who plays Mrs. Wellesley with all her old brightness of style; and it also introduces to us two new friends, in the persons of Mr. George Clark, an American actor, whose distinguishing characteristic is self-confidence, and Miss Ada Lester, whose quiet and intelligent acting makes her an acquisition to a stage sadly deficient in actresses. To echo a suggestion from one of our contemporaries, could not the name of this theatre be changed? Even if Mr. Burnand were to call it "The Happy Thought," the name would be preferable to the ugly and inconvenient one which it at present bears.

It is no ordinary work that comes from the pen of Mr. Herman Merivale, who, in conjunction with Mr. J. Palgrave Simpson, has written the new play for THE MIRROR. In scholarship, in poetic sentiment, in dramatic feeling, his works stand out in welcome relief from the flashy comedies and the ridiculous sensation dramas, all real fire and real water, with which so many of our theatres are occupied. We have held, and shall always hold, that the mission of the stage is not to amuse only, but to ennoble the people, and we recognise with pleasure in Mr. Merivale a gentleman who both preaches and practises that doctrine. In seeing a play of Mr. Merivale's it is not only an intellectual treat that is afforded; he places us "in the company of wise and good men, to make us wiser and better than ourselves." The noblest thing on earth is self-sacrifice; "greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friend." This is the lesson which Mr. Merivale teaches us in *All for Her*; and although self-sacrifice is not fashionable now-a-days, the sight of it never fails to rouse admiration in the hearts of Englishmen. Hugh Trevor, a dissolute rake, the supposed bastard son of Lord Edardale, is in love with Lady Marsden, the affianced wife of his brother, the legitimate son. For her sake he destroys a certificate of marriage which would legitimise him and disinherit his brother; for her sake he submits to undeserved insults, to unmerited contempt; for her sake he makes the crowning sacrifice, and to save the man whom she loves takes his place on the scaffold. This is Mr. Merivale's simple and noble story; the thanks of all thinking play-goers are due to him for a play which is well constructed, well written, and possesses a powerful and healthy interest. Mr. Clayton can hardly be called a young actor; he has been long on the stage, and has, in his time, played many parts, but he has never had such an opportunity of displaying his ability as is afforded to him in the part of Hugh Trevor, and we are glad to be able to add that he makes the very utmost of his chances. The degraded spendthrift, ennobled by love, bearing in his face the signs of his true nobility, carrying on his body the rags of his disreputable life, receives ample justice at his hands. "Some day," Hugh Trevor says to Lady Marsden, "you shall know part of what the love of a fallen man can rise to; you will never know all." This is the kind of character which enlists in the highest degree the sympathies of an audience; a fallen man, raised to heights of heroism by the power of love. Mr. Clayton's performance of Hugh Trevor is by far the best thing which he has yet done. Miss Rose Coghlan merits high praise for her rendering of Lady Marsden. Nothing can give us greater pleasure than to record the success of such a play, thoroughly well written, well put on the stage, and admirably acted.

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 eccentric bills. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. Morgan, 47 Bartlett.—Advt.

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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, 23rd OCTOBER.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
1541—Alexandra Lodge, Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill.

SUNDAY, 24th OCTOBER.

84—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 25th OCTOBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
45—St. Paul's, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
46—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, Gateshead.
69—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
277—Hope and Charity, Lion Hotel, High-street, Kidderminster.
737—Wentworth, Town Hall, Wellingborough, Northampton.
869—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper's-street, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 26th OCTOBER.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
93—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
1253—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
169—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford.
197—Apollo University, Masonic Hall, Oxford.
473—Perseverance, Shenstone House, Hales Owen, Worcester.
1305—Hanover, 93 Everton-road, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 27th OCTOBER.

185—Confidence, White Hart, Aldersgate-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
197—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
204—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
211—Unity, Crewe Arms, Crewe.
253—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
286—Sondes, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.
1223—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High-street, Weston-super-Mare.
R. A. 196—Zetland, Masonic Hall, York.

THURSDAY, 28th OCTOBER.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
48—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Surrey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1421—Lanthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, E.
29—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
38—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
160—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
206—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
291—Downshire, 23 Hope-street, Liverpool.
297—St. Mary's, Bull Inn, Bridport.
671—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.
876—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
2146—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
Royal Arch Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire, Freemasons' Hall, Watford, at 3.30.
R. A. 766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.

FRIDAY, 29th OCTOBER.

1329—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1384—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—124—Scapatrick, Masonic Hall, Bridge-street, Banbridge, Co. Down.
" 196—St. Patricks's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—340—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—302—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 64 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—102—St. Mark, 213 Buchanan-street.
160—Union and Crown, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 219—Star, 13 Trongate.
" 543—Marie Stuart, Prince of Wales's-terrace, Crosshill.
" R. A. 152—Thistle, 26 St. James's-street.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
" R. A. 67—Cathedral, 52 Struthers-street.
" R. A. 73—Caledonian of Unity, 170 Buchanan-street.
WEDNESDAY—570—Marybill, 367 Main-street, Marybill.
114—Red Cross of Constantine, Buchanan-street.
THURSDAY—Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street.
" R. A. 117—Govan, Portland Hall, Govan.
FRIDAY—402—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 153—Royal Arch, Schoolroom, Pollokshaws.
" 347—St. John's Operative, Freemasons' Hall, Rutherglen.
SATURDAY—28—St. John Kilwig, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
" 205—St. John's Wood Hall, Freemasons' Hall, Maryhill.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, the "Hercules," Leadenhall-street, on Thursday evening last (21st Oct.) Present—Bros. Webb W.M., Ellis S.W., Blackhall J.W., Williams S.D., Parker J.D., Maidwell I.G., C. A. Grammer Hon. Sec., Austin P.M. Preceptor (pro tem), and numerous other brethren. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Livermore acting as candidate. The first, second and third sections of the third lecture were worked by Bro. Webb, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the first and second sections of the first lecture were worked by Bro. Horsley, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony. The fifteen sections will be worked next Thursday, 28th October, at 7 p.m.; the attendance of brethren on that occasion is invited.

Glasgow Chapter, No. 50.—This Chapter held its Installation meeting on Thursday, the 13th of October, at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. John Miller (re-elected) M.E.Z., Wm. Bell H., Jas. Louttit J., A Morrison Scribe E., W. Robinson N., P. Agnew Treasurer, Colin McKenzie 1st S., G. Gruile 2nd S., John Wright 3rd S., Daniel Leitch Superintendent of Works, R. Gardner Janitor. Visitors—Comps. F. A. Barrow P.G. Superintendent for Lanarkshire, A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G.S. Scribe E., T. Halket P.G.T., Jas. Balfour P.G. 1st S., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, E. Arthur N. 73. The Chapter having been duly opened, at the request of the M.E.Z., Comp. Wheeler proceeded to install the officers for the ensuing year, whose names are recorded above, for which he received the thanks of the Chapter. The deputation from the Provincial Grand Chapter were then admitted, the P.G.Z. congratulated the Chapter on the progress they were making, but expressed his regret that so few of the members attended the regular meetings; the Masonic life of a R. A. Mason seemed to be very short. Numbers joined, and then appeared to drop out of sight; he thought some steps ought to be taken to remedy this state of things. He was not finding fault with Chapter 50, his remarks applied to the whole of the Province, he might say to the whole of Scotland; he would be glad to do all in his power to remedy this state of things. After the Provincial Officers had retired, Comp. Miller opened a Mark Masters' Lodge, and advanced a brother to that degree, thereafter the companions spent a short time in harmony, under the presidency of Comp. Miller.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 19th of October, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. George McDonald R.W.M., William McGregor S.W., John Handbridge J.W., J Ampleford Secretary, T McKay S.D., R. B. Richards Steward, H Kay Tyler. Past Master G Weston. Visitors—Bros. J Ferguson R.W.M. Dalmuir Lodge, 503 J Johnson jun., E Arthur, Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, D Reed R.W.M. 465. Business—Mr. John Wright having been duly proposed, was initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the R.W.M., after which a Lodge of M.M. was opened, when Bro. Robert Smith Rose of 73, was raised, along with Bro. Sigismund Gentle, for the Union Lodge, No. 382.

Thetis Chapter, No. 123.—This Chapter held an Emergency Meeting on the 18th inst., at 35 St. James's-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. John J. Scott M.E.Z., J. Johnston H., J. De Neil J., J. Quigley Scribe E., W. MacAlister 1st S., Gowan 2nd S., C. Baird 3rd S., D. Gilles Tyler, J. O. Park P.Z. The M.E.Z. opened a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters, P.Z. Park acting as S.W., J. De Neil J.W., when Comp. G. W. Wheeler conferred the degree on Bros. Alex and Love. The Chapter was then opened, when Bro. Love was exalted to the Royal Arch degree by Comp. Wheeler. The new 1st Sojourner, Comp. MacAlister, performing his duties in a highly satisfactory manner.

Faith Chapter, No. 141.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Wednesday, the 20th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. There were present Comps. C. C. Taylor Z., N. Glückstein H., F. Hogard J., M. Bamberger Hon. Treasurer, Gompertz S.E., John Constable S.N., J. H. Ross P.S., Pinder 1st Ass., Longstaff Janitor, T. Mortlock I.P.Z., E. Gottheil P.Z., and a number of Companions. Bro. Adolph Glückstein, of the Lodge of Faith 141, presented himself for exaltation. The ceremony being very impressively rendered by the M.E.Z. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Comp. Nardus Glückstein was elected Z., and the remaining officers will follow in rotation, each one step higher. A well served repast followed, superintended by Comp. W. Smith. The usual toasts were proposed and responded to, and the evening enlivened with songs by Comps. D. Barnett, Pinder, Frankford, and a new song, by J. Constable, in which that Companion especially distinguished himself.

Robert Burns Chapter, No. 143.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 16th of October, at the Chapter Rooms, Holytown. Present—Comps. H. J. Shields M.E.Z., D. Baker H., W. McMurdo P.Z. as J., J. McMurdo Scribe E., N. G. Caldow Treas., A. Lillis 1st Sojourner, C. Meek 2nd S., A. Smith 3rd S., A. Reid Tyler. P.Z. Comp. W. McMurdo. Visitors—Comps. G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, J. Johnson H. 122. Business—The installation of the officers; the board of Installed Principals consisted of Comps. Wheeler Z. 73, Johnson H. 122, Wm. McMurdo P.Z. 143, and H. J. Shields Z. 143. Comp. Shields then installed the remainder of the office bearers present. A Mark Masters' Lodge was then opened, with H. J. Shield M.M.M., H. Baker S.W., J. Johnson H. 122 as J.W., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as S.D. A petition was presented from Bro.

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Dyer, who was duly advanced to the degree of Mark Master in a very careful manner. The thanks of the Chapter were given to Comps. Wheeler and Johnson for their services.

Macdonald Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 104.—The autumnal meeting of this prosperous Lodge was held at Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Coleman-street, E.C., on Saturday, the 16th inst. The W. Bro. Robert Berridge W.M. being unavoidably absent, the chair of A. was occupied by the I.P.M., the W. Bro. William Worrell P.G. Organist, and amongst others present were Bros. T. W. White S.W., North Ritherdon M.O., E. Moody S.O.; the V.W. Bros. Thomas Meggy P.G.M.O. P.M. and Treasurer, and James Stevens P.G.J.O., P.M.; the W. Bro. Charles Hammerton P.G.D.C. P.M. and Secretary; Bros. W. P. Collins S.D., G. Yexley G.S.D.C., John Close, W. Johnston, J. R. Williams, J. M. Wohlgemuth, J. H. Pitt, H. F. Partridge, G. W. Verry, Truman, Grant, &c., and visitor, the W. Bro. Sigismund Rosenthal P.G.D.C. There were several candidates for advancement, but in each case absence from town prevented attendance, and the opportunity was thereby afforded for perfecting certain arrangements affecting the working of the Lodge, which resulted satisfactorily for the good of the Order in general and of the Lodge in particular. The brethren subsequently adjourned to a banquet, under the presidency of Bro. Worrell, who afterwards proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with considerable ability. The evening's pleasure was enhanced by the vocal efforts of Bros. Stevens, Meggy, Close, and Truman, and by a spirited recitation, by Bro. Moody, of "The Charge of the Six Hundred," in response to which the brethren "whipped round" for a donation to the fund for the forthcoming banquet of the gallant survivors of the glorious "Balaklava Charge." For a few brief moments the meeting resolved itself into a gathering of "Craft Masons," to do honour to the M.W.G.M., and to wish the royal traveller health, happiness, and "a safe return to his native land." A most enjoyable evening, characterised by that earnest good fellowship and social harmony which has always been conspicuous in the Macdonald Lodge, was brought to a close shortly before eight o'clock, when the brethren separated, "sorry to part," but hoping to "meet again" in February next.

Sincerity Lodge, No. 174.—This Lodge held its first meeting of the season on Wednesday, the 20th of October, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street. Present—Bros. E. J. Moore W.M., W. T. Wells S.W., G. J. Hilliard J.W., J. Newton P.M. Secretary, S. H. Rawley P.M. Treasurer, Appleby S.D., Seddon J.D., Webb D.C., Verry Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Barlow, Lacey, Tuck I.P.M., Balmer, &c., and a large attendance of members and visitors, amongst whom we may mention Bros. Harward, Morrison and Adrian from the United States of America, Bro. Self S.G.W. of Essex, Bros. Binckes and Terry, the Secretaries of our Boys' School and Benevolent Institution, Bros. Berrie, W. W. Morgan, &c. The Lodge was opened and minutes of last Lodge and of the Lodge of Emergency held on 18th August were read and confirmed. The business on the summons was of an exceptionally heavy character. Messrs. Arthur Harper Bond, William Green Norman, George Gibson Harris and William Taynton were duly proposed, seconded and balloted for. The result being unanimous in their favour. Bro. G. Smith was raised to the degree of M.M., Bro. J. Vigor, formerly of the British Oak Lodge, was elected a joining member. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the four candidates named above were severally initiated into the Order. The W.M. conducting the ceremonies in a very satisfactory manner. Several interesting letters, referring to Lodge business, were then read, and other matters taken into consideration. The most interesting event of the evening was then brought forward, this was the presentation to Brother J. Newton, P.M. and Secretary, of a beautifully illustrated address on vellum, elegantly framed, together with a handsome gold watch and chain. Brother E. J. Moore W.M., in a few pertinent remarks, expressed the gratification it afforded him to be the medium through which the members of the Lodge desired to express their high appreciation of the valuable services P.M. J. Newton had rendered to the Lodge of Sincerity during the many years he had held the arduous post of Secretary to their Lodge. It was no light task to carry out the work that the office entailed, and he, as well as the brethren around him, were well aware that Bro. Newton must have heavily encroached upon the hours that should have been devoted to domestic comfort and enjoyment. Under these circumstances he had great pleasure in announcing that the brethren had determined to supplement their gift to Bro. Newton by offering for the acceptance of Mrs. Newton a gold locket and chain. Brother Newton returned thanks; he had always had great pleasure in fulfilling his duties in connection with the Lodge of Sincerity, and these handsome gifts would be a still greater incentive, if any were needed, to merit a continuance of the goodwill and esteem of the Lodge. The brethren next proceeded to banquet, where Bro. Moore presided in a most genial manner. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Bro. F. Binckes, in replying to that of the Grand Officers, said, that the brethren would insist on placing him in a position of embarrassment by coupling his name with this toast. He certainly was not a Past Grand Officer, as the post of Grand Steward, which he had had the honour to fill, did not carry that rank. He, however, was not entirely out of order, as it had been ruled that, in the absence of a Past or Present Grand Officer, a Past Grand Steward might reply to the toast. To the toasts of the Initiates, the new brethren each responded, Bro. Bond, in a few brief words giving evidence of being able to express in pithy sentences feelings natural on such an occasion. Bro. P.M. Tuck proposed the health of the W.M., he referred to the arduous duties the W.M had had to perform during the evening, and to the excellent manner in which he had performed those duties. Bro. Berrie here sang, in good style, "Happy we will on together." Bro. Moore replied: It was his duty to try and do his utmost to keep up the prosperity of the Lodge. He referred to the pleasure it had afforded him to present the testimonial to Bro. Newton, and called attention to the Installation Jewel he was wearing, which had been presented to him by the Lodge. The Toast of the Visitors was replied to by the American guests. Bro. Harward expressing a hope that many English Masons would visit the States during the period appointed for the approaching Exhibition, and assuring them they would receive a cordial and fraternal greeting. "The Past Masters," was coupled with the name of Bro. Newton, who again thanked the brethren for the gifts they had honoured him with. "The Charities" was ably responded to by Bro. Terry, and the Tyler's toast brought this most interesting gathering to a close, not until great anxiety was manifested by those assembled as to whether they would be able to catch the inevitable last train. Subjoined we give the text of the address:—

SINCERITY LODGE, No. 174.

This testimonial, together with a gold watch, chain, &c. was presented to

BRO. JOHN NEWTON P.M.

in open Lodge, 20th October 1875, in accordance with a resolution passed at a Lodge meeting, held 19th May 1875, by the brethren, in recognition of the valuable services rendered to the Lodge, and especially in acknowledgment of the zeal and efficiency with which he has for a number of years carried out the arduous and important duties of Secretary, and also as a mark of personal esteem and friendship for the truly Masonic spirit always manifested by him towards his brethren of the Lodge.

Signed on behalf of the Lodge by the Members of the Testimonial Committee.

Chas. Lacey P.M., Chairman and Treasurer.

E. J. Moore W.M.	Jno. Balmer P.M.
W. T. Wells S.W.	Jno. Adkins P.M.
G. J. Hilliard J.W.	E. Tuck P.M.
Jno. Appleby S.D.	Jas. Thomas
C. H. Webb D.C.	W. T. Roberts
Jno. Miller W.S.	Jno. Burchill
S. H. Rawley P.M.	

FRK. BROWN, Hon. Sec.

St. James's Union Lodge No. 180.—The first autumnal meeting of this influential Lodge was held on Tuesday, 19th inst. at Freemasons' Hall, Gt. Queen-street, W.C. Bro. W. C. Parsons W.M. in the chair, Bros. Stonor P.M. as S.W., F. Annett J.W., Robinson P.M. Treasurer, H. A. Stacy P.M. Secretary, Pillin S.D., S. Smith J.D., Harrison I.G., and Past Masters L. Herf, Smithett, Cameron, J. R. Stacey, and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, Bros. Baker, Atkin and Wright were raised to the 3rd degree, and Mr. Gree was initiated. Great credit is due to the W.M. and the office for their perfect working of the various ceremonies. A notice of motion was unanimously carried "That any brother offering himself as a Steward for either of the Masonic Charities, the Lodge should place a Life Governorship on his list until the Lodge became a Vice-President." A sum of £30 was voted to a distressed brother, and the brethren, in addition to that amount, liberally subscribed the sum of £38. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Franzetelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Smithett, in proposing the toast of the W.M., adverted to the excellent manner in which he had performed the various ceremonies during his year of office, his courteous demeanour in presiding over them, and the high estimation he is held in by every brother in the Lodge. The W.M., in reply, said he had to thank Bro. Smithett and the brethren for their kind expressions. He had been placed in the chair by the kindness of the brethren, and his aim was the welfare of the Lodge; he trusted, at the expiration of his year of office, that he would have the same good feeling manifested by the brethren. The toasts of the Visitors, Past Masters, Wardens and Officers followed, Bro. F. Annett very appropriately responding. The Tyler's toast was given, and a very enjoyable evening terminated. Bros. Cantle, Pillin, Stollard and Herf sang some very excellent songs. Several visitors were present. The Lodge of Instruction attached to this Lodge is held at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, and meets every Monday evening at 8 o'clock, under the able Preceptorship of Bro. J. R. Stacy P.M.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.—This Lodge held its first meeting of the season on Monday, the 18th of October, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street. Present—Bros. J. H. Ross W.M., Barnett S.W., D. Pocock J.W., P. Levy Secretary, J. Pearce Treasurer, Pare S.D., Bailey J.D., Croaker I.G., Rawles Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. Constable, Bloomfield, N. Moss, S. E. Moss, Harfield, Holbrook, Solomon, Sydney, M. Harris. Visitors—Bros. Lean P.M. 1067, Plummer 177, Field 1321, Browne 1426, Terry P.M. (Secretary of the Royal Benevolent Institution) 228, Reed 765, Atkins 55, Frost 1347, Herold 1056, Morgan 1385, Baker 192, &c. The business of the evening consisted in passing Bro. Rowley, and in balloting for Messrs. Digby Sadleir, Thomas William Casburn Bush, Lionel Cohen, and Philip Felix Renaud Saillard. The ballot was clear, and the gentlemen were duly initiated by the W.M., who performed the ceremonies in a most perfect and satisfactory manner. Some routine business was then transacted, and the Lodge was closed. A banquet followed, at which Bro. Ross presided, and conducted the proceedings of the evening most ably. On the removal of the cloth he said:—Brethren, previously to submitting the toasts of the evening, allow me to congratulate you upon the resumption of Masonic duty, and the health you appear to enjoy. I hope that no circumstance has transpired during our vacation to mar your happiness. The first toast I shall offer for your reception is one of loyalty, and it always takes precedence in our assemblies, whether of Masonic or public regulation. An allwise Providence has hitherto spared her

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Majesty from harm, and will, I hope, for many years, permit her to continue her peaceful and glorious reign. In proposing the health of the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, Bro. Ross referred to His Royal Highness's visit to our eastern possessions, and trusted God would grant him health and strength on his journey, wisdom to consolidate an everlasting peace, and safely restore him to his family, and the open arms of his English brethren. Speaking to the toast of the Pro Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon and the rest of the Grand Officers, the W.M. said it was a matter of consolation and profound pleasure to the Fraternity that the Order would not suffer in any way during the absence of the G.M., while we have so able and efficient a Pro Grand Master as the Earl of Carnarvon, whose diplomacy in matters politic as well as Masonic is well known, and with so courteous and willing a Deputy as Lord Skelmersdale we are bound to be successful in our Masonic progress. The toast of the Initiates was suitably replied to, after which Bro. Constable I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. of the Tranquillity Lodge. All were gratified with the manner in which Bro. Ross performed his duties, and all would feel assured that so long as he filled the chair prosperity would be with them. Bro. Ross suitably replied, and afterwards gave "The Visitors," which toast was responded to by Brother Lean. The Past Masters was then given and acknowledged, and was followed by "The Charities," which was ably responded to by Bro. J. Terry, Sec. of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He thanked the brethren for the interest they had always evinced in the Institution he had the honour to represent, and concluded with the hope that at the next Festival, in February, they would be as willing as heretofore to do all they could to promote the success of the Institution. The Treasurer, Officers, &c., were in due course complimented, and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a termination.

Cornubian Lodge, No. 450.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, the 14th of October, at Freemasons' Hall, Haigh. Present—Bros. H. J. Warren W.M., G. B. Pearce S.W., John Combe P.M. P.P.G.D. J.W. pro. tem., J. P. Smith P.M. P.P.G.D. Secretary, F. Harvey P.M. Treasurer, W. Quick S.D., H. Broad J.D., James Roberts D.C., Polglase and Rose Stewards, Biggiestone Spray I.G., J. V. Bray Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Smith, Ellis, West, F. Pool, James Pool, Harvey, Coombe, Mudge and Osborne; several brethren were present as visitors from the following Lodges, Mount Sinai Lodge, 121, Penzance; True and Faithful Lodge, 318, Helstone; Druid's Lodge, 599, Redruth; Tregenna Lodge, 1272, St. Ives; Boscean Lodge, 699, Chacewater, &c. Business—To initiate, pass and raise three candidates. The whole of the degrees were worked in a faultless manner by the W.M., with the usual musical arrangements. Bro. Pearce S.W. and Bro. Quick S.D. gave the charges and lectures in each degree. Bro. Frost P.S.W. was nominated as W.M. for the ensuing year. Between 50 and 60 brethren adjourned to the dining rooms, on the premises, where a supper was provided by the Stewards. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and ably responded to; some capital songs were sung by the members.

Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction, No. 753.—The fifteen sections were worked in the above Lodge of Instruction, held at Lord's Cricket Ground Hotel, St. John's Wood, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., by Bro. F. G. Baker P.M. 753 and Preceptor, supported by Bros. Austen S.W., Long J.W., Healey, Secretary, L. R. Rogers J.D., Lucas I.G., Helsdon P.M. Among the brethren we noticed P.M.'s Cotton, King jun., Barber, Slyman, Parkins, Vine, Lawrence W.M. 901, and thirty-eight others. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when, after the usual introductory address, the first lecture was worked in sections by the following brethren: Bros. Amor, Dunn, King jun., Blyth, Turner, Gordon and Burgess. The Lodge was resumed to the second degree, when the second lecture was worked by the following brethren: Bros. Lawrence, Long, Bentley, Parker and Taylor. The Lodge was resumed to the third degree, when the third lecture was worked by the following brethren: Bros. Austen, Tolmie and Slyman. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when Bros. Hall, Ballard, Vine, Foxley, Burford, Leigh, Keil, Mason, Hurdell, Finch, Cohen, Dunn, Haslett and Robertson were elected joining members. Bro. King jun. was unanimously elected an honorary member. After a vote of thanks had been passed to the Worshipful Master, and to which he made a graceful reply, the Lodge was closed in due form. We may here mention that we have seldom seen such good working of the sections, for there was hardly any prompting, and each brother seemed to try and outdo the other.

Alexandra Lodge, No. 985.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 18th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Holbeach. President—Bros. J. J. Bartram W.M., W. Redlington S.W., Thomas W. Curtis J.W., W. R. Mullins Secretary and Treasurer, James Hodgins S.D., Charles Jackson J.D., Jacob Markillie Tyler; Visitor, Bro. Kent, Franklin Lodge, Boston, 838. Business—Ballot for Bros. Slater and Wilkinson as joining members, and to initiate Mr. Thos. Thorpe and Mr. W. Porter.

Tregullow Lodge, No. 1006.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 19th of October, at St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall. Present—Bros. Edmund Rogers W.M., Theophilus Mitchell S.W., Francis Bartle J.W., Thomas B. Provis Secretary, Geo. Mitchell P.M. Treasurer, John H. Mayne S.D., Geo. F. Gregor J.D., Charles Tyrack D.C., James Kinsman Steward, George S. Bray I.G., Joseph Pryor as Tyler. The business consisted of the initiation of Mr. Joseph Letcher, St. Day, by the W.M., who conducted the ceremony in his usual able manner, and likewise gave the lecture on the tracing board. The charge was given by the J.W., and the working tools were explained by the S.W. The passing of Bro. Timmins, by the W.M., who explained the working tools with his usual ability, the charge being given by the Treasurer in a very lucid manner, for which he was thanked by the brethren.

Grey Friars' Lodge, No. 1101.—On Wednesday, the 13th inst., the anniversary festival of this Lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Brother J. T. Freeman, the second initiate of the Lodge, was installed in the Chair of King Solomon, in the presence of a numerous and influential assemblage of brethren. The ceremony was performed by Bro. W. W. Morhay P.M. 414, hon. member 1101, Prov. G.S.W. Berks and Bucks, in his usual happy and impressive manner. The W.M. was saluted by the members and visitors in each degree, all expressing their hearty good wishes; after which the appointment and investment of officers took place as follow:—Bros. J. Greenfield I.P.M., E. Margrett S.W., A. Welch J.W., Rev. C. R. Honey Chaplain, J. T. Stranson Treasurer, W. P. Ivey P.M. Secretary, W. J. Flanagan S.D., T. J. E. Howlett J.D., W. W. Ridley D.C., J. E. Danks I.G., W. Ferguson and T. Newman Stewards, W. Hemmings Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. Chas. Stephens, Hounslow P.M., R. Bradley P.M., Davis Organist, C. Bradley, Yetts, S. Wheeler and Moffatt, of the Lodge of Union 414, W. Wells W.M. 777, A.T. Rolfe, Great City 1426, F. P. Harbor 743, &c., &c. The effect of the ceremony of installation was considerably increased by the beautiful singing of Bros. Hounslow, R. Bradley and C. Bradley, under the direction of Bro. Davis, Organist, all of 414. The labours of the evening being ended, the brethren retired to refreshment, to the Upper Ship Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. Bailey, to which about fifty sat down. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; the glee and solo singing of the above named brethren, and the solo singing of Bro. James Robinson 1101, elicited rapturous applause. The Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. C. R. Honey, proposed, in eloquent language, "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary to the Boys' School, responded, congratulating the Lodge on the progress it has already made, and urging still further energy, till the W.M. of the Lodge has become a V.P. of each of the Masonic Charities. On the toast of "The Immediate and other Past Masters of the Lodge," the W.M. agreeably dilated upon the superior working of his predecessor, and presented and invested him with a splendid P.M.'s jewel, which was unanimously voted by the Lodge in recognition of the manner in which he discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year. The I.P.M. feelingly replied, assuring the brethren that his best exertions should be given to promote the welfare and prosperity of the Lodge. The jewel was very much admired. Upon the toast of "The Treasurer and Officers of the Grey Friars' Lodge 1101," the two Wardens replied, the Junior Warden, Bro. Welch, producing roars of laughter by his droll remarks. The Treasurer, in responding, stated that his office now was almost a sinecure, compared to what it was on his first taking it. The Secretary, in responding, read an analysis of the attendance during the past year, which caused much amusement, his motive in doing so was to induce a better attendance for the future. On the whole, a more agreeable meeting has not been remembered since the formation of the Lodge. Letters expressing regret at their inability to attend, with hearty good wishes, were received from the following distinguished brethren:—Sir Daniel Gooch Bart. M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. Berks and Bucks, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg V.W.D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes Bart. V.W.P.D. Prov. G.M., R. T. Woodhouse M.D. V.W.P.D. Prov. G.M., the R.W. John Hervey Grand Secretary of England, Robt. Wentworth Little, Secretary Girls' School, J. Terry, Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, W. Bros. W. Ballard W.M. 945, W. H. Robinson W.M. 840, J. Bance W.M. 574, Greville H. Palmer W.M. 771, W.M. 1492, &c., &c.

St. Oswald Lodge, No. 1134.—The regular meeting was held on 4th October, at Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry. Present—Bro. A. Walker W.M., John Thomas S.W., William Burton J.W., R. Grosvenor S.D., H. C. Corfield J.D., W. F. Rogers Steward, Rev. A. L. Taylor I.G., W. H. Spaull Secretary; Past Masters, Bros. J. Ward, E. Wood; Visitors, Bros. J. Blakeway, 262, S. Hazlitt, 1432. Business transacted—Bro. Thomas was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, Bro. E. Oswell Treasurer. The W.M., in his own name, and that of the J.W., presented Bro. Spaull with a handsome jewel, commemorative of the 28th April 1875. The W.M. also presented a very handsomely framed coloured likeness of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as M.W.G.M. of England, to the Lodge.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, the 18th day of October, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, E.C. Present—Bros. Pearcy W.M., Stock S.W., Halford J.W., Killick Secretary, Gorbett S.D., Kidder J.D., Knight I.G., Christopher Tyler; Past Master, Bro. Beckett Preceptor. Business—Lodge opened in the usual manner, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Ockenden raised to the degree of M.M. 1st and 2nd sections of third lecture were worked. Lodge closed down in regular order. Bro. Stock unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodged closed punctually in perfect harmony. The fifteen sections will be worked on Monday, 1st November.

Devon Lodge, No. 1138.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 12th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Devonsquare, Newton Abbott. Present—Bros. W. R. King W.M., F. J. Pratt as S.W., J. S. Saunders J.W., Jno. Olver Secretary, W. Harris S.D., E. Huxtable J.D., C. Stevens Steward, R. Crocke I.G., John Haywood Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. P. D. Michelmore P.G. Steward, and F. D. Bewes P.P.G.S.B. Visitors—Bros. C. J. Harland P.P.J.G.D., D. Watson P.M., G. Hussey and W. J. Veitch, of St. John's Lodge, No. 328. Business—Minutes of last meeting confirmed. The Rev. George Townshend Warner, who had been previously balloted for,

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was initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry, the charge being given by Past Master Bewes. This being all the business, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form at 9.30 p.m. The brethren spent a comfortable hour together after with the W.M., at the Queen's Hotel.

Eclectic Lodge, No. 1201.—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 18th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln-Inn-Fields, Bro. Mander W.M., J. H. Watts S.W., Pankhurst J.W., Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. P.M. Treasurer, Woods Secretary, E. J. Harty S.D., Taylor J.D., Saull as I.G., and Watts I.P.M. The Lodge was opened, and on the confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Walters, Blackwood and Walker were raised to the 3rd degree, Bros. Dr. Lloyd and Milmore were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Mr. R. Roby, having been balloted for and accepted, was duly initiated. The resignation of Bro. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. and Treasurer was accepted with regret, and the W.M., Bro. Mander, was unanimously elected Treasurer *pro tem*, until the regular election in January next. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. There was no banquet. Among the visitors were Bros. Smallpiece, Gardner, C. A. Barrell P.M., Coulton P.M., and several others.

Gladsmuir Chapter, No. 1385.—The regular meeting of this Chapter was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts, on Thursday, 14th instant; among those present were E. Comps. T. S. Carter M.E.Z., J. Lowthin H., W. Cutbush J., J. Verry P. Soj., J. Terry P.Z., Comps. Livingston 1st A.S., Booth 2nd A.S., Cussans, Crutch, Yolland, Fisher, and Young. Visitors—E. Comps. Neall P.Z. 429, Berry 624, Wilson 403. The business of the evening was to exalt Bro. James Cutbush S.W. 1385. The ceremony was performed by the M.E.Z., E. Comp. Terry very ably giving the Lectures. The following were then elected officers of the Chapter for the ensuing year:—E. Comps. Lowthin Z., W. Cutbush H., Hayward Edwards J., J. R. Cocks S.E. (re-elected), Verry S.N., Livingston P.S., W. Cutbush Treasurer (re-elected), and Goddard Janitor (re-elected). The companions afterwards adjourned to a capital supper, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—The first anniversary of this Lodge was held on Thursday, under the presidency of Bro. Jas. Willing, the first W.M., and one of the founders, assisted by the officers of the Lodge, a large assemblage of the brethren, and distinguished visitors, among whom were several members of Grand Lodge. The Lodge was opened by Bro. J. Willing, with Bro. Michael S.W., Williams J.W., G. Time P.M. Secretary, &c. The minutes of the former Lodge and emergency meetings were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's account showed a balance of £23 in favour of the Lodge after paying for the furniture, Grand Lodge dues, and incidental expenses, a feature worthy to be recorded in a Lodge so young in existence. Bro. Sayers and Erwood were passed to the second degree, and Messrs. Gilbert and Swaagton were initiated. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Jas. Willing I.P.M. installed his successor, Bro. Michael S.W. and W.M. elect, into the chair. The newly installed W.M. having been saluted according to ancient form, invested his officers:—Bro. Jas. Willing jun. I.P.M., Williams S.W., Kingham J.W., Rose Treasurer, Time P.M. Secretary, John Douglas S.D., Scales J.D., Side I.G., Stiles D.C. and Assistant Secretary, Colls W.S. and Daly Tyler. The appointment of these brethren gave great satisfaction. The W.M. then rose and said, he had a pleasing task to perform; a duty incumbent on him; that was to testify to the brethren the merits of one who was one of the founders of the Lodge. A committee had been formed to carry out the presentation of an excellent portrait of Bro. Jas. Willing jun., who had, as the first Master of the Metropolitan Lodge, so successfully conducted the affairs of the Lodge during his year of office. Bro. Michael said he hoped that, in years to come, Bro. Willing would live in their hearts, and that they might see him, in health and prosperity, for many years to come. Bro. Jas. Willing, amid the applause of the brethren, said he never expected so great a compliment to be paid him, but he accepted it as a token of the approbation of the brethren for his services, which always were at the disposal, not only of this Lodge, but of the Craft in general. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 69 in number, sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Cox. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bros. J. Smith P.G.P., T. Cubitt P.G.P., and T. A. Adams P.G.P. responded for the toast of the Grand Officers. Bro. J. Willing I.P.M. then proposed the health of the W.M., one whom the Lodge may be proud of; he would be a credit to it, not only for his working, but also for his Masonic qualifications. The W.M., in reply, said he should indeed be satisfied if he could be as successful as his predecessor, and, with the co-operation of the brethren, he would do all he could for the prosperity of the Lodge. (Cheers.) A pleasing task now devolved upon him, that was, to supplement the portrait that had been presented to the Lodge, by requesting Brother Willing's acceptance of a P.M.'s jewel; he hoped he might live long to wear it, and that it would be handed down as a heir-loom to his family. Bro. Willing returned thanks; their kindness would never be effaced from his memory. The toasts of the newly initiated brethren and the visitors followed, the latter responded to by Bro. G. Everett W.M. 177. Several brethren from America were pleased to express their opinion of the admirable manner in which the duties had been carried out, and thanks for the hospitality they had received. Several other toasts were given and responded to, and the brethren separated after spending a most pleasant evening.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The usual weekly meeting was held on the 15th instant, at the Metropolitan Club, 209 Pentonville-road. Bros. Side as W.M., Berris S.W., J Carter J.W., Kingham S.D., Williams J.D., Scales I.G., Jas. Willing jun. Treasurer, and Brothers Smith, Ormiston, Walter, Fowler, Michael, Child, Read, Shaw, Little, H Stiles, and T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The ceremony of the second degree was rehearsed, Bro. Fowler acting as candidate. The ceremony of the third degree was then given, Bro. Ormiston acting as candidate. The working of the W.M. and officers was commendable. Bro. James Willing then rehearsed the ceremony of Installation, the candidate being Bro. Michael S.W. and W.M. elect of the parent Lodge. Bro. Berris was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the meeting was adjourned.

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THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

WE announced last week *apropos* of a letter we published from Bro. Binckes, the Secretary to the Boys' School, that we had received copy of a pamphlet by Bros. Tew, D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, and the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott, the late Headmaster, impugning, in the first place, the conduct of the Secretary in his relations with the latter of the two pamphleteers, and in the next, the financial management of the governing body of the School. We stated also our intention of offering some remarks on this pamphlet. We readily confess we would rather abstain from commenting upon a question of this kind, but the subject is of far too grave a character to be passed over in silence. On the one hand, we have a clergyman of the Church of England, with a number of very honourable testimonials to his tutorial powers, and a gentleman, holding the second place in the ranks of Masonry, in one of our most considerable and energetic provinces; on the other hand, the several Committees and a Secretary of long standing, tried services, and immense energy, who, from the very fact of their having been elected to the offices they severally fill, must be presumed to enjoy generally the confidence of the Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and other subscribers to this Charity. Moreover, the financial part of the question has been openly discussed at the recent meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, and a resolution was passed which, without imputing anything irregular to the House Committee or Managers of the Institution, lays it down that a thorough investigation of the management and expenditure of the School is necessary, "to the end that a more economic system of collecting and dispensing the funds of this institution may be arrived at, so that candidates who from time to time are excluded from its benefits by reason of the present system may, by a more judicious and less expensive management, be enabled to participate in the benefits of the Charity." The question, therefore, is already before the Masonic world, and we should be unmindful of our duty, as an organ of Masonic opinion, if we ignored these public differences, and gave no indication of our views as to the course to be pursued. But, in dealing with the matter, we shall observe the strictest impartiality between the disputants. It is needless, perhaps, to say that we shall do what it is obviously our duty to do, especially as both the Secretary and Bro. Tew have at different times accused us of bias; and when both sides question our neutrality, we may fairly argue we have been strictly neutral. In the interests of fair play, we abstain from saying anything as to the merits of the rival cases; as having deeply at heart the welfare of our Masonic Charities, we take leave to indicate the chief points at issue.

We dismiss briefly the case as between the Secretary and the late Headmaster. We cannot say that Part I. of the new pamphlet, which is devoted to the unfortunate differences between these gentlemen, throws any additional light thereon. It simply bears out what we knew already, that a very unfortunate state of things prevailed between these officers, but which of the two has right on his side we are, happily, not called upon, nor are we competent to decide. When the evidence adduced by either has been thoroughly sifted, then, perhaps, it might be our duty to express an opinion, but certainly not till then. We make this one remark only. In Part III., which is a kind of Appendix to Part I., are two letters, written by the Secretary to the late Headmaster, marked Nos. 5 and 6 respectively. We say freely, and without the slightest hesitation or ambiguity, no amount of provocation would justify the use by any one of such language as the Secretary has employed in these letters. It may strike some folk as a paradox, but the position is nevertheless incontrovertible. People who quarrel should not lose their tempers. Evidently Bro. Binckes lost his temper, or he would never have condescended to pen such abusive notes. We imagine he has long since deplored the impetuous anger to which alone we attribute his having so unfortunately and so conspicuously forgotten himself. So much for Parts I. and III.

In Part II. is discussed the financial management of the School, and it is to this portion of the pamphlet we intend for the most part to confine our remarks. Bros. Tew and Perrott lay it down, in the first instance, that the expenditure incurred in the purchase of land and the erection of the new School, amounting to over £56,000, is greatly in excess of what it should have been. The rent charge calculated on this capital outlay at 3½ per cent. represents a sum of £1,965 15s 3½d, which for an average number of 156 boys amounts to 12 guineas per annum. This is pronounced to be an abnormally high rate in respect of rent. It is then urged that the annual grant to the Secretary of £200, his provincial travelling expenses—£81 9s 6d, and the collector's commission—£33 18s 5d, amounting together to £315 7s 11d should, as being expenditure that occurs every year, be entered, not as it is under special expenditure, but under ordinary expenditure under the head of General Office Expenses, whereby the latter item, which is set down at £959 10s 10d, would in reality be £1,274 18s 9d. It is, in the next place, suggested that the sum of £1,970 16s 6d expended for further works, architect's commission, &c., should be entered separately, under "A Building Expenditure on Capital Account," and not under the expenditure for the year, whether special or ordinary; and also that the £500 transferred to the Sustentation Fund should likewise be omitted in calculating the general outlay for the School. The result of all these several changes in the method of rendering the accounts is, that the average charge for a boy, which is set down at £43 16s 11½d, is affirmed to be £65 8s 7½d. Other portions of the report are freely criticised; as, for instance, the outlay for pianos, the sums entered as given for outfit to boys who have left the Institution, &c. Now we do not say these criticisms are just. We say this, however. The accounts of the School having been once published are liable to public criticism. In fact, the report of the governing body, which contains the various statements of account, is the evidence, the only evidence they have to offer that the duties entrusted to them have been fully and faithfully discharged. They say, in effect, to the Masonic world, This is the account we render of our stewardship? judge, ye, if we have done our duty. They thus virtually invite criticism, but whether they do so or not, it is clearly competent for Bros. Tew and Perrott to analyse the accounts and express, publicly if they are so minded, any objections they may have to the various items and the method of their arrangements under the different heads of service. It is clearly competent for the province of West Yorkshire to suggest that the management of the School may be more economically conducted, in which case it is evident, that with a reduced rate of expenditure, a larger number of pupils could be educated. We shall not dwell further on these criticisms, some of which, though relating to small matters, are of a very serious character. A somewhat strong display of feeling is notice-

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able throughout the pamphlet. We cannot say we are altogether surprised at this, so far as the Rev. Mr. Perrott's personal grievances are concerned. It is in human nature that a man should defend his own honour warmly, though he must be careful of course to govern himself decorously; but in discussing the financial part of the question there should have been displayed no *animus* whatever. A charge of financial mismanagement is a grave one to make, and it should be made with judicial gravity. But the non-observance, in the present or any other case, of this most wholesome rule is a matter of secondary consideration. The fact remains that the audited accounts of the Boys' School for the year 1874 have been publicly declared to be erroneous, and reasons, more or less momentous, are brought forward in support of this statement. The first result of this public declaration is that West Yorkshire, one of our largest and most important provinces, with some sixty Lodges, and not far short of three thousand members pronounces itself in favour of inquiry into the conduct of this Charity. In doing so, this Provincial Grand Lodge has frankly disclaimed all idea of "imputing any irregularity to the House Committee or Managers of the Institution." Bro. Binckes, in his letter of last week, after replying to one particular criticism of Bros. Tew and Perrott, went on to say, "equally easy of explanation is every other accusation so unjustly charged, and equally susceptible of solution is every apparent difficulty to which allusion is made." This being so, it appears to us to be the duty of the governing body to insist on an immediate investigation. It will never do for them to wrap themselves up in their own virtue and treat this attack upon their management with scorn. The governing body of a charity must, like Cæsar's wife, be above suspicion. It is not enough for Bro. Binckes to say in reply to this pamphlet—the statements it contains are inaccurate; he, or rather they for whom he acts, must prove them to be inaccurate. Assertion is not argument. As the case stands at present, Bros. Tew and Perrott have made certain charges and adduced certain reasons, which may or may not be sound, in support of these charges. Bro. Binckes indignantly denies them; but denial is not disproof. He must go a step further, and adduce rebutting evidence, as he says he can. And to crown the whole case, there must be some tribunal which shall decide whether the charges have or have not been substantiated. We have said that a charge of mismanagement is a very grave one to make. We cannot believe the writers of this pamphlet, after the manner of two thoughtless children, have preferred this charge without duly weighing beforehand the very serious responsibility they incur. If their pamphlet is proved to contain a series of misstatements, the whole world of Masonry will laugh them to scorn. On the other hand, if they prove their case, the most sweeping changes in the government of the School must follow. We confess we see no other way out of the difficulty than by a thorough and exhaustive investigation of all the circumstances.

And here we should have quitted this painful subject, but for certain remarks of our contemporary, last week. The policy it advocates is directly opposed to that we have recommended. There is nothing new, of course, in two journals, having the same interest at heart, recommending two different lines of policy. Had this been all, we should have been content to differ and said nothing, but sundry of the grounds on which it based its arguments are so monstrous that we can only come to one of two conclusions. Either our contemporary is joking, or it has taken leave of its senses. It begins an article on West Yorkshire by saying, "Reflection has convinced us, even more strongly than last week, how very unwise and how very unsound is the proposed motion relative to the Boys' School"—the resolution of Prov. Grand Lodge already referred to—"to which we felt it to be our duty to allude." But not only is the proposal "Unwise" as regards the true interests of the School, but Masonically we also deem it to be "thoroughly unsound in principle." And why "unsound in principle?" Because "Bro. Cawthorn," the mover of the resolution—"is, we understand, not even a subscriber to the Boys' School at all. How can he propose such a resolution? And how can the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire pass such a resolution; still less hand it on to the Grand Lodge? What possible right has the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire to express such an opinion as a corporate body?" As to the first two of these questions, it occurs to us our contemporary is a little behindhand in asking how certain things can be done when they have been done. The third question is more pertinent, though somewhat clumsily worded. The Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire expressed its opinion as a corporate body, because it is a corporate body, and the right it had to express this particular opinion we imagine to be thus derived. The Lodge, in its corporate capacity, has contributed to the funds of the School. Certain of the West Yorkshire brethren, over whose interests the Prov. Grand Lodge has been deputed to watch, have also contributed to its funds. Sundry of the boys in the School have been elected mainly, if not entirely, by the votes of the West Yorkshire subscribers. *Ergo*, the Prov. Grand Lodge has a direct interest in the proper management of the School in which the West Yorkshire boys are pupils. Our contemporary admits that the Prov. Grand Lodge in question has contributed to this Institution, "in days of old, and it has received a return in votes," but it adds, "*and there its interest practically ends.*" The words we have italicised mean this,—if anything. West Yorkshire having purchased certain votes, succeeds or fails in electing its candidates into the School, and there the matter ends. Sundry West Yorkshire nominees have been elected, but whether the School into which they have been admitted is, or is not well conducted, it is no business of West Yorkshire to inquire. We would not, of course, presume to explain our contemporary's ideas respecting "Masonic Law and Equity." We humbly submit, however, that "It is impossible that on any known principle of Masonic Law or Equity," the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire could, in the performance of what it conceived to be its duty, have failed to "pass such a resolution without thoroughly stultifying itself." Of course, as we are not in the secrets of Sir Henry Edwardes, we cannot say how the Prov. Grand Lodge he presides over "will hand over" this resolution "to Grand Lodge." We venture to say, however, that just as it has been passed, so it will be handed on, the exact manner in which this is done being immaterial. "We hope," however, "that for the honour and dignity of West Yorkshire," the resolution will be handed on "with a good grace." It is then asked, "But how can Grand Lodge even interfere? How could it receive such a resolution? How could it act upon it?" Here again we are at a loss to say how the thing will be done, if it is done. We feel certain, however, that having received this resolution, Grand Lodge will interfere and act upon it if, in the exercise of its wisdom, it thinks it wise and expedient in the interests of this Masonic Institution to do so. Its annual grant of £150, gives it the right to inquire into the management of the School, even though that £150 is only a very small part of the £10,000 received "annually from the Craft as private donations and subscriptions." Our contemporary has the hardihood to maintain that Grand Lodge may inquire into the appropriation of its grant, and "if not satisfied with the explanation tendered," it may withdraw it, "but it can do no more, and can go no further." Is our contemporary so far behind the age as never to have heard of sundry institutions which receive grants in aid from Parliament, and that, on the strength of such grants, Parliament claims and exercises the right to rigidly examine into the *whole* expenditure of such institutions? Will he affirm, in sober seriousness, that a shareholder of a public company has no right to criticise its financial arrangements above and beyond the amount of the share or shares he holds in it? Will he venture to lay it down, that a governor of Christ's Hospital, or any other charity outside the world of Masonry, can only inquire into the appropriation of his particular contribution? But even admitting, for a moment, the justice of this argument, will our contemporary have the kindness to point out how the appropriation of Grand Lodge Grant, or any other contribution, is to be traced in the School expenditure. But assuming this were possible, that the £150 was traced, that Grand Lodge was dissatisfied, and did withdraw its grant; would such withdrawal have no moral effect upon the brethren at large? It is a very significant fact, that while West Yorkshire, which is in favour of this inquiry, voted, a few days since, £100 to the R.M.B.I., and one hundred guineas to the R.M.I. for Girls, it left the Boys' School out in the cold. Yet West Yorkshire is not unmindful of its duty. It figured in the subscription list at this year's Festival for over £800. What if Grand Lodge, influenced by the resolution of West Yorkshire, and following its example, should withhold its countenance and support. Would this be a light matter—one to which the most influential committee of the Boys' School could possibly shut its eyes? But though the Constitutions—the written law of Masonry—say nothing as to

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the conduct of our three Masonic Institutions, it is laid down, at p. 25, that "all differences or complaints that cannot be accommodated privately, or in a regular Lodge, shall be reduced into writing, and delivered to the Grand Secretary, who shall lay the same before the Grand Master, or the Board of General Purposes, or other Board or Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge. When all parties shall have been summoned to attend thereon, and the case investigated, such order and adjudication shall be made as is authorised by the laws and regulations of Masonry." The only suggestion our contemporary has to offer is, that this complaint should be referred to the General Committee, or the House Committee. This means simply that West Yorkshire, being dissatisfied with the government of the Institution, must appeal for redress to the very body whose conduct is called in question. It may be wise to take no further steps in the matter, or to press for further inquiry. It is manifestly unfair that the question should be referred for settlement to one of the disputants. We hope our contemporary will be a little more common-sensible the next time it deals with this or any other unpleasant subject affecting the interests of the Craft.

THE CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE.

THOSE of us who have reached the meridian of life are often surprised to find, on looking back, that events which seem to be of yesterday, are, to the younger portion of the community, already covered with a thin film of the rust of antiquity. Every middle aged man, for example, regards the incidents of the Crimean War as events of the most recent occurrence; he can carry his memory back to the glorious and the inglorious events of the campaign, and he recalls those vivid letters in the *Times* which won for Mr. Russell the title of Prince of newspaper correspondents. But to our more fortunate, because more youthful friends, these things are already canonised in the set forms of historical narrative. They know of the Alma, of Inkermau, and Sabastopol, through the medium of Mr. Kinglake's graphic pages. They read of the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava with some such feelings as the school boy reads of Leonidas and the pass of Thermopylæ, and while we think of the blunder, they think only of the glory of that dashing charge. To such persons the banquet of Monday last recalls only the heroic side of that gallant deed of arms, but to us it brings a painful reminder of the incompetence and blundering of the leaders of the allied forces. We think of the hardships and horrors of the Crimean winter. We remember that circumlocution was then in full force at the War Office, and that our soldiers died, in the trenches, of hunger and disease, within five miles of the most bountiful stores that ever were provided for an invading army. Yet, while some of us are doubtful of the propriety of bringing back to our recollection thus vividly, the gigantic blunder of the campaign, no man can deny that the heroes who assembled around the festive board at the Alexandra Palace, on Monday last, richly deserved all the honours which were accorded them. They had nothing to do with the blundering of the Commander in Chief, or his subordinates. They were called upon, rightly or wrongly, to ride into the "valley of death," and they obeyed as British soldiers always obey an order which brings with it the stimulus of danger. Some of us can remember that magnificent Light Brigade, in all the splendour of its warlike array, as it departed from these shores. We call to mind the events of the Battle of Balaclava, when the heavy brigade, composed of the *elite* of the British Dragoons, dashed triumphantly through the Russian Cavalry; but our thoughts instinctively dwell upon the gallant six hundred who were called upon to take the Russian cannon from the hands of a vast army. When Nolan brought the order to charge and take the guns, even such a fire-eater as Lord Lucan for the moment hesitated. There was a mile and a half of ground to ride over. Batteries were planted on each flank and in front, and the guns were guarded by 20,000 infantry. It was madness to attempt such a thing; but, as poor Nolan said, the guns were there, the order was precise, and it was the duty of the brigade to take them. The hesitation of the leader was only momentary. The Light Brigade was ordered forward, and the gallant fellows, with a ringing British cheer, dashed into the valley, while their French and English comrades looked on and wondered. If our memory is accurate, 650 men rode in that death charge, and 110 returned unscathed. It was a charge of madmen; it was mere butchery, but the gallant episode taught us that a long peace had not enervated the British soldier. We learned with just pride that our countrymen were of the same stuff as the heroes who followed Wellington through the Peninsula, and defeated the flower of the French army at Waterloo. It has, indeed, taught us that our soldiers, if they are properly officered, are second to none of the vaunted troops of continental armies, and if we fear to give due weight to our advice in the councils of Europe it is because our army is, after all, but a handful, and our faith in the competence, but not the courage of its officers, is still as hazy as ever. The Alexandra banquet will add nothing to the renown of the brave men who, without thought of fame or reward, nobly did their duty in the face of an overwhelming force. The Charge of the Light Brigade is written in indelible characters on the page of history, and the soldiers who rode to almost certain death will be classed by posterity with that handful of Spartan heroes who calmly dressed their hair and uttered their concise jests in the face of two millions of invaders. The heroes of Thermopylæ died to save Greece. They voluntarily sacrificed themselves for strategic reasons, and while they filled the pass with a rampart of the dead, the Athenians in the rear were preparing for the final struggle which drove the invader into the sea. Nothing decisive followed from the sacrifice of the Light Brigade, but we revere its memory because it has taught the world that the old spirit of heroism is still in our midst. That spirit has not perished with Wellington's veterans, or Napoleon's Old Guard, and if the day should again come when England is compelled to call upon her sons for a great sacrifice, we shall be the stronger for the memory of Balaclava, and thousands will be ready to lay down their lives on the altar of their country.

THE RECENT ELECTIONS.

IT has been remarked that there is nothing so untrustworthy as facts and figures. We are not going to build up any very elaborate theory as to the results of the latest ballots for our Boys' and Girls' Schools, but one or two lessons, not wholly valueless, may be gleaned even from a superficial examination of the figures. And first, as to the Girls' School.

There were six vacancies and thirty candidates. Of the latter, four had made three previous applications, one two, nine one; while, in the case of the remaining sixteen, this was their first application. In three instances failure at this ballot would render the applicants further ineligible. Of the six elected, four applied for the first time, one had appeared twice, and the remaining one three times. Of the three who would be further ineligible if not elected, two succeeded, the other being left hopelessly in the rear. Twenty-five of the candidates hailed from the Provinces, five from London. All the six chosen were Provincial namely: two Yorkshire W.R., one Somersetshire, one Gloucestershire, one Norfolk, one Suffolk. Of those who had stood one or more times previously, there were four who might be deemed particularly formidable, having already to their credit 614, 519, 479, and 458 votes respectively. Only the last of these got a place. Of those whom we will describe as formidable in the second degree, there were five with 362, 272, 185, 153, 132 votes respectively. The second of these five obtained the fifth vacancy, while the first increased her score by 443 votes, and the last by 543 votes. There were yet five others, to whom, only in a very close contest indeed, would the votes already credited be of any service. These had 80, 54, 20, 14, and 13 votes severally to their credit. The first of these is no longer eligible, the second is the only one who has materially improved his position, having obtained 147 additional votes. Of applicants on more than one occasion, one scored over a thousand additional and succeeded, one over nine hundred and succeeded; and one over five hundred, one over four hundred, two over two hundred, four over one, and four under one hundred. Of the sixteen applicants for the first time, four scored over eleven hundred and succeeded; while of the rest, one obtained over seven

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hundred, one just six hundred, four over four hundred, four over three hundred; the two others being "out of the hunt" altogether.

For the Boys' School there were fifty-eight candidates, one of whom was withdrawn and will therefore be omitted from the examination, and ten vacancies. Thirty-six of these had votes to their credit, one having already been a candidate six times, one five times, two four times, eight three times, nine twice, and fifteen once; the remaining twenty-one were applicants for the first time. Of those elected, three were new and seven old candidates. Thirty-nine of the fifty-seven were provincials, of whom eight (one each from St. Helena, Cumberland, Foreign Stations, Staffordshire, Cheshire, Dorsetshire, W. Yorkshire, and Oxfordshire) were elected, while eighteen, of whom three succeeded, were Londoners. There were six whom failure at this election would render further ineligible. Of these, two succeeded and four failed. Of previous candidates, nine already had over a thousand votes to their credit—five of these succeeded; three had over eight hundred, and one succeeded; three over six hundred, ten had from one to four hundred, and of these one gained a place, and eleven under one hundred. None of these last made much way at this election. Of the new candidates, four made over 1,300, and three were elected, and three scored 461, 424, and 328 votes respectively; twelve more scored respectively 143, 138, 116, 106, 99, 15, 10, 9, 9, 7, 6 and 2; the remaining two obtained no votes at all. Of the nine old candidates, who were the most to be dreaded, having already to their credit over one thousand votes, five were provincial and four London, but while four of the former succeeded and one failed, three of the latter failed and only one succeeded. We may note here by the way that the most formidable of the old candidates for the Girls' School was a Londoner, with 614 votes already to the good, yet she came out seventh on the poll, being over three hundred below the sixth or last of the successful ones. We shall not pursue the investigation further. All we wish to demonstrate is that energy in this, as in other things, is necessary to success. It is no good having a wide circle of friends and acquaintances if you do not stir them into active, zealous co-operation with you in promoting the case you have in hand. What can be done if those in charge of a particular child's election is shown by the fact that the boy who headed the poll was a Londoner, an applicant for the first time—and for the last time also—yet he scored 2,157 votes right off, while the most formidable of his rivals, who already had, six months ago, 1,392 votes to the good, came in eighth only, and was not, therefore, so very far removed from failure. Again Nos. 3 and 4 on the list of the successful, and who were likewise candidates for the first time scored 2,008 and 1,992 respectively; these were provincials, yet London candidates with 1,199, 1,127 and 1,110 to their several credits came out 13th, 12th and 17th. The moral we deduce, and which we are anxious to impress upon our readers, is that if cases are deemed worthy of being submitted to the ballot, they must be worthy of energetic support. If people who have experienced one failure mean carrying their candidate at the next election, they must commence canvassing the very day their failure is made known to them. It is no good leaving things to chance, or till the election is close at hand, for in the latter case, scores of good votes are often lost, and instance after instance happens of people saying, "My dear fellow, if you had only told me, even a day or two since, you should have had them with much pleasure." As to trusting to chance, people who will not help themselves, seldom find others to help them. But in either case, and in fact, in all cases, a want of energy on the part of the supporters of a candidate is an act of injustice to the latter. Young as he may be, failure, and especially repeated failure, discourages him; and far too early in life he may form an impression that he has been the victim of other people's carelessness. By all means let the worthiest be chosen, but as all must have been deemed worthy of election whose names are on the list of candidates, the supporters of any boy or girl so placed are bound in honour to aid him or her to the utmost of their power. Contrast the girl Perks, who got 24 votes at four elections, with that of her rival Taylor, who obtained 1,431 at one. Or let us take the cases of Shipway, who mustered 1,858 at his seventh trial, and Duff, who had 1,892 at his sixth, and with these compare those of Price with 2,157, Sutton with 2,008, and Jones with 1,992 at one trial. Making every sort of allowance, we do not think the former would have been 3½ and 3 years respectively in getting into the School, had their friends worked as hard as those of Price, Sutton, and Jones who were elected in six months. What is worth having, is worth trying hard for.

ADDRESS ON OPENING THE WEEKLY MEETINGS.

(By Bro. Preston, W.D. and P.M.)

We are indebted to the kindness of one of our subscribers for the loan of a copy, believed to be unique, of the Bye-Laws of the Lodge of Antiquity, in force in the year 1812. As Bro. Preston's name, as an eminent Masonic author, is familiar throughout the Craft as a household word, we make no apology for reproducing the following address of his in these columns:—

"The principal intention of our weekly meetings is, mutually to instruct each other in the knowledge and practice of Freemasonry. For this purpose we may consider it as an essential duty, minutely to investigate the various subjects which are treated in the establishment of our system. Many obstacles must, no doubt, occur in the course of our inquiries, from the intricacy of the points that we are required to discuss, and from the variety of modes which have been adopted among Masons in the delineation of their forms; while our progress may be retarded from the seeming improbability of being able to effect a general uniformity in the practice of our rites. To the diligent and assiduous, however, few difficulties are insurmountable: if, therefore, we zealously pursue our researches, we may rest assured that our labour will not be altogether unsuccessful.

It is to be regretted, that the valuable tenets of our institution should be so imperfectly known, and that so few of our brethren should be inclined to become proficients in our art. Many are apt to contemn what they do not understand; and hence we may account for the irregularity which too frequently prevails in our meetings. Were our principles better understood, our customs and usages more clearly defined, and our ceremonies more accurately arranged, we should find few lukewarm advocates for Masonic instruction.

Influenced by the most generous motives, it shall be our province to discuss every point with candour and liberality of sentiment; to pry into every secret deposit of Masonic lore, and to deduce such conclusions from the general practices of the fraternity as are most reconcileable to the government of the system. These means will convince us of the utility of the institution, and enable us to partake with more pleasure in the administration of its forms.

Such are the prospects which a regular attendance on our weekly meetings may produce. Many who at present consider our assemblies as only one degree above a common club, will probably be induced to acknowledge, when they are better informed, that they are calculated for other purposes than mere conviviality; and that, in the practice of genuine Masonry, the talents of our brethren may be fully occupied in the investigation of useful knowledge.

In the culture of civilisation and mental improvement, they will find among Masons, in the Lodge, a happy union of men undistinguished by rank, country, or persuasion.

A motive so alluring to generous minds must plead powerfully in favour of the Masonic institution. Another motive, however, not less attracting, will sway them—friendly offices among the selected few whom real merit has entitled to esteem, and who, under the patronage of Masons, can never, unpitied and unassisted, sink under the weight of misfortune.

Independent of these advantages, it will also be discovered, that, in the sacred mansion set apart for the propagation of our art, we enjoy, without the danger of interruption, all the benefits of a well-regulated and rational conversation with men of different ranks, who are zealously employed in the acquisition of useful knowledge, uncontaminated by vicious habits, and whose predominant characteristics are the practice and profession of moral virtue.

To the improved mind, these are captivating enticements; and while such objects continue to be the purpose of our associations, illustrious characters will never be wanted to add dignity to our assemblies.

It must always be recollected, that though the disquisition of our tenets, and the practice of our rites, are limited

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to our private conversations, the influence of our principles is fettered by no such restrictions. Universal as is our system, is our friendly communication. To society at large we are professed friends; and, though to every deserving object our attention is specially directed, there is no part of the human species which is exempted from our care and protection.

From this general definition of the outlines of our benevolent institution, we need no greater incentive to become votaries in its favour. Let us therefore, who are selecting ourselves for still further improvement in the art, be alike distinguished in conduct and conversation, and convince others, by our example, that the expert Mason is the best pattern of the accomplished gentleman. To point out and to encourage, shall be my plan; to proceed, persevere, and execute, must be yours; and as honest industry will always ensure success, dignified honour will be the just reward of merit."

A PROVINCE FOR BEDFORDSHIRE.

WE are given to understand that the movement for the formation of a Masonic Province in the only county in England without one, is making good progress. A month ago the Chiltern Lodge at Dunstable passed an unanimous resolution in favour of it, and the old St. John the Baptist Lodge, at Luton, has since done the same. It remains now for the Bedford Royal Stuart and the Biggleswade St. Andrew's Lodges to consider the matter. In the ranks of their members there are several worthy Masons, any one of whom the brethren would be delighted to honour as the first Provincial Grand Master; the name of Stuart, for instance, is synonymous, in the county, with all that is in the truest sense Masonic.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER, HERTS.

ON Thursday an event of great interest took place at Watford, being neither more nor less than the reconstitution of the Prov. Grand Chapter, Herts, the last meeting of which was held as far back as the 19th of September 1864. The installing officer was M.E. Comp. John Hervey, Grand Scribe E., who opened the Prov. Grand Chapter as Z., with E. Comp. Davison as H., and E. Comp. Heard as J. The roll of Chapters and that of Grand Officers of the old Prov. Grand Chapter having been called over, the name of Comp. Halsey M.P. was announced as the Prov. Grand Superintendent, and his patent having been handed in, read by acting Prov. G. Scribe E. Comp. Iles, and examined by Comp. Hervey, a deputation of Principals and Past Principals retired with the D.C. and introduced Comp. Halsey and placed him in front of the Pedestal. Comp. Hervey then addressed him, enquiring if he were prepared conscientiously to undertake the important duties of the office, and having received a reply in the affirmative, the ceremony of obligation and investiture was performed with due solemnity. The P.G. Superintendent then appointed and obligated the other Principals, and invested his officers, the following being the list:—Comps. Finch H., Cocks J., Iles Scribe E., Carter Scribe N., Davison P.S., Heard 1st Asst. S., Lowthin 2nd Asst. S., Lemley Smith Registrar, Andrews Sw. B., Ford St. B., Terry D.C. Dibdin O., and Thomas and Wright Janitors. On the motion of Comp. Carter, seconded by Comp. Terry, Comp. Copland was unanimously elected Treasurer, and a committee was appointed, consisting of the three Principals, the Scribe and the Treasurer, to frame bye-laws and transact other business. The Prov. G. Chapter was then closed. A banquet followed, which was well served, and at which the usual toasts were proposed and responded to with great cordiality. In replying to the toast of the Prov. G. Superintendent, Comp. Halsey congratulated all present on the successful issue of the day's proceedings, and the prosperity of the Craft in the province of Hertfordshire. He further expressed a hope that now the Prov. Grand Chapter had been revived, soon every Lodge in the province would have Chapters attached, as he (Comp. Halsey) did not consider the cycle of Masonry complete without the Royal Arch Degree.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—These Pills are more efficacious in strengthening a debilitated constitution (the vital springs of which were naturally weak, or through hard usage have become relaxed and worn) than any other medicine in the world. Persons of a nervous habit of body, and all who are suffering from weak digestive organs, or liver complaints, eructations, flatulency, dyspepsia, colic, or irritable bowels, should lose no time in giving these Pills a fair trial. Coughs, colds, asthma, or shortness of breath, are also within the range of the curative powers of this very remarkable medicine—gout and rheumatism bow before them. The cures effected by these Pills are not superficial or temporary, but complete and permanent; they are so mild as they are efficacious, and may be given with confidence to delicate females and young children.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

MASONIC BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Pontefract, 26th October 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—We note, in your issue of last Saturday, a letter from the Secretary of the Boys' School, with reference to our Pamphlet, and we crave space in your columns for a brief reply.

Mr. Binckes unfortunately for himself, adduces the case of "James Gasson" to convict us of error, and assures your readers that all our other statements are equally easy of explanation. The charges in Bro. Tew's first Pamphlet, the Secretary states, have been proved groundless, we should like to know when and where?

The Secretary informs your readers that, on 4th *May* 1872, "Gasson" received a "grant of £5 for the usual (?) outfit given on leaving the School."

Now, we find, on two pages of the 1865 Report, second edition with *corrections*, that "James Gasson" did not attain the age (15) for leaving the School till the 28th day of *October* 1872, and, as the Secretary states that the boy was "orphan and entirely friendless," we submit it was very strange that he should have left the School six months before the proper time, as he certainly must have done if both the '65 Report and Mr. Binckes's statement about the leaving outfit in May 1872 are correct. Again, according to the Secretary, £5 were paid at the commencement of his apprenticeship, some months after May 1872, and, as we find the full amount of the grant —£10 for the lad's apprenticeship recorded in the Report for 1873, it necessarily follows, in pursuance of the conditions of the apprenticeship, viz., £5 at the commencement of apprenticeship, and £5 at the expiration of a year therefrom, that the former of these two instalments must, or ought to, have been paid in 1872; we ask, therefore, why this second portion of the entire grant, being expended in 1872, is not shown in the 1872 Report? Everything in the Reports concerning "James Gasson" is most perplexing; in two Reports we are told that he left in December 1871, in another, that for the year 1865, we find his time for leaving was not till the 28th October 1872, and last week we were told that £5 were paid for his outfit on leaving in *May* 1872! We fail to see how the Secretary has improved his case, which appears to us to require a different solution, and we can only say, that if, as we are justified in assuming from documents before us, the Secretary's other solutions are not more satisfactory, we are not disposed to alter our verdict, which is, that the Reports for the last three years are thoroughly untrustworthy, and therefore worthless. As regards the other issues raised, we have only to refer your readers to our Pamphlet, as the limits of a letter are not sufficient for their discussion. Both the late Head Master and his Assistants demanded a complete investigation, and you, Sir, in your journal of the 17th July, pointed out that, if the Committee took no further steps, injustice to some of those concerned would be the result. In his letter to your Masonic contemporary, the Secretary admits, though doubtless with many mental after-birth pangs, having *dictated* the Matron's letter, which was characterised by a member of the House Committee as *highly improper*, and we are forcibly reminded by Mr. Binckes's reference to "suspension by the neck," that there are not a few persons who, with rope long enough, would perform the act themselves. Apologising for the unavoidable length of our reply.

We are, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) THOMAS HILL TEW.
O. G. D. PERROTT, M.A.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Pursuing my remarks on the Pamphlet "T. W. Tew, and O. G. D. Perrott," I confidently submit that, despite all the sharp practice of those two acute financiers, and *their* views to the contrary, the accounts of the Boys' School are stated and set forth in a manner sufficiently clear for any unprejudiced enquirer to spot the expenditure under every head. It is not because Mr. Tew or Mr. Perrott is of opinion that this or that should be, or should not be done, that those who do not concur, are necessarily wrong. Both think that under the "cost per head" should be included the interest on the "Building Expenditure." The Committee and others think differently. In no other Institution of a similar character is such a charge included, but if Messrs. Tew and Perrott choose to make such addition, in accordance with their views, by all means let them do so. But I object to their charging with misrepresentation, and with an attempt to mislead, those who hold views opposite to theirs. The same remarks apply to the expenditure given under the head of "Special" in connection with the Secretary and Collector, and commented on most unfairly, and in entire ignorance of the matters referred to, pp. 21-24. The writers elect to overlook the fact that the money received since 1861 (the date of my election as Secretary) has been for the purpose, not only of maintaining and educating a certain number of boys, but of providing a new and commodious home in which the work should be carried on. The "Special Expenditure" is fairly and properly chargeable with the payments made for "special work," and it would

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be wrong and unjust to place these payments under the head of "Ordinary Expenditure."

So, with all the other cavils at the accounts, the whole resolves itself into a question of opinion as to the mode in which they should be stated.

It is grievous to find one who miserably disappointed the expectations formed of him, losing no opportunity of befouling the nest from which he was called upon to retire. Nothing escapes condemnation.

The Secretary is an incapable tyrant.
The Matron is arbitrary and insolent.
The Committee are "vacillating," and mere tools of the officials.
The ventilation is imperfect.
The heating apparatus is unsatisfactory.
The original outlay on building, &c., is excessive.
The expenditure is extravagant.
"*The School is lost.*"

But there is one consolation,—Mr. Perrott is perfect.

Really this last is the text of the Pamphlet. It would be wearisome to go through it page by page, and I now dismiss it, with the remark of a valued correspondent, "The best plan would be not to notice it: it is evidently not written in the interest of the Institution, but for the sake of gratifying the vindictiveness of the late Headmaster."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

27th October 1875. FRED. BINCKES, Secretary.

P.S.—By way of practical contradiction to the statements in the Pamphlet, especially as to the "loss of the School," let me entreat your readers, if they wish to see an institution under efficient management, doing its work satisfactorily and efficiently, under a firm but kind head; with a united and contented staff, and young happy faces and healthy forms, to pay a visit to Wood Green.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Now that the lists of candidates for both the above Institutions have become so large, and the vacancies for the same so small, do you not think the time has arrived for the Committees of those Schools to take into consideration the advisability of *refusing* to allow any candidate to be nominated who has already a brother or sister enjoying the benefits of the Schools? I know of cases where there are already two children of the family in the Institutions, and they are trying to get in a third, and when told of the unfairness to other candidates, the reply has been, that the committees of the Schools do not object, so they do not see why I should. My idea is that such a boon ought not to be made too common, and, to give a better chance to the unsuccessful candidates to place restrictions in the way I have mentioned above. Trusting you will find a corner for this in your valuable journal,

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

W. M., 180.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LODGE REPORTS.—We would respectfully call the attention of our Correspondents to our rule respecting Reports of the various meetings. In all cases we are willing to assist in giving early publicity to the doings of our brethren, and we have made arrangements by which Reports of meetings occurring on the THURSDAY shall be inserted in the current issue of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE. We must, however, request our Correspondents to let us have their communications as early as possible in the week; as, when Reports reach us on *Friday* mid-day, which might have been received three or four days' earlier—to say the least—it is somewhat trying to our temper, and seriously delays the publication of the paper.

ENQUIRER.—No more than five candidates can be initiated at one Lodge meeting, under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England. Emergency meetings for that purpose can be held at any time, with the sanction of the W.M., but there is no reasonable limit to the number of brethren to be passed or raised at one regular Lodge meeting.

S.W.—The Senior Warden and Junior Warden must have served either of those offices in a regular Lodge for the space of twelve months, otherwise they are not eligible for the Master's chair and no Companion of the Royal Arch can occupy either of the Principal's chairs unless he is a W.M. or P.M. of a Craft Lodge.

R.M.—1:—An "affiliated" or "joining" member pays certain fees on joining, but he may be relieved by vote of Lodge from payment of the regular subscription, when he becomes, *ipso facto*, an honorary member. Any brother may be admitted an honorary member of a Lodge, in which case he pays no fees whatever. 2:—By paying fees he would cease to be an honorary member and assume the character of joining member. But this change can only be effected after due notice, ballot, &c. Honorary members of Grand Lodge, Scotland, and, we presume, of daughter Lodges, do not vote. 3:—This seems to us to be a matter of courtesy. The certificate is to the effect that he shall preside if called upon to do so by the brethren present.

Several Reviews, Letters, and other matter crowded out.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE AT RISCA.

ALTHOUGH the ramifications of Freemasonry are extended throughout the civilised world, yet no extraneous effort is put forth to extend the number of its Lodges or the numerical strength of the confraternity. Nevertheless, it grows secretly and silently. Good men and true, of all nationalities and creeds, are continually being enrolled within its borders. Ever and anon, sheer necessity imposes upon the brotherhood the absolute duty of forming a new Lodge, so that the primary objects of the Ancient Order may not become stagnant or inert. Such was found to be the case at Risca. The few brethren who, from various causes, had here been brought together, became alive to the fact that they could not make progress in the mystic art when isolated from circles where the brethren are to be found in greater numbers, and where regularly constituted Lodges exist. Finding that the lack of the privilege of assembling together, as only the Masonic brotherhood can assemble, and ascertaining also that many gentlemen in the district, of the highest respectability, and unsullied reputation, were desirous of becoming members of the Craft, it was resolved to take the necessary steps to memorialise the Grand Lodge of England to grant a dispensation or warrant for opening a new Lodge at Risca—to be called the Homfray Lodge. The resolve was put into practice, and in the result a charter was granted, authorising the formation of a new Lodge, and according thereunto all the rites and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry.

The brethren most interested in its formation set to work in an indefatigable manner. A suitable and convenient Lodge room was obtained, decorated and embellished in a tasteful and most appropriate style. All the requirements necessary to a Masonic Lodge were obtained, as well as everything requisite to add to the comfort and convenience of the brethren in carrying out the business of the Lodge. The committee, with Brother W. Watkins as acting Secretary, carried out the duties entrusted to them in a highly creditable and praiseworthy manner. To this may be mainly attributed the reason why the proceedings in connection with the ceremony of consecration passed off so smoothly.

The newly consecrated Lodge is called the "Homfray Lodge," No. 1562, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England. The Lodge room is situated on premises attached to the Post Office at Risca, with suitable accessory apartments contiguous thereto. The R. W. Colonel Lyne P.G.M. of Monmouthshire, had arranged to perform the ceremony, but was, at the last moment, summoned, by telegraph, to attend what, he feared, would be the death-bed of his mother. Under these circumstances the deepest manifestation of sympathy was exhibited, and the duty of performing the ceremony of consecration devolved upon the V.W. Bro. Captain S. Geo. Homfray A.G.D.C. of England and D.P.G.M. of Monmouthshire. The Lodge was opened shortly after 3 o'clock, when the following brethren, in addition to Bro. S. G. Homfray, were present:—Bros. Captain A. T. Perkins W.M. Benevolent Lodge 446 P.G.J.W. Somerset, L. A. Homfray P.P.G.S.W. and P.M. 683, W. H. Wickey Homfray W.M. P.P.G.S.B. Members of new Lodge—R. J. Chambers W.M., Jonathan Piggford S.W., William James J.W., W. Watkins Acting Secretary, Thomas Moses Secretary, Rev. Hugh Williams, R. H. Richards 471, J. T. Green, James Wilson, H. Fletcher Tyler, D. R. J. Chambers, Isca Lodge 683, C. H. Oliver, Silurian, 471, P.G.S.W. Isca 683, John Linton 471, Isaac Dando 683, William Needham 471, Alfred Jacob 471, William Earl 471, J. W. Dredge, Emulation, 1161, Joseph W. Lewis 471, J. W. Pickford 471, Harry T. Davis 833, 471, W. Hitchcock S.W. Isca, 683, W. B. Broad P.M. 474 P.G. Organist Mon., George Bradford 237 P.M., W. Jenkins 1258, Henry Peach 1258, D. L. James, Silurian 471, E. Whitehall, Albert Edward Prince of Wales 1429 S.W. P.G.S., W. Pickford, Silurian 471 P.M. and P.G.S., J. A. Seys, Albert Edward 1429, J. W. O'Shean 683, A. P. Willent 683 I.G., W. Wood, Kennard 1258 J.D., Samuel Davies, Tynedale, 1363, P.P.G.S.B., J. B. Richards, Royal Success 53, W. Twist, Albert Edward 1429 J.D., Louis Hermessen 1429 St., W. Milton Locke 1429 S. Wks., M. E. A. Durkoup, Silurian 471, Edward Swidenbank, St. George 1098 W.M., J. J. Morgan I.P.M. 1098, Isaac Evan Thomas, Albert Edward 1429, Chas. H. Oliver jun., Silurian, Jno. Phillips 471 J.D., Henry Richards St. 1429, Crawshaw Bailey, Philantropic, 818, P.M., E. W. Evans, 1429, W. Welsford, 1422, F. B. Wilmer, Fawcett 959, Hartley Feather, Kennard 1258 Sec., T Waite, Kennard, 1258 P.G. Pursuivant, Jno. Rees Kennard 1258 Chaplain, W. H. Haskings 1258 J.W., Thomas Roderick 1258, Wm. Bunning 1258, Henry Fox 1258 D.C., D. Davies 1258, J. J. Hale 683, W Thomas 1429, &c.

The Lodge having been opened in due form, the ceremony proceeded, and Bro. Watkins, by direction of the presiding officer, read the petition and warrant. After the approval and assent of brethren had been given thereto, Bro. Osman, the Chaplain, delivered the following oration in a most impressive manner:—

"In accordance with the part allotted to me in this day's proceedings, it is my privilege to address to you a few words on the nature and principles of the Craft. And first, as to the nature of the Institution. It is not a system of religion, though asserting the existence and attributes of the Deity on all suitable occasions. It is not a teacher of religion, though invoking the Divine aid at every step. Again, it is not a provident society, though, by its steadfast clinging to established institutions, when not inimical to real liberty, it practically makes men provident and reluctant to commit themselves to the work of destruction or change. It is not an indigent society; but where is there an institution which cares so much for, and which gives such substantial aid to indigent brethren as the noble Institution of which we have the honour to be members? It is not an insurance society, in which a man can make provision, if necessary, for those who come after him; but what Institution cares so nobly for the widow and the fatherless, if needy, as the Royal Craft?—

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educating the children, by hundreds, of worthy Masons deceased, and encouraging the brethren to look after and care for the widow. It is not distinctively any of these, but it really possesses the characteristics of them all. The Craft, as every initiate has to learn, is a brotherhood—a brotherhood of just and honourable men, a brotherhood large enough and wide enough to take in every true hearted, self-respecting, upright man in the wide, wide world, every honourable man living, of whatever creed, nation, or clime; every such believer in Him who lives and reigns,—the Mighty Architect of the Universe, by whose will we live, and move, and have our being—in Him who is Lord of all, Father of all, Redeemer of all, Judge of all! And as the to principles of the Royal Craft. Are they not those which elevate and ennoble mankind, brotherly love, relief, truth? Do you seek to do good to your fellow-man? How is this to be done, if not in obedience to the promptings, and in the spirit of brotherly love, you yourself influenced by the ever present, overpowering thought of His presence, Who is above all, His love extending to all, who hates nothing His hand has made. While the Royal Craft does not take from honour already in possession of him who is initiated into it, but, as we believe, adds to that honour, it yet keeps before the mind of every one of its members the great fact that men are intended to love one another, are intended to live, not as isolated units, but in society, in brotherhood, to unite one with the other in the practice and pursuit of all that is true, just, holy, and of good report. And in the true spirit of brotherly love to stretch out the helping hand when help and relief are needed,—to help as a brother, to sympathise as a friend, to bear, as far as may be, one another's burdens; kind to all, thoughtful of all, seeking the good of all, careful by example to strengthen and confirm one another in right principles, and right conduct, yet gentle and charitable to those who err from the right way. Wishful to hide rather than expose faults and failings, from which, alas! no human life is altogether free. Of such a nature, of such principles is the Masonic Institution. In hope of promoting the development and spread of brotherly love, relief and truth, the Homfray Lodge is consecrated, and the brotherhood constituted to-day. May this hope be realised, this end attained, as the result of this day's proceedings. May the fraternal union, pleasant intercourse, and prosperity which distinguish other Lodges in the province, ever be the stereotyped characteristics of the Homfray Lodge. May the brethren assembling here from time to time be enabled to do their part of the work which Masons have to do in the world—uphold the true, defend the absent and the weak, minister to the relief of the needy, and in a large-hearted, world-wide charity seek to do the will of the Great Architect of the Universe, whose servants we profess to be, and to whom we, every one of us, shall give account at the last great day."

The anthem, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133rd), was sung, Brother W. P. Broad P.M. 457, P.G. Organist, presiding at the harmonium. The whole of the musical arrangements were admirably carried out.

The presiding officer having constituted the Lodge in due form, the anthem, "Glory be to God in the Highest," was sung, and the ceremony of consecration was completed.

The next duty was the installation of Bro. R. J. Chambers as the W.M., followed by the appointment of officers for the ensuing year. Bro. S. G. Homfray undertook the duty of installation, and performed the ceremony in a most impressive manner. The W.M. subsequently appointed his officers, and presented each with the insignia of his office.

The officers were as follow:—Bros. R. J. Chambers W.M., L. A. Homfray I.P.M., Jonathan Piggford S.W., Wm. James J.W., Henry Williams Chaplain, W. Watkins D.C., Thomas Moses Sec., Joseph Green Treasurer, C. H. Oliver jun. Organist, R. H. Richards S.D., George B. Robathan J.D., D. R. J. Chambers I.G., Henry Fletcher Tyler.

A number of propositions of candidates for initiation and for joining the Lodge as subscribing members were made, followed by the accustomed votes of thanks to the D.P.G.M. for presiding, and to the visitors for attending.

These votes having been suitably acknowledged, the interesting proceedings were brought to a close in the usual way.

The consecration banquet took place at the Albert Inn, where a numerous party sat down, under the presidency of Bro. R. J. Chambers, the W.M. elect, and expressed themselves highly pleased with the quality of the viands supplied by Mr. J. Boulton, as well as the wines which were placed on the table.

On the removal of the cloth the W.M. first gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was never more loyally honoured than on this occasion. The next toast from the chair was "The M.W.G.M. of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.," which having been acknowledged, the list was proceeded with in the following order:—"The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." "The R.W. the Provincial G.M. of Monmouthshire, Bro. Col. Lyne." "The V.W.D.P.G.M. of Monmouthshire, Bro. Capt. S. Geo. Homfray A.G.D.C., and rest of the Prov. Officers, Past and Present." "The W.M., I.P.M., Officers and Brethren of the Homfray Lodge, No. 1502." "The Consecration and Installing Officers." "The W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the other Lodges of the Province." "The Visiting Brethren." "The Masonic Charities." "The Tyler's Toast." Throughout the evening the greatest harmony and fraternal feeling prevailed.

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 balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican.—*Advt.*

ADVANCEMENT OF OUR ORDER.

We are glad to see, from the report of a recent meeting of the Lewisham District Board of Works, that the Board has accepted, by a very substantial majority, a resolution proposed by Mr. Thompson, and seconded by Mr. Jones, to the effect that application for a warrant for a new Masonic Lodge should be made in the proper quarter, and that a part of the Board's premises should be set apart for holding the Lodge meetings. We give in *extenso* that portion of the report relating to the resolution:—

Mr. Thompson, who made a resolution to the effect that permission be given to the Rev. W. Taylor Jones, Messrs. Thompson, Roberts, Bardett, Lemon, Jerrard, Woolf, Edwards, Dr. Wilkinson, and others, to apply for a warrant for a Masonic Lodge, and in their application to state that the Lodge is intended to be held in the building of this Board's offices at Catford, said the object of the resolution was obvious. A great many members of that Board happened to belong to the Freemasons, and they, in conjunction with the public who were Freemasons, proposed to take advantage of the accommodation afforded by the spacious rooms of the Board. All they asked for was simply the use of the two corner rooms for a short time, perhaps not more than for two or three hours, about seven times a year. He felt confident that the Lodge would conduce to a great deal closer intimacy. To show the popular feeling upon the subject, he (Mr. Thompson) stated that he had been perfectly inundated with letters asking for information, and testifying to the benefit that would be wrought in consequence of its establishment. Mr. Thompson impressed particularly upon the Board the fact that the meetings of the Freemasons would in no way clash with the arrangements of the Board as special attention would be made to their convenience.

Mr. Jones, from personal observation, was enabled to state that when he went through various parts of the country he found the use of the town hall invariably accorded for such meetings, and he was decidedly of opinion that the movement would be undoubtedly popular, and being an old Freemason, seconded the resolution with the utmost cordiality.

Mr. Lemon objected strongly against permission for the room being given, in the first place, because he had not believe the rooms were adapted to the requirements of Freemasons, and the doors were not sufficiently well closed to enable the Freemasons to carry on their business with the utmost secrecy. Again, the Board had provided themselves with some very heavy and valuable furniture, and he knew so much of the proceedings of the body to be able to state that it would involve the clearing out of all the furniture in the room, which could not be done with perfect immunity from damage. Another thing, he thought the public would look upon the Board as a clique desirous only of furthering their own ends.

Mr. Thompson said the last argument practically destroyed itself, for instead of being a clique, it would mean an introduction of a portion of the public. All the furniture required to be moved would be the two tables. Such small arguments demonstrated to him the weakness of the opposition.

The resolution was then put and carried by eight against three.

DUNMOW.

AN addition has been made to the Essex Lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, by the consecration, on Wednesday last, under most favourable auspices, of a new Lodge at Dunmow. The brethren, who included twenty P.M.'s, and several Grand Officers, assembled in the Town Hall, where the ceremony was ably and impressively performed by the V.W. Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain, assisted by the V.W. Bro. the Rev. Spencer R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, and by special permission of the Earl of Rosslyn P.G.M. Scotland, and representative of the G.L. Eng., the Lodge was designated the "Rosslyn Lodge," numbered 1543 on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of England. Bro. the Rev. F. B. Shephard P.P.G.C. and P.P.S.G.W., P.M. and P.Z. 275, was installed as the first W.M., and he appointed as his Wardens Bros. G. D. Clapham and F. J. Snell. At the conclusion of the ceremony, about forty brethren adjourned to the Saracen's Head, and partook of a sumptuous and well-served banquet, which was followed by the usual Masonic toasts. Among those present were—Bros. Matthew E. Clark Deputy Provincial Grand Master, John Wright Carr P.G. Secretary, Joseph Burton P.G. Treas., Andrew Durrant P.G.S.G.W., James Nicholl S.P.G.J.W., Frank Whitmore W.M. 276, Harold E. Sisdolph 276 P.P.G.O., Alfred F. Giles 276, D. M. B. Wheeler 276, W. Johnson 1312, W. Cook 1312, E. Shed 276, Percy W. Taylor P.M. 409, John S. Taylor S.D. 409, Rev. C. J. Martyn P.M. 1224 P.G.C., W. D. Merritt 1000, Thos. Steer P.M. 276 P.G.S.D., A. C. Veley P.M. 276 P.P.G.J.W., Rev. S. R. Wigram 1000 G.C., Alfred Jones W.M. 1280 P.J.G.W., Percy Leith 1118 P.S.G.D., C. A. Harker 1280, John Gilling I.G. 1280, William Spicer 1280, Joseph Ball P.M. 1280 P.P.G.J.W., Arthur Goodchild P.M. 276 P.P.G.J.D., Matthew H. Wrader 1280, Joseph F. Hills, 1224, P.P.G.W. (Suffolk), H. C. Bowring 34, Fred. Wheeler P.M. 1224, G. H. Grimwood W.M. 1224, and the following members of the new Rosslyn Lodge:—Rev. F. B. Shephard P.M. 276, George Dixon Clapham, Fred. J. Snell, H. J. Burt, George F. Skill, J. H. Beaman, John B. Frankham, and Joseph F. Bott P.M. 276.

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GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD, and Mr. GATHERWOOL.
MIRROR.—At 7.0, THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS. At 7.45, ALL FOR HER.
GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE, and THE BRIGANDS.
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ROYALTY.—At 7.30, MY WIFE'S OUT. At 8.15, LA PERICHOLE, and TRIAL BY JURY.
OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, A TEMPTING BAIT. At 8.15, PROOF POSITIVE, and QUITE CRACKED.
COURT. — On Monday, A MORNING CALL, and A NINE DAYS' WONDER.
CRITERION.—At 8, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK. At 8.30, FLEUR DE THE.
ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, BALLET.
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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE Prince of Wales is now well on his way to India, and doubtless it will not be long ere we hear of his having arrived at Bombay. On quitting Athens His Royal Highness made for Port Said, which was reached early on Saturday morning. He was here received by the Princes Tewfik, Hassan, and Toussoum, sons of the Viceroy, General Stanton, our agent and Consul general, and Captain Willoughby, agent for the Indian government. Thence he proceeded aboard the Osborne to Ismailia, preceded by the Egyptian Princes in the Scinde, and these received him on landing, and escorted him to the state train in waiting to convey him to Cairo. Here the Viceroy in person received his Royal Highness, and escorted him to Ghezireh Palace, which had been prepared for his reception. On Monday an Investiture of the Order of the Star of India was held, at which his Royal Highness, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by Her Majesty invested the Prince Tewfik, eldest son and heir of the Viceroy, with the Grand Cross of the Order. In the evening of the same day, the Royal and Viceregal party visited the Pyramids, and dined there in state, the Great Pyramid being brilliantly illuminated in honour of the occasion. As our special commissioner telegraphs that he has mislaid his copy of the menu, we give the following as not unlikely to have been included in the bill of fare :—

SOUPS.—Clear Turtle. Oxtail à la Ball Apis. Mock Turtle à la Count Cagliostro.
FISH.—Turbot, Ichneumon Sauce. Fillets of Soles à la Crocodile. Red Mullets. Fried Eels.
ENTREES.—Pelican Sauté, sauce piquante. Alligator Kidneys, Mummy sauce. Veal Cutlets à la Pharoah Necho. Preserved Chariot Wheels.
RELEVES.—Boiled Dromedary Hump. Roast Ship of the Desert. Haunch of Jerusalem Pony. Roast Ibis.
ENTREMETS.—Jelly à la Phœnix. Pudding à la Misraim. Cream à la Delta. Pastry à la Caravan and à la Bedouin.

The desert included Dead Sea apples and a great variety of other fruits, for which the Nile Valley is celebrated. Had time permitted, the distinguished party would not only have inspected, but also indulged in a game of Pyramids. But a special representation at the opera had been ordered, and the Prince and Viceroy returned accordingly to Cairo in order to assist at the performance. On Tuesday His Royal Highness left by train for Suez, and thence on board the Serapis, *viâ* the Red Sea and Aden, for Bombay. Among the "fixtures" arranged at Bombay in honour of the Royal visit, must be mentioned a grand ball at Freemasons' Hall, Bombay.

On Monday H.R.H. Prince Leopold took up his freedom

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of the City. The event was celebrated with the customary honours, and the freedom was handed to His Royal Highness in a beautiful casket. When the more formal part of the ceremony, which, by the way, took place in the magnificent Library at Guildhall, was over, the party adjourned to banquet, the Lord Mayor presiding, with his wonted geniality. The usual toasts were given and responded to, that of the new Royal Citizen being greeted with great enthusiasm.

While referring to an event of no small interest in the City, it may not be out of place to state that, owing to the nature of the Report of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Loans, the Ministers of some small Central American States will not receive the usual invitation to be present at the Lord Mayor's banquet. It were as well, perhaps, if the Ministers in question took this hint and cleared out altogether from this country. We do not imagine John Bull would be seriously disconcerted if Honduras, Costa Rica, &c., were never again represented at the Court of St. James's.

The event of the week has been the celebration at the Alexandra Palace of the Anniversary of Balaklava. The whole of the survivors of the famous Charge of the Light Brigade were invited to a banquet in honour of this magnificent blunder. Most of the warriors responded in person to the invitation, and as the weather was fine for once in a way, we must note down this celebration as one of the most successful events of the whole year. There was a Balaklava trophy in the Great Central Hall, which was formally unveiled at 1 p.m. Here also was to be seen the charger of Colonel Kent, 77th Foot, which had carried that officer through the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny, and bore him only a few days since at Woolwich, when the regiment was inspected by the Duke of Cambridge. The horse, in spite of its seven-and-twenty years, looked well, and able to go through even half-a-dozen more campaigns. Miss Thompson's picture of the "Roll Call" was also on view, and attracted crowds of spectators, and the lady herself, we believe, was present at the banquet, though how her picture of the "Roll Call," of the guards, in any way connects her with the Charge of the Light Brigade is to us a mystery. However, whether for advertising or other purposes, the picture and the painter were both there, and so were the Russian drums, captured by the 77th Regiment at the battle of the Alma, lent for the occasion by Colonel Kent, and the head of Lord Cardigan's charger, also lent by the Countess of Cardigan. In honour of the day the programme was considerably enlarged, and the visitors thronged the Palace and grounds in thousands. In fact, locomotion in the Great Hall was a matter of considerable difficulty. The military were in strong force, red coats and blue coats being noticeable everywhere among the crowd. The last display of fireworks during the season brought a most enjoyable day to a close.

Sir Charles Reed, at a recent distribution of prizes, laid considerable stress on the ignorance so generally displayed by people as to spelling. People now-a-days are in such a hurry to learn everything, that so elementary a matter as spelling receives far less than its due share of attention. We admit that the English language is not the easiest in the world to spell, but it is our native language, and we ought at least to write it accurately. One of the difficulties cited by Sir Charles had reference to the great variety of sounds, which are conveyed by the same combination of letters as in *though*, *through*, &c. We offer the following as specially illustrating this particular difficulty: "Though the tough cough and hiccough plough me through." But if Englishmen themselves are behindhand in writing their own language, how must it fare with foreigners when they try to speak it? Imagine a Frenchmen or a German tackling the above varieties of *ough* for the first time.

New Zealand is a large and rising colony, but we knew not till the other day it was so considerable. Glancing over the pages of the *Standard*, a few days since, we saw it announced that the British Empire was in New Zealand. It must be an extensive country that will hold British India, British North America, the United Kingdom, and all our other possessions. It is, moreover, the first time we ever heard of the well known rule being reversed, namely, that the whole contains the part. Here it is the part which contains the whole. Well, we live and learn.

The floods this year are very serious. We suggested last week that possibly we should be obliged to swim instead of walk, or paddle our own canoe instead of ride, when we paid a visit to some neighbour, and in some parts of the country locomotion, except by means of boats, appears to be out of the question. This is especially so in the valley of the Thames, where the country for miles and miles on both sides of the river is inundated. Round about Eton and Windsor the whole country pretty well is under water. Matters are as bad in the Midlands, and the results are generally very disastrous in respect both to life and property. We trust we shall not be washed away, at all events this side of Christmas. What would our readers do without a *Chronicle* and Christmas pudding.

About the last great racing event of the year came off on Friday when Mr. Mannington's Sutton, 4 years, and carrying 5st. 13lb., won the Cambridgeshire easily, by about a length and a half, Mr. T. V. Morgan's Lord Gowran being second, and Sir G. Chetwynd's, the Grey Palmer, third. Henceforth we must turn our thoughts to the Two Thousand and Derby of 1876. In the aquatic world there is a race on for the championship, in which the veteran Sadler will doubtless prove that he has lost little, if any, of his ancient form, and Stanton in the arena of bicycles is doing something considerable, in the way of riding, at Lillie-bridge. Coursing meetings are being held in various parts of the country, and foot-ball flourishes, and will flourish, weather permitting, for some months to come.

Among the extra-Parliamentary utterances, so common at this season of the year, must be mentioned those of Sir Henry James, Attorney-General during the late ministry, and Mr. Sclater Booth and Sir Stafford Northcote, both members of the present ministry. The subjects to which they severally directed their attention were, in the case of the ex-Attorney-General, the Admiralty Circular respecting Fugitive Slaves, now, however, withdrawn, and in the case of the Chancellor of the Exchequer the new law of Friendly Societies. Mr. Sclater-Booth, as a county member, dealt chiefly with the law of settlement. Among other members who have spoken publicly during the last few days must be mentioned the name of Mr. Fawcett, who has been expressing himself with his wonted ability on the subject of Art Education.

The Wainwright trial will not come off till the November Sessions of the Central Criminal Court, the defendant's counsel having applied for a postponement of the case, and Justice Grove having acceded to the request. By the way, there appears to be what is described as an Italian Wainwright case, the body of a murdered woman having been discovered at the Railway Station at Rome, and identified, the supposed murderer having also been arrested by the police. A Greek merchant, M. Mavrocordato, has been sentenced to five years' penal servitude for embezzlement.

The visit of the Emperor of Germany to Milan appears, by all accounts, to have afforded the Imperial visitor the most intense satisfaction, while Victor Emmanuel is equally gratified with the visit. The Emperor quitted Milan on Saturday last, and reached his capital in time for the unveiling of the Stein memorial, but, unfortunately, indisposition prevented his taking part in the ceremonial. However, the Crown Prince took his father's place, and there were present also the Crown Princess and several other members of the Imperial family, to do honour to one of the leading men of his day, one to whom, more than almost any other man, Prussia is indebted for her present high position in Europe.

The news from Paris is somewhat tame. M. Rouher and M. Gambetta have issued manifestoes, the one Bonapartist, the other Republic, and both have caused a considerable amount of excitement. People are also beginning to look forward to the approaching session of the Legislative Assembly. From Spain, we are assured that a decisive campaign is about to be undertaken against the Carlists. We are no lovers of war, but in this case we cannot but rejoice at anything indicative of an approaching close of this unhappy contest. We care not a fig for Carlism or Alphonsism. Our sole wish is, that the Spaniards may once more enjoy the blessings of peace. There is nothing new as to the Insurrection in the Herzegovina, which, from a fighting point of view, may be considered at an end, though, probably, we shall hear, for some time to come, of occasional plundering of Turkish houses, and the decapitation of inoffensive Turks. The German Parliament has been opened by commission the Emperor being too indisposed to attend in person. The expressions in the speech referring to a belief in the continued maintenance of peace have given general satisfaction. This is about the sum of our foreign news.

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We are informed that the eminent engraver employed on the large historical picture of the Installation of H.R.H. the Grand Master is making progress, so as to ensure the exhibition of a *proof* at the Anniversary Festival next year. Bro. E. J. Harty requests us to suggest to all brethren who are entitled to a portrait in this interesting souvenir, that no time be lost ere they send a *carte* to him, or have one specially taken at the Gallery. Time is fleeting, and qualified brethren, whose portraits may be omitted, will have cause to regret their procrastination; while others will be able to point out their own likenesses in connection with the memorable event, and to hand them down to their childrens' children. The work will probably be hung in most buildings of importance throughout the country.

It is announced that the meetings of the St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction will be held, for the future, at the Commercial Tavern, King's Road, Chelsea, on Friday evenings at 7 o'clock.

It is announced that General Sir James Alexander, K.C.B., has joined the Board of Directors of the Briton Life Association, and that Dr. William Henry Pilkington, J.P., Clayton-le-Moors, Lancashire, and Mr. James H. Clarke, Nottingham, have become Extraordinary Directors of the same Association.

The *School for Scandal* will be represented at the Gaiety Matinée, Saturday, 6th November, for the annual benefit of Mr. George Coleman (acting manager of the Olympic Theatre), with a very powerful cast, including Mr. Phelps, Mr. Creswick, and Mr. Henry Neville; Mrs. Viner, Miss Bufton, Miss Bessie Hollingshead, and charming Miss Fowler, who will essay, for the first time, and, judging by her past efforts in comedy, not for the last, the *rôle* of Lady Teazle. Seats for this brilliant performance are already being secured. The patrons of the Olympic will thus have an opportunity of testifying the courtesy and attention of Mr. Coleman.

The consecration of the Elliot Lodge, No. 1567, and the installation of the W.M., will take place on Saturday, the 6th of November, at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, Middlesex, Bro. J. Mason W.M. designate, F. Green S.W. designate, and W. Dunham J.W. designate. The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be performed by Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, P.M. P.G. Warden, Middlesex, assisted by the Rev. P. M. Holden P.G. Chaplain, Middlesex, and the W. Bro. T. W. White, P.G.S. as D.C. The musical arrangements are under the direction of Bro. Knight Smith, Organist 1441.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday, the 29th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. J. Rucker V.P., P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, the Secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting. The reports of the Quarterly General Court and the Audit Committee were read and confirmed, and authority was given to purchase, in the 3 per cent. consols, the sum of £2,500 out of the balance of £3,993 4s 3d. Four candidates were placed on the list. There were present Bros. A. H. Tattershall, R. Webster, H. W. Hemsworth, G. Kenning, F. Binckes, W. Wellsman, H. Dubosc, R. Spencer, T. Masse, Moore, S. Rosenthal, H. M. Levy, C. Montrie, J. Boyd, T. Cubitt.

The following brethren will work the fifteen sections at the Faith Lodge of Instruction, at 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, Westminster, 2nd November, Bro. Mander W.M. 1201 in the chair:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section by	Bro. W. T. Morphew	... ...	No. 1446
2nd "	" Bro. J. W. Wright	... ...	S.W. No. 1298
3rd "	" Bro. A. Stewart	... ...	No. 1158
4th "	" Bro. W. C. Parsons	... ...	W.M. No. 180
5th "	" Bro. J. H. G. Watts	... ...	S.W. No. 1201
6th "	" Bro. J. R. Stacey	... ...	P.M. No. 180
7th "	" Bro. T. Cull	... ...	I.G. No. 1446

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section by	Bro. D. M. Belfrage	... ...	D.C. No. 179
2nd "	" Bro. G. Bubb	... ...	P.M. No. 180
3rd "	" Bro. J. Wheeler	... ...	No. 1146
4th "	" Bro. W. S. Lee	... ...	No. 1201
5th "	" Bro. A. Boehr	... ...	No. 1446

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section by	Bro. F. Honeyman	... ...	S.W. No. 1298
2nd "	" Bro. A. C. Burrell	... ...	P.M. No. 1446
3rd "	" Bro. E. Farwig	... ...	W.S. No. 180

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF ENGLAND.

THE following business will be transacted at the Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Wednesday, the 3rd day of November next, at seven o'clock in the evening, *punctually*:—

The Minutes of the last quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation. The Report of the Committee of General Purposes.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the Accounts from the 22nd July 1875, to the 19th October 1875, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—Balance Grand Chapter £306 2d, unappropriated account £146 18s 11d, subsequent receipts £344 11s, total £999 10s 1d. Purchase of £300 Consols at 94¼ and commission £189 5s, disbursements during the quarter £304 8s 7d, balance £189 10s 7d, balance in unappropriated account £156 5s 11d, total £999 10s 1d, 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 Robert Margrave as Z., Aaron Stone as H., John Beavan Phillips as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 671, Llanelly, for a Chapter to be called "The St. Elliw Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Llanelly, in the County of Carmarthen.

2nd. From Companions Benbow Backhouse Marson as Z., Joseph Bell as H., Richard Brown as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the De Gray and Ripon Lodge, No. 1366, Liverpool, to be called "The De Grey and Ripon Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, Lancashire.

3rd. From Companions Richard Charles Rise as Z., Alfred Thrale Perkins as H., Edward Bath as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Benevolent Lodge, No. 446, Wells, to be called "The Avalon Chapter," and to meet at the Town Hall, Wells, in the County of Somerset.

4th. From Companions Horatio Lloyd as Z., John Chesworth Robinson as H., John Oswell Bury as J., and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Cestrian Lodge, No. 425, Chester, to be called "The Cestrian Chapter," and to meet at the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.

5th. From Companions Richard Arnaud Brooke as Z., Robert Hooker as H., Myles Haslam as J., and eleven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Hindpool Lodge, No. 1235, Barrow-in-Furness, to be called "The Abbey Chapter," and to meet at the Hartington Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire.

6th. From Companions The Earl of Bective as Z., William Dodd as H., John Talbot as J., and fourteen others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Underley Lodge, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale, to be called "The Bective Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Kirkby Lonsdale, in the County of Westmoreland.

7th. From Companions Edward T[illegible] Inskip as Z., William Burbank Stocker as H., Frederick Wil[illegible]er as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Ro[illegible]banon Lodge, No. 493, Gloucester, to be called "The Royal Lebanon Chapter," and to meet at the Spread Eagle Hotel, in the City of Gloucester.

The foregoing Petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the Prayers thereof be respectively granted.

(Signed) JOHN SAVAGE, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.
20th October 1875.

ROYAL ARK MARINERS.

AT the request of the Holytown Chapter, 148, Comps. G. W. Wheeler and Johnston, of the Royal Ark Mariners, No. 73, attended to assist them to form a Lodge in connexion with the Chapter 148. The Ark was accordingly unmoored, Comp. Wheeler as P.N., H. J. Shields as S., and J. Johnston as J. Petitions having been presented from Comps. McMurdo and Baker, Z. and H. of 148, they were received on board in due form, obligated and entrusted with the secrets of the degree. There being no other business, the Ark was again moored in safety, the companions feeling sure that this ancient Order will meet with a hearty welcome in the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire under the Officers left to command it, namely, Comps. Shields, McMurdo and Baker, as each are well-known as bright Masons in the other degrees.

Obituary.

With deep regret we have to announce the death of Brother Henry Dempster, late manager of the White Hart Hotel, Windsor. He was initiated in the Windsor Castle Lodge, 771, on the day of its consecration, February 1859, and was installed W.M. in February 1867, and was presented with a P.M.'s jewel in 1868. He died on the 20th, and was buried on 25th inst., at Ifield Parish Church, followed by the members of his family. The Lodge was represented by Brothers Johnson and Tolley P.M. and Secretary. Brother Dempster was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him; his loss will be felt by a large circle of friends, and not the least by the brethren of his Lodge.

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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, 1st NOVEMBER.

25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
[illegible]—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

27—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton-le-Moors.
80—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley.
49—Royal Brunswick, Masonic Hall, Bath.
215—Unanimity, Bull Hotel Assembly Rooms, Preston.
139—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
155—Perpetual Friendship, Royal Clarence Hotel, Bridgewater.
166—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
251—Loyal, Freemasons' Hall, Queen Anne's Walk, Barnstaple.
303—Benevolent, Masonic Hall, Holland's-road, Teignmouth.
305—Gay's, Crown Hotel, Lea[illegible]ington.
423—Tarbrough, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Gainsborough.
431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Suffolk-street, Shields.
442—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Cambridge.
807—St. Cybi, Marine Hotel, Holyhead.
823—St. Cuthbergs, Masonic Hall, Wimbourne, Dorset.
856—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Hi[illegible]vant.
880—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Ashbourne.
907—Fowey, Masonic Rooms, Fowey.
1260—Gaudolph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1263—Rowley, Masonic Lodge Room, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1284—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry.
1288—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, Yorks.
1360—Shelmerdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.

7—Royal York of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.
[illegible]70—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1361—Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.

37—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
105—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
170—Paladin, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
[illegible]—Harmonic, Freemasons' Temple, Stone-street, Dudley.
[illegible]—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
[illegible]—St. David's, Masonic Hall, Parade, Berwick.
[illegible]—Loyal of Industry, Freemasons' Hall, South Molton.
[illegible]—Loyal Monmouth, Freemasons' Hall, Monmouth.
[illegible]—Canalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorks.
[illegible]—Sherborne, George Hotel, Stroud.
[illegible]—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard.
[illegible]—Perseus, Masonic Temple, Ulverston.
1128—Baconstree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)

WEDNESDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER.

Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.

188—Confidence, White Hart, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
91—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
127—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-[illegible], Poole.
144—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, L[illegible] Hotel, Sidmouth.
160—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Guest[illegible]
[illegible]—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Hallf[illegible]street, Leicester.
[illegible]—Bedford, Private Rooms, Abbey, Tavistock.
[illegible]—Eminence, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
[illegible]—St. John's, Lamb and Lion, Wigton, Cumberland.
[illegible]—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
428—Sincerity, Angel Hotel, Northwich.
[illegible]—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
[illegible]—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
1119—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship-street, Hull.
1265—Harington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1306—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.
R. A. 286—Royal Cyrus, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, St. George's-street, Leeds.

THURSDAY, 4th NOVEMBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
45—Strong Man, Masons' Arms, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
822—Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1260—Hervey, 162 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

24—Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
31—United Industrious, Guildhall, Canterbury.
[illegible]—Union, Council Chambers, Chichester.
45—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath.
139—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydfil.
254—Trinity, Castle Hotel, Coventry.
[illegible]—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
[illegible]—Pomfret, George Hotel, Northampton.
[illegible]—Doric, Private Rooms, St. Peter-street, Grantham.
445—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.
448—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
[illegible]—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
857—Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.
[illegible]—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
1073—Aberystwith, Belle Vue, Royal Hotel, Aberystwith.
1078—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirby Lonsdale.
1228—Ancholme, Forester's Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1294—Brent, Masonic Hall, Globe Hotel, Topsham.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Sanke-street, Horncastle.

FRIDAY, 5th NOVEMBER.

1218—Bardett Ocotte, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1360—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
142—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
[illegible]—Ultral, 24 Albion-street, Leeds.
[illegible]—St. John's, Weekly Hotel, Wellington, Salop.
[illegible]—Isonia, Corn Exchange, Queen-street, Ashford.
[illegible]—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester.
1302—Athelstan, Town Hall, Athelstone, Warwickshire.

SATURDAY, 6th NOVEMBER.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
R. A.—Stuart Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—1—First Lodge of Ireland, Masonic Hall, Tuckey-street, Cork.
" 5—Waterford, Masonic Hall, The Mall, Waterford.
" 116—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Carlow.
" 122—Patricks, Masonic Hall, Dunnen, Co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY—30—True Blue, Killyleigh, Co. Down.
" 171—Duke of Clarence, Dublin.
" 376—Ballymahon, Court House, Ballymahon.
" 719—St. Alban's, Private House, Main-street, Newtownmavady, Derry.
" 881—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, Co. Monaghan.
" 914—True Blue, Anne-street, Wexford.
WEDNESDAY—51—Temple, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.
" 70—Waringsford, Tullynisker, Down.
" 208—Desmond, Masonic Hall, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
THURSDAY—33—Royal Shamrock, Lodge Room, Clavo's-place, Waterford.
" 111—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 272—Gilball, Princes-street, Dromore, Co. Down.
" 555—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—97—Hiram, Masonic Hall, Arthur-square, Belfast.
" 110—Kilrea, Kilrea, Co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 328—Gorey, Gorey.
" 891—St. John's, Town Hall, Enniskillen.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—Quarterly Meeting of Grand Lodge.
" 428—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 98 Constitution-street.
THURSDAY—97—St. James's, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—323—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 548—Clydesdale, 106 Ross-street.
" 120—St. Mirren, St. Mirren Hall, Paisley.
" R. A. 119—Rosslyn, 25 Robinson-street.
TUESDAY—7—Hamilton Kilwinning Freemasons' Hall, Hamilton.
" 34—St. John, St. John's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 76—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 87—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
" 427—Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan.
" 406—St. John's, Dalziel, Freemasons' Hall, Motherwell.
WEDNESDAY—117—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
" 128—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
" 354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street.
" R. A. 97—Shamrock and Thistle, 13 (Trongate.
THURSDAY—57—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 446—St. Andrew's, Garngad-road.
" 553—Clydesdale, 42 Kent-road.
FRIDAY—275—Shamrock and Thistle, 21 Struthers-street.
" 360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
" 406—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 116—Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 512—Thornlee School-room, Thornliebank.
SATURDAY—406—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Busby.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Mother Kilwinning Lodge, No. 0.—Thursday, 21st October, being the Glasgow Fast Day, and held as a holiday, Bros. J. Ferguson and J. Tweed, the Pro S.W. and J.W. of the Mother Lodge, took down another contingent of initiates and affiliates to swell the ranks of the Lodge, which boasts to have been the cradle of Freemasonry, at any rate in North Britain. They were accompanied by twenty of the brethren, and after a pleasant ride of an hour and a half, arrived at the picturesque old village, and found the brethren assembled in the old Lodge room. This Lodge was opened at 1 o'clock, by Bros. R. Wylie P.G.S. and Past Prov. Grand Master of Ayrshire, John Johnston S.W., James Gibson J.W., and J. Whiston Tyler, when four officers of the 105th Highland Regiment of Volunteers, and two civilians, were duly admitted to the Entered Apprentice degree. It having been put to the Lodge and voted a case of Emergency, Messrs. Jas. Shirra, Alex. McDonald, Allan McKechnie, Wm. Robertson, John Clark, and Thos. Ogilvegold, were passed and raised to the sublime degree of M.M., and Bro. Balfour, of Bothwell, 13, P.G.D.C. Glasgow, and G. W. Wheeler P.M. 73, were affiliated as joining members. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet at the Eglington Arms, where a substantial repast was admirably served up by the respected host, Bro. Rodger. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, when Bro. Wylie proposed the Initiates he thought it no small honour to have had the privilege of assisting in bringing to light six gentlemen like the present, who, from their behaviour to-day, he felt sure would yet reflect honour upon the Order. Bro. J. Clark replied, on behalf of himself and the other Initiates. The P.G.M. then proposed the visiting brethren and affiliates. The Mother Lodge, though still working with all her rude simplicity, was yet glad to see brethren of long standing and great experience in the Order coming forward to join them with all their shortcomings. Bro. Wheeler, in reply, said: Though he held many diplomas, of various Orders and Degrees of Masonry, he could assure them there was none he should prize more than that of the Mother Kilwinning Lodge. Bro. H. J. Shields 33°, was pleased to see the simplicity with which the degrees were wrought, and yet they were strictly in accordance with the ancient landmarks. He had seen the French, German, Italian, Swiss, Spanish, and Greek Rites worked, as well as being present in nearly all the States of America, to say nothing of Ireland and England, yet since he first saw Masonic light [illegible] years ago, he had seen nothing that approved itself more to his judgment. He called it Masonry pure and undefiled; a great deal of what were called improvements in Masonry he looked upon as simply innovations, which the Order would be better without, and he could say, with Bro. Wheeler, that above all his diplomas he should prize that of Mother Kilwinning. The period for reassembling having arrived, the brethren returned to the Lodge room, and Bro. Wylie reopened; when some Glasgow brethren, who had been unable to come by the earlier train, were admitted, and Bro. J. Whiston T. affiliated Bros. W. Bell R.W.M. 3 bis., D. Reid K.W.M. 463, and J. Johnston P.M. 419, as members of the Lodge, and Mr. Jas. Wylie, draughtsman of Hueston-street, Glasgow, was initiated, passed and raised, Bro. Jas. Gibson J.W. giving him the obligations and charges. Bro. Wm. Bell 3 bis., thanked the acting Grand Master

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for his kindness in reopening the Lodge, and also for the honour they had conferred upon him in admitting him a member. The Glasgow members of Kilwinning had held one of their annual festivals in St. John's Hall, and he should be most happy to place it at their disposal this year should they require it. Bro. Johnson also returned thanks. Bro. Wylie was proud to receive this invitation from No. 3, a Lodge whose antiquity no one could dispute; he had been in their handsome hall, and when he thought of that, and their well appointed furniture, and other surroundings, he was afraid Bro. Bell would think very little of their primitive substitutes, and perhaps smile at their altar, but if they did not boast much of externals, he thought they possessed the real qualifications of ancient Freemasonry. Bro. Balfour expressed the thanks of the visitors to Bro. Gibson the J.W., for the way in which he had assisted in working the ceremonies, it reminded him of his own initiation in No. 13, a Lodge that originally held its charter direct from Kilwinning. Bro. Gibson acknowledged, and the Lodge was then closed in time for the last train to Glasgow.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No 27.—This Lodge of Instruction held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, "The Hercules," Leadenhall-street, on Thursday last, 28th October, at 7 p.m., Bro. Austin P.M. 933 presiding, supported by Bros. Horsley as J.W., Williams as J.W., and a numerous assemblage of the brethren, numbering upwards of forty, for the purpose of working the fifteen sections. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the sections of the First Lecture were worked by Bros. Brown, Calverley, Ellis, Briant, Hoare, Horsley and Barnes, after which the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the Sections of the Second Lecture were worked by Bros. Crane, Musto, Barnes, Rowe, and Lowe. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and the final sections were worked by Bros. Burr, Webb and Williams. The Lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and after the usual business of the Lodge was transacted it was closed in ancient form, all the brethren having expressed their approbation of the excellent manner in which the various sections had been worked for the first time in this Lodge of Instruction.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Monday, the 25th October, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Present:—Bros. Stock W.M., Piercy S.W., Tolmie J.W., Kidder S.D., Crawley J.D., Hill I.G., Christopher Tyler, Beckett Preceptor, Killick Hon. Sec. Visitors:—Bros. Powell 186, Hall 898, and Mitchell 1360. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Walker candidate. The W.M. worked the 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections, and Bro. Beckett the 4th of the 1st lecture, and was very ably assisted by the members and visitors. Bro. Mitchell 1360 was elected a member, and Bro. Tolmie W.M. for the ensuing week, under whose able presidency the fifteen sections will be worked, commencing at 7 o'clock.

Cathedral Chapter, No. 67.—This Chapter was visited by Prov. Chapter on 26th Oct., when they congratulated Comp. Duthie on the continued prosperity of the Chapter; they wished that all those in the province were working as satisfactorily. The chair of Z. was filled by Comp. J. Duthie, that of H. by G. Pridie, and J. by D. Ranald. J. French Scribe E., J. Mason N., W. Wood T., J. Dicker 1st S., R. Crawford Janitor. One brother of the Glory Lodge was entered into the excellent degree, and afterwards exalted to the Holy Royal Arch degree in Comp. Duthie's well-known style.

Commercial Chapter No. 79.—This Chapter held its Installation meeting on the 22nd inst., at 30 Hope-street, Glasgow, when the following officers were duly installed in their respective offices:—D. Lamb M.E.Z., B. Brodie J., J. Munn Scribe E. Sec., J. Macpherson Treas. The board of Installed Principals consisted of J. Duthie Z. of 67, G. W. Wheeler Z. of 73, J. Brodie P.Z. of 79. Visitors—J Mitchel P.J. 50, C. Mackenzie 1st S. 50, J. Oliver S.E. 69. Comp. D. Lamb thanked the Chapter for the honour they had conferred upon him. He had always had two objects of ambition before him since he had become a Mason, one was to fill the chair of a blue Lodge, the other to preside in a Chapter. He was proud to say that he was now 2nd in the Lodge and, by their confidence, 1st in the Chapter. He had also to thank Comps. Duthie and Wheeler for the assistance rendered, not only to-night but on several other occasions as well. Comp. Duthie expressed the pleasure he had felt in installing a young member of such ability as Comp. Lamb in the chair, and augured well for the prospects of the Chapter. Comp. Wheeler also suitably acknowledged the compliment.

Caledonian of Unity Chapter, No. 73.—On Tuesday, 26th October, a deputation from the P.G.C. of Lanarkshire, consisting of Comps. W. Smith P.G.J., A. McTaggart M.A. P.G.S.E., J. Fraser P.G.S.N., Jas. Balfour P.G. 1st S., G. Thallon P.G.C., G. McDonald P.G.S.B., and J. B. Hardie P.P. Janitor, attended at 73, and after inspecting the books and seeing Chapter opened, the G.S.E. read the minutes he had prepared, expressing the entire satisfaction of the deputation with the state of the books, and the general working of the Chapter. The acting Grand Superintendent said indisposition had prevented Comp. F. A. Barron P.G.G.S. from attending, but he had requested him to say that he regretted this the less as the Chapter had already been known for the excellence of its work and the satisfactory way in which the books were kept, and he had only to add his own and the deputation's entire satisfaction with the state of the Chapter. Comp. Wheeler 1st Principal, thanked Comp. Smith P.G.J. and the rest of the deputation for the kind eulogies they had been pleased to pass on the work; he did not wish to take all the praise to himself, for he thought a good deal of it was due to his predecessor in this office. In some Chapters he had found that after a Companion had passed the first chair he seemed to lose his interest in the Order; he was then glad to be able to inform the P.G. Officer that he had the constant attendance and support of his three immediate predecessors in that chair, so that if any of the subordinate officers were absent he had very little difficulty in getting their places filled, and one of them, Comp. Balfour, made a most efficient S.E. as well as 1st S., when necessary, so that in justice he must attribute part of their success to this assistance, and, in common with the rest of the Chapter, he regretted that it was illness that had prevented Comp. Barron visiting them. But they were deeply obliged to those who had attended. The members of the Provincial deputation then withdrew, and the Chapter was closed, and a Lodge of Mark Masters opened; G. W. Wheeler W.M.M., W. McGregor S.W., J. Kennard J.W., J. Kay S.D., when Bro. D. Broadfoot M.M. of St. John's, 3, was advanced to that degree. A Lodge of Excellent Masters was opened, when Bro. Broadfoot and Bro. D. Anderson, also of St. John's, 3, were instructed in the mysteries of that degree. A R.A.C. was then opened, G. W. Wheeler Z., G. McDonald P.Z. as H. and R. Brodie J. of 79 as J., J. Balfour P.G. 1st S. as 1st S., J. Bannerman Treasurer, E. Arthur S.N., W. McGregor 2nd., Yeal 3rd, when the same two gentlemen were exalted to that 2nd degree, which concluded a lengthy evening's work.

Union and Crown Lodge, No. 103.—Presentation to Bro. Bain P.M. P.G.B.B.—On Friday, 22nd Oct. a large gathering of the friends of Bro. Bain P.M. 103 was held. The Lodge was opened by Bro. W. M. Wright R.W.M., who was supported by Bros. G. Muir D.W., D. Morrison S.M., Wm. Thompson S.W., R. Muir J.W., J. Gilles P.M. Sec., Wm. Cammeron Tyler. There were about 100 brethren present, amongst whom we recognised Bros. J. Johnson, No. 0, P.M. 449, J. Fletcher I.P.M. 34, J. Sinclair P.M. 27 Treasurer of the Provincial Benevolent Fund, J. Morgan R.W.M. 219, J. Thompson P.M. 863, and J. Cunningham R.W.M. 847. After full justice had been done to the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts the R.W.M. said the toast of the evening was "Long life and prosperity to their esteemed friend and P.M., Bro. Bain," they all knew his worth and that he was a most indefatigable worker in the Craft. Not only had he filled the chair of that Lodge with honour to himself and credit to the Craft, but he had also been at all times willing to make himself useful to any other Lodge. Any R.W.M. in the province had only to say he required help, and Bro. Bain had been always willing to render it. To slightly mark their appreciation of these services, a few friends had purchased a handsome gold watch and appendages, which, in the name of the subscribers, he begged Bro. Bain to accept, and trusted he might be long spared to wear it. Bro. Bain said he felt overpowered by the kindness of his friends; he had only been trying to do his duty, first to his Mother Lodge and next to the Craft he loved, whatever he had done had been a labour of love, nevertheless he was extremely obliged to the whole of his friends for this tangible expression of their goodwill, and he would endeavour in the future to be more worthy of their kindness. Several other brethren addressed the Lodge, and with song and sentiment a pleasant evening was spent by all present. On Monday, 25th inst., the regular meeting of the Lodge was held for the nomination of the officers for the ensuing year, after which one brother was passed, and another raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Mount Sinai Lodge, No. 131.—This Lodge held its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, the 20th [illegible] October, at the Masonic Hall, Public-buildings, Penzance. Present:—Bros. Thomas J. Rowe W.M., W. C. Borlase (pro) S.W., C. Curnow (pro) J.W., Jas. Lovell jun. Secretary, W. H. Kinsman S.D., J. J. Taylor J.D., G. Small (pro) I.G., R. Reynolds Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Bosse, Gerry, Levin, Maxwell, and Mitchell. Visitors—Bros. Crotch, Bond, and Capt. Shepperd. Business—The Secretary was requested to send a letter of condolence to the family of their late lamented brother, W. H. Longhurst I.G. The Lodge was closed in peace and harmony, when the brethren adjourned to Bro. Mitchell's Western Hotel, for refreshment, where an excellent repast was served, and the usual Masonic toasts given, under the presidency of Bro. Bosse P.M.

Industry Lodge, No. 129.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Thursday, the 21st of October, at the Masonic Rooms, Graydon's Hotel, Dundrum, Ireland. Present:—Bros. Thomas Hyacinth Dickson W.M., Charles E. Eccles S.W., Capt. J. Nias Croke J.W., Capt. R. W. Newburgh N. Jenkins 30th degree Secretary, Francis Fawcett Treasurer, John Brooks S.D., Richard Hamilton J.D., J. Reynolds Dickson 18th degree D.C., W. A. Graydon Steward, Capt. Lucelles Blake I.G., Thomas Atkins Asst. Tyler. Past Masters, Bros. Capt. Dickson, Dr. Wm. Irwin, Hugh Tuthill, also Bros. James McFadden and Michael Drummond. The preliminary business having been transacted, Bro. M. Drummond was called up, and, everything proving satisfactory, he was passed by Bro. J. E. Dickson, and subsequently, acting in accordance with the law of ancient rite, he was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. After a short lecture by the W.M. the Lodge was closed.

Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145.—The first meeting of this ancient Lodge was held on Thursday, the 28th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. G. Parkiss W.M., E. H. Thiellay S.W., Moritt J.W., John Boyd P.G.P. Treasurer, G. S. States P.G.S. Secretary, Haslett S.D., Loggut J.D., J. Last P.M., and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Two brethren were passed to the second degree. Bros. Ryder, Randell, Chapman, Akhurst and Picon were raised to the third degree, and Messrs. W. Walker, L. Bamberger, J. Hill, W. Alexander and C. A. Woods were initiated, the work being well performed. Bro. John Boyd P.G.P. then proposed, and Bro. T. Ball P.M. seconded, that a petition be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. praying that the members of this Lodge be allowed the privilege of wearing a Centenary Jewel, subject to the usual regulations, this Lodge having completed its hundredth year. This was unanimously carried. Great credit is due to Bro. John Boyd for his exertions in tracing the history of the Lodge. It was then proposed and carried, "that in future the initiation fee be 10 guineas

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and the joining fee be seven guineas. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet, provided by Bro. Francatelli. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. J. Boyd P.G.P. returning thanks for the toast of the Grand Officers in his usual genial and happy manner. The toasts of the Officers and Wardens was then given, and Bro. G. S. Slates P.G.S. returned thanks eloquently for the toast of the Secretary. The Tyler's toast concluded a very harmonius evening.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—The usual weekly meeting of this Lodge was held at the White Hart Tavern, Aldermanbury, E.C. Bro. Collet in the chair, Abell S.W., White S.W., J. Constable Treasurer, J. K. Pitt Secretary, E. Gotthoil P.M. Preceptor, Ansell S.D., Blackall J.D. and Turquand I.G. A large number of brethren were present. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed. The working thereof was tolerably efficient in respect to fluency, but scarcely in conformity with the usual correct interpretation as practised in this Lodge, many of the phrases being rendered in a loose ungrammatical manner, which, in not few instances, destroyed the sense intended to be conveyed in the beautiful ceremony. Brother Collet would do well to correct the unsightly excrescences of his work, and may rest assured that his evidently earnest endeavours will then be more fully appreciated. Some of the sections were then worked, after which the Lodge was closed and the brethren separated.

Zetland Chapter, No. 236.—The regular meeting was held on Wednesday evening, the 27th instant, at the Masonic Hall, York. The following officers were present:—Comps. J. Todd P.Z. as Z., C. Smith Z. as H., T. Smarthwaite J., T. B. Whitehead S.E., G. Balmford S.N., W. Lawton P.Z. P.S., J. S. Walton 1st A.S., T. W. Wilson 2nd A.S., W. Cowling P.Z. Treasurer, and a large number of companions, members and visitors. The ordinary formal business having been despatched, a ballot was taken for the following brethren: Augustus Gerald Duncombe, of the Falcon Lodge, Thirsk, the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, of the Lennox Lodge, Richmond, Anthony Buckle, of the York Lodge, and William Williams, of the Tudor Lodge, Oldham, which proved successful. Bros. Duncombe, Orde-Powlett and Williams being in attendance, were then exalted to the supreme degree of the Holy Royal Arch. The mystical Lecture was delivered by Comp. Todd P.Z., after which the Chapter was closed with solemn prayer and according to ancient form. The companions afterwards supped together in the banquetting room attached to the Lodge.

Unanimity and Sincerity Lodge, No. 261.—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 20th of October, at Clark's Hotel, Taunton. Present—Bros. Dr. F. E. Pearce W.M., Arthur Villar S.W., Woollen P.M. as J.W., James Showers Secretary, J. Blizard Treasurer, Dr. Bown S.D., G. Olding J.D., Bailey P.M. D.C., J. G. Vile and Capt. Henry Adair Stewards, W. Adams I.G., J. Haberfield Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Channirs, Meyler, Goodman, Horseman, Woodfore M.D., Smith. Visitors—V.W.D.S.G. Master of Somerset, Bro. Else, Bro. P. Wickenden, St. Kew, 1222, Weston-Super-Mare. Business—To ballot for five candidates and one joining member, who were elected. Initiated Mr. T. Penny, contractor, and P. T. J. Haynes, Surveyor of Telegraphs.

Minerva Lodge, No. 250, Hull.—On Wednesday evening last a suite of rooms, lately added to this Lodge, were used for the first time, on which occasion there was a large and brilliant gathering of brethren belonging to this and sister Lodges. The members of the Minerva, finding the space at their disposal somewhat circumscribed, purchased the old chapel lately used by the United Presbyterians, in Dagger-lane, and on its site they have erected a magnificent banquetting room and other convenient offices, with grand staircase and hall, which present a bold and commanding appearance. The banquetting room is 50ft. in length by 24ft. wide, the ceiling being divided into panels by an arrangement of beams of pitch pine, chamfered and moulded, the whole of the work being carried out in the most approved style. Around the walls of this spacious apartment are designs in statuary and emblems of the Craft, while the old decorated windows of the chapel have been inserted in the new walls. Adjoining the hall are comfortable retiring rooms, and other necessary offices, rendering the whole appointments of the Lodge admirably complete. The design and superintendence of the work was entrusted to Bro. F. W. Hagen, architect, of Parliament-street, Hull, and Mr. Alexander Stamp, of Barton-on-Humber, and the whole of the work has been executed in a style that is highly satisfactory and creditable to all concerned. On the re-opening night there was a very large attendance, many brethren from the Humber and Kingston Lodges being present. The working of the Lodge, with Bro. John Brooke as W.M., Bro. C. Newton as S.W., and Bro. Richard Toogood as J.W., was perfect, and elicited universal admiration from all present. At the conclusion of the business a sumptuous banquet was provided, when the customary Craft and other toasts were honoured, and the officers and brethren of Minerva Lodge received the congratulations of all present upon the completion of their very laudable undertaking. The W.M. acknowledged the flattering compliments paid to himself and those who were associated with him in the conduct of the Lodge, and a very agreeable and harmonious evening was enjoyed. Bro. C. H. Hunt ably presided at the pianoforte, and some excellent songs were sung, including one composed expressly for the occasion by Bro. Pulham, and which was much appreciated.

Probity and Freedom Lodge, No. 387.—The regular monthly meeting was held at the Bull's Head Hotel, Smallbridge, Rochdale, on 21st October. Present—Bros. J. J. Ashworth W.M., W. Schofield S.W., C. M. Jones P.M. and Treasurer, W. Beswick Secretary, W. J. Kinder S.D., A. T. Shore J.D. Past Masters—T. R. Ashworth and A. Rigg. The Lodge was opened in due form by the W.M. at 7.15 p.m. Minutes of last Lodge meeting were read and declared truly recorded. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bro. Henry Ashworth was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft by Bro. Jones P.M. The Lodge was then opened to the 3rd degree when Bro. Swift was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by Bro. T. Baker Ashworth P.M. The Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 9.15 p.m., by the Worshipful Master, after which the brethren sat down to banquet.

St. Barnabas Chapter, No. 475.—This Chapter held an emergency meeting on Thursday, the 14th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Dunstable. Present—Comps. C. W. Scriven Z., McCubbin J., Poynte H., Cawdell E., Howell P.S., Morgan, Sloss, &c. Business—The Chapter was called in emergency in order to lighten the work at the regular meeting in November, when the installation of officers takes place. Bro. Randall, of No. 475 and 1470, having been balloted for, was duly exalted to the supreme degree, all the lectures being given. The M.E.Z. performed his very difficult portion of the ceremony, for the first time, in a manner which called forth hearty expressions of admiration; and it may perhaps be said that few country Chapters would show better working considering the comparatively small number of members on the rolls.

Windsor Castle Chapter, No. 771.—The installation Convocation of this Chapter was held on Thursday, 21st instant, at the Masonic Hall, Windsor. Present—Comps. J. Stevens M.E.Z., H. H. Hodges H., J. Tolley J., E. Grisbrook S.E., G. W. Dixon S.N., G. H. Powell 1st S., James Strange 2nd A.S., J. Devereux P.Z., J. Read P.Z., W. S. Cantrell, J. H. S. Reid, R. G. Barton and others; with Comps. Rev. R. J. Simpson P.Z., and Lewis Bryett S.N. No. 19 as visitors. Bros. Stocken and Barton were duly exalted into the Holy Royal Arch by the M.E.Z. Comp. J. Reid P.Z. then installed the following Principals for the ensuing year:—Comps. Hodges M.E.Z., J. Tolley H., E. Grisbrook J. The M.E.Z. then invested the following officers:—Comps. J. Devereux P.Z. Treasurer, G. W. Dixon S.E., G.H. Powell S.N., F. Fiock P.S., J. Strange 1st A.S., W. S. Cantrell 2nd A.S., Norvell Janitor. Comp. Devereux P.Z. then rose and commented, in most appropriate terms, upon the zeal and assiduity with which Comp. J. Stevens had governed the Chapter as M.E.Z. during the past three years, and proposed that some suitable recognition be made to him, and that the sum of ten guineas be voted from the funds of the Chapter for that purpose, also that a committee be formed, consisting of Comps. Hodges M.E.Z., J. Tolley H., Grisbrook J., G. W. Dixon S.E., and J. Devereux P.Z., to decide as to the form of the testimonial, &c. Comp. Stevens thanked the companions in very suitable terms, and assured them of his continued interest in the Chapter. On the proposition of Comp. Stevens P.Z., seconded by the M.E.Z., a cordial vote of thanks was given to Comp. John Pain for his services to the Chapter. Comp. Reid having thanked the companions for their expressions toward him, the Chapter was closed according to ancient rite.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 21st of October, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Present—Bros. Henry John Gabb W.M., J. R. Gallant S.W., T. J. Cusworth J.W., W. H. Main P.M. and Secretary, G. Sinclair Treasurer, R. Harper S.D., G. Watkinson J.D., S. George I.G., and Speight Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Bartlett, J. J. Wilson and Salisbury, and a large assembly of brethren. Visitors—Bros. Williams, Osborn, Meekham, Ord, Turner, C. J. Hill, Price, Sparks, Morrey and Anley. Business—Lodge opened, minutes read and confirmed, ballot taken for Messrs. Weedon, Jamieson and Tiddeman, who were unanimously elected. Bro. Wright was raised, Bro. B. J. Keast was passed, Messrs. A. Keast (who had been previously elected), Weedon, Jamieson and Tiddeman initiated. Application from the Benevolent Institution for a Steward. Bro. Gallant S.W., undertook the duties. Lodge closed. A capital banquet was provided by Bro. Gabb, the host. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The Visitors, responded to by Bro. Meekham. The Charities, responded to by Bro. Cusworth. The P.M's., by Bros. Bartlett and Main. The Officers, by Bro. Gallant S.W. Each of the initiates responded in feeling terms. A very pleasant evening, enlivened by excellent singing and recitation, by Bros. Fanoquer, Ord, Baylis, Jamieson and Winks.

Lily Lodge of Instruction, No. 820.—The annual banquet of this Lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, Surrey, on Saturday evening, the 23rd October. Present—Bros. H. Kyezor, in the chair, E. Perkins W.M. 820, W. H. Myers I.P.M. 820, Kennedy P.M., T. J. Barnes P.M. 933, T. Austin P.M. 933, J. Bateman S.W. 820, T. Weaver J.W. 820, E. Wells J.D. 820, T. Lamb I.G. 820, W. F. Reynolds Secretary 820; also Bros. Phillips, Coin, Gay, and several other brethren. After the banquet, the chairman presented to Bro. Myers a beautiful testimonial, illuminated, on vellum, and handsomely framed, for his efficient services as Preceptor to this Lodge of Instruction. After some very appropriate remarks by the chairman, Bro. Myers responded as follows:—Worshipful Master and Brethren, it is with some amount of diffidence, and I may say, regret, that I now address you—diffidence, because I am aware that there are many brethren who are more competent than myself to discharge the duties I have undertaken as Preceptor of this Lodge of Instruction, and because I am doubtful whether my services deserve so great a mark of your esteem, although it is the consciousness of having endeavoured to do my duty as a Freemason which enables me more fully to appreciate that esteem; and regret because I am unable to do justice in words to adequately thank you for the valuable present you have made me this evening—for it is valuable, morally and intrinsically. I shall always look upon this testimonial with the greatest gratification; and I hope that years hence, when most of you, perhaps, will have P.M. added to your names, it will bring to mind the time when we met here on Saturday evening to instruct each other in the ritual of

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Freemasonry—and not the least pleasant of my thoughts will be that I then won your good opinion. To Bro. Perkins, W.M. of the Mother Lodge, for his presence and support; to Bro. Bateman, the S.W., as the proposer of the testimonial; to Bro. Weaver the J.W., as the seconder; and to yourself, worthy Sir, for the kind words you have expressed in presenting it to me, I offer my most cordial thanks; likewise to the other brethren who have subscribed, and whose names are engrossed upon it; and I should be wanting in gratitude if I failed to mention Bro. Hubbard's name (although absent), and to thank him for the trouble he has taken in procuring so beautiful a design. Yet it is not to the brethren of this Lodge of Instruction alone that I wish to tender my thanks; there are two brothers here this evening to whom I am indebted for my knowledge of Freemasonry, and whom I thank for the trouble they have taken to instruct me. I need hardly mention their names, they are known to you as having worked the 15 sections in the Lily Lodge of Instruction on several occasions, I allude to Bros. Barnes P.M. and Austen P.M. I am sure that next to having the testimonial presented to themselves they must feel that you have paid them a mark of respect, through me, in the presentation of that testimonial. In again thanking you all for this magnificent proof of your esteem I will conclude by expressing a hope that the Lily Lodge of Instruction will continue to prosper for many years to come. I shall attend the meetings as often as my health will permit; and I now ask you to drink to the health of our chairman, Bro. Kyezor, who has so satisfactorily discharged the duties of the position he has been kind enough to take this evening. Bro. Kyezor responded, and proposed the health of Bro. Perkins, the W.M. of the Mother Lodge, which, with other toasts and songs, ended a most enjoyable evening.

Finsbury Lodge, No. 861.—This Lodge held its first meeting on Friday, the 22nd of October, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Islington. Present—Bros. Henry Thomas W.M., F. Odell S.W., E. Legg J.W., Thos. E. Purdy P.M. and Secretary, G. Leach P.M. and Treasurer, W. Groome S.D., W. Lowles J.D., W. Mackey P.M. and D.C., W. Stokes P.M. and Steward, J. Dagley I.G., Speight Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Bond, R. Leach, Nicholl, Meanwell and Hart. Visitors—Bros. R. Bruce, Flack, Macnamara, Hamlin, Best, Harper, Wooder, Marshall, Bell, and Walesby. Business—Initiated Messrs. W. Prevost and J. Carter. Banquet, &c.

Lodge of Montefiore, No. 1017.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held in lieu of the regular meeting, on Monday, the 25th, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. Grunebaum W.M., I. Blum S.W., Hand as J.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. A.G.P. Secretary, Gulliford S.D., S. Alba J.D., L. Salomons I.G., and P.M.'s S. V. Abrahams S. Pollitzer and A. Blumenthal. The Lodge was opened, and Messrs. Louis Harris, J. Syer and L. Senn were initiated. Bro. Cusel was passed to the second degree, and Bros. Handler, Crum and Smith were raised to the third degree. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, and in referring to H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., wished him God speed and a safe return to his native land. Bro. E. P. Albert A.G.P. returned thanks for the toast of the Grand Officers. The toasts, of the W.M. P.M. Officers, and Visitors followed.

Lewis Lodge, No. 1185.—This Lodge held its Installation meeting on Saturday, the 16th inst., at Wood Green. Present—Bros. G. J. Row W.M., A. Durrant S.W., J. W. Berrie acting as J.W., A. Leand P.M. Secretary, S. May P.M. Treasurer, G. H. Turner S.D., W. Shipwright J.D., E. C. Edwards P.M. D.C., C. T. Conolly Steward, G. H. Jordan I.G., C. T. Speight Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Ringrose, Cover, and Binckes, together with a large number of members and several visitors, amongst whom was W. Bro. Merton P.G.D. Business—The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. F. C. Pelton, of 17 Cheapside, and Douglas Clark, of Chepstow Villa, Notting Hill, having having been elected, were duly initiated as E.A. Freemasons, and Bro. A. F. Roberts, of the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 29, who was elected as a joining member, was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Bro. A. Durrant, W.M. elect, was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months by W. Bro. E. C. Edwards P.M., who though, comparatively speaking, a young Mason, is thoroughly up to his work, and performed the ceremony in a most effective and masterly style. W. Bro. Durrant, though also young in the Craft, it is expected will make a good working Mason, and will, no doubt, be ably supported by the following efficient staff of officers, viz.:—W. Bros. S. May P.M. &c. S.W. and Treasurer, T. H. Turner J.W., Shipwright S.D., Sayer J.D., Leand P.M. Secretary, Rose I.G., Conolly Steward, Speight Tyler. The sum of fifteen guineas was voted for the Steward's list at the next festival of the R.M.I.B., which completed the business, and the Lodge was adjourned to the third Saturday in May next.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—The regular meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held on Monday, the 25th, at the Westbourne Restaurant, Craven Road, Bayswater. Bros. Side W.M., Stiles S.W., I. G. Unite J.W., Read P.M., Secretary, Gillion S.D., Scales J.D., F. J. Unite I.G., Game P.M., and Bros. Nicoll, Fowler, Cole, Death, G. Unite, Read, Savage and Langridge. The Lodge was opened, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Fowler acting as candidate. The second degree was worked, Bro. Read acting as candidate. The third degree was given, Bro. Nicoll acting as candidate. Bro. Side, the acting W.M., rendering the ceremonies in a very perfect manner. Bro. Stiles was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the meeting was adjourned.

Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 19th of October, at the Town Hall, Dunstable. Present—Bros. F. Howell W.M., Haselgrove S.W., Randall J.W., Middleton Secretary, Harris Chaplain, Cutler S.D., Otway J.D., Sinkwell I.G., Day Tyler, and Bros. Gard, Saunders, Warren, &c. The visitors were Bros. Edgington 1337, Haselgrove and Osborn 475. Business—After confirmation of the minutes, the ballot was unanimous in favour of Mr. Ballans, and that gentleman was initiated into Freemasonry in the most impressive manner by the W.M. A contribution to one of the Charities having been ordered, and a candidate proposed for the next meeting, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Saunder's, "Sugar Loaf Hotel," the proper toasts being given in due form after supper.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The regular meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held on Friday, the 22nd, at the Metropolitan Club, 262 Pentonville-road. Bros. Berrie W.M., Carter S.W., Scales J.W., Stiles S.D. and Secretary, Read J.D., Fowler I.G., T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, and Bros. Fenner Tettenborn, Odell, Cox, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. The ceremonies of initiation and passing were rehearsed, Bros. Fenner and Fowler acting as candidates. The Lodge was resumed to the third degree, and the first and second sections of the first lecture were worked by the brethren, assisted by Bro. T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor. The working of the W.M. and officers was very perfectly rendered. Bro. Carter was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the meeting was adjourned until the following week.

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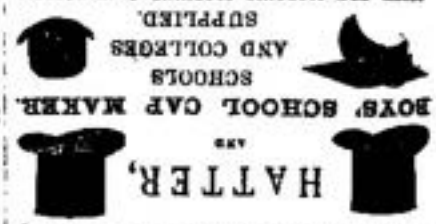
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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 45. SATURDAY, 6th NOVEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

NEW MASONIC TEMPLE AT READING, PENNSYLVANIA.

WE are indebted to the *Reading Times and Dispatch* for the following particulars respecting the laying of the foundation stone of a new Masonic Temple in that city. As far back as 1865 a Masonic Hall Association for the city of Reading was incorporated, but though the need of a building large enough to meet the ever increasing wants of the Masonic community was conspicuous, no active steps appear to have been taken till April 1873, when a considerable plot of ground was purchased. In July following the ground was broken, and subsequently the cellar walls were set up. In August 1874 work was recommenced, and so vigorously pushed forward that, on the 8th ult., the important ceremony of laying the corner stone was enacted, under the auspices of Grand Lodge Pennsylvania, and in the presence of some five hundred members of the Craft. The hour fixed was noon, and at that time the procession was formed, and moved off in the direction of the New Temple, in the following order. First came the Grand Marshal Jacob Laudenslager, with Assistant Marshal George W. Grant, and the following as aids: Bros. Jacob C. Hogg, 62, F. S. Bernhart, Chandler, 227, Peter Quaring, Teutonia, 367, and William A. Runkle, St. John's, 435. The Ringgold Band came next, and then the Lodges in their order, namely: St. John's Lodge, 435, Franklin Weaver, Marshal; Vaux Lodge, 406, Hamburg, J. Jerome Miller, Marshal; Teutonia Lodge, 367 John H. Fett, Marshal; Williamson Lodge, 307, Womelsdorf, William G. Moore, Marshal; Chandler Lodge, 227, John T. Craig, Marshal; Lodge 62, Levi Moyer, Marshal. Each Lodge marched as follows: Marshal, the Tyler, Entered Apprentice Masons, Fellow Craft Masons, Master Masons, Past Masters, Pursuivant, Deacons, Secretary and Treasurer, Senior and Junior Wardens, Worshipful Master. Then came Bro. E. H. Shearer, Assistant Marshal, Grand Lodge, preceding the officers of the Grand Lodge, who were G. M. Alfred R. Potter, D.G.M. Robert Clark, S.G.W. M. Nesbit, J.G.W. S. E. Ancona, G.T. Thomas R. Patton, G.S. Charles H. Kingston, S.G.D. A. Robeno jun., J.G.D. H. P. John, G.M. Jacob Laudenslager, G.S.B. Henry J. White, G.M.C. James Morrell, jun., A. R. Hall, G.P. Horace Fritz, G.T. H. G. Clarke, G.C. Rev. Giles Bailey. On reaching the Temple the Lodge opened ranks and the Grand Officers were escorted to the front, the Ringgold band playing meanwhile a grand march.

The ceremony, which was very impressively rendered, was then begun, and lasted about an hour. When this was over, the G.M. introduced Bro. Hon. Richard Vaux P.G.M., of Philadelphia, who delivered a very appropriate oration, pointing out the connection between Freemasonry and the mysteries, Egyptian, Greek and other, of the ancients, the objects it has in view, and the grand work it achieves so unostentatiously so and continuously. The benediction was then pronounced by the Grand Chaplain, Bro. Rev. Giles Bailey, after which the procession marched back, and the several Lodges were dismissed. The following, inclosed in a tin box, were placed in the centre of the corner stone:—

Copy of Holy Bible, donated by Ringel and Richards. Copy of the Ahiman Rezon. List of officers of the Grand Lodge of F. and A. M. of Pennsylvania. List of officers and members of Board of Trustees of the Masonic Hall Association of Reading, Pa. List of Committee of Arrangements for the laying of the corner stone. Copy of Charter, By-Laws, and sketch of the origin and early history of the Association. Copy of ceremonies of laying of the corner stone. Copy of proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pa., for 1874. Copy of Masonic Register for 1875. Copy of Keystone. Copy of proceedings of Grand H.R.A. Chapter of Pa., for 1874. Prospective view of the Temple building. Working implements of silver, made and presented by Rhode and Waiserman. United States Coins: 1c., 2c., 3c., 5c., 10c., 20c., 25c., 50c., 1.00 dols. By-Laws and lists of members of Lodges, Chapters, Commanderies, as hereinafter, namely: Lodges No. 62, A.Y.M., Reading, Pa.; Chandler Lodge, No. 227, A.Y.M., of Reading, Pa.; Teutonia Lodge, No. 367, A.Y.M., Reading, Pa.; St. John's Lodge, No. 435, A.Y.M., Reading, Pa.; Williamson Lodge, No. 307, Womelsdorf, Pa.; Vaux Lodge, No. 406, Hamburg, Pa.; Mt. Lebanon Lodge, No. 226, Lebanon, Pa. Chapters:—H. R. A. Chapter, No. 152, Reading, Pa.; Excelsior H.R.A. Chapter, No. 337, Reading, Pa.; Weidle H.R.A. Chapter, No. 197, Lebanon, Pa.; of Creigh Council, of R.S.E., and S.M., No. 16, Reading, Pa.; and of Commanderies:—De Molay Commandery, K.T., No. 9, Reading, Pa.; and Reading Commandery, K.T., No. 42, Reading, Pa., together with a Register of stated meetings of Masonic bodies stationed at Reading, and copies of daily and weekly papers published in Reading, Pa.

OUR LITERARY BROTHER.

IT has been truly said that the world knows nothing of its greatest men. Genius is often hidden in obscurity, and some of us, at least, are disposed to lament with the poet, over the mute inglorious Miltons who have lived and died without dropping one spark of their concealed fire. The anonymous system upon which journalism is conducted in this country is rather prejudicial to the interests and the fame of writers. A man may toil on the press for years, and beyond a small circle of literary men he may be as obscure as a simple villager, buried from the world in the heart of an agricultural district. Anonymity, indeed, has its advantages, and under its veil a journalist may write as an advocate, and hold a brief for the public, without fear of being charged with inconsistency. But there are scribblers amongst us who, in spite of the anonymous system, appear to make themselves tolerably well known to the public for whom they cater. False modesty is not one of their failings; they are not ashamed of confessing the authorship of an article or a paragraph, and are very willing to take all the homage a discerning circle of readers may feel inclined to lavish upon them. Such fame as this would be the death of us; but we are, perhaps, too sensitive of the shortcomings of our lucubrations, and too impatient of the half sneering adulation of our friends. We are glad to know that some of the scribblers of the press are possessed of an epidermis that is proof against the shafts of ridicule, and taste bread enough to be pleased with flattery, even when it is laid on with a trowel. The subject of this slight sketch is, in many respects, a remarkable man. Possessed of indomitable perseverance and amazing industry, and sheathed in triple steel, which no arrow of satire can pierce, he is ever ready to push himself to the front, and to spend and be spent in the cause he has at heart. Our Masonic friends would miss him sadly if, by any chance, he were to absent himself from an important anniversary. He is present at every Masonic event of any importance, and usually contrives to push himself into the higher circles of the brotherhood with a display of "cheek" which would be amazing to us if anything our

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eccentric brother might do could amaze us. We frankly admit that he occupies no mean position in the ranks of Masonry, and that, barring his everlasting note-book, and his affectation of being a journalist, he is highly respected by the Fraternity. He is at home everywhere. You see him, without any feeling of surprise, chatting affably with Provincial G.M.'s, or shaking hands with the Lord Mayor, or pushing his way through the crush at a Civic ball. You go to the Opera, and you find him seated in one of the best places, looking as mystic and as profound behind his eye glasses as if he were the Editor of the *Times*. You visit the Albert Hall, for the pleasure of seeing a Royal Duke tickle a fiddle into convulsions, and our literary brother "spots" you, and rushes down from his place to shake hands and talk about Mansion House dinners. We know not what Protean garb he may assume when next we run against him in society, but we are certain that we have seen him assume the parts of art and dramatic critic, special reporter, descriptive writer, and paragraphist. He always tries to look the part he plays to perfection, but that horrible note-book, which is ever in his grasp, at once tells an expert that he is acting. An experienced press writer, who visits a public place for the purpose of writing a critique or a descriptive article, never needs the doubtful assistance of pencil and paper. His training has strengthened his memory, and his programme of the proceedings, or his play bill, help him to recal every point upon which he desires to dwell. There are occasions, of course, when it is necessary for a press contributor to note down every word that he hears; but we are not now speaking of mere reporting, but of those higher branches of journalism with which our friend sometimes playfully affects an acquaintance. To do him justice, he shines as a reporter of Lodge Meetings, and here his note-book is, of course, indispensable. He can, indeed, scent a Mason from afar, and even in such un-Masonic events as the swearing-in of the Sheriffs of London, or the election of Lord Mayor, he can find scope for the display of his fine bold Roman hand. In the City, and amongst Civic magnates, he is at home. The Mansion House flings wide its doors to admit our literary brother, and on the 9th November, when the streets are cleared for the Lord Mayor's Show, he can always produce a talisman which opens a way through the ranks of the police. We have seen him at the Lord Mayor's banquet, looking profoundly wise behind his spectacles, with the programme of the songs in his hand, apparently swallowing each note poured forth by the vocalists as if he intended to immortalise them in the next morning's impression of the *Times*. He has told us that he has passed the carefully guarded portals of the Guildhall without a ticket, and we have believed him. Indeed, if perseverance could enable a man to achieve anything, our worthy brother should be able to perform seeming impossibilities. He never takes "no" for an answer when he desires to pass anywhere. He is the very personification of good temper, and turns aside a harsh speech with a soft answer, like the good man of the Scriptures. Our Masonic friends may occasionally laugh at him, but they are sometimes glad of such fame as he can confer, and do not usually object to see their names in print, with an ornamental appendage in the shape of a string of well earned titles. He is, in truth, the Recording Angel of the Order, and such work as he does has a value of its own, which we gladly recognise. There are minds which can only take in the broad features of passing events, and others which look at everything through a solar microscope. Our literary brother is a man of this latter class, and we have reason to know that he sees much more with every sweep of those mysterious glasses of his, than we could possibly see if we were paid a princely sum to write proper names and Masonic titles by the column. Such a line of composition is, perhaps, not our special gift, but we are conscious of our shortcomings, and shall never dare to tread upon the preserves of men who are our masters in the literary art. We shall never forget our brother's appearance, during the summer months of last year, at a grand Masonic gathering, when the princes of the Order, with their ladies, were present. We were there merely to describe; he was in attendance to record. On the platform, in a post of honour, near the Lord Mayor, our hero, with spectacles on nose, and note-book in hand, was gravely writing down the name of each speaker, while we, content to take our place in the crowd, watched him with silent admiration. Such consummate coolness was indicative of positive genius, of a sort, and we mentally confessed that our devoted brother was intended by nature to be a journalist. We expected that no personal fame would accrue to us from the article which we were commissioned to write; we felt assured that our brilliant Recording Angel would be regarded as the hero of the hour, nor were we at all disappointed. That note-book and those spectacles might have imposed upon any one but an expert. That look of profound wisdom was sufficient to convince the most sceptical that a journalist was present, possessed of talent sufficient for the composition of at least an *Edinburgh Review* article upon the *Talmud*, or any other of the abstruse questions, which only addle the brains of meaner critics. We need only add that we returned to our desk a sadder and wiser man. The lesson we learned that day has taught us that effrontery is the surest passport to notoriety, if not to an enduring fame.

MASONIC NUMISMATICS.

From the American Journal of Numismatics.

We copy, below, an article, originally published in "Netter's Literary Letter," No. 4, New York, 1859, to which we have added a few notes. The subject is an interesting one, and deserves more attention than it seems to have received. Within a few years several of the Masonic Lodges in and about Boston have adopted what is known as a "Lodge jewel," which is in nearly every instance a medal struck from a die belonging to the Lodge, and worn, suspended from the lapel of the coat, as a badge of membership. The "St. John's Lodge," established nearly a century and a half ago, have a medal in the form of a shield, bearing the Masonic arms and other significant emblems. "St. Andrew's," founded in 1756, the next in age in Boston, wear a jewel of gold and enamel, upon which is a St. Andrew's cross, and suspended below the medal is a dragon rampant, alluding to the famous old "Green Dragon Tavern," their ancient place of meeting. "Columbian," another very old Lodge, have a jewel of blue enamel and gold, containing a handsome head of Columbia, in high relief, surrounded by a garter, on which are the name of the Lodge, the date of institution, a square and compass, &c., and above are emblems of corn, wine, and oil. "Winslow Lewis Lodge," named in honour of the late distinguished President of the Boston Numismatic Society, wear a somewhat larger medal, on which is struck a device representing Jacob's dream, of the ladder to heaven; below, a scroll inscribed Faith, Hope, Charity; the whole within a ribbon, bearing the name of the Lodge, and the square and compass. Some other Lodges in the vicinity wear similar jewels or medals. In most if not all cases, the Lodge jewels have an obverse struck in a die, while the reverse is plain, or has the owner's name and date of admission to membership engraved upon it.

In the year 1808, on the 24th of June, the corner stone of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia was laid with appropriate ceremonies, and among the articles deposited in it were a copper Masonic Medal struck in 1790, commemorative of the election of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master (described in the note appended), a silver Medal of Past Grand Master Peter Williamson, the thirty-fourth Grand Master, and at that time Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, "a gold Masonic Medal 'Keystone,'" and a "gold Masonic Medal (circle)." We have no information of what these last Medals were.

One of the most recent Masonic Medals struck in America, is probably that for the dedication of the new Temple in New York, 2nd June 1875. This is in the form of a shield, and bears on the obverse a view of the Temple (corner of Sixth Avenue and West Twenty-third Street). Above are the words, "Masonic Temple of New York," over them the All-Seeing Eye. Below the Temple, "Dedicated June 2nd, 1875." The reverse has the arms of the Grand Lodge of New York, with the motto, "Holiness to the Lord," and other Masonic emblems—the square, compass, plumb, &c.*

We have before us a curious Masonic Medal, belonging to Mr. Thomas P. Ritchie, of Brookline. It is of silver, apparently struck in a die, and then what would have been the field carefully cut out, leaving the various objects represented, so that they are equally to be distinguished on either side. It may be described as follows:

Obverse.—A circle bearing the words AMOR. HONOR. ET JUSTITIA. The rim is divided into quarters by the letters N. E. S. W., the E. coming at the top, between the words Honor and et. From the bottom of the circle arise two pillars; upon the top of these pillars rests a level; the square and compasses on the Bible, above; the top of the level, and the joint of the compasses being together nearly in the centre of the medal. On the right of these, the sun, a gavel and two crossed pens; on the left, the crescent moon, a plumb and a scroll, perhaps representing a charter: from the top of the plumb diagonally to the foot of the right hand pillar is the twenty-four inch gauge. The same description of the objects inside would apply to the reverse, except that of course the objects are reversed relatively to each other. The reverse of the circle has at the bottom the words SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT, and at the top the All-Seeing Eye, between AM and 5768. It has a loop attached by which it was worn suspended from a ribbon.

* We are informed by a correspondent, Mr. I. F. Wood, to whom we are indebted for this description, that this Medal was issued by Messrs. D. B. Howell and Co., of New York, under the authority of the Grand Lodge, for the benefit of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, in Gold, at dols. 30, silver at dols. 4.50, bronze at dol. 1, gilt dol. 1, and white metal 50 cents. It was attached to a clasp with pin, and very extensively worn in the dedication procession.

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We have no knowledge of the history or origin of this medal. It is evidently upwards of one hundred years old; the motto AMOR. HONOR. ET JUSTITIA is the same as that which was used on the Prince of Wales medal, just alluded to, and also on the Masonic Medal in memory of Washington, struck in 1797*, and may enable us to trace it.

We believe that a catalogue of Masonic Medals would be found to possess considerable interest, and prove to be much more extensive than Mr. Norton seems to have thought, in 1859. Perhaps some one of the readers of the *Journal* will prepare such a list, or send description of any Masonic Medal he may have, that they may be preserved in your pages for the use of some future labourer in this interesting field.

W. T. R. M.

Mr. Norton's article is as follows:

Few persons, even members of the Fraternity, in this country are aware of the number of Masonic Medals which have been struck during the last hundred and twenty-five years, by the Lodges of Freemasons or by individual members of the Society; nor of the interest taken in this subject, more especially by the European Lodges, many of whom have large and valuable cabinets. We propose to give a brief sketch of this branch of Numismatics.

The oldest Masonic Medal known, is mentioned by Schroeder, in his "*Materialen*," I. 37; by Rödel, in his article on "*Medals*;" by Zacharias, in his "*Numotheca Numismatica Latomorum*," I.; and by Mersdorf, p. 116; and is a silver medal of Lord Charles Sackville, Duke of Middlesex, who in 1733, without authority, founded a Lodge at Florence, in commemoration of which event this medal was struck. Zacharias asserts that the Lodge Minerva, at Leipsic, was in possession of a specimen; but Mersdorf, who had a leaden copy of it, states that it has disappeared, and that the only original specimen is preserved in the Hammerstein Collection. Mersdorf also mentions a Roman medal of 1742. Hamburg next claims priority in regard to the antiquity of her Masonic Medals. The oldest, bearing the legend "*Facire superiori eodem*," has no date, but in the Essen Catalogue is attributed to the year 1740; a second dates from 1742, a third from 1743, and a fourth from 1745—all of silver. Besides these Hamburg medals, Mersdorf mentions a bronze Frankfort medal, of the Lodge "Einigkeit," of 1742; a Brunswick medal of silver and gold, of 1744; and one of 1745—which, under the name of "Freemasons' Ducats," appear to have been used as school premiums. He also mentions three from Halle, of 1744, 1745, and 1747, the only ones ever struck in that city. The above comprise all the German medals struck during the first half of the eighteenth century.

According to Mersdorf, the oldest English medals are—one of 1760, without name of place or coinage; one of Exeter, 1766; one of London, without date, and another of 1766.

France contributes four of Paris,—1760, 1769, 1773, and 1776; and one of Rheims, 1776.†

Belgium furnishes one of 1757, with the impress of Brussels.

Holland, one from the Hague of 1779.

Sweden has medals of 1746, 1753, 1762, 1768, 1780, 1785, 1787, 1792, and only two others since the commencement of the present century.

The Russian Medals are limited to four, of the dates 1775, 1780, 1781; and in Moldavia we find one struck at Jassy, in 1774.

Italy offers but two medals of the eighteenth century,—the Florentine medal of 1778 and the Roman of 1742, both before alluded to.

Two Spanish medals were coined at Madrid, in 1809 and 1811, according to Mersdorf.

North America has but one medal of the last century,—struck in 1797.‡

The Masonic Medals of Asia are all very modern, and are derived from the Lodges established by the English in the East Indies.

In regard to the total number of Masonic Medals, Thory, in his "Histoire de la Fondation du Grand Orient de France," p. 336, estimates it at 200, commencing with the year 1720. Zacharias, in his "Numotheca," gives drawings of 48 different medals. Mersdorf mentions in all 234, besides 9 others which cannot be strictly termed Masonic,—as, for instance, a medal of Melancthon. The total is made up as follows:—Germany, 90; England, 14; France, 161; Holland and Belgium, 26; Denmark, 1; Sweden, 11; Russia, 4; Moldavia, 1; Italy, 9; Spain, 2; America, 5; Asia, 4.

The first cabinet of Masonic Medals was commenced by the Lodge "Eintracht," at Vienna, about the year 1784. Other collections were subsequently made at Rostock, Leipsig, and Hamburg. Private collections were also in the possession of Bros. von Eck, Zacharias, von Hammerstein, and Mersdorf. The largest cabinet at present is that of the Prov. Gr. Lodge of Mecklenburg, at Rostock, and contains 324 specimens of medals, exclusively Masonic, besides a number of mystical and other medals. The next in importance are the cabinets of the Lodges Apollo and Minerva, at Leipsig. In this country, the Lodge Pythagoras, at Brooklyn, L.I., has a collection of about 200 specimens.

A Masonic Halfpenny Token, of 1790 commemorative of the election of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master,* appears to have been in circulation as money, and is mentioned by Appel, Thory, and Zacharias. There are several varieties of it extant, four of which differ only in the inscription around the edge, viz.:—1. Masonic Token, I. Scotchley fecit, ... x; 2. Half-penny, payable at the Black Horse, Tower-hill; 3. A Masonic Token, J. Skotchley, Birmingham, fecit; 4. Masonic Token, Nitchley fecit, 1794.

A fifth variety has on the obverse a square and compass, with the legend "*Pro bono publico*." On the reverse, the initials "T. H. B." the date "1796," and the legend "East Grimstead Half-penny." Around the edge, "Payable at T. H. Boorman."

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* This Medal is No. XLVII. in Mr. Appleton's catalogue, and is there described as follows: "G. WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT, 1797. Bust of Washington facing the left. Rev. AMOR. HONOR. ET JUSTITIA. G. W. C. G. M. A group of Masonic emblems. Brass. Size 22." The date 1797 has no Masonic allusion, but refers to his retiring from the Presidency. G. W. C. G. M. stands, perhaps, for George Washington General Grand Master. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, at a special meeting in January 1780, proposed to the other Grand Lodges Washington's election to such a position, but the suggestion did not meet with favour and nothing more was heard of it. This fact must have been known to any one likely to have produced a Masonic Medal in America, and we are inclined to think from the motto, that perhaps the dies for this as well as those for Mr. Ritchie's medal were made in England. Another Washington Masonic Medal is described in Mr. Appleton's List as follows: CXXXV. GEORGE WASHINGTON; head of Washington, facing the right, below G. W. L. all in a circular frame, outside which, at top an eagle, in his beak a long ribbon inscribed TALEM FERENT NULLUM SECLA FUTURA VIRUM; about the ribbon forty-five stars; at bottom a trophy of flags, guns, drum, cannon, balls, &c., on which is the shield of the United States. Rev. NON NOBIS SOLUM SED TOTO MUNDO NATI MDCCCLIX: a wreath of two palm-branches in which are Masonic emblems. Bronze. Size, 32." For whom was this struck?

† Mr. Appleton, in his list of Franklin Medals (Journal of Numismatics, Vol. VII., p. 40), describes a French medal of Franklin, as follows: — "IV. BENJ. FRANKLIN MINIST PLENT DES ESTATS UNIS DE L'AMERIQ., SEPT. MDCCLXXXIII; bust of Franklin, facing the left; below, BRENIER. Rev. DE LEURS TRAVAUX NAITRA LEUR GLOIRE; in exergue DES NEUF SOEURS; at the right, F. S.; on a rocky hill a circular temple, within, and near which are the Nine Muses at work. Silver, size 19." We presume this is Masonic, and that the "DES NEUF SOEURS" refers to the "Lodge of the Nine Muses" of Paris, who, in 1829, struck another medal in honour of Franklin, described in the same list; "XII. BENJAMINUS FRANKLIN; bust of Franklin, facing the left. Rev. LES MAÇ.'. FRANÇ.'. A FRANKLIN M.'. DE LA L.'. DES 9 SOEURS O.'. DE PARIS 5778. 5829 PINGRET F.; the Masonic emblem of Jehovah in a triangle, surrounded by rays, within a serpent coiled in a circle, and around this a pair of compasses and a square, entwined by olive-branches; above, are seven stars; at the left, a mallet, and at the right a trowel. Bronze, size 26."

‡ This, from the date, was the Washington Medal.

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* This Token or Medal is illustrated by a cut in Mr. Norton's "Literary Letter." It may be described as follows: Obv. A shield bearing on a field gules a chevron between three oaxlies argent. Crest, a dove proper on a sphere. Supporters, two beavers proper. Motto, on a ribbon beneath the shield, AMOR, HONOR ET JUSTITIA. Legend, 24 NOV 1790 PRINCE OF WALES ELECTED G M. — This was doubtless intended to represent the arms of the Society of Freemasons, as used by the Grand Lodge of England, which, as given by Burke, differ from the above in having the field sable, and bearing a pair of compasses sable extended "chevronwise" on the chevron, but having no motto. The differences, except the last, may be owing to carelessness in the engraving.

Rev. A triangle, within which is an angel, resting his left hand upon a pillar, and pointing with his right to the letter G, within the upper angle, from which issue rays; behind the angel are clouds; in the lower corners of the triangle are the square and compass on the right and a book on the left; around the sides of the triangle WISDOM, STRENGTH & BEAUTY. Legend, SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT.

The regular Convocation of Grand Chapter was held on Wednesday, the 3rd November, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincolns-Inn-Fields. Comps. S. Rawson as G.Z., H. Sandeman G.H., Capt. Platt G.S.E., Major Creaton G.S.N., J. A. Rucker G.P.S., W. Speed 1st Asst., R. Grey 2nd Asst., T. Fenn G.S.B., E. J. Macintyre G.R., J. Smith as G.D.C., B. Head, N. Bradford, A. Holman, J. Nunn, H. J. P. Dumas, H. Muggeridge, J. Glaisher, J. Percy, Leith, F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., R. Hollom, Hyde Pullen, W. S. Gover, John Boyd, J. J. Case, H. Massey, G. Newman, White, C. F. Hogard, G. Leman, W. Stephens, Herbert Dicketts, W. Hammond, W. F. Nettleship, A. Ridgway, W. Young, Cochrane, C. W. Nohemer, J. Scox, J. L. Thomas, R. Spencer, G. Lambert, &c. The G.S.E. read the minutes of the former Convocation, which were confirmed. All the petitions placed on the agenda paper were granted; these were announced in our last issue. The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

The Emulation Chapter of Improvement will hold its annual festival at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Friday, the 26th inst., on which occasion Bro. J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes, will preside.

A crowded and fashionable audience was present on Monday evening, at St. James's Hall, at Miss Emily Mott's concert. The popularity of the fair *cantatrice*, combined with a very attractive programme, explains this. Miss Emily Mott's singing is greatly improved, growing years bringing confidence and power to her vocalisation. She sang "Flowers of Friendship," "The Minstrel Boy," and "Trust Her Not," each song being deservedly encored. Miss Blanche Cole, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and Mr. Sydney Smith, solo pianist, contributed some excellent songs. Mr. Sims Reeves was never in better voice. His singing "The Requital," "The Bay of Biscay," and "Tom Bowling," created a furore. Bro. Fred. Godfrey's band, of the Coldstream Guards, was thoroughly appreciated, and was one of the great features of this enjoyable musical treat.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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 BOYS' SCHOOL.

We have received a number of letters on the subject of the Boys' School Management, and though we are the reverse of anxious to keep this controversy before the public, we feel it is only just to our correspondents to allow them the opportunity of expressing their views. With reference to the proposal emanating from one of them, that a testimonial should be raised for Bro. Rev. O. G. D. Perrott, we publish the letter out of regard for our esteemed correspondent, but we feel it our duty to point out the act of publication must, under no circumstances, be construed into a departure from that strict neutrality we have so carefully striven to observe.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

2nd November 1875.

SIR,—As a Steward of 1870, for the Boys' School Festival, and a Life Governor in virtue of my donation then made to the funds of the Institution, I received the current report, that for 1869; and have now examined it in order to find how far it bears out Bro. Tew's statement.

I regret to say that, as far as the expenditure on the maintenance of the School for the year 1869 is concerned, Bro. Tew's assertions are very far below the mark; so that, if the state of things at the Boys' School is bad now, it was worse, to a considerable extent, five years ago.

In the year 1869, the Secretary seems to have received as his personal share of the expenditure as much as £817! The items are as follow:—

Commission on "Surplus" receipts (p. 39)	£350	0	0
Provincial travelling expenses	67	12	6
To recoup office expenses	100	0	0
Salary	150	0	0
Commission (a second item, on p. 40) ...	150	0	0
	£817	12	6

This £100 office expenditure thus recouped must be increased by:—

Rent of office	£36	0	0
Clerk	78	18	0
Messenger	10	0	0
Petty Expenditure	75	0	0
Printing and stationery	315	3	5
Collector	170	0	0
Making a total of	£1,402	13	11

spent in secretarial and clerical expenses during a single year; to which might fairly be added some of the following:—

Advertisements	£39	6	5
Pension to past Secretary	100	0	0
Examination fees	48	19	3
Recreation of boys during holidays ...	23	14	4
Hire of omnibus for Committee ...	19	10	0
Election expenses	18	11	0
Gratuities, grants and outfits to boys leaving the Institution	60	0	0
Making a grand total of	£1,713	14	11

of actual solid expenditure confined specially to the year, and leaving nothing to show, as building does, but necessarily to be repeated to some extent every year.

This heavy office expense is very nearly a third of all the annual expenses of the whole establishment, large as they are. The following was the total expense of the year:—

Secretarial, clerical and miscellaneous office expenses, apart from the Institution	£1,713	14	11
Salaries of 5 Masters, 1 Matron, 1 wardrobe keeper, 1 Chaplain, 1 Medical Officer and 1 Drill Instructor	726	0	8
Wages of all the servants	281	9	0
Provisions	1,277	15	8
Clothing and repairs	703	18	7
Furniture, linen, &c.	78	2	1
Earthenware, glass, &c.	1	5	4
Coals, gas, and water	341	13	9
Rates and taxes (no rent)	154	17	3
Miscellaneous	177	17	6
Grand total	£4,447	15	9

All this was money spent during the year for the purposes of the year; and on the then average of 106 boys amounts to £51 10s per head. Comment is superfluous.

Your obedient servant,

A WEST YORKSHIRE LIFE GOVERNOR.

[Our correspondent must bear in mind that his letter cuts both ways, and that as between 1869 and 1874 the figures in the two accounts show a marked reduction for expenses of management.—EDITOR FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Pontefract, 2nd November 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The best reply to Mr. Binckes's assurances, that "the accounts of the Boys' School are stated and set forth in a manner sufficiently clear for any unprejudiced enquirer to spot expenditure under every head," is the subjoined letter in answer to a communication from the Secretary in last week's *Freemason*. That he should again commit himself to such blunders must be perfectly conclusive to the mind of every "unprejudiced enquirer" as to the manner in which the accounts are kept. We have no doubt the Secretary will assure your readers that we are in error; let the proofs be adduced.

The Secretary, in his letter, admits the correctness of our calculations, and we find from the Reports for the last three years, that the amount for "gratuities" (only 10s per boy), during this period comes to £31 viz: £9 in 1872, £4 10s in 1873, and £17 10s in 1874; whereas, in his letter of last week, the Secretary accounts for only £18 10s, and this, too, incorrectly, as only 37 boys, according to Reports, left between January 1872 and December 1874, two *at least*, of whom (there were probably more) did not receive the "gratuity," so that we have only 35 boys with the money award of 10s, or £17 10s: adding to this "the most unaccountable" (as the Secretary terms it) charge of £1 5s for silver medal, we have to subtract £18 15s from our correct total of £314 5s, which gives £295 10s to be accounted for, and not £294 10s as shown in Mr. Binckes's last letter.

While the total of £9, £4 10s and £5 is, as proved, wrong; each item, according to the Reports, giving numbers of boys leaving from time to time is also wrong.

At the top of third column, page 481, in last week's "FREEMASON," we observe quoted together "Grants and Gratuities," whilst in the three Reports before us, "*Gratuities to Boys on leaving Institution*," are put down as one item, separate and distinct from "Grants and Outfits for Boys on leaving Institution," some three or four lines below the former item; we do not understand the reason for this confusion, of what hitherto had always been treated as quite distinct. The "Grants and Outfits,"

for 1872 were £110 according to 1872 Report and Sec.'s letter,
" 1873 " 122 " 1873 " " "
" 1874 " 51 5s " 1874 " but according to

Mr. Binckes's last letter were £62 10s, whilst the item for "Gratuities" only, according to 1874 Report, was £17 10s, which the Secretary now says was only £5; here, then, we have a difference of £12 10s.

A little lower down we are besought to attend to the three annexed statement, with an obvious inference from incorrect data. Now, the very first item of this statement is wrong, according to the Reports for 1872 and 1873 (two editions of the latter), from these three books George Augustus Frederick How is credited with £5 5s, and the total of page 37 of 1873 Report, published in 1874 is £50 5s and not £50 as the Secretary gives it.

As regards four of the nine blunders pointed out by us the Secretary styles them "Clerical errors," though perpetrated a second time in the June edition of 1873 Report; we hardly think your readers will be disposed to regard so lightly errors, involving a sum of £20, in so simple a matter as the account of appropriation of three or four hundred pounds, and we feel we were not far wrong in warning the readers of our Pamphlet against them. Still lower down we have a reference to page 48 of 1874 Report: we turn, accordingly, to the page and find, not £47 10s, but £37 10s for "Amount of grant not previously made or ascertained," to which sum we suppose must be added the £5 for marine outfit from "Fund for the advancement of boys on leaving the Institution." As one instance of proving an impossibility, "Samuel Collingwood's" grant is addduced; The Secretary informs us that £5 were granted on 6th June 1873, and, as we believe, all such grants are made by the General Committee, who always meet on a Saturday, this Committee, according to Mr. Binckes's data, see Calendar 1873, must, in the month of June of that year, have met on a Friday; we find, moreover, that Samuel Collingwood is credited in the Report for 1872 with £5, so that, if the grant was not formally made till some day in June 1873, it must have been given to the lad without the proper sanction. We observe the Secretary admits a discrepancy of £3, even according to his own reckoning, in which, including dates, we have pointed out twelve inaccuracies.

In Report for 1874, under Stock account, a balance is stated as due to the Secretary, though not shewn in the 1873 account: Bro. Cox's Canonbury Medal in 1874 Report is, in one place, page 41, put down at £4, in another, page 53, at £4 4s; in 1873 Report, pages 34 and 53, Bros. Winn and Cox's Prize Money is put down at £17 18s 6d, of which sum only £9 9s appear to have been awarded.

We could point out many other discrepancies did we not feel that we have already trespassed too much on the space available in your columns, and we deem it due to our correspondents to state that their valued assistance has enabled us to detect several errors.

We are, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) THOMAS HILL TEW.
O. G. D. PERROTT, M.A.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In all probability the majority of your readers will be of opinion that you have, on the whole, dealt tolerably fairly with both parties in the remarks you have thought proper to offer on the extraordinary Pamphlet of Messrs. Tew and Perrott. Equally probably you will think me very unreasonable if

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I venture to state that, in some respects, I do not accept your strictures as satisfactory and deserved. This is more especially with reference to your unequivocal condemnation of the language of the two letters marked Nos. 5 and 6. To justify them requires, I admit, the existence of *very strong* provocation, and I contend that the provocation I received not only justified, but *demanded*, the use of the strongest language I could employ. This leads me to notice the position advanced in Part I., p. 8, paragraph number 1, "The Masters have had a very bad time of it at the School, and that the Principal Master has been kept in entire subjection to the Secretary, by the Secretary." To the latter portion of this statement I can only give the most express contradiction, and I assert most positively that no *attempt* at "subjection" was ever made or contemplated. The first portion is true enough if referable to the duration of Mr. Perrott's rule, than which nothing can be imagined more harassing or tyrannical. This appears, to a great extent, from the letters of some of the Assistant Masters, copies of which I forward you, and which may be had on application by any one interested in the controversy.

You remark, with reference to my denials of the specious statements of Messrs. Tew and Perrott, that "assertion is not argument," that, "denial is not disproof." I say, with reference to the charges alleged against me, that "assertion is not proof." In what manner can you deal with an accuser who contents himself with iterating charges which have been thoroughly investigated and disproved? and who follows this up by denying the statement that "the Secretary put to each witness the questions that follow." Those questions, and the facts and circumstances connected therewith, will be found at pp. 7 and 8 of my "Reply," and the members of the Committee present at the investigation can best judge between the statement of Mr. Perrott (for his coadjutor could know nothing of these occurrences, save by hearsay) and myself. I repeat:—

That the questions were put as stated by me.

That the answers given were as recorded by me.

That Mr. Perrott's reply to the chairman, who enquired as to the reasons for such baseless accusations being brought by him against the Secretary, is given by me in the *ipsissima verba* used.

That immediately on the decision of the Committee being announced, Mr. Mallam (since then the champion of Mr. Perrott) proposed a vote of unabated confidence in the Secretary, which was adopted by acclamation.

That Mr. Mallam subsequently expressed to me the satisfaction he experienced at being able to propose such a vote, adding, "that he had come to the Committee *thoroughly prejudiced against me.*"

In bringing this serious charge it will be at once apparent that Mr. Perrott took the initiative in hostility, by seeking to not only lower, but to ruin me in the estimation of those whose confidence I enjoyed, and this, I firmly believe, in pursuance of a set purpose formed by him from the date of his election, consistently followed down to the time of his retirement, and since then pursued with unrelenting and unscrupulous vindictiveness.

A few words on the question of the "missing" amount for outfits and the grants to "James Gasson."

As regards the latter, Messrs. Tew and Perrott, in their letter to you, say—"Mr. Binckes, unfortunately for himself, adduces the case of James Gasson." Why "unfortunately?" They evidently wish it to be believed that I entered the payment of £10, such payment not having been made. I explained the mode of payment in three sums of £5 each. Beaten upon that point, they now cite an acknowledged error in the date of his leaving the Institution as another charge. Granted that, in the Report for 1865, the date was given "28th October 1872," the mistake was subsequently ascertained and corrected to 1871.

My rule always has been, and is,—When I commit an error to acknowledge it at once, and amend it, not to attempt an elaborate, Jesuitical vindication, as is the practice of Mr. Perrott, when dictated in a wilful misstatement. (See note to letter 22, p. 38.)

With reference to the "outfits" and the "missing amount of £141 15s," which, by Messrs. Tew and Perrott, I am accused of misappropriating (nothing less can, by any possibility, be inferred from p. 29), I not only repeat my "indignant denial" of so foul a calumny, but am prepared with a statement of every particular of each grant, and to produce the receipt by each boy, or by the tradesman supplying him, for the amount of each grant. You say "a charge of financial mismanagement is a grave one to make," that "I must go a step further than denial, and adduce rebutting evidence." Will the production of all these vouchers suffice? Again you say, "it is in human nature that a man should defend his own honour warmly." What degree of warmth will you allow me, in repudiating the vilest slander that has ever been uttered to my prejudice? I only wish I had the power to "put in every honest hand a whip to lash the rascals naked through the world."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

London, 2nd November 1875. FREDERICK BINCKES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A few months ago you were good enough to insert a few remarks of mine about the lamentable condition of our Boys' School. Since then, according to the pamphlet written by Bros. Tew and Perrott, nothing appears to have been done by the Committee to vindicate their improved action, beyond the recent assurances of Bro. Binckes, "that all is well." The startling figures of the pamphleteers are either "wrong or right," and as you justly observe, in your able leader of last week, it is the duty of the Committee to prove them wrong. Part 3 clearly proves that the late Head Master had not fair play, and on this ground I feel sure the brethren of England will stand up as one man to protect a brother who evidently had much to contend with and, feeling this, well knowing the serious loss he must have incurred, I shall be happy to form some kind of monetary testimonial for Bro. Perrott, and would gladly subscribe my £10 10s for such a purpose, feeling assured others would follow on knowing the true facts of the whole case.

I am, yours truly and fraternally,

"A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

A PROVINCIAL Grand Lodge was opened on Thursday, 28th October, at St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, by Bro. F. A. Barrow D.P.G.M., Wm. Bell R.W.M. 34 S.W., G. McDonald J.W., A. Mc Taggart M.A. P.G.S., G. Sinclair P.G. Treas. of Benevolent Fund, J. Gilles P.M. 103 P.G.S.D., G. Thallon P.M. 362 P.G.J.D., R. Robb M., J. Fraser A.M., Jas. Bolfour P.M. 332 P.G.D. of C., J. Millar P.M. 418 D. of M., Wm. Phillips P.G.S.B., A. Bain P.M. 103 P.G.B.B., J. W. Burns R.W.M. 87 P.G.I.G., and J. B. Hardie P.G. Tyler, with a full attendance of the Masters and Wardens of nearly every Lodge in the province. The Secretary read the minutes of the last quarterly communication, which were passed, after which Bro. G. Sinclair read the report of the Benevolent Fund Committee, from which it appeared that six widows had been relieved during the quarter. The P.G.M. wished to direct the attention of the members to two questions he was about to bring before the Grand Lodge, at the next meeting in Edinburgh; one was on the delegation of duties by some P.G.M.'s to inferior officers or private members, contrary to Grand Lodge laws; the other was the necessity of the Grand Lodge seeing that its bye-laws were properly observed. On the motion of Bro. Mitchell R.W.M. of 102, seconded by J. S. Scott R.W.M. 419, it was unanimously resolved to memorialise the Grand Lodge to see that all the Lodges conformed to the Constitutions, by not conferring more than one degree at one time. An opinion was also expressed that it was unmasonic to make gentlemen who were residing in another province, especially if it were done at a less fee than was charged in their own province. Several questions were asked as to the status of affiliated and honorary members in Lodges. The P.G.M. ruled that an honorary member could not fill any office, and affiliated members could only do so if they paid the full affiliation fees, according to the bye-laws of the Lodge. With respect to the status of Installed Masters, he held that it would be desirable to follow the example of their English brethren, but at present their position was not very clearly defined, the Grand Lodge not having passed any law on the subject. There being no further business, the Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

MASONRY IN QUEBEC.

THE following is a verbatim extract from the *Quebec Daily Mercury* of the 9th ult.:—The Masonic Hall was last night the scene of an interesting ceremony: the presentation of a magnificent set of Masonic jewels and regalia to Mr. Dunbar, Q.C., whose term of office as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec has expired. The Past Grand Master's chain collar is of gold, beautifully engraved and chased, formed of broad open-work links of oblong form, alternating with pointed stars, each link containing a monogram of the initials of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. The star to which the pendant jewel is attached has the raised letter, "Q," in gold upon it. The jewel itself is a gem of artistic workmanship, made of solid polished gold, and represents the compass extended to 45 degrees, with the segment of a circle at the points. The riband which attaches it when worn on undress occasions is of dark blue ribbed silk, about the breadth of those used for military medals, and it also has a gold clasp fixed in the same way. There are also blue satin gauntlets profusely embroidered in the richest gold lace, and having the insignia of the compass and segment of circle worked in bold relief on the front. The apron is the most gorgeous worn by any Masonic officer; it is ornamented with the blazing sun embroidered in gold, in the centre, on the edging the pomegranate and lotus, with the seven eared wheat in each corner and also on the fall; all is gold embroidery with fringe of gold bullion. The whole regalia came from the renowned Masonic furnishers, Spencer and Co., Queen-street, London. The cost was about 250 dols. The idea of testifying the regard in which Mr. Dunbar is held by his brother Freemasons in the district of Quebec and Three Rivers occurred when he so successfully took part in promoting the amicable settlement of the disputes which had arisen between the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Lodge of Quebec. His recent elevation to the honourable and distinguished position of Grand Master caused those who had charge of the subscriptions to suggest the appropriateness of presenting him with the jewels and regalia his high office demands. The presentation was made in the presence of a very large number of the brethren, including many of the oldest Freemasons in the city. The recipient of the testimonial was addressed by Right Worshipful Bro. Thompson, who in eulogistic terms referred to his services to the Craft in organising the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as Deputy Grand Master for four years, and lastly as Grand Master. Mr. Dunbar replied briefly, expressing his deep sense of the compliment paid him. He said he felt that no words could express his thanks for this generous kindness from those amongst whom he lived and who should know him best. After other complimentary addresses the large assemblage dispersed, and the occasion is one which will long be memorable in the Masonic annals of Quebec.

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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.

Freemasonry: its Secrecy and Relation to Faith and Worship. An Oration delivered before the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon, on the occasion of the Dedication of the Masonic Hall, Bideford, 13th October 1875. By Brother Rev. Thomas Russell, P. Pro. G.C. Oxon., G.J.W. Devon, W.M. of the Lodge of Benevolence, No. 489, Bideford. Printed by Request. The *Gazette* Office, High-street, Exeter.

We are by no means surprised that Bro. the Rev. T. Russell should have been invited to publish the address he delivered at the recent dedication of the Masonic Hall, at Bideford. Regarded merely as a composition, it is a most admirable essay. But in defending Masonry from the base aspersions of its numerous enemies, our Rev. Brother has adopted a tone that harmonises well with the purposes of the Craft. Admitting that our Charitable Institutions and our known loyalty to the Sovereign are worthy of the highest praise, he nevertheless points out that, after all, these are merely the ornaments of Freemasonry. The line of defence which should be universally adopted is placed on still higher grounds. Our secrecy, for instance, is not the secrecy which dreads the light of day. The State knows well enough who and who are not Masons, for the law requires that the members of our Order should be registered. Our laws are published to all the world, and if there are, or have been, backsliders among us, that should no more be cast in our teeth than the crimes of Christians in the teeth of individual Christians. We are loyal to the State, and believe in a personal God, to whom we shall be hereafter accountable for our actions. It is absurd, then, to hold that because we admit indiscriminately within our ranks those who profess this faith, though differently, we are therefore an irreligious body. We have more than once expressed ourselves similarly, and quite as emphatically, though the manner of our so doing has very probably been less happy and less ornate. We thank our Rev. Brother for having afforded us anopportunity of reading and commenting on his address, which deserves a high place in this class of Masonic literature.

The Craft that has Weather'd the Storm. Words by Bro. Dr. O'Macgregor Edwardes, 1107. Music by Bro. Sherwin, 1107, 913, 1076, Published by Bro. George Kenning, 1, 2 and 3, Little Britain, and 198, Fleet-street, London.

This is far above the average of Masonic songs, both as regards the words and the music. Our readers, who may bear in mind our frequent references to the general want of taste, and even, in many instances, of sense, in the various ballads, &c., &c., which, till now, have passed muster among the Craft—we presume in the absence of any better—will find, in this case at all events, a good song, worthy of a foremost place among the few that are really respectable. The words run smoothly and tunefully; the air is melodious, and there is a good chorus, a matter of no small importance, considering it will be mostly sung at those agreeable gatherings which usually follow our Lodge meetings. This chorus is worth reproducing here; indeed, had we not so many claims upon our space, we should have given the song in extenso. However, its general merits may be gleaned from the evidence herewith.

"Then a song and a shout, let them gaily ring out,
As we drink in Masonic due form,
To the officers true, and the staunch gallant crew,
Of the Craft that has weather'd the storm."

We imagine "them," in the first line, must be a misprint for "us;" it certainly reads more in harmony with the next line—Then a song and a shout let us gaily ring out, As we drink, &c., &c. Any musical brother who may be on the look out for a new song will, we feel sure, derive much pleasure, if he purchases "The Craft that has Weather'd the Storm."

The Bye-laws of the York Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, No. 236 (held at the Masonic Hall, Duncan-place, York); to which is added a short History of the Lodge and of the Ancient Grand Lodge of all England. York: Printed by F. R. Delittle, corner of Railway-street and Micklegate.

We think it very desirable that every Lodge that possesses records stretching back to any distance of time should entrust to some capable member the task of arranging and publishing them. The York Lodge, the case before us, is an illustration. This Lodge has nearly completed a century of existence, having been warranted in July 1777, by Sir Thomas Tancred, Pro Grand Master for the County and City of York, under the authority of the Grand of Lodge England. It was originally known as the "Union Lodge," but in 1870, it assured, with the sanction of the M.W.G.M., its present title. There are now 140 subscribing members on the Lodge roll, and we cordially endorse the wish of the writer that "this representative of Masonry in the ancient City of York may long continue to flourish, and may be the instrument of disseminating the great and glorious principles of our noble institution to future generations." In addition, we have a history of the "Grand Lodge of England," and this contains much that is highly interesting to those members of the Craft who delight in studying the early history of our Order. The account of the York Lodge was, we are told, compiled by Bro. Joseph Todd P.M. P.P.S.G.W., and that of Ancient Grand Lodge by Brother William Cowbery P.M. P.P.S.G.W., who have accomplished their task with marked success. Certainly Yorkshire, and doubtless, the whole world of Masonry will regard the publication of these and similar records with great satisfaction.

CONSECRATION OF THE MASONIC HALL AT BARTON.

From the The Hull and Lincolnshire Times.

Some five months ago we recorded the circumstances connected with the laying of the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall, which had been determined upon by the brethren of the St. Matthew's Lodge, No. 1477, of Free and Accepted Masons; and on Wednesday 27th ult. we had pleasure in "assisting" at the ceremony of dedicating that building to the noble purposes for which it has been designed. It is not too much to say that upon the foundation laid last May a superstructure has been raised, perfect in all its parts, and honourable to the builder. The site of the new structure is on the Brigg Road, where it will, in future years, be admired as an ornament to the town, and amongst the most handsome public buildings of which Barton can boast. Although a very "young" Lodge, the brethren of St. Matthew's boast of a long and distinguished line of ancestors; for, as a correspondent recently informed our readers, a band of brothers, bearing the name of the patron saint upon its banner, flourished here as far back as the commencement of the present century. In 1778 the St. Matthew's Lodge, No. 406, was founded in Barton—being at the time the only Lodge in the province of Lincolnshire. It appears to have flourished for a number of years, in perfect conformity with the ancient usages of the Craft, most of the towns and villages in the northern division of the county being represented in its membership; but some years ago, for reasons which do not appear to be very distinctly set forth, the Lodge collapsed, and the name of St. Matthew's disappeared from the list of Lodges until October 1873. In that month Bro. Colonel Taylor, of Burnham Manor, undertook the laudable work of resuscitating the Lodge, surrounding himself with a trusty band of officers, who were readily assisted by experienced members of the Craft in Hull and various parts of the province of Lincolnshire. Under Colonel Taylor's Mastership, the Lodge meetings were held in the Volunteers' Hall; but so popular did the new movement become—especially since the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master of England—that the brethren felt the necessity of casting about them for a more suitable "local inhabitation" in which they could more thoroughly and perfectly carry on their operations. The success which attended this effort is only what might have been expected from the energy and spirit which were thrown into the movement; and we congratulate Bro. Swallow, and the officers by whom he has been so ably supported, upon the completion of this excellent work before their terms of office have expired. The building, which on Wednesday week last was consecrated to the purposes of Masonry, is a credit to them and the town, and the possession of such a structure will, no doubt, give a fresh impetus to Masonry, which has already become so deservedly popular in the province. The building is of white stock bricks, with red brick pillars and arches, and contains on the ground floor a library and banqueting-room, 24ft. 3in. by 22ft. 9in., and a Tyler's residence, with spacious kitchens, fitted with suitable cooking apparatus, and other conveniences. There is also a cloak-room on the ground floor, and the whole building has been admirably fitted with a heating apparatus of the most approved description. On the first floor is the Lodge room, of the same dimensions as the banquetting room, and adjoining it are waiting and robing-rooms, and all other necessary offices. The structure is in the modern classic style of architecture, having a frontage to the Brigg Road of 25ft., and a depth of 44ft. Bro. W. H. Wellsted, architect, of Hull, was entrusted with the designs, according to which the building has been erected by Mr. Alexander Stamp, of Barton, and the whole of the work has been executed in a manner that is highly satisfactory to all concerned.

The brethren assembled in their new hall at half-past one o'clock, where they were joined by a number of visitors, the following Lodges being represented:—The Humber 57, the Lindsey 712, the Kingston 1010, the Bayons 1286, the Pelham Pillar 792, the St. Alban's 1294, the Ancholme 1282, the Alexandra 1611, &c. As soon as the brethren had taken their places in the Lodge, the P.G. Officers and Past Officers, and the Officers of the Lodge, entered in procession, when the chair was taken by Bro. W. H. Smyth W.D.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire, and the following officers of St. Matthew's were also present:—Bros. W. Swallow W.M., Colonel Taylor I.P.M., Henry Ashton S.W., W. H. Simons J.W., R. Bedford Treasurer, John Fuller Secretary, James B. Swallow S.D., J. D. Waddingham J.D., W. Gray I.G., and Kenningham Tyler. The Provincial and other Grand Officers occupied seats upon the dais, and ably assisted in the ceremony of consecration. Bro. G. R. Welsh ably presided at the organ, and the musical portions of the ceremony were most efficiently rendered. The Lodge having been duly opened in the three degrees, the W.D.P.G.M. directed the P.G. Superintendent of Works to examine the appointments of the Lodge, which were pronounced satisfactory; and the sublime ceremony of Consecration, in accordance with the formularies of the Craft, was then proceeded with. At its conclusion the W.D.P.G.M. delivered an impressive and eloquent address on the duties inculcated in Freemasonry, advising the brethren to be discriminating in their admission of members, and wise in their promotion of the interests of the Craft. He then congratulated the W.M. on the completion of that magnificent hall, and wished for the Lodge a long career of future prosperity. Bro. Swallow then took the chair, and presided over the remainder of the business, the working of all the officers being conducted in an eminently satisfactory manner.

At three o'clock the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Mr. Taylor, at the George Hotel, the tables being adorned with a choice profusion of flowers, ornamental plants, and the whole of the arrangements were carried out in commendable style. The chair was occupied by Bro. W. Swallow W.M., who was supported by the W. Deputy Grand Master of the Province, Bro. W. H. Smyth;

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Bro. Thomas Sissons, Prov. Grand Registrar of North and East Yorks.; Bro. the Rev. J. C. R. Saunders, Prov. Grand Chaplain of Lincolnshire; Bro. E. Locock, P.P.G.S.W., &c., and the duties of the vice-chair were admirably discharged by Bro. H. Ashton, the S.W. of the Lodge. At the conclusion of the repast the loyal and Craft toasts were duly honoured, the W.M. alluding to the visit of the M.W. Grand Master of England to India, in which he said all Masons must take a deep interest at the present time. They all hoped his Royal Highness might have a successful voyage, and a safe return home. (Cheers.)

Bro. Colonel Taylor then proposed "his Grace the Duke of St. Albans, R.W.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire; W. H. Smyth, Esq., W.D.P.G.M., and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge." (The toast was received with honours.)

Bro. Major Smyth, in responding, returned thanks for the cordial manner in which the name of the Duke of St. Albans had been received by the company. He could assure them that though his Grace was not present, his heart was thoroughly with them. (Hear, hear.) He frequently heard from the Duke, and sometimes saw him; and he felt convinced that his Grace took the deepest interest in, and was always desirous for, the welfare of Freemasonry in the province. (Cheers.) For his own part it was a source of great pleasure to him to visit the different Lodges and to see their prosperity: and he had never been better pleased than he had been to-day. In conclusion, Bro. Smyth proposed the "Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," the former of whom, he remarked, was about the "best abused man in the whole country." To-day they had amongst them their worthy Bro. Saunders, who had attended several meetings held in Barton, and had shown a zeal in Masonry which must have obtained for him the respect and approbation of the brethren generally. He begged to couple the name of their Prov. Grand Chaplain with the toast he had just proposed. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Rev. J. C. R. Saunders in responding, thought they had reason to be thankful that in this diocese they had such a man as their bishop to preside over them, for if they looked round the Episcopal Bench they would not find his superior, "taken for all in all." (Applause.) He was a man of transcendent talent, extraordinary energy, and persevering labours; and, above all, he was a thorough Christian gentleman. (Hear, hear.) He expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to be present on this occasion. He was present at the consecration of the Lodge, at the foundation-stone laying, and at the ceremony of to-day; and he must say he considered the Barton Lodge had done wonders. There was, in fact, scarcely another instance in the records of Masonry in England of a Lodge being formed, and within two years building a house of its own. Therefore, he congratulated his brethren of the St. Matthew's Lodge, to whom all honour was due, for the excellent work they had accomplished. (Cheers.)

Bro. Thos. Sissons, Pro G.R., then gave "The Worshipful Master of the St. Matthew's Lodge," from whom he said the brethren had at all times received genuine cordiality and kindness whenever they met. (Cheers.) He wished Bro. Swallow long life, health, and prosperity, and after having seen all the members drafted into the P.M.'s chair, they could not do better than to re-elect him. (Laughter and loud cheers).

Bro. W. Swallow W.M., who was greeted with renewed cheering, returned thanks for the kind way in which Bro. Sissons had proposed the toast; and for the cordiality with which the brethren had received it. He was sorry he could not find words to express his feelings to-day; but he must first of all thank the brethren for the way in which they had gone through the ceremony of consecration, and the attention they had paid to the lessons which the event inculcated. Next he thanked the brethren of St. Matthew's Lodge for wishing him to have the honour of seeing the new Lodge consecrated before his term of office had expired. He concluded by wishing their new Masonic Hall prosperity and success. (Cheers.)

Bro. W. H. Sissons next proposed "The Masonic Charities," a toast which was given at all these festive gatherings, serving to remind them, in the midst of all their gay good humour, that Masonry had higher duties and nobler responsibilities. This toast came in the very centre of the toast list, and thus reminded them that charity was the keystone of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Doubtless in the early history of the world, Freemasonry was a necessary protection, by which good and wise men were enabled to know whom they could meet in an honourable and friendly spirit, and whom it was necessary to avoid. And, later on, it was of service when the sword and the spear were used alongside the ploughshare. But now, knowing the genuine principles of its vitality, Masonry had ceased to be the offensive and defensive alliance which it had been for hundreds of years; and it was an institution, not merely for mutual benefit, but also for the benefit of those who were not actually Freemasons themselves. (Hear, hear.) No man who called himself a good and honest Mason would hesitate to deny that he was his brother's keeper—keeper of his brother's name and honour and reputation—of his worldly and spiritual happiness—for when circumstances arose they were dependent one upon the other. They could not explain to the outside world all their mysteries and ceremonies; still, they could give to it the outward and visible sign that, to the best of their ability, they aided the widow and the orphan, and those who were unable to fulfil the chief duty of life, namely, to provide for the maintenance of themselves, and those who were dependent upon them. As Masons they testified that they were prepared to take upon themselves that great sacred duty. Applause. He had hoped to have had amongst them to-day their worthy Bro. F. Pigott P.P.G. Steward, but unfortunately, in consequence of ill-health, he had been prevented from attending on this interesting occasion. Recently he spent a few hours with Bro. Pigott, who, in the course of their interview, pointed to what he valued above all else in possession—not a rare specimen of china, or a valuable piece of plate—but a plain sheet of parchment, containing the thanks of the boys and girls in the Masonic schools, for the services he had rendered them as Steward of this province. (Cheers.) Having further alluded to charity as one of the great essential characteristics of Masonry, the speaker coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Locock. (Cheers.)

Bro. E. Locock P.P.G.S.W., in returning thanks, said, if there was one toast which, more than another, brought the principles of Masonry home to their hearts, it was that of their invaluable Charities. He was very glad to know that in recent years the most important of their Masonic Institutions, the Boys' and Girls' Schools and the Benevolent Institution had been very largely supported by this province. He could remember, some years ago, they never thought of having subscriptions for this purpose, and an annual contribution from Lodges was not thought of. He then referred to the manner in which their late Prov. Grand Secretary. Bro. Lucas, fought in behalf of the Charities; and said he was the man who showed them the way in which the province ought to work. He then alluded to the Benevolent Fund of the province, which had been of great benefit, and many private Lodges had benevolent funds of their own; and he urged upon all Lodges to establish such funds, which were of the greatest value themselves and benefit to those who were deserving of their consideration. (Cheers.)

Bro. Nelson next gave "the Officers and Brethren of St. Matthew's Lodge."

Bro. Henry Ashton thanked Bro. Nelson for the kindly manner in which he had proposed the toast. He had known Bro. Nelson in another Lodge, and also in another capacity—as a soldier (hear, hear); and he was proverbial for his kindliness of heart and courtesy to all around him.

Bro. R. Bedford then proposed "the health of the Visiting Brethren." They in Barton were greatly obligated to friends who, during the early career of their Lodge, came from Hull and elsewhere, and rendered them invaluable assistance. He should have been better pleased had a much larger number of brethren from the other side of the Humber visited them on this occasion. They had been of great assistance during the formation and growth of St. Matthew's Lodge, and they were entitled to the best thanks of the brethren. (Cheers.) It would afford them pleasure at any time to welcome brethren from a distance, for the interchange of kindly feeling and sentiment were most valued by members of the Lodge. He would associate with the toast the name of Bro. H. J. Amphlett, of the Alexandra Lodge, Hornsea. (Cheers.)

Bro. Amphlett briefly acknowledged the toast, expressing, on behalf of the visitors present, their high appreciation of the kindliness and hospitality which had been displayed by the brethren of the St. Matthew's Lodge. The ceremony they had witnessed had been of the most impressive and interesting character; and he congratulated the officers and brethren upon the excellence of the work they had accomplished. Though a young Mason, he had taken a deep interest in the Craft, and enjoyed visiting the brethren in the various Lodges; in all of which he found the same spirit of friendliness and brotherly love prevailing. (Applause.) He thought no man could help admiring the great and noble objects of Freemasonry, which were not political, nor confined to any sect or denomination. It was a wide-spread institution, whose object was the extension of human sympathy and human brotherhood, and had embraced thousands of all creeds and shades of thought in a common bond of amity. Charity and brotherhood were the leading and guiding principles of the Institution, and the practical display of such virtues must ultimately earn for the Craft a large and increasing amount of public approbation. (Cheers.) Again, he thanked the brethren for the hearty welcome they had accorded to the visitors, and assured them, if they returned these visits, they would be as thoroughly well received by any Lodge which they might honour with their presence. (Applause.)

The W.M. said he must be excused if he departed a little from the list, and proposed to them the "Health of their good friend and Immediate Past Master, Colonel Taylor." (Cheers.) When he (the speaker) took the chair, he knew he succeeded a man whom it would be difficult to follow. But whenever he required advice on any matter he had only to go to Burnham, when he found Bro. Taylor quite ready to afford him any assistance he needed. He trusted the gallant Colonel would frequently attend the Lodge and sit with him as P.M. of St. Matthew's; for he (the speaker) was determined to attend as often as he possibly could do. (Cheers.)

Colonel Taylor, in responding, said he had been a Mason for 19 years, and certainly wished to see the Lodge flourish at Barton. He acknowledged the assistance which had been received from brethren at Hull and elsewhere, and he felt certain the St. Matthew's Lodge would ultimately become second to none in the province. Their W.M. required but little assistance at the outset, and required none now; and he had confidence that the next Master would be the same. He concluded by wishing the Lodge every success.

Bro. T. Sissons then, in a humorous speech, proposed the "Ladies," for whom Bro. Henry Meggitt gallantly responded; and the official list having been got through, the remainder of the evening was spent in a more convivial manner.

We must not omit to state that, in commemoration of the completion of the building, the members of the Lodge generously provided a dinner for the whole of the workmen, numbering upwards of thirty, who had been engaged in the erection.

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STRAND.—At 7.0, THE DOCTOR'S BROUGHAM, WEAK WOMAN, and FLAMINGO.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—MY AWFUL DAD, and Mr. GATHERWOOL. On Monday, SPITALFIELD'S WEAVER, OFF THE LINE, and ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS. At 7.45, ALL FOR HER.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, EAST LYNNE, and THE BRIGANDS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—MASKS AND FACES.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, MY WIFE'S OUT. At 9.15, LA PERICHOLE, and TRIAL BY JURY.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, A TEMPTING BAIT. At 8.35, PROOF POSITIVE, and QUITE CRACKED.

COURT.—At 7.30 A MORNING CALL, A NINE DAYS' WONDER, and UNCLE'S WILL.

CRITERION.—At 8, A PHENOMENON IN A SMOCK FROCK. At 8.30, PLEUR DE THE.

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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

An addition to the Royal Family is always a subject of congratulation among all classes of British subjects, and we Masons, who pride ourselves, not without substantial reason, upon our loyalty, are not likely to be behindhand in felicitating their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on the recent increase of their family. Of other news connected with the Royal Family we have to record that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught landed at Gibraltar a few days since, in order to enter upon the appointment which he had been gazetted to do. A hearty welcome was accorded him, and an address, to which his Royal Highness briefly but appropriately responded, was delivered by the American Consul, Mr. Sprague, in the name and on behalf of the Consular body. Lastly, the King and Queen of Denmark have arrived in this country, with a view to spending a few weeks with their daughter, the Princess of Wales, and the latter will, by permission of Her Majesty, spend Christmas at Copenhagen. A slight accident has occurred to the Crown Prince of Denmark, who, in dismounting from his horse, had the misfortune to sprain his ancle. A few days, however, will suffice to restore him to his usual health.

"A good blowing up" is a common, if not particularly ornate expression. Jones misconducts himself, or, at least, we consider he has done so; therefore we "blow him up." Two hundred and seventy years since, about the greatest blowing up the world ever dreamt of was contemplated. A number of fanatics, headed by one Guido Fawkes had made all the necessary preparations to blow up King, Lords, and Commons in Parliament assembled. Happily, by the interposition of Providence, the event did not come off, but, instead, Guido Fawkes and his associates were elevated, if not as high as Haman is recorded to have been, quite enough to serve as a warning to future fanatics not to indulge in attempts at blowing up King and Parliament. The anniversary of Gunpowder Plot came off yesterday. In the suburbs, and in many provincial towns it was celebrated with more or less of the usual display, which, as far as amusing young children, and putting a few coppers into the pockets of ragged little rascals, is quite harmless.

Next Tuesday will be anniversary of the birth of our M.W.G.M. H.R.H. Prince of Wales, who, on that day, will complete his thirty-fourth year. The reign of Lord Mayor Stone will also come to an end on that day, and Alderman Cotton succeeds our respected brother as first magistrate of the wealthiest city in the world. As true Masons we "welcome the coming, speed the parting guest," but in

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the case of Lord Mayor Stone, we feel bound to say something more, and to offer him our hearty congratulations on the grand success of his mayoralty. Of course, every citizen who attains this exalted position, strives his hardest to maintain its dignity, and add some lustre to his own name. Chance, too, occasionally aids them. The visit of a foreign potentate, the birth of an heir to the throne, a state visit to the city, when such an event occurs the Queen usually confers the dignity of a Baronet on the Lord Mayor and that of Knighthood on the Sheriffs. No such event has occurred during the year that will close next Tuesday; nevertheless, Lord Mayor Stone's Mayoralty has been, as we have just said, a grand success. We are not referring especially to his hospitality, for the hospitality of our Civic Sovereigns is matter of every day notoriety. We imagine, however, that few Lord Mayors have shown a greater activity, a greater desire to please everybody, a greater firmness and impartiality in the discharge of his very onerous duties. We heartily wish him God speed in the future, both as a Citizen of London and as a Mason. Doubtless the last noteworthy event of his year of office will be the event of Thursday, when the freedom of the City was conferred on the Astronomer Royal, Sir George B. Airy, the copy of the freedom being contained in a magnificently embossed gold casket. The Chamberlain, as the mouthpiece of the Corporation, spoke in deservedly complimentary language of the great attainments of Sir G. B. Airy, and the latter acknowledged the honour conferred upon him in fitting terms. Both the speech of the Chamberlain and the reply of the Astronomer Royal were unanimously ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the day's proceedings. There were present, besides the Lord Mayor, who presided, and Mr. Chamberlain, who was the spokesman, Aldermen M'Arthur and Lusk, and an unusually large attendance of Common Councilmen and others.

The second sitting of the Spiritualists was held at their room in Bloomsbury Square, on Thursday evening, the chair being taken by Dr. Sexton, who is reported, in the course of his opening remarks, to have expressed his conviction that a large number of the cures he had seen effected resulted from the direct agency of disembodied spirits. We are not ourselves of the Spiritualist fraternity, but we fancy there is something at the bottom of Dr. Sexton's theory. At all events, we offer in confirmation of it the popular belief that the best cure for a cold is one or more doses of rum and water, the water, of course, being the disembodying element in the case. An American Spiritualist who who was present, cited several cases of spiritual cures which had come within his knowledge. Possibly the receipt in the States for curing a cold, is hot Bourbon whisky and water; but this, we think, would leave a slight head-ache behind. Every now and then we read in the daily papers of extraordinary *séances* being held, now in London, now in the provinces. The following is an ordinary *séance* common enough in all parts of the world, though we have not seen its incidents recorded with as great particularity as we should like see. Scene.—A library. Dramatic Personæ. The relatives and friends of the recently defunct owner of said library, bearing about them all the outward and visible signs of the greatest anguish, and the family lawyer, who acts as medium. After a few preliminary flourishes on the part of the latter, he proceeds to read the will, when a sudden chill is felt throughout the room, and the voice of the deceased gentleman is distinctly heard to say, in tones of the most cynical enthusiasm, "*Nimium ne crede Dolori.*" Our readers, of course, will note the very happy consistency, in the above account, of allowing the spirit of a defunct gentleman to express its feelings in a *dead* language. No doubt the family lawyer grinned a ghastly grin, when he heard the familiar tones of his late employer, but we should imagine the sorrowing relatives and friends, while not a little disturbed in their minds by the apparition, would not lend themselves to the encouragement of spiritualism.

This has been a comparatively quiet week at the Alexandra Palace. The season is too far advanced for much to be done out of doors. Indoors, however, every possible sort of attraction is offered to the public, who are nothing slow to avail themselves of the offers. Weather permitting, and even, indeed, in spite of the weather, the dramatic performances and the Saturday Popular Concerts are very well attended. On Lord Mayor's Day we are promised a firework competition, and on the fifteenth instant there will be another grand trotting match. As regards the Crystal Palace there is little to report, the chief weekly event of interest being the Saturday afternoon concert.

Among the many various reforms that are continually being offered, there is hardly one that commends itself so thoroughly to the dictates of reason and common sense as funeral reform. The bestowal of grand funeral honours on some great man, like Wellington or Nelson, is a proper tribute of respect to pay to his memory. But why the stately glare and display, the hired trappings of woe, the unsightly hearse, and oftentimes the still more unsightly attendants? No man of sense believes that all this display and these paraphernalia form essential part of the respect we pay to the dead. A military funeral is one of the most impressive sights that can be witnessed, yet of funeral emblems there are few indeed. The coffin is borne along on a gun carriage, the deceased's charger following. The solders follow, with arms reversed, and the band playing the Dead March in Saul. A Mason's funeral, too, is a solemn ceremony, but the ordinary dingy hearse and mourning coaches are the merest burlesque of sorrowing respect. We are glad to see that Mr. Bright has expressed himself so sensibly and so practically as to the necessity for funeral reform, especially in such cases as he cites in evidence of a poor man's funeral, not unfrequently using up all the scanty means at the disposal of his family. A quiet and unobtrusive, and, we may add, inexpensive funeral, is not inconsistent with a genuine heartfelt sorrow for the loss of a respected friend or relative.

The greatest evidence that the holidays are over, and that this business world of ours has resumed work, is borne out by the fact that Ministers held a Cabinet meeting on Thursday, at which, no doubt, the programme for the coming Session of Parliament would be discussed. On Tuesday, of course, we shall receive a certain amount of enlightenment as to how the political world is wagging. A few members of Parliament have been giving expression to their views on subjects of local or general interest, and there is a vacancy in Mid-Surrey, caused by the elevation to the Bench of Sir Richard Baggallay.

Scientific readers will, no doubt, be interested in learning that a new planet is reported to have been discovered by a French astronomer, M. Paul Henry. So, at least, M. Le Verrier, of the Paris Observatory, informs our Astronomer Royal, Sir George Airy.

The National Assembly has resumed its sittings at Versailles, after the autumnal recess. The President of the Council, M. Buffet's, motion that the Electoral Bill should be put down for discussion on Monday, was agreed to unanimously. Another proposal, emanating from M. Duprat, of the Left, to the effect that the Bill for raising the State of Siege, and the appointment of Mayors by the Municipal Councils, instead of by the Government, was also agreed to. From Penang is reported the murder, in the Malayan territory, of Mr. Birch, the British President at Perak. Troops are said to have already marched upon that city, with a view to punishing the guilty parties. It seems more that probable that Austria, Prussia, and Germany will act jointly in pressing upon Turkey the necessity of dealing out liberal reforms to her subjects, and especially those professing the Christian faith. What part France, Italy, and this country will take, or whether they will take any part with the other three powers, is not known. But, no doubt, the subject seriously engaged the attention of our Ministers at the late meeting of the Cabinet. The news from the United States relates chiefly to the recent elections in various of the States, the result, from what we gather, being somewhat favourable to the Republicans. There has been some fighting on the West Coast of Africa, Commodore Sir W. H. Hewett having penetrated some miles up the coast to inflict salutary punishment on the pirates, who mustered in tolerably strong numbers, a very severe chastisement ensued, and that, too, with but trifling loss on our part. A little time ago there was a talk of some action being taken by the United States Government towards Spain in relation to Cuba, but the latest advices show that no action was ever contemplated. The memorandum sent by the Washington Cabinet to the Spanish Government having merely reference to certain documents forwarded two years ago to Madrid. From Spain, the news respecting the war contains no feature of importance. The two armies still confront each other, thus the report that the decisive campaign would be shortly undertaken has not, as yet at all events, been verified. From Herzegovina there is nothing of moment to record. The other item of news worth alluding to is the

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terrible accident to the French ironclad Magenta, which took fire while lying at anchor in the harbour of Toulouse. No lives were lost, and as the magazines were partially flooded, the explosion of the magazines, when it did take place, caused comparatively little damage to the town. What with the losses of the Captain and the Vanguard, and the destruction of the Magenta, ironclad ships of war seem to be very costly affairs.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE AT MORECAMBE, LANCASTER.

ON Tuesday, the 26th ult., the R.W. Prov. G.M. Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M. of England, consecrated, with all the Masonic ceremonies, the Morecambe Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. Half-past twelve was the hour fixed for the ceremony, and, for the convenience of the Lancaster brethren, a special train started from the Green Ayre station at twelve o'clock, and of which about sixty took advantage. On arriving at Morecambe, the brethren at once repaired to the North Western Hotel, where, for the present, the Lodge will hold its meetings, and after a short delay arrayed themselves in their Masonic clothing and assembled in the Lodge room. Craft Lodge was opened by Bro. Wylie Prov. P.G.S.D. (who subsequently acted as Grand Director of Ceremonies during the consecration), and this having been intimated, the R.W. Prov. G.M. shortly afterwards entered the Lodge room, preceded by his Grand Officers and the Worshipful Master designate, namely Bros. Charles Fryer (Mayor of Preston) Prov. G.S.W., the Rev. J. W. Morgan Prov. G.C., W. M. Deeley Prov. G.J.W., Thomas Armstrong Prov. G.W.T., H. S. Alpass Prov. G. Sec., Reuben Pearson Prov. P.G.R., W. Joseph Sly Prov. G. Pars., and Dr. John Daniel Moore P.G.S.B. of England, a processional march being played by Bro. Skeafe Prov. G.D., whilst the Grand Master took his seat in the Master's Chair. The Grand Master then appointed Bro. Fryer to take the S.W.'s chair, Bros. Deeley J.W., John C. Bradshaw I.P.M. 1051 S.D., William Hall P.M. 281 J.D., and John Gibson P.M. and Treas. 950 I.G. Immediately on the Grand Master having taken his seat, the Grand Director of Ceremonies called upon the brethern to salute the Grand Master, which was done in true Masonic style. The ceremony of consecration was then commenced by the Grand Chaplain reading a portion of Holy Writ and offering up prayer, after which an ode was sung. The Provincial Grand Secretary then read the petition and also the warrant of constitution, which latter was attested by the sign manual of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales the Grand Master of England. The ceremonial of consecration, as prescribed by the ritual of the Craft, was then duly performed, the elements of consecration (the corn-copia, wine, oil, and salt) being carried three times round the Lodge, amid solemn music, by four Provincial Grand Officers, and afterwards the censers in like manner by the Chaplain. On the conclusion of the ceremony the Grand Master proceeded to instal the Worshipful Master designate (Bro. J. D. Moore) into the chair of the Lodge, those members of the Craft who have not attained to the degree of Past Masters being first requested to retire, and the ceremony then proceeded according to the rites of the Craft; on its conclusion the members were readmitted, and proceeded to offer their congratulations to the Worshipful Master elect. The Worshipful Master then proceeded to invest his officers as follow:—Bros. William Duff S.W., Thomas Longmire J.W., William Longmire Sec., William Aspden S.D., Henry Hartley jun. J.D., James Shaw I.G., E. Airey I.P.M. 281, at the request of the Worshipful Master consented to occupy the chair of I.P.M. Two candidates were proposed for admission, and the Grand Director having called for the usual vote of thanks, which were given in a manner peculiar to the Craft. The Lodge was duly closed. The Grand Master went through the ceremony of consecration with considerable ability and impressiveness, whilst Bro. Wylie discharged the duties of Grand Director of Ceremonies in a manner no less creditable to the Craft than to himself. The musical portion of the ceremony was ably rendered by a quartet of voices, under the direction of Bro. Skeafe, who presided at the harmonium. The pedestals for the Grand Master, Senior and Junior Wardens were beautiful specimens of workmanship, and manufactured from designs furnished by the Worshipful Master designate.

The brethren then adjourned to the Lodge room of the hotel, where a banquet had been prepared in celebration of the opening of the Lodge, and a very attractive menu was provided by Bro. Hartley. Dr. Moore, the Worshipful Master, presided, and was supported on the right by the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, the Rev. J. W. Morgan, Bros. Alpass, Skeafe, &c., and on the left by the Mayor of Preston, Bros. Deeley, Armstrong, &c., the company numbering about sixty. On the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts followed, the chairman successively proposing the "Queen" and "The Prince of Wales," in the twofold capacity of heir to the throne and Grand Master of England, which were received with enthusiasm. The W.M. then gave "The health of the R.W. Prov. G.M. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master of England," referring to the honour which had been conferred upon them in having his lordship to open the Lodge, and alluded to the high position and the interest which he took in the Craft; the toast was received with great enthusiasm, and on his lordship rising to respond, he was received with a perfect ovation. On the applause subsiding, his lordship expressed the pleasure he had in attending to consecrate the Lodge, more especially as it was in his own province. It was his earnest wish to do his duty so far as he could, and he hoped that in future years they would see the Lodge one of the best in the province. Freemasonry was on the increase throughout the kingdom, and the impetus given to it by the appointment of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the position of Grand master had not ceased, and he hoped never would cease, during his reign. He (Lord Skelmersdale) hoped that so long as he continued to occupy the high position in which His Royal Highness had placed him he should never be found wanting in fulfilling its duties. (Applause.)

The Worshipful Master then proposed the health of the "Provincial Grand Officers," which was acknowledged by the Mayor of Preston. The Worshipful Master next proposed the "Visiting Provincial Grand Officers," which was responded to by Bros. Holmes, Talbot and Tattersall, of the Cumberland and Westmorland Grand Lodge.

The Mayor of Preston, in highly eulogistic terms, proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, and alluded to the eminence he had attained in the Craft as a Grand Lodge Officer, and augured a prosperous future for the Lodge under the auspices of one so well acquainted with the Craft as Bro. Dr. Moore. The toast was drunk in a bumper. The Worshipful Master, in responding, said it was the fourth time he had filled the office of Worshipful Master, therefore, it could not be supposed he coveted the honour particularly. He saw they had the nucleus of a good Lodge, and he did not see why it should not be so; he thought, with a little practice, in a short time they would be second to none in the province. He was glad the Lodge had been consecrated with so much éclat, and he felt it a honour to hide the collar of the Grand Lodge beneath the humble blue ribbon of the Master of the Lodge; he felt prouder of the blue ribbon than of the purple and gold of the Grand Lodge. (Applause.) "Success to the other Officers of the Morecambe Lodge" was then given, and responded to by Bros. Duff and T. Longmire. The health of the "Immediate Past Master" was next given by the Worshipful Master, who alluded to the services rendered the Craft by Bro. Airey, and that he felt less diffidence in accepting the office of Master, knowing that, when his professional duties called him away, he could leave the interests of the Lodge in the hands of a worthy coadjutor.

Bro. Airey, in acknowledging the compliment, expressed his gratification at a Masonic Lodge being opened in Morecambe, a consummation which he had been working for for some time. "Success to the Lancashire Lodges" was next given, and responded to by Bros. T. Atkinson 281, and F. G. Dale 1851. "Masonry in general—success to it" followed, and was acknowledged by Bro. J. Atkinson 281. "Members of Grand Arch" was responded to by Bro. Johnson 413. The last toast on the list was "To distressed Masons," which was proposed by Bro. J. Watson Tyler 281. During the banquet several glees were sung under the direction of Bro. Skeafe, and songs were also given by several of the members present. The arrangements for the consecration and banquet—which devolved mainly upon Bros. Dr. Moore and Airey—were very complete, and being efficiently carried out, the proceedings passed off with the greatest cordiality and harmony.

COACHING DAYS.—Since the 15th September 1830, when the first railway in England was opened between Liverpool and Manchester, we have passed through a transition era in the history of travelling and locomotion. The neatly-appointed four-horse coaches, timed to do their nine or ten miles an hour, had superseded those various methods of communication that, in various centuries, had been adopted by Englishmen on their travels—whether they were the trains of horses in Chaucer's day; or the horses by post, as when Taylor, the water-poet, made his "Penniless Pilgrimage;" or the carriers and pack-horses that Milton's old Hobson passed into a proverb; or the machines and stage-waggons of Stow's day; or that primitive coach that Parson Adams outwalked, and in which Roderick Random and Strap made their journey to London, at the rate of four miles an hour, exclusive of stoppages; until we arrive at the more recent date, 2nd August 1784, when the first mail-coach went from London to Bath, and inaugurated that admirable coaching era in which the very perfection of travelling seems to be attained, but the ruin of which was foreshadowed by the wondrous "Car of Miracle" in Southey's "Curse of Kehama." The old order of things is changed; the English coachman, so graphically drawn by Washington Irving in 1820, is as extinct as the dodo or the Charlie; the coaches are superseded by other "coaches" of a very different pattern; and as Mr. Reynardson, the author of "Down the Road," says, "The tea-kettle, with its steam, has taken the place of the four bright bays; the grimy engine-driver and stoker have taken the place of the coachman; and the guard or conductor, in his blue coat and foreign-looking hat, has taken the place of the guard in red, with his glazed hat and cockade; and the long mellow horn of former days is now replaced by a shrill, and certainly not to be called mellow, whistle." It is true that four-horse coaches still exist here and there in certain districts, though chiefly in the touring season; and the advertisements that appear of them in the end of our "Bradshaw" are sufficiently suggestive of the change that has come over our modes of travelling. London, too, in certain months, still sends forth its well-appointed four-horse coaches to convey passengers to Brighton, Tunbridge, Dorking, and other favourite spots; but the coaches that went up and "down the road" at certain fixed hours on every day throughout the year are no longer to be met with. Mr. Reynardson makes the suggestion that "a real old mail and a real old stage-coach, with its piles of luggage and all other etceteras, should, before every recollection of them is gone, have a place, fully equipped for the road, in the times of old, in the British Museum. It would not be a bad thought for some enterprising 'Down the road' to set the thing on foot, and thus hand down to posterity what would be a wonder to behold when the generation to come travel by electricity instead of steam."—*Leisure Hour.*

CARD HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picket 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. 2d per pack 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 1od per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 57 Cornhill, E.C.

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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, 6th NOVEMBER.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.

MONDAY, 8th NOVEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
130—Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High-street, Hastings.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
69—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
85—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleston, Norfolk.
88—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
105—Fortitude, Hayahe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
169—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
263—Salopian, Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham.
615—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
695—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
731—Eastnor, Feathers Hotel, Ledbury.
855—Sympathy, Swan Hotel, Wootton-under-Edge.
884—Derwent, George and Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, Derby.
908—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall.
947—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
953—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Stow-on-the Wold.
1296—Bayons, Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.
1373—St. Hubert, Freemasons' Hall, Bridge-street, Andover.
1396—Morning Star, Queen's Hotel, Newton Abbot.
1486—Dunsombe, King's Arms Hotel, Kingsbridge, Devon.

TUESDAY, 9th NOVEMBER.

48—Old Union, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
R. A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill.
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
98—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
131—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Truro.
160—True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
294—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, Warwick.
329—New Forest, Masonic Hall, Lymington.
371—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Maryport.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, High-street, Huntingdon.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Instruction.)
414—Union, Masonic Hall, Grey Friars'-road, Reading. (Instruction.)
464—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Newton-in-the-Willows.
466—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
624—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent.
636—Lansdowne of Unity, New Hall, Chippenham.
723—Panmure, Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
773—Pilgrims, George Hotel, Glastonbury.
814—Parrett and Axe, George Hotel, Crewkerne.
903—Gosport, Indin Arms Hotel, Gosport.
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbot.
1166—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.
1238—Beaconsfree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1312—St. Mary, White Hart Hotel, Bocking, Essex.
1402—Jordan, Masonic Hall, Torquay.
1465—Ockenham, Talbot Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex.

WEDNESDAY, 10th NOVEMBER.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
14—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldgurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
R. A. 1260—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
84—Doyles of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
135—Prince Edwin, White Hart, Hythe, Kent.
187—Royal Sussex of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
205—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
285—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
301—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester.
323—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
355—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
389—Brotherly Love, Clough's Inn, Yeovil.
398—Samaritan, George Hotel, Sandbach, Cheshire.
480—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
490—Fidelity, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
606—Segontium, Masonic Hall, Carnarvon Castle.
661—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
686—Benevolence, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
681—Scarsdale, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Chesterfield.
731—Arbor cians, Arboretum Hotel, Derby.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
975—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1060—Marmion, Private Rooms, Tamworth.
1101—Grey Friars' Masonic Hall, Reading.
1416—Falcon, Kirkgate, Tolrik.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
1503—Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham.

THURSDAY, 11th NOVEMBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lewes-cft.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
113—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Fore-street-hill, Exeter.
130—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

THURSDAY—Continued

196—Hengist, Bells Vue House, Bournemouth.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
232—Virtue and Silence, White Lion, Hadleigh, Suffolk.
303—Royal Preston, Victoria's Garrison House, Fulwood, Lancashire.
341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye, Sussex.
436—Shakespeare, Town Hall, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.
448—Cecil, Sun Inn, Hitchin.
450—Cornubian, Freemasons' Hall, Hayle, Cornwall.
456—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Worcester.
477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
487—Portsmouth, Masonic Hall, Highbury-street, Portsmouth.
566—Elias de Derham, Masonic Hall, The Canal, Salisbury.
630—St. Cuthbert, Parson-lane, Howden.
636—De Ogle, Black Bull Hotel, Morpeth.
649—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth, Northumberland.
722—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
787—Beauchamp, Lion Hotel, Bridge-street, Belper.
945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chambers, Abingdon, Berks.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-le-Woods.
1091—St. George's Priory Rooms, Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Monmouthshire.
1147—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1204—Boyd, Belle Vue Hotel, Malvern.
1147—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1343—St. John's, King's Arms Hotel, Grays, Essex.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
R. A. 51—Patriotic, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
R. A. 946—St. Barnabas, Elephant and Castle Hotel, Lindale.
M. M. St. Barnabas, Elphant and Castle Hotel, Lindale.

FRIDAY, 12th NOVEMBER.

33—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
170—All Soul's, Masonic Hall, Melcombe Regis, Weymouth.
316—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
404—Watford, Freemasons' Hall, Watford.
445—Fidelity, Pomfret Arms Hotel, Towcester.
476—Bedfordshire of St. John the Baptist, Town Hall, Luton.
627—Union, George Hotel, Colchester.
1067—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1143—Royal Denbigh, Assembly Rooms, Denbigh.
1303—Pelham, Masonic Hall, Lewes.
1350—St. Peter's, Three Swan's Hotel, Market Harborough.
1465—Arkwright, Walker's Bath-terrace Hotel, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire.

SATURDAY, 13th NOVEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.
148—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
306—Prince George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, near Todmorton.
1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
1556—Addiscombe, Alma Tavern, Addiscombe.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—154—Prince of Wales' Own, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 217—Tyrawley, 4 Dillon-terrace, Ballina.
" 270—St. George's, Enniscorthy, Wexford.
" 297—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 333—Tullamore, Court House, Tullamore, King's County.
" 431—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
TUESDAY—6—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
" 23—Truth, Masonic Hall, Arthur-place, Belfast.
" 281—Ulcoes, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, County Monaghan.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
" 109—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Belfast, Antrim.
" 135—Londonderry, Londonderry.
" 248—Roscommon, Court House, Roscommon.
" 352—Castleblaney, Castleblaney, Monaghan.
" 411—Drogheda, Masonic Hall, Drogheda, County Louth.
FRIDAY—178—St. John's, Castle-street, Lisburn, County Antrim.
" 211—Magherafelt, Court House, Magherafelt, County Derry.
SATURDAY—13—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.
" 65—Star of Kilwarlin, Masonic Rooms, Hillsborough, Co. Down.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James' 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—Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh.
THURSDAY—8—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—36—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—102—St. Mark's, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 219—Star, 12 Trongate.
" 307—Union and Crown, Barhead.
" 362—St. Clair, 23 Robertson-street.
" 384—Athole, Washington Hotel, Kirkintilloch.
" 541—Maria Stuart, Freemasons' Hall, Crosshill.
TUESDAY—419—Neptune, 38 James-street.
" 177—St. James's, Freemasons' Hall, Coatbridge.
" 406—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Motherwell.
" 462—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Renfrew.
WEDNESDAY—178—Scotia, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 353—St. George, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
" R. A. 113—Partick, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
THURSDAY—R. A. 50—Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 88—New Monkland, Town Hall, Airdrie.
" 553—Clydesley, 142 Kent-road.
FRIDAY—R. A. 144—St. Rollox, Garscad-road.
" 18—Dumbarton, Masonic Hall, Dumbarton.
" 170—Leven St. John, Black Bull, Renton.
SATURDAY—28—St. John's, Black Bull, Kirkintilloch.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

Minerva Lodge of Mark Masons, No. 12, Hull.—The annual meeting of the members of this Lodge took place on Monday evening, in the Minerva Hall, when there was a very large attendance of Mark Masons belonging to this and other Lodges in the district. The chair was occupied by Bro. R. T. Vivian W.M., who was supported by Bros. Henry Haigh as S.W., Smith J.W., Henry Preston M.O., Geo. Hardy S.O., and E. Balchin J.O. Bro. John Brooke acted efficiently as Director of Ceremonies, and Bro. J. H. Emes as R.M. After the transaction of the ordinary business, eleven candidates were advanced to the superior degree, the impressive ceremony being admirably worked throughout. Subsequently, the voting for the next W.M. took place, and the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. Henry Haigh, who was thus elected to fill the principal chair for the ensuing year. Bro. Geo. Hardy P.M. was appointed Treasurer, and Bros. Faulkner and Crier Tylers. Before

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concluding the business the W.M., in a few happily chosen sentences, expressed the gratification which the members of this Lodge felt at the completion, by the Minerva Craft Lodge, of the beautiful building they now held, for Masonic purposes. Meeting, as they did, under its roof, they had the privilege of participating in the advantages they had so well secured for themselves; and on behalf of the Mark Masons present he had much pleasure in conveying to Bro. Brooke, as the W.M. of the Minerva Craft Lodge, the congratulations that these worthy labours had been prosecuted and completed during his term of office (applause). He must not omit to mention that this very laudable undertaking was commenced under the auspices, and greatly through the instrumentality of the I.P.M., Bro. J. H. Emes, and too much praise could not be given him for the energy he had bestowed upon the work (hear hear). He believed the additional facilities and accommodation thus provided would tend to the spread of Craft Masonry under the auspices of the Minerva Lodge, and he also trusted that it would tend to enhance the pleasure and social intercourse of the brethren generally (applause). Bro. Brooke briefly acknowledged the congratulations expressed by Bro. Vivian W.M. in behalf of the Mark Masons assembled on that occasion, and trusted that the extension of their Lodge accommodation would have the tendency which he had foreshadowed. The whole of the proceedings, he might say, were initiated before he (Bro. Brooke) had the honour of occupying the chair, and the entire arrangements were made by older and wiser heads than his own. He considered great credit was due to Bro. J. H. Emes, who laid down the first lines of the alterations which had been made with so much credit to all concerned; and also to Bro. Walter Reynolds, their excellent Secretary, who acted almost like a clerk of the works in seeing those instructions faithfully carried out in such a manner as to secure the greatest amount of comfort, not only to their own individual members, but to every other grade of Masonry that assembled within its walls (applause). The business of the meeting having been concluded in due form, the brethren sat down to a substantial banquet in the adjoining hall, under the presidency of Bro. R. T. Vivian W.M. The customary toasts were duly honoured, and Bro. Haigh received the congratulations of the brethren upon his election to the principal chair—a position which it was admitted on all hands he most richly deserved. The proceedings were interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, and the evening was passed in an agreeable and harmonious manner.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, St. John's-Square, Clerkenwell, E.C. on Monday 1st November 1875. There was a very large attendance at the Lodge, when the fifteen sections were worked by Bro. Tolmie, assisted by Bros. Trewinnard, Crawley, Walker, Killick, Saul Pulsford, Beckett, Pearcy, Ockendon, Tolmie, Sadler and Stock. Bro. Beckett, the worthy and indefatigable Preceptor, spoke in the highest terms of approbation at the able manner in which the sections were worked, the whole being done by members of the Lodge, and most of them his own pupils, which, he said, afforded him the greatest satisfaction. Bro. Tolmie was unanimously elected an honorary member and was accorded a vote of thanks, and he, in acknowledgment, tendered his heartfelt thanks to Bro. Beckett, for his uniform kindness and readiness at all times to impart Masonic instruction. He hoped to see the younger members of the Lodge in the proud position he then occupied. A vote of thanks was passed to the brethren who had assisted in working the sections, and acknowledged by Bro. Sadler. Bro. Clively 1470, and Robison 1360, were elected members. A very pleasant evening was brought to a close, in perfect harmony, and the Lodge adjourned until Monday 8th November.

Carnarvon Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 6[illegible], Havant.—At the regular meeting of this Lodge, on Tuesday, the 19th ult., Bro. Price W.M., Bro. Wm. King was advanced to the degree of Mark Master. Bro. A. L. Emanuel was unanimously elected, by ballot, as W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Harrison elected Treasurer. Bro. Harrison's motion, "that no brother whose subscriptions are in arrear be nominated to serve any office," was also carried. Bro. Hillman's motion, that "this Lodge exceedingly regrets that the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters should be a party to a treaty for expelling its own members if they belong to other Masonic Degrees not approved of by the other parties to that treaty," was carried almost unanimously, there being but one dissentient.

Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on 14th ult., at the Bridge House Hotel, High-street, Southwark. Present—Comps E. Harris M.E.Z., F. Walters P.Z. S.E. as H., J. W. Baldwin J., B. Isaacs P.S., and several Companions. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Several candidates were balloted for and accepted, but letters were received announcing their inability to attend. Several proposi ions were handed in for exaltation for the next regular meeting on Thursday the 11th of November. The Chapter was then closed, and a very sumptuous banquet followed. The visitors were Comps. H. Potter P.Z. 11, E. Gilbert P.S. 1326, and J. B. Shackleton 1326.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 2nd of October, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. G. McDonald R.W.M., McGregor S.W., J. Hamilbridge J.W., J. Anderford Secretary, W. Mutton Treasurer, A. Kay S.D., R. Richards Steward, A. Kay Tyler. Business—Mr. J. Caldwell was initiated by the R.W.M., after which, on the Lodge being raised, Bro. Currie passed Bro. John Wright to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. John Leslie, of Eureka Lodge 84, State of Main A.C., and Bro. W. Macfarlane of 397, Rutherglen, were then affiliated as joining members of this old and respected Lodge.

St. Barnabas Mark Lodge, No. 97.—This Lodge held an Emergency Meeting on Thursday, the 28th ult., at the Lodge Room, Linslade, Bucks. Present — Bros. Frederick Howell W.M., J. McCubbin S.W., Williams J.W., Randall J.O., Morgan S.D., Otway J.D., Poynter I.G., Deverell Tyler. Business—A ballot was taken for Bro. Cutler, of No. 1470, Dunstable, which proved unanimous, and he was duly advanced by the W.M., the next officers in rank to him acting as M.O. and S.O. when necessary. The work was very well done indeed. A proposition was made by the W.M. to admit another brother from a Craft Lodge (No. 1470), and the Lodge was closed. This Lodge, after lying dormant so long, is now making progress.

Sun, Square and Compasses Lodge, No. 119.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, 1st November, at Freemasons' Hall, College-street, Whitehaven. Bros. John Bare P.M. in the chair, in the absence of P. C. Horan W.M., F. W. Wicks S.W., Thomas Dawson J.W., John Rothery Secretary, W. B. Gibson P.M. Treasurer, J. S. Wilson as S.D., John Milligan J.D., John D. Thompson D.C., W. F. Hunter and E. Tyson Stewards, Wm. Sandwith as I.G., William Cowie Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. W. White, W. Sandwith, W. B. Gibson, &c. Visitors—Bros. W. F. Cox P.M., Hartington, No. 1021, Barrow-in-Furness, Geo. Glass D.G.D.C., Zetland, No. 525, Hong Kong. Business—Lodge opened in due form. Minutes read and confirmed. Lodge opened in 2nd degree. Bro J. J. Atkinson having proved his proficiency, retired. Lodge opened in 3rd degree, when Bro. J. J. Atkinson was duly raised, &c. The Lodge being resumed to the 1st degree, two gentlemen were proposed as candidates, after which the Lodge was closed in due form, until the first Monday in December, emergencies excepted.

Joppa Lodge, No. 188.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on 1st November, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Present—Bros. S. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., E. P. Albert A.G.P. Secretary, Miller S.D., M. Spiegel as J.D., A. Asherman I.G., Woodstock P.M. Tyler; and P.M.'s L. Alexander, M. Alexander, I. Abrahams, H. M. Levy, E. H. Hunt, and a goodly attendance of the brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. L. M. Myers 205 and H. Harris 860 were unanimously elected joining members. Bros. Wasserberg, Schuldenpel, H. Creamer and Rogers were passed to the second degree, Bros. Bitton, Dixon, Snelling, and Rogers were raised to the third degree, and Messrs. T. Petchell, H. J. Hellier, W. J. Dewsnap, and Charles Davy were initiated. The working of the W.M. and Officers deserves praise. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to slight refreshments. The W.M. presided, and proposed the usual toasts. Bro. E. P. Albert, Assistant Grand Pursuivant, responded for the toast of the Grand Officers. Bro. L. Alexander P.M. returned thanks for the Benevolent Fund, Bro. Hellier for the Initiates, and Bro. Israel Abrahams P.M. very eloquently for the Past Masters. The toasts of the Wardens and Officers followed. The following were present as visitors:—Bros. B. Wallington W.M. 180, Cohen S.D. 206, Bedel 65, D. Barnett 141, Swaine 865 (West Indies), Heap J.W. 1538, and Young 299.

Union Lodge, No. 332.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday the 1st of November, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. J. B. McNair R.W.M., J. M. Ginery S.W., J. Binland J.W. P.M.'s Bros. R. Mitchell and J. J. Balfour. Business—Initiation and raising; after which the nomination of officers for the ensuing year took place.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 14th of October, at Masonic Hall, Drogheda. Present—Bros. Jeffers W.M., Harbinson P.M. as S.W., Appleyard as J.W., Clark P.M. Secretary and Treasurer, Glenny S.D., Griffin J.D., Hannan Chaplain, McCausland I.G., Browne Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Russell and Hoyle, 211, Scotland. Business—A brother asked for pecuniary assistance, and was voted £1 from the charity fund. Four candidates were balloted for, of whom two were admitted and two rejected. Mr. Irwin Henry Whitty was initiated. Bro. Percival passed to second degree. Bro. John Langley Whitty S.W. was proposed for office of W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Robert Harrison Supple was proposed for that of I.G., the other officers to be promoted successively.

Zetland Lodge, No. 511.—The installation meeting of this Lodge, numerously attended by brethren and visitors, was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. The chair was occupied by Bro. S. Pardoe W.M., W. J. Russell I.W. and W.M. elect, Whittock J.W., A. Barfield P.M. Treas., G. Read P.M. Secretary, Bro. Knight Smith acting as Organist, and Past Masters Bros. Gaunt, Horsted and Schofield. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the Lodge of Emergency meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Southron, Chanson, Everett and Woolf were raised to the 3rd degree, and Bros. Shaw and Brown were passed to the 2nd degree; the ceremonies were very perfectly worked by the W.M. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. W. J. Russell S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge, and Bro. G. Read P.M. and Sec. installed him into the chair. There were 13 W.M.'s and P.M.'s present at the board. The W.M., on the admission of the brethren, was saluted according to ancient custom, and he then invested his officers:—Bros. S. Pardoe I.P.M., Whittock S.W., Elborn J.W., A. Barfield P.M. Treas., G. Read P.M. Sec., Avery S.D., Weston J.D., Ward I.G., Schofield P.M. M.C., Radford Tyler. The report of the audit and benevolent fund was read, which was satisfactory, and the sum of £20 was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and 30 guineas to the Girls' School. The W.M. then presented the retiring W.M. with a very elegant P.M.'s jewel, with suitable inscription, for the able manner he had conducted the duties of the Lodge during his year of office. Bro. Pardoe suitably acknowledged the gift. The Lodge was then closed, and

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the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. Smith; 117 brethren partook of the banquet. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. He hoped that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M would not only enjoy his tour in India, but would be spared to return in health and prosperity to his native land. The song of "God Bless the Prince of Wales" was received with great enthusiasm. Bro. Knight Smith accompanying on the piano. Bro. Pardoe I.P.M., in eulogistic terms, proposed the toast of the W.M., whom he characterised as a true Mason, and a credit to the Lodge. Although so recently inducted into the chair, he was one who could ably fill the important office, and at the expiration of his year of office he would meet the approbation of all. The W.M. in reply, said he thanked Bro. Pardoe for his kind encomiums. He had been initiated nine years since, and his ambition was to attain the W.M.'s chair; he had gained it, and he hoped he would carry out its duties with integrity, and, at the expiration of his year of office, he would fully merit the marks of approbation expressed by the brethren. The toast of the newly initiated brethren met with responses from Bros. Vaughan, Hodges and Channon. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Visitors, said there were 28 distinguished brethren present, and he could not, at that late period of the evening, ask them all to respond, they were all heartily welcome to the Lodge. Bros. Dixon P.G.D. Berks and Bucks, returned thanks for the toast, followed by Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. 188, who paid just and deserved compliments to the W.M. for his hospitality, alluded to the perfect manner Bro. Read P.M. and Secretary, had performed the effective ceremony of installing the W.M. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Past Masters, whom he characterised as the pillars of the Lodge. Bro. Pardoe I.P.M. replied, and again thanked the W.M. for the elegant testimonial awarded to him. The toasts of the Wardens and Officers followed, and the W.M. proposed a special vote of thanks to Bro. Knight Smith, for his valuable assistance in contributing to the harmony of the evening, which was duly responded to; Bro. Mayers also sang some capital songs. The Tyler's toast concluded an agreeable and harmonious evening. The visitors were Bro. F. Smith 1441, G. Tims P.M. 177, Willis P.M. 167, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Thompson 834, Bond, Knight Smith, Dixon P.G.D. Berks and Bucks, W. Doyle P.P.G.J.D. West Lancashire, &c.

Dramatic Lodge, No. 571.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 3rd of November, at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, at 3 p.m. Present—Bros. Wm. Dobson R.W.M., Bro. J. Houston D.M., W. H. Jackman S.W., W. S. Oliver as J.W., J. B. Hardie Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Miller P.M. 178, J. Duthie 219, G. W. Wheeler 75, G. B. Adam 360, and Wm. Phillips R.W.M. 556. Business—The passing of a brother to the 2nd degree, which ceremony, at the request of the Worshipful Master, was very ably performed by Bro. Phillips R.W.M. 556.

Cabbell Lodge, No. 807.—This Lodge held its last meeting on Thursday, the 28th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Norwich. Present—Bros. H. Lamb W.M., W. Provart S.W., A. Atkinson J.W., George Baxter Secretary, A. Berry S.D., E. Pankhurst J.D., R. Ford as I.G., Murrell Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. A. Gore, Thos. Camphing, J. Taylor Jun., R. Baldry, G. Thirkettle. Visitors—Bros. Geo. A. Allen P.M. 991, E. Thompson 213, W. Crisp 213, J. Yolland 1385, J. Thompson 74. Business—To raise Bro. Gibbs.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—The fifteen sections were worked in this Lodge on Tuesday, 26th ult., by Bro. Marx Gross, assisted by the following brethren:—Bros. Brand, Ellis, Berry, Lowe, H. Lloyd, Pinder, Gilchrist, Cambridge, Musto, Austin, Lee, Wallington, Brown and Perrin. There was a large attendance, and the working was very good.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—The regular meeting of this well-known Lodge was held on the 28th ult., at the Swan Tavern, 217 High-street, Deptford. Present—Bro. S. O. Lewin W.M., H. J. Tuson S.W., J. J. Pakes J.W., F. Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex, Secretary, J. Baxter Langley I.G., G. Andrews P.M., and above fifty brethren and visitors. The Lodge was then opened, and, on the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. G. Andrews P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., passed Bros. T. W. Crout 1826, and H. W. Wieland 1423, to the second degree, and raised Bros. J. McDonald and J. J. Adams to the third degree. A motion, notice of which had previously been given by Bro. H. Sobartan, who was unavoidably absent, was proposed by Bro. Baxter Langley I.G., seconded by Bro. F. Walters P.M. P.G.P. Middlesex, and carried, "that Bro. Andrews P.M., who was elected Steward for the Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871, on the occasion of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., be presented, from the funds of this Lodge, with the Jewel struck by order of the Grand Lodge." Bro. J. Baxter Langley consented to act as Steward at the next Anniversary Festival for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The Lodge was then closed, and refreshment followed labour. The visitors were Bros. Chas. Horsley P.P.G.R. Middlesex, J. T. Adams 1326, W. Hardman I.G. 1531, J. Markin 879, H. W. Wieland 1423, H. R. Harker 79, J. Triptree 13, T. W. Crout 1228, and J. Topp 913.

Rowley Lodge, No. 1051.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 1st November, at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster. Present—Bros. Jas. Taylor W.M., Henry Longman S.W., T. Jackson J.W., Dr. J. Daniel Moore P.G.S.B. England Secretary, Geo. Sutton S.D., T. Atkinson S.W. 281 as J.D., T. R. Judson I.G., John Watson and J. Beeley Tylers. P.M. Bros. Edward Airey I.P.M. 281. Visitors—Bros. Charles H. Garnett, of St. Paul's Lodge, Montreal, Andrew McKnith 251. Business—Minutes confirmed, &c. Bro. Grant King F.C. raised. Bro. G. T. Taylor E.A.P. passed. Bro. Dr. Moore P.G.S.B. England, appointed Steward to Aged Freemasons' Institution Festival.

Stanley Lodge, No. 1325.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 19th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool. Present—Bros. Henry Ashmore W.M., Francis Knight S.W., James Whittaker Burgess J.W., Chas. Heden Secretary, Chas. Heden Treasurer, Samuel Hill as S.D., J. H. Bradshaw J.D., C. Leighton P.M. D.C., A. Samuels Steward, G. D. Gilbert I.G., Peter Larsen P.M. Tyler; P.M. Bro. C. Leighton. Visitors—Bros. John Hayes P.M. 249, E. Johnston W.M. 203, John Parsons P.M. 203, I. P. Bryan Organist 1035, Chas. Carter 249. Business—Lodge opened in due form, and prayer by H. Ashmore W.M. Minutes read and confirmed. Ballots were taken for Messrs. R. J. Rose and P. McArthur Campbell, which being unanimous, they were duly initiated and retired. Lodge opened up to third degree. Raised to sublime degree of M.M. Bros. Marshall, Quayle, Ashton, McConnell, Winskill, Blackburn, Burgess, Hughes, Foulkes, Macnulty, Thomas, Ewing. The Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent repast, provided by Bro. Casey, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drank and enlivened by a few choice songs, &c.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Friday, the 29th of October, at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet. Present—Bros. Hayward Edwards W.M., James Cutbush S.W., J. Livingston J.W., G. Askew Secretary, W. Cutbush I.P.M. Treasurer, R. F. Young S.D., F. Venables J.D., C. Gray D.C. and I.G., W. Brown Steward, R. W. Goddard Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. Lowthin and Wingham, and a numerous assemblage of brethren. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. W. F. Taunton having answered the usual questions, was raised to the sublime degree. After some routine business, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540.—A meeting of this new and rapidly increasing Lodge was held on 27th of October 1875, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Present—Bro. J. Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex, Secretary, occupied the chair, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Bro. T. J. Sabine P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, J. W. Baldwin W.M. 1423 as S.W., E. S. Stidolph J.W., Kemp S.D., W. Hudson J.D., H. Fuja I.G., W. Hudson D.C., and several others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. F. Walters then, with his usual ability and perfect working, raised Bros. E. and J. Emanuel, R. H. Willat, J. Wooster and P. Crosbie. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated, there being no banquet. Apologies were received from the W.M., Bro. J. C. Mason, and the Chaplain, the Rev C. Hatch, who were unable to be present.

St. Mungo Encampment of Knights Templar.—This Encampment held a special meeting on Thursday, 28th October, in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, at 2 o'clock p.m., the E.C. Sir Knight Robert Bell presiding, assisted by Sir Knights G. W. Wheeler as Prelate, J. Tweed as Marshall, J. Shaw C.C., J. Ferguson S.C., G. Dalrymple J.C., J. McLeish W., and J. B. Hardies S. On the dias was Wm. Brice, Grand Sentinel, who had come from Edinburgh to see a friend received in St. Mungo's. A petition was presented from Comp. A. N. Henderson, of Chapter 44, who was duly dubbed and created a Knight of the Temple, in Sir Knight Bell's usual impressive style. Sir Knight Brice expressed his satisfaction at the way the ceremonies were rendered, as, from his experience in the Supreme Chapter General and the Priory of the Lothian, he was competent to judge. Sir Knight Bell said praise from such a source was indeed worth having, but he felt that owing to the absence of some of the officers, it had not been quite so effectively rendered as he could have wished. The Encampment was then closed.

MARK MASTER MASONS OF SUSSEX.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Sussex was held at the Castle Hotel, Hastings, under the presidency of Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows G.M.M., the Committee of General Purposes having previously met. The Grand Mark Lodge having been opened, the business on the agenda paper was then proceeded with. The election of Officers then took place, when the following brethren were elected and afterwards invested:—Bros. J. Braithwaite G. Treasurer, T. Hughes G. Tyler (by ballot), Dr. Cumming D.P.G.M., D. Trollope G.S.W., W. Hudson G.J.W., the Rev. Cave Brown Cave G. Chaplain, W. Kirkland G.M. Overseer, T. H. Mosley Registrar of Marks, S. H. Ade G. Secretary S. R. Legg Assist. Secretary, W. B. Wood G.S.D., C. J. Smith G.D.C., C. W. Duke Assist. G. Secretary, A. Pitcock G.S.B., G. Emary Grand Standard Bearer, A. R. Croucher G. Organist, A. E. Tompkinson G.I.G., G. Fairman G.S. Works, C. Golding, J. Newman and C. Matthews (Stewards). The Grand Mark Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by the worthy host, Bro. G. Gage, that gave great satisfaction. Bro. Sir Cordy Burrows (Ex-Mayor) Grand Mark Master, presided with great ability, and gave the usual loyal and routine toasts, which were duly responded to, and a very agreeable evening was passed. Among those present were Bros. T. J. Sabine P.G. (Mark) Secretary, Hudson, G. Smith, Matthews, Lockyer, Cave, Jas. Dorman, G. Wellord Grey, J. Nixon, &c.

MEDICINE OR MIRTH.—A Scotch critic, in noticing Bro. Toole's return from America, says, "Toole has a face, a voice which would make a New England Shaker, in the lowest depths of the dumps, quake with mirth. Cachination is better than colchicum for the gout, it is a sovereign specific for the sulks, and he who can create it at will is the most potent physician of the age. Such a physician is John L. Toole." A further proof of his popularity is such that, on the first night he is announced to appear at the Gaiety Theatre, on the 8th of November, every available place is secured.

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FREEMASONRY AT BARTON-ON-HUMBER.

THE installation of Bro. Henry Ashton, of Thornton Hall, as Worshipful Master of St. Matthew's Lodge, No. 1447, of Free and Accepted Masons, took place under the most gratifying auspices on Wednesday last. The brethren, together with several visitors from Pelham Pillar (Grimsby), Ancholme (Brigg), Alexandra (Hornsea), and other Lodges in the district, assembled at the New Masonic Hall, at 3 o'clock, when the Lodge was opened in due form, and the imposing ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. W. W. Copeland P.M., P.P.G.S.D., of Pelham Pillar Lodge, No. 792, who delivered the charges in an able and efficient manner. The installing Officer was assisted by P.M. Bros. Colonel Taylor, P.M. Thos. Morris P.P.G.P of Ancholme Lodge, No. 1282, Thomas Fryer W.M. Ancholme Lodge and P.G.S., Bro. Nelson P.G.S., P.M. Bro. Marshall Pelham Pillar Lodge, &c. Bro. W. J. Roberts of Grimsby Lodge acted as Director of Ceremonies; and the musical portions of the ceremony were admirably sustained, Bro. G. R. Welch presiding at the organ. The I.P.M., Bro. W. Swallow, having vacated the chair, presented his S.W., Bro. Henry Ashton, for installation as his successor, and this solemn and impressive ceremony was gone through in accordance with ancient usages. Bro. Ashton having been duly installed into his exalted office, then proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year, and they were inducted into their respective chairs as follow:—Bros. W. H. Sissons S.W., J. B. Swallow J.W., R. J. Bedford Treasurer, John Fuller Secretary, W. Waddington S.D., W. Gray J.D., Rev. Francis A. Godfrey (curate of Bonby) Chaplain, G. R. Welch Organist, F. D. Davy Steward, M. Woodall I.G., and S. Kenningham Tyler. The S.W. moved, as the first act of the newly constituted Lodge, a vote of thanks to the retiring Master, and in doing which he passed a high eulogium on the manner in which the duties of the Lodge had been sustained during the year. This was seconded by Bro. P.M. Col. Taylor, and carried unanimously, and Bro. P.M. Swallow returned thanks for the compliment paid him, and also for the very generous support which his officers and the brethren generally had accorded to him during his years of office. This made him feel somewhat loth to quit the chair, but he felt assured that the same kind support would be afforded to Bro. Ashton, and that the coming year would be as harmonious and successful as the past had been. The Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the George Hotel, where a magnificent banquet had been provided by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor. The newly elected W.M. presided, faced, in the vice chair, by his S.W., and at the conclusion of the repast the customary loyal and Craft toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Geo. Nelson responded on behalf of the Provincial Officers, and, in return, gave the "Bishops and Clergy of the Diocese, and Ministers of other denominations," to which the Rev. F. A. Godfrey responded. Bro. Colonel Taylor proposed the "health of the retiring W.M. of St. Matthew's Lodge." Bro. Swallow replied in suitable terms, and proposed, in turn, "the newly installed W.M., Bro. Ashton," who responded in a few happily chosen sentences. The health of the Installing Master was next given, and acknowledged by Bro. W. W. Copeland. Bro. R. J. Bedford proposed the "visiting brethren," for whom Bro. G. Nelson replied, and he concluded by proposing the "officers and brethren of the St. Matthew's Lodge." The toast was acknowledged by Bro. W. H. Sissons. Bro. H. J. Amphlett then gave "the ladies," on whose behalf Bro. Bennett gallantly responded, and the official list closed with the Tyler's toast. The evening was spent in an agreeable and harmonious manner.

THE DRAMA.

AS usual, at this time of the year, there is a lull in affairs theatrical; the pieces which opened the campaign have been produced, and have achieved a moderate or an "unprecedented" success, as the case may be. Of plays that are really and thoroughly damned we have none now-a-days, but only for the reason that our audiences appear to have become enervated, and to have lost the vigour of mind requisite for the raising of a good genuine hiss. In every department the stage seems to be sinking to a dull, dead level of mediocrity. Apathy has spread from audience to actor, from actor to playwright, and in the latter it is most conspicuous. Authors seem to be satisfied if they can turn out a piece which, by dint of some snobbish rudeness, miscalled wit, in dialogue, some eccentricity in costumes or other extraneous attractions, manages to hold the stage for a respectable number of nights. Better for the stage to pass a season marked here by triumphant success, there, it may be, by disastrous failure, than to suffer this dreary monotony of pieces, unworthy of either hearty praise or discriminating blame. At rare intervals a play appears which challenges criticism higher in tone than that accorded to its fellows. Last week we had the pleasure of giving its meed of praise to *All for Her*, but as we survey the list of pieces now being played at the London theatres we cannot help feeling how barren of dramatic worth that list is. At the HAYMARKET we have the painful puns and rude smartnesses of Mr. Byron, employing the abilities of such artists as Mr. Vezin and Miss Carlotta Addison; at the ADELPHI, a poor adaptation of one of Mr. Dickens's novels; the VAUDEVILLE is still supported on the shoulders of *Our Boys*, the attractiveness of which piece must have greatly astonished both author and lessees. A mistaken *Macbeth* carries the fortunes of the LYCEUM, and not even Mrs. Bateman's touching manifesto to the public will have power to cover that blunder. *Flamingo*, at the STRAND, is said to be a great success, which is probably the reason why it will speedily be withdrawn. *Proof Positive* must, we suppose, be an amusing comedy, being written by a contributor to *Punch*, but we have failed, as yet, to discover the humour of it. The DRURY LANE *Shaughraun* is a piece which would be appropriate if the audience at DRURY LANE were drawn from the immediate neighbourhood of the theatre. There are still three theatres which well support the reputation of the London stage, the GAIETY, the PRINCE OF WALES'S, and, for the present, at least, the MIRROR. At these theatres may be seen plays which, however different in kind, are all well worthy the attention of playgoers, and those pieces are acted by artists than whom we have few betters on the stage. Nowhere can we find a light comedian better than Mr. Mathews, who at seventy-three is still only twenty; and who of our actresses can surpass Mrs. Bancroft or Miss Ellen Terry? But with these brilliant exceptions, the theatrical prospect is dreary, and augurs badly for the season.

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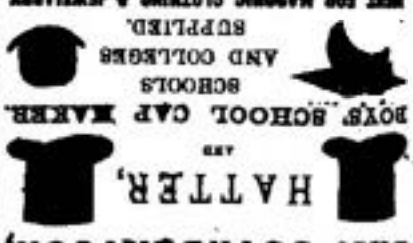
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THE PRINCE OF WALES IN INDIA.

THE event to which public attention has been directed for months past is at length realised, and India has received, with much ceremony and still more enthusiasm, the eldest son of its Empress, the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. Early on Monday morning, the Royal Yacht Osborne steamed into Bombay Harbour, preceding by a few hours only the Serapis, with the Prince of Wales and his suite aboard. Thereupon the ships of war and the forts fired a Royal salute, and the Viceroy, Lord Northbrook, was rowed to the Serapis, and went on board, for the purpose of welcoming his Royal guest to India, and felicitating him on the safe progress of his journey. A few hours later in the day the Prince landed, amid the noise and smoke of another salute, and was received by the Governor, Sir Philip Wodehouse, and the Indian princes, who had come specially to be present on the occasion, and pay homage to the son of India's ruler. Slowly, amid the most loyal greetings from the Europeans, and the quieter yet respectful salutations of the Hindoos, the procession moved on through the streets of Bombay to the Governor's residence, which had been specially prepared for His Royal Highness's reception. Of course, every known form of celebrating any auspicious event was observed in honour of the visit. There were banquettings and illuminations, the reception of, and the return visits to the Indian Princes, who mustered to the number of seventy or eighty; in fact, Bombay, since the Prince's arrival, may be said to have been continuously *en fête*, and for the rest of the week the busy capital of Western India cast aside the business of money making, and plunged heart and soul into the business of merry making.

To chronicle the whole course of the doings during this eventful week would occupy more space than is at our command. We have said enough already as to the outer forms and ceremonies of the reception thus far, but a few words as to the wisdom and policy of the visit may not be out of place. Two or three centuries are but a brief period in the history of nations. Yet it is less than three centuries ago since the first British traders planted their factories on the Ganges, at Surat, and in other places on the continent. It is but little over two hundred years since Bombay came into the possession of England, as part of the marriage portion of Catherine of Braganza, wife of our Charles II. The formal cession of the Island and its dependencies was at first refused by the Portuguese Governor, but on 1664 it was taken possession of in the name and in behalf of the English Sovereign, and has remained English ever since. In 1668 it was transferred to the East India Company, and in 1858 it again passed directly under the rule of Queen Victoria. Territory was gradually acquired in other parts of Hindostan, now at the expense of the French, or the Dutch, now at that of the Mogul and other Indian Sovereigns. Plassey, won by Clive, in 1757, laid the foundation of our Empire, and the repression of the Indian Mutiny confirmed it. Thus from the enterprise of a few merchant adventurers, only a few score years since, has sprung up the British Indian Empire of to-day, with close upon two hundred millions of population, enormous revenues, and resources, the wealth of which it is impossible to estimate. Once already since the transfer of power from John Company to the British Crown, has a prince of the reigning house, the Duke of Edinburgh, visited our Indian dependency, but there was little or no formality on that occasion. The visit of the Prince of Wales is a far more significant event. Though, for wise purposes of State, His Royal Highness will be, during his stay in India, merely the guest of the Queen's Viceroy, he will be regarded by Indians of all classes, from prince to peasant, as the representative of the Queen his mother. It is well, moreover, that the heir to a throne should make acquaintance, personally, with the countries he will some day rule over. We, in England, who live happily and contented under the easy forms of a constitutional government, can hardly gauge what the power of a ruler means. In India we English are a dominant people. We may do much to make stronger the ties which unite the natives of that country with us as subjects of one and the same Sovereign; but above and beyond this, and seeing that our rule over them will last only so long as our strength remains what it is, the heir to a ruler who, there at all events, governs as well as reigns, is a far more important personage than in his own country, where the actual power of the Crown is wielded by a ministry, who, in its turn, is dependent on the popular will. British rule in India is a very formidable entity. We govern the country for its good, but that we govern the country at all is owing to our military strength. Thus, in traversing Hindostan, and visiting its most populous and important cities, the Prince will be looked upon as representative of a sovereign whose power is irresistible, and who knows no laws but those of her own making. His presence, and the state and ceremony which will attend him everywhere, will give a reality to Queen Victoria's sovereignty over India which it has lacked heretofore. That the visit will be to the common good of India and England, we doubt not for one moment. That the Prince's reception in all parts of our Indian Empire will be as cordial as at Bombay we feel assured; while, in common with all loyal subjects of the Queen, we wish him God-speed on his way, and a safe return home next year.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 2).

A DISTINGUISHED MASON.

"A GOODLY presence" has been the making of many a man, who, but for his physical advantages, might have long kicked his heels in the cold before he had persuaded the world to value him for his mental endowments. We are all prone to judge the people we meet by the impressions which mere physical qualities produce upon our minds. Few men are gifted with sufficient insight into character to be able to recognise a great soul under an unsightly husk. The faculty of reading men is only acquired by those who have passed the greater portion of their lives in public, and even this schooling is often lost upon a dullard. The human face, like the human mind, is not an easy task to master, and he who can find the clue to a man's character, in the lines which are written on his brow, may flatter himself that he has acquired no mean art. Books, after all, are for children. "The proper study of mankind is Man." The subject of our sketch may be styled, emphatically, a man of the time. An observer would no more think of classing him with the men of the age which is passing away than they would think of comparing Apollo with Hercules. We occasionally see faces which irresistibly recall the past. Some of the men we know recall the age of wigs, ruffled shirts, and gallantry. We have been positively startled,

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sometimes, by apparitions of flesh and blood, if we may use a paradox, who bring back to our minds the age of Louis Quatorze, the Georgian era, or that period in English history which has been so deeply impressed on our minds by the portraits from the pencil of Vandyke. Faces of this type are, however, rare, and our studies in the picture galleries which we have been privileged to visit have convinced us that the human face changes from age to age. Indeed, a writer in the *Art Journal*, has recently developed this idea in a most ingenious fashion, and the facts he brings forward are conclusive proofs in favour of a theory which we have held for years. Our subject, we have said, is undoubtedly a man of the period; dress him in doublet and hose, or in scarlet laced coat and breeches, with point lace ruffles to his shirt, paint him so on the canvas, shave off his glossy moustache, and we pledge ourselves that we will immediately recognise his features as peculiar to this century. Yet you might wander through the streets for a whole day without meeting with a better looking or more gentlemanlike person, or with one more stalwart of frame and symmetrical of limb. His frock coat fits him to perfection, and exhibits a frame of which an athlete would not be ashamed. The dark and piercing eye and the aquiline nose are in perfect keeping with the figure; the face, indeed, is that of a strong willed, keen and clever man; a man, whose legal training has taught him to grasp readily at the leading points of any matter that may be submitted to his judgment. You feel assured that this man will not readily make mistakes, or if he should occasionally fall into them, he will extricate himself by the aid of a ready wit, and sound practical good sense. If a discerning stranger were told that he is one of the princes of the Order, he would at once exclaim, "that man is worthy of high command; he may not be a profound thinker, a great logician, or a born orator, but nature intended him for a ruler, and he looks every inch a leader of men." Of his exact rank in Masonry we shall not speak; we prefer that these sketches shall be somewhat vague, since if we paint skilfully, and from the life, our readers will be sure to discover the persons who have honoured our literary studio with a visit. It is sufficient for us to say, that our distinguished brother is a great Mason, on whose breast a perfect galaxy of honestly won orders shines like the prominent stars of the firmament. On a recent occasion his name was in everybody's mouth, and the winged messengers of the press carried his fame to the farthest quarter of the globe. Masons are accustomed to speak, not less of his administrative qualities, than of the remarkable urbanity which he exhibits to the youngest brother. At the Board of General Purposes his voice carries due weight, and his Masonic career has been marked by labours, as great as they are beneficent. Possessed of singular capacity for business, and a large share of that wonderful tact, which is often conspicuous by its absence in some people, whom the irony of fate brings to the top, he has been remarkable as a chairman, and has conducted the business of the Order with distinguished ability. He is a practical man, who cares little for the theoretical speculations of literary Masons, and has confined himself to those works of practical benevolence for which our Order has, in these days, become famous. Many a widow has had cause to bless him, and many a fatherless child has been taught to regard him as a second parent. His strong voice, powerful as the frame from which it emanates, has often been raised in the cause of the suffering and the oppressed, and if it be indeed true that the good men do in this world lives after them, then his Masonic virtues will constitute his most appropriate epitaph, when he has "gone before" to a better land. But his fame, as a man and a citizen, is on a par with his renown as a Mason. In the city, he is a prominent figure, and stands conspicuous as one of the great ceremonial officers of the greatest corporation in the world. Some of us can remember the circumstances under which he was elected to the high office he now fills. The Corporation, at a critical period, were anxiously looking for a man with talent, and personal qualities of weight sufficient to sustain the old prestige of the City. A vast majority of Civic magnates hailed him as the man for the vacant office, and his career as an official has amply justified their choice. Persons who are conversant with civic affairs, tell us that he mastered the complex business of the Corporation in an incredibly short period, and that, with the single exception of the Recorder, no officer is more highly respected within the hallowed precincts of the Guildhall. Possibly his indirect influence and example has had much to do with the growing interest in Masonry which is manifested by city men of the highest standing. We say indirect influence advisedly, for no man is less given to talking shop than our distinguished brother, who is an official and nothing more within the Civic boundary, whatever he may be out of it. Of his future career in the Order it would be idle for us to speculate, "but," to borrow, with a slight paraphrase, the language of a distinguished writer, "if his ambition be on a level with his understanding, if he judges of what is truly honourable for himself, with the same superior genius which animates and directs him to eloquence in debate, to wisdom in decision," even our poor pen "shall contribute to reward him. Recorded honours shall gather round his monument and thicken over him. It is in solid fabric, and will support the laurels that adorn it." These praises must not be regarded as the language of mere panegyric. "They will wear well, for they have been dearly earned."

GRAND CHAPTER OF IOWA, U.S.

THE Grand Chapter of R.A. Masons of the above State met for the despatch of important business on the 19th ult., the Sessions being held at the Odd Fellows' Hall in the City of Keokuk. At the third sitting, on Thursday, the 21st, there were present, the following Grand Officers, namely, Companions

Robert F. Bower, M.E. Grand High Priest.
Horace S. Winslow, M.E. Deputy Grand High Priest.
Edwin B. Ainsworth, E. Grand King.
H. H. Shephard as E. Grand Scribe.
Downing Bangh, E. Grand Chaplain.
Wm. B. Langridge, E. Grand Secretary.
Norton F. Story, E. Grand Captain of the Host.
Henry R. Kendig, E.G. Principal Sojourner.
O. D. White, E.G. Royal Arch Captain.
Mark B. Gurney, E.G. Master Third Veil.
H. J. B. Cummings, E.G. Master Second Veil.
W. W. Estabrook, E.G. Master First Veil.

Together with representatives of fifty-two out of the seventy-five chartered Chapters in the jurisdiction and the three under dispensation.

After the formal business of opening Grand Chapter in ample form had been despatched, the M.E.G.H.P. Robert F. Bower very ably, and in full detail, reviewed the occurrences of the year that had just been brought to an end. The following were then chosen Grand Officers for the year 1875-6, viz. :—

Grand High Priest—H. S. Winslow, Newton.
Deputy Grand High Priest—Fred Getchell, Des Moines.
Grand King—A. T. Brooks, Mt. Pleasant.
Grand Scribe—A. D. Wetherell, Knoxville.
Grand Treasurer—W. W. McKnight, Winterset.
Grand Secretary—Wm. B. Langridge, Muscatine.
Appointed Officers—G. Captain of Host—A. B. Dewey, Washington.
G. Principal Sojourner—A. W. Dougherty, Dubuque.
G. Royal Arch Captain—M. B. Gurney, Monticello.
G. Master 3rd Veil—S. L. Bayless, Keokuk.
G. Master 2nd Veil—H. C. McNeil, Sioux City.
G. Master 1st Veil—Jerome Burbank, Waverly.
G. Chaplain—Downing Bangh, McGregor.
G. Guard—Theodore Schreiner, Mt. Pleasant.

Standing Committees were also elected, and shortly after Grand Lodge was called from labour to refreshment. At 2.30 p.m. the street parade moved off in order of procession along some of the principal thoroughfares of the city to Chatham-square Church, where the ceremony of installing the new Grand Officers was most impressively performed. Then was delivered the following address, which is so admirable, that we have thought it desirable to reproduce *verbatim et literatim* as it appeared in the *Daily Gate City* (Keokuk) under date of the 22nd October, from which also we have culled the above particulars of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

P.G.M. PARVIN'S ADDRESS.

The present year of our Lord is, as it were, the centennial eve, and already have the first acts in the drama of its celebration passed in review before the Nation. Ere we shall again be assembled in annual convocation and conclave, the centennial of the Nation's birth will have come and gone. In the near future, so near indeed as to be almost present, the people of this land of the free and the asylum of the oppressed of all nations; and not these alone, but all people reached by the advancing civilization of the age will be engaged in

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celebrating the event in a manner, and upon a scale commensurate with its importance. It must, in the nature of events, be so, because it marks an era in human progress which concerns, not the citizens of our great Republic alone, but those of the whole civilised world.

Nor is it merely the interest of the passing hour which concerns us and them. Around it is clustered, and upon its future depends the weightiest considerations which can affect a people interested in the solution of the grandest problem of human life—civil government. Ours has been well defined by the martyred President to be a "government of the people, by the people and for the people." Hence all classes of citizens, as individuals, associations, societies or states (we, as Masons, being a constituent part) must feel a deep interest in an event in which we and they have not heretofore, and will not again be called upon to participate—the baptismal of our centennial anniversary. It was no insignificant event, when on the morn of a bright summer's day the old bell of Independence Hall "proclaimed liberty throughout the world," in notes so loud and clear that the sound as not died away, for its echo, like the vision of the pulpit, ever and anon comes to us from the distant hills of far off nations struggling to be free.

As Free and Accepted Masons, we, and those we represent upon this joyous occasion, feel an interest in common with you, the ladies and gentlemen of this, the Gate City of Iowa. Your very name serves ever to recall the past of our early history, and thus becomes an index to mark the progress we have made in all that goes to make up the advance of civilization over barbaric modes of life. True it is that the institution, one of whose steps in the march of time we to-day commemorate, had its rise in a dark age and among a despotic people—yet its greatest development and most rapid progress has been among the people the most enlightened and whose institutions secure to the many the largest degree of rational liberty. Freemasonry may, nay, does exist under governments the most despotic; but it cannot expand and grow into general favour and usefulness, except where freedom is the birthright of the individual, and guaranteed by bonds imperishable as is nature. In seeking the land where it has flourished the most and borne its best fruits, you must turn to those nations which furnish the best and safest guarantees for "free thought, free speech, free press, pure morals, unfettered religious sentiments, and equal rights and privileges to all men, irrespective of nationality, color or religion." In all absolute governments our society has been at times, and too often, under the ban of the government, under the heel of the governor, be he Pope, Emperor or King.

Nevertheless, it is a well attested fact, true as wonderful, that Freemasonry is universal—existing in every nation, among all peoples, and its mysteries taught in every written language.

In common with our brethren of every jurisdiction are the Masons of Iowa called upon to join hands in this Centennial enterprise, and take part in the work to be done. The summons has already come from the city of Brotherly Love, whose Masons claim—and with much show of reason—that the first Lodge chartered in America was in their city, inviting the Templars and Masons of Iowa to meet their brothers there in the year of our nation's jubilee. And surely we have an interest in such an event—one so telling upon the progress of all that goes to make a nation great, and its citizens prosperous and happy.

And here we are met with the question how shall we, as Masons, engage in this work? Surely not as the vague traditions of the Order relate, that the captives returning from Babylon to Jerusalem engaged in rebuilding the city and temple of the Lord, made desolate by the Chaldees, arms in hand to protect themselves from surrounding foes. Nor should we go up, as did the tribes of old, to the dedication of the Temple, when Solomon, in all his glory, placed the copestone amid the rejoicings of the gathered hosts. To all our people, the present is a time of universal peace and plenty, and there is none to molest and make us afraid. The Mason's temple—the greatest ever dedicated by the fraternity to Masonry, virtue, and universal benevolence—has already (a triad ago) been consecrated to the practice of our rites and ceremonies by the pouring on of corn, wine and oil, emblems of health, plenty and peace to the Craft and the world. Not as in the past then will we go, for the educated and intelligent man of to-day is not of those, "being more exceedingly jealous of the tradition of their fathers." Rather like Paul, after his conversion, would we hold to the truth of the gospel which comes by faith in historical truth, and not the vain traditions which have so long obtained among men and Masons.

Our fellow-citizens will go armed and equipped according to the law of individual and national progress everywhere manifest, bearing in their hands the fruits of their labors. The agriculturist with "the fruit of the ground," and the herdsman with "the firstlings of his flock and the fat thereof"—but not in contention and wrath, the accompaniments of the first recorded offering to the Lord. With them will go the artisan bearing the work of his skilled hands, the artist with the choicest productions of his cultivated taste, the miner with the treasurers of beauty and usefulness, contributed at his bidding by our mother earth, while the man of science and genius will be represented by models of what his brain hath wrought out or evoked at his inspired bidding. All men and women will go carrying the harvest of toil, whether of hand or mind, or both conjoined.

All things will contribute to show the progress made in the useful arts and sciences, and the offering will be made by all our people, and those of every nation and the isles of the sea, for all have an interest in this, the world's movement, centering in this sovereign State, though the youngest in years, "the first among its equals," in all that constitutes the State.

The lesson in its usefulness will very much depend upon how it is learned and improved. "A centennial is imperfectly improved unless an accurate balance is struck between the profit and loss flowing from the event celebrated, and a discriminating estimate is made that will show upon the whole world is better or worse off for what is commemorated." It will be wise for us as a people, and for us as a society, to inquire in what respect we have fallen below the standards of a hundred years ago, as well as in what respect we have risen above them; and in estimating our gains we will do well to consider the losses, if we would arrive at conclusions at all profitable to ourselves.

The President of the nation, recently at the capital of our State, in the only general utterance ever escaping his lips, declared this important truth, to which it would be well to give heed that "the centennial year of our national existence is a good time to begin the work of strengthening the foundation of the structure commenced by our forefathers a hundred years ago at Lexington." So recent is our organization as a nation that it is an easy matter to bring in review the past, and all the past, in our history and growth, from so small a beginning, to the present outgrowth of a centennial and millions of freemen, the bulwark of the world's liberty, which, in the end, all people must share and enjoy or become, as Napoleon declared, Cossack without end.

The instructions and admonitions we have cited as applicable to the nation, apply with equal force and significance to us as a society. True, we cannot, with the nation, go back to our origin as an institution, and trace its progress through the long years of its history to the present. Nor is there any occasion for such a useless waste of time and effort. It will suffice if we well and truly trace its progress and history for the century that is passed, and confine ourselves to the truth as it is told. As Masons, symbolic and Royal Arch, and as Templars (who though individually are Masons, their organization is not Masonic, as the ignorant have declared, for Masonry is of all religions and cosmopolitan, while Templars are purely and solely Christian, excluding the Jew and the Gentile), we are wont to meet annually and as often to tell the old story of the origin of the institution, and present the people who honour with their presence our public assemblies, that same old dish of hash called Masonic history, tracing the institution back to the time "when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Or if they (that is the grandiloquent orators) be a little modest or doubting in faith, they will drop off a few cycles and come down to the time when "Adam delved and Eve span" without the garden from which they had been expelled by an angry God whose laws they had not at naught, in presuming, as some of our illustrous brothers and Sir Knights have since presumed, to rebel against constituted authority and set up their will as the law for all to follow or be for ever "anathema maranatha." Such oracles are always proclaiming as Masons, Enoch, the translated, Solomon, the wise, and the St. Johns of Christian sanctity. It is amusing to note how they always enroll among their numbers the noble and the good of all nations, and all the time as carefully excluding the opposite class. Another and a large number more of our anniversary orators drop the antediluvian chapter, and are even so considerate as to come down to the period of the building of the first temple, and trace its origin to that event, and make Solomon its great founder, as God's viceregent in its creation. And it is indeed only within a few years past that a generation of doubting Thomases have arisen, who demand the proof that even these things are so, and have applied the same tests to Masonic history as has been for a century applied to all sacred and profane history—to the end that the truth might be eliminated from the myths and traditions which have so long misled even the world of letters.

My hearers (whether Masons or no) can recall the times almost a score, when they have heard not only the nonsense we have related as touching the times so long remote, but coming down to our own day and country, three blind leaders have, time and again, so often proclaimed as a fact, that they no doubt believe that "all the general officers of the revolution were Masons, except the traitor Arnold," and that "all the Presidents of the Republic were Masons." As we penned these lines we received through the mails a circular, from a publishing house at the National Capitol, named for a man, who, when a boy, would not lie, asking our aid as a Mason, to further the sale of a series of Presidential portraits they have executed. And what think you was the consideration upon which they presumed to invoke our aid as a Mason and an officer in a Masonic body whose jurisdiction is co-extensive with that of the State. That circular publishes to the world, with solemn emphasis, that all the Presidents were Masons. As happily there have been no traitors (as in the case of the Generals) so the usual exception of one as in the case of Judas and Arnold is not made by this class of-buncombe orators—of which Orator Puff is a fair exponent.

But you, my brethren, must not think this class of speakers are all foreign, for we have some of the most famous within our own Grand bodies. You have only to examine the proceedings of one of the Grand bodies here and now represented to find published an oration from which we quote as follows. In speaking as usual of the antiquity of Freemasonry, the orator says: "Masonry and Christianity were married and the union was designed by Omnipotence himself, and that this marriage took place in the reign of the Roman Emperor Constantine [who died A. D. 337] and the union so consummated continued until the Reformation [A. D. 1517, a period of twelve centuries] when in consequence of the intolerance, bigotry and corruption of the Romish church, the twain were separated, never to be re-united again." Warming with his subject our eloquent brother adds, "that the studious Knight Mason of to-day knows that the intimate union of religion and Masonry is something older than the marriage of order with the church of Christ, before the inauguration of the church [A. D. 33] Masonry was, (the emphasis is his) and when the church was born it was promptly adopted by the fraternity, the which with reverent humility abdicated its right as elder sister and exponent of the will of the Deity." Verily our Iowa exponent of Masonry is not to be outdone by the long line of his illustrious predecessors.

Now, in all candour and with all proper respect to the brethren, to this audience, not overlooking my own self respect as a Mason and a man of mature age, I must declare that such stuff, while it may possibly (though we can devine no good reason) be "sold to marines," certainly to all such heresies we may apply the injunction of David

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in his lament over Saul, and "tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askenon." Such tales will surely, sooner or later, return to our hurt, as they ever should.

It is always the safest course to presume that the audience is quite as intelligent as ourselves, and likely to be as well informed upon historical topics, whether relating to the history of the world, the church, the nation, or to Masonry even, as an institution of great age and universal diffusion among men. History of Freemasonry is not one of our mysteries—secrets we truly have, and

"All secrets until they are once known,
Are wonderful ————"

Now it is too bad upon these annual occasions, and at home, to repeat parrot-like such stale legends—no they are not legends even, which are defined to be "doubtful narratives," for there is no doubt about these stories being falsehoods tending to mislead. How much more grevious then would be the sin to go to Philidelphia the ensuing year and harrangue the assembled Masons of the world in the language of these legends, fables, myths—falsehoods in plain English, the language of freemen. This is no way to celebrate the nation's jubilee or the Mason's part in it; however humble it may have been. Nor may it be amiss to repeat our previous utterance, that the tests which enlightened and judicious criticism has applied to the unravelling of the fabulous history of the early nations of the world have been as successfully applied to the elucidation of Masonic history, and to the separation of the truth from the fables that have so long led as willing captives so many of our brethren who are fond of the marvellous.

In the light of this evidence, then, we can assure even the enemies of our Order, that Adam and Enoch, and their long line of successors, ante and postdiluvian, are perfectly free from the sin and odium the antis would attach to the "Morgan killers" of the nineteenth century.

"—'t is true, 't is pity:
And pity 't is true,"

that even Solomon was no Mason. With all his wisdom, great as it was, he knew no more of the mysteries of Freemasonry than did the beautiful (of course she was beautiful) Queen of Sheba who came from afar to adore his wisdom and the temple he built, if not to love his person. Nor is there any evidence, however faint, to prove that either of the St. Johns, the austere and the lovely followers of all that is good in heaven or on earth, were Masons, beyond the wish that it were so, of the Christian portion of the universal brotherhood. Nor is it true that all the Presidents, from Washington to Grant included, were or are Masons. The first was, the last is not. And what would the spirits of those anti-Masons, the elder and younger Adams, and Van Buren, and Fillmore, say to the cruel accusation, could they but wing their way to the earth and throw back the lie in the face of their falsifiers. It is true, however—and the truth should be told—that Arnold, the single traitor of his age and country, was a Mason, as is well attested by the records of his Lodge in Connecticut, his native State. So much the worse, both for the traitor and those who, without evidence or trial, would exclude him from their associates.

But all these sins of commission affect only profane history, whose antiquarious critics have successfully exposed and corrected the errors.

There yet remains the last and the greatest: the charge that Freemasonry is a Divine institution: that it was wedded to the church, and usurped from it the office of "exponent to the voice of Deity," and such declarations are worse than heresy—they are blasphemous, and calculated to degrade the institution in the estimation of every believer in the Christian religion, and to bring it into just contempt among all honourable men, of whatever name they may be called.

The institution of Freemasonry did not originate among the Jews, nor even in Asia, nor at the time nor under the circumstances so commonly, by even the moderates, assigned to its origin. It sprang, according to the best evidence attainable, in Europe, and during the so-called dark or middle ages, and originated with the architects or builders of those times. The oldest Masonic book in existence is not two centuries old, and it would be charitable to add five centuries to the oldest date or record that enlightened or persevering research has yet assigned to anything connected with the origin of the Institution of Freemasonry. And the remotest, even of these dates, fall far short of the reign of Constantine the Great, when, as has been represented, Masonry was married to the church. The bones of that great Emperor had crumbled to dust a thousand years before the world, circumscribed to atomic limits, knew of Masonry, or of that famous wedding.

When and wherever Masonry did originate, it was the work of man's hand, and although we believe it to be the oldest, if not the best of human benevolent and social institutions, it certainly commends itself to the enlightened consideration and unprejudiced judgment of men for what it is, and what it has done, as one of the conservators of human actions. It is not only wholly unnecessary to attempt to trace its origin to the fabulous ages, or what is worse, to claim for its author and founder the Creator of the Universe and of man, as all such pretensions only serve to cast ridicule upon the silly pretender, if not the institution itself. Nor did it commence its wonderful and universal mission fully developed, as we now find it, as sprang Minerva full fledged from Jupiter's brain—but it is the growth of ages, and its progress has largely adapted itself to the wants of men as the years have rolled by, notwithstanding the equally vain boast of some of its followers that it has been and is as unchangeable as were the famed laws of the Medes and Persians. It originated in the wants of man, and was created to meet the demands of an age of transition when old things were beginning to pass away, and a new light began to dawn upon the world, coming forth to a newer and a higher civilization, in which Masonry was to exert, as it as ever proved, a powerful agency for good.

Its value is inherent and is made manifest by what it as accomplished for the world as a pre-eminently social, moral, and benevolent institution. Societies in an organized form are a necessity of man's existence in a state conducive to his highest development and greatest happiness. And as the world as seen and felt the power and influence of Masonry, so have those who were not of the household of faith organized one and another of the numerous societies of the day, all offshoots in form and design of the Masonic institution, though modified to meet the particular and peculiar ideas or wants which have called them into existence. Each and all of these, no doubt, are accomplishing good in their way—some general, others local, and we bid them go on and do all the good they can, while we, their elder sister or brother—we leave the determination of the gender to the grammarians of the future—will heartily bid them rejoice. Freemasonry of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries exists under two distinct forms or rites, the York and Scotch, each having symbolic Masonry of three degrees in common—the York rites of universal diffusion has but the three degrees, while the Scotch has thirty in addition. The Scotch rite universally prevails among the English and the Latin nations of Europe and America.

In the United States and Canada, Freemasonry is practised under what is called the "American system," as such, which was largely manufactured by Thomas Smith Webb, during the closing year of the last century. Under this system, the York rite consists of Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Commanderies—though the Templars are only Masonic in name. The Royal Arch degree, which is the Chapter in fact, the Council degrees and the orders of the Temple are taken largely from the Scotch rite and moulded into the York system. The Royal Arch and the Chapter is confined wholly to England, its colonies and the United States, and originated in its English form (which is quite different from the American) about the middle of the last century. The Councils, as separate from the governing bodies of the Scotch rite, are of very recent origin and are the outgrowths of the Chapters designed and perpetuated to gratify the unholy ambition for separate organizations—and are confined wholly to the United States and Canada.

The order of the Temple exists in France where it originated about a century ago, and in England an independent form, and in the United States, where it has quasi connection with Masonry under modern nomenclature of the "American System." Our fathers, a century since, were content with the three degrees of symbolic Masonry, which are universally diffused among men—but their children fell from the state of purity through the sin of ambition, which is older than the original sin of the most orthodox theologian of the old school—for by it an archangel fell, and men and Masons have inherited the taint, and we of to-day are taxed to keep up the cumbersome machinery in order to gratify our pride and inherit the honours of official rank. Templars and Royal Arch Masons could accomplish in the Lodge all they do in the Chapter and Commandery. To-day, as ever, when these several bodies "meet upon the level," the Templars become the "observed of all observers." There is in their order a something which we dare not call "fuss and feathers," in sympathy with our nature which calls forth our admiration, and awakens our interest. It is not its universality, for Templarism, as we practise the rite, is wholly American, and the Order of the Temple is confined to England and France. It is not its antiquity, for it has not reached its centennial anniversary. It is true, however, with it, as with symbolic Masonry, that pretentious claims of remote antiquity have been advanced—many, even in this State, have been asked, "Breathes there a Knight Mason with soul so dead as not to be proud of the distinction of being, by adoption, the successors of De Molay, the martyred Grand Master, and the last of the line of the old Templars, which, as such, became extinct A.D. 1314, or more than five centuries before the modern Order of the Temple had its rise. So it may be humiliating to the pride of the Mason to learn that the boastful antiquity of the institution has no basis, in fact, upon which to stand, and that in the future the historians and anniversary orators must drop off some ten centuries before, and as many since the founding of the Christian church, to which it has been claimed our institution was wedded. All this we must do if we would perform our vows of truth, which is the first lesson taught in Masonry, and the corner stone upon which Knighthood is erected as a system and an order. In future, then, men and brothers and Sir Knights, let us be content to own the truth we profess to revere, and yield a willing allegiance to the spirit of research which is the grand characteristic of the age. The most notable event in the history of modern Masonry is the spirit of enquiry which now animates the intelligent brotherhood. The labours of such historians and antiquarians as Findel, in Germany, Lyon, in Scotland, and Hughan and Woodford in England, have done much, very much, to remove the rubbish which has so long blinded our way in our efforts to find the truth.

These men have done for Masonic history, what the Niebuhr's Masons and other historical inquirers and critics have done for profane history, eliminated the truths for the fables and myths of the past ages. Nor is the spirit of free enquiry confined to the few named above. Many Grand Lodges and individuals in this country have been imbued with the spirit which has animated the leaders, resulting in the founding of libraries or collections of books, old and new, treating of secret societies of the olden times, and of all that touches symbolism upon which they are founded. In this, our own Grand Lodge of Iowa, with an enlightened wisdom, commendable in itself, and our Grand High Priest and Past Grand Commander, your enlightened, enterprising fellow citizen, Sir Robert F. Bower, are noted and conspicuous examples. We need not fear that these researches will in the least militate against the value, utility, or interest of our ancient and honourable Institution. It is old enough to have learned the wisdom of the ages as they have proved, and honourable for the good it has done, and is still capable of doing, if directed with a wise forethought to the demand of the ages, present and to follow.

In view, then, of what is here revealed, we may affirm that Free-

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masonry is an Institution of man, originated by man and designed for and adapted to the wants of man. It is, as has so often been declared, a society of ceremonies, forms and symbols, by which it is distinguished and known from all other societies. It is more, much more, it is a living, moving, pervading Institution, manifesting itself in much purity and great power through the beautiful old language and material emblems, devised by man and designed to elevate his character, and bring him into a closer communion with Him in whom all wisdom, and power, and worship are centered.

"It is one thing to be a Mason by virtue of initiation into its mysteries, and another to imbibe the spirit of its sublime teachings. It has been truly said that we may know its history and traditions, its achievements and jurisprudence; we may wander through its mysterious chambers, understanding and interpreting its symbolism; we may be learned in its lectures and masters of its secret work, and yet the volume of Masonry be to us a sealed and silent book. We may know its requirements and disregard them—understand the duties it enjoins and not observe them. We may admire its spirit, and refuse that spirit a dwelling place within our souls. Its lessons may have fallen on our hearts like grateful rains upon the vast Sahara—producing no fruits, but leaving behind only the desolate waste of former years. We may have appreciated and admired the beauty, symmetry and perfections of its ceremonies, its lectures and its laws; but if we have failed to observe that these are but the avenues which lead up to the moral edifice beyond, that they are only emblems of the like qualities in the spiritual structure—Masonry itself—then indeed our lessons and our toils have been in vain. But the kindly spirit, the sentiment, the charity, the emotion of heart which leads us up with pity, tenderness and love, and prompts and commands us to do good for the love of doing it, and of being just and generous—the power which imbues with the essence of divinity—which expands and purifies, elevates and ennobles the soul, and fills it with the presence of the Infinite—which lifts us upward and onward, and assimilates our natures to the spiritual character of the Heavenly Master, and fits and prepares us for the society of the angels—this is Masonry; all else are but the agencies through which it toils and triumphs. This is the divinity which dwells within your temples; and if it dwell not also in your hearts, then you are but whited sepulchres, bearing the name but mocking the spirit and purpose of your Fraternity.

But this is the testimony of one who has practised its rites and felt its influence, hear what an outside observer has to say:—

"Although I am not (he says) a member of the ancient and honourable order which traces its origin through the annals of authentic modern history into the region of dim and misty tradition, I am not so careless of what has passed in the world, but I can recall the services which it has rendered to civilisation, to freedom, to law, to the elevation of man and the worship of God.

"Beginning at the remote period, when intercourse was infrequent, and communication difficult, when science was occult and little cultivated, when the arts were in their rude and feeble infancy, when rank and privilege asserted an inviolate ascendancy over mind, intellect and culture, too often over right and justice, this order established a general brotherhood, not recognising outward station, nor limited by political or geographical lines, getting strength as it went on, it has extended through the countries and spread over the world, not stopping for race or language or form of government. It flourishes alike on the glaciers of Switzerland and beneath the palms of Oriental despotism, in free and enlightened America and England, and in superstitious and bigoted Spain and Portugal. Wherever it has gone, if I read history aright, it has carried the principles of fraternity and the practice of charity. It has mitigated the horrors of foreign war, and ameliorated the cruelties of civil strife. Its banners have been erected between the camps of hostile armies, and men who were to meet on the morrow in the struggle of life and death, have exchanged Knightly courtesies, and have softened their personal asperities beneath the mystic symbols. It has experienced the vicissitudes that are inseparable from human institutions—it has tasted the sweets of power and has eaten the bitter bread of exile. To-day princes and nobles have been proud to wear the insignia of its officers—to-morrow its camps have been burned at the stake. Under these varying fortunes it has preserved its principles and magnanimity. It has borne prosperity with moderation, and adversity with fortitude. It has loomed loftier through the mists of error, and gleamed brighter in the fires of persecution."

Such, my friends and brothers, is the Institution of Freemasonry as portrayed by a looker-on of candid judgment and impartial views. May it ever be our lot, Companions and Sir Knights, to preserve it untarnished from the world, and yours, fellow citizens of Iowa, to commend the good, uphold the right, and prosper on their way those whose mission it is to honour God, serve the brotherhood, and benefit the world at large.

The 15 sections were worked by the undermentioned brethren of the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction (presided over by Bro. Mander W.M. 1201) at the Faith Lodge of Instruction, 2 Westminster-chambers, on 2nd inst., viz., Bros. W. T. Morphew, G. W. Reed, A. Stewart, D. M. Belfrage, J. H. C. Watts, — Tolmie, T. Cull, G. Bubb, J. Wheeler, W. S. Lee, A. Boehr, F. Honeyman, A. C. Burrell, E. Farwig. The meeting was eminently successful and satisfactory, there being eighty-five brethren present. Votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to Bro. Mander for presiding, and to the brethren who had so efficiently worked the sections. Bro. Cottebrune Preceptor, and the brethren of the Faith Lodge are to be congratulated upon the substantial addition to the Lodge funds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

With reference to the correspondence about the Boys' School and its Management, we have received a letter, inserted hereinafter, the writer of which suggests that we should only insert letters if paid for beforehand as advertisements. This to us privately, but in his public letter he expresses an opinion that the point at issue should be inquired into and settled off hand. We think something of this kind should be done. At all events, so far as our columns are concerned, we shall put an end to the controversy next week. We may possibly offer a few further remarks at the same time.

ADVERTISEMENT.

MASONIC BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editors of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, *and* FREEMASON.

SIRS,—I see with very great regret a correspondence in your papers of a most un-Masonic character, in reference to the Boys' School management.

What has become of our grand principles, "Brotherly love and charity?" they appear to be converted into envy, hatred, malice and all uncharitableness.

The course of action now taken can never bring about a satisfactory settlement of the question. It is a most unjustifiable course on the part of Bros. Tew and Perrott to publish, as they did, an "ex parte" statement to all the outer world.

Why Brother Binckes should have been attacked so personally I cannot see, except to satisfy the spite of a disappointed clergyman. His question had been decided by the House Committee, and they, not Bro. Binckes, are the responsible parties if injustice has been done.

One or two brethren should be selected by each party to investigate and set at rest the whole question privately, and report result of their enquiries, and not, as is now being done, holding up the Craft to the ridicule of all its enemies.

I would advise Bro. Binckes to keep quiet, and not lay himself open to be "shot at" as he is now.

I think it will be quite time enough to get up a testimonial to Bro. Perrott after the Report is out, and when it is found the amount of injuries he has done to the Charities of our Order.

Yours truly,

JOHN SUTCLIFFE.

Grimsby, 10th November 1875.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I venture to avail myself of your kind intimation that correspondents may have an opportunity of expressing their opinions in your valuable paper on the controversy now going on respecting the management of the Boys' School.

My own opinion, arrived at from a calm and impartial consideration, both of the Pamphlets issued by Bros. Tew and Perrott, and the attempted replies on the part of Bro. Binckes, is, that for the welfare of our noble Institution, the general committee should at once call a special general court for investigation, and the result be made known to the subscribers. It is only fair that we should know *officially*, and in a straightforward manner, whether or not these charges are true; and if it be true (as I confess it appears to me to be), that a most extravagant system of management has been in force, then by all means let it be changed, and without delay.

Freemasons want no parsimony, no contemptible sordidness in the management of this or any other of our noble charities; what we want is this, that the very best possible for the money shall be obtained, and that those dear boys, the orphans of our departed brethren, shall reap to the fullest extent the benefit of our Masonic alms.

Magna est veritas. If the statements of Bros. Tew, Perrott and others can be so easily refuted, there should be no time lost, for an impression is daily obtaining that the Institution must seriously suffer unless this be done.

On pp. 29 and 30 of Messrs. Tew and Perrott's Pamphlet, I notice that it is stated that the sum of £141 13s is "not accounted for," and "missing." If Bro. Binckes can account for the expenditure, as it is to be hoped he can, why does he not do so? He rushes to the conclusion that he is charged with misappropriation, and then goes on to indignantly deny a "foul calumny," which, to my mind, has not been even insinuated. Surely when he commits himself to print he should be more circumspect and careful of his words, for when a man repudiates a charge which has never been made, it reminds one of the adage, "A guilty conscience needeth no accuser." *Qui non novit tacere, nescit loqui.*

Of course Bros. Mallam, Tew and Perrott are able to take their own course and to treat Bro. Binckes's letter with every consideration it deserves, they need no champion; but I maintain there is no spirit of brotherly love, no Masonic charity in the concluding words

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of Bro. Binckes's effusion (borrowed from Othello, Act IV., Scene 2) in which, adopting the language of the poet, he describes his brethren in the Craft (Messrs. M., T. and P.) as "rascals," and longs for a powerful whip in the hands of honest men to "drive them naked through the world."

Have we so learnt Masonry?

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours very sincerely and fraternally,

A P.G. OFFICER OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

9th November 1875.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I had not intended to trouble you further on the matters at issue between Messrs. Tew and Perrott and myself, but there are one or two remarks yet to be made. Those microscopic investigators may detect numberless little flaws in any statement, however carefully published, and they appear to derive immense gratification from the process. Utterly failing to bring me down on the only serious charge they have urged, they attempt to magnify every casual error, however unimportant, and to expand it into a fault. This reminds me of the argument of a celebrated Theologian in reply to similar style of criticism. "If all my critics can do is to prove that I have omitted to dot my i's and to cross my t's, they, in so doing, concede the major proportions I advance." It will add to the content of my two censors to be informed that I have discovered the discrepancy of £3, and shall present to the "Special Committee" appointed at *my request*, to examine the "Grant, Outfits, Gratuities Accounts," a statement that must be convincing to every mind, prejudiced or unprejudiced. It will then be for Messrs. Tew and Perrott to explain their rash hardihood in asserting that of "£314 5s only £172 10s are accounted for, leaving £141 15s of which no account is rendered." Such a course may possibly commend itself to those whom you describe, but not, I think, to lovers of justice.

In the Pamphlet, p. 8, par. numbered 4, I read—"There are many apparent errors, and yet the totals are always *made* to come right." In the word *made* is intended another sting. The totals always do come right, because they have so been audited and examined that they must be right. In splitting them into details there may be mistakes, but surely £12 10s and £7 10s equally make £20, as do £10 and £10.

I conclude with an extract from the speech of the late M.W. Grand Master, when presiding at the Anniversary Festival of this Institution in March 1874. After bearing testimony to the good and economical administration of its affairs, the noble Marquis remarked: "We have no right to make any charge against those who are engaged in the management of this School, such as those we have heard on some occasions made by persons who may not possibly have considered all the circumstances of the case."

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally

FREDERICK BINCKES.

London, 11th Nov. 1875.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Eastfield Villa, Hanwell.

8th November 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—May I trouble you to insert the following in the next issue of THE CHRONICLE?

In his letter of last week Mr. Binckes, while admitting the mistakes in reference to James Gasson, in the Report for 1865, 2nd edition, *with corrections*, failed to say why the second instalment of the grant of £15, paid, according to the Secretary, in 1872, did not appear in 1872 Report.

The Secretary turns the remark in the last Pamphlet as to the trying times the masters, *i.e.* the Head Masters (Mr. Russell, B.A., Mr. Furrian and myself) have had to experience into a charge of tyranny against me, which he does not attempt to prove; such tyranny, had it existed, would certainly have reached the ears of the House Committee, a certain number of whom, as is well known, were deputed to treat with me respecting the withdrawal of my resignation. I have just had placed in my hands a printed copy of eight letters from four of the old staff of resident Masters, and while the available space in the columns of your paper would not permit of my dealing with them as I could wish, and am in a position to do, I trust I may be allowed to make a few brief remarks concerning each one, *seriatim*; in none of them is there to be found a single statement to *justify* the Secretary's trumped-up charge of "unparalleled tyranny and persecution," whilst Mr. Benge's communication tallies exactly with our succinct narrative of his case, see last Pamphlet, p. 7. The House Committee took no notice of it, beyond expressing their dissatisfaction at Mr. Benge's short notice; the Latin and French exercises given to their Master to examine, were such as had been previously gone over with the boys, and all this Master had to do was to see that the writing was fair, and check from the "Tutor's Key" the errors which had been pointed out in class. *No knowledge* of either language was needed for such work. I quite admit, and often regretted, that Mr. Benge had not more evenings at his disposal, and, as he might say now, if he chose to speak, I arranged after Midsummer so that he should; to be just, however, he ought to have stated that he was *free*, two or three times a week, during a portion of morning or afternoon school, while the other Masters and myself were at work. The next two letters are from Mr. W. H. Taylor, the former of which called forth very strong condemnation from the House Committee, who thought proper to dismiss him; the latter charging me with issuing instructions to Mr. Blackwell, whom, on the evening of his arrival, *I personally* introduced to Mr. Taylor and two or three of the other Masters, to hold no communication with any of them is in *direct contradiction* to Mr. Blackwell's language, see letter in last Pamphlet, pp. 33 and 34, wherein this gentleman states that my advice was "to steer an *independent* course."

As regards the next two letters, I have been informed *quite recently* by one, who *heard* the Secretary make the admission respecting the Matron's "highly improper" letter, that he acknowledged having had a hand in these too; I had *no favourites*, and asked for *no support*, but I did, what I shall ever do, as far as lies in my power, I protected the weak against the strong. The letters from Messrs. Mansell and Blackwell (pp. 33 and 34 of last Pamphlet) give some idea of what they had to put up with. The best comment on the next letter would be, the production, did space permit, of a subsequent note from Mr. Taylor: one extract is given, and, its acknowledged impropriety being taken for granted, I would say "Crimine ab uno disce omnes:" "Mr. W. H. Taylor has to request the Head Master that he will not pester him with any further notes during his stay here. It *is not the intention* of Mr. W. H. Taylor *to take any part in the School work, or out of School duty*," &c.

This is from the Master, whom, *dismissed* by the House Committee, the Secretary (see last Pamphlet, letter 23, p. 39) paid in advance. The next, from Mr. Webb, may be briefly dismissed, as, from its date, the correctness of the statements in note to letter 11 (p. 35 last Pamphlet) may be tested. The noises and jealousies were the Master's own seeking, and brought *condign* punishment. There are two points in the last letter from the Master I wish to clear up: the first, with regard to the "long past," the request emanated from *me*, though claimed by the writer; the second, with regard to the atrocious charge, that I tried to "set Master against Master," when I had essayed, some months before, to reconcile this Master with Mr. Taylor, who *alone* of the *Masters* revealed to me (there is no denying it) the existence of a "clique" against himself and me. The Drawing Master, to whom the reference is made, and myself were always on the best of terms: letter 14, p. 36 of last Pamphlet, and my letter (No. 8 in Pamphlet) showed how *earnestly* I desired peace and mutual reconciliation. Of the next letter I know nothing, though I have in my possession correspondence, which, if published, would demolish the Secretary's arguments. As regards the last, I ask, what could Mr. Hall, from his occasional visits once or twice a week, know of the *teaching* going on when he was *never once* seen in the class-rooms during the hours of study. In *no single instance* did his advice interfere with the routine work of school duties; there was no serious illness in the school from January 1874 to July 1875, and I saw but little of him, having no need of his professional attendance. The statement in Pamphlet respecting the use of wind instruments, was the expression of my opinion, that Mr. Hall did not approve of them for *delicate* boys, as the Secretary informs us the Masonic boys are, and my conviction as to his opinion being so, I do not intend to withdraw it, while it is certain that three boys have discontinued the practice (the Secretary knows the names) I give them to the best of my memory—Sparke, Pawley and Green—and, whether it is "nonsense" or not, the fact remains the same.

Before concluding my letter, I would ask, in accordance with a suggestion from a distinguished brother, whether the "vote of censure" on the Matron's conduct was formally communicated to her as *desired* at the Special House Committee meeting on the 24th of November 1874, and how far the report is correct, that the Secretary this year drew up a list of those whom *he* desired to be on the House Committee. I am informed, and, if need be, am prepared to give the name of my authority, that, on being taxed with this most unjustifiable procedure, the Secretary justified his action on the principle of "self-preservation." There are, I need hardly say, *other* ways of looking at the question, and, in bringing my remarks to a close, I would observe, with reference to the wishes of Mr. Binckes, in his last letter, that the class of persons alluded to by Shakspeare, as flagellators, would hardly accept at the Secretary's hands the instruments of scourge.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally and faithfully,

O. G. D. PRESCOTT.

REVIEWS.

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

Discoveries and Inventions of the Nineteenth Century.—By ROBERT ROUTLEDGE, B.Sc., F.C.S. Assistant Examiner on Chemistry, and on Natural Philosophy, to the University of London. With numerous Illustrations. London: George Routledge & Sons, The Broadway, Ludgate; New York: 416, Broome-street, 1876.

THIS is a perfect Cyclopædia of useful knowledge, and so clearly and entertainingly written, as fully to merit the character of "a popular account," which the author claims for it. The work does not profess to deal with *all* the discoveries and inventions which have thus far distinguished the present century. On the contrary, selections have been made, and in making the selections, the author has been hardly less successful than in his treatment. Nor, in treating the various subjects which are contained in this volume, has Mr. Routledge confined himself wholly to Nineteenth Century progress. In order to mark the great strides that have been made in these latter days, it was incumbent on him to refer to the work and the workmen that had gone before. Thus, in treating of Steam Engines, while the bulk of the matter is devoted to the progress made since 1800, the labours of Newcomen and Watt are not only referred to, but clearly

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and concisely set forth, so that we virtually have a history of the Steam Engine in all its stages. So in the chapters on "Light," the experiments of Sir Isaac Newton, and other men of eminence are referred to, so that, here again, we gain some insight into the progress which the world had made in the science of optics previous to the nineteenth century. Having said this much as to the manner in which Mr. Routledge has accomplished his task, which, with the exception of the chapters on "Shells and explosive Bullets," "the Suez Canal," and "Sand Experiments," by Mr. J. H. Pepper, embraces the whole volume, we shall best indicate the character of the book by noticing the subjects that are touched upon. These are firstly, "Steam Engines," "the Locomotive," "Portable Engines," "the Steam Hammer." Then follows a long chapter on "Iron," and then others on "Tools," "Railways," and "Steam Navigation." We are next told about "Ships of War," "Fire-arms," and "Torpedoes." Mr. Pepper's papers on that marvellous achievement of M. de Lesseps, "The Suez Canal," and "Sand Experiments," follow, after which come accounts of "Iron Bridges," "Printing Machines," "Book-boring," "Light," "Electricity," "the Electric-Telegraph," "Lighthouses," "Photography," "Aquaria," "Mineral Combustibles," and finally "the greatest discovery of the age," that force, like matter, is indestructible, and that it can no more be created than can matter. Having thus briefly indicated the principal contents of the volume, and having borne most willing testimony to the admirable manner in which the author has done his work, the care that he has taken in its arrangement—a care that is noticeable throughout—and the amount of labour and research which he must have gone through before a single line was written, we must leave it to our readers to judge for themselves of the matter it contains. The work is one of those without which a general library can hardly be described as complete, and will be found especially useful to the more advanced school boy, whose ideas are sufficiently developed for him to understand popular scientific works, and who is at the same time eager in his pursuits after scientific knowledge. We predict a large amount of popularity among this class of readers for Mr. Routledge's account of the "discoveries and inventions" of this century, and as the season for the giving of gifts is distant only a few weeks, we should suggest this volume as a very choice specimen of the gift-book, containing as it does the merits of a handsome exterior, a great array of well chosen and effective illustrations, and a well nigh inexhaustible store of valuable information.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

Blackwood has an excellent programme, one or two of the articles being specially interesting. The opening contribution, on "The French War Preparations for 1870," discloses to us a state of things for which we should never have given credit to our gallant neighbours, and which shows how woefully deceived the late Emperor must have been by his war office authorities. No wonder the Germans found themselves before Paris in less than two months' time from the outbreak of hostilities, having in the meantime defeated MacMahon and Frossard, captured the Emperor and the remnant of his gallant army at Sedan, and shut up Bazaine in and around Metz, after a series of most desperate battles. We hope our military authorities will listen to the warning and be prompt in taking measures for the better organisation of our small but costly army. In Part VII. of "The Dilemma," we are brought near to the end of the Mutiny. Lucknow has fallen, and only a few scattered bands remain to be stamped out. We see but little of Mrs. Falkland, who, on the death of her husband, retired to the Hills for the sake of security, but Yorke takes a prominent part and greatly distinguishes himself. "The Dutch and their Dead Cities," as well as the "Legends and Folk-lore of North Wales," are most interesting, but the article we like best of all is the closing one, on weather. After marking certain differences as to the climate and weather, the writer pursues the subject thus:—

"All sorts of rules are applicable to climate, but none are applicable to weather. Climate is monarchy, weather is anarchy. Climate is a constitutional government, whose organisation we see and understand; latitude and altitude are its king and queen; dryness and dampness are its two houses of parliament; animal and vegetable products are its subjects; and the isothermal lines are its newspapers; but weather is a red hot radical republic, all excitements and uncertainties, a despiser of old rules, a hater of proprieties and order. Climate is a great stately sovereign, whose will determines the whole character of the lives and habits of his retainers, but whose rule is regular, and is, therefore so little felt that it seems like liberty; but weather is a capricious cruel tyrant, who changes his decrees every day, and who forces us, by his ever varying whims, to remember that we are slaves. Climate is local; weather is universal. We are indifferent to climate because we are accustomed to it, but we are dependent on weather because we never know what form it will take to-morrow. Climate is the rule; weather is the exception. Climate is dignity; weather is impudence."

A neater style of writing, which, by the way, is followed up throughout the whole article, we have rarely seen. We should greatly prefer, however, that our English climate had fewer of the characteristics which the writer ascribes to weather. We fear that, as regards this country, weather is the rule, and climate the exception, unless we regard the latter as being regular by reason of its irregularities. But, trifling objections apart, we feel sure our readers will be delighted with the article, and as it purports to be one of a series on "Various Subjects," we may confidently look forward to a like pleasure for some months to come.

Part I. of a short story by Mary Cecil May, entitled "Under Life's Key," heads the list of contents in this month's *Belgravia*. It is effectively written, and contains one or two mysterious incidents, for the explanation of which we must wait patiently till next month. Mr. Escott's paper on "English Journalism in 1832 and 1874," which is described as "A Criticism and a Contrast," does him very great credit. He marks the contrast between these two epochs in English journalism with admirable judgment, while the tribute of respect he pays to the late Mr. Albany de Fonblanque will be accepted as just by all people who have studied the history of journalism. Among the "People whom we Miss," Mr. Percy Boyd brings before us this month one Statesman, whose name will always be spoken of lovingly as well as respectfully, we mean the late Lord Palmerston, who, while possessing great abilities, great force of character, and unrivalled powers of work, was perhaps appreciated rather for his kindliness and geniality than for the great qualities he undoubtedly possessed. Among the other contributions we have noted a favourable criticism of Mr. Henry Irving's "Macbeth, at the Lyceum," "My Uncle," by Edward Sala, and "Peeps at Domestic Life in India." The illustrations are capitally drawn. The *Belgravia Annual* is announced to appear on the 10th instant, and we are promised, next month, the opening chapters of a new novel by Miss Braddon.

We have, in *Temple Bar*, the third and last chapter of "Basil's Faith," a story full of incident, and showing great constructive power on the part of the author; an admirable sketch of the great "Richelieu," a sensible paper on "The Pleasures and Drawbacks of Travelling," and a well written account of one of the most important of "The Campaigns of Napoleon I.," namely, the one which terminated with his hard fought victory of Wagram, and in the course of which he experienced his first serious check—at Aspern, by the Arch Duke Charles. There is further, a pleasant description of "A Spanish Hill Town."

Both the serials which have been so long current in *Cassell's Family Magazine* are concluded this month. We are sorry Mrs. Banks has, to use a somewhat vulgar expression, so "piled up the agony" in the closing chapters. They seem to smack somewhat of the last scene in some desperate tragedy, when a good half of the personages get killed or seriously maltreated. Aspioall junior was brute enough already, without being made to slash his wife's shoulders with his sabre, and horsewhip her times out of number, while poor Clegg had suffered already by losing Augusta's hand without its being necessary he should marry, and so soon after lose his wife and children. However, Jabez and Augusta are at length united, and after that event, of course, all goes merrily enough, especially as the former, the once despised Bluecoat, has attained a position of eminence as "A Manchester Man." Mr. Manville Fenn contributes "A Sketch with a Moral," entitled "In an Empty House." There is a domestic article or two, one on "Little Children: How to feed them," another containing the usual "Chit-Chat on Dress," while the Gatherer furnishes some capital notes on such topics as "New Houses for the Working Classes," "Cattle on a Sea Voyage," and "Storing Fruit for the Winter." The word "Winter," by the way, reminds us that we have omitted to note the very useful, homely suggestions contained in the article on "Winter Evenings: How shall we spend them?" Any of our readers who may be at a loss how to pass the long winter evenings will do well to consult this number of *Cassell's Family Magazine*.

The *Westminster Papers* contains, besides a careful review of "The Chess World" during the past month, some excellent dramatic criticism, some verses, signed Z., and entitled "My Conqueror." Chess, like Masonry, is hardly adapted to poetry, but Z. has achieved a great success. His verses are capital, and we hope, if this is his first essay, it will, at all events not be his last. We give the last stanza:—

Your Queen thinks her foes too enraptured
To harm her wherever she moves;
And coolly declines to be captured,
When daring unfortunate proves.
With triumph and victory laden,
Their efforts she treats with disdain;
Ah, say is she not like the maiden
My heart has been sning in vain?

There are three leaders—if we may so describe them—in the *Canadian Masonic News*, which will meet, as they certainly deserve to meet, with the approval of our readers. These are severally entitled, "The Principles of Freemasonry—Their Origin," "The Claim of Masonry to be a Moral and Social Institution," and "The Mason's Voyage after Truth." If our space permits, we hope to reproduce one, if not the whole three. We trust we shall find room for all, for it would certainly puzzle us to make a selection, so equal are their merits. Of the other contents, we can speak in the warmest praise of the address delivered by Grand Z. at the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada on 12th August last, and Bro. Jacob Norton contributes one of a series of papers on "The Successive Aims of the Masonic Fraternity," containing much valuable information.

On two previous occasions we quoted an acrostic by M. A. Baines, one from *Tinsleys'* and the other from *Colburn's New Monthly*. A third from the same pen, and exhibiting equal skill and ability, appeared in the latter magazine for October, but the pressure on our space has been far heavier than usual these last few weeks, and, moreover, the number did not reach us in time for our usual notice at the beginning of the month. Hence the delay this week in reproducing the following lines on October:—

O 'er hill and dale, now Autumn wends her way,
C areful to blend the tints with painter's skill,
T o give the landscape still a richer hue;
O r like dissolving views, which, as we gaze,
B lend each with each, till one is lost to sight:
E ach month thus follows month, and leads us on,
R egardless of our loss: in that we gain.

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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

WE refer elsewhere to the visit of the Prince of Wales to India. Beyond expressing, therefore, our satisfaction at the hearty reception he experienced at Bombay, and especially by the Brethren, we offer no comment here. The Princess of Wales is still at Sandringham, with the King and Queen of Denmark, and her sister the Princess Thyra, as her guests. Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold is again President of the Oxford Chess Club. The Duchess of Edinburgh and the Royal infant are progressing so favourably that the issue of further bulletins has been discontinued for some days.

The event of the week was, of course, the Lord Mayor's Show and the banquet at Guildhall in honour of the New Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman Cotton. Some of the ancient glories of the Show were revived, while one or two new features were added, so that, in spite of the dismal, though seasonable, weather, this last 9th of November must be recorded as a great success, ominous, no doubt, of the success which will attend Alderman Cotton during the term of his Mayoralty. The men in armour were revivified, though not so numerous as we have seen them on some occasions. The bands and banners were greatly in excess of the usual number, and there was a detachment of sailor boys from the training ship *Warspite*, together with representatives of the Manchester Unity and Foresters, appropriately apparelled. The presence of the latter may naturally enough be connected with the successful exertions of the Corporation in preserving Epping Forest from the further depredations of the greedy land despoilers, whose carelessness as to the difference between *meum* and *tuum* was becoming too pronounced to be pleasant. Yet a little while longer and, but for the action of the Corporation, Epping Forest would have become a thing of the past. But to return to the Show. The City Marshal looked as formidable as a Field Marshal. The Lord Mayor's footmen were simply gorgeous, as were also the liveries of the Sheriffs. Moreover, the presence of the military added considerably to the splendour of the Show, which was received along the whole route to Westminster and back again with much good natured enthusiasm, so that if any doubts ever existed of the popularity of this annual pageant, they must have been dispelled on Tuesday. The unfavourable reception accorded a few years since to one Lord Mayor, who thought it prudent to curtail the extent of the procession, and considerably lessened its magnificence, shows a strong feeling of respect for the forms and ceremonies of days gone by. Be this as it may, on the return to Guildhall, the distinguished visitors

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poured in very rapidly, and were well received. This applies specially to the Prime Minister, who is evidently a great favourite east of Temple Bar. The banquet calls for no special comment. It passed off much as such banquets usually do. But the after dinner speeches on this occasion, and particularly under existing circumstances, were looked for with a considerable amount of interest. The Prime Minister was very guarded in what he said, however. The assurance that the prospect of a war with China had passed away was gratifying, of course, and in more senses than one. On the one hand it is to the commercial interests of both countries that peace should be maintained between them, while even in a war with the Chinese there is little honour to be gained by engaging a power so manifestly inferior to us in military strength. But it was impossible to ignore the danger that is looming in the far east of Europe, and, anent this critical subject, Mr. Disraeli could only express a hope that a peaceful solution of the difficulty may prevail. It was wise, of course, at so early a stage, to say as little as possible, but it must have been dreadfully disappointing to the political *quidnuncs* not to have had even a gleam of light thrown upon the matter. We echo, of course, the hope of the Prime Minister, but we cannot say the prospect is very assuring. Among the other speeches, the most noticeable were those of the Lord Chancellor, who took occasion to refer to the recent legal reforms, of Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, who followed suit, and upon whom the freedom of the City will shortly be conferred, and of Mr. Ward Hunt, who, in spite of the Vanguard disaster, spoke hopefully of the Navy. The Lord Mayor's health was gracefully proposed by Mr. Disraeli, and very well received, as also was that of the retiring Lord Mayor, whose year of office will compare most favourably with that of any of his predecessors.

We imagine there is little, if any, difference between the men who go up as Undergraduates to Oxford and Cambridge, but what are known as "Town and Gown Rows" at the latter, seem to be far more considerable, and waged with far greater bitterness of spirit than at the former. That, of all places in the world, a concert room, where harmony is expected to prevail, should have been selected as the theatre of war, speaks ill for the tone of the Cambridge students. There were ladies present, and that fact should have served to check any outburst of feeling. But if the conduct of the students, young men of high spirits, and occasionally given to a little vigorous horse play, is inexcusable, the municipal authorities appear to have acted with a lamentable want of tact. Aldermen and Town Councillors, even with the insignia of office about them, are not always awe inspiring personages, and any chaff they may have been treated to by the Undergraduates, should have been met either good-naturedly or with silent contempt. It was a gross mistake to bring the police into the affair, and the town magistracy have only themselves to thank that the row assumed the dimensions of a small riot. Let us hope the next time Cambridge men feel it imperative to give vent to any exuberance of spirits, they will select some other place than a concert room where ladies are congregated for the purpose of enjoyment. And when the next explosion takes place on the part of turbulent gownsmen, let the townsmen, or, at all events, their rulers, display tact and judgment in meeting it. Let them keep their force of police constables out of sight. Then there may be some roughness, perhaps, but at least there will arise no ill feeling.

A phase of student-life at Cambridge is a fair excuse for adverting to certain speeches recently made by two men of eminence on the subject of Education. Of these speeches, one was made by Mr. Gladstone, at Greenwich, on the occasion of his distributing the prizes to the successful students of the local science and art classes, while the other came from the lips of Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, when giving away the prizes to the students of the Birkbeck Literary and Scientific Institution. Both these men are living illustrations of what Education will enable men to achieve, for the former was Prime Minister of England for over five years, and, although he has retired into comparative privacy as a politician, is still by far the most eminent member of the Liberal Party, while the Lord Chief Justice has presided at the Court of Queen's Bench for many, many years, and is one of the greatest legal luminaries of the day. One other address must not be overlooked; though, coming from a very young man, it will not carry with it, perhaps, the same authority as the two just referred to. We mean the speech of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, at the distribution of prizes, in the Town Hall, to the students of the Oxford School of Science and Art. The influence of the late Prince Consort, and his zeal for the advancement, not of Science and Art only, but of every branch of learning, have borne good fruit as regards his children. There is not one of the Queen's sons or daughters who is not ready, at all times, to do what in them lies for the good of Education, and this speech of Prince Leopold, himself a student at Oxford, is the latest illustration we have had of the zeal of the Royal Family in the good cause.

Now of course that Ministers have resumed their labours, we may expect to hear of frequent deputations to one or other of them. Sir Stafford Northcote and the Home Secretary are among the earliest who have been thus favoured, the former having been waited upon by a deputation from the Trades' Union Congress Parliamentary Committee on the subject of the Trades' Union Act, while the latter received the same deputation, who had certain suggestions to offer anent the Summary Jurisdiction of Magistrates. Both were courteously received, and withdrew well pleased with the attention their suggestions had experienced.

We have more than once expressed our admiration of Captain Webb's unexampled feat of swimming the English Channel between Dover and Calais, and we feel sure our readers will rejoice with us that so worthy a man will shortly become a member of our Order. Men of courage are men of kindness, and Captain Webb wears honorable evidence that he has already exerted his unrivalled swimming powers in attempting to save human life at the risk of his own. Good men and true, as he is, are certain to make good Masons. Captain Webb will be intitiated on the 25th inst., the last Thursday in the current month, in Lodge Neptune, No. 22, at Guildhall Tavern. Thus, in less than a fortnight, this son of old Father Neptune will have a Mother Neptune, and also a pretty numerous array of Brothers Neptune. We doubt not of his very hearty reception.

The fête at the Alexandra Palace on Lord Mayor's day was, unfortunately, marred by the weather. This, of course, does not apply so much to the Concert, which was the Balaklava Concert repeated, but to the grand firework competition, which came off in the dullest of November weather. However, a success was scored on Saturday, when Handel's "Esther" was produced, under the able guidance of Mr. Weist Hill. To-day will be the third of the series of Saturday Popular Concerts, when a selection from Beethoven, Rossini, and others, will be given, and there will also be a great Chrysanthemum Show, by Messrs. Cutbush, in the Grand Central Hall. At the Crystal Palace will also be given another Saturday Concert, when the programme will include Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," "A Dream of Happiness," and other pieces. On Monday will be opened the great Annual National Poultry, Pigeon, and Rabbit Show, and it will remain open till Thursday inclusive.

From France the most important news concerns the passage of the Electoral Bill, which is being got through with a considerable amount of dispatch. The most important portion of the Bill has been agreed to by the Assembly. The battle of the *Scrutins* has been fought fairly, and determined by secret vote in favour of the Government by a majority of 31, the numbers for the *scrutin d'arrondissement*, which they supported, being 357, while the *scrutin de liste* found favour with only 326 members. As in England, so in France, we hear of further gales and floods, so that the year, in this respect, will very probably be a most disastrous one as regards the damage done to life and property. An uneasy feeling prevails generally abroad as here as to the Turkish difficulty. It will need all the ability of diplomacy to pull Europe through without some kind of a contest. As to Spain, the news of a settlement of the Carlist war seems as far off as ever. In any other country the leading men of both parties would combine and [illegible] a settlement, but in Spain, party interests take precedence of patriotic interests.

Bro. E. P. Albert, Assistant Grand Pursuivant of the Grand Lodge of England, P.M. 188, has been appointed Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Bro. Jennings, the courteous and respected musical director of the Oxford, announces his annual benefit, on Wednesday, 24th instant, when a host of talent, in addition to the regular company, have volunteered their services.

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THE BOMBAY MASONS.

AMONGST the most noteworthy events connected with the reception of the Prince of Wales at Bombay, must be mentioned the laying of the foundation stone of the new Elphinstone Wet Docks, in due Masonic form, by His Royal Highness, in his capacity of the M.W.G.M. A vast concourse of spectators was present to witness the ceremony, and, in reply to an address presented to him by the Craft, the Prince replied in the following terms:—"I have learned with great pleasure the flourishing condition of Masonry in Bombay. The fact of its annually increasing numbers and efficiency fulfils the objects of the institution in uniting together men of various creeds and races in a bond of brotherhood, affording common objects of exertion, and extending the knowledge of the English organisation for the good of mankind. It is a great pleasure to me to join you, my brethren of Bombay, in a work which will tend to the protection of life and property, the extension of trade, and the advantage and prosperity of large bodies of our fellow men."

A ball followed in the Town Hall, which was placed at the disposal of the brethren by the Government.

The regular monthly meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Gt. Queen-street, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry, Secretary, read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. A letter was read from the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M., that he had consented to preside at the Anniversary Festival on the 9th February 1876. Bro. Terry announced the death of one of the annuitants; the amount he, deceased brother, had received from the Institution, was £246. Three brethren were placed on the list of candidates. There were present, Bros. S. Rawson, J. Hogg, W. Stephens, Jas. Brett, C. A. Cottebrune, Robert Wentworth Little, R. W. Stewart. Jas. Smith, Hyde Pullen, Hilton, T. Cubitt, White and J. R. Stedwell. The meeting was then adjourned, and a special meeting, in compliance with a requisition singed in conformity with the laws, was then held, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton V.P. in the chair, to take into consideration a proposed alteration of clause 19, and also any further proposition or motion which might be made to give effect to the same. Bro. John Symonds P.G.D. then proposed to add the following words:—

"Every Steward at the Anniversary Festivals who shall procure donations or subscriptions to the extent of not less than £80 in addition to his own donation, shall receive two additional votes at each election, and two further extra votes for every additional sum of not less than £50.

And to expunge the following words:—

If unaccompanied with a personal donation, but by means of his services, not less than £20 shall be paid to the funds, he shall be entitled to one additional vote for every Stewardship.

Both these motions were carried. Bro. John Symonds P.G.D. proposed, and Bro. Benjamin Head P.G.D. seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton for the able and efficient manner in which he has always presided over them, and congratulated him on his accession to a higher military rank; he hoped he might be spared for many years to enjoy it. This was fully endorsed by Bro. Benjamin Head. Bro. Creaton thanked the brethren for their kind expressions, and said he felt proud of having been advanced to a higher rank. He had faithfully served Her Gracious Majesty for a quarter of a century, and he thanked the brethren for their good wishes. There were present at this meeting, Bros. Erasmus Wilson, L. Stean, H. Massey, J. Newton, J. Stevens, General Ridgway, J. A. Farnfield, C. Lacey and H. M. Levy. Brethren desiring to serve as Stewards to assist this deserving charity are requested to send their names as early as possible to Bro. Jas. Terry, at the office, Freemasons' Hall.

On Thursday, the 25th inst., the 15 sections will be worked at the Vitruvian Lodge of Instruction. The 15 sections will also be worked at the St. James's Lodge of Instruction, No. 765, which meets at the New Tanners' Arms Tavern, Grange-road, Bermondsey, on Friday evening, the 26th November. Bro. Rumball, of the Faith Lodge, No 141, will preside. Bro. Pennefather is the Hon. Sec., and the attendance of brethren is requested. The Lodge will open at 7 o'clock.

The Rt. Hon. the late Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, was formally admitted on Friday, 5th instant, to the Livery of the Turners' Company, and Bro. Alderman Hadley P.G.D. has received an address of congratulation from the London Coffee House Keepers' Benevolent Association on his accession to the Aldermanic gown. A special Court of Aldermen was held at the Guildhall, the last that will be held under the presidency of the ex-Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, for the purpose of swearing in Bros. Hadley and Nottage.

Bro. T. A. Adams P.G.P., Preceptor of many Lodges, will hold his Annual Private Subscription Ball, at Willis's Rooms, on Tuesday, 5th February 1876, for members of the Craft and their friends. The tickets can be obtained of the Stewards, to admit a lady and gentleman, 21s, which will include refreshments during the evening and supper. Any brother wishing to act as Steward can do so on application to Bro. T. A. Adams, 55 Whitfield-street, Tottenham Court-road.

Bro. Jas. Weaver, P.P.G.O. Middlesex, has been selected to fill the Post of Chef d'Orchestra at the Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, which opens on the 22nd November, under the direction and leaseeship of M. Mayer.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ENQUIRER.—The Mark Degree is not recognised by the Grand Lodge of England, but it has become very popular. Noblemen and brethren very high in our Order are enrolled amongst its members, and these have contributed large amounts to our Masonic Charities. No one can join it unless he has passed the three degrees in Freemasonry.

We have received, from Messrs. JOHN HOGG and Co., Masonic Publishers, copy of a posthumous work by Dr. OLIVER, entitled *The Pythagorean Triangle; or, the Science of Numbers.* A review of it will appear next week.

J. E. S. 1826, 1524, 1527.—We cannot give the name of the local paper you refer to, but we are certain you will find the case reported either in the *Tottenham and Edmonton Herald*, or *Tottenham and Edmonton Advertiser*, or else in the *North Middlesex Chronicle*.

J. D.—Where eminent doctors disagree it is a difficult matter to give a decision which will afford general satisfaction. Our view is, that during obligations, what, apart from all Masonic meaning, is the natural sign of Fidelity should be used. Our reason for this view is, that it is contrary to our O.B. to show any sign to or before any one who has not been legally entrusted.

T. E.—1. We have consulted Bro. Lamb's Illustrated Catalogue, but fail to find any jewel requiring an explanation. 2. As to the *coat of arms* of the Masons: the grant, of which a *verbatim et literatim* copy is to be found in the "Masonic Magazine" (and an excellent representation of the arms as a frontispiece), was originally made XIIth Edward IV. (1471-2), and confirmed XIIth Henry VIII. (1520-1). Additions appear to have been made to the original grant (and alterations), and apparently more than one company existed in the seventeenth century. In "Ahiman Rezon," of 1764, a copy is given of the "Arms of the Operative or Stone Masons," the "Arms" above in the same plate being those of the "Ancients," *alias* "Grand Lodge of England, according to the old Constitutions," or "*Athol Masons.*" Dermott gave these to prove that the *regular* Grand Lodge had made an illegitimate use of the Arms of the *operative* Masons. The regular *Grand Lodge* ("*Moderns*") adopted the latter Arms, a copy of which occurs in a portion of the frontispiece to Entick's Constitutions of the Freemasons of 1756. The *crest*, however, is changed from the *castle* (early grant) or the *hand with trowel* (later issue), to a *bird* (dove), but the supporters (beavers) are the same. The coin of 1794 (1790 G.M. elected) contains on the *obverse* the Arms of the same Grand Lodge, with the motto *Amor, Honor et Justitia.* The differences mentioned of course result from the fancy of the members of the Masons' Company and of the Grand Lodge, supplemented, doubtless, by competent heraldic authority. The Arms of the United Grand Lodge of England from the Union of 1813, are in reality a blending of the two Arms of the rival Grand Lodges, the history of which Bro. Hughan, has afforded the Craft in his most useful "Memorials of the Union of 1813," and the frontispiece to which contains an exact reproduction of the Arms of the "Ancients," and "Operative Masons," as published by Dermott in 1764.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Indigestion, Bronchitis, Asthma, and kindred complaints too frequently present themselves as a fierce and pitiless plague at the fall of the year, and little less deplorable is the fact that, with darkening days and changing temperatures, the digestion becomes impaired, the liver disordered, and the mind despondent, unless the cause of the irregularity be expelled from the blood and body by an alterative like these Pills—they go directly to the source of the evil, thrust out all impurities from the circulation, restore disordered organs to their natural state, and correct all defective or contaminated secretions. Such easy means of instituting health, strength and cheerfulness should be instantly available to check the first symptoms of approaching illness.

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THE EARLIEST ATTACK OF THE CHURCH AGAINST SECRET SOCIETIES.

By Albert G. Mackey, M.D.

THE earliest attack of the Roman Church upon Secret Societies that I can find is the statute passed by the Council of Avignon, which met in June 1326. This statute will be found in the 7th volume (p. 1507—8) of Hardouin's "*Acta Conciliorum et Epistolæ Decretales ac Constitutiones Summorum Pontificum.*" (Paris, 1714.) Before giving a literal translation of this document from the Latin original, it will be proper, for the better understanding of the subject, to say something briefly of the Gilds or Secret Societies against whom it was directed.

During the Middle Ages, and especially in the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, Europe was pervaded by Social Gilds, as Toulmin Smith calls them, or Fraternities for mutual help, which were, in fact, the precursors of the Craft Gilds, which in turn gave rise to the corporations of builders, which were the type of the modern Masonic Lodges. Thus there was a connection, historically, between these social Gilds of the Middle Ages, in form and organization, at least, and the institution of Speculative Masonry, and therefore the attack made upon it, in the 14th century by the bishops assembled at Avignon, was the inauguration of that spirit of ecclesiastical persecution which was afterwards developed in the bulls of Clement the Twelfth and Benedict the Fourteenth, and has at this day been renewed by Pius the Ninth.

Brentano, in his *History and Development of Gilds* (p. 23), thus briefly describes the organization of these Gilds, which he compares, in some respects, to our modern Benefit Societies, a comparison which, I think, might more aptly be made between them and our Modern Lodges of Freemasonry. He says: The expenses of the Gilds were defrayed by the entrance fees, contributions, gifts and legacies. There was a meeting at which officers were elected, and the members had on their entrance to declare by oath that they would fulfil their obligations. Persons of ill repute were not admitted and members were excluded for misconduct. The members had a special livery or uniform dress, which was worn on their festivals and at their meetings. Mutual assistance of the Gild Brothers was enjoined, especially in old age, in sickness, poverty and wrongful imprisonment, as well as in all losses by fire, shipwreck, &c., and finally in the burial of the dead.

It will be seen how all these characteristics are recognised in the Statute of Excommunication fulminated by the Council of Avignon, and thus we find that the opposition of the Church to all good works not performed under ecclesiastical supervision, was as vehement and unreasonable in the fourteenth century as it has been in the eighteenth and nineteenth. Pope John XXII., in the tenth year of whose pontificate this statute was enacted at Avignon, is thus placed side by side with Clement, Benedict and Pius, a sacred quaternion of bigotry and intolerance. Avignon, it will be remembered, was at that time the seat of the pontifical court, to which city it had been transferred in 1305 by Clement the Fifth. Pope John, under whose auspices the decree of excommunication was enacted, is described by Mosheim as being "crafty, insolent, weak, impudent and avaricious."

The statute is, of course, in the Latin language. It is contained in the 37th chapter of the Acts of the Council, and literally translated is in the following words:—

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Concerning the societies, unions and confederacies called confraternities which are to be utterly extirpated.

Whereas, in certain parts of our provinces, noblemen for the most part and sometimes other persons, have established unions, societies and confederacies, which are interdicted by the canon as well as by the municipal laws, who congregate in some place once a year under the name of a confraternity, and there establish assemblies and unions, and enter into a compact confirmed by an oath that they will mutually aid each other against all persons whomsoever, their own lords excepted, and in every case that each one will give to another help, counsel and favor; and sometimes all wearing a similar dress with certain curious signs or marks, they elect one of their number as a chief [majorem], to whom they swear obedience in all things; whereby justice is offended, murders and robberies ensue, peace and security are banished, the innocent and the poor are oppressed, and the churches and ecclesiastics in a town infested by such societies suffer various injuries and great damage to their persons, possessions, rights and jurisdictions. Wishing at once to check these pestiferous designs and pernicious undertakings, and to provide an appropriate remedy and to restrain from sin those who are under us, as it is the duty of the pastoral office, we do by the authority of the present Council, invalidate, dissolve and make void all assemblies, unions, societies and confederacies which are called brotherhoods or confraternities hitherto instituted by clergymen or laymen of whatsoever degree, state, dignity or condition they may be, and also the compacts, agreements and regulations established among them, and we declare them to be null and void and of no effect, decreeing that all the oaths taken for the performance of the aforesaid acts are either illegal or worthless; and we ordain that no one shall be held to the observance of them, from which oaths we provisionally absolve them; so that, however, for their heedless and idle oaths they shall receive a salutary penance from their confessors. And by the aforesaid authority we prohibit them under penalty of excommunication to make use from this time forth as formerly, of the said unions, societies, conventions and oaths; they shall not institute confraternities of this kind; one shall not give obedience nor afford assistance or favor to another; nor shall they wear clothing which exhibits the signs or marks of the condemned thing, nor call themselves brethren, priors or abbots of the aforesaid society. And we ordain that this excommunication shall be *ipso facto* if they act to the contrary of the present statute after it shall have been published for two Sundays in the church of which they are parishioners. But indeed let each one within ten days from the time of the said publication seek a confessor to absolve him, so far as he can, from the aforesaid oaths, and let him publicly profess his unwillingness to be any longer a member of the aforesaid society. We also forbid their forming from this time forth such confederacies, conspiracies or assemblies under the name of a confraternity, otherwise we declare such attempts *de facto* invalid, void and of no effect, and we subject those forming and attempting them to the sentence of excommunication, from which they shall in no way be absolved, unless by a provincial council, except in the hour of death. But by this act we do not intend to disapprove of those fraternities formerly instituted for the relief of the poor in which there are no obligations nor oaths.—*The Voice of Masonry.*

DO YOU TAKE THE NAME OF GOD IN VAIN?

IT is the habit of the world to judge religious systems of morality and philosophy, rather by the conduct of their professed disciples, than by the intrinsic merits of the systems themselves. If the conduct of the majority of the followers of any system of religion or morality, in their daily intercourse with mankind, is found to be marked by licentiousness or vice, perhaps the conclusion is not unreasonable that the system itself has exerted some baneful influence. If, however, it is the few who are vicious, and the many who are virtuous, the same mode of reasoning would exalt the system, and condemn the offenders against good morals, as having departed from its precepts. But the world does not always proceed through a train of logic to its conclusions. Public opinion is usually made up of a small modicum of reason intermixed with a large quantity of prejudice and passion, each alike hostile to truthful conclusions.

In this way Masonry has suffered greatly for the faithlessness of its professed votaries. Masonry has not unfrequently been charged with sacrilege, especially by its opponents. And why? For one reason—because the Masonic creed everywhere recognises the existence of a Supreme Ruler of the Universe, invokes His blessing on all her undertakings, seeks His guidance in all her difficulties, and inculcates, as the first and chief principle of the Institution, reverence and respect for the name of Deity, while some of her followers make it their aim to appear like infidels, scoffers at sectarian religion, and profaners of the Holy Name. In the Lodge they profess respect for God with lips that ever were filthy with vile and indecent oaths. This is not Masonry. Those who indulge in such practices are strangers to her true spirit, and aliens from her affections.

In all the teachings of Masonry, in its rites and ceremonies, in its traditions, if there is anything more prominent than another, if there is any duty more frequently and earnestly impressed upon the mind than another, it is an habitual, a serious and profound respect for our Creator and Preserver. The first paragraph that arrests the attention in the ancient Constitutions teaches us that a belief in the Eternal God, and the rendering to him of that worship which is due to the Great Architect and Governor of the Universe, is the foundation and corner stone of the Masonic character.

Nearly the first words which the candidate for the mysteries of Masonry hears, on being admitted within the sacred precints of the Lodge, is the voice of prayer addressed to the Eternal Throne of Grace. The first object that meets his eye in the Lodge room is the Book of God. And blind indeed he must be, if he does not discern this constant, ever living stream of reverential feeling flowing throughout the length of Masonry, fertilising, invigorating, and preserving its moral tenets.

What is there in all this which the profaner of the great merciful God's name can see but degradation in his own estimation as well as that of his neighbours and companions? What is there which promises even toleration of him? The Masonic motto in this respect is "procul este profani." When profane swearing becomes consistent with the teachings of Masonry, let us cease to clothe ourselves with lambskin; let us break the pot of incense and quench its pure flame; let us blear the All-Seeing Eye; let us remove the Book of Testimony from our midst; in short, let us knock out the foundation and supports of the Masonic edifice, and suffer it to fall to the ground a mass of shapeless ruins.

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." If you wilfully and persistently break one of God's commandments, do you not violate the whole?

By profanity, force and effect are not added to a declamation, neither is polite swearing the mark nor the measure of a gentleman: then ask yourself, am I in the habit of using the name of God profanely, and thereby violating His express law? "By My name you shall know me."—*The Hebrew Leader.*

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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, 13th NOVEMBER.

1436—Great City, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
R. A.—Great Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
308—Prince George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, near Todmorden.
1301—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
1559—Addiscombe, Alma Tavern, Addiscombe.

MONDAY, 15th NOVEMBER.

8—British, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
46—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)

77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
102—Unanimity, King's Arms, North Walsham.
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.
382—Royal Union, Chequer's Hotel, Uxbridge.
388—Prudence, Three Tuns, Halesworth, Suffolk.
466—Merit, George Hotel, St. Martin's, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
607—Chicheley, Court House, Thrapstone.
840—Scientific, Victoria Hotel, Wolverton.
872—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
936—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
1057—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1073—Greta, Court-buildings, Keswick.
1142—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.

TUESDAY, 16th NOVEMBER.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
142—Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
194—St. Paul, Westminster Palace Hotel.
1441—Ivy, Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark Bridge-road.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

47—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
402—Hertford, Town Hall, Hertford.
454—Union, Masonic Hall, Grey Friars'-road, Reading.
448—St. James's, Masonic Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
560—Vernon, Swan Hotel, Stourport.
802—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
883—Camalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorkshire.
896—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
1036—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day Scorrier, Cornwall.
1067—Howe and Charnwood, Bull's Head, Loughboro'.
1046—St. Andrew, Bush Hotel, Farnham, Surrey.
1067—Royal Forest of Dean, Lodge Rooms, Newnham.
1088—De Sherland, Fountain Hotel, Blue Town, Sherborne.
1428—Beaconsfield, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1457—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Lancashire.
1304—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Whitney, Lancashire.
1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
1479—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.

WEDNESDAY, 17th NOVEMBER.

General Committee Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
102—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham.
117—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
148—St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
221—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
241—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Court-place, Guernsey.
256—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham.
281—Unanimity and Sincerity, Clarke's Hotel, Taunton.
288—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
296—Kantaria, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
324—Morra, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
843—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
550—Zetland, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
581—Faith, Drovers' Inn, Openshaw.
591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
610—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
670—St. David's, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
963—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1010—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1094—Walton, St. Lawrence Boys' School, Croydon-street, Kirkdale.
1256—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.
1312—Elms, Masonic Hall, Home Park, Stoke, Devonport.
1393—St. Alban's, Royal Hotel, Great Grimsby.
1397—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1435—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Redruth.
M. M. 175—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 18th NOVEMBER.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egremont, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
49—Gihon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
53—Constitutional, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
975—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
813—Saxe Coburg, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1201—Hervey, 148 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Bardett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park.
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road.

56—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
110—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydfil.
132—Unity, White Hart, Ringwood.
261—Ancient Union, 32 Rope-street, Liverpool.
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
284—Worcester, Bell Hotel, Worcester.
425—Constantine, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.
470—Scientific, Private Rooms, Pingley, Yorks.
501—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
683—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
777—Royal Alfred, Angel Hotel, Guildford.
999—Philanthrophy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.

FRIDAY, 19th NOVEMBER.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1278—Bardett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
510—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.

SATURDAY, 20th NOVEMBER.

R. A.—Zetland Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—404—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
„ 795—Ashfield (Coolehill) Private Room, Coolehill, County Cavan.
WEDNESDAY—9—Moses, Masonic Hall, George-street, Dungannon, Tyrone.
„ 161—Excelsior, Bishop-street, Tuam, Galway.
„ 353—Carpegh, Masonic Hall, Omagh, Tyrone.
THURSDAY—12—Meridian, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
„ 93—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
„ 129—Industry, Bundoran, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.
„ 406—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—140—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 63 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. 87—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—333—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
„ 406—Clydesdale, 196 Ross-street.
„ K. T.—St. Mungo Encampment, 213 Buchanan-street.
TUESDAY—34—St. John, St. John's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
„ 75—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
„ 97—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
„ 427—Greendale, Portland Hall, Govan.
WEDNESDAY—128—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
„ 354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
„ 466—St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road.
„ 553—St. Vincent, 163 Kent-road.
FRIDAY—360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
„ 406—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.
„ 31—St. Mary Colinton, Public Hall, Wishaw.
„ 331—St. Andrew's, Public Hall, Alexandria.
SATURDAY—634—St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall, East Kilbride.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS,

Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge, No. 4.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, 9th instant, in their own Hall, 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. A. Thorbourn R.W.M. J. W. Henderson S.W., G. Holmes J.W., J. Currie Secretary, Wm. Dixon Treasurer, Wm. McCullough S.D., W. J. S. Jamison Deputy Master, S. Prout Senior Master, J. Gardner I.G., D. Ramsay Tyler; Visitors—Bros. Wheeler, Alleyn, Murray 367, and McKenzie 413. Business—Passing, performed by the R.W.M., and raising, which the Master entrusted to Bro. Henderson S.W., who ably performed the ceremony. The Lodge then proceeded to the nomination of officers, with the following result:—Bro. Prout W.M., Wm. Dixon D.M., G. Sage S.M., G. Holmes S.W., Wm. McCulloch J.W., J. Currie Secretary, S. McKane Treasurer. Several candidates were nominated for the subordinate offices to be filled up at the next meeting.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Bro. Schleider's, the White Hart, College-street, Lambeth. Present—Bros. E. Thackle W.M., B. Clegg S.W., C. Walter J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, W. Stuart P.M. Secretary, C. S. Jolly I.P.M., H. T. T. Ross S.D., A. Timothy J.D., C. Nott I.G., J. Skirvens D.C., W. Robinson W.S.; also P.M.'s Noke, Morris, and Carey, and about 80 other brethren. The Lodge was opened in the three degrees. Bro. Jeffrey was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. After the confirmation of the minutes of the last Lodge, Bros. Taylor, Neale, Boon, and Rawlings were passed to the 2nd degree. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Satchell, Cooper, Patterson, and Buckland, which proved unanimous in their favour, and they being in attendance, were accordingly initiated in the ancient mysteries. All Masonic business being ended the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, after which the usual Masonic toasts were given. There was some excellent singing by Bro. B. Clegg S.W., Bro. Woodliffe, and several other brethren during the evening.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 10th of November, at the White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, E.C. Present—Bros. Blackall W.M., D. Posener S.W., Tarquand sen. J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, Tollis S.D., Tarquand jun. J.D., Biddell I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. E. Gottheil Preceptor, J. Constable Treasurer; and Bros. T. Barnes, Croake, Biddell, Collett, Croaker and others, numbering upwards of 20. Business—The Lodge was opened, minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Walker acting as candidate. The three 1st sections of the degree were worked by Bro. Gottheil, assisted by the brethren; the 4th section was admirably rendered by Bro. Barnes, who gave the brethren great pleasure by the impressive manner in which he worked the section. All who have the pleasure of Bro. Barnes' acquaintance will regret that he is not ubiquitous, that his services and knowledge might be rendered in several Lodges at one time. Bro. Posenor was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Tyrawley Lodge, No. 317.—This Lodge held its monthly

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meeting on Monday, the 8th of November, at Dillon-terrace, Ballina. Present—Bros. P. L. Petrie W.M., John Gilbert S.W., Charles Boyd J.W., J. R. Dudgeon Secretary, P. Atkinson Treasurer, William Reid S.D., James Beally J.D., David Taylor I.G., R. Massey Tyler. Business—Mr. Thomas Elliot was duly initiated into E. A. degree, and Bro. Thompson was passed to Fellow Craft. The election of officers for the ensuing year was confirmed.

Star Lodge, No. 219.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 8th of November, at their own Hall, 12 Trongate, Glasgow. Present—Bros. J. Margan R.W.M., J. Duthie as S.W., J. Horn J.W., J. Crawford Secretary, J. Pairon Tyler. Business—Initiation, passing, and raising, after which the brethren proceeded to the nomination of officers.

Shamrock and Thistle Lodge, No. 275.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday, the 5th of November, at 22 Struthers-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. R. M. Yuill R.W.M., D Ranald S.W., J. Mason J.W., John Horn Secretary, A. Wood Treasurer, H. Higgins Steward, A. Crawford Tyler. Business—Initiation, after which, nomination of office bearers. Bro. Yuill was proposed for re-election, D. Ranald S.W. was also proposed. The Master said he would not stand again unless the nomination was unanimous, but ultimately, at the solicitation of his friends, consented to leave himself in the hands of the Lodge.

Clyde Lodge, No. 408.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday, the 5th November, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Wm. Harper R.W.M., J. McGinnis S.W., W. Bisland J.W., D. Mitchell Secretary, J. Stewart Treasurer, D. Ramsay Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. D. Dourn, J. Gordon. Business—Initiation and nomination of office bearers for ensuing year. Bro. Harper was again nominated, but there appears to be a lively interest taken in the election, in all cases there being two, and in some cases three, brethren named for each office.

R.A. Chapter de Burghi, No. 424. — On Thursday, 28th October, the members of this Chapter held their annual meeting at Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead, for the purpose of installing E. Comps. Jas. Hume Thompson Z., Andrew Harkness H., and John Edward Robson J. Comp. Robert Smalle P.Z., Installing Master, performed the ceremony in a creditable manner. The following were invested as officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Richard Gregory E., J. D. Stephen N., A. Clapham P.Z. Treasurer, M. Guthrie P.S., N. Brown 1st Ass., Jas. Montgomery 2nd Ass. and J. Curry Janitor. Amongst the visitors and members were Wm. Hy. Crookes, Prov. G.E. Durham, Wm. Liddell P.G.J., E. D. Davis P.P.G.N., R. F. Cook P.Z. 424, F. P. John P.Z. 424, Jas. Humphrey 97. The Companions then adjourned to the banquet, after which followed the various loyal and Masonic toasts.

Star in the East Lodge, No. 650.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, 8th November, at the Pier Hotel, Harwich. Present—Bros. G. Gard Pye W.M., Jonathan Dunlop S.W., Samuel Dutton jun. J.W., Samuel Dutton sen. Secretary and Treasurer, Thos. H. Naylor S.D., Geo. A. Smith J.D., W. C. Ward P.M. D.C., Wm. Downes Steward, J. T. Henderson I.G., Ben. Carman Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. W. O. Ward, H. A. Hilliard, J. Warren, W. Shaw, W. Balls. Visitors—Bros. A. G. Tennant and G. Allen. Business—Bro. Hilliard raised to sublime degree of a Master Mason. Bro. Balls passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, one candidate balloted for and accepted, and two proposed. Ceremony ably performed by W.M. Bro. Geo. Gard Pye, and working tools given by J.W. Bro. S. Dutton jun., in a very efficient manner.

Benevolence Lodge, No. 666.—This Lodge held its meeting on the 10th November, at a Private Room, Prince Town, Dartmoor. Present—Bros. John H. Westlake P.M. as W.M., Robert Hancock as S.W., William Moore as J.W., Nathaniel R. Hammett P.M. Secretary, G. B. Alexander P.M. Treasurer, John Harris as S.D., John Irish J.D., Jesse Stapledon I.G., Thomas Bennett Tyler. Business—The Lodge was opened in the 1st degree, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. After which the Lodge was opened to the 3rd degree. No other business claiming the attention of the Lodge it was closed in due form at 9.15 p.m.

Fortescue Lodge, No. 847.—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, 2nd November, at Masonic Hall, Honiton. Present—Bros. H. S. Woodgates W.M., Hy. Baker S.W., Jno. Hussey J.W., J. S. Barrows Secretary, John Murch P.M. Treasurer, John Read S.D., Henry Hook J.D., W. Huxtable Steward, D. G. Downes I.G., W. H. Golesworthy Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. W. H. Barker I.P.M., P.G. Registrar, T. G. Sutton. Visitors—Bro. S. Jones P.P.G.S.W., &c., &c., &c. Business—Installation of the W.M. elect, Henry Fowler.

Clones Lodge, No. 881.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 9th November, at six o'clock. Present—Bros. Edward James Elliott W.M., John Gough as S.W., John Robinson J.W., E. G. Fitzgerald Secretary, John Elliott Treasurer, J. W. Presho S.D., F. C. Fitzgerald J.D., Rev. Alex. Rea Chaplain, Wm. M. Fitzgerald I.G., Wm. Heaney Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. E. G. Fitzgerald, John Elliott, and Thomas Higgins. Business—The following officers were elected for the coming year, viz.:—Bros. Montgomery W.M., J. Robinson S.W., E. G. Fitzgerald Secretary, John Elliott Treasurer, Presho J.W., J. Gough S.D., W. M. Fitzgerald J.D., J. Hunston I.G., Wm. Heaney Tyler. Messrs. J. W. Johnston, J. Clark, and John McCoy, whose names have remained the usual time on the books of the Lodge, were balloted for; the ballot being found clear, they being duly prepared, were initiated into the mysteries of Masonry. The Lodge was then closed in peace, love and harmony.

Royal Edward Lodge, No. 892. — This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, 9th November, at Royal Oak Hotel, Leominster. Present—Bros. M. J. Ellwood W.M., E. Gregg S.W., R. Hayes J.W., C. J. Saxby Secretary, W. Dagge Treasurer, J. A. White J.D., W. S. Boyce Steward, E. C. Scarlet I.G., R. Evans Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. H. Jakes, W. J. Wormington and Edward Gunnell. Visitor, Bro. H. Gregg. Business—Bro. M. J. Ellwood was re-elected W.M., and W. Dagge also re-elected Treasurer for ensuing year. A vote of condolence was presented to the widow of our late Bro. John Bradford, on the death of her husband.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.—The regular meeting of this Lodge, was held on Wednesday, 10th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincolns Inn Fields. Present—Bro. Granbaum W.M., Blum S.W., V. Myers J.W., E. P. Albert P.M. Assistant Grand Pursuivant, Secretary, L. Jacobs Treasurer, Gulliford S.D., Alba J.D., Hand I.G., and P.M.'s De Solla, A. Eskell, J. Lazarus and S. V. Abrahams. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. Guttman, Newstadt, and Brall were initiated. Bros. Grunfield and Breidenbach were passed to the second degree. The election for W.M. then took place, and the choice of the brethren was unanimous in favour of Bro. Blum. Bro. L. Jacobs was re-elected Treasurer, and Smith Tyler. Bros. A. Eskell and J. Lazarus were elected Trustees of the Benevolent Fund. A sum of two guineas was voted from the funds of the Lodge, as a nucleus to present the retiring W.M. with a P.M. jewel on his retiring from the chair, which was liberally subscribed to by the brethren. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, sixty in number, adjourned to the Café Royal, Air-street, Regent-street, where a very excellent supper was provided. The W.M. gave the usual toasts, and Bro. E. P. Albert returned thanks for the Grand Officers. Bro. De Solla I.P.M. proposed the toast of the W.M., who he stated would leave the chair with the good wishes of every brother. He had successfully carried out every duty the Lodge required of him. The toast having been responded to, the Initiates severally replied to their toast. That of the Wardens and Officers followed, also that of the Visitors, who were Bros. C. Hogard P.M. 205, P.G. Superintendent of Works for Essex, Hirsch late 188, and L. Herf P.M. 180.

Alnwick Lodge, No. 1167.—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 3rd inst., and was largely attended, not only by the Alnwick brethren, but by others from a distance. Bro. Adam Robertson was installed as the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and the following were appointed as officers:—Bros. Henry Heatley I.P.M., Bro. the Rev. E. L. Marrett S.W., G. Simpson J.W., the Rev. G. S. Thomson Chaplain, J. W. Bowey Treasurer, H. Johnson Secretary, W. Hall S.D., G. H. Thompson J.D., D. Logan I.G., J. Mulvaney Tyler, W. Robertson and G. Beavell Stewards. Bro. E. D. Davis P.M., Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Gateshead, was Installing Officer. The brethren afterwards dined at the Star Hotel. The Masonic Ball, under the auspices of this Lodge, will be held at the end of the present month.

Falcon Lodge, No. 1416.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 10th November, at the Masonic Hall, Thirsk. Present—Bros. J. Fairburn W.M. 1387 in the chair, J. Rhodes S.W., G. Anderson J.W., T. J. Wilkinson Secretary, W. Coltman S.D., J. W. Johnson acting as J.D., R. Atkinson Steward, G. Ayre I.G., J. S. Farmery Tyler, Z. Wright, J. Lee, R. Barley. Visitor—Bro. J. W. Johnson, Restoration 111. Business—Bro. J. Rhodes was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. A. G. Duncombe Treasurer, Bro. C. G. L. Kipling was then passed to the second degree. Bro. Fairburn, in the absence, through illness, of Bro. A. C. Bamlett W.M., conducting the ceremony with his usual ability.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—This Lodge met at the Westbourne Tavern, Craven-road, Bayswater, on Monday, 8th instant. Present—Bros. Savage W.M., Crittenden S.W., Soames J.W., J. G. Unite S.D., Scales J.D., Headen I.G., Game P.M., Read P.M. Secretary, and Bros. Stiles, Cole, Side, Whittock, G. D. Unite, Fowler, F. J. Unite, Nicol, Craig, Bullock, Allen, Cuff and Kingston. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Craig acting as candidate. The 2nd degree was then worked, Bro. Stiles acting as candidate. The 1st and 2nd sections of the 1st lecture were then worked by the brethren, ably assisted by Bro. Read P.M. The ceremonies were very carefully and perfectly worked by the W.M. and officers. After the W.M. for the next week had been elected the Lodge was closed.

Truth Lodge, No. 1458.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, 6th November, at the Royal Archer, Dale-street, Manchester. Present—Bros. Henry Smith W.M., Charles Pearson S.W., Charles J. Kent J.W., John Kinder P.M. Secretary, Thomas Tyers P.M. Treasurer, Batcheldor S.D., Bainton J.D., Robert Cahlwell P.M. D.C., Thomas Sellers Steward, J. Fallows I.G., Beswick Tyler. P.M. Bro. Jno. W. Turner and others. Business—The passing of Bro. Nicholson and raising of Bro. Brayshaw, both of which ceremonies were performed by the W.M. The election of W.M. for ensuing year then took place, and, to the surprise of many, the J.W. had the preference over the S.W. Bro. P.M. Tyers was re-elected

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Treasurer unanimously, as was Bro. Beswick Tyler. Business concluded and the Lodge closed, some of the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Friday, 5th instant, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road, N. Present—Bros. Side W.M., Bern S.W., Soales J.W., Shand S.D., J. W. Smith J.D., Ormiston I.G., Stiles Secretary, Cox as Tyler, and Bros. Walters, H. Stiles, Michael, Kingham, Fernar, Russe, Read, and T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. H. Stiles acting as candidate. The 1st and 2nd sections of the 1st lecture were worked by Bro. Adams Preceptor. The ceremony of the 3rd degree was also rehearsed, Bro. Shand acting as candidate. The working of the W.M. deserves great praise, as also does that of the officers. Bro. Barrie was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, after which the brethren adjourned until the following Friday.

Lodge of Prudence, No. 1550.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday, 5th November, at Hayzbe Masonic Temple, Plymouth. Present—Bros. Robert G. Bird W.M., Leonard D. Westcott P.M. S.W., John P. Rogers J.W., J. B. Gover P.M. Secretary, James J. Avery Treasurer, Charles Philp S.D., J. G. Kerveine J.D., W. Garland D.C., A. S. Stewart I.G., J. Smith Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. B. Gover, R. Andrews, C. Stribbing, C. Cooper, L. D. Westcott, J. J. Avery. Visitors, Bros. May, Crimp and Cooper. Business—Mr. John Tredinnick, after having been ballotted for and approved, was initiated. The Lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bro. Thomas Westlake was passed. The Lodge was closed with the accustomed prayer at 9.30 p.m.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

THE annual Provincial Grand Lodge for the province of Durham was held on the 26th ult. in the Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham, and was a most successful gathering. The Lodge was opened at two o'clock, by the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. John Fawcett, assisted by Bros. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Rev. Canon Tristram P.G.S.W., Henry Lawrence P.G.J.W., Rev. F. W. Bewsher P.G. Chaplain, and other officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The Treasurer's report having been read, the reports from the different provinces were received, all of which were of a highly satisfactory and gratifying nature. The Provincial Grand Master then addressed the brethren, and expressed great satisfaction at the favourable reports he had heard read from the different Lodges within his jurisdiction. He briefly alluded to the honour that had been conferred upon the Craft by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in having undertaken the duties of the office of Grand Master of England. The officers of the past year having been thanked for their services, the following elections took place:—Sir Hedworth Williamson Bart. D.P.G.M., Dr. S. Gourley, P.G.S.W., W. Hunter P.G.J.W., Rev. W. Leeman M.A. P.G. Chaplain, Rev. J. Cundill P.D. P.G. Treasurer, R. T. Richardson P.G. Registrar, W. H. Crookes P.G. Secretary, A. S. Fowler P.G.S.D., J. Laidler, P.G. J.D., J. S. Wilson P.G.S. of W., R. Hudson P.G.D. of Cers, G. Greenwell P.G. Assist. D. of C., W. Coxon P.G.S.B., Angelo Forrest P.G. Organist, J. H. Coates P.G. Pursuivant, J. Thompson P.G. Tyler. The brethren then adjourned to the Town Hall, when 190 sat down to an excellent repast, provided by Mrs. Carr, Half Moon Hotel, Durham. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were cordially given and responded to, the health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and that of the Provincial Grand Master being enthusiastically received. The last named gentleman has discharged the duties of that office for the last 28 years, and his province stands amongst one of the highest in the estimation of the Grand Lodge officials. Bros. J. Walker P.P.G. Organist, D. Whitehead (tenor), and J. Nutton (bass), rendered excellent musical services, while Bro. Angelo Forrest P.G. Organist presided at the pianoforte.

THE DRAMA.

"Masks and Faces" at the Prince of Wales's. "Rip Van Winkle" at the Princess's.

ANY change of programme at the PRINCE OF WALES'S must inevitably excite deep interest. At no theatre, not even excepting the LYCEUM, have so much care and intelligence combined been exercised in the production of any novelties, and few managements have exhibited so much judicious enterprise. Mrs. Bancroft has apparently determined to rescue her company from the reproach of being entirely devoted to the tea-cup-and-saucer style of comedy, and to show that ability to represent the ladies and gentlemen of society in the nineteenth century does not preclude the ability of representing the men and women of any other time. To this end the revival of *The Merchant of Venice* contributed in some degree, and following in the same track, though perhaps with slackened footsteps, Mrs. Bancroft offers to her willing audiences a piece possessing deep humour, interest, and imbued with warmer passion and sentiment than usual in the plays produced at this theatre. *Masks and Faces*, which has been specially revised by its joint authors, Messrs. Charles Reade and Tom Taylor, has at various times employed the abilities of our eminent actors and actresses, and the part of Peg Woffington has always been a favourite. This part is now filled by Mrs. Bancroft, who plays with all her accustomed humour and vivacity, and also betrays the possession, hitherto almost unsuspected, of a fund of deep pathos and tenderness. In assuming the character of Triplet, Mr. Bancroft is travelling far out of the grove in which he has laboured as yet, but this actor is always an artist, and his impersonation will compare favourably with any of its predecessors. Miss Ellen Terry is the Mabel Vane, and plays the part with singular earnestness and expression. The acting of this lady, always good, has greatly improved of late, and now entitles her to a place in the foremost rank of her profession. There is hardly enough colour in Mr. Archer's rendering of Ernest Vane, but the part itself is a rather thankless one. Mr. Coghlan plays well as Sir Charles Pomander, and the minor parts are filled in a manner worthy of our most perfectly managed theatre.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 47. SATURDAY, 20th NOVEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BOY'S SCHOOL.

WE hinted last week at our intention, so far as we are concerned, to bring the painful controversy that is raging on this subject to a close this week. We gave the warning in order that none of those who have taken part in the contention might be deprived of an opportunity of saying a last word, if it so pleased them, in support of their several views. Many reasons have influenced us in arriving at this determination. We need not enumerate them all, but one or two must be specified, in order that our readers may understand why we think the prolongation in our columns of this contest undesirable. We are of opinion that an inquiry, such as has been conceded, can alone determine the merits. Two pamphlets have been published, one by Bro. Tew, the other by Bros. Tew and Rev. O. G. D. Perrott jointly. In both these pamphlets the action of the governing body in its managerial capacity is called in question; in both, the expenditure for office purposes is described as in excess of what is necessary. Other points are touched upon, but the two we have specified are, in fact, the *gravamina* of the case against the School management, and in support thereof Brothers Tew and Perrott have adduced what, in legal phraseology, may be described as *primâ facie* evidence, that such an independent tribunal should inquire into and determine the points of issue. That we were not singular in this view is proved by one of our most considerable Provinces having, in Prov. Grand Lodge assembled, formally passed a resolution demanding that a committee of inquiry be appointed, with a view to ascertaining if the School cannot be more economically administered. True we had the Secretary replying that the accusations are unjust, that everything objected to is capable of explanation, and, in truth, that as regards the case of the Rev. Bro. Perrott, the School Committees have done what is needful in the way of inquiry, and are convinced of its injustice. But as the assertions and arguments of the pamphleteers were not proofs, so the denials of the Secretary on behalf of the governing body were not disproofs. Thus inquiry was demanded in the interests of all parties. There may be, and we think there is, a tribunal already existing which is competent to settle the dispute, at all events, one has been erected for the occasion. Thus, something will be done, and that forthwith, to put an end to this bandying about of violent recriminations between the disputants. It was little good urging that the matter should be allowed to drop because the government of the School is going on smoothly *now*. The pamphlets had been published, the resolution of West Yorkshire had been passed. These pamphlets and this resolution referred not to the present, but to the immediate past, and they were calculated to excite, if they have not already excited, a strong feeling of distrust as to the future. A policy of inaction would not allay this feeling. On the contrary, it is in the experience of most people that it would have confirmed and even extended it. There was no denying the right of public complaint to aggrieved persons, or persons who thought themselves aggrieved. The grievance of the Rev. Bro. Perrott was that he had been ill-treated when Head Master of the Boys' School, and in being deprived of his office; the grievance of Bro. Tew was that the funds of the Boys' School were not as economically administered as they might and should be. These two brethren took upon themselves the very serious responsibility of submitting their joint and several grievances to the bar of public opinion, and it was no proof these grievances were unfounded to reply that the body they accused had inquired into the matter, and found its own conduct right. Somebody else must decide the issue, but not the disputant whose conduct had been thus publicly arraigned. We lean neither to the one side nor to the other. What we want is, that the issue raised shall be decided, and at once. Till this is done, the interests of the School must suffer, and so serious a result cannot be regarded with indifference. For these reasons we counselled immediate action, and the case being now *sub judice*, we must await the issue in silence. Having come to this conclusion, we have decided further that the correspondence on this subject must cease. It is painfully evident to us, as it is doubtless to our readers, that the controversy, as it proceeded, became more embittered. It had passed from the region of calm argument to that of unseemly accusation and retort. Neither side was guarded—to say nothing of being Masonic—enough in the language it used, and we have no mind to allow a series of scolding letters to appear in our columns. New charges were being made, or perhaps we should say, the same charges were being constantly repeated, but in a new form, and over each arose a fresh and, we must say, a very violent altercation. Thus the original issues stood a chance of being lost sight of. These are—(1). Is the Rev. Bro. Perrott an ill-used man, or were the Committee right in dispensing with his services? (2) Are the funds of the School disbursed with a due regard to economy, or with a lavish hand? Such are the points in the settlement of which the world of Masonry is interested. The personal part of the question is more private contention, which concerns us not.

The series of letters and extracts from letters we have received from Bro. Binckes, merely proves that, as regards that portion of the dispute to which they relate, the use of strong language was not conferred only by the Secretary.

MASONIC PORTRAITS. (No. 3.)
THE MAN OF ENERGY.

HABITS of business, when they are thoroughly acquired, leave a permanent mark upon a man's mind and person. We all readily learn to distinguish the citizen from the man of leisure; we never mistake a commercial traveller for a soldier, nor do we ever fail to recognise an indescribable something in the man whose calling brings into play the highest powers of the intellect. The quick, brusque manners of the man of commerce strikingly contrast with the slow habits of the man of leisure, or the pretentious bluster of the man of the sword. The graces and charms of deportment may not be acquired east of Temple Bar, but, notwithstanding the acknowledged evils which follow in the train of commercial success, we question much if genuine charity flourishes half so vigorously anywhere as it does within the sound of Bow Bells. The hero in whose honour the following lines are written is no merchant prince, though he may have the heart of one. He is no successful trader, though he possesses in the highest perfection all the qualities which go to make a man successful in life. He is one of those men who are a peculiar feature in our commercial system, he is a prince amongst employés; he stands high in the confidence of his chief, is conversant with the throbbing, panting world around him, and is fully alive to the slightest rise or fall of that wonderful mercantile barometer which

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measures the citizen's confidence in the stability of both home and foreign governments. With his business engagements we have of course nothing to do. We care not though he buy or sell, in the twinkling of an eye, merchandise which would more than compensate for the losses of Antonio, or satisfy the greed and the claims of Shylock. It is as a Mason that this man interests us, and, as such, we prefer to draw his portrait. The limner's art, indeed, is not always equal to the task imposed upon it. Some men, both in feature and mind, are like the negro's pig, which would not stay to be counted; we may ask our subject to sit for his portrait, or we may prefer to draw his lineaments when he is unconscious of our presence, but our difficulty is to fix upon any one of the prominent features of his mind upon which we may dwell. Like most men of vast energy he is never willing to pose himself for any appreciable period in one attitude. Your man of action is never happy if he is not in harness. In the world Masonic, our hero will not permit himself to rest. Masonry, he believes, has peculiar claims upon him, and he does his very best to realise his ideal of what a good brother should be. We might almost venture to describe his charitable labours as colossal; and, looking merely at the results he has achieved, we might wonder how he manages to find leisure for the enjoyment of that domestic life to which he is so warmly attached, or how it is possible that he can be the prince of employés with so many cares foreign to mere business on his mind. Yet our hero is a man upon whom the holy influence of home exercises its full and legitimate power, and in the City he is, as we have already hinted, second to none of the men of action and energy by whom he is surrounded. His name has figured more prominently in our list of Charity Stewards than that of any other man with whom we are acquainted. Like most men of action he has learned to value small things. He knows that if you desire to swell the subscription lists with a long array of pounds sterling, you must begin with the shillings and pence. He has more than once startled an anxious Secretary with a princely sum, collected with untiring patience from a multitude of friends. In his last effort in this direction he has surpassed his past achievements, and if the amount subscribed did not actually reach £1000, it was because our hero took pity upon the painstaking official of the particular Charity to which the cash was devoted, and did not wish to stun him with a knock-down blow. Our hero is not less prominent in Grand Lodge than he is in the working ranks of Masonry. His name figures as often on the agenda paper as that of any of the great leaders of the Order, and he takes a peculiar pride in carrying the measures to which he is pledged. When the idea of a Life Boat Fund was broached in these columns, he was the first to move in the matter, and although he was not then successful, we are assured that he merely bides his time, and will strike again when the propitious moment arrives. But he is not less distinguished as a chronicler of the Order than as a worker for the Charities and a speaker at Grand Lodge. In his *tranquil* moments he has written the history of the Lodge of which he was once the honoured Master. The work is a mere sketch, but slight as it is, it shows that our energetic brother has the true instinct of the truth-seeker, and the painstaking zeal which prompts a writer to search for the gold of history amid its attendant ores. We have said that our brother, like a good and true Mason, is attached to his home, upon which he lavishes all the tender care of a husband and a father. He is a jovial companion, and shines as a vocalist and a reciter. Policeman X has found in him an able exponent, but although he likes the society of his brethren, he is too wise and too prudent to permit their fascinations to engross his leisure time. Gay without being frivolous, witty without being venemous, and a toiler who conceals his herculean labours under the careless ease of a man of the world, he would be a valuable acquisition to any section of society in which his lot might be cast. If Masonry is a vital force in the world, it is because it comprises in its ranks many such minds as his. He is an embodiment of the practical side of the English character. Our countrymen are not inclined to chase shadows, nor to sacrifice the substantial realities of life for the sake of the pure ideal. Our Order, in England, is powerful for good, because it has gathered under its banner a host of sturdy hearts, who are content to descend from the known to the unknown, who are practical first, and theoretical afterwards. We cannot but have *confidence* in the stability of our Order, when it numbers such energetic brethren in its ranks.

RUMOURS OF WAR.

UNPLEASANT rumours have been afloat during the past week with respect to the Eastern question, and it has even been stated that the programme of our Royal brother the Prince of Wales has been materially modified in consequence of news, bearing upon important European complications, having been transmitted to him from the Home Government. The *World*, usually a well-informed, if a somewhat caustic journal, has even gone so far as to urge upon Her Majesty's Ministers the expediency of strengthening our fleet in the Mediterranean, and of taking immediate steps to call a meeting of Parliament. We cannot think that our contemporary has shown its usual discretion in offering this advice, however much it may seem to have been justified by the facts of the case. In matters of peace and war, it is impossible that any newspaper can understand as well as the responsible Ministers of the Crown the exigencies of the situation, from the simple reason that they are not in possession of the entire facts. When the facts are published to the world, the press is at liberty to comment upon them, but it would be little less than a national calamity if the press in general were to acquire the habit of obtruding their advice upon the Government whilst questions are still under negociation. This has been done to a great extent in France, to the grievous injury of the nation at large.

In one particular the intimation conveyed by the *World* has been already falsified. Lord Salisbury has positively denied that the alteration in the programme of the Prince of Wales was occasioned by any European complications whatever. His route has been slightly altered, in consequence of the prevalence of Cholera in one of the districts through which he was to pass. And if we enquire further into the *rationale* of the present aspect of the Eastern question, we shall find that there is as little reason for apprehension here as there was truth in the assertion regarding our Royal Brother. It must, we think, be evident by this time that the Ottoman Government is a government that cannot govern without assistance *from* without. This assistance, the three powers, Russia, Prussia, and Austria, would be glad to afford. But it is, certainly, improbable that these powers should be acting in harmony in this matter, if, as has been suggested, by some writers, it is the design of Russia to obtain possession of Constantinople. We doubt if Germany would assent to such an arrangement, but, for Austria, it would simply amount to a sentence of dissolution. Whilst the present negotiations continue, there will, probably, be an abundance of rumours, but, despite the few lowering clouds that appear in the political atmosphere, we cannot think that Russia, the only power that has been suspected of bellicose intentions, is prepared "to let slip the dogs of war;" and we feel a certain confidence that Germany and Austria would endeavour to restrain any such tendency, if it actually existed. The Eastern question will have to be settled some time, but the time has not yet arrived.

THE ANTIQUITY AND OBJECTS OF MASONRY.

WE are indebted to the columns of the *Weekly Bulletin* of San Francisco U.S., for the following address, by Ex-Governor Haight, Grand Orator of Grand Lodge, California, at the third session of the meeting of Grand Lodge held last month. We think the sentiments to which Bro. Haight gives expression in the concluding portion, on the "Antiquity and Objects of Masonry," so admirable, that we quote them with infinite pleasure, and we are sure our readers will appreciate the extract:—

The tendency to venerate ancient institutions is doubtless one of the chief attractions of Masonry. It is not a plant of yesterday, but a tree whose mossy trunk and giant growth speak to us of past ages. Kings have participated in its ceremonies, and men greater than kings have adorned its annals. If, however, its only merit was age, its destiny would be decay. Age alone contains no principle of immortality, and if Masonry had nothing but its ancient origin to recommend it there would be no sound reason to expect that it would survive, much less that it would grow. There are talismanic words implied in its organization—"liberty, equality, fraternity"—terms grossly abused, but in the Order of Free and Accepted Masons full of real and practical significance; because one of its first lessons is re-

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sistance to despotism, both ecclesiastical and civil, and the instinctive antagonism between Masonry and ecclesiasticism is the most emphatic testimony to the spirit of personal liberty which is one of the distinguishing traits of the Order. *Equality*, not by lowering, but by elevating to a common platform, where all meet on the level, with equal rights and duties, and equal claims to mutual respect, if faithful to the obligations voluntarily assumed. *Fraternity*, in whose bonds the most ancient and inveterate prejudices are melted in the solvent of brotherly intercourse, the heirs of the most ancient civilization join hands with the missionaries of the youngest civilization, and Hebrews and Gentiles, Celt and Saxon—men of the most diverse origin and nationality—meet in the interchange of kindly offices and furnish some evidence of the possibility of the attainment of a true brotherhood of man. These are grand lessons, impressively taught by its origin and history; but they are not all. It teaches the force of associated action, the inestimable value of union in a good cause, the superiority of harmony over discord, and the power of combined benevolence. It furnishes, too, a noble and inspiring lesson of the worth and dignity of labour, because in the toil of operative Masonry, which reared in the Middle Ages some of the grandest edifices ever conceived by human genius, and in the migrations of architects and builders from place to place, where such works were to be executed, the order of Free and Accepted Masons had its growth and development, if not its origin, and the whole spirit of its precepts and ceremonies is to exalt and dignify that intelligent labour which has adorned all civilised lands with monuments of its skill, only less majestic and enduring than the granite monuments reared in the beginning by the hand of the Great Architect and Father of All—devout reverence for whose being, and filial trust in whose Providence is taught from first to last in every stage and degree of progress in the mysteries of the Order. Like all human institutions, while it has these and other uses, it is not absolutely exempt from abuse. Its obligations do not release any man from his duties of citizenship, if properly regarded. Nor can they conflict with those duties to any extent whatever. A Judge on the Bench deciding cases; a jury in the jury-box sworn to look only at the law and evidence; a witness on the witness-stand, pledged to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; a voter, bound upon his honour and conscience to cast his ballot for the most worthy candidate for his suffrage—will find no embarrassment in the discharge of these high duties from any Masonic obligation; nor will any intelligent Mason, of any creed, find in Masonry a substitute for religious faith. It is only in its perversion that these things could ever be found. Its true spirit is to incite to greater fidelity in the discharge of every duty—religious, political and social—and thereby to aid in establishing upon more lasting foundations that noble edifice of civil and religious liberty, reared by the toil and sacrifices of our fathers, and which it devolves upon us to preserve and transmit to posterity.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE MASONIC SPIRIT.

TO take the degrees of Freemasonry is one thing, and to catch, or imbibe, the spirit of Masonary is wholly another. The former many do, and then they think themselves Masons. They will tell you they are; but of what stamp are they? Have they gone up, from one step to another, in the principles of the Order, and have they learned the great philosophic secret which Masonry teaches—that truth and honour, integrity and charity, when joined with an industrious life, and a genuine spirit of sympathy for man, constitute the true Mason?

We admit that the degrees of the Craft are both instructive and beautiful, and that the lessons accompanying each degree are well calculated to awaken the mind, and to stir the thoughts of any honest heart, and yet, we are compelled to say, something more is ordinarily demanded to make a true and genuine Mason?

An uncultivated mind cannot comprehend the mystic philosophy of these degrees, for even the most learned must study them; and it may be truthfully said that, for the want of this study, the many never enter the inner temple of this grand and mystic divinity, or comprehend the beautiful practical power of its fraternal principles.

The everywhere visible defections in the practical workings of the Order is, doubtless, the primary cause of the lukewarmness, and of that anti-lodge-attending indifference, which are so much complained of in almost every jurisdiction. Men see that obligations are nothing; that principles are but playthings, and that even fraternal pretensions are only a mockery—often mere miserable abortions—and they turn away from the association with mortified convictions that, even under the most favourable circumstances, human nature is but frail at best.

Moral culture is never the offspring of a day, or the result of a single cruise. It is a life-time work, which must begin in youth, if it ever attains to any manly maturity. It is here that the foundation is laid, if pre-eminence is ever evinced in subsequent years, and it is here that we find the fruitful causes of those deficiencies and marked delinquencies which so frequently throw a devouring blight over the otherwise honourable prestige of so many of our organisations.

And even where this mental and moral training has been thus neglected, men often think they have lost no ground by it, because they claim to be men, and to have common sense; and they would like to be somebody in the world, if they only knew how, or if some one would show them.

It is right here that the great evil comes in; for, on the one hand, men are not conscious of their moral incapacity for comprehending the full bearing of moral and relative obligations; and yet, on the other, society expects as much of one man as another. And the same rule obtains also in the Fraternity—every man is expected to do his duty.

We would ask, is this expectation a reasonable one? Is it to be looked for, that the high obligations of the Masonic relationship will be carried out as fully, as perfectly, by the uneducated, the morally uncultivated, as by those who have had all the advantages of a regular moral training? We are of the conviction that it is too frequently the case that the public expects too much from some men. It is said, as a home-made apothegm, that "it is hard to get blood out of a turnip." So it is; and it is equally as difficult to bring men without moral culture to the *scratch* of being full-grown *diplomatists* into the sublime moral Order of Masonry, as it is, or would be, to develope the virtues of the Christian faith among a congregation of Mussulmen.

In former times the Craft was made more select than it is in the present day. None were initiated save those who were in every sense worthy and well qualified; but in our day it is quite different. We recommend almost anybody who can raise the *spondulicks*; though after all, as we admit, many are black-balled without any "rhyme or reason;" and still we receive and initiate a good many whose antecedents would have kept them out for all time if they had been fully known. The constitutional instructions in regard to initiations are too frequently ignored, and many, no doubt, are taken in who subsequently fall far behind the mark of *erect Masters*.

These and many other reasons may be given why many enter the mystic temple without having the spirit of Masonry. If we understand anything of the secret of Masonic affinity, it is found in the fact, that those only make Masons of "the right stripe" who are possessed of good common sense, and who have hearts capable of generous emotions. It is not to be the Master of Secrets that man were made Masons; for that of itself would only be little and contemptible. The purpose of the Craft is higher and nobler every way. Its every lesson teaches a different theory; and, where they are given by a competent Master, they cannot but impress an intelligent recipient with the conviction that Masonry aims to elevate, to humanise, to make intelligent, and to inspire with a spirit of charity every candidate it initiates.

But, even when these degrees and lessons are received, there still remains much for the brother to do for himself. He must *think*, read and *inwardly digest* the moral philosophy of these teachings. He learns that he is henceforth the builder of his own temple. The Lodge, of course, will help him, but then he must help himself. Like it is in driving the other fortunes of life, he must be cautious and prudent, thoughtful and assiduous; and, little by little, he will find himself growing in grace, and in the knowledge of the truth. The mere mechanical reception of the degrees cannot make him anything more than a Masonic automaton—a mystic novice—an additional cypher in the Fraternity—where they may count his head, but not his heart. The proud and ancient genius of the Craft will never recognise him as being anything more than a mere Grand Lodge tax-payer—"only this, and nothing more." In our travels over our own jurisdiction we have had ample opportunities of meeting with, and of becoming posted in, all the different classes of men who have been made by the manipulations of their Lodges, and those who have taken pains to make themselves.

It is well known that many make themselves scholars almost entirely without the help of masters. They go to work with the purpose of becoming such, notwithstanding their adverse circumstances, and they improve their time by cultivating whatever talent they may possess. Such men, as is frequently observed, make the best practical men of the age. They may not be polished, but they are strong. They may lack in some of the branches of a finished *curriculum*, but then they are solid withal, as far as they go. Just so it is in our Masonic gradations. Men learn that a *spirit* belongs to the fraternity, which will tell in the man, and which will be readily recognised among all worthy brothers and fellows, and tells them, like a voice of Divinity, that the bearer thereof has been truly *baptised* in the ancient waters of the Craft.

It is this spirit that Masons look for when they meet, and are made known as such; and, wherever they find it, the affinity of brotherhood is acknowledged, and fraternal intercourse becomes free, satisfactory and confidential.—"H.," in *Masonic Advocate*.

PROVINCE OF BERKS AND BUCKS.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE AT MAIDENHEAD.

ON Wednesday, the 10th inst., the inauguration of the Ellington Lodge, No. 1566, took place at the Bell Hotel, Maidenhead, the ceremony was performed by Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg P.G.C., Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Berks and Bucks, in the presence of a numerous and influential assemblage of the members of the various Lodges in the Province—the "Union" and "Grey Friars" of Reading, the "Etonian" and "Windsor Castle" of Windsor, the "Wycombe" and the Sister Lodge of Maidenhead, "St. John's," being well represented. In the course of the ceremonies of constitution and consecration the V.W. Rev. Brother delivered a very impressive address on the beauties of the system of the Craft, and exhorted the brethren to hold Masonry free from those political and religious strifes which were too often allowed to influence some of the Continental Lodges. At the conclusion of the consecration the Inaugurating Officer installed the first Master of the Lodge, Bro. W. B. Parr, who appointed and invested the following brethren as officers:—Bros. J. Fuller S.W., J. J. Britton J.W., H. Turner Treas., H. H. Hodges Sec., and H. H. Durrant I.G. A pretty long list of candidates for initiation followed, which closed the business of the evening; when the brethren retired for refreshment to a banquet at the Bell Hotel, where the members and their visitors sat down to enjoy a very pleasant evening, which was considerably increased by the singing and accompaniments of Bros. Tolley and Videon Harding, who also added materially to the effect of the consecration and installation ceremonies by their musical and vocal talent. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. A very agreeable evening closed the first meeting of the Ellington Lodge.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

MASONIC BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—There is no doubt that our Boys School has obtained an unenviable notoriety among educational establishments from the very frequent changes of the Head Master, and from the unseemly contentions between the Head Masters, the Secretary, and the Matron. As one who has a considerable acquaintance with some of our large schools, will you allow me, before you close the correspondence on the subject, to make the following remarks and suggestions. And first, considering the very large number of brethren of position and ability in the kingdom, the composition of the governing body ought to be considered anything but strong, while, from the mode of its election, it is necessarily fluctuating; the consequence must be that more power is entrusted to, and more responsibility is thrown on, the Secretary than is consistent with his position. At the present time he appears to occupy the posts of Warden, Bursar and Secretary, while from his experience and ability he must, to a great extent, guide and control the governing body itself. To remedy this, I would provide that one half of the governing body should be elected for life, and the other half for at least three years, one third only retiring each year; of the Life Members every brother would hail with pleasure Lord Carnarvon, Lord Leigh, Lord Skelmersdale, Lord Sherborne, ex-Lord Mayor Stone, Rev. C. J. Martyn and others; and the whole body might be most worthily presided over by Lord Carnarvon. And let it not be said off-hand that these distinguished brethren could not find time or opportunity to fulfil their functions; if Lord Carnarvon can give his time to Winchester, and Lord Leigh to Rugby, we have every reason to suppose that they will feel an equal interest in the School of their Craft. In such a governing body the subscribers would place implicit confidence, and the Head Master would possess all necessary security. And again, the Matron and every official who has to do with the care and management of the boys at the School should be placed under the control of the Head Master, and be removable by him without any appeal. This is so clearly necessary for the smooth working of the machinery of the School that I hope the present Head Master made it a condition on his appointment, or rather, I hope the governing body, *of their own accord*, placed the power in his hands, in the full belief that he would only exercise it for the best interests of his pupils. Whether the Head Master should select the Matron or not, is not very material; but it is absolutely necessary that there should be *no co-ordinate* authority in the School, and that if the Matron cannot or will not discharge her duties in accordance with the wishes of the Head Master, that his will should be supreme.

I will not at present ask for more of your space, except to express my great pleasure at having so distinguished a scholar at the Head of our School, and my hope that under his auspices the Institution may become worthy of his great name and of our active benevolence.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

Inner Temple. M. A.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I do not at all regret your decision that, so far as your columns are concerned, this controversy is to cease. Not that I have the slightest wish to avoid enquiry or fair argument, but I feel it to be utterly useless to contend with so pachydermatous a nature as that of my principal opponent, who unscrupulously repeats charges already investigated and disproved, indulges in reckless statements, and adheres to them with the tenacity of a limpet, utterly irrespective of the testimony adduced in opposition to them, and skilfully glosses over circumstances and occurrences so as to render them subservient to his case, when their real tendency is to weaken and destroy it. All is "false and hollow; though his tongue dropt manna, and could make the worse appear the better reason, to perplex and dash maturest counsels."

Mr. Perrott may deny my statements, as to what occurred at our interviews. I strongly asseverate—with all the binding force of an affirmation—that I have understated what passed between us, and, should the proper time arrive, shall be prepared to give a fuller account of what transpired.

The facts with reference to Mr. W. H. Taylor—his engagement by Mr. Perrot—the favour shown him, and the revelations of policy and intentions as regards Secretary and others,—with the subsequent rupture, complaint and dismissal, are too numerous for explanation here.

Mr. Perrott says, "I have been informed, quite *recently*, by one who heard made the admission respecting the Matron's 'highly-improper letter' (so described, be it remembered, by one member of the Committee only) that he acknowledged having had a hand in these, too." The repetition of this charge proves the value attached to it. I emphatically repeat there is not a word of truth in the accusation. I did acknowledge having suggested the Matron's reply—to "guard the weak against the strong," and save her, as a woman not versed in the subtleties of controversy, from falling into the snare so speciously laid for her in the letter of Mr. Perrott. With the Masters I had no communication on the subject.

At p. 8 of the Pamphlet is a question to which I ought to have replied earlier. "Is he" (the Secretary) "prepared to deny that he sent for Mr. Webb, the Fourth Master, to give evidence against the Head Master; or, again, that he called for the same purpose, the Matron, who had previously made a most serious statement regarding the Fifth Master?"

Now, will it be credited that any one could be guilty of so wilful a distortion of fact as is here shown. Mr. Perrott and myself were in conversation privately, in the course of which he stated that the Matron had brought a charge against a Master, in language which I felt convinced she could not use. Miss Hall was asked to attend, at my request, and at once, in the most emphatic manner, repudiated the charge. Mr. Perrott admitted her denial, and then fell back upon what she really did say. The Matron having left, Mr. Perrott continued, and then brought an accusation somewhat similar against Mr. Webb, which, I felt confident, was equally exaggerated. Mr. Webb was requested to attend; the result was exactly similar to the case of Miss Hall. Mr. Perrott and I alone were present. But what is meant to be inferred from the paragraph as worded? I say I have not a fair opponent to deal with, and the disingenuousness shown in this instance is the one distinguishing characteristic of every paragraph in the Pamphlet.

Again, great stress is laid, throughout the Pamphlet and letters, on a statement with reference to "delicate boys, as the Secretary informs us the Masonic boys are." Here is another attempt to twist to the attainment of one object that which has been urged in connection with another.

I have often remarked, orally and in print, that in considering the questions of clothing, diet, and other questions of a sanitary nature, it should not be overlooked that a very large proportion of those we receive under our care are the sons of brethren prematurely cut off by phthisis or other pulmonary diseases, and that among the young we ought to bear in mind that we have naturally-inherited delicate constitutions to deal with. This consideration has been kept in view, our administration has been in accordance therewith, the result:—deaths not exceeding five in 15 years, an infirmary rarely tenanted, and youths leaving in strong, robust health, at sixteen years of age, who, as young boys, came to us more or less fragile and delicate. No boy is allowed to join the band who is not certified as properly fitted for it, and whose parent is not a consenting party.

I really feel that in dealing with these numerous sanitarial objections I resemble Don Quixote tilting at the wind-mill, but before closing this correspondence I am anxious that these matters should be fairly placed before the Masonic world.

As regards the use of hard words and strong language, no one than myself is readier to admit how little any cause is served thereby; but it is not at all times easy, occasionally not possible, to under one's expressions within the bounds of calm propriety. In this, however, I do not think I am alone to blame; my accusers have been neither considerate nor reticent. Smarting under unmerited obloquy, combatting unfounded accusations, denounced as the enemy and destroyer of an Institution I have spent the best years of my life in commending to the support of the Craft—and that with the greatest success—is it in human nature to resent such attacks as those to which I have been exposed?

One question in conclusion—Mr. Perrott has come forward as a purist, does he come into court with clean hands? It is only recently that I have become acquainted with a deliberate and wilful breach of the agreement under which he held office; of this I shall be able to produce the proof in due course.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally

FREDERICK BINCKES.

London, 16th Nov. 1875.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Eastfield Villa, Hanwell,
15th November 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As you have announced your intention to close your columns to all further correspondence on the Boys' School Controversy, will you kindly allow me, while acknowledging our indebtedness to you for the insertion of our previous letters, to make the following remarks? The Secretary informs us that the missing sum has been found; I do not see, however, from a careful examination of the statement of account said to be the one presented to the Special Committee of Investigation, that any such success has attended his efforts, for I observe, that, in order to make the totals right, for the year ending 31st December 1874 (see title page of Report for 1874), a sum of £30, said to have been spent this year, has to be introduced. With as much reason might the receipts of the present year be added to those of last year, and I feel confident no Committee, not to say professional accountant, could or would pass such a statement as the Secretary has drawn up. It will be noticed, too, that the sum assigned to 1871, has been changed three times during the last three weeks; first it was £53; then £45; and finally £72 15s, the same uncertainty exists about 1874; the expenditure for "grants and outfits" being given at £51 5s in Report for 1874, p. 41; afterwards at £47 10s, and lastly at £37 10s.

With reference to Bro. Sutcliffe's "Advertisement," in which he is pleased to style me a "disappointed clergyman;" I admit I have been disappointed, and grievously disappointed, at the way in which, as regards my hard work as Head Master and unpaid Chaplain, I have been treated by the House Committee; in my disappointment, however, I have the kind sympathy of many brethren and friends, and as to the three Charities of our Order, I have only to say, even at the risk of a charge of egotism, that my name will be found in

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the list of subscribers to all three, not for a princely sum, such as many have so nobly given, but in proportion to my humble ability. I will conclude by observing that all our calculations in the last Pamphlet are based on the different statements in the Reports for 1872, 1873, and 1874, which are, or ought to be, the *trustworthy* records of the years they represent. These Reports are either right or wrong; if wrong, the responsibility does not rest with us, we had no desire to make public the unhappy condition of the School. For years past the House Committee were urged to make an investigation, but the endeavour was as futile as is the proverbial difficulty of "coaxing a cat into a shower-bath."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

O. G. D. PERROTT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As the writer of the letter proposing that something should be done for Bro. Perrott, and as one who has read all the correspondence, from beginning to end, I think I may claim to know something of this sad controversy.

Bro. Sutcliffe is quite right in denouncing the language as "un-Masonic," if he refers to Bro. Binckes's letter, than which nothing more abusive can be well conceived. Take, for instance, last specimen, about "three brothers being rascals." Why, it is almost incredible that Bro. Binckes should speak of three such brethren in the discreditable way he does. True, Bros. Tew and Perrott did deal blows about "suspension by the neck," the Secretary's complicity with the Matron, and his letters in Pamphlet to Mr. Goodfellow, but then Bro. Binckes has laid himself open to them, and when people begin to be strikers they must remember two can play the same game. Bro. Sutcliffe's advice about investigation is nothing more than a repetition of what you have said from the commencement, and if the committee had taken this step, the present scandal would have been avoided.

I am,

Yours truly and fraternally,

"A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY."

17th November 1875.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

T. B. W.—Many thanks. We are always pleased to hear from you.

J. S. (Nelson, N.Z.)—Glad to know the opinion of the brethren in your part. You will see the report is inserted. Let us hear from you frequently.

GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.—If Cruikshank has been the most accomplished Momus of the nineteenth century, he has been so much more, and so much that is better and greater, that one feels naturally some reluctance in so describing him. The truth is, that he has been everything as a designer that an artist could be, with the single exception that he worked, until of late years, with the etching needle and the pen and pencil point, almost to the exclusion of the canvas and the easel. As a caricaturist he would have been the very first in Europe, had he chosen so to distinguish himself; as a painter of genre pictures, he might have been no less eminent—but in either case he must have submitted to limitations which he would have found intolerable. With an imagination so rich in ideas, and a hand so ready to give them form and permanence, it was impossible for him to submit to the wearisome discipline of academical routine and the painful acquirement of technical methods; and if we may regret this when we look at the few easel pictures he has given us, we should consider how much we should lose by exchanging the multitudinous productions of George Cruikshank for the comparatively few finished performances that constitute the life-work of a Royal Academician. There is no etcher of any school with whom Cruikshank need shrink from comparison. In grouping, and in dealing with crowds of figures, he is equal to Callot, who was renowned for that special faculty, while the number of Cruikshank's works probably exceeds that of any half-score of his predecessors added together. His drawing, generally correct, is in numberless instances remarkable for beauty and for breadth. His pathos is frequently as touching as his humour is provocative and catching. Many of his pieces resemble Hogarth's in their didactic character, and, like Hogarth, he mitigates satire with playfulness, and makes his ridicule play the monitor. Some of his works have an avowed reforming and moral tendency, as, notably, his temperance series, in which the vice of drunkenness is set forth with all its terrible issues. As an illustrator of books he stands unrivalled, whether we consider the quality of the work, or the amazing amount of it which his industry and ready facility have enabled him to get through. Cruikshank, it is clear, must draw pretty much as some men write, inscribing his thoughts in pictures about as readily as they do in words. A curious spectacle would be an exhibition of his entire works. What a record would it not present of the foibles, follies, and fashions—the humours, the blunders, the vices, the delusions—and amidst all, the onward progress, of the nineteenth century.—*Leisure Hour.*

REVIEWS.

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

The Pythagorean Triangle; or, the Science of Numbers.—BY THE REV. G. OLIVER, D.D., Past M.P.S., Grand Commander S.G.I.G., 33° for England and Wales; Past D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Past D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire; Honorary Member of numerous Lodges and Literary Societies in every quarter of the globe; author of "The Revelations of a Square," "The Book of the Lodge," "Historical Landmarks," &c., &c. With diagrams. London: John Hogg and Co., Paternoster-row. 1875.

THE name of Oliver is one that will be associated with Masonry and Masonic literature so long as there are brethren who can respect the memory of an able and worthy man, an enthusiastic Mason, and an eminent Masonic writer. The length of time the late Dr. Oliver was connected with our Order very nearly equalled what the Psalmist has proclaimed to be the allotted span of life. In breadth his reputation extended to every part of the world where Masonry is known. In point of dignity he attained a height to which few may aspire, while the love and respect in which he was held *of all* men was of the deepest and most profound character. The works he published during the literary portion of his career form by themselves a small library of well nigh unequalled merit, and he left behind him more than one valuable work in manuscript. These are now appearing, while our recollection of their author has lost as yet none of its freshness, and while there are yet living very many whose personal knowledge of, or friendship with the man, will ever be regarded as among the brightest features of their own career. To review one or more of these works is a privilege we esteem most highly. We feel as though the author were again among us, urging, with all that force and enthusiasm for which he was so remarkable, the meaning of the great truths of Masonry. It was in this spirit we studied the volume before us, and it is in this spirit, unmingled, however, with anything like fulsome adulation, that we offer these comments on it. In common with all who can appreciate good sound literary work, we feel a very great admiration for the author, but our admiration does not blind us to the fact that much of what he wrote will not stand the rude test of logical analysis. Having a pretty familiar acquaintance with his works, we say, without fear of contradiction, that Dr. Oliver was often carried away by his enthusiastic love of Masonry, and often assigned to its teaching a meaning and connection it never could have possessed. This, comparatively speaking, is a venial error. Most brethren will excuse the writer who seeks to glorify Masonry, even though, in doing so, he exceeds the limit of historic accuracy. The world would hardly be so agreeable a place to live in if it were governed absolutely by the inexorable logic of facts. We admire the introduction of a little fancy in describing the events of our daily life. While, then, we value all the works of Oliver we do not accept all the Oliverian fancies. We do not appreciate the Father of History the less that he himself occasionally varied the dry history of what actually happened with a little fiction. Oliver Goldsmith, of whom it was written, "*Nihil tetigit, quod non ornavit*," is none the less esteemed as an historian and naturalist because his histories of England, Greece, and Rome, and of the Earth, and Animated Nature, are not rigidly accurate. So with the late Dr. Oliver; oftentimes did he set down fancies as facts, and thus many of his works, while undoubtedly attractive reading, are not wholly trustworthy. To pass, however, without further digression to the *Pythagorean Triangle*. The contents of the volume may be described very briefly. There is a preface, admirably written; an introductory chapter, treating generally of the Science of numbers, and ten other chapters, each of which is devoted to the consideration of a number, beginning with one and ending with ten. In handling his subject the author has shown even more than his usual skill and ingenuity in dovetailing theories with facts, and we may add that he is more than usually successful in his conclusions. A summary of one of these chapters will suffice to convey an idea of the treatment.

In Chapter I. is discussed the Number One, the full title being "The Point. Monad, Unity, or the Number One." At the outset, we are told, the practice of primitive man was to count with his fingers, and this practice, how elaborated soever it may have been in the course of ages, still remains the basis of enumeration among civilised people. Thus ten is still the limit of our computation. After this we repeat the ten as two tens, three tens, ten tens or a hundred, ten hundreds or a thousand, ten thousands, then ten thousand thousands or a million, and so on. A primitive man expressed a single thing or person by holding up one finger, two by holding up two fingers, five by raising the hand with all the five fingers extended, twice five by holding up both hands similarly, or by raising the same hand twice, fifteen by raising it thrice, twenty by raising it four times, twenty-two by raising it four times and thereafter two fingers only. After a time written symbols were used to express numbers, thus the Romans expressed one in writing by a single line, or in signs by raising one finger, five by depressing the three middle fingers and raising the thumb and little finger, thus forming the written figure expressed by V. This doubled and thus written Λ or conjoined as X represented ten. By variously combining X, V, and I, all the numbers above ten and under fifty were then represented, while the latter was expressed by placing the V on its side, thus <. Hence in Roman numerals fifty is represented by an L. Then two fifties were described thus Ⅽ which in time became a C. Five hundred was expressed by IↃ, which gradually took the form of a D and a thousand by CIↃ which came to be M. Among the Greeks and Hebrews the letters of the alphabet were used to express all imaginable numbers.

Thence we pass to the stage when philosophers came to attach

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particular virtues to particular numbers, and among them one of the most illustrious of their number, Pythagoras, must be cited as an illustration. By him the Monad was taken to represent the T.G.A.O.T.U., and it was symbolised by the hierogram "of a point within a circle or equilateral triangle, to exemplify the unity of Divine essence, and His Eternity, there being neither beginning of years nor end of days." But we cannot do better than quote the rest of the passage; "And this deduction," continues Dr. Oliver, "appears perfectly reasonable:—

"Because the Monad or Point is the original and cause of the entire numeral system, as God is the cause of all things, being the only and great Creator on whom everything depends; for if there were more all-powerful Beings than one, none would be independent, nor would all perfections be centred in one individual, 'neither formally by reason of their distinction, nor eminently and virtually, for then one should have power to produce the other, and that nature which is producible is not divine. But all acknowledge God to be absolutely and infinitely perfect, in whom all perfections imaginable, which are simply such, must be contained formally, and all others which imply any mixture of perfection, virtually.'"

Having offered further remarks on this number, especially in connection with its interest from a Masonic point of view, Dr. Oliver proceeds to tell us that:—

"Amongst the Grecian philosophers, was a symbol of the hermaphrodite deity, or junction of the sexes, because it partakes of two natures. In a mysterious passage of the Yajur Veda, Brahma is spoken of, after his emanation from the golden egg, as experiencing fear at being alone in the universe; he therefore willed the existence of another, and instantly became masculo-feminine. The two sexes thus existing in one god were immediately, by another act of volition, divided in twain, and became man and wife. This tradition seems to have found its way into Greece; for the Androgyne of Plato is but another version of this Oriental myth. If the Monad be added to an odd number, it makes it even, and if to an even number, it makes it odd. Hence it was called Jupiter, because it stands at the head of numbers, as Jupiter is at the head of gods and men; and also Vesta or Fire, because, like the point within a circle, it is seated in the midst of the world. It was also called the Throne of Jupiter, from the great power which the centre has in the universe, being able to restrain its general circular motion, as if the custody of the Maker of all things were constituted therein."

The author further points out the meaning of the number, and what, at various times, and by various wise men, it was taken to symbolise. Thus, according to Hierocles the Pythagorean, the gods were likened to the Monad, "because there is one immutability and firmness of the virtues, which, it is reasonable to suppose, subsists transcendently with the gods, and which imparts a never-failing stability to their conceptions." Among the same sect it was regarded as the symbol of love and friendship, of the oneness of mankind as a brotherhood, knit together by the same ties of love and Charity. Again, according to the same Hierocles already quoted, One symbolized the Platonic or Pythagorean doctrine of benevolence. This sage says:—

"Each of us is, as it were, circumscribed by many concentric circles; some of which are less, but others larger, and some comprehend, but others are comprehended, according to the different and unequal habitudes with respect to each other. For the first and most proximate circle is that which every one describes about his own mind as a centre, in which circle the body, and whatever is assumed for the sake of the body, are comprehended. For this is nearly the smallest circle, and almost touches the centre itself. The second from this, and which is at a greater distance from the centre, but comprehends the first circle, is that in which parents, brothers, wife, and children are arranged. The third circle from the centre is that which contains uncles and aunts, grandfathers and grandmothers, and the children of brothers and sisters. After this is the circle which comprehends the remaining relatives. Next to this is that which contains the common people, then that which comprehends those of the same tribe, afterwards that which contains the citizens; and then two other circles follow, one being the circle of those that dwell in the vicinity of the city, and the other of those of the same province. But the outermost and greatest circle, and which comprehends all the other circles, is that of the whole human race."

As to the importance of the number, we have several authorities given, but we content ourselves with the following extract:—

"According to Euclid, in his second definition of the seventh book, numbers are formed of many units; but unity being indivisible, has no composition, nor is it a number, but the fountain and mother of all numbers. Being the cause of all numbers, they are formed by a plurality of units. Thus 2 is twice 1; 3 is three units, &c.; so that all numbers require the Monad, while it exists by itself without requiring any other. All which is to be considered of the First Cause; for as one is no number, but the cause and beginning of number, so the First Cause has no affinity to creatures, but is the cause and beginning of them; they all stand in need of Him, and He requires assistance from none. He is all in all, and all are included in Him in the most simple unity. The Jewish Rabbins agree that He is One, and there is no unity like His in the universe; the nearest idea that we can form of Him is symbolised by the unit or the figure one.

"The Pythagoreans say, 'The Monad is the principle of all things. From the Monad came the indeterminate dyad, as matters subjected to the cause, Monad; from the Monad and indeterminate dyad, Numbers: from numbers, *Points*; points, *Lines*; from lines, *Superficies*; from superfices, *Solids*; from these solid Bodies, whose elements are four, Fire, Water, Air, Earth; of all which, transmutated, and totally changed, the World consists.'"

These extracts will serve to show how elaborately, how minutely, Dr. Oliver has studied the meaning and symbolism of this number, or rather this "cause of all numbers," but we need not follow him through the few remaining pages of the chapter, which are only further and confirmatory illustrations of the value of the Monad. Similarly with the other numbers, the exposition throughout is equally interesting—amusing, we may also say, in some places, and, in nearly all cases, equally lucid. We except the following on "the Hexad:"—

"The sceptics used to amuse themselves by such arguments as these: If something be detracted from another, either an equal is detracted from an equal, a greater from a lesser, or a lesser from a greater. But none of these—therefore detraction is not possible. That detraction is not made by any of these ways is manifest. That which is detracted from another must be contained in it; but an equal is not contained in an equal, as six in six; for that which containeth ought to be greater than that which is contained. Neither is the greater contained in the lesser, as six in five; that were absurd. Neither is the lesser contained in the greater; for if five were contained in six, by the same reason, in five will be contained four; in four, three; in three, two; and in two, one. Thus six shall contain five, four, three, two, and one, which being put together make fifteen, which must be contained in six, if it be granted that the lesser is contained in the greater. In like manner, in the fifteen which is thus contained in six, will be contained thirty-five: and so by progression, infinite numbers; but it is absurd to say that infinite numbers are contained in the number six; therefore it is absurd to say that the lesser is contained in the greater."

Now here we confess to being somewhat in a fog. We presume the whole of the arguments were employed by the sceptics, but there is nothing to indicate whether this is so or not, or whether the part of the passage beginning—"That detraction is not made," to the end, is not Dr. Oliver's comment. Be this as it may, in either case we join issue as to detraction not being made in either of these ways. We hold that, mathematically, an equal is contained in an equal, and that it is contained exactly: and further, that five is contained in six, with a unit as remainder. We do not admit the theory that if six contains five, and five four, four three, &c., &c., therefore six contains fifteen—and, ultimately, that infinite numbers might be contained in six. This is obviously a fallacy, but whether of the Sceptics' or Dr. Oliver's own creation, we have no means of determining.

It is impossible, of course, within the circumscribed limits at our command to give more than a very limited idea of the volume. Suffice that each number is similarly treated as number one, that in nearly every case the treatment is as interesting, and this remark especially applies to the Triad, the Tetrad and the Ennead, some singular properties of the first and last of which are well known, no doubt, to our readers. The few remarks we intend to add refer rather to the manner of publication than to its contents. We think the publishers have exercised a wise discretion in leaving Dr. Oliver's text undisturbed: but we see no reason why the services of some competent scholar should not have been called in in order to explain the abstruser portions of the work. We may fairly reckon that the majority of those who read this work will be Masons, but not all Masons are sufficiently acquainted with Hebrew, Greek and Latin to understand the many passages and words in those languages with which the volume is interspersed. Had translations of these been added in the shape of footnotes, the value of the work would have been greatly increased, and we trust, if a new edition be called for, this oversight will be remedied. Here is another reason why some classical scholar should have been invited to peruse the manuscript before it appeared in print. We are not sure the passages are correctly given. The quotation, at p. 52, "Neque enim tanta, &c.," is punctuated wrongly. It is impossible there should be a full stop after *polytheotes*. As the passage stands it has no meaning whatever, but remove the objectionable point, and we see its meaning at once, namely, "It was not the number of the Gods, worshipped by different peoples that was so considerable as the titles under which they were worshipped. This is only one, but it is a conspicuous case of an error having crept in for want of due oversight. But these are points that can be remedied, and we trust they will be removed in any future issue.

The Art of Swimming. By CAPTAIN WEBB, the Channel Swimmer. (Edited by A. G. Payne.) London: Ward, Lock & Tyler, Warwick House, Paternoster-row.

NEXT week Captain Webb will be welcomed cordially into the ranks of Masonry, and his Essay on "The Art of Swimming," apart from its intrinsic value, comes very opportunely, for it will enable our readers to judge what manner of man it is who will so shortly become one of us. The story of his life is simply told. We said, last week, that brave men were men of kindness, and Captain Webb's account of his career, certainly confirms our *dictum*. He has worked hard and honourably in the career he chose when yet a boy of twelve. He has proved himself to be one of that class of undaunted sailors, on whose skill and courage England will have to rely chiefly in any danger that may threaten her. He possesses more than one testimonial to his unselfish daring, while the feat with which his name will ever be associated, is, as we have previously remarked, unexampled in the history of all ages and peoples. There is, absolutely, no instance on record of a man having swum for nearly twenty-two hours without a moment's respite; and great things may be expected of one who has done what no mortal man ever did before. The one feature that most strikes every one who reads the simple narration of Captain Webb's life, is his strict observance of the truth. On no occasion did he ever allow himself to swerve even a hair's breadth into the crooked path of equivocation, much less into that of wilful misrepresentation, and the man who can honestly show this is worthy the appreciation of the world.

The Essay on Swimming is capitally written. The style is unaffected. The advice it contains is sound and practical. His illustrations of the respective merits of the breast-stroke, the side-stroke, and the overhand-stroke; his instructions how to hold

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the body in the water, so that the swimmer may exert his powers to the best advantage; how to overcome the nervousness so many experience when in the water for the first time; his directions how to tread water: all these will be thoroughly appreciated by the expert swimmer, while to the tyro, they will prove invaluable. The plates are very serviceable in illustrating the positions of a swimmer, according to the stroke he adopts.

Of course a narrative of Captain Webb's life, and his advice to swimmers would be incomplete without a full record of his various swimming feat. It is, in keeping, therefore, with the rest of the book, that an account of his two attempts to swim the Channel should be given. But other swimming feats are also given, so that the little volume contains far more than the average amount of useful information, imparted in a style which is acceptable chiefly by reason of its extreme simplicity. We must add that Mr. Payne, as editor, has played his part extremely well. He has arranged the contents admirably. True, the duties were not very onerous, but as Captain Webb's avocations have probably not admitted of his cultivating letters to any extent, we may fairly assume that the literary credit of the work is due principally to Mr. Payne. Be this as it may, both Captain Webb and Mr. Payne deserve our thanks for having published so interesting and so useful a work, and we thank them accordingly, without stint or *arrière pensée*.

The Octopus; or, the "Devil-Fish" of Fiction and of Fact. By Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S., &c., Naturalist of the Brighton Aquarium. With Illustrations. London: Chapman and Hall, 193 Piccadilly. 1875.

THE spirit in which our esteemed Bro. Henry Lee has written this highly interesting book, or rather the series of notes, which originally appeared in *Land and Water*, and are here formed into one continuous narrative, may be judged from a single sentence. In answering Victor Hugo's question, "Of what are such creatures? What purpose do they serve?" Bro. Lee having mentioned certain uses to which they are applied in some countries, and before entering upon the discussion of the higher purposes they serve, says, "That this" (to serve as food, or a means of obtaining food) "is the sole object of their being I cannot for one moment suppose; and therefore I am content to believe that the Great Architect of the Universe made them and all things for Himself, and that for His pleasure they are and were created." It is thus evident that to a profound knowledge of his subject, and the enthusiasm proper to an eager Student of Nature, the author unites a deep feeling of reverence for the Supreme Being. This, indeed, was to be expected. The naturalist, by reason of his superior knowledge of created things, can better appreciate the grand works of the Deity than those who see, yet understand not. However, it follows not that a work which is written in a becoming spirit of reverence is of necessity either instructive or interesting. But these Aquarium Notes are both. We know of no one whose account of the Octopus and its habits could possibly be more instructive; for where can we find a higher authority than Bro. Lee? And the author being about as admirable a personification of geniality as is to be found anywhere in this mundane sphere of ours, it were strange, indeed, had he not infused in his narrative a considerable amount of what is the leading feature in his character. So much for the style of the book. As to its contents, we must confine ourselves to indicating their character. Though admirers of Nature, we are not, unfortunately, professed Naturalists. Even were we such, we should pause long, and probably think more than the prescribed three times of Mr. Gladstone before attempting to air our little knowledge in the presence of so great an authority. After a brief introduction, the author describes the position of the Octopus and its relatives in the animal kingdom. He then gives an account of "Octopods" he "has known." Next he examines Victor Hugo's well-known romance, *Les Travailleurs de la Mer*, or, rather those portions of it in which the Octopus figures, with a view to pointing out how far the great French novelist has drawn upon his imagination, how far he has adhered to facts. He then describes the Octopus out of water, and various matters relating to the habits of this animal and its relatives, the Cuttles and Squids, with which we are somewhat more familiar, and the economic value of cuttle-fishes, while, in the last chapter of all, he gives an account of gigantic cuttle-fishes, whose existence has been perfectly authenticated. It will be seen from this slight, and we fear, somewhat lame, account of the book, that, from a technical point of view, the author has omitted from his programme nothing which could throw any light upon this singular creature. One other aspect only remains in which we need consider this volume. We have shown that the spirit which animates the author is one of reverence for the G.A.O.T.U. We have indicated, sufficiently, we hope, that it is very instructive. We shall experience still less difficulty in proving it to be, in the highest degree, interesting. Those of our readers who are at all acquainted with the columns of that most edifying of journals, *Land and Water*, know well the singularly happy style in which Bro. Lee imparts his knowledge to the public. These are the identical notes, with the advantage of a careful revision by the author, which originally appeared in that journal. From notes thus happily written, whose publication occurred at intervals more or less regular, it is obvious that a most entertaining narrative must be made; but, as not all of our readers, perhaps, have seen them in their original form, we take leave to quote one or two extracts for their benefit. Thus, the following as to danger to bathers from the Octopus:—

"I have often been asked whether an octopus of the ordinary size can really be dangerous to bathers. Decidedly 'Yes,' in certain situations. An octopus would not seize a man for the purpose of devouring him; nor do I believe that the act would be prompted by a deliberate intention to drown him, that his dead body might become an attractive bait for crabs, which are the animal's favourite food; but rather by an instinctive desire to lay hold on anything moving within reach. The holding power of its numerous suckers is enormous. It is almost impossible forcibly to detach it from its adhesion to a rock or the flat bottom of a tank; and if a large one happened to fix one or more of its strong, tough arms on the leg of a swimmer whilst the others held firmly to a rock, I doubt if the man could disengage himself under water, by mere strength, before being exhausted. Fortunately, it can be made to relax its hold by grasping it tightly round the 'throat' (if I may so call it), and it may be well that this should be known."

Instances are given in confirmation of this view, and one of them, narrated by Major Newsome, R.E., as having occurred to him once when bathing in a deep port at East London, about 900 miles from the Cape, on the East Coast of Africa, we quote:—

"One morning I took a header into one of these pools, which was, perhaps, 20 feet long, 7 to 8 feet wide, and deep in the centre—8 or 9 feet. As I swam from one end to the other, I was hurrified at feeling something around my ancle, and made for the side as speedily as I could. I thought at first it was only sea-weed; but as I landed, and trod my foot on the rock, my disgust was heightened at feeling a fleshy and slippery substance under me. I was, I confess, alarmed, and so, apparently, was the beast on whom I trod, and whom, I suspect, I thereby discomfited, as he quickly detached himself and made again for the water. Some fellow-bathers, whom I hailed, came to my assistance, and with a boat-hook, on to which the brute clung, he was, eventually, safely landed. When extended he would have filled a hoop of five feet diameter. The grasp of an ordinary sized octopus holding to a rock would, I suppose, in lat. 30°, be not less than 40 lb. to 50 lb. The floating power of a man is between 5 lb. and 6 lb., and it takes a very strong swimmer to convey an ordinary fowling-piece, which weighs only 7 lb., across a river, dry. Had I not kept mid-channel, I believe it would have been a life-and-death struggle between myself and the beast on my ancle. In the open water I was the best man; but near the bottom or sides, which I could not have reached with my arms, but which he could have reached with his, he would, certainly, have drowned me."

In the chapter on "The Octopus out of Water," the author tells us how, in May 1870, the attendants at the Brighton Aquarium were puzzled to account for the almost regular disappearance of certain lump fish. "Almost daily there was a fresh and inexplicable vacancy in the gradually diminishing family circle, and morning after morning a handbill might have been issued:—'Missing! Lost, stolen, or strayed, a young 'lump-sucker,' rather below the middle size, and enormously stout; had on a bright blue coat, with several rows of buttons on it, and a waistcoat of lighter colour. Whoever will give such information as shall lead to the discovery of the same, or produce satisfactory evidence of his death, will relieve the troubled minds of the curators!' 'What on earth can have become of them?' 'Where can they be?' were the questions each attendant asked in vain of another." They had not died, or their bodies would have been in the tank; they had not burrowed in the shingle, for it was not deep enough, and they were too obese to have jumped out. A watch was set and the mystery was at once solved. One morning an Octopus was found in tank 27, all among the lump fish. It had got out of its own tank for the purpose of preying on the latter; but let Bro. Lee give his own version:—

"The marauding rascal had occasionally issued from the water in his tank, and clambered up the rocks, and over the wall into the next one; there he had helped himself to a young lump-fish, and, having devoured it, returned demurely to his own quarters by the same route, with well filled stomach and contented mind. This was not very difficult for him to accomplish, for the partition between the two tanks is only about a foot above the surface of the water. Having accidentally, or otherwise, discovered that there was a preserve of live stock suitable to his palate next door, he paid frequent nocturnal poaching visits to it, and, after clearing up every remnant of his meal, regularly slunk home before daylight; until, like most criminals, becoming careless by frequently escaping detection, he, on the last occasion, indulged at supper time in an inordinate gorge, and slept under his neighbour's perch, instead of going to bed."

We could go on quoting almost *ad infinitum*, and we should much like to do it, but considerations of space forbid us. If our readers wish to know how to settle an Octopus if embraced by one, when taking a dip in the briny, near some rocky cleft where Octopod mostly do conceal themselves; if they would study their marriage customs, their spawning, the treatment of the young by the mother Octopus; if they would know about the cuttles, their habit of, and skill in, squirting an inky secretion at those who touch them, how the late Tom Hood the younger, when fishing in Looe harbour, caught one of them, and receiving a squirt full in his face, exclaimed that, "he did not exactly know what he had on his line, but he thought he had caught a young garden engine," and how a certain Essex fisherman, known as Bill, once got a squirt of ink on his nose from another; if they would have authentic information of the monster Cuttle fishes, which are to be found in the Atlantic, off the coast of North America, and in other seas, the advice we give in all sincerity is, go and read Bro. Lee's Aquarium Notes on *The Octopus; the Devil Fish of Fiction and of Fact*.

It only remains that we should congratulate Bro. Lee on the re-appearance of these notes in a connected form. We thank him "muchly" for the opportunity he has afforded us of extending the circle of our knowledge, under very enjoyable circumstances.

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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE Prince of Wales, when we left him last week, was in the full enjoyment of the Masonic Ball given by the Craft in Bombay, in honour of his visit. It is almost needless to add, that this passed off most successfully, and it were difficult to say which were the most pleased the hosts, or their Royal and fraternal guest. Since then His Royal Highness has done the work of sight-seeing with a vigour that is, in the highest degree, creditable. Among the marvels he has seen must be mentioned the Caves of Elephantas, which were illuminated in his honour, and in which he was served with something more substantial still in the shape of a repast. Poonah, also, has been honoured. In visiting this city the Prince had to ascend the Ghauts by rail, and descend by the other slope. His reception was, of course, a right royal one. There was a grand review of the military, a grand banquet, a grand ball, and visits to the places of interest in the immediate neighbourhood. After this he returned to Bombay, and the sounds of revelry, by night and by day, were renewed as a matter of course. Owing to the appearance of Cholera, not in isolated cases, but unhappily among well-to-do Europeans, as well as the poorer class of natives, the Prince's programme, as first sketched, will not be carried out, his visit to the Madras Presidency having been struck out. By this time, no doubt, he is on his way to Ceylon, where he will enjoy a brief experience of elephant-hunting, and visit some of the coffee plantations. The Princess of Wales, with her guests, the King and Queen of Denmark, her sister, Princess Thyra, and her children, have returned to Marlborough House from Sandringham. On Thursday evening the Gaiety was honoured with a visit by Her Royal Highness and their Majesties. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught has received the congratulations of the Craft on his arrival at Gibraltar.

The floods which have prevailed at intervals in different parts of the country have been very serious, and have been attended with very great damage to property. This is especially the case in the Thames Valley. All about Oxford, in Bucks, at Windsor, and elsewhere, the river has overflowed the neighbouring country, which has the appearance of one vast expanse of water. On the night of Sunday-Monday, the southern parts of London were deluged with water. At Nine Elms, the Thames rose far above the enclosing wall of the South Western goods depôt, and dashing through the premises swept trucks and goods right away into the Wandsworth-road. Fulham Palace was partially submerged, the ground floor in which are situated the library and other rooms, being filled with water to a

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considerable depth. But the worst effects were felt by the poor inhabitants of Lambeth, dwelling on the water side, who have lost what little property they possessed in the way of furniture, and it is estimated that quite 2,000 people are thus reduced to comparative poverty. Of course, a subscription was at once started to meet the more immediate requirements, and on Thursday an influential deputation, headed by Mr. Twells, one of the members for the City, waited upon Lord Mayor Cotton and urged upon his lordship that a relief fund should be started at once. Equally of course, Lord Mayor Cotton acceded to the request and a subscription was then and there started, the Corporation heading the list with the munificent sum of £500. From other parts of the country the cry, as to the floods, is "Still they come," and there can be no question but the state of things is very dreadful to contemplate. Along the coast, too, there have been terrible gales, resulting in very serious destruction of property, especially on the coasts of Kent and Sussex, and unfortunately loss of life has resulted in more than one instance. Indeed, this deluge of waters is almost without precedent, and the tide on the Thames on Monday morning is said to have been the highest ever registered. But for the foresight and energy of the Thames and Metropolitan police, who gave the inhabitants of Lambeth warning, it is terrible to think how many lives must have been sacrificed.

The power of love is certainly not illustrated in the married life of Miss Nelly Power, the actress. Though married as recently as June of last year, she finds it impossible to live happily with her husband who, in spite of repeated requests not to call at her mother's house, where she resides, will persist in calling. As a result of these domestic squabbles, a Mr. F. G. Hobson was summoned by the husband for assault, and after hearing the evidence of Mrs. Barnett, *née* Power, the magistrate thought the justice of the case would be met by binding Mr. Hobson over in two sureties of £25 each, and his own recognisances in £50, to be of good behaviour for six months.

The Court of Probate is, at the moment of writing, engaged in a great will case, the disputants being sundry relations of the late Lord St. Leonards, for the recovery of whose will a very large reward was offered some months ago. The evidence of the Hon. Miss Sugden is to the effect that her father, whose little handbook on wills is one of the most popular and useful legal treatises ever written, had made a will, and at different times subsequently had attached sundry codicils thereto. So thoroughly acquainted was she with its contents that she had been able to write down nearly all its most important provisions. The case is still proceeding.

At the Court of Common Council, held on Thursday, the new Lord Mayor was received with very great cordiality, that being the first occasion on which his Lordship had presided since his inauguration as chief magistrate of the City. A vote of thanks was also carried by acclamation to the late Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman Stone, for his services to the Corporation and the citizens at large during his Mayoralty. On this occasion, also, the sum of £500 was voted to the sufferers by the recent inundations on the banks of the Thames, as referred to above.

Sir John Glover, whose exploits in Ashantee land are familiar to our readers, is reported to be lying dangerously ill in Queen's County, Ireland, owing to serious injuries received in a recent collision on the Midland line. Erysipelas is said to have set in, and threatens to attack the spine. We hope the gallant officer will survive so critical a juncture. The services of so able a man are invaluable.

An unseemly squabble has arisen in some of the papers anent the dismissal by Dr. Hornby of one of his tutors. Of course the case, like every other, has two sides to it, but it seems to us a matter of some importance that the relations between the head and subordinate masters of our greatest public school, should not needlessly be brought before the public. The governing body had not thought fit to intervene effectually in behalf of the aggrieved subordinate, and no good whatever is gained by giving such prominence to the matter. Indeed, the disciplinary arrangements of our schools must be considerably weakened if any incident in their conduct is thus publicly questioned.

Further experiments have been made at Woolwich with the 81-ton gun. On Thursday four rounds were fired with various charges, beginning with 220lbs. and rising by 10lbs. to 240lbs., the weight of the projectile being 1,200lbs. The success of this monster gun is now placed beyond doubt, and we suppose but a short time will elapse ere the next thing in Woolwich infants will be a 160-tonner.

The National Assembly at Versailles have disposed of the Electoral Bill, so that some time between now and early spring we shall see a new election in France. The Carlist war still drags its weary length along, and there is a reported defeat of the Turkish troops by the insurgents in the Herzegovina. Of other foreign news there is but little worth recording.

The regular monthly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. in the chair; Bros. Jas. Brett P.G.P., and E. P. Albert Asst. G.P. occupying the vice-chairs. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren. The nomination of twelve P.M.'s to serve on the Grand Lodge of Benevolence took place; the reports of the Board of General Purposes and of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution were read, and scrutineers were appointed; Bro. John Hervey G.S. read the minutes of the former meeting, and the list of grants to the amount of £205; there were 31 new cases, these were relieved to the amount of £865. There were present Bros. J. Smith P.G.P., Wright G.P., T. Cubitt P.G.P., Ough P.G.P., W. Smith P.G.P., H. Dicketts P.G.S., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., S. May P.G.S., J. Boyd P.G.P., Wood, Hutton, W. C. Parsons, Hilton, Swallow, Bartlett, H. Garrod, W. Stephens, J. T. Sabine, C. Hogard, H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, Bingemann, H. Levander, Middleton, W. Mann-Wilson, Michael, H. Massey, Headon, J. Coutts P.G.P., C. Carter, &c.

Our readers who, at this dull season, find some pleasure in flowers, should pay a visit to Alexandra Palace, where the Messrs. W. Cutbush and Son have on view a capital display of Chrysanthemums. We cannot speak in sufficiently high terms of the admirable taste with which the plants are arranged. Occupying a central position in the middle of the Great Central Hall, they may be seen to very great advantage from well nigh every point. There is great variety of colour, and some of the specimens were especially fine. In particular we noticed four, which were fully as large as any we have seen. These were, the Prince of Wales, purple violet, incurved, fine; the Princess of Wales, white, tinted rose; Dr. Sharpe, magenta crimson; and Mrs. Sharpe, pinkish rose. Others there were, without number, almost equal to these in point of merit. However, as the exhibition will remain open to the public till next Saturday, our readers will do well to go and judge for themselves.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, Prov. G.M. N. and E. Yorkshire, met with an accident when out hunting, on Saturday, in the neighbourhood of Cockfield. His Lordship's horse put one of its feet into a rabbit hole, and fell, the Earl being thrown with some violence over the animal's head. A carriage was at once procured, and his Lordship conveyed to his residence at Aske Hall, where medical assistance having arrived, it was discovered he had dislocated his shoulder. By the latest accounts the Earl is progressing favourably, and we trust he will be speedily restored to health.

Bro. Griffiths Smith P.G.S., of No. 15 Furnivals Inn, Holborn, has been appointed a London commissioner to administer oaths in the supreme Court of Judicature.

The Royal Institution of Great Britain has now for its opposite neighbours the well-known firm of Messrs Feltoe and Sons, proprietors of the popular "Specialité" Sherry, whose unbounded success in the sale of this wholesome wine has compelled them to remove from Conduit-street to their present handsome, extensive and convenient premises in Albemarle-street.—*Morning Post.*

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—We implore all who desire to regain or retain health, during cold, inclement, uncertain weather, to give heed unto this warning, and spare themselves the misery soon broadcast through the land. Turn which way you will, go where you please, persons will be found who have a ready word of praise for this Ointment. For chaps, chaps, scabs, bruises and sprains, it is an invaluable remedy; for bad legs, caused by accident or cold, it may be confidently relied upon for effecting a speedy and permanent cure. In cases of swelled ancles, erysipelas, gout, and rheumatism, Holloway's Ointment gives the greatest comfort, by relieving the inflammation, cooling the blood, soothing the nerves, adjusting the circulation, and expelling impurities.

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CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE.

ST. John's Lodge, No. 1564, Knap Hill, Woking, in the province of Surrey, was Consecrated by R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Lt.-General Browning, assisted by the W. Bro. the Reverend C. W. Arnold, the Grand Chaplain for the province of Surrey, on Tuesday, 9th of November. We give our readers the oration delivered by Bro. Arnold on that occasion :—

"Before the consecration of this Lodge commences let us say a few words on Masonry, and bring before you, briefly, some of its prominent features, that we may enter on our service to day with hearts and minds influenced aright.

"What is Masonry? A pure system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. Is Masonry, then, in any way antagonistic to religion? Certainly not, Masonry is the hand-maid of religion. The volume of the Sacred Law contains all that is necessary for man's salvation, and points out to him the line of conduct which will eventually lead him to eternal bliss in the glorious realms above. But man is weak and frail, and constantly inclined to fall. Masonry, by signs and symbols, reminds him of God's teaching; and so unites his instruction with the implements of labour and the object of nature and art, that everything by which he is surrounded reiterates her lessons.

"The different degrees of Masonry represents the stages of life, reminding us of our origin and end, and point out how all we have is due to the boundless goodness of the Great Architect of the Universe. Thus are the great lessons of humility and mutual dependence inculcated, and the principle of active charity fanned into a flame that lights up the whole life of the true Mason. The development of the intellectual faculties is encouraged with due subservience to the omniscience of the Grand Geometrician of the Universe. The contemplation of the closing scene of life teaches us the great lesson of self-examination, so that, faithfully acting up to the principles we profess, we may look forward with hope and confidence to the rising of that bright morning star which will bring to us that final joy and peace for which the faithful are ever longing.

"But let us be very careful, brethren, lest we attend to mere external forms and ceremonies whilst neglecting their spiritual instruction; and whilst we adhere stedfastly to the ancient landmarks of our Order, let us remember that our symbols are only useful whilst they inculcate and keep in view some true, some vital principle, and as the building of that grand temple by King Solomon is symbolical of the building which should be reared in the heart of man, so let us build up our hearts and bodies as fit temples in which the pure spirit of the Most High may dwell.

"We are to-day engaged constituting a new Lodge. Its prosperity will depend on the conduct of its officers and members. Those who are called to rule must exercise their office with firmness and discretion, tempered with kindness, whilst those who are not yet fit to rule must practice and learn obedience, and aid and assist those above them with prompt and willing mind. All jealousies and differences must be set aside, and brotherly love flourish and prevail.

"It should be the earnest desire of every brother, testified to by his life and actions, that God may say of this Lodge as of His Temple, 'I have hallowed this house to put My name there for ever, and Mine eyes and Mine heart shall be there perpetually.'"

TRAFALGAR R.A. CHAPTER, 157 S.C., ST. HELENS, NEW ZEALAND,

THE Installation and Banquet of this prosperous Chapter took place at the Masonic Hall, Trafalgar, St. Helens, on Thursday, the 23rd September.

The Chapter was opened in due form at high noon, and M.E. Comp. Squires, in the unavoidable absence of the First Principal, conducted the installation and investiture. By common consent it seemed to be the desire, as far as possible, to retain, in the same respective positions, the services of those office bearers whose exertions, during the past year, had resulted so satisfactorily, and accordingly, after the list of Companions eligible for office was presented, the respective nominations were accepted without competition in any instance; the ballot thus being rendered unnecessary.

The following elections were declared:—W. B. Sealy M.D., Z., W. W. Squires, M.D., H., both re-elected, William Holmes J., W. M. Stanton E. (re-elected), J. Hounsell N., P. G. Bowman Treasurer (the Treasurer of last year desiring to retire), L. G. Beer 1st (late 2nd) Soj., J. C. Moutray 2nd (late 3rd) Soj., and Alfred Jackson 3rd Soj. George McDonald was appointed Janitor.

The Chapter was then adjourned for the Installation of Comp. Holmes as M.E. Third Principal.

On its re-opening, M.E. Comp. Squires administered the obligation and invested the several office bearers, during which he presented E. Comp. W. M. Stanton with a gold signet ring, bearing the Royal Arch Emblems (with a suitable inscription inside), as the gift of the Companions, in acknowledgment and appreciation of his services in the foundation and organisation of the Chapter.

Comp. Stanton, being taken by surprise at this unexpected mark of favour, assured the Companions that whilst he felt that the importance of his services were magnified by his brethren and Companions, they were at all times a self-rewarding labour of love, of which he could not readily tire.

Two Companions were, at this stage of the proceedings, affiliated to the Trafalgar Chapter.

Comp. Stanton then addressed M.E. Comp. Sealy (who had but recently arrived), to the effect that he had the pleasing task delegated to him of rendering honour to whom honour is due, by presenting the M.E. First Principal, in the name of the Chapter, with a testimonial of the respect, admiration and affection, for the many years' unflagging efforts directed to the welfare of Masonry, and for a continuous example to the world, as well as to the Craft, of a just, upright and blameless life; of admiration for the extraordinary talent and aptitude in the working of this new Chapter (to which must mainly be attributed its acknowledged high position), and of affection for the unchanging courteous and kindly bearing for which he is so distinguished.

The M.E. Comp. returned thanks in feeling terms, promising to continue to preserve the esteem of the Companions, which he so justly appreciated; at the same time he desired to offer a tribute to Scribe E., whose support and assistance in conducting the duties of his offices he valued so highly.

The Chapter was then closed in due form.

The Banquet was held on the evening of the same day, and a goodly number of the Companions and brethren (invited guests) sat down to a sumptuous repast, provided by Comp. Tregon, the Steward. After the removal of the cloth, the following toasts were drunk, with usual honours, the first four being given from the chair, which was ably filled by the M.E. First Principal.

"Her Majesty, the Queen, our Patroness, God bless her."

"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as first Grand Principal of England, and the Grand Principals of Scotland and Ireland."

"The Grand Superintendent and Officers of the District Grand Chapter of New Zealand."

"The Canterbury Kilwinning Chapter, coupled with the health of M.E. Companions Thiel and Booth."

Telegrams communicating the two last toasts were then transmitted to the Chapters assembled at Dunedin and at Christchurch, distant respectively 450 and 200 miles, and within twenty minutes replies congratulatory were received from each.

Comp. Hustwick proposed the "First Principal," to which the M.E. Comp. responded.

M.E. Comp. Sealey then gave the "Second and Third Principals and other Officers of the Trafalgar Chapter." M.E. Comp. Squires gave the "W.M., Officers and Brethren of the Southern Star Lodge," responded to by the W.M. Bro. Lightfoot.

M.E. Comp. Sealy proposed the health of Scribe E., for which, and for the graceful terms in which the toast was given, Companion Stanton heartily returned thanks.

The memory of the late Companion Arthur Dobb, Past J., was then drunk in solemn silence.

"Our Visitors and Guests," given by M.E. Comp. Sealy, was responded to by Comp. Millard P.S.D., and the toast "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," brought the formal proceedings to a close, and the remainder of the evening was agreeable devoted to song and chorus harmony.

The Chapter numbers at present forty-five Companions, of all grades of society, merchants, tradesmen, clergymen, and a number of various professions, and its future prospects seem as hopeful and encouraging as its beginning.

THE installation of the Worshipful Master and Officers of Prince of Wales Lodge, E.C., took place on Sept. 16, under more than usual *éclat*. The Lodge was opened at 6 p.m. by Bro. G. N. Brassey W.M. After the Lodge business was concluded, Bro. P. M. Leers took the chair, and delivered a very impressive charge to Bro. W. M. Skinner M.M. elect. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and we believe, without exception, there was the largest number of Past Masters present that have yet assembled in Auckland. The solemn and impressive ceremony was performed in a very able and efficient manner by Bro. P. M. Leers. The brethren of the various degrees having been admitted, Bro. W. M. Skinner then installed his officers as follow: Bro. Clayton S.W.; Bro. Rev. Nelson J.W.; Bro. Stoddard Treasurer; Bro. P. M. Leers Secretary; Bro. Dawson S.D.; Bro. Dyer J.D.; Bro. Rathring I.G.; Bro. Porter Tyler. The usual banquet followed. After full justice had been done to the festive board, various toasts were proposed and drank.

The ceremony of installing Bro. W. McCullough into the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of New Zealand, under the Scottish Constitution, took place on the 21st September, in the Lodge Room, Masonic Hotel. At 7.30 p.m., St. Andrew's Lodge, 418, S.C., was opened in the third degree by Bro. M. Nicol R.W.M. The Provincial Grand Lodge, I.C., was then announced and received in due form, and the P.G.L. Officers took the place of the Craft Officers, and opened the P.G. Lodge in ample form. Bro. McCullough was then presented to the P.G.M. of New Zealand, I.C., Bro. G. P. Pierce, for installation, Bro. Pierce having been requested by the P.G.M., S.C., who is resident at Dunedin, to do so. The D.R.G.M. elect was presented by Past Masters Hay, Dewar, Anderson, and Nicol, the last named of whom made a few appropriate remarks. Bro. McCullough was then invested and installed, Bro. Pierce conducting the ceremony in the most impressive manner, and ably assisted by the V.W.P.G. Chaplain, Dr. Kidd, and Bro. Rev. D. Bruce, Chaplain of St. Andrew's. The D.G.P.M., having been placed to the right of the P.G.M. and saluted with grand honours, Dr. Kidd then delivered a very able and instructive address, which was listened to with pleasure by the brethren, many expressing the desire that the oration might be printed. Bro. McCullough having briefly thanked the brethren, the P.G. Lodge was closed, the officers of St. Andrew's Lodge resumed their chairs and closed. The brethren afterwards sat down, to the number of about fifty, to an excellent supper provided by Host Avey, at which Bro. Nicol R.W.M. of St. Andrew's presided, supported on the right by Bro. G. P. Pierce P.G.M. of New Zealand, I.C., and on the left of Bro. McCullough D.P.G.M. of New Zealand, S.C.

The Rev. P. P. Agnew, Past Provincial Grand Chaplain of English and Scotch Constitutions, gave, on Sept. 22, according to notice, his lecture upon Freemasonry, Bro. G. P. Pierce, Provincial Grand Master in the chair. The platform was occupied by brethren of the various Lodges of the Irish, English, and Scotch Constitutions; also of the "Royal Arch," and the Rev. Bro. Nelson, and the Rev. Dr. Kidd, Chaplains; the chairman, and Masonic brethren, both on the platform and in the body of the hall, were in full regalia, according to their respective degrees.—*New Zealand Herald.*

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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, 20th NOVEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

SUNDAY, 21st NOVEMBER.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle, Rochdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)

63—St. Paul's, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
66—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
869—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 23rd NOVEMBER.

92—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

1226—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1305—Hamer, 98 Everton-road, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 24th NOVEMBER.

196—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)

117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
538—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
996—Rondeo, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.
1223—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High-street, Weston-Super-Mare.

THURSDAY, 25th NOVEMBER.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
720—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1431 Lacthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, E.
R. A.—657—Canonbury, Masons' Hall Tavern, 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, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
696—Downshire, Masonic Temple, 23 Hope-street, Liverpool.
707—St. Mary's, Bull Inn, Bridport.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.
904—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.

1136—Oakwood, Stockdove Inn, Romily, Chesbire.
1146—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.

FRIDAY, 26th NOVEMBER.

549—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road.
861—Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1278—Stardust Castle, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.
1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

SATURDAY, 27th NOVEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—126—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
" R. A. 49—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—113—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—302—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—233—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—102—St. Mark's, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 219—Stair, 12 Trongate.
" 362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.
" 541—Marie Stewart, Freemasons' Hall, Crosshill.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
R. A.—67—Cathedral, 22 Struthers-street.
WEDNESDAY—510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
" 577—Dramatic, 213 Buchanan-street.
THURSDAY—463—St. Vincent, 162 Kent-road.
R. A.—117—Govan, Portland Hall, Govan.
FRIDAY—R. A. 99—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
" P. G. Chapter for Lanarkshire, St. Mark's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
SATURDAY—R. A.—143 Robert Burns, Holytown.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Britannic Lodge, No. 33.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Gt. Queen-street. Present—Bros. J. Chynoweth W.M., P. Pendered S.W., John Davis J.W., Lewis Crombie Treasurer, Thos. A. Chubb Secretary, J. S. Pierce P.M. D.C., E. Stronts Steward, who acted as Deacon, and Magnus Ohren P.M. as Deacon, and Wm. Sagg as I.G., in place of those officers, who were unable to attend, and the following P.M.'s and brethren: J. E. Eachus I.P.M., John Strapp, Wm. Smith, Jno. Glaisher, F. G. Finch, G. N. Strawbridge, Chas. Horsley, Wm. Clinton, Chas. Pawley, Jno. Ricks, Chas. W. Turner, Jas. Robertson, Henry Finlay, W. P. Boddy, G. J. Huntly, Wm. G. Davis, F. W. Varley, J. W. Goodall and other brethren and visitors. Business—The ballot was unanimous in favour of Bros. William Battye P.M. No. 142, Wm. Robt. Woodman P.M. Grenadiers, No. 66, Charles Bennett P.M. Robert Burns, No. 25, as joining members. Bros. Hallowes and Millar were raised. Bros. Hald, Davidson and Campbell were passed. The following notice of motion, by Bro. Ohren P.M., was carried:—"That after the word 'deposit' in the Bye-Law No. 15, page 10, line 12,—the following words be added:—unless the Joining Brother be a Principal or Past Principal of the Britannic Chapter, in which case the Joining Fee for such Brother shall be Five Guineas only, including the deposit." Stewards were appointed to the three Masonic Charities for the ensuing year. All the work was performed by the W.M., who came up from the country to attend to his duties, and carried them out to the satisfaction of the Lodge. He afterwards presided at the banquet, with his usual ability. The next meeting of the Lodge is on the second Friday in February.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on the 15th of November, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, St. John's Square, E.C. Present—Bros. Crawley W.M., Killick S.W., Pearcy J.W., Crutch S.D., Trewinnard J.D., Jones I.G., Christopher Tyler. Business—The Lodge was opened in the usual manner, and the minutes confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Stock candidate. Bro. Tolmie rehearsed the Traditional History, and worked the 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the third Lecture. Bro. Powell, 188, was elected a member, and the S.W. appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge closed punctually.

Glasgow Chapter, No. 50.—The Chapter held its regular meeting on the 11th inst., at 218 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Comp. Miller Z. being unable to attend, Comp. Duthie Z. 67 proceeded to open a Mark Master Lodge, with G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as Senior Warden, J. Duthie as Junior Warden. A petition for advancement being read from a brother of the Athol Lodge, at the request of the acting Z., Comp. J. Mercer, 1st S. of Chapter 87, worked the Mark Degree in excellent style, for which he received the thanks of the Lodge. A Most Excellent Lodge was then opened, when Comp. Duthie conferred that degree on the same candidate. The Chapter was then opened by J. Duthie Z., G. W. Wheeler as H., J. Louttit J., J. Morrison S.E., J. Robinson N., P. Agnew, T. C. McKenzie 1st S., and the same gentleman was entrusted with the secrets of the Arch Degree. Amongst the visitors present, besides those named above, we observed Comp. D. Anderson and Broadfoot 73, and J. Johnson J. 122.

Angel Lodge, No. 51.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge, on the 9th inst., was saddened by the recent death of the venerable Treasurer to the Lodge, Bro. William Slaney, and in respect for whose memory all the brethren appeared in Craft mourning. Bro. Slaney was looked upon as "Father" of the Lodge, the date of his initiation being so far back as 1839, and it is 33 years since he occupied the chair of K.S. Up to within a very short period Bro. Slaney continued to take a most active interest in the affairs of the Lodge, and at the time of his decease occupied the post of Treasurer. It was but natural, therefore, that deep regret should be felt at the loss of so able a member, and the following resolution was unanimously passed, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, the Secretary receiving instructions to forward a copy of the same to Mrs. Slaney.

"That the members of this Lodge have heard with deep regret of the death of Bro. William Slaney, one of the oldest Past Masters, and for many years Treasurer, and they desire to convey to his widow and family the sincerest expressions of condolence in their affliction. The long services of Bro. Slaney to this Lodge have been of a most important character, and will always be held in affectionate remembrance."

The *Essex Standard* thus records the funeral of Bro. Slaney, which took place on Monday, 8th November 1875:—"The funeral of the late Mr. Wm. Slaney took place on Monday, the resting spot selected for his remains being the quiet Churchyard of Loxden, where his father and brothers had been interred. As the deceased had been for very many years not only the faithful and confidential clerk of the firm of Messrs. Mills, Errington and Bawtree, of this town, bankers, but also a former Master and Treasurer of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, a number of the Masonic brethren assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to their departed brother; we say respect, because there was in Mr. Slaney a fund of geniality and amiability which endeared him to all who knew him. Not that he was a fawning sycophant, or one of those people who, at the sacrifice of strict honour, endeavour to 'make things pleasant.' He knew how to reprove where reproof was necessary, but the rebuke was always accompanied with a pleasing expression which showed as clearly as could be that nothing but a sense of duty prompted the remark. Some 30 of the Craft assembled at the Churchyard, the mourning being limited to black gloves. Forming two rows, the *cortége* passed

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between them, followed by the immediate members of the family, with our respected High Steward, and a junior member of the firm. The brethren then faced inwards, and followed the remains into the Church, where the Vicar of St. Peter's, Colchester, who had ministered to the deceased, read the impressive and beautiful Funeral Service of the Church of England. The repose and quiet of the place befitted the ceremony, and as no one had put on the trappings of woe except for sheer respect, there was a solemn reality in the proceedings. The Benediction having been pronounced over the grave, each of the brethren dropped a sprig of acacia on the coffin, as emblematic of the resurrection of the spiritual body of their departed brother, and all was over."

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Thursday, the 18th of November, at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. Present—Bros. Stead W.M., Ellis S.W., Blackall J.W., C. A. Grammer Hon. Secretary, Horsley S.D., Crane J.D., Maidwell I.G., and numerous other brethren. Business—The Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Parker acting as candidate. The three sections of the 3rd lecture were worked by Bro. Horsley, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was then closed in the three degrees, according to ancient form.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 78.—This Lodge held its nomination meeting on the 16th November, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, when the following brethren were unanimously chosen:—R.W.M. G. McDonald re-elected, S.W. A. McLeod, J.W. G. Handbridge, Secretary R. Richards, Treasurer J. S. Ampleford, Chaplain G. W. Wheeler, S.D. W. Kay, J.D. J. Yeaike, P.G.S. J. Kinard, S.S. J. McQuen, J.S. G. McDonald jun., B.S. A. Young, S.B. A. Smith, D.C. W. McFarlane, I.G. B. Levi, J.O.G. A. Kay. The Lodge was then raised to the third degree, when the R.W.M., in his usual careful style, raised Bro. John Wright to the sublime degree. The Lodge was then closed.

Domatic Lodge, No. 177.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 13th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bro. G. Everett W.M., Treadwell S.W., J. Willing J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. Treasurer, Williams Secretary, Palmer S.D., Buscall J.D., Clarke I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Kent I.P.M., Tims, Elmes and Walford; Bros. Jones, Willis, Hodges, Goodfellow, Purchase, Plenderleith, Smith, Allen, Richards, Potter, Gibson, Parker, Jennings, Holder, Spiller and Brown. Business—Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Osborne was raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Wigmore, Beverstock, Jennings, Pierpoint, Pinhey and Sherlock were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Messrs. Ferrier, Zoebelli, W. Friend, W. J. Bennett and J. Billinghurst were initiated into the Order. The ceremonies were ably and perfectly rendered by the W.M., who, we regret to say, was labouring under great indisposition. Bro. Jas. Willing J.W. announced his intention of serving as Steward at the next anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren, numbering over 100, sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. Smith. The W.M. presided, and the loyal, Masonic and complimentary speeches were given and responded to. A very agreeable evening was passed.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.—A regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C. Bro. John Rort Ross W.M. occupied the chair. The officers were Bros. J. D. Barnett S.W., D. Posener J.W., John Peartree Hon. Treas., P. Levy Hon. Sec., Geo. Pare S.D., Bailey, J.D., Rawles Tyler. Bro. Croaker I.G. was unavoidably absent, owing to a death in his family, a circumstance which elicited sincere expressions of sympathy from every one in the Lodge. The usual routine business being disposed of, the W.M. passed Bros. Sadleir, Bush, Saillard, and Cohen to the degree of Fellow Craft in a manner rarely excelled. Unlike many, whose carelessness or indifference causes them to perform their duties in a thoughtless, slovenly fashion, Bro. Ross has taken pains to master his work, and is, therefore, capable most effectively to impress his candidates with the duties and obligations required on being advanced to the second step in the Order of which they have recently become members. A donation of £10 10s from the funds of the Lodge was unanimously voted to a very aged brother not a member of this Lodge. The attendance was shamefully small, undoubtedly owing to the fact of its being well known that the fourth degree would not be worked on the occasion. The Past Masters who put in an appearance were Bros. S. Solomon, S. E. Moss, L. Barnett, John Constable, N. Moss, M. Hart, N. Gluckstein and E. Gotthail.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 17th of November, at the White Hart Tavern, Aldersgate-lane, E.C. Present—Bros. D. Posener W.M., Tarquant sen. S.W., Read J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, Okendon S.D., Tollis J.D., Lees I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M. Bro. E. Gotthail Preceptor. Business—The usual preliminaries, after which the 3rd degree was rehearsed, Bro. Hollands acting as candidate. The ceremony was exceedingly well performed by the W.M. The three sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Gotthail, assisted by the brethren. Bro Tarquant was elected to preside on the next Wednesday, and he announced his intention to work the three degrees on that occasion. It was also intimated that the ceremony of installation would be rehearsed on the third Wednesday in December, by Bro. Hickman W.M. 180.

Perseverance Lodge No. 213.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 16th of November, at the Freemasons' Hall, Norwich. Present—Bros. J. S. Offord W.M., C. D. Ray S.W., Joshua A. Gooch J.W., W. A. Crisp Secy., Geo. Baxter Treasurer, W. Reynolds S.D., C. Fendick J.D., Jas. Dunsford P.M. S.D., Coates I.G., Morse Tyler. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. E. Baldwin P.M. and P.Z., No. 40, was elected a joining member. Two gentlemen were proposed, balloted for and duly initiated. The Bye-laws were revised and amended, after which the Lodge was closed.

Fortitude Lodge, No. 281.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on the 10th inst., in the Athenæum, Lancaster, Bro. Airey I.P.M. occupying the W.M.'s chair, in the absence of the latter. The meeting was rendered more than usually interesting by Bro. Dr. Moore P.G.S.B. of Eng. giving a lecture on Masonic O.B. The lecture was given in a clear, terse, and easy style, and was highly interesting, the information it conveyed being thoroughly appreciated by the brethren and visitors present. At its close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Moore. Two candidates were proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was afterwards closed in peace and harmony.

St. George's Lodge, No. 333.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday last, Bro. A. Thompson in the chair. The list of officers for the ensuing year, proposed by the Committee, was unanimously adopted, Bros. Thompson being reappointed as the R.W.M., Jas. Finley D.M., and A. MacIntyre Secretary. The elections will take place next month. The Lodge was then raised to the 3rd degree, when Bro. Finlay, at the request of the Master, raised a brother to the sublime degree. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and Bro. Finley thereafter, in accordance with the permission of G.L., opened the Lodge in the Mark degree, and advanced several brethren to the degree of Mark Masters. Some difference of opinion prevails as to the right of Craft Lodges to give the Mark as a distinct degree after the regular Lodge is closed.

Royal Union Lodge, No. 382.—This Lodge held its bi-monthly meeting on Monday, the 15th of November, at Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge, Middlesex. Present—Bros. B. H. Swallow I.P.M. as W.M., Davis S.W., T. Swallow J.W., Wm. Coombes P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Sec., Holliday S.D., Webb J.D., Stacey P.M. Organist, G. E. Cook Steward, Cobly as I.G., Longstaff Tyler, P.M. Bro. Weedon. Visitor—Bro. Kennedy, Royal Preston Lodge. Business—Lodge opened at 2.30 punctually. Minutes read and passed. Ballot unanimous for Messrs. Ward, Drinkwater, Godfrey, and Burgess, the three former initiated, Burgess not present. Bros. Cook and Lee passed; Bros. Cripps, Fowler, Holland, Perkins, Wallis, and Winkler, raised. The Secretary announced that, in consequence of the death recently of Mrs. Woodward, the W.M. (Bro. Woodward) could not attend this meeting. A letter of condolence to Bro. Woodward was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously. A letter was read by the Secretary from a Bro. of the Lodge, who was recently shipwrecked on the coast. It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the sum of three guineas be voted to our distressed Bro. At 6.30 the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the Railway Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by Mrs. Marshall, widow of the late Bro. Marshall. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the Brethren for London left by the 9 o'clock train, having passed a very enjoyable evening.

East Surrey of Concord Lodge, No. 463.—This Lodge held its meeting on Thursday, the 4th November, at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. Present—Bros. C. H. Woodward P.M. as W.M., T. P. Dickin S.W., W. Sharp J.W., C. H. Woodward P.M. Secretary, G. Price P.M. Treasurer, J. Close S.D., Yaxley J.D., H. A. Pocock I.G., G. Lynn Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. W. M. Dossel, Close, H. R. R. Podmore, W. M. Hunt, and several visitors. The three degrees were worked, and after the usual routine business the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

Benevolence Lodge, No. 489.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 11th November, at the Masonic Hall, Bideford. Present—Bros. Rev. Thomas Russell, M.A. P.P.S. Oxon, G.S.W. Devon W.M., T. T. Wickham S.W., T. T. Crump J.W., H. M. Barrow Secretary, T. T. Wickham Treasurer, R. Dymond S.D., T. Goode J.D., T. Allan I.G., R. Grant Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. W. L. Villacott, Charles Smale (Organist). Business—In the temporary absence of the W.M., Bros. H. Ascott and J. Cann were passed to the second degree by Bro. P.M. Smale, other matters connected with furnishing the new Lodge room were discussed and settled, and the Lodge was closed in due form and order.

Polish National Lodge, No. 534.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. G. Moore, assisted by Bro. Edward B. Grabham P.M. Provincial Grand Steward Middlesex, acting as I.P.M. (in the absence of Bro. Cherill the Immediate Past Master of the Lodge), and the following officers:—Bros. Rath S.W., Cummings J.W., Ebner S.D., Aspinall J.D., Taylor I.G. Visitors—Bros. J. B. Sorrell W.M. 176, Seigert P.M., R. V. Hayday P.M. 157, Edward B. Grabham P.M. 1494, P.G.S. Middlesex, J. H. Dalan 1426, and several others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary, Bro. Wm. Paas P.M., and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were separately taken for Mr. Washington Hayday, candidate for initiation, and Bros. R. V. Hayday P.M. 157

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and J. H. Dulan 1426 for joining, the result being unanimous in their favour. Bro. Barnes, as candidate to be raised, was examined and entrusted. The meeting was opened in the 3rd degree, the ceremony resumed, and most impressively rendered. The Lodge having been resumed, Mr. Washington Hayday was then introduced, and initiated by the W.M., whose careful rendering of the ceremonies was most favourably commented upon by all present. No further business offering, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, presided over by the W.M. On the cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts were given, and that of the Grand Officers was responded to by Bro. John Boyd P.G.P. Treasurer, who proposed, in very complimentary terms, the health of the W.M., the toast being received with marked expressions of approval. The health of the Initiates was responded to by Bro. Washington Hayday, in a few well chosen sentences, in which he expressed himself highly pleased with the important ceremony he had witnessed, and his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bro. Edward B. Grabham P.M., who congratulated the brethren upon having so efficient a W.M. as their present one, whose personal acquaintance he had enjoyed for some years, and predicted a prosperous year for the Lodge while under his presidency. The health of the Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary having been responded to, the W.M. proposed the health of the Officers, and thanked them for the support they had rendered him by the very satisfactory manner in which they had severally discharged their duties, and trusted they would render to his successor the same support, so necessary in the well governing the Lodge. Bro. Rath S.W. and the other Officers having responded, the Tyler's toast was duly honoured, and the brethren separated, after the enjoyment of a most successful meeting.

Abbey Lodge, No. 624.—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, the 9th November, at the Masonic Hall, Burton-on-Trent. Present—Bros. R. H. Auty W.M., S. Briggs Secretary, E. Macrae S.D., Thos. Martin J.D., W. J. Gothard D.C., Thomas Halliday I.G., R. Lane Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. A. Meredith, E. Maygu, W. J. Gothard; Bros. J. Robertson, L. F. Day, J. W. Sadler, W. J. Booth, W. G. Lowe, R. Howe, W. H. Bailey, S. Lunt, F. J. Gane, H. G. Anderson, G. Douglas and C. Adams. Business—Bros. C. F. Graham and Thos. Martin re-elected auditors. Bro. W. Lobb balloted for, and unanimously elected, a joining member of the Lodge. Bros. C. Adams and W. G. Lowe were raised to the degree of M.M., the ceremony being performed by the W.M., who afterwards explained the tracing board.

Ashfield (Cootehill) Lodge, No. 795.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 15th of November, at Bro. Ed. Germain's Private Rooms, Church-street, Cootehill, Co. Cavan. Present—Bros. Samuel Nelson W.M., Geo. Joseph Mason S.W., James Cooney J.W., James Geo. Adams Sec., Henry Cooney Treas., Robert Graham S.D., Ed. Egan J.D., Edward Cooney Chap., Thos. Irwin Steward, Richd. Germain I.G., Emanuel Anderson Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Jas. Cooney, Thos. Irwin, Robert Graham, Edward Cooney, and James G. Adams. Visitor—Bro. Alexander Livingstone 338. Business—The above officers were elected for year ending November 1876. A brother was raised to the 3rd degree. Secretary to send 10s to 211, Magherafelt, for widow of Bro. Jas. Palmer deceased. The new bye-laws were adopted.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—The Installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, 15th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bros. A. R. Haley W.M., T. Kingston S.W., Walker J.W., Quilty P.M. Treasurer, Robert Wentworth Little, S.G.W. Middlesex, Secretary, Pritchard S.D., Walmisley J.D., Moore I.G. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the meeting of the 18th October were read and confirmed, also that of the Audit Committee. Bros. Allen jun. 813, and D. J. Ross 813, were elected joining members. Bro. Brown was raised to the 3rd degree, and Bros. Smith, Richardson and Devine were passed to the 2nd degree. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Kingston S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge, and installed into the chair by Bro. Jas. Weaver P.M. P.G.O. Middlesex, in a perfect and impressive manner. The W.M. having been saluted, invested his officers:—Bros. Haley I.P.M., Walker S.W., Moore J.W., Quilty P.M. Treasurer, Robert Wentworth Little, P.G.R. Middlesex, Secretary, Walmisley S.D., Prior J.D., C. E. Packer I.G., Gilbert Tyler. The newly installed W.M. showed his proficiency by initiating Mr. J. Collinson. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous and recherché banquet, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and a very agreeable evening was passed. There was a large number of visitors present.

St. Barnabas Chapter, No. 948.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 11th of November, at the Masonic Hall, Linslade, Bucks. Present—Comps. Scriven M.E.Z., McCubbin H. and Z. elect, Poynter J. and H. elect, Cowdell, Howell, Proctor, Randall, Morgan and Lewis, Sloan Janitor. Visitors—Comps. Brownrigg P.G.S.B., Kellett P.Z., Williams P.Z. Business—The Chapter was duly opened and the report of the audit committee read, approved, and ordered to be printed. Companion Brownrigg then installed Comps. McCubbin as Z., Poynter as H., and Cowdell as J. Comps. Howell was invested as E., Hazlegrove as N., Proctor P.S., with Comps. Randell and Lewis 1st and 2nd Soj.

St. Oswald Lodge, No. 1124.—This Lodge kept the Festival of St. John, on Monday the 8th of November, at Oswestry. Present—Bros. Alex. Walker W.M., John Thomas S.W., W. Burton J.W., W. H. Spaull Sec., E. Oswell Treas., Rev. P. G. Bentley Chap., H. C. Corfield J.D., F. Chaplin Org., W. F. Rogers Steward, Rev. A. L. Taylor I.G., Crowther Tyler. P.M.'s Geo. Owen, Eph. Wood; Bros. C. W. Owen, R. N. Barlow, Jno. Morris, Thos. Savin, Geo. Williams, Stanley Leighton. Visitors—Bros. J. S. Davies J.W. 998, S. Hazlitt S.W. 1432, W. Aston S.D. 1432, J. Salmon P.M. 1477, R. W. Worrall P.M. 721, W. Callender P.M. 998, J. Hughes 1432, J. McClardy 1432, D. Vaughan J.W. 1432, E. B. Smith W.M. 1432, F. Edwards 1432. Business—Bro. Jno. Thomas was installed by Bro. Geo. Owen, Worshipful Installing Master, and invested the following officers:—Bros. Alex. Walker I.P.M., Wm. Burton S.W., R. F. Gruesser J.W., Rev. P. G. Bentley Chap., Oswell Treas., Spaull Hon. Sec., Corfield S.D., Rev. A. L. Taylor J.D., Geo. Owen D.C., Eph. Wood Org., Chaplin I.G., and W. F. Rogers Steward. Bro. Geo. Owen, on behalf of the Lodge, presented the I.P.M., Bro. Walker, with a handsome P.M.'s jewel. Some alterations in the Bye-laws were agreed to, and the Secretary read the report of the Audit Committee, after which the brethren adjourned to the banquet, prepared by Bro. Mosley.

Devon Lodge, No. 1188.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 9th November, at the Masonic Hall, Devonshire-square, Newton Abbott. Present—Bros. W. R. King W.M., Fras. J. Pratt as S.W., J. S. Saunders J.W., Jno. Oliver Secretary, W. Harris S.D., Herbert Martin as J.D., Richd. Crooks I.G., Jno. Haywood Tyler. P.M. Bro. Henry G. Beachey; Bros. W. Eyder, Pitz M. Martin, H. Voysey, Jno. Williams, Wm. Langley Pope D.D. P.P.G.C. Business—To confirm minutes of previous meeting. Bro. G. T. Warner, who was a candidate for the second degree, was unavoidably absent. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form, at 8.35 p.m.

Lodge of St. Mary, Bocking, No. 1312, Braintree.—On November 9th the annual festival was celebrated. The brethren and visitors assembled at the Lodge Room about 3 o'clock, and Bro. G. D. Clapham was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by the late W.M., Bro. Vero W. Taylor P.P.G.S.W. The following officers were appointed:—Bros. W. F. Hasler S.W., T. Malyar J.W., C. W. Jones S.D., W. Johnson J.D., Rev. H. Elliott Chaplain, W. M. Tufnell Treas., A. Portway Sec., W. Blatch I.G., and W. Cook Tyler. A sumptuous banquet was afterwards partaken of at the White Hart Hotel, when the usual toasts were duly honoured. Among those present at the Lodge or banquet, besides the above mentioned, were—Bros. Joseph Burton Prov. G. Treas., John Wright Carr Prov. G. Sec., E. Shedd 276, Rev. F. B. Shepherd, W. Bright, T. Wood, J. B. Frankham, F. Hale, A. Blatch, F. Whitmore, H. Deacon, B. Beard, T. Simpson, J. West, A. Brown, A. R. Clench W.M. 697, T. Bix Sec. 697, and S. Piggin.

Great City Lodge, No. 1428.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 13th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. Present—Bros. J. H. Townsend W.M., Jno. Sear S.W., R. Stanway J.W., Edward Moody P.M. Secretary, G. Blackie S.D., W. H. Catchpole J.D., C. Taylor 1st Steward, W. F. Kibble 2nd Steward, W. H. Hook Organist, T. Preston I.G., W. Steadman Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Jas. Stevens and N. B. Headon. Visitors—Bros. J. K. Pitt, G. Allcot, Zetland Lodge, No. 525, Hong Kong, J. Vincent, T. A. Harper, M. Oliver, G. Harris, Arthur Stone, W. W. Morgan. The amount of business on the paper, as usual with the Great City Lodge, was of a heavy character, and the brethren were summoned for 2.30, at which time there was a goodly attendance. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were read and confirmed, after which Bros. Skinner, Benskin, J. Hartley, Lockitt and Clark, were raised to the sublime degree, the W.M. conducting the ceremony in an able manner, and the I.P.M. Bro. N. B. Headon explaining the working tools. Bros. W. E. Thompson, Wright, Wynne, Cadiot, Bertram and Kennett, were then examined as to their proficiency. On Bro. Thompson P.M. 177, &c., intimating that, as one of the candidates was his son, he should much like to work the ceremony, Bro. Townsend very kindly said he should have great pleasure in vacating the chair in his favour for that purpose, and announced that if at any time during his year of office either of the P.M.'s desired to work a ceremony where any of their friends were concerned, he should be happy to give them the opportunity of doing so. Bro. H. Thompson then passed the six brethren named above. The W.M. resumed the chair, and four gentlemen were balloted for, and duly elected. Messrs. Powell and Frith and Messrs. Lagger and Hodd were then initiated into the Order. Routine business followed, and several proposals for candidates were announced, after which the Lodge was closed. The usual supper was afterwards done justice to, and on the cloth being cleared the loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The W.M. was happy and brief in his remarks, he expressed the gratification it afforded him to see the Great City Lodge so prosperous, eulogised his officers, and thanked the P.M.'s for the kind assistance they had always rendered him. Bro. Headon I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. The health of the Initiates brought from those brethren an intimation of the sort of men they were likely to prove. The toast of the Visitors elicited a response from each present, all expressing the gratification they had derived from their visit. The W.M. proposed the health of their esteemed Treasurer, whose absence, through an affliction, he much regretted. The toast of the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. E. Moody, was enthusiastically received and acknowledged. A goodly flow of harmony prevailed during the evening, contributed to by Bro. Hook, who sang three or four songs in a most genial manner; Bro. W. F. Kibble, who rendered the ballad, "A Straight Path through the Wood," in capital style; Bro. Middleton, who recounted the adventures of a stage-struck hero, with considerable humour. Recitations were given by Bro. Stevens P.M., Bros. Moody, Frith and W. W. Morgan. The Tyler's toast brought this most enjoyable gathering to a close at 11 p.m.

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Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 16th instant, at the Town Hall, Dunstable. Present—Bros. Frederick Howell W.M., Haselgrove S.W., Randall J.W., Saunders S.D., Otway J.D., Russell D.C., Butler Steward, Sinkwell I.G., T. Day Tyler; Bros. Gard, Harris, Ballans and Oakley; Visitors, Bros. Harris and Farr 475. Business—The Lodge having been opened, Bro. Ballans was passed to the 2nd degree. Captain Teale, having been elected by an unanimous vote, was regularly initiated into the Order. The W.M. gave the lectures on the tracing boards in both degrees, and received the hearty thanks of the brethren for the Masonic treat he had afforded them.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, 1534.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 3rd November, at Bro. Symes's, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Marsh W.M., Shackleton S.W., Batty J.W., Robinson J.D., Brand I.G., Gilchrist P.M. and Preceptor, and Bros. Lee, Chapman, Fieldwick, Streeton, Hill, Gross, Symes, Dallas, Brasted, Harding, Johnson, Finch, Somers, H. Meyer and Pool. Business—The Lodge was opened, minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. H. Meyer acting as candidate. The first four sections of the degree were worked by Bro. Lee, assisted by the brethren. It was unanimously resolved that Bro. Pool, of No. 764, Hartlepool, be elected a joining member of this Lodge of Instruction, and that Bro. Shackleton be W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Lee then expressed the great pleasure it gave him to present Bro. Gilchrist with a handsome and massive signet ring, as a slight token of the esteem in which the worthy Preceptor is held by the members of the Lodge. Bro. Gilchrist, in accepting the gift, thanked the brethren for the kindly way they had always received him, and assured them the ring would ever be considered by him a pleasing reminder of the many happy hours he had passed among them. Bro. Gilchrist was unanimously re-elected Preceptor for the ensuing year, also Bro. Symes as Treasurer. Bro. Lee informed the brethren that Bro. Lister desired to resign his post as Secretary, his health not permitting him to be so regular an attendant as he otherwise would have been. Bro. Lee therefore proposed the resignation of Bro. Lister as Secretary be accepted, with regret, and a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for his very valuable services during the past year, also that Bro. Shackleton be elected Secretary for the ensuing year of office; seconded by Bro. Chapman, and carried unanimously; a vote of thanks was also awarded to Bro. Fieldwick for his able assistance during the past year; to be recorded on the minutes. Bro. Chapman then proposed, and Bro. Shackleton seconded, a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Lee, as the vote of the evening, for the very great services he had rendered to the Lodge since its founding. Nothing else offering, the Lodge was closed in ancient form, and adjourned.

Addiscombe Lodge, No. 1556.—At a regular meeting of this Lodge held on Saturday, the 18th inst., at Alma Tavern, Addiscombe, present—Bros. Turquand sen. W.M., Masterman as P.M., J. P. Smith J.W., Gray S.D., Pitt J.D., Francis P.G.D. Secretary, Turquand jun. I.G., Carpenter D.C., A. Lambert, S. Sharrard Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Rev. H. Jones and Macpherson P.M. and Secretary of the Hornsey Lodge, No. 890. Business—The three ceremonies were worked by the W.M., in a manner that made a deep impression on the respective candidates, while at the same time, all who were familiar with the rituals felt great pleasure in hearing them so admirably rendered. There were two candidates for initiation, two for passing, and five for raising. The W.M. presented a banner to the Lodge, on which his arms were emblazoned; a Masonic carpet, a kneeling stool, and a Bible cushion were also severally presented by some of the members. After the Lodge was closed, a banquet was served, in a very creditable manner, at which congratulations was freely expressed on the great success that had attended the Lodge hitherto.

Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1558.—This Lodge held its first regular meeting on Thursday, the 11th November 1875, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. Present—Bros. Wm. Snowden W.M., W. S. Cockett S.W., T. Sleap J.W., J. Dam Sec., W. Mitchell S.D., A. Rusacres J.D., R. W. Boyton D.C., J. Kemp I.G., W. Chalk Steward, F. Geidor Tyler. Visitors—Bros. F. Wilson P.M. Etonian 209, P. Tonten, Victoria 1056, W. Rowlands, Royal Jubilee 72, A. Martin jun. Joppa 188. Business—To confirm minutes of Consecration and Installation, also Lodge of Emergency 28th October. A ballot was taken for the following gentlemen as initiates, viz. Messrs. C. E. Power, 4 Camberwell Road; T. Taylor, 67 Camberwell Road; E Pearman, 93 Union Street, Borough; C. Sims, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road; J. E. Pentreath, 11 Albert Street, Newington. The ballot was unanimously favourable in each case and the candidates, being present, were initiated into Freemasonry according to ancient custom. On the W.M. rising for the first time it was announced that all the officers had presented their collars and jewels to the Lodge, and it was resolved to enter a vote of thanks on the minutes of the Lodge to them for their kind presentation, also the following votes of thanks to be recorded in the minutes. To W.M., for zeal and untiring energy in the formation of the Lodge. To S.W., for kindness in leading harmonium to Lodge at Consecration. To S.D., for kindness in presenting a box to hold Lodge collars, jewels, &c. To Steward, for services rendered as Secretary during preliminary meetings in formation of Lodge. To Bro. S. J. Harvey, of Royal Jubilee, No. 72, for present of Square and Compasses for sacred volume. Notice of motion was given to raise initiation fee from five to seven guineas. Proposition was made and seconded for three gentlemen as initiates. The bye-laws, as sanctioned by Grand Lodge, were read in open Lodge and confirmed. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in due form, &c., and adjourned till the second Thursday in December. The brethren then sat down to refreshment, and the remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent in the enjoyment of creature comforts and complimentary speeches. This new Lodge is now fairly established, and its success appears to be certain.

Oxford University Chapter, Rose Croix.—The third anniversary meeting of this Chapter was held, on the 10th November, in the University Masonic Hall, the attendance being larger than we remember to have seen upon any previous occasion, except when the Chapter was consecrated, three years ago. Four candidates were perfected by the M.W.S., the Illustrious Brother H. H. Rich, 33 degree, who then proceeded to instal his successor, the Illustrious Brother Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, 30 degree, Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, 18 degree, was appointed to the chair of First General for the ensuing year, that of Second General being conferred on Bro. J. Robertson, 18 degree, and that of High Priests upon Bro. the Rev. W. Neville, 18 degree. The two Past Most Wise Sovereign of the Chapter, the very Illustrious Bro. the Rev. A. B. Fraser, 33 degree, and the Illustrious Bro. the W. F. Short, 32 degree, were presented with the jewels of past rank which had been voted to them. We are glad to learn that this Chapter, one of the most important in the country, is in a most satisfactory position, both as regards the number of its members, and as regards its finances, and we think that if its chair is only held in the future by brethren who have its interests as much at heart as those Illustrious Brothers who have already occupied it (and we have every reason to hope this will be the case) the Chapter will be one of which the Supreme Council, 33 degree, may well be proud.

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Grand Lodge will be opened at 5 o'clock p.m. The Banquet will be provided at Seven o'clock. Tickets (exclusive of Wine and Dessert), Nine shillings and sixpence.

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VOL. II.—No. 48. SATURDAY, 27th NOVEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORFOLK.

SATURDAY will long be a memorable day in the history of Norfolk Masonry. Some time since, Bro. B. Bond Cabbell, one of the most eminent members of our Order, whose name will always be associated with the cause of Masonic Charity, and who had attained, some twenty years previously, the highest position in the Province of Norfolk, passed away at a ripe age, beloved of all men. Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., on the recommendation of his brethren in the Province, having been recently nominated by the W.G.M., His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, to succeed him, a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Assembly Rooms, Norwich, for the purpose of installing the new Prov. G.M. The R.W.P.G.M. Designate presided. There were present the P.G. Officers, Bros. Colonel L'Estrange S.W., Colonel Duff J.W., A. M. F. Morgan Prov. G.S., H. J. Mason P.G.D C., G. Baxter A.G.D.C., and George Brittain P.G.O., together with the following brothers, namely:—Lord Waveney, P.G.M. of Suffolk, Lord Henniker, the Right Hon. E. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Sir R. J. Buxton, M.P., Sir F. Boileau, W. A. Tyssen Amherst, Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C., J. Bond Cabbell, R. T. Gurdon, Rev. J. Cholmeley Prov. G.C., Rev. H. Evans Lombe, J. B. Graver Browne, Colonel Bignold, Major Penrice, Rev. J. Edmund Cox P.G.C., Captain Hastings Parker, F. Binckes P.G.S., J. Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, &c. Altogether there were between four hundred and five hundred present, all the Lodges in the Province, with their banners, being represented. After the transaction of the usual routine business, Deputy Grand Master Lord Skelmersdale was introduced into the Lodge by the Prov. Grand Stewards, for the purpose of performing the ceremony of Installation. His Lordship accordingly occupied the chair, vacated for that purpose by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master Designate. The latter having retired from the Lodge, was then directed to send in his patent, which was taken as read; whereupon Right Worshipful Bro. Walpole was introduced into the Lodge, and conducted, amid enthusiastic applause, to the throne. D.G.M. Lord Skelmersdale then addressed Bro. Walpole as follows:—"I have come here to-day for the purpose of installing you as Grand Master of this Province. I am sure the brethren of the Province of Norfolk, and of the adjoining Provinces, in this part of the country, feel highly gratified the choice of His Royal Highness the Grand Master has fallen upon you. I will not dilate upon the duties you will have to perform, but I am sure you will most worthily perform them. Freemasonry has now made such strides throughout the world, and has become of such importance, that every brother must recognise the paramount necessity of having good and true men high in office. That we shall have such a man in you I have no doubt, and I now call upon you to say whether you can conscientiously perform the duties of Worshipful Grand Master of this Province." Having answered in the affirmative, the P.G.M. Designate was duly invested and installed, the ceremony being very impressively performed. The P.G.M. then said:—"Right Worshipful Grand Master and brethren all: I deeply appreciate the honour that has been done me, and I am very thoroughly conscious of the responsibilities that I have taken upon myself. I will endeavour faithfully to discharge them. Grateful to you, I am also deeply grateful that His Royal Highness the Grand Master should have thought me worthy of this honour at your hands. I can only say that I will endeavour so to perform the duties of this high office that Masonry shall lose nothing by my being placed in this chair." In nominating Bro. A. M. F. Morgan as Prov. Grand Master, the G.M. stated it was only a just recognition of the eminent services he had rendered to the province of Norfolk as Prov. G.S. for many years. Bro. Morgan was then invested by D.G.M. Lord Skelmersdale. The other Grand Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed, as follows:—Bros. Colonel L'Estrange S.W., Colonel Duff J.W., J. Barwell Treasurer, Rev. J. Cholmeley Chaplain, C. Clarke Registrar, H. Barwell Secretary, J. H. Thouless S.D., J. B. Aldis J.D., H. J. Mason G.D.C., G. Baxter A.G.C.D., G. Brittain G.O., James Bond G.P., R. Gunn T.; Bros. Smart (W.M. Sondes), D. R. Fowler (Friendship), R. Baldry (Cabbell) and J. Commins (S.W. Social) Stewards. A vote of thanks was then passed to R.W.D.G.M. Lord Skelmersdale for his kindness in performing the installation ceremony, and to the visiting brethren of Suffolk and other parts, for their attendance on the occasion. Lords Skelmersdale and Waveney having briefly expressed their acknowledgments, the Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed. At 2.30 P.M. the brethren assembled at the Grammar School, whence they marched in procession to the Cathedral, for the purpose of attending divine service, the choir having been kindly set apart for their use. Service was intoned by the Dean, Precentor Medley, and Minor Canon Moore; and the lessons were read by the Dean and Canon Nisbet. The Provincial G.C., the Rev. J. Cholmeley, preached a sermon, his text being taken from Daniel vi. 23 "He believed in his God." The collection, which was devoted to local charities, amounted to £20. Great crowds of people were collected to witness the procession both to and from the Cathedral. In the evening a banquet at which some 300 of the brethren sat down, was held in St. Andrew's Hall, which had been specially decorated for the occasion, Bro. B. Aldis having rendered most valuable services. The banquet was served by Mr. Snelling, while the wines were supplied by Bro. Barwell. The P.G.M. presided, supported on his right and left by the D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale; the Prov. G.M. Suffolk, Lord Waveney; Bros. Lord Henniker, Right Hon. E. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Sir R. J. Buxton, Bart., M.P., Sir F. Boileau, W. A. Tyssen-Amherst, Esq., Rev. H. Evans Lombe, Lieut.-Col. L'Estrange, Lieut.-Col. Duff, R. T. Gurdon, Esq., J. Bond Cabbell, Esq., Rev. J. Cholmeley, Major Penrice, J. B. Graver Browne, Esq., Lieut.-Col. Bignold, Rev. W. Vincent, Capt. Hastings Parker, Rev. Dr. Cox, P.G.C., Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., J. H. Bevan, Esq., Lieut.-Col. Boileau, G. F. Buxton, Esq., E. F. Edwards, Esq., Major J. Forster, R. Grey, Esq., J.G.D., Rev. C. Howes, Capt. Lacon, R. Kerrison, Esq., H. L'Estrange, Esq., Rev. E. J. Lockwood, Captain Oaks, &c., &c., together with the W.M.'s and most of the leading members of the Lodges in the Province. Bro. G. Baxter acted very efficiently as D.C., but it being impossible to tyle the Hall, the toasts were not given in the usual manner. We should also add that, at intervals, between the speeches, several songs and glees were sung by Bros. Minns, Smith, and Thouless, of the Cathedral Choir, and Bro. J. S. Offord, W.M. Perseverance, the P.G.O. presiding at the pianoforte. After the usual loyal toasts had been honoured, that of the D.G.M. of England was proposed, and enthusiastically received. Lord Skelmersdale, in returning thanks, said: He should always look back with pleasure to this day, and

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with agreeable remembrances of the great kindness with which the brethren in this Province had received him. In accepting the office to which he had had the honour of being appointed, he determined to do the duty which belonged to it; and as he told them in Lodge, this was the first instalment of it out of London. They had placed him under an obligation to them, which would be further increased if they would have the kindness of meeting him in London on the 9th of February, when he should have the honour of presiding at the festival of the Benevolent Institution. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Having expressed a warm desire for the continuance of harmony in this Province, the noble lord gave "The health of the Most Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk," remarking that the brethren were well aware of what a good appointment it was of his friend and brother Walpole, who took so warm an interest in Masonry, and all would join him in the hope that he would long live to occupy the chair into which he had the honour of installing him this day. (Loud cheers.) The Prov. G.M. (who was received with deafening cheers), in reply, said:—"Brethren, I thank you for the kindness of this reception. It encourages me. I was wishing rather to postpone the time of returning thanks, thinking to arrange my ideas, but finding no ideas really to arrange, I get up at your call. It is very difficult to speak on an occasion of this sort. I am sure that when, nearly one-and-thirty years ago, as a midshipman in Her Majesty's Navy, I entered into Masonry, I little thought that, in the Grand Hall of Norfolk, I should be installed as a Grand Master. The most Worshipful Brother on my right hand has spoken of the harmony existing among us. Why, Sir, most of the brethren about me, except our guests, they, at least, that are of Norfolk, I have known from my boyhood upwards. They are men that I meet in daily intercourse. They have been to me "A little more of kin, if less of kind," and I feel deeply grateful to them for recommending me to His Royal Highness. Whatever His Royal Highness's wishes had been, I should have rejoiced to obey them; but when I heard that it was almost the unanimous wish of those Masons, among whom I had worked for years, that I should take this place, I could not but immediately consent to take it. (Applause.) Having accepted it, I will engage truthfully and sincerely, to the best of my power, to do my duty in the office; so that when the time comes for it to be given to another, neither those who conferred the honour upon me, nor those who by their kindness and their wish had it conferred upon me, shall regret it. (Cheers.) Having again thanked the brethren, the Prov. Grand Master said he would now proceed to a livelier theme than speaking of himself, the toast of "The Visitors." Suffolk was hardly regarded as a "stranger" or a "foreigner"—(laughter)—it was a "shire"; but it was also a friend and relation. He was grateful to the Prov. Grand Master of Suffolk for the sacrifice he had made in coming to Norwich to the installation. Lord Waveney, whose health he asked them to drink, had been a hard working Mason, and deserved the heartiest reception at their hands. He also proposed, in connection with this toast, the health of Bro. Lord Henniker. Lords Waveney and Henniker responded, the former at some length, and very heartily, the latter more briefly. Bro. Bond Cabbell proposed the toast of the Prov. G. Officers, which was acknowledged by Bro. Morgan D. Prov. G.M., and Bros. Col. L'Estrange and Col. Duff. Bro. J. B. Aldis, W.M. of Union, No. 52, the highest Lodge in the Province, responded to the toast "Prosperity to the Lodges in the Provinces." Bros. Binckes, R.M.I. for Boys, and J. Terry, R.M.B.I., severally spoke to the Masonic Charities, the latter reminding those present of the near approach of the 9th of February, the day fixed for the Anniversary Festival of the Benevolent Institution, when Lord Skelmersdale would take the Chair. The toast of the Right Hon. E. K. Knatchbull-Hugessen was greeted very heartily, and very humourously acknowledged. After a few introductory observations, the honourable gentleman said: "I will not detain you by any long speech to-night. Suffice it for me to say that an Institution like that of Masonry, founded upon the great and inimitable principles of brotherly love and universal charity, must commend itself to the regard of every man who seeks to lead a Christian life according to those principles which are found in the Book of Holy Writ. (Cheers.) Brethren, satisfied that in Masonry is to be found one of the best supports of a Christian life, I for my part support Masonry, and glad I am to see that it is so worthily supported in this county of Norfolk. (Applause.) Brethren, I am taken by surprise in being called upon my legs to-night, but I live in a county close by the sea, where we are never taken by surprise, or, if we are, we always endeavour to be equal to the emergency. Had I been called upon at an earlier part of the evening, I might, perhaps, have noticed at greater length the observations made by the Grand Master, and if I had done so, I should have reciprocated the kindly feeling which he had expressed towards myself as one of the Opposition, and also have expressed the hope that many years would not elapse before I could return the compliment—(laughter and cheers)—and recognise in friendly opposition a countenance which, whether by my side or opposite me, is always the countenance of an honest and faithful friend." (Great cheering.) The toast of "the Ladies" exhausted the list, and the brethren shortly afterwards went their several ways, highly gratified with the success of the day's proceedings.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 4).

FATHER TIME.

"SPEECH is Silvern," says the proverb, "but Silence is Golden." Many a man, who has to lament wasted opportunities and wrecked hopes, secretly blames the license of his tongue for many, if not all, the adverse strokes of fortune. Yet nothing is more difficult than to convince an impetuous and, perhaps, frank and ingenuous person, that freedom of speech, although it is conceded by our laws, is virtually interdicted by society. If a man is seeking to get on in the world, he may achieve his purpose by dint of indomitable perseverance and pluck, no matter what his opinions may be. But if he aspire to be the mouth-piece of his fellow citizens, and to rise by the aid of their suffrages, he cannot keep too close a guard upon his tongue. Sober mediocrity is usually demanded of a candidate by public opinion. A fool, who has sense enough to hide his folly, may often succeed in passing for a man of parts and judgment; but a man of ability and original thought, who gives the rein to his opinions, may rest assured that when the time comes for him to demand the support of his fellows, those opinions will rise up in judgment against him. We have known men who have made serious things a jest, who have taken pleasure in covering the opinions of the majority with ridicule; they have had their due meed of praise in the society of the gay or the light hearted, but when the grave struggle in life came for them, as it comes once for us all, they were unpleasantly confronted with the grim phantom of their wit, and met black brows or bitter smiles and speeches where they had expected cordial support.

The gentleman who is now sitting within easy reach of our literary studio might tell us, if it so pleased him, something anent the ingratitude of mankind. He is as generous as he is gay, and as eccentric as he is generous. His hand has never been withdrawn when the tale of woe has been told. He has not lacked public spirit, nor does he want talent. As a public man, he is fitted to shine, and in the House of Commons, if it should ever be his fortune to sit for a constituency, he would be popular. Yet, in the sphere where one would think he might have been understood, he has been passed by, and has learned, by bitter experience, that a prophet is without honour in his own city, if not in his own country. A very different verdict may yet be pronounced by men who have not approached near enough to mark the vagaries of his genius, and who, at a distance, see the man in all his just and admirable proportions. Some people require a large stage on which to exhibit themselves, and do not show to advantage when they are compelled to pose themselves before the audience in the full glare of the "foot-lights." Our hero, Father Time, as we choose to call him, for lack of a better name, has found mere commercial success easy of achievement. His fame, as a tradesman, has been carried to the ends of the earth, and instruments from the cunning hands of his workmen are measuring out the sands in the hour-glass of Time in every civilised country in the globe. We can remember his first attempt to take his namesake by the forelock, when the first dawning desire for a conspicuous public career entered his mind. It is some years since that early contest, in which the

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prize was the Shrievalty, which he failed to win. Yet right royally did he do battle for the robe and chain; gallantly, during a seven-days' contest, did he struggle against powerful opponents. Sparkling, indeed, were the wittiisms which he let fall on the day of his nomination, and not less brilliant were his words when he had to stand before his fellow citizens and acknowledge defeat. The courage and talent of the man won him many friends during that memorable week, yet it was years before his just ambition was gratified. The day, indeed, came when the honourable office which he sought was bestowed upon him with acclamation, and before he threw off its trappings and its responsibilities the Accolade of the sovereign was laid upon his neck, and Father Time retired from her presence with a handle to his name. It was honourably won, and it has been honourably worn. Some asserted that it was for his horsemanship that he was thus distinguished. It is, indeed, true that the Civic magnates did escort the Chariot of Her Majesty, when she came in state to return thanks, at the great Metropolitan Cathedral, for the life of her son. It is true also that, of all that brilliant train of Civic functionaries, Father Time alone sat his steed with the ease of an accomplished equestrian. We speak of what we know, for that brilliant State progress along Fleet Street lives in our memory, and our genial guardian of the horologe won golden opinions. He was no less famed for hospitality during his year of office, and, to use his own words, which were uttered when he resigned his gown, "he filled the poor with good things, and the rich he did not send empty away." The sterner duties of his office were no less faithfully performed. He was at home everywhere; at the Old Bailey; at Newgate, when villains were flogged for robbery and violence, or when performing the last sad duties of his office to a wretch whose life had been forfeited to appease outraged justice. It was said, indeed, that Father Time had too many press friends, and that those wretched parasites blew his trumpet rather loudly, because he filled their hungry maws with an occasional dinner. Anyhow the press were constantly sounding the praises of "the genial" Father Time, and perhaps he has now learned that it it not good for a public man to have too many friends in Fleet Street. Such fame as a journalist can give is not worth much. If a man's work is of sterling quality, it will live. but the mere lip homage of the curs who cater for the public dies with the day that gave it birth. We read the fulsome flattery in the morning, and the next day our servants light the fire with the wretched trash. Father Time, indeed, might well have dispensed with the wonderful trumpetings of the newspapers. We have spoken of his genial disposition, but only those who know him can understand how much he might do for himself if he could manage to use his gifts discreetly. As an orator, he has no mean repute, and he can make a hustings speech as effectively as the most experienced parliamentary speaker. His very gestures on the platform are effective; there is fire in the very turn of his head, hidden drollery in the very toss of his curling locks, and wit drops like manna from his fluent tongue. He can say wise as well as witty things, and as a lecturer he is popular with all classes. Father Time, indeed, usually lectures upon his own Horologe, but the history of that marvellous specimen of human ingenuity affords a theme which is worthy of the eloquence of a Demosthenes. In all the fables of ancient story—in all the wonders of the Arabian Nights—is there anything so wonderful as that reality of modern science and skill—the Chronometer Balance, and detached lever escapement? The art which enables the Mariner to find his longitude by the aid of that little glittering piece of metal, is almost akin to the Divine. Father Time need not be ashamed of his lectures, although, perhaps, they served, honourably served, the purposes of his trade. The history of the "Nuremburg Egg," from its first rudimentary form to its present perfection, is a history of the grandest achievements of the human intellect. Astronomy would still be in its infancy but for the telescope, but it could never have been raised to the dignity of a science without the aid of an accurate instrument for the measurement of time.

We have said nothing of Father Time as a Mason, because his career as a citizen has, in truth, overshadowed his Masonic achievements. Yet he is well known and greatly valued as a good and true brother, and stands high in the estimation of the Order. His ever open hand has never been restrained when the claims of charity were pressed upon his attention; his tongue has never been silent when a good cause needed an advocate. Zealous in Masonry, and careful of its good name, he has never descended to use it for the purposes of business. He cares little indeed for Masonic jewellery, or the trappings of the Order, though, like a wise man, he may indifferently wear ornaments when custom commands. At the Table he is a jovial companion, and can tell a good story with the true zest of a man of wit. A tithe of the *bon mots* he carelessly flings around him would make the reputation of a comic writer, and the vein of satire in his nature, if turned to account, might do good service if it were ever his fate to sit in judgment upon society and administer the lash to the shoulders of those who are the slaves of fashion. Father Time, indeed, would make a good professional satirist, if real satire were in demand in the literary market. Our comic journals are all mealy mouthed, and have not courage to say true and bitter things. A turn for satire is, however, a weakness and a temptation to a public man; he may, indeed, try to temper the vinegar and gall with honey, but the bitter things sink deep into the memory, and the garnish of sweets seldom heals the wound. If we might venture to counsel so brave a man as Father Time, we should urge him to study the humours of the public, and keep a careful guard upon his tongue. We need scarcely advise him to be of good cheer. His motto has ever been *Nil desperandum*, and he still looks forward to the distant future in which he sees dimly the Civic Sword flashing before his eyes, and the chair of State made vacant for him to fill. But we advise him to look yet further afield, and perhaps to a less remote future, when he may be called by his fellow subjects, though not by his fellow citizens, to take his place on the Great Council of the Nation. That day may not be far distant. The darkest hour is just before the dawn. Father Time has his fate in his own hands. Discretion and silence now may prepare him for action when the moment of conflict comes.

MASONIC STUDIES.

THERE are plenty of people in this world who consider they have satisfied all the requirements of cleanliness when they have washed their hands and faces, or so much of their bodies as is ordinarily exposed to view. Not a few there are who think they are far from indifferent French scholars when they can guess the meaning of a few sentences, or, because they have once or twice visited Paris, and contrived to expound their wants to the *garçon* in Anglo-French. There are even those who set themselves down as sound English scholars, nor hesitate to interpret the meaning of some obscure passage in Shakespeare or Milton, on the strength of having mastered Lindley Murray and a spelling-book or two. Similarly, there is a considerable number of what may be called Holiday masons, who fancy, when having passed with more or less—generally more than less—prompting the earlier stages of their career, they at length obtain the dignity of a full-blown M.M., that it only remains for them to rise to the position of a W.M., and the cycle of their Masonic knowledge is complete. How many M.M.'s are there who can explain a Tracing-Board? How many who can work even the first section? much less go through, unfalteringly, the first lecture? There are regular Lodges of Instruction, yet comparatively how few there are who think of attending them, and how few of those who attend who are not almost wholly dependent on the preceptor or their next door neighbour for the answers they give to the simplest question. Are there many W.M.'s who can open and close a Lodge in the three degrees without the friendly aid of a more than usually learned P.M.? We are sure it is in the experience of most of our readers that the working of our ritual is too often the reverse of perfect, and this is due principally to the fact that so many brethren are content to believe that Masonry is simply a few signs and tokens, or rather that familiar acquaintance with certain signs and words is a perfect knowledge of Masonry.

Considering we have only the good of Masonry in view, we feel sure that our readers will forgive us for drawing attention to the too prevailing carelessness in the pursuit of Masonic knowledge. What we say, we say in sorrow rather than in anger. From one point of view, the idea that brethren who have reached the sublime degree and eat so many Lodges per annum, as the Law students

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are said to eat their terms, are even fairly versed in the mysteries of the Craft, is very laughable; but, from a Masonic point of view, it is very much to be deplored Yet, a remedy is at hand, if only brethren will avail themthemselves of it. We have said there are regular Lodges of Instruction, where the whole of our beautiful ritual may be learnt, where there are skilful professors, able, and only too willing to explain the beauties of that ritual. Many Lodges, particularly in the country, fix one day in the week, and then resolve themselves *pro temp* into Lodges of Instruction, just as the House of Commons is said to resolve itself into Committee of Supply: or, to put the matter in a simple form, Lodge Excelsior, No. 20,415, held in the good old town of Rumpingford, has a Lodge of Instruction every Wednesday evening, at 7.30 P.M., when the members are invited to be present, and will learn, in a conversational kind of way, just a few scraps of knowledge, enough, perhaps, to enable them to recognise a brother, by day or by night, to salute the W.M. in due form, or, at all events, take part audibly and faultlessly in the ceremony of closing. But, if members do not attend—and there is no law to compel them—of what avail are these Lodges? As we began with a few illustrations from everyday life, let us return thither once again. Is there a single brother who, in his own private domicile, would accept a he-person or a she-person as cook, merely because the said he or she had once or twice boiled a potato inartistically, or toasted a few muffins, and burned them in the toasting? We shall be told, You are taking an absurdly extreme case. Not so: are there not brethren, unfortunately innumerable, who have never, in the whole course of their career, done more than exchange signs, salute, stand to order in this or that degree, and possibly mumble out a few words just before the Lodge adjourns to refreshment. We have attended Lodges of Instruction not unfrequently, though not as frequently as we desired. We have seldom come away without duly appreciating the learning and ability of the preceptor, or letter-perfect and heart-perfect exposition of some learned brother. Equally true is it, however, that we have never quitted a Lodge of Instruction without feeling that many, far too many, of those present were in a lamentable state of ignorance.

Masonry has made wonderful strides of late years. It numbers in its ranks the great, the good, the mighty in the land. It is universally popular—at least in the United Kingdom and the United States, where men enjoy perfect freedom of thought as of action—not only by reason of the good it does to indigent brethren, or their widows and their orphan children, but also because it is ever ready and willing to take part in works of beneficence. But Masonry is something beyond a charity organisation. Masonry is a religion, and just as the sacred truths of Christianity are not learned merely by attending periodically at Church, making the responses formally, and dozing languidly through the Sermon; so the great truths of Masonry cannot be learned by simply attending Lodge a given number of times, observing a few outward forms and ceremonies, and eating a certain number of dinners. Masonic study is necessary, if we wish to become real Masons.

CONSECRATION OF THE STOCKWELL ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

THE great success that has attended the Stockwell Lodge, No. 1339, has stimulated the brethren still further to make an effort to establish a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with their Lodge, and a warrant has been recently granted by Grand Chapter. A meeting of the founders was convened on the 18th September 1875, at the Tulse Hill Hotel, for the purpose of consecrating the new Chapter. There were present the following Companions, viz.:—H. E. Frances P.Z. P.M. P.G.D. for Surrey, W. G. Brighten M.E.Z. designate, C. Hammerton H. designate, C. H. Benham J. designate, Barnett, Turquand and Pullman; also visitors—Companions Nunn P.Z. 720, Brant P.Z. 514, and Jones 720. The ceremony of consecration was very ably and impressively rendered by Comp. Frances, as Installing M.E.Z., who delivered a very effective oration, setting forth the grand principles of the Order, and explaining the varied symbols employed in the ceremonies, with the various useful and important lessons taught therein, which was highly appreciated. Appropriate music was introduced at intervals, under the conduct of Comp. Turquand, who was ably assisted by Comp. Brighten.

The three principals were also installed by Comp. Frances, with his usual ability, and the M.E.Z. then appointed the officers.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Comp. Frances for his valuable services on the occasion, and he was duly elected as an Hon. Member of the Chapter. The Companions adjourned to a banquet, when the usual toasts were given and responded to.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

THE following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday, 1st December 1875:—

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st September 1875 for confirmation.

2. Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.

3. Appointment of a President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

4. Election of a Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

5. Election of twelve Past Masters to serve on the Lodge of Benevolence for the year ensuing.

6. Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following Grants, viz.:—

The Widow of a Brother of the St. John's Lodge, No. 70, Plymouth	£70	0	0
A Brother of the Witham Lodge, No. 257, Lincoln	50	0	0
A Brother of the Cosmopolitan Lodge, No. 917, London	75	0	0
A Brother of the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, No. 199, Dover	75	0	0
The Widow of a Brother of the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 330, Devonport	50	0	0
A Brother of the Hertford Lodge, No. 403, Hertford	100	0	0
This Brother received £10 on account of this grand, but he died on the 1st of November.			
A Brother of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, London	£250	0	0
A Brother of the Lily Lodge of Richmond, No. 820, Richmond	50	0	0
The widow of a Brother of the Lodge St. John of Wapping, No. 1306, Wapping	50	0	0
The widow of a Brother of the Hertford Lodge, No. 403, Hertford	100	0	0
A Brother of the St. James Union Lodge, No. 180, London	50	0	0
The widow of a Brother of the Strong Man Lodge, No. 45, London	50	0	0

7. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:

The Board of General Purposes have to report that they have taken into consideration a complaint of two members of the Blackheath Lodge, No. 1420, Blackheath, to the effect that on the 17th day of June last the W.M. elect was installed without the previous confirmation of the minutes. And further, that on the 15th day of July the Lodge was opened before the time named in the summons. After a long investigation of the facts of the case, and hearing the evidence, the Board decided that the specific charges made were not proved. As however great laxity appeared to have prevailed in recording the minutes of the Lodge, the Board admonished the Master to be more careful in future in seeing that the proceedings of the Lodge were duly and properly recorded, reminding him that although the Secretary was the proper person to take the minutes, the Master was at all times responsible for their being correctly entered.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
President.

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.,
15th November 1875.

To the Report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th day of November instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £3,436 19s 2d; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

8. The appeal of Brother Robert Livingstone, of the Lodge Orion in the West, No. 415, Poona, against the decision of the District Grand Master of Bombay, that Brother Braine was eligible to be elected the Master of Lodge No. 415.

N.B.—*The papers relating to this appeal will be in the Grand Secretary's office till the meeting of Grand Lodge, and open for the inspection of the brethren during office hours.*

9. Report of a Special Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, and Widows of Freemasons, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 10th day of November 1875, will be laid before Grand Lodge, and the following proposed alterations of the Rules, which were then agreed to, will, in accordance with the Laws of the Institution, be submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge, viz.:—

To add to clause 19, page 10 of the Rules and Regulations after the words "Serving the Stewardship," and as a new paragraph, the following:—

"Every Steward at the Anniversary Festival who shall procure Donations or Subscriptions to the extent of not less than £50, in addition to his personal Donation, shall receive two additional votes at each election, and two further extra votes for every additional sum of not less than £50."

And also to expunge from the same clause the following:—

"If accompanied with a personal donation, but by

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means of his services not less than £20 shall be paid to the funds, he shall be entitled to one additional vote for every subsequent Stewardship."

That the Law as altered now read thus:—

"A Life Governor who has served the office of Steward at the Anniversary Festival and subscribed £10 or upwards shall, on every occasion of subsequent service of such office, if accompanied with a similar donation, be entitled to four extra votes; if accompanied with a donation of £5, to two extra votes. A donor who has qualified as a Life Governor and afterwards served the office of Steward at the Anniversary Festival and qualifies again as a Life Governor, shall be entitled to the same number of votes as if he had paid both at the time of serving the Stewardship.

"Every Steward at the Anniversary Festival who shall procure Donations or Subscriptions to the extent of not less than £50, in addition to his personal Donation, shall receive two additional votes at each Election, and two further extra votes for every additional sum of not less than £50."

10. Notice of Motion:—

By Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain:—

That the sum of One Hundred Guineas be granted by this Grand Lodge in aid of the Palestine Exploration Fund, with the view of promoting the continued prosecution of the interesting and important work of exploring the ancient landmarks of the Holy Land.

List of Lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

1563.—City of Westminster Lodge, Regent Street.
1564.—Saint John's Lodge, Knaphill, Surrey.
1565.—Earl of Chester Lodge, Lymm, Cheshire.
1566.—Ellington Lodge, Maidenhead.
1567.—Elliot Lodge, Feltham, Middlesex.
1568.—Cumberland Lodge, Liverpool, Cumberland, N.S.W.
1569.—Glen Innes Lodge, Glen Innes, N.S.W.
1570.—Prince Arthur Lodge, Liverpool.
1571.—Leopold Lodge, Bermondsey.
1572.—Carnarvon Lodge, Aldersgate Street.
1573.—Caradoc Lodge, Swansea.
1574.—Richard Giddy Lodge, Kimberley, South Africa.
1575.—Clive Lodge, Market Drayton, Salop.
1576.—Dee Lodge, Parkgate, Cheshire.
1577.—Victoria Lodge, Napier, New Zealand.
1578.—Merlin Lodge, Pontypridd.
1579.—St. James' Lodge, Enfield Highway.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS, ENGLAND AND WALES, &c.

THE half-yearly meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 30th instant. The following is the business on the agenda paper:—

1. Read and Confirm Minutes of Grand Lodge of 1st June 1875.

2. Nomination of M.W.G.M.

3. Election of Grand Treasurer.

4. Report of the General Board, which includes the following recommendations:—

A.—"That the existing Treaty with the Supreme Council 33°, and the Grand Master of the Temple, requires modification in the following sense:—

B.—"That no Sentence shall be carried out in the Mark Degree, unless with the unanimous consent of the Representatives of the Mark Degree present at the Meeting of the Judicial Council (on Appeal), Two Representatives being a quorum.

C.—"That an appeal be in all cases allowed to Grand Lodge.

D.—"That the Grand Stewards' Contributions towards expenses of Grand Festival be fixed at Two Guineas (£2 2s).

E.—"That the Sum of £25 be granted from the Fund of Benevolence, to Bro. P * * * *. That the sum of £5 per annum be granted from the Fund of Benevolence, to Mrs. S * * * *, widow of the late Bro. J. R. S * * * *."

FREDERICK BINCKES,
Grand Secretary.

Retort Dignified, by a Freemason, to the Pope and his Ultramontane supporters:—

Procul o procul este, profani!

The same in English, expanded, in accordance with the well-known licence of the poet, may be expressed thus:—

Away, profane revilers of our holy rite!
The darkness of your ignorance shall n e'er avail
The ever-brilliant light of Masonry to pale.

CHARGES OF A FREEMASON.

By CORNELIUS MOORE, Editor of *The Masonic Review*.

WHILE the Master must be faithful both to the employer and employed, the workmen are required to discharge their duty faithfully, and "honestly finish their work." They must not only complete their work, but they must complete it agreeably to the designs laid down upon the trestle board by the Master—"honestly finish" it; and that work which is usually done by journeymen, that is, expert and well-instructed workmen, must not be entrusted to inexperienced apprentices. Each man should fill that place in the Lodge for which he is qualified, and discharge those duties only which his attainments and proficiency enable him to perform with fidelity and skill.

The reference is still to operative Masonry, and in that application is simple, plain and reasonable. Envy at the success or prosperity of another is a very foolish and very hurtful passion, and should never be indulged. Prosperity is generally the result of a judicious and energetic application of those powers with which man has been endowed by his Creator, and instead of indulging envy at the success of another, the upright and well-instructed Mason will endeavour by similar industry to realise a similar prosperity. No one should be supplanted in his work, or "put out" of it, unless he is found incompetent to perform it. It is presumed that he understands the drafts, and fully comprehends the designs, or he would not have been put in charge of the work; and, other things being equal, he is more likely to succeed than one who should take charge of it when partly finished. These directions are all practical, and have a common sense application; the intelligent Mason will see their original appropriateness, and readily apply them, where applicable, to symbolic Masonry.

The Warden, both in operative and speculative Masonry, is the assistant of the Master in the discharge of his duties as overseer of the work. In the absence of the Master, the Warden succeeds to his duties, and then incurs all the responsibilities which rested upon his superior. He stands between the lord, or proprietor, and the workmen, and must do justice to, and deal honestly with, both. He is presumed to be competent to discharge these higher duties, or he would not have been appointed as Warden, in which capacity he is liable at any time to succeed to the Master's chair. And that he may be able to discharge those duties properly the workmen are bound to render *him* the same prompt and willing obedience they owe to the Master when he is present and superintending in person. In the absence of the Master, the Warden fills the place, discharges the duties, exercises the prerogatives, and has a right to the same homage and obedience as the superior officer; he *is* then Master *for the time being*.

There are two important duties required in this sentence, as indicated by the use of the word "shall." 1. They shall not desert the Master until the work, on which they are engaged, is fully completed. How often, in conferring degrees, do brethren embrace an opportunity during a temporary pause in the work, perhaps at the close of a section, rise and ask leave to retire; and this is continued until scarcely enough are left to assist the Master in closing the Lodge. This practice is very objectionable; it produces "confusion among the workmen;" is uncourteous to the Master; detracts from the solemnity and impressiveness of the work; and is expressly forbidden by the supreme law of the Order. Permission to retire at such times should not be requested without an urgent necessity; and if the request is made in the absence of such necessity, it should not be granted. *The Master should never give his consent for the members to disobey the law.* In cities and large towns this objectionable practice is much more common than in rural districts, and much of the work is injured, if not entirely ruined, by the non-observance of this wholesome regulation.

The other duty enjoined in this sentence is this:—that Masons should "meekly receive their wages, without murmur or mutiny." Order and harmony must be preserved; and though we may not always receive the reward we conceive due our merits, yet we shall receive *what was promised*, and with that we must be content. We may have done more than others; we may have laboured longer; perhaps have "borne the burden and heat of the day," and conceive ourselves entitled to an extra reward. But we should never forget that we engaged "for a penny," and having received that, we should neither "murmur" nor "mutiny." We have received our "wages"—that for which we stipulated; and if the Master should bestow an equal reward upon those who have done less, we have no right to complain; he has done us no injustice, and he has a perfect right to "do what he pleases with his own."

"A younger brother shall be instructed in working" by the Master, or by some one selected for that purpose because of his competence and his aptitude in teaching. Indeed, it is the duty of every Mason to instruct, as occasion may offer, his less informed brethren. The younger members are enjoined to diligence in the study of the art, and to "improve in Masonic knowledge" by conversation with older and better informed brethren, who will be always "as ready to give as he will be to receive instruction." The best evidence that a young Mason can give of his fitness for the Order, will be his diligence in the pursuit of Masonic knowledge. If he sits down contented, as soon as his curiosity is gratified, it is a sure indication that an error was committed by admitting him. He may be a very worthy citizen, but he will add neither strength nor ornament to our mystic building.

The duty of instructing a younger brother is enjoined for two reasons:—to prevent spoiling the work, and to preserve and increase brotherly love, which is the "cement which unites the building into one common mass." These are two very important considerations, and should have their proper influence in securing the observance of this important duty.

A description of the tools—the rituals—our mystical implements

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—cannot be reduced to writing, but a knowledge of their character and use must be communicated by oral instruction. The Charges, therefore, have very wisely committed this matter to the keeping of the Grand Lodge. That body is composed of the Masters and Wardens of all the subordinate Lodges — the oldest and most experienced of the workmen, as it is to be presumed, and therefore the best judges of what the tools should be, and how they should be used. If any discrepancies arise in the work, or any doubts exist as to the proper tools, the Grand Lodge is the proper tribunal to determine the matter, and the decision of that body should quiet all cavilling upon the subject.

The secrets of Masonry are the exclusive property of the Craft, and can never be communicated to one who is a mere labourer and not an accepted Mason. Hence, no "labourer," that is, one who has not been regularly initiated in a legal Lodge, must "be employed in the proper work of Masonry," or permitted to be present when and where the Craft are engaged in their peculiar labours. A sentinel is therefore placed at the door of every well governed Lodge to keep at a distance all such as are not entitled to enter it, that the secrets of Masonry may not be obtained by the "profane."

"Without an urgent necessity"—This had exclusive reference to operative Masonry in ancient times: when *portions* of the work had to be done outside the Lodge, and when "unaccepted Masons" were sometimes required to aid in particular portions of the work. It can have no reference to symbolic Masonry, for no necessity can arise to require the "work" to be performed in the presence of those who have not been initiated. A Mason should never forget the charges to "keep sacred and inviolable the mysteries of the Order," for by these he is to be distinguished from the rest of the community, and their preservation will convince the Craft of his integrity.

VI. "*Of Behavior, viz.:* I. *In the Lodge while constituted.*—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, or Wardens, or any brother speaking to the Master; nor behave yourself indicrously or jestingly, while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming language upon any pretence whatsoever; but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to worship.

If any complaint be brought, the brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the Lodge, who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies (unless you carry it by appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be referred, unless a lord's work be hindered the meanwhile, in which case a particular reference may be made; but you must never go to law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge.

II. *Behaviour after the Lodge is over, and the Brethren not gone.*—You may enjoy yourselves with innocent mirth, treating one another according to ability, but avoiding all excess, or forcing any brother to eat or drink beyond his inclination, or hindering him from going when his occasion calls him, doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an easy and free conversation; for that would blast our harmony, and defeat our laudable purposes. Therefore, no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the door of the Lodge, far less any quarrels about *religion* or *nations*, or *state policy*; we being only, as *Masons*, of the *Catholic religion* above mentioned; we are also of all *nations, tongues, kindreds*, and *languages*, and are resolved against all *politics*, as what never yet conduced to the welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will. This *charge* has been always strictly enjoined and observed; but especially ever since the *Reformation* in Britain, or the dissent and secession of these nations from the *communion* of Rome."

III. *Behaviour when Brethren meet without strangers, but not in a Lodge formed.*—You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other *Brother*; freely giving mutal instruction as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from that respect which is due to any brother, were he not a Mason; for though all *Masons* are as *brethren* upon the same level, yet *Masonry* takes no honour from a man that he had before; nay, it rather adds to his honour, especially if he has deserved well of the Brotherhood, who must give honour to whom it is due, and avoid ill *manners*.

IV. *Behaviour in presence of strangers not Masons.*—You shall be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the honour of the *worshipful Fraternity*.

V. *Behaviour at home and in your neighbourhood.*—You are to act as becomes a moral and wise man; particularly, not to let your family, friends, and neighbours know the *concerns* of the Lodge, &c.; but wisely to consult your own honour, and that of the *ancient brotherhood*, for reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from home, after Lodge hours are past; and by avoiding of gluttony or drunkenness, that your families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

VI. *Behaviour toward a strange Brother.*—You are cautiously to examine him in such a method as prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant false *pretender*, whom you are to reject with contempt and derision, and beware of giving him any hints or knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine *brother*, you are to respect him accordingly, and if he is in want, you must relieve him if you can, or else direct him how he may be relieved: you must employ him some days, or else recommend him to be employed: but you are not charged to do beyond your ability, only to prefer a poor *brother* that is a *good man and true*, before any other poor people in the same circumstances.

Finally, all these charges you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated to you in another way; cultivating brotherly love, the foundation and cap-stone, the *cement* and glory of this antient *Fraternity*; avoiding all wrangling and quarrelling, all slander and backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest brother, but defending his character, and doing him all good offices, as far as is consistent with your *honour* and *safety*, and no farther. And if any of them do you injury you must apply to your own or his Lodge; and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge at the *Quarterly Communication*, and from thence to the *annual* Grand Lodge, as has been the ancient laudable conduct of our forefathers in every nation; never taking a *legal course* but when the case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly advice of *Master* and *Fellows*, when they would prevent your going to law with *strangers*, or would excite you to put a speedy period to all law *suits*, that so you may mind the affairs of Masonry with the more alacrity and success; but with respect to *brothers or fellows* at law, the *Master* and brethren should kindly offer their mediation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending brethren; and if that submission is impractiable, they must, however, carry on their present *process* or *law suit* without wrath or rancore (not in the common way), saying or doing nothing which may hinder *brotherly love*, and good offices to be renewed and continued; that all may see the *benign influence* of Masonry, as all true *Masons* have done from the beginning of the world, and will do to the end of *time*.

AMEN, SO MOTE IT BE.

The Lodge is no place for conviviality, jesting or trifling and ludicrous conduct. We should go to the Lodge as *Masons*, and attend to no other business while there but Masonry. Order must be observed; the officers must not be interrupted in the discharge of their duty, nor any brother while speaking on a subject under consideration in the Lodge. A well governed Lodge should be, and is, a perfect model of order and regularity. Everything is done at the right time, in the right way, and with propriety and dignity. There should be no jesting, especially while the Lodge is engaged in the solemn labours of the Craft. When the degrees are conferred with proper solemnity, they will make an impression that will favourably affect the whole future life of the novice; but mingle our solemn rites with laughing and jesting, and the whole affair becomes ludicrous in the estimation of the candidate. Masons should never forget that the Lodge room is dedicated to the holiest principles,—that it is a temple erected to God, whose awful presence is ever there. They should also remember the reverence and respect due from each brother, however exalted his station in life may be, to the officers and brethren while engaged in the labours of the Lodge room. Quiet, order, and decorum should reign, and dignity and respect should be seen in the deportment of each individual brother. This would make the Lodge, as a place of resort, instructive and pleasant, where heart, and life, and manners, may all be improved.—*The Masonic Review.*

Macmillan for October, contains chapters 8-10 of Mrs. Oliphant's admirable serial story, "The Curate in Charge," Part II. of Mr. R. L. Stevenson's paper on "John Knox and his relations to women," "The American Heroine," as depicted by different authors, some pretty verses, by M. B. Smedley, on "Snowdrops," and what, perhaps, will be chiefly interesting at this moment, an account, by Dr. Anderson, of "The Exploring Expeditions to Western Yanna of 1868 and 1875." It was in the latter of these that Mr. Margary was so treacherously murdered, with the connivance, it has been reported, of the Chinese authorities. "Snowdrops" we take leave to quote:—

"O, snowdrops, do not rise,
Because the happy eyes
That loved you once, now underneath you lie;
Let not your buds appear,
Each seems a frozen tear,
That never drops, and yet is never dry.
Such useless tears they seem,
As in a heavy dream
We pour about our griefs to make them grow;
When all the lights are pale,
And all the senses fail,
And all the flowers are underneath the snow."

The Voice of Masonry contains an article, by Dr. Mackey, on the "Fate of Morgan," the man who so mysteriously disappeared many years since, and whose death was attributed to the Freemasons. He fairly meets the arguments adduced at the time in favour of this theory, pointing out the complete absence of evidence as to any murder having been committed, and, in the next place, that neither at the time referred to nor now, was any other penalty inflicted on a recreant Mason than that of expulsion from the Order. We have noticed, also, No. 1 of what we doubt not, to judge from the evidence it contains, will prove a most valuable series of papers, by Bro. W. James Hughan, on "Masonic Bibliography." We have further from the pen of the same writer an interesting account of "The Trades' Shields of Aberdeen." Of the other contributions, two deserve to be noticed. These are "Masonic Legends," by W. S. Hooper, and "What is Dropping from the Roll," by Geo. Frank Gouley.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—HEALTH'S DEFENCE.—None save the strongest can with impunity pass through the sudden transitions from wet to dry, from cold to muggy weather, so prevalent during the late autumn and early winter months. Influenza, bronchitis, cough, sore throat, diphtheria, or quinsy will attack those most watchful of their health; but they can readily arrest any of these complaints by rubbing Holloway's Ointment twice a day upon the skin, adjacent to the affected part, and by assisting its corrective action with appropriate doses of his Pills. This well-known safe and easy mode of treatment efficiently protects the invalid both from present and future danger, without weakening or even depressing the system in the slightest degree.

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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 Land of the Pharaohs—Egypt and Sinai. Illustrated, by Pen and Pencil, by the Rev. Samuel Manning, LL.D. London: Religious Tract Society.

THIS is a very elegant and beautiful record of travel. The author, who can use the pencil as cleverly as the pen, has given us a very graphic description of his journey from Alexandria, up the Nile, to Nubia, with a sketch of his route through the Suez Canal, and across the great wilderness of Sinai. The book is beautifully illustrated, and most of the engravings appear to have been specially prepared from his original sketches. Some of the Egyptian wall sculptures appear to have been copied from Sir Gardiner Wilkinson's great work on the "Antiquities of Egypt," but we can scarcely expect the flying tourist to notice for himself all the details of the archæology of the land of the Nile. Dr. Manning is an enlightened traveller, and his ideas of the theology of Egypt are worthy of a cultivated mind. We notice, indeed, with some amusement, that he regards the symbol of the circle and the cross, which occurs so frequently in the sculptures, as having some prophetic reference to Christianity. A further reference to Bunsen, whose great work he quotes, will, we hope, enlighten his mind as to its true meaning. We need scarcely say that it has nothing to do with Christian philosophy, and might seem rather heathenish to those readers who are accustomed to regard Egyptian theology from the standpoint of the modern Philistine. We notice, further, that there are several vague references to the prophetic books of the Bible scattered through the work. We are glad these references are vague. Dr. Manning shows both his liberalism and his learning by refusing to dwell upon the stock quotations of ignorant commentators. Egypt was in the days of its decline and fall when the poems were written which bear the name of Isaiah, and we know enough of the Hebrew literature to be aware that the Hebrews invariably fulminated the most splenetic and impotent threats against all the nations by whom they were surrounded. One of the prophecies which is quoted as bearing upon Egypt has been shown by no less an authority than Bishop Lowth, to refer to Nebuchadnezzar. Some orthodox writers upon Egypt have expressed surprise that there is little or no reference upon the monuments to the kingdom of Judah, but the reason of this is obvious. Judah was too insignificant for notice. Dr. Manning very properly questions the dictum of those sanguine people who see in the wall sculptures evidences of the labours of the children of Israel when in captivity. It is not at all likely that the Egyptians, the proudest people on earth, would thus distinguish the men whom Manetho styles "a band of leperous slaves," besides the so-called Israelish sculptures are in the region of the Upper Nile, and we have good reason to suppose that the captives were located in a region not more than a few days' march from the Gulf of Suez. Dr. Manning finds comfort in the fact, established beyond all controversy, that the Temple of Denderah, which was once supposed to rejoice in an antiquity beyond that of the creation of man, is now proved to be comparatively modern. He does not, however, make any reference to Mr. Horner's researches in the Nile Valley, nor to the astounding conclusions which have been drawn from them. Champollion, indeed, attempted to dogmatise upon the supposed antiquity of the monuments of Egypt, but modern Egyptologers happily know more about the matter than the great French explorer. The vast antiquity of some of the monuments is conceded, but apart from, and beyond the visible evidences of the great duration of civilisation in the Nile Valley, which the architectural remains afford, Mr. Horner's researches prove that, ages prior to the colonisation of Egypt by the people we call Egyptians, primitive man, sufficiently civilised to be in possession of pottery hardened by fire, had lived on the banks of the mysterious river. We do not care to mention Mr. Horner's figures, it is sufficient for us to say that he throws this savage period back far beyond the beginning of the commonly received Biblical chronology.

Having said thus much of the slighter faults of Dr. Manning's book, we cannot speak too highly of its general tone, of its illustrations, or of the elegance of its style. It is a sign of the times when the Tract Society, which has been accustomed to place works relating to Egyptology and kindred sciences upon its own Protestant *Index Expurgatorius*, publishes such a volume. There are some people who dare not approach the study of ancient civilisation without the authority of the Church, and to such people the present volume will be useful, if not welcome. They may learn much from it, and it will instil no prejudices into their minds. Perhaps they may rise from its perusal convinced that the Egyptians were not such dark heathens as they had imagined. We heartily commend Dr. Manning's book to the notice of our readers.

The Royal Masonic Cyclopædia of History, Rites, Symbolism, and Biography. Edited by KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE XI°. ("Cryptonymus"). London: Bro. John Hogg, 15A Paternoster-row, E.C.

WE have received Part II., which, from the cursory examination we have so far had time to give it, appears to bear out the impression we formed from a careful study of the first number. There can be no question the work, when complete, will be a valuable addition to every Masonic library.

The Freemason's Repository (Providence, R.I.) contains two very capital articles, one entitled "Knowledge is Power," the other, "The Ideal Mason," besides a full account of the various proceedings during the month of October.

Streaked with Gold is the title of the Christmas number of the *Gentleman's*. The number, which consists of a tale, or series of tales, with one connecting link, is excellently written. The incidents are very skilfully interwoven, and most, if not all, of the characters, are admirably drawn. Dr. Philip Thornfield is, indeed, very finely conceived; and, among the best writing in the book, are the three chapters, in which is described "Philip Thornfield's folly."

The *Belgravia Annual* opens with a well told story, entitled "Sir Luke's Return." Samuel Grynde and Walter Carlyon are very natural, and the device employed by Sir Luke to test the reality of the feelings displayed towards him by his kindred on returning to England a wealthy man, if not possessing any great degree of novelty, is very well contrived. "The Pride of the Corbyns" is also a tale that will bear reading more than once, and so too, will "The Secret of the Stair." The engravings, particularly that of "Afternoon Tea," are admirably drawn. In short, this Christmas number is a famous specimen of the art and literature usually to be found in the magazine district of *Belgravia*.

The serials in *Tinsleys'* call for no particular comment, but Dr. Davies, while giving some prominence to clerical matters, in his "Social Status Quo," is not unmindful of other matters, and discusses the weather, Mr. Irving's impersonation of *Macbeth*, the Railway Jubilee at Darlington, total abstinence, and Dr. Richardson's paper at the recent Social Science Congress at Brighton, in lively vein. This chatty kind of article on general questions is, in our opinion, preferable to a single theme, with even the most brilliant variations. His Troubadour Song, "Reason and Folly," is admirable. If we remember rightly, the friend of a certain Capon Cuttle was "Entrapped" in a similar, though less elaborate, fashion than is Captain Denham, in the short tale of Mrs. Alexander Fraser. However, Captain Denham fares better in the long run. We ask no apology for quoting the following stanzas on

AUTUMNTIDE.

I am pacing the lovely gardens—
Thou art not by my side,
In the blended summer and winter,
In the golden autumntide.

For the withered leaves are falling
Amid surrounding sheen;
And the long bare trunks stand naked,
With sunlight glinting between.

'Which things are an allegory,'
With beauty and wisdom rife;
Emblem of our affection,
Type of a blessed life.

Thine absence would be winter,
Mirrored in leafless bole,
But thy deathless love is the sunshine
Of summer to my soul.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MASONIC BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Although you have, very properly, pending the Report of the Committee of Enquiry, stopped all further discussion, in your columns, of the Management of the Boys' School, you will, no doubt, be glad to correct an error of fact into which you have inadvertently fallen.

In the leader of last Saturday's "CHRONICLE" you speak of the late Head Master as having been deprived of his office. He resigned his appointment.

Your obedient Servant,

23rd November 1875. V. P. T.

GRAND LODGE, CALIFORNIA, U.S.

THE following are the recently elected Grand Officers for the year 1875-6.

John Mills Browne—Grand Master.
Charles L. Wiggin—Deputy Grand Master.
Wiley J. Tinnin—Senior Grand Warden.
Jacob H. Neff—Junior Grand Warden
James Laidley—Grand Treasurer.
Alex. G. Abell—Grand Secretary.
Henry Cox—Grand Chaplain.
William E. Moody—Assistant Grand Secretary.
J. W. Shaeffer—Grand Lecturer.
M. S. Thresher—Grand Marshal.
Samuel Grey—Grand Bible Bearer.
Hiram Deuning—Grand Standard Bearer.
George Hinds—Grand Sword Bearer.
Sol. Kohlman—Senior Grand Deacon.
Wm. H. Crane—Junior Grand Deacon.
Hiram F. Taft—Senior Grand Steward.
Wm. Vanderhurst—Junior Grand Steward.
John Pashbury—Grand Pursuivant.
Samuel D. Meyer—Grand Organist.
James Oglesby—Grand Tyler.

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

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By BRO. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

EARLY on Wednesday morning the Queen reached Windsor Castle, on her return from Balmoral. The Princess of Wales is still doing the honours of Marlborough House to the King and Queen of Denmark and her sister. The visits of the Royal party to the theatres are of almost daily occurrence. On Tuesday the Queen of Denmark and her daughter paid a visit to the Empress Eugénie at Chiselhurst, where they were received by the Prince Imperial and the Count de Cléry. After a short stay the Queen returned to town. The same day a visit was paid to Messrs. Phillips and Pearce's Art Pottery Galleries, 155 New Bond Street, and on Wednesday visits were paid to the French and Doré Galleries. Her Royal Highness Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, and the Marquis of Lorne have returned to Kensington Palace, from a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.

The Prince of Wales has been visiting the Guicowar of Baroda, by whom he was received in great state. The Prince, with the Guicowar and his minister, rode the same elephant, the houdah being gold, and the animal fantastically painted, after the manner of Baroda. There were in all some fifteen elephants forming the State procession, and the reception must have been in the highest degree, satisfactory to His Royal Highness. It is, no doubt, within the recollection of our readers that, not long since, the present Guicowar was placed in power by the British Government in succession to the ex-Guicowar, whom, owing to his gross misgovernment, we dethroned. When this visit was over, the Prince returned to Bombay, and went on board the Serapis. According to the latest advices he is now on his way to Colombo in Ceylon, where it is proposed he should spend some days for the purpose of enjoying the sport for which the island is famous. The visit to the Madras Presidency appears to have been definitively struck out of the programme, owing to the prevalence of cholera. It would seem as though there had been some little hitch in reference to the newspaper correspondents, who, for a time at least, appear to have been deprived of the opportunity of recording in full detail the progress of the Prince's journey. Arrangements, however, are said to have been made of a nature entirely satisfactory to the correspondents. We trust, for the honour of English journalism, there has been no undue intrusion on His Royal Highness's privacy.

The more we hear of the extent of the recent floods, the greater appears to be the amount of damage done. It is stated that, in one district in Norfolk, three thousand acres, mostly in the occupation of small farmers, are under water.

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The Mansion House Fund, for the relief of the sufferers by these terrible inundations, is already assuming very respectable dimensions, about £8,200 having been collected up to Thursday evening. No doubt the Grand Lodge will not be behindhand in voting its quota towards the relief of the sufferers.

There has been a marked change in the weather during the last few days, and things have assumed quite a wintry aspect. We know not if a severe winter, supervening on a miserable autumn and an indifferent summer, is before us. If so, the prospect for the very poorest classes is far from being encouraging. There is, however, this consolation, the wealthy section of the community never fails in its duty towards its less fortunate brethren, and least of all at Christmas tide, the period of universal rejoicing.

The great St. Leonards' Will case is nearly concluded, the Judge, Sir James Hannen, holding that the will and eight codicils had been duly executed, but he has not yet pronounced for them. Dr. Deane's theory as to the disappearance of the will was, that the late Lord St. Leonards himself destroyed it, with the intention of making a new one, and Sir H. James followed his learned friend, and adopted the same line of argument. The Lord Chief Justice has been occupied the whole of this week in the Wainwright case. One matter in connection with the case is most objectionable—that any woman of respectability should have been induced by morbid curiosity to seek admission into the court during the trial. No doubt women inherit from our common mother Eve the vice of over-curiosity, but a regard for the outward forms of decency is expected of those whom the papers describe as well dressed ladies. For ourselves, we only refer to the trial at all, because it forms a principal item in the news of the week.

"Larking" and practical "joking" are too often attended with unpleasant consequences. On Tuesday, the Maidenhead magistrates committed for trial a man named Joseph Garrett, for causing grievous bodily harm to a boy, Henry Emm. It seems the man and boy in question were both employed at the Temple Paper Mills, Bisham, and the former was carrying a basket of rags to a vat of boiling lime water. "Larking" had been going on between the two, and, at length, Emm, threw the basket from Garrett's shoulder. The latter thereupon flung the boy into the vat, but Emm, clutching to the side, got out, with one leg badly scalded. The defence offered was, that it was only meant to stop the boy's "larking." We are not in the confidence of Mr. Garrett, but we presume he is aware what usually follows when human flesh and boiling water come into contact with each other. It is evidently high time be learned that people who are dipped into boiling water, invariably suffer the most excruciating agonies. If the facts of the case, as described, are brought home to him, we trust Mr. Garrett will be duly taught that throwing boys into boiling lime water, whether for a lark, or to stop larking, cannot be done with impunity.

Our first idea, when we saw the paragraph in Thursday's papers, headed "A Spelling Bee," was that some ingenious person had found out a method of teaching bees to spell. We have all heard, of course, of the marvellous doings of sundry performing dogs, monkeys, learned pigs, as well as of the industrious flea, but a spelling bee was something quite out of the common. We not unnaturally began to think the "little busy bee" had been taught some other way of improving "each shining hour" than the one so pathetically described by Dr. Watts. It turns out, however, that "A Spelling Bee" is an American "notion," imported into London, for the first time, on Wednesday, and tested as to its merits at the Agricultural Hall under the auspices of Ex-Lord Mayor Lusk, Mr. Waddy M.P., and other gentlemen. A "Spelling Bee" is simply a "Spelling bout," in which those of the contestants who spell the most words correctly carry off the prizes. The "notion" is not a bad one, especially as a considerable number of English men and women take very great liberties with the spelling of their native language. There are many who allow themselves great latitude in describing literally the words they utter. Even words in every day use, such as "practice," "practise," "expense," "skilful," &c., &c., are too often misspelt, while the havoc that is made with words like "unparalleled" is dreadful to contemplate. We wish every success to the experiment, which cannot but be productive of good, We agree, however, with the *Standard* that the questioner must be careful in his orthoëpy. How can people be expected to spell properly if the words are inaudibly or improperly pronounced? Again, we quite endorse the opinion of the same journal that an American Dictionary of the English language should not be taken as the standard of correct spelling, at all events in England. It were better to take Latham than Webster, though the merits of the latter are by no means to be denied.

Mr. Peter Paul McSwiney and sundry Irish M.P.'s do not show to great advantage in the disputes that have arisen over the O'Connell Centenary Fund. When men of different shades of opinion combine to honour the memory of some eminent personage, they should sink all personal and private differences. But in this case a most undignified squabble has arisen. Could the late Dan O'Connell rise from the grave, and be present at another such Committee meeting, he would probably exclaim, with all his native vehemence, "Save me from my friends."

Archbishop Trench has met with an accident. In stepping ashore, at Kingstown, from one of the Holland steamers, his Grace fell, and severely strained the muscles of one of his legs. He was conveyed at once to an hotel, and, according to latest accounts, is progressing very favourably.

The stoppage, under orders of the Privy Council, of a number of Irish cattle, at Silloth, in Cumberland, owing to the prevalence of foot and mouth disease among the herd, has been magnified by Mr. Isaac Butt, M.P., into an Irish grievance. We are fully alive to the inconvenience and loss that must result from the stoppage of cattle, whether Irish, English, or foreign; but there is a still greater evil to be feared if, when contagious diseases are raging among our flocks and herds, the unrestricted movements of the cattle trade were permitted. The cattle plague of 1865-6 was only stamped out, at the last, by wholesale slaughter, and the most complete isolation of any stock among which the disease had broken out. Had these severe measures been adopted at the outset, instead of at the last, it is very probable Cheshire would not have had to deplore the loss of some 80,000 head of cattle. It is hard enough to bear the present high prices of meat, but were the movements of cattle wholly unrestricted, the disease might spread everywhere. However, the subject has been referred to the Royal Dublin Society, who will at once send over an influential deputation to the Duke of Richmond, President of the Council.

The Theatres and Concert Rooms are in full activity. Among the most enjoyable of the latter, are the Monday and Saturday Popular Concerts, at St. James's Hall, which have now become quite an annual institution. The second Monday "Pop" came off this week, and was honoured by the presence of the Queen of Denmark, the Princess of Wales, and the Princess Thyra. Then there are the Oratorio Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, and at the Crystal and Alexandra Palaces. The Promenade Concerts, at Covent Garden, will shortly come to an end, in view of the preparations necessary for the production of the Christmas Pantomime.

The Chrysanthemum Show of Messrs. W. Cutbush and Sons, at the Alexandra Palace, will close to-day. The attractions at Muswell Hill are now, almost of necessity, limited to the concerts and theatrical representations; and these are certainly well supported. Next month we are promised a Dog Show, on a grand scale; an Exhibition of Dolls, and on the 1st proximo, which is the anniversary of the Princess of Wales's birthday, there will be a special programme in honour of the occasion. To-day, at the Crystal Palace, the Annual Presentation of Prizes to the London Rifle Brigade will take place; the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will attend in State, and the Lady Mayoress will perform the ceremony of distribution.

The winter meeting of the London Athletic Club was held last Saturday at Lillie Bridge. The attendance, considering the time of the year and the extreme rawness of the weather, was very considerable, there being some four thousand people present. Everything passed off well, as is usually the case at these deservedly popular meetings; the more so, that a new feature, only introduced of late, was among the principal attractions. We allude to what, in our younger days and by readers of the *Boys' Own Book*, is no doubt familiar to our readers as French and English. Two teams, as nearly equal weight and strength as possible, take each an end of a long rope, and the struggle is which team shall pull its opponents over a mark. On Wednesday the same club held its annual assault of arms in the big room at St. James's Hall. The events were numerous and

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very varied in character, consisting of bouts at single stick, and with the gloves, sabre v. bayonet, fencing, Indian club exercise, in which one of the performers handled 40 lb clubs with singular ease, Cumberland wrestling, feats of swordsmanship, such as cutting an apple in two on a man's hand, cleaving a bar of lead, &c., &c. The attendance was considerable, and the success of the meeting undoubted.

At Versailles, the third reading of the Electoral Bill makes somewhat slow progress. However, the principle of the Bill has been accepted, and, in a short time, no doubt, it will become the law of the land. M. Paul de Cassagnac, on Tuesday evening, addressed a private meeting of Buonapartists, who were present to the number of three thousand, at—of all quarters of Paris—Belleville. The meeting, according to all accounts, appears to have been very successful, and M. Paul de Cassagnac was very happy in some of the blows he delivered at the Republican party. There is a Press Bill to be discussed in the Legislative Assembly, and this, no doubt, will give rise to many exciting debates. From Vienna we hear that Cardinal Rauscher, Prince Archbishop of that See, died on Wednesday. The news from Spain resembles much the news received for some weeks past. The final campaign against the Carlists is *about to be* undertaken, and, of course, Carlism is *on the point of being* annihilated. But the event that inspires pretty general distrust throughout Europe is the critical state of things in Turkey. The insurgents in the Hersegovina appear to have gained one or two pretty substantial successes over the Turks. We hear rumours of Servia preparing for war in the coming spring, and of the assembling of six thousand Montenegrins, with a view, no doubt, of having a finger in the present troubles. No doubt the Great Powers are earnest in their endeavours to maintain the peace, and the Sultan may possibly be induced to grant the desired reforms, provided, of course, there is no appearance of external pressure having been brought to bear on His Majesty. If concerted action is taken, we may anticipate that peace will be preserved; but the present aspect of things is, to say the least, ticklish. The situation of affairs at Perak, in the Malayan Peninsula, has not materially altered. The Malays, it is true, have been driven out of one or more stockades, but the murder of the British Resident, Mr. Birch, is very far from being avenged. However, troops are being sent to the seat of disturbance, and no doubt we shall soon hear that a just retribution has overtaken the offenders. Another of those notabilities, who have played no despicable part in the world's history, has passed away. The ex-Duke of Modena, who was expelled his Duchy by the events that followed the war of 1859, died last Saturday. Up to the very last moment of his life the Duke looked forward to being restored to power, but this was not to be. He was possessed of great wealth, and it is said he supplied a great part of the money which has enabled the Carlists and the French Legitimists to play so considerable a part during the last few years. There is a talk, by the way, of the Ex-Queen of Spain returning to Madrid, but we imagine this will hardly strengthen the throne of her son, King Alphonso.

The regular meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday, the 25th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Lieutenant Colonel Creaton, V.P., in the Chair. Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, Secretary, read the minutes of the various special reports of the several Committees, and of the General Quarterly Court, which were confirmed. Bro. Benjamin Head proposed that the special report of the House Committee be adopted, which was carried. Four petitions were accepted for children to be placed on the list of candidates, while one was deferred. A sum of £10 was collected to give Miss Giller for her outfit. The meeting was then adjourned. There were present Bros. Hyde Pullen, A. H. Tattershall, B. Head, Griffith Smith, R. B. Webster, W. Wellsman, H. Massey, W. Pass, F. Binsa, L. Ruf. Dr. Ramsey Kenyon, W. Jones, H. A. Dubois, H. Diaper, H. M. Levy.

Bro. J. L. Toole, on his return from America, has, at the Gaiety Theatre, been received nightly with a perfect ovation. His success in America is well known; there he has been received with tokens of esteem from our American friends, and also by the President of the United States. The highest officials in Canada have also accorded him the right hand of fellowship, with expressions of personal regard as a friend and talented actor. A Canadian contemporary has the following passage, "Mr. Toole, who has won such fame on both sides of the Atlantic, by his performances, has been the delight of thousands of the best classes of our citizens. Accomplished artists like Mr. Toole are not like blackberries, found in every hedge, and with this conviction, only too forcibly impressed on us, we cannot but lament the early departure of this brilliant and accomplished comedian."

We are gratified in being able to report the initiation of Capt. Matthew Webb, in the Neptune Lodge, No. 22, at Guildhall Tavern, on Thursday.

Bro. Sheriff Breffit has been elected on the Court of Assistants of the Coopers' Company.

Bro. Henry Gabb P.M. New Concord Lodge, 813, of the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, Past Governor of the Incorporated Society of Licensed Victuallers, and Past Chairman of the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society, has been elected as Chairman for the ensuing year of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum.

Bro. Geo. Abbott, Past Master of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, has been presented with a very valuable gold watch and chain, and a very elegantly emblazoned testimonial, on vellum, by the members of the Railway Guards' Universal Friendly Society, as a token of respect, and also for his ability in discharging his duties as chairman for five years.

NEW FREEMASONS' HALL FOR STOCKTON.

THE usual ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a Freemasons' Hall, in Wellington-street, almost immediately opposite the Hall at present used by that body, was conducted with Masonic honours. Not having been publicly announced, there was not a large assembly; but, nevertheless, a goodly company, of which the fair sex formed the larger portion, and they were accommodated with a platform overlooking the proceedings. The duty of laying the stone devolved upon the Worshipful Master, Bro. James Usher, assisted by the Wardens and Brethren of the Lodge of Philanthropy, No. 940; Bro. C. E. Naish W.M., and brethren of the Tees Lodge, No. 509; Bro. R. S. Hopper W.M., and brethren of the Lodge of Fraternity No. 1418; and other brethren from Lodges in the Provinces of Durham and Yorkshire. The architects are Bros. Wetherall and Moses; the builders, Bros. J. F. Craggs and Mr. Benson; the director of ceremonies, Bro. A. S. Fowler P.M. P.S.G.D.; Secretary, Bro. I. H. Hart. The procession having arrived at a proper distance from the site, it halted, the brethren opening out right and left, leaving room for the Master to pass up the centre, Preceded by the Inner Guard and brethren following in succession from the rear, thus inverting the order of procession. On the Worshipful Master arriving at the stone the upper portion was raised, whereupon the Chaplain (the Rev. Bro. Trotter, of Haverton Hill), repeated a prayer.

The Mayor of Stockton (Bro. John Hunton), Treasurer of the Lodge, then deposited in the cavity of the stone a phial, containing various coins of her Majesty the Queen Victoria's reign, copies of the newspapers of the day, and a parchment scroll containing a record of the ceremony. After making a few remarks on the necessity for the new building, the trowel was then handed to the Worshipful Master by Bro. A. C. Knowles P.M. P.P.S.G.D., and the former then spread the cement on the lower stone, when the upper one was immediately put down upon it. The stone was then adjusted by Bro. A. S. Fowler with the plumb rule, Bro. T. Bradley using the level, and Bro. Smith the square. The Worshipful Master having given the three taps with the mallet, poured the wine and oil and strewed the corn over the stone, the Chaplain repeating a prayer. The implements were next delivered by the Worshipful Master to the builder for his use, and the plan and elevation of the building being presented to the Worshipful Master for his inspection, after approving of the same, delivered them to the architect (Bro. Moses) for his guidance.—Bro. J. Usher W.M., then addressed the assembly, and three cheers were given, on the call of the Worshipful Master, for "The Queen," "The Grand Master of England," "Bro. John Fawcett, Provincial Grand Master," "The Ladies," &c. A collection, according to ancient custom, having been made for the workmen, the procession re-formed and returned to the Freemasons' Hall, and sat down to a banquet.

CARD HORSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked is 3d per pack, 3s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 10s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Euchre, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 57 Barbican, E.C.

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THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEMASONRY—THEIR ORIGIN.

From the "Canadian Masonic News."

FREEMASONRY, at this time the most permanent and widely extended association on the globe, undoubtedly had its origin in a remote antiquity, and embraces among its membership men of all classes and conditions, from the humble artisan to the very king on the throne, and men of every variety of political opinions and of every shade of religion founded upon a belief and adoration of the great I AM.

Although the origin of Freemasonry has been considered a mystery by the many, its foot-prints are visible in every age, and its records traced through all the distant past. The original basis of Freemasonry was, doubtless, a compact or solemn agreement entered into between its originators to worship the one living and true God, the Creator of all worlds, at a time when the crudest notions prevailed in regard to Deity; when a multiplicity of Gods were worshipped, and the most degraded observances in the name of religion were practised. This compact may, with a great deal of certainty, be traced to have originated with Joseph and his brethren in Egypt, as at no other period of the world's history does there appear to have existed a *necessity* for a mutual agreement of such a nature. The beginning of Freemasonry was the administering an obligation by Joseph to his brethren after the decease of their father, Jacob, binding them to continue stedfast in their belief in the Creator of the Universe and to deal justly with their fellow-men. The diversity of individual character, and the difference in the moral status of the human family necessitated, however, in time, additional obligations to the original compact, and also additional qualifications, and thus Freemasonry gradually developed, until it matured into a perfect organization at the building of the Temple by Solomon. As the Children of Israel were in constant intercourse with the Egyptians, some fell into their habits and customs, and in a measure departed from the faith of their fathers, and thus the moral qualifications, as an additional prerequisite to a belief in the Deity, was rendered essential, to be admitted into the covenanted brotherhood. Thus the developements of the moral elements of Freemasonry grew out of the frailty of the human heart and the desire manifested for the "flesh pots of Egypt." Moses, in early life, entered into the covenant, and while in the land of Midian, where he lived a life of seclusion for a period of forty years, inspired by divine wisdom, he elaborated his excellent code of laws, embracing every duty that man owes to God, and to his fellow-man, and every essential to his happiness in this and the future life. The Decalogue, which forms the basis of the moral law of every people, was, soon after it was promulgated, adopted as the standard of qualifications of those who sought to be, and were considered worthy of being received into the covenant; and it was during the sojourn of the Children of Israel in the wilderness that the humanising principles were adopted, which form the crowning glory of Freemasonry, exalting it for its expansive love and practical sympathy far above all other institutions. At the building of the Tabernacle, Moses arranged and classified those who were engaged in its construction according to their capacities, and there originated that symbolic instruction which Solomon, some centuries afterwards, adopted at the building of the Temple.

It was at this period that the working tools, which form a peculiar characteristic of Freemasonry, with their monitorial instructions and illustrations, were introduced. These symbols were used for a twofold purpose: one to remind the Children of Israel of the bondage from which they had just been liberated, and the other for the purpose of imparting moral instruction. The working tools with which they had become familiar were thus invested with an interest which made their labours light, and evoked thought. They were no longer the simple implements of labour, but stern, earnest, solemn teachers, speaking to the heart, and impressing on the mind lessons of the highest import. The duties of life, for the proper development of the physical man, and the intellectual faculties, were taught by these quiet instructors. They taught the government of the passions, the regulation and proper appropriation of time, the necessary observances for the preservation of health, sympathy for the poor and unfortunate, practical benevolence, charity in its most extended signification, man's duties to his family, his neighbour, his country and his God. And to render their teachings more imperative and effectual, they were first placed upon an ALTAR consecrated to Deity; a simple altar, upon which no metallic tool had been lifted, about which nothing offensive or defensive could appear, around which all in humble position bent the knee to one common Father, and there the solemn and all important lessons were communicated by authorised teachers. The fundamental principles which constitute the landmarks of Freemasonry, its moral teaching, its symbolic illustrations, were all engrafted by Moses upon the organization formed by those admitted into the covenant; and in all the course of time, the ages through which the institution has passed, no principle of moral ethics has been added to the original code; it culminated in its highest, under the Grand Mastership of Moses. The Temple of Freemasonry rests upon solemn covenants obligatory on all who have voluntarily assumed its obligations. The original covenant of a belief in Deity, imposed by Joseph upon his brethren in Egypt, forms the *first requirement of Freemasonry*, at this time, and ever has been a primary and necessary qualification. It is not possible to conceive of a purer, or nobler, or more stable foundation than that upon which the Temple of Freemasonry is constructed. No other institution can claim an origin so exalted.

There are some writers who absurdly claim that Freemasonry originated with the Adam of Moses, the first man; others that it originated with the priests of Egypt; some find a resemblance in the religious rites of the worship of the heathen deities; and others, again, ascribe its origin to a body of operative masons, who, for their mutual protection, established signs and symbols, by which they could recognise each other. Freemasonry had no other origin than the assuming of a covenant to continue stedfast in the belief of the only one living and true God, the Creator of Heaven and earth; and the Masonic institution could not have originated in any other way than as we have stated, as its requirements, symbolism, teachings, and ceremonials plainly prove.

As the Children of Israel had been held in a state of bondage by the Egyptians, they being originally freemen, freeborn, after their exodus from Egypt, the principle was adopted as a fundamental law of the covenanted brotherhood, that no *Bondmen*, only those who were freeborn, freemen, should be received into the covenant; and through all the intervening ages down to the present time, this has constituted a *landmark of Freemasonry*.

The physical qualifications which in later times have been regarded as relating solely to the limbs and physical senses of the outward man, had a more extended application when they were first considered necessary as prerequisites to admission into the covenant. The object was to admit those only who had not violated the laws of their own natures, those only who had lived regularly, were temperate in all things, had not indulged vitiated or depraved appetites, had not impaired their mental or physical organisms, so that the soul or spirit could act with perfect freedom in the fulfilment of its mission, in its progress onward and upward, developing fully its strength and majesty through all the eternal ages of its immortality. Thus the qualification hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered, perfect and upright, are not only based upon the soundest philosophy, but their object was the perfection of the being created in the image and likeness of God.

It may reasonably be inferred that in the early ages, when our institution first had birth, that the time devoted for the assemblies of the brotherhood was wholly taken up with solemn and serious instruction, with the labours necessary to receive the neophyte into the covenant, with teaching the fundamental principles of the association, its symbolism, &c., and for these reasons the gentler sex were excluded, as the natural endearments of husband and wife, of brother and sister, of affianced loved ones, would in a great degree attract the attention away from the high and holy purposes in which they were engaged.

The elective franchise, which is the charter of liberty, was instituted in the early organization of the covenanted brotherhood, and through all the dark ages, in all despotic governments, the brethren in their mystic associations, as well as in all the Masonic Lodges at the present time, in all countries, monarchial or otherwise, preserved and maintained the very principles of free Democratic institutions, and not only was the elective franchise exercised in the voluntary choice of officers to preside, rule, and govern, but also as to the reception of those desiring to be admitted into the fraternity.

The landmarks of Freemasonry, recognised as such at the present day, were established at the remote periods referred to, and the system, as regards its principles, philosophy, and morality, embrace the whole of man's duties to God, his neighbour, his family, himself, and his country.

The relations which Freemasons sustain toward each other render necessary that the duties illustrated in the points of fellowship, should be the rule and standard to govern the fraternity in their intercourse with each other. These duties bind in the closest friendship the members of the Masonic Society, and its obligations unite them in the chain of brotherhood. Within the mystic sanctums, brother meets brother in fond embrace, and vows of fidelity are registered on the heart which neither flint nor steel can erase.

The pulse of affection beats strong, as, hand grasped in hand, the mystery is communicated which binds in an adamantine chain the members of the mystic tie. A Mason's feet will not grow weary in a brother's cause, although the way be long and rough; the voice of a brother in distress, a brother's cry for assistance, finds a responsive echo in a Freemason's breast, and with alacrity he will fly to his relief, and cheerfully perform those duties which sympathy and humanity require.

A Freemason's duties toward his brethren do not cease with rendering those services which our common humanity demands—nay, there are others equally binding, of the most sacred nature. In the silent hour of the night, in the secret chamber, in his devotions to the Merciful Father, on bended knees, he will always remember his brethren of the mystic tie.

St. John's Lodge, Montreal, held the first meeting in its rooms on St. Catherine-street, on Monday evening, 6th June, for the purpose of formal organization and preliminary arrangements. The dues to to the Lodge were fixed as follows: initiation 50 dols.; joining fee, 25 dols.; annual subscription, 12 dols. No expense has been spared by the founders in decorating and furnishing the rooms, the expense of which, with the Lodge regalia and a year's rent, we understand will cost about 3,000 dols. The floor under the Lodge Rooms will be appropriated as a club for the members, and a billiard table is proposed to be furnished. A Janitor resides on the premises, and the arrangements are complete in every respect.

The corner stone of the new Masonic Hall in Halifax, was recently laid by J. W. Laurie, Esq., G.M., with considerable éclat. Grand Chaplain Townsend delivered the oration. About a thousand brethren formed the procession, and nearly six hundred ladies occupied seats which had been erected for their accommodation.

A Masonic Lodge in any community, if the Fraternity be true to its code of morals, and perform with fidelity the moral duties, as enjoined in the Lodge, cannot fail to prove a blessing to that community.—*Freemason's Repository.*

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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, 27th NOVEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

MONDAY, 29th NOVEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)

277—Hope and Charity, Lion Hotel, High-street, Kidderminster.
757—Wentworth, Town Hall, Wellingborough, Northampton.

TUESDAY, 30th NOVEMBER.

Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.
Half-Yearly Communication, Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 5.0.

260—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford, Kent.
347—Apollo University, Masonic Hall, Oxford.
573—Perseverance, Shenstone House, Hales Owen, Worcester.
1338—Beaconstree, Red Lion, Leyton-stone, at 8. (Instruction.)

WEDNESDAY, 1st DECEMBER.

Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, at 6 for 7 p.

165—Confidence, White Hart, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1536—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
91—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
157—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
184—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, London Hotel, Sidmouth.
188—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
279—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Halford-street, Leicester.
302—Bedford, Private Rooms, Abbey, Tavistock.
260—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford. (Instruction.)
327—St. John's, Lamb and Lion, Wigton, Cumberland.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
426—Sincerity, Angel Hotel, Northwich, Cheshire.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
[illegible]—Franklin, Peacock Hotel, Boston.
1010—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship-street, Hull.
1096—Hardington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.
R. A. 236—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, St. George's-street, Leeds.

THURSDAY, 2nd DECEMBER.

19—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
46—Strong Man, Masons' Arms, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street, E.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W.
822—Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
26—Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Newgate-street-upon-Tyne.
31—United Industrious, Guildhall Concert Room, High-street, Canterbury.
38—Union, Council Chambers, Chichester.
42—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
110—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydfil.
254—Trinity, Castle Hotel, Coventry.
291—Worcester, Bell Hotel, Worcester.
299—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
301—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
309—Pomfret, George Hotel, Northampton.
965—Doric, Private Rooms, St. Peter-street, Grantham.
442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Broughbury, Peterborough.
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.
518—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
537—Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.
1072—Aberystwith, Belle Vue, Royal Hotel, Aberystwith.
1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirby Lonsdale.
1242—Ancholme, Forester's Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1284—Brent, Masonic Hall, Globe Hotel, Topsham.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Banks-street, Newcastle.
M. M. 20—Faith, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.

FRIDAY, 3rd DECEMBER.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1360—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
242—St. George's, Town Hall, Doncaster.
300—Albion, 23 Albion-street, Leeds.
901—St. John's, Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Salop.
904—Invicta, Corn Exchange, Queen-street, Ashford.
969—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester.
1353—Attelastone, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwickshire.

SATURDAY, 4th DECEMBER.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 1.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—134—Scrabrick, Masonic Hall, Bridge-street, Ballybridge, Co. Down.
" 816—Tenedos, Masonic Rooms, [illegible].
" 700—Waringstown, Tullylinskey, Co. Down.
THURSDAY—42—Royal Shamrock, Lodge Room, Gravesplace, Waterford.
" 111—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 372—United, Freemasons' Hall, Bessbrook, Co. Down.
" 448—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Francis-street, Fermoy.
FRIDAY—97—Hiram, Masonic Hall, Arthur-square, Belfast.
" 119—Kilwin, Kilwin, Co. Derry.
" 164—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Londonderry.
" 229—Gorey, Gorey.
" 261—St. John's, Town Hall, Enniskillen.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

THURSDAY—37—St. James, St. James' Hall, Writer's-court.
FRIDAY—291—Canongate and Leith, Ship Hotel, E. Register-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lebanon Chapter, No. 73.—The regular convocation and installation meeting of this Chapter was held on the 18th inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, Comps. E. Harris Z. in the chair, J. H. Button H., J. W. Baldwin J., F. Walters P.Z. S.E., M. D. Loewenstark S.N., B. Isaacs P.S., W. Smeed P.Z., J. S. Sweasey jun., J. H. Spencer, &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. W. Smeed P.Z. then exalted Bro. T. W. Adams, Southwark Lodge, 889, working the duties of the three chairs, and afterwards installing Comp. J. H. Button, in his usual perfect manner, that elicited the encomiums of the brethren and visitors. A vote by the Chapter of a P.Z.'s jewel, of the value of five guineas, having been unanimously granted to Comp. Harris P.Z., for his ability in performing the duties of his office, Comp. F. W. Walters, in a very eloquent speech, presented him with the jewel. A suitable response for the valuable gift was given, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment, and then separated. The visitors were Comps. E. Gilbert P.S. 1326, and H. Cutress 1326.

St. James's Union Chapter, No. 180.—A Convocation of this Chapter was held on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Comps. L. Herf Z., Cameron P.Z. Treasurer as H., Smithett J., Read P.Z., S. B. Knyvett as S.N., W. C. Parsons P.S., Pillin 1st Asst., Gillard 2nd Asst., and Comps. Studen, Smith, G. Babb, Pink, Colvin, Layland, &c., and P.Z.'s Stoner, Hill, Stacey, Reed and Cameron. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Stacey, Hobson, Cook, and Hearp were duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by the M.E.Z. and officers, Comp. W. C. Parsons doing the duties very carefully as P.S. The Chapter was then closed, and a very capital banquet followed, where the usual toasts were given. The visitors present were Comps. Baker P.Z., Allen P.Z., Rogers, Mandar, W. C. Burrell and Levinson P.Z., Melbourne. The latter Comp., in the course of his speech, said how pleased he would be, on his return to Australia, to state how well the working of the Chapter was conducted, and how hospitably he, as well as the other visitors, had been received.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 24th of November, at Bro. Chard's, White Hart Tavern, Aldersgate Lane, E.C. Present—Bros. J. Tarquand W.M., Reed S.W., Ockendon J.W., Pitt Secretary, J. Constable Treasurer, Walker S.D., Tollis J.D., Biddel I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. E. Gottheil Preceptor, Bloomfield, and a very numerous attendance of brethren, upwards of thirty. The Lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, the W.M., in pursuance of the arrangement of the preceding week, which we notified in our last impression, rehearsed the three degrees of the Order. The onerous duty was performed, if not with the strictest accuracy, yet in a manner most fluently, and to the evident satisfaction of all present. Bro. Reed will preside on the next occasion. It is gratifying to perceive so many brethren crowd into a Lodge of Instruction, as it proves an eager desire to become efficient in the duties requisite for advancement. Such gatherings are not only pleasant and instructive, but tend to found and cement friendships amongst men of the most diverse opinions, political or religious, who might otherwise have never had the privilege of meeting and knowing each other. For the information of those who reside at a distance, we may state that this Lodge meets at 7.30, and closes at 9.30 precisely.

Royal Arch Chapter, Yeovil, No. 329.—At a Convocation held on Wednesday, 24th November, the minutes of the last Chapter was confirmed. The accounts for the past year were audited and found correct. The ballot was then taken for the officers for the ensuing year, and resulted as follows:—Comp. J. Chaffin M.E.Z., F. Cox E.H., J. Farley E.J., Wynn Wescott E., J. Kemblin N., W. J. Noseworthy P.S., H. F. Edgar and A. Price Asst. Sojourners, F. Foan Treasurer, Harvey Janitor. The new Principals were installed by Comp. J. Jacobs P.Z., assisted by Comp. J. Budge P.Z., in a most solemn and impressive manner. The other companions present were Style P.H., Gillard P.H., J. Ryall, Rogers, R. Damon, T. Sampson and Sharman.

Merit Lodge, No. 466.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on the 15th inst., at the George Hotel, St. Martin's, Stamford. Present—Bros. J. C. Duncombe W.M., D. Bloodworth S.W., W. Ward J.W., H. Knott Sec., J. M. Howard P.M. Treas., H. Norton S.D., Thos. Hare J.D., Thos Booth I.G., A. Coulson Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Peake, Wright, Oldham, Jones, and many of the brethren were present. Business—Lodge opened in due form with solemn prayer; Bro. Beddeson raised to the sublime degree of M.M.; three candidates proposed for initiation; several propositions were made for furthering the interests of the Lodge, and all business being ended Lodge closed in due form.

St. John and St. Paul Lodge, No. 615.—This Lodge held its meeting on Monday, the 10th of November, at the Pier Hotel, Erith. Present—Bros. T. W. Knight W.M. 1107, 913, P.P. G.D.C. Kent, W.M., G. Dyer S.W., Dr. F. Spurrell J.W., H. H. Poole Treas., G. W. Churchley J.D., J. Fletcher D.C., A. Gush Steward, A. Parish I.G., G. Martin Tyler. Visitors—Bros. J. Greig, District Grand Master of Pennsylvania U.S., Ralph P.M. 77, Denham and others. Business—Initiated Dr. Greig of Erith, &c.; raised Bro. Wood. Adjourned to a *recherché* banquet, provided by Bro. Wain of the Pier Hotel.

Canonbury Chapter, No. 657.—The ordinary meeting of

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this Chapter was held on Thursday last, at Masons' Arms Tavern, Basinghall-street. There were present Comps. Reynolds M.E.Z., Bond J., Cox P.Z., Thomas S.E., Reed S.N., Vincent P.S., and several other members. The report of the audit committee, showing a continued improvement in the financial position of the Chapter, was received and unanimously adopted. There was little other business to transact, and at the close of the meeting the companions adjourned to banquet.

Panmure Lodge, No. 720.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 15th instant, at Balham Hotel, Balham. Present—Bros. C. Pulman W.M., Hunter J.W., B. Richardson Secretary, Poore Treasurer, Burgess J.D., Steedman Tyler; P.M. Poore. Business—To consider proposition, by Bro. Richardson, which was seconded by Bro. McKay, that a Masonic ball, under the sanction of this Lodge, be given during the ensuing winter, at such time and place as may be appointed, on behalf of the Masonic Charities, and that the Lodge Funds shall not be liable for any payments on behalf of such ball.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—The regular meeting of this Lodge, preverbial for its perfect working, was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Present—Bros. H. J. Gebb W.M., Gallant S.W., Salisbury P.M. as J.W., G. Sinclair Treas., W. H. Main P.M. Sec., R. Harper S.D., Dunn as I.G., J. Walisby Organist, T. Bartlett P.M., &c. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. A. Keast, Jameson, Weeden, and Tidderman were passed to the 2nd degree. Bro. R. J. R. Keast was raised to the 3rd degree, and Bro. G. O. Webb was initiated, the W.M. rendering the various ceremonies. Bro. Spratt was elected an honorary member. The widow of a deceased brother was relieved to the sum of £10. Bro. Gallant, S.W., announced his intention of acting as Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very capital banquet, Bro. T. Bartlett P.M. presiding, and giving the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Some very excellent singing emanated from Bros. Hicks and Jameson. The visitors were Bros. Petifer, No. 101, and Jones, No. 177.

Robert Burns Lodge, No. 999.—This Lodge held its 123rd meeting on Monday, the 22nd of November, at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. Present—Bros. W. L. Chew W.M., E. H. Flower S.W., J. A. Infirsha J.W., T. H. Jenkins P.M. Secretary and Treasurer, A. Bacon S.D., F. Cooper J.D., J. M. Cranswick P.M. D.C., J. McKinless I.G., J. Lawton Tyler. P.M.'s—Bros. W. S. Brown, W. Gibson, J. Prescott, W. Gouldthorp. Visitors—Bros. T. Hall 1063, C. H. Evans 1147. Business—The minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Gustav Hersch was raised to degree of M.M., the ceremony being performed by the W.M.

Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278.—This Lodge held its meeting on the 18th of November, at the Approach Tavern, Victoria Park. Present—Bros. W. J. Crutch W.M., Wm. Toye S.W., C. K. Crouch J.W., G. Ward Very Secretary, A. Lazarus S.D., W. T. Christian J.D., C. Birchall D.C., C. Barker Steward, Mark Gross I.G., Grant Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. Ashburner and Hy. Lloyd. Visitors—Bros. R. Pearey I.G. No. 238, J. Stock J.D. 1178, R. H. Halford J.D. 228, Chas. W. Latham P.M. 190. Business—The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. J. Terry was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Evans passed to the second degree. Bro. G. Ward Very, Secretary, was chosen to represent this Lodge at the next Festival for aged Freemasons and their Widows. Two candidates were proposed, and the Lodge closed.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road, Bros. Michael W.M. in the chair, Williams S.W., Kingham J.W., Jas. Willing jun. I.P.M., Rose Treasurer, Tims P.M. 177 Secretary, J. Douglas S.D., Scales J.D., Side I.G., Stiles D.C. and Assistant Secretary, Colls W.S., Daley Tyler, and Bros. Jones, Saintsbury, Rogers, Cheek, Gilbert, Rapkin, Hatton, Dunmore, Hipton, J. R. Rogers, Baron Von Tittenborn, J. Time, Shand, Read, Cavett, Ormiston, &c. The Lodge having been opened, the Secretary read the minutes of the installation meeting, which were confirmed. The following brethren being in attendance, and having shown their proficiency, were raised to the 3rd degree, viz., Bros. Simond, Taylor, Dunmore, Levy, Erwood, Little, Rogers, and Fowler, No. 244, the latter brother by the courtesy of the W.M. Bros. H. Stiles, Solomon, G. Gilbert jun., and Swaagman were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Messrs. E. J. Cave, J. F. Van Camp, H. Lovegrove, P. E. Vanderpump, and G. J. Vanderpump were initiated into the Order. Bro. E. J. Cain, No. 1475, was elected a joining member. Two gentlemen were placed on the agenda paper for initiation, but were, with others, deferred until the next meeting. Bros. Scales and Stiles were accorded votes of thanks for their zeal and assiduity in representing the committee, formed for the purpose of presenting the Lodge with a very faithful and artistic delineation of Bro. Jas. Willing's (I.P.M.) portrait, painted by Bro. Van Tittenborn. A vote of thanks was also unanimously given to Bro. Willing jun. for the very handsomely framed pictures of the Boys' and Girls' Schools he had so generously presented to the Lodge. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down, in the newly enlarged room, to a very capital banquet, the W.M. presiding, and proposing the usual loyal, Masonic, and other toasts. The visitors were Bros. Walford P.M. 177, Fowler 244, Morris 177, &c., and who, with the brethren, expressed their gratification at the working displayed, and the hospitality afforded them.

Morecambe Lodge, No. 1561.—The first meeting of this newly consecrated Lodge was held on Friday, the 5th inst., at the North Western Hotel, Morecambe, Lancaster, Bro. Dr. Moore P.G.S.B. of Eng., the W.M., opening the Lodge in due form. Messrs. Ward and Bannister were initiated, the working being efficiently performed by the W.M. who was ably assisted by Bro. E. Airey the I.P.M., and Bro. H. Longman 1051 as S.W. Two joining members were proposed, and after a pleasant meeting the Lodge closed in ancient form.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT RUTHERGLEN.

ON Friday, 12th November, St John's Operative Lodge, 347, held high festival, to celebrate the consecration of their new Hall, the foundation stone of which had been laid with Masonic honours by Bro. Cunningham, in March last. The ceremony was performed by Colonel A. Campbell P.G.M. for Renfrewshire East. The Lodge was duly opened by the R.W.M. Bro. J. Cunningham, P. Murdoch S.W., T. Alston J.W., S. Abbot D.M., D. Smart S.M., Wm. Gardner I.P.M., A. Warnock Sec., Wm. Miller Treas., W. Young S.D., J. Brodie J.D., W. McKechnie I.G., and Bros. Abbot, Richie, Shield, Nichol, Crawford, Robertson and Smith as Stewards. The Hall was quite filled with deputations from the following Lodges: Mother Kilwinning No. 0, Glasgow Kilwinning No. 4, St. Mungo 27, Thistle and Rose 78, R.A. 116, St. Mary 117, Pollockshaws 153, Denny 176, Scotia 178, Star 319, Union 103, Thistle and Shamrock 275, Union 333, St. George 338, Paisley 370, Commercial 360, Clyde 408, Renfrew 426, St Andrews 485, and the Clydesdale 566, in all above 300 brethren were present, and many Lodges would have sent larger deputations, but the Master wisely limited the issue of tickets to the capacity of the Hall. As soon as the Lodge was opened, the deputation from the P.G.L. were received upstanding; we noticed amongst them Colonel Colin Campbell P.G.M., Lieutenant Colonel Reid as D.P.G.M., J. Caldwell P.G.S.W., J. Gilmour P.G.J.W., Rev. J. Campbell of Eastwood acting as P.G. Chaplain, Bro. Scallard the Provost.

The usual consecration service was then gone through, the hymns and chants being very effectively rendered by the choir belonging to the Lodge, led by Bros. Stibo and Garoo, while Bro. J. Miller P.G.D. of Music of the Province of Glasgow presided at the harmonium. The Oration was delivered at the close of the ceremony by the P.G.M., in which, after dwelling on the great antiquity of the Order, he spoke of the wonderful corroboration of our principles, and also of the authenticity of the early Bible records that have lately been furnished by the excavations in Egypt and Nineveh in the cuneiform chiselling impressed on the bricks, now, after the lapse of ages, brought to light. After speaking of the labours in this direction of Sir J. Smith and others, the Gallant Colonel spoke of his own researches in that direction some years ago, and also at the close of last year. Contending that science when rightly studied was not antagonistic to the truths of revealed religion, but was rather a hand-maid to it, and what was not now fully understood would all be made clear when we got to the Grand Lodge above, and to help in the cause of virtue, morality and religion. He had much pleasure in now consecrating this Hall. (Cheers.)

The R.W.M. then thanked the P.G.M. on behalf of Lodge 347 for the honour he had conferred on them in thus consecrating their Hall, he then proposed that Lieutenant Colonel Reid and the other Provincial Officers should be affiliated honorary members of St. John's. After which the Lodge was called from labour to refreshment. The Master gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. He then proposed the P.G.L. of Renfrewshire East, and Colonel Campbell. The Lodge had been highly honoured by their presence there on this occasion, more especially when they remember that the gallant Colonel has so lately had royalty for his guest. (Cheers.)

Colonel Campbell thanked the Lodge for the cordial way in which they had received the toast, on his own behalf and that of the P.G.L., all the officers of which he found at all times ready to support him, and it was always a source of gratification to him to attend and perform any of the duties of his office. Allusion had been made to the visit of Prince Leopold to his home, he would therefore take this opportunity of contradicting a rumour that had been spread that the visit had an ulterior view; he could assure it had nothing of the kind, but his younger brother had the honour of the Prince's friendship, and the Prince having expressed a desire to visit him at his home, when that request was made known to him, like a loyal subject, he could only give one answer, and he was glad to be able to inform them that he had the authority of Prince Leopold for saying that he was highly pleased with his visit to Renfrewshire. The next toast was "Prosperity to the Burgh of Rutherglen." Bro. Scallard, the Provost, in replying, congratulated the Lodge and especially its Master in having so successfully carried out their desire to obtain a suitable Hall of their own to meet in. He felt that Masonry was calculated to make men better citizens, and as the head of the municipals of that Burgh, as well as a brother Mason, he was glad to be able to be present to-night, as he believed the erection and consecration of that Hall was calculated to forward the prosperity of their ancient Burgh. The P.G.M. proposed prosperity to 347 and the R.W.M., on whom he passed some high but well deserved eulogiums. Bro. J. Cunningham, in reply, said he had done his best during his term of office to carry out his duties faithfully; in this he had been well seconded by his officers; true, he had had a great deal of extra work in getting shareholders in the Hall, and superintending its erection, but he felt fully repaid to-night when he saw the Hall completed and filled with so many of the most influential members of the Craft from all parts of their own Province and the neighbouring ones of Glasgow. He felt sure that the Hall, with shops below it, would not only give them a Lodge room second to none, but would also prove a financial success, his term of office was just up, but he was proud of the position in which he was able to hand it over to his successor.

Several other toasts were given, but the last train to the city compelled the departure of most of the Glasgow brethren, who returned highly pleased with the evening's proceedings.

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THE DRAMA.

"Blue Beard" at the Globe.—Theatrical Changes.

AFTER an absence of some months, on their tour in the provinces, Miss Thompson and her company are once more delighting the eyes and raising the laughter of our jaded London audiences. That wonderful burlesque, with which, in September of last year, they opened a triumphant season, is still the chief item in their programme. The *Heathen Chinee*, with his pigeon-English, and his skilful play at euchre, is as amusing as ever in the hands of Mr. Edwin. Mr. Lionel Brough makes as much as ever out of the most terrible, and, at the same time, most contemptible despots. Miss Rachel Sanger and Miss Atherton lend the aid of their bright presence and graceful acting; and Miss Thompson, the most refined and most graceful of burlesque actresses, about whose style there is no vulgar loudness nor shadow of coarseness, is in herself a power sufficient to bear the weight of a much worse burlesque. The piece itself has been so much added to and altered since its production, that we should think very little of the original fabric can remain; but who will cavil at alterations which are for the better, or at additions which introduce the newest topics of interest—from rams and ironclads to Turkish and Egyptian bonds, or the Prince's visit to India, or Mrs. Giucometti Prodgers—there is nothing of public notoriety which escapes notice of some kind; and playgoers will not need to be told that a "topical song" is always very popular. *Blue Beard* is a somewhat curious piece, partly burlesque, partly extravaganza, generally undefinable; but it serves the purpose of keeping the public highly amused, and sending them away in hearty good humour.

The programme at the OLYMPIC has undergone a change during the past week. Will Mr. Neville forgive us if we express a feeling of great relief at the disappearance, we hope for a long period of time, of that eternal *Ticket-of-Leave-Man?* Miss Carlotta Leclercq has appeared as Madame Fontanges in *Plot and Passion*. On Monday next, for the benefit of the popular lessee, will be produced the play of *Buckingham*.

At the HAYMARKET, a new farce, entitled *A Happy Medium*, serves as a prelude to Mr. Byron's comedy, intended, apparently, to show how closely Mr. C. Warner can follow in the footsteps of Mr. Matthews. It has the effect of convincing us, to our sorrow, that there is but one Mr. Matthews on the stage, and that Mr. Warner has small claim to be considered even as his prophet. Mr. Everill plays a testy old gentleman with considerable breadth of humour.

The last ten nights are announced of *A Nine Days' Wonder*, at the COURT Theatre, and on Thursday, 9th December, will be produced Mr. Gilbert's new fancy play, in three acts, under the title of *Broken Hearts*. Mr. Gilbert is not only our best, but also our most promising writer of comedy; he is not afraid to bestow both time and trouble on the ideas of a mind rich in originality, and we are convinced that his best work has yet to come before the public.

Black-Eyed Susan, Mr. Bernard's best and most successful burlesque, now strengthens the programme at the OPERA COMIQUE. Fascinating Miss Oliver once more wins the affections of the most awe-inspiring of naval officers, Captain Crosstree Dewar, and Mr. Danvers exhibits his dry humour as Dame Hatley.

On Thursday next, Mr. Mayer will produce at the QUEEN'S a spectacle which was perhaps the most splendid ever seen on the Parisian stage. *The White Cat*, by dint of dresses, scenery, and legs, ran in Paris for over five hundred nights, and we believe that its attractions will, if possible, be augmented.

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VOL. II.—No. 49. SATURDAY, 4th DECEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

MORE than once have we drawn attention to the question whether a periodical literature is, or is not beneficial to the Craft. We return to it now, because it has been brought somewhat conspicuously before us in a work of the late Dr. Oliver, recently published, and a review of which will be found in another part of our columns. Now, there are few men to whose opinions on matters of interest to the Craft we attach greater value. We are very far from accepting all his theories, but no one ever doubted his enthusiasm, and in the case now before us, whether a Masonic press is or is not desirable, his views are entitled to the greatest respect. He, himself, was a most voluminous author, and as his love for Masonry was undoubted, it is in the last degree improbable that he would have issued any Masonic publication, had he imagined there was the slightest danger from publicity. Nor must we overlook the fact that when the Lincoln Testimonial was presented to him, the numerous works he had written were pointedly referred to as establishing his claims to the respect and love of all Freemasons. But though the most enlightened members of our Order are in favour of a Masonic press, there is, unfortunately, an immense amount of apathy on the subject among the general body of Masons, and not a few who are bigoted enough to oppose anything like the printing and publication of the most ordinary Masonic news. It is within our own experience that there are still among us brethren who follow the example, quoted in one of the works of this very Dr. Oliver, of the Mason who declared himself opposed to Masonic literature, though he confessed to never having read a single line of any Masonic work, and was, therefore, incompetent to say whether they were beneficial or baneful. Now, let us hear what Dr. Oliver says in his posthumous work, *The Discrepancies of Freemasonry*, on the subject of Masonic literature generally, and a Masonic press in particular. The work is written in the form of a dialogue. As in the well known work *Friends in Council*, by the late Sir Arthur Help, so here, a number of Masonic friends meet together at the house of one of their number, and spend a week in discussing Masonry in all its bearings, its government, organisation, and dissemination, whether any, and if so, what improvements can be safely made in its ritual, and generally by what means the cause of Masonry may be most effectually promoted. In comparing Masonry in the United States and in England, one of these "Masonic Friends in Council," Bro. Nis Petersen, known also as "The Skipper," in explaining how Masonry has made such rapid strides in the former country, mentions, among other reasons, that "their Grand Lodges encourage the dissemination from the press of general philosophy of the craft, provided the recondite secrets be not profaned," adding further, "Formal treatises, periodical works, and prize essays, abound in every State in which the genuine principles of Masonry are embodied and unfolded; and thus it becomes an accessible pursuit, and, in common with all other sciences, sustains a rank commensurate with its real value, even amongst those who have not been initiated, or who, by sex or age, are excluded from a participation in its mysteries." "The Vicar," taking up the conversation, expresses an opinion, that if the example of our American brethren were followed in this country, the Order would be doubled as regards numbers, in a quarter of a century, while its character would be raised "by the adhesion of men whose talents have already distinguished them in the walks of learning and science, and who would thus be induced to make Freemasonry their study, for the pleasure such a pursuit is certain to convey to their minds." Thereupon Bro. Gilkes, another of the friends, pursues the theme and gives utterance to the following: "Mankind now entertain a more favourable opinion of our pursuits, because the general principles of the Order are no longer a sealed book, but have been explained over and over again on scientific principles. If this course had not been pursued, it is doubtful whether Freemasonry would have been able to maintain its position. We hear no more of '*the devil dancing in a circle*' during our celebrations, nor of the *red-hot poker*, or any other of the absurdities bequeathed to us by the cowans of the last century; and the ridicule formerly attached to the character of a Freemason is now entirely forgotten." A few pages further on we read: "And I have often wondered," said the Rector, "why Freemasonry has no authorised periodical, as an organ of the Craft, and a medium of communication for the brethren. While every other class, into which Society is divided, has its magazine, whether literary, scientific, peaceful, or warlike, how does it happen that Freemasonry should be without some such useful vehicle for the record of Masonic intelligence?" And then is, quoted in a foot-note to this passage, the following announcement which appeared in the "Freemason's Quarterly Review," 1839, which had then been established only five years: "This publication will continue to issue, in its quarterly form, *provided its circulation be doubled*. The manner in which this can be done is not difficult. Let every subscriber take two copies, and find a friend to take one off his hands; let every Lodge take one copy This, however, we must know beforehand. We, therefore, suggest that a note should be addressed to us, or to our publishers, stating additional subscribers, and this will finally determine our course. Should we, unfortunately, be deceived in this matter, the number for December 1840, may issue if we live, but our editorial labours will then close; and even this extension of time is only permitted in justice to our brethren in the East and West Indies, who might otherwise justly complain of a want of courtesy." However, we need hardly pursue the subject much further. Suffice it that all the guests who are assembled under the hospitable roof of "The Surgeon," and take part in this dialogue, concur in the view that a Masonic press must be beneficial to the Order, and that it should receive the hearty support of members. When this was written, the *Freemason's Quarterly Review* was in existence, but the support it received was evidently not such as it deserved, or we should not have had the announcement we have just quoted from its editor. That it did good service, however, admits of no doubt whatever. Many years have passed since Dr. Oliver wrote these *Discrepancies of Freemasonry*. The Order has vastly increased in point of numbers, and is almost universally popular. Yet the Masons in the United Kingdom, as compared with those in the United States, are hardly less apathetic in supporting the Masonic periodicals of the day now than formerly. It is estimated there are over a hundred thousand Masons ranged under the banners of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland. Three periodicals exist, viz., a monthly and two weeklies, which contain the Masonic news of the day, and in which are discussed those questions principally interesting to the Craft. In the United States there are more than half a million of the brethren and, Masonically speak-

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ing, there is hardly a district presided over by a Grand Lodge, which does not support one or more Masonic magazines or newspapers, while many other papers of general interest devotes a portion of their space to Masonic intelligence. This contrast between the support accorded there and here to Masonic journalism is certainly not flattering to British Freemasonry. Our Lodges are scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land, and it is well nigh impossible but some interest must be awakened as to what is going on around us. We in London must delight to hear of what is done in the provinces; those in the provinces must feel an interest in the proceedings of London Lodges. Here then is one reason why our publications should receive encouragement. Then there are innumerable questions which may safely be discussed in the columns of a newspaper or magazine. The philosophy of the Craft will be disseminated, nor is there the slightest ground for imagining that the "recondite secrets of the Order" will be "profained." Nothing of the kind has happened in America, why should there be the slightest fear that English Masons will be less mindful of their obligations, and make public what should not be revealed? Speaking generally, and without regard to any interests of our own, we say the apathetic support accorded to English Masonic literature is not creditable to English Masons.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 5).

A CORNER STONE.

WE have have had occasion, in the course of our busy career, to notice the effect of popularity upon a man of ordinary mental calibre. We have watched some unknown person struggling to lift his head above the crowd around him. We have heard his strongly expressed opinion that those who are high in office in the world are puffed up with pride, too conceited to recognise an old friend, and too big to know anybody who could not in some indirect way add to their importance. We have heard, with a secret smile, the aspirant for popularity speak thus, for we were fully assured that when the time came for him to mount the ladder of fame, he would kick away those who had given him a "leg up," and act like any of the big snobs whose daily doings afford us a cheap and harmless amusement. It is only brains of the strongest fibre which can stand the fascinations of so called fame, or value at its true worth the hollow applause of the multitude. Such brains are rare. The heads of most men are turned by trifles, and he who has once been "high and lifted up," always feels that he is walking on stilts, even when cruel fate has pulled him down again to the level of common humanity. How bitterly we might laugh at these foibles if we were inclined to be cynical! What cruel but true things we might say of those "servants of the public," who are servile enough to the people *en masse*, but arrogant, indeed, to individuals. It is, however, useless to laugh at failings which are as old as the human race itself. The savage who is tattooed more handsomely than his followers, or who can show a larger collection of the scalps of his enemies, is doubtless just as arrogant as the civilized man who is privileged to wear a glittering bauble or a bit of ribbon, or who, for a brief period, struts across the stage of life in the character of a petty king. The day may, indeed, come when men will discard baubles, and all the outward symbols of power, but while they remain as they are, power itself, or the semblance of it, will always have its fascinations, and few will be able to resist the intoxication of its subtle influence.

The gentleman whose lineaments we are about to trace upon our canvas has known what it is to be famous; he has been a leader of his fellow men, and a Corner Stone of that great edifice which contains within it all that is best and brightest of civic life and civic tradition; he has been called by his fellow citizens to occupy that chair of state which, from the Conqueror downward, has been filled by a long list of illustrious merchants and traders; he has entertained princes and kings, and has carried the stately symbols of his office into a land where the love of state trappings is more deeply rooted than the love of democratic institutions. He has played his part well and wisely. The dignity of his great office has been nobly upheld, and he has displayed a stately courtesy to the meanest of those with whom he has been brought into contact. As a host, he has had few equals; as a magistrate, he has administered justice with rigid impartiality and as a man of business, he was and is still unrivalled. A long and honourable professional career had indeed prepared him for useful public work; and when his fellow citizens bestowed upon him the first mark of their confidence, and started him upon a career which ended in the chair of state, his modest demeanour won all hearts and captivated every eye. It was evident that there was sterling stuff in this man, who when honoured and rewarded with such distinctions as his fellow men could bestow, was content to carry himself as quietly as of old. He speedily mastered the duties of the office he was called upon to fill, and played an important and conspicuous part in the dry practical business of the great Corporation of which he was member. For years he was Chairman of the Police Committee, a body which has steadily kept the City police force at the head of all similar forces in the country. He was Sheriff at a time when no public event of any importance could have justified the sovereign in awarding special honours to the chiefs of the Corporation, but when his time came to fill the Civic chair, every one hoped he would be added to the long roll of Civic magnates who have founded great families upon the letters patent of a baronetcy. Perhaps he himself thought so. The sovereign had rewarded lesser men, for work less useful and lasting than his, and it has been admitted on all hands that his Mayoralty was magnificent beyond precedent. Right royally did he maintain the state of a Civic king in the eyes of the critical Parisians; nobly did he revive all the best traditions of Mansion House hospitality, and under his sway a brilliant and unprecedented entertainment was given at the Guildhall to the chief representatives of home and foreign municipalities. Yet our Corner Stone of civic life retires to comparative obscurity without a handle to his name, and although it is impossible not to regret the fact, we are assured that our illustrious brother is not the man to indulge in vain regrets over the proverbial fickleness of fortune. He has still a prominent career before him, and his talents will be again devoted to the service of his fellow citizens. Honours and rewards do not always fall to the lot of the worthiest, and perhaps he is better pleased with the approbation of his fellow citizens, and with the stately but cordial language in which the City has expressed its thanks than he would have been with the mere tinsel of an empty title.

His year of office was a memorable one in the annals of Masonry, and he, as a Mason, was called upon to play an important part in the ceremony of the Installation of the Prince of Wales. As a Corner Stone of the Order he has yet his reputation to win, but if he carries into the work the same capacity for business which has marked his public career, we do not doubt that he will win golden opinions from the brethren. The calls upon a public man are numerous and exacting, and our hero has had to confess that he has not hitherto devoted as much time and attention to Masonry as its importance deserves. The apology was not needed, and his election as one of the officers of Grand Lodge was received with acclamation by the brethren. His visit to the Great City Lodge was in itself an event of some importance, and marks a new point of departure in Masonic history. Henceforward distinguished public men will seek admission to our ranks, fully assured that the claims of Masonry are too important to be ignored by the busiest or the wisest. We expect much of our new Corner Stone, and we are sanguine that our anticipations will be realised. We do not indeed believe that Masonry is dependent upon the exertions or the talents of any individual. Its own grandeur and the nobility of its aims, commends it to the notice alike of the exalted and the lowly, but it has peculiar claims upon those who bring special talents within its mystic temple, and we shall expect our hero to prove a true Corner Stone, if not a buttress of the Order.

MASONIC STUDIES.

WE are minded once again to revert to this subject, for it is quite impossible to over estimate its importance. As we said last week, far too many brethren are content with knowing just so much as will prove them to be members, as, in fact, will suffice to secure their admission into a Lodge. Familiarity with the necessary forms and formulæ and signs is the sum of their Masonic knowledge. It

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matters little to them if the sections are worked; if they are, they condescend to exhibit just the semblance of a languid interest in what is going on, all the while, perhaps, regarding the whole thing as a nuisance and a needless delay to the banquet in store for them. They care not to have a section between the banquet and their appetites. On the other hand, if no lectures are held, no sections worked, it would never occur to them to seek more light. They are content to go on from year's end to year's end in a state of tranquil ignorance, utterly unmindful of the fact that when they joined the Craft they expressed a wish for the benefits of Masonic light, and that they virtually bound themselves to be assiduous in their Masonic duties. Not a few among these drones of Masonry have the hardihood to look forward to the day when they shall occupy the chair of the Lodge. They consider their ignorance to be no obstacle whatever to the attainment of their ambition. What is more astounding still, sundry among these audacious Craftsmen find their ambitious hopes sometimes are realised. They attain the rank of W.M., but it cannot be said they adorn it. These ambitious brethren are not particularly thin-skinned. When some initiation, or passing, or raising has to be got through, they see no degradation whatever in vacating the chair in favour of some P.M. competent to fulfil the duty. The ceremony over, they reoccupy their seat, and having asked the few formal questions prescribed by law, they close the Lodge, and the banquet follows. In one sense no great harm is done, perhaps, if these fortunate brethren are genial fellows. They secure a certain amount of popularity as chairmen. They are esteemed generally for the excellence of their personal qualities. They are seldom reproachable with a want of liberality. In fact, they have sense enough to know that something has to be done in the position in Masonry they have attained, and being utterly without Masonic knowledge, and feeling themselves, it may be, too advanced in years to bother themselves about learning, they make up for their shortcomings by a more than ordinary display of *bonhomie*. They have something of the *gourmet* in their composition, and can both eat and appreciate a good dinner. They give liberally to the Masonic Charities. They are never weary in their efforts to promote good fellowship, but no one in his senses would ever dream of setting them down as capable members of the Craft. As we strew our beds, so must we lie. The Lodge that elects such a member to be its W.M. has no reason to grumble if, during his year of office, not a single step of progress is made in Masonry. They have only themselves to blame for electing a worthy man, but incompetent Mason, to the most distinguished position in the Lodge. Considering, however, the strides that Masonry has made of late years, and is making; considering how complete a hold it has in the popular mind; considering, also, the violence of the attacks which the Ultramontanes are making in other countries on the reputability of the Order, it is more than ever incumbent on a Lodge to elect competent men to rule it. All of us know how painful it is to overlook the claims of a worthy man, or what at least he considers his claims, to promotion. His personal friends are many. He silences the waverers with the wise saw *Seniores Priores*, and a minority as feeble, perhaps, in intellect as in numbers, yields ignominiously, and the Lodge is saddled for twelve months with a W.M. whose Masonic knowledge, of all but a few signs and phrases, is conspicuous chiefly by its absence.

We mentioned last week a way of decreasing, if not of wholly removing this excessive amount of Masonic ignorance. We suggested frequent, and, when possible, regular attendance at Lodges of Instruction, where able and willing Preceptors attend and expound with more or less perspicuity the most abstruse points of Masonic lore. But what if the cares and anxieties of business or the incidents of time and circumstance allow not this? What if brethren can obtain instruction only in their own Lodges? What chance is there of learning in a Lodge whose rulers are themselves ignorant, or at all events whose knowledge is limited to the parrot-like delivery of a few formulæ? True, there will certainly be one or more brethren competent to instruct him, but example, in ignorance as in other matters, and especially the example of men in high places, is contagious. Brethren who are lackadaisically inclined, will say, "Why trouble ourselves to study, when Bro. A.B.C., who knows next to nothing, has already attained the chair? It is evident that a competent knowledge of Masonry is not a *sine qud non* in a W.M. We shall attain that rank, as he did, in due time." This ignorance in the officers begets ignorance in the members, and the strict equality of Masons—at all events, in ignorance of our beautiful ritual—is amply illustrated.

The deductions we make from these premises are these: In the first place, let none be elected to office who are incompetent to fulfil, respectably, the duties required of them. We are far from expecting that all W.M.'s should be Solons, any more than we expect all Masons to be as rich as Cresus. But we have a right to require of those who compete for office, that they shall be useful as well as ornamental. In the next place, let Lodges of Instruction be more frequently and more fully attended. It were well, indeed, if Grand Lodge warranted these Lodges directly, instead of sanctioning their erection under the warrant of other Lodges. Were this done, their status would be vastly improved, and brethren would be more eager in their pursuit after knowledge, when they realised the important fact that Grand Lodge took Masonic instruction under its direct and immediate protection. They are not skilled musicians who just know the notes of music, or skilled artists who can describe a square or circle with the aid of rule and compasses. Why then should it be assumed that dubbing a man a Mason gives him Masonic knowledge? To carry the matter a step further; who would dream of electing the man who only knew his notes, to be a professor of music, or him who could describe a square or circle as aforesaid, to be instructor in painting or sculpture? Why then should brethren be elected to the chair who barely know the A. B. C. of Masonry?

GRAND LODGE.

THE regular Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, 1st December, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren, it being the night for the nomination of the M.W.M., the Grand Master, the appointment of President of the Grand Lodge of Benevolence, and the Senior and Junior Vice Presidents; the R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Charles Lyne was the acting Grand Master. The R.W. Bro. Bagshawe P.G.M. Essex P.G.M.; Lord Tenterden as G.S.W., Col. Whitwell as J.G.W., Sir Albert Woods G.D.C., Æ. McIntyre, G. R. Fenn P.A.D.C., Alderman Hadley P.G.S., Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C., Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G.C., J. Clabon P.G.D., J. Nunn P.G.S.P., Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., S. Rawson D.G.M. China, A. Sandeman Dist. G.M. Bengal, Spiers P.G.S.B., Mason P.G.S.B., Kuhe G.O., W. Ganz P.G.O., J. Symonds P.G.D., Wright G.P., E. P. Albert A.G.P., J. Boyd P.G.P., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., T. Cubitt P.G.P., H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, J. Hervey G.S., &c.; W. Smith, J. Constable, C. Hogard, H. Marsh, H. Massey, H. Thompson, E. M. Haigh, S. May, Jas. Terry, R. W. Little, T. Bull, T. White, Dr. Carpenter, Capt. Phillips, C. Lambert, F. Adlard, R. Webster, G. Everett, W. Waghorn, E. H. Thiellay, Francis, G. King sen., W. C. Parsons, H. M. Levy, E. Moody, Headon, W. Stephens, Jas. Stevens, &c. Grand Lodge was opened, and the Grand Secretary said he had received letters of apology from the M.W. Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M., Bro. Alderman Stone J.G.W., and several distinguished brethren. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st September were read and confirmed. The acting G.M. said he had the sanction of the M.W.G.M. to appoint Bro. Alderman Hadley to act on the Board of Benevolence in the place of the late Bro. J. Savage. Bro. J. Clabon was appointed Senior Vice President, and J. Nunn Junior Vice President of the Board of Benevolence. Bro. Case G.S. then nominated H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. for the ensuing year. The election of twelve Past Masters, to serve on the Board of Benevolence, took place. The Report of the Lodge of Benevolence was read and confirmed, with the exception of one grant, which, on an amendment being moved, was reduced to £100. The Report of the Board of General Purposes was read and confirmed. All the business placed on the paper [as given in our last issue] was confirmed. Bro. Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, proposed the sum of 100 guineas should be granted by Grand Lodge towards the Palestine Exploration Fund. Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form. The Scrutineers had not returned with the list of the twelve Past Masters to serve on the Lodge of Benevolence before Grand Lodge was closed.

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CHARGES OF A FREEMASON.

By Cornelius Moore, Editor of *The Masonic Review*.

MASONS are but men, and holy as are the principles deduced from our ritnals and emblems, and pure as are the designs upon our great moral trestle-board, still man may differ in opinion, in reasoning, and in conclusions. Masons are not infallible more than other men; and hence differences may arise among them which need to be investigated and adjusted. The Lodge is the proper tribunal to adjust and settle such difficulties when they arise. If either party is dissatisfied with the decision, he may appeal to the Grand Lodge, but the decision of that body is always final. Every brother must "stand to that award and determination;" for, as only Masonic matters can be considered by these tribunals, every brother is bound to submit quietly to the final award. If the difficulty be of such a peculiar character as to require a different reference—if the "Lord's work would be hindered" by waiting for the action of the Grand Lodge—in that case a special reference may be made of it by consent of parties. By the "Lord's work" is meant, in speculative Masonry, the work of the Order: if by taking the difference to the Grand Lodge for adjustment, the work of the Lodge would be arrested, the parties directly interested should consent to an amicable reference, that it may be more speedily decided and settled. Masons should "never go to law about what concerneth Masonry," unless the Lodge should be satisfied that there is an absolute necessity that legal tribunals should adjust the dispute.

The directions in this paragraph are given, not because there is frequent occasion to refer to them, but that *should* any arise, the mode of settlement may be plain. "Live in peace," is an injunction often repeated from the Orient, and all "know how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The last section provided for the regulation of conduct while the Lodge is in session; the present makes some important suggestions about behaviour after the Lodge is closed, but while the members are yet together.

Formerly, there was much more conviviality among the Craft, when not at work, than at the present day. When the work of the evening was ended, feasting, sentiments, and songs, were "next in order;" but this practice is now almost entirely abandoned. Sometimes at the session of a Grand Lodge, or on a festival day, the brethren dine together, and enjoy themselves in social converse, but rarely at other times, and even at these festivals, it is now generally considered disreputable to introduce the use of intoxicating liquors. Our modern festivals are held in public, and the female friends of the members often participate with them on such pleasant occasions.

But the ancient practice was to have refreshments in the Lodge hall, and when the work of the evening was over to retire to the festive board. For *such* occasions the charge was prepared; and it was so plain and appropriate that it needs no exposition to be understood—no urgency to enforce it: it commends itself to every considerate Mason. No *private* or *personal* disputes must ever be brought into the Lodge room for discussion; much less any disputes about religious or political opinions or policy. As Masons, our religion is *Catholic*, that is, *universal*; and no private dogma or opinion should ever be intruded into such gatherings of friendship. We are of various nations, languages, and kindreds, and our religious and political opinions are also various. It cannot be expected, therefore, that we should all entertain the same opinions in these matters; but we "agree to differ," while we unite in the "grand design of being happy and communicating happiness."

It is added that, "this Charge has been always strictly enjoined and observed; but especially, ever since the Reformation." The reason why it has been *specially* enforced since that period is, that much greater diversity in religious opinions exist than formerly; and, therefore, the greater danger of introducing discord and bad feelings, where only "peace and unity" should ever exist. Masons cannot be too careful to exclude from their meetings every element of contention; and the only strife permitted there should be, "who could best work and best agree."

This section, we think, needs but little comment. It allows of certain liberties when the Craft are alone together, that should be restrained in the presence of those not Masons. They may converse on Masonry, receive and impart instruction, and keep each other advised of the condition and progress of the Order. But their communications must be courteous and respectful; for though we are enjoined to call each other *brother*, and *meet upon the level*, yet Masonry does not remove the distinctions which always exist in social life, on account of station, talents, or moral eminence. But "no station should make us forget that we are brethren; that we are descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature, and share the same hope;" and that "soon all distinctions but that of goodness shall cease." These should never be forgotten.

To "keep sacred and inviolable the mysteries of the Order," is one of the earliest and most positive injunctions laid upon the new made brother. This is a duty he may not, *must* not neglect. To reveal the secrets of Masonry to one not entitled to them, is the highest offence against the Order, and one, at the bare thought of which, every good Mason would shudder. But the secrets of Masonry may be revealed—unlawfully revealed—without intending to do so on the part of him who commits the offence. And though there may be no criminal intent in the act, yet the consequence would be the same. Hence the necessity of extreme caution, especially on the part of young and inexperienced brethren, when in the presence of those not Masons, or of strangers whom you do not *know* to be Masons.

The writer, in an extensive intercourse with the Craft for many years, and in different States, has witnessed many indiscretions in this behalf. Brethren in company *presume* too much—*venture too far* —without *knowing*, from legal information, that all within sight or hearing are Masons. In these matters *nothing should be presumed*; wait until you can legally say, *I know*, then speak freely.

Every Mason recognises his obligation to preserve the secrets of Masonry from those unauthorised to receive them; but it is also incumbent upon every Mason to keep secret the *transactions of the Lodge*. Much evil is sometimes done, when a candidate has been rejected, by some incautious brother revealing the fact either to the candidate himself, or some one not a Mason. Such conduct is highly unmasonic and dishonourable, and no one should be allowed to repeat it without meeting with a prompt rebuke. Even our families and our most intimate friends, should be kept in ignorance of those transactions which occur within the tyled recesses of the Lodge room. A Mason who will reveal these forbidden things to *any one*, not a Mason, is a bad *man* as well as a very *unwise* one. He has undertaken to keep them secret; hence by revealing them he violates his vow, ruins his reputation, and produces discord and confusion. "Lock up your treasure in your own breast."

Temperance is a cardinal virtue of the Order; temperance in all things, whether it be indulgence in food, drink, or pleasure, or in excessive labour. A man should not drink too much of anything, and more especially of alcoholic or stimulating liquors. Indeed, the former should not be used at all, except as a medicine; for its use as a beverage is productive of evil only. We may eat intemperately also, as well as drink; but in the latter case, intemperance consists in eating too much, not as in the former, in eating at all. Nature *demands* food—it *revolts* at alcohol. But we should eat no more than nature requires; when we go beyond this point, it becomes intemperance. We may be intemperate in going to the Lodge too often, or staying there too late at night. Every labouring man needs a certain amount of rest, as well as time for study and reflection, and evenings are almost the only hours which a labouring man can devote to these. Once or twice per month, *as a general rule*, is as often as a brother should attend the Lodge; the rest of his evenings should be devoted to his family, to rest, and to the cultivation of his intellectual and moral nature. Late hours at the Lodge should also be avoided; at a reasonable hour every brother should be at home with his family, for his family has the first and highest claims upon him. His health, too, should be consulted, and health cannot be preserved unless a reasonable portion of time is devoted to rest. Nature's laws were enacted by God himself, and are imperative upon all. Be temperate, then, *in all things*.

In the examination of strangers, either in private, or as visitors at a Lodge, great care and circumspection should be observed. As a general rule, unless there be an urgent and special reason for it, no examination should take place except at the meeting of a Lodge. Young Masons, especially, should be *exceedingly* careful in their intercourse with strangers professing to be Masons. Until they are well skilled in the art, and have sufficient experience to guard against the wiles and cunning of designing men, they should never attempt to examine into the Masonic qualifications of a stranger, unless an old and experienced brother be present. Great care should also be exercised at Lodges, in the selection of committees to examine strange brethren who wish to visit the Lodge. That is a work which should never be entrusted to inexperienced hands. Men in years, and eminent for their knowledge of the art, their prudence, address, and sound judgment should always be detailed for this duty. A stranger should be "cautiously" examined, and in such a manner as prudence shall dictate. The stranger should be treated *kindly*, courteously, and respectfully. We have frequently heard complaints about the manner in which strangers are sometimes treated on such occasions: they should be received as gentlemen, and regarded as honest and true, until they are proved to be otherwise; then it will be time enough to "reject them with *contempt* and *derision*."

If, after a proper and thorough examination, you are satisfied the stranger is a "true and genuine brother, you are to respect him accordingly." He should be no longer a *stranger*, but *at home* and *among his brethren*. It makes no difference whether he be rich or poor, or what his creed or country; if he be a good and true Mason he should be welcomed with open arms and sympathising hearts.

If the stranger be in want, he should be relieved if possible; if you cannot do it yourself, you should put him in the way of being relieved. If you have employment for him, give him work, and pay him his wages; if you cannot employ him, direct him to some one who can, and thus aid him in procuring work. In these cases, however, it should always be remembered, that none but worthy brethren are entitled to your regard and assistance. An unworthy Mason, like an impostor, should be treated "with contempt and derision." The old rule is as good now as ever, "*he that will not work should not eat*."

This final section of the Charges is of great importance, especially in its bearing upon the social duties and relations of Masons. Having settled, in clear and unmistakable terms, the great fundamental and immutable principles of the Order; having pointed out those elementary laws and usages which lie at the foundation of Masonry, and which must remain unaltered and unalterable to the end of time. The Charges next proceed to lay down rules of conduct, and define certain social duties, the observance of which are absolutely necessary to secure good order, peace, and prosperity in the great Masonic family throughout the world. The importance of these, every discerning Mason will at once discover, for they commend themselves to the judgment with a force which admits of no repulse.

"*All these Charges* you *are* to *observe!*"—Brother, write that sentence upon your memory, and never forget that "these Charges" are a changeless law, and of enduring obligation. And not only these, but "those that shall be communicated to you in another way," —that cannot be written, but which are in harmony with these, and equally binding.

An epitome of the social duties embraced in the Charges follow:—To cultivate brotherly love, avoid wrangling, slandering, backbiting, and to live in peace and fraternal affection—these *must* be observed. You are not only to avoid injuring each other's good name and character, but you are to protect the character of every "honest brother," and do him all the "good offices" you can, "as far as is consistent with your honour and safety, and *no further*." These

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rules, if strictly obeyed in the spirit in which they are given, would unite the Craft in one "indissoluble bond of sincere affection," and diffuse a spirit of peace and goodwill throughout the entire family of man.

Further than this: if disputes and differences *should* unfortunately arise, a wise provision is made for their adjustment. The matter should be brought before your Lodge or *his* for adjustment, and but *few cases need go any further*. If, however, it cannot be satisfactorily settled there, then an appeal may be taken to the Grand Lodge for final decision. Disputes between the members of the Order should never be taken before the legal tribunals for decision, unless they "cannot be otherwise decided." But even then, the Master and members of the Lodge should kindly offer their mediation, and try to "put a speedy period to all lawsuits," that all may be prepared to discharge their Masonic duties with "alacrity and success." Such is the advice which Masonry gives; such the kindly admonitions which her Charges breathe; and if they are heeded, as they should be by every brother, they will have a most favourable influence, not only upon the Craft, but upon society at large.

"*Amen, so mote it be.*"—This is the crowning wish, the earnest prayer breathed from the heart, that these Charges may be heeded by the Craft, and that "the benign influence of Masonry" may be seen and felt for good in all the world, and to the end of time. So be it now, and so may it ever be. This is the spirit of the closing invocation, and every generous and manly heart must echo the sentiment.

This ends the "Old Charges." We have carefully examined them, and find nothing objectionable, but much that is wholesome in tendency, healthful in influence, and of sound, as well as great, practical importance. They bespeak a clear insight into human nature, and, as far as anything short of inspired wisdom can, meet the necessities of social life, restrain the passions of men, throw light along the dreary path in which we travel on earth, and awaken the best feelings of our nature in behalf of our brother man. They do not pretend to provide for our eternal welfare, but they are well calculated to prepare us for the reception of those higher and still more important truths which God has revealed, and which are sufficient to direct us into that path which "leads to a glorious immortality."

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

Exaltation of Lord Zetland.

On Wednesday last an emergency meeting of the Zetland Chapter (No. 236) was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe Place, York, for the purpose of exalting the Right Hon. Lawrence Dundas, Earl of Zetland, P.G.M. of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire. The Chapter was opened in form at 4 P.M., the following Companions being present:—Comp. J. Todd P.Z. as Z., Comp. C. Smith Z. as H., Comp. T. Smarthwaite J., Comp. T. B. Whytehead S.E., Comp. Balmford S.N., Comp. W. Lawton P.Z. P.S., Comp. J. S. Walton 1st Ass., Comp. T. W. Wilson 2nd Ass., Comp. W. Cowling P.Z. Treasurer, Comp. P. S. Camidge Org., Comp. J. Redford Jan., Comp. R. W. Hallon P.D.C. England, Comp. Sir James Meek P.G. P.H., Comp. Rev. J. E. M. Young P.Z., Comp. R. Davison P.Z., Comp. Rev. H. V. Palmer, Comp. The Hon. W. P. Orde-Powlett, and a number of other Companions, members of the Chapter and visitors.

Scribe E. read the summons convening the Chapter, and a ballot was then taken for Bro. Lord Zetland, which proved successful. His Lordship being in attendance, was then duly exalted to the supreme degree of the Holy Royal Arch of Jerusalem. The Historical Lecture was delivered by Comp. Smarthwaite, the Symbolical Lecture by Comp. Sir James Meek P.Z., and the Mystical Lecture by Comp. J. Todd P.Z. The Chapter was then closed in form, and with solemn prayer.

The Companions afterwards adjourned to the banqueting-room, where they partook of a cold collation, which had been provided by Comp. C. Abbott, in his usual good style. The chair was occupied by Comp. C. Smith Z., who was supported by Companions J. Todd and T. Smarthwaite, and the rest of the P.Z.'s.

The loyal and patriotic toasts having been duly honoured, the M.E.Z. proposed the health of the newly exalted Companion, which was received with the greatest enthusiasm. He said that it was both a pleasure and an honour to the Zetland Chapter to have, that day, received into its ranks the representative of a family so long known and honoured in Yorkshire, and in the City of York, as that of Dundas. (Applause.) He was confident that the honours so nobly borne by his predecessor, the loved and respected old Earl, would be handed down by the present Earl in unsullied purity, and that, Masonically speaking, this day would be one to be remembered, both by their new Companion, and by those who were present that evening. (Continued applause.)

The Earl of Zetland said that he wished to return his most cordial thanks for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received, and also for the kind manner in which allusion had been made to the memory of his late uncle, who was indeed beloved, not only by his own family, but by all who had known him. He regretted that trains and time would not wait, and that he should be compelled to make his remarks as brief as possible, but he wished to say that he had felt it a very great pleasure to be present that evening, and he might also take the opportunity of stating that it had long been his opinion, and now it was his conviction, as he had learnt from the evening's proceedings, that the Royal Arch degree was the climax of Masonry, and that it was a degree that every good Mason should take. He thanked the Companions most cordially for their kind reception of the toast. His lordship was greeted with the greatest enthusiasm during his speech, and shortly afterwards took his departure.

The M.E.Z. then proposed the health of the G.M. of England. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, a toast which, he said, should at this time be peculiarly welcome. His Masonic brethren all watched his progress in India with an eye of especial interest, and were convinced that the journey would be fraught with great advantages both to England and her Indian Empire.

The toast was drunk enthusiastically with the Grand Honours.

Sir James Meek P.Z., who was cordially received, rose to propose the toast of the "Three Principals." He congratulated the Zetland Chapter on its present and future prospects, which, he said, were at this time especially bright. It had been, he was sure, a great satisfaction to them to have that evening exalted their P.G.M., and it could not be regarded as otherwise than an honour to the Chapter that his lordship should have elected to have been exalted through its medium. For himself he trusted that he always made a point of attending the meetings of the Chapter on all occasions when the interests of the Chapter demanded his presence, and when it was in his power to do so. To the Principals was largely owing the success of the Chapter, and the able manner in which the ceremony had been conducted that evening. He was sure that it could not fail of being gratifying to his Lordship, who would have no misgivings as to his selection of the Zetland Chapter. (Loud applause).

The toast was drunk with the honours, and was acknowledged in felicitous terms by Comps. C. Smith J. Todd and T. Smarthwaite. Comp. Smith acknowledging the great and kind assistance he had received from Comp. Todd during his term of office. Comp. Todd also returned thanks, expressing the great pleasure it had been to him to perform the duties that evening, and the hope that Lord Zetland would before long occupy an exalted position in Royal Arch Masonry in that province.

Comp. Terry proposed the toast of the P.Z's., coupling with it the names of Comps. Cowling, Sir J. Meek, Davison and Todd, a toast which was received with great *éclat*.

Comp. Cowling, in returning thanks, said that it could not but be regarded as a great honour for the Chapter to have had the privilege of exalting their P.G.M. In York, the name of Dundas had been honoured for many generations. Years ago a member of that family had occupied the Civic chair in York, and had represented the City in Parliament, and York had a sort of right to them. The times had now changed, but he hoped that some means would yet be found to bind once more together in a common interest the country and the City families and their interests, and he could not but regard the Institution of Freemasonry as an important means to that end. At any rate, the step taken by Lord Zetland that evening was a proof that the interests of the Dundas family in York was not altogether a thing of the past. He begged to thank the members of the Chapter for the cordial spirit of assistance and support they had always shown. This spirit had made the York Lodge a pattern to all Lodges in the country, and he hoped it would long continue to flourish and bear good fruit.

Comp. Dawson P.Z. proposed the health of the two Scribes, and a number of other toasts were duly proposed and heartily received. The proceedings were enlivened by the singing of Comp. H.S. Cumberland and others, and a pleasant evening was spent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—to—

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—to—

THE GOVERNMENT OF OUR SCHOOLS, &c.

To the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle.

Dear Sir and Bro.,—Although your columns are very properly closed for the present to further discussion of the past management of the Boys' School, I earnestly hope that that closing does not extend to a consideration of the very excellent suggestions of M. A. in your paper of 20th of November.

The constitution of the present governing bodies of our schools seems to combine the vices of unwieldiness, impermanence, and impotence! The General Committee includes *several hundred* Life Governors (permanent enough, this feature, but rather too big for business), and twelve subscribers annually elected. These, doubtless, are many of them annually re-elected, and are practically the managers; but they can scarcely feel strong enough to initiate and carry through any definite policy, when they may, at any meeting, be outvoted by a tithe of a tithe of the Life Governors, and are by no means sure that any one of them will be able to represent their views at their Board twelve months after deciding on any course of action.

The House Committee of the Boys' School (which one may suppose to be a sub-committee), did not, in June 1874, include even one of the elected members of the General Committee.

If you will favour me with space, I shall be glad to show, in a future letter, how among the first fruits easily gathered by a strong governing body, such as that proposed by M. A., would be an ample provision for all approved candidates for election.

Yours fraternally, HEREWARD.

Cross 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, Dealing, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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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 Discrepancies of Freemasonry. Examined during a week's gossip with the late celebrated Bro. Gilkes and other eminent Masons, on sundry obscure and difficult passages in the ordinary Lodge Lectures, which, although open questions in Grand Lodge, constitute a source of doubt and perplexity to the Craft. By the Rev. G. Oliver D.D., Past M.P.S., Grand Commander S.G.I.G. 33° for England and Wales; Past D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Past D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire; Honorary Member of numerous Lodges and Literary Societies in every quarter of the Globe. Author of "The Revelations of a Square," "The Book of the Lodge," "Historical Landmarks," &c. With numerous diagrams. London: John Hogg and Co., Paternoster-row. 1875.

It is difficult to imagine a more charming book, or one more calculated to inspire the Masonic student with enthusiasm for the Royal Art. The very style in which it is written, that of a dialogue among several members of the Craft, is alone enough to ensure the attention of the reader, but this, though a conspicuous, is very far from being its only merit. The pen of a practical, as well as a ready writer is needed in writing dialogues, and those who have read Dr. Oliver's *Revelations of a Square*, will be the first to concede that few writers of the day would surpass him in this particular style. The late Sir Arthur Helps is the only man of eminence who could possibly have infused more interest into such a work, or rather, be it said, into a series of subjects, handled in this particular fashion.

After a long and able Introductory Chapter, in which we are initiated into the principal points to be discussed, and which forms, in fact, a kind of general synopsis of the work, we come to the Discussions, which are held at a friend's house, and extend over the six working days of the week. To show the breadth and variety of view the reader will be sure to find in these discussions, we may as well fix the characters of the piece—to use a theatrical simile, the several *dramatis personæ*. There is, in the first place, the Surgeon, who though an able and hospitable man, is described as being somewhat dogmatic, not to say obstinate in his views, and whose career as a Mason cannot be pronounced a very successful one, seeing that during his occupancy of the Lodge Chair his Lodge was somewhat irregular, and was less strong when his term of office was ended than when it began. Then we have the worthy Doctor himself, and Bro. Gilkes, one of the best Masons of his day, together with the "Rev. ——, D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire; the Rev. ——, Rector of ——; the Rev. ——, Vicar of ——, and Head Master of the Grammar School at ——; the Rev. ——, Curate of ——; a young man who was reading for honours at Cambridge, the brother of our host; a lieutenant in the Royal Navy; and Nis Petersen, an intelligent Danish skipper, who spoke the English language correctly, with a slight foreign accentuation."

It matters, of course comparatively speaking, but little, who, or how many, are the personages that take part in these discussions, or whether they are fictitious, as the "Friends in Council," of Sir Arthur Helps, or real as in the description above given. The merit of the work belongs entirely to the man who writes the book, and that merit is all the more conspicuous the more numerous they are who take part in the discussions.

The subjects are far too numerous, and we may add, far too important to be disposed of in a single notice. We shall confine ourselves, therefore, on the present occasion, to setting forth the leading features of the earlier discussions. The questions touched upon on Monday evening, are the following:—"Spurious Rituals, Origin of Freemasonry, Third Degree and the Royal Arch, The Legend, The Vesica Piscis, The Universal Language, and Masonic Ciphers." We shall refer our readers to the book itself for the different views expressed on the earlier subjects; but the Masonic application of the Vesica Piscis, being, doubtless, less familiar to the bulk of our readers, and being, moreover, a most ingenious theory, cannot fail to prove of interest. This Vesica Piscis contains, we are told, the imperfect outline of a FISH, and was so called from the Greek word Ichthuos, which is an acrostic of the Redeemer—Iesoûs Christòs Theoû Uiòs O Sotèr; whence it became an emblem of Christ, although it had been used geometrically, long before His personal advent into the world." It is added, that this same Vesica Piscis "appertained to the Platonic system, and constituted the sign of recognition amongst the Epopta, by the open hands united with the ends of the fingers, and wrists to touching each other." It also frequently "occurs in the Egyptian temples, and particularly about the throne of Osiris, in reference to the divine triads, and, geometrically represents the birth of Light, Horus, or the Sun, from the wedding of Osiris and Iris." As to its Masonic application, we cannot do better than quote Bro. Gilkes, who explains it thus:—

"We apply it thus," Bro. Gilkes answered. "Our lectures inform us that the three most perfect of all geometrical diagrams are, the equilateral triangle, the square, and the equal hexagon; the latter being a figure produced by carrying the radius of a circle six times round the circumference. And thus the hexagon, being composed of six equilateral triangles, is equal in all its relations, and retains the quality of being infinitely divisible into similar triangles, according to the geometrical projection observed in the divisions of that trilateral figure, and may therefore be considered as the most perfect of all multilateral forms. Of trilateral and quadrilateral figures it is to be observed that none can subsist into symbolical geometry but those which, in their respective lines and angles, bear the relation of equality, or such proportions as may be adequately expressed by some of the numerical terms of the Tetractys, i.e., the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4."

As to the application of the doctrine to the Vesica Piscis, we are told:—

"You shall hear," said Bro. Gilkes. "The Vesica Piscis constitutes the origin and foundation of all those figures, and enters into the composition of almost every Masonic symbol. For instance, the number three refers to the Trinity in Unity, which is represented by a figure that Hemming and Shadbolt have denominated *the Pythagorean Triangle*. This emblem powerfully elucidates the mystic relation between numerical and geometrical symbols. It is composed of ten points so arranged as to form one great equilateral triangle, and at the same time to divide it into nine similar triangles of smaller dimensions. The first of these is called a *Monad*, and represents unity, answering to the geometrical *point*. The next two points are called *Duad*, answering to the geometrical *line*, which consists of length without breadth, and is bounded by two extreme points. The three succeeding points are called a *Triad*, which embodies the idea of length and breadth as abstracted from thickness. The four points at the base of the figure are denominated *Tetrad* or *Tetractys*. They bear a similar relation to a *solid*, which combines the three principles of length, breadth and thickness, inasmuch as no solid can have less than four extreme points of boundary."

A discussion intervenes as to the Pythagorean interpretation of the figure, and its application to Christ, after which Bro. Gilkes resumes:—

"Having disposed of the four primary digits," Bro. Gilkes continued, "we come to number seven, which is the sum of the two last-mentioned numbers, and has evidently more than one reference, from the various ways in which it may be depicted. Thus, for instance, if it be exemplified by *triangles*, it produces the monogram of God-man, Jesus Christ; the apex pointing upwards denotes His divinity, and that pointing downwards, His humanity. If represented by *squares*, it produces the polished cubical stone, an emblem of perfection."

He is then invited to explain "the identity between the Vesica Piscis and the Pythagorean science of Numbers, as it is enunciated in our present system of Freemasonry," and accordingly offers the following solution:—

"We were speaking of the cube as a perfect figure in the abstract," Bro. Gilkes continued, "but you will observe, that if it be extended to the extreme circumference of both the circles whose segments form the Vesica, it will produce the double cube, or altar of incense, and include ten points, the sum total of the Pythagorean Triangle; being the sacred number, and denominated amongst Masons the Perfect Ashlar. The Triple Tau, and the Jerusalem Cross include, in like manner, the two circles and Vesica; and contain the dimensions of the Tabernacle and Temple, with the Most Holy naturally and scientifically separated from the Holy Place."

As to the application of Bro. Gilke's theory to the science Freemasonry, that eminent brother remarks:—

"It is allowed on all hands," Bro. Gilkes replied, "that his mysterious figure, the Vesica Piscis possessed an unbounded influence on the details of sacred architecture; *and it constituted the great and enduring secret of our ancient brethren.* The plans of religious buildings were determined by its use, and the proportions of length, breadth, and height were dependent on it alone."

And again:—

"You have alluded to the form of the Lodge; but this form, whatever may be its dimensions, must be determined in all its varied proportions by the Vesica Piscis. Now, there are in reality only six forms, including the square, already mentioned, that were most commonly used by our ancient brethren, which may be exemplified thus, take any line, M N, for instance, and divide it into twelve equal parts, A to L, and from any two of these, at corresponding distances from the end of a line as centres, describe segments forming the Vesica, until you arrive at the central point, which will, of course produce a perfect circle. The Points of each Vesica, being extended into equal lines parallel to M N, will form a series of oblong squares of various dimensions, with a perfect square in the middle as an elucidation of the central point and circle. Bro. Kerrich asserts, in an interesting paper read before the Society of Antiquaries a few years ago, that the rule by which our ancient brethren adjusted these proportions is a profound secret at the present day; but he thinks it was effected by writing some mysterious word of *eleven letters* upon it, which possibly might furnish names for them all."

"And you will further observe, that the form of the Lodge has the following properties peculiar to itself. First, that its sides are to each other as the side to the diagonal of a square; and secondly, that if it be bisected by a right line parallel to its shorter sides, the two halves will not only be precisely similar to one another, but each also precisely similar to the whole."

Here we pause for the present, contenting ourselves with remarking that part of this chapter, devoted to the language of Masonry, will be found very interesting, as is likewise the explanation of the ancient Masonic cipher.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—VIGOROUS HEALTH.—With winter comes sore trials to the soundest constitutions, while the naturally delicate and feeble find it so frequently a prolonged struggle against, or under suffering. All diseases affecting the nervous system arise from impurity in the blood, irregularity of organic action, or vitiated secretions. Holloway's Pills are invaluable for removing all poisonous elements from the body, and are famed for curing indigestion, flatulency and restlessness, as well as palpitation, pain in the side, and other morbid feelings. The remedies gain ascendant on the nervous class of diseases so as to yield to these purifying Pills. The sensations of anxiety may diminish under their use, sound sleep superseded nights of watching, and calm repose dispersed hideous dreams.

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THE MASON'S VOYAGE AFTER TRUTH.

From the "Canadian Masonic News."

THERE is in every mind a tendency toward knowledge. The reasoning powers of a man are ever active and fruitful, and fitted for generous and enlarged ideas; and it should therefore be our great duty, especially as Masons, to find out our peculiar natural bias, and having discovered it, give it proper culture and polish.

It is undoubtedly the fact that arts and sciences are not, and cannot, in the nature of things, be instantaneously attained; and it is therefore by study, contemplation, diversity of conversation, and an investigation of a variety of objects, that our judgments are correctly informed, so as to enlarge our knowledge of things. These are the great channels by which knowledge is most surely and certainly conveyed, and by which the inward perception of our souls, though variously exercised, forms not only the hero and philosopher, but also the husbandman and the mechanician; and thus arise *wisdom*, *strength* and beauty, in magnificent proportions in all our designs. It has been well said, that knowledge and application, or industry, are like *two parallel lines*, inasmuch as they are always progressive and equi-distant: and though they are both generated by points, may and can be continued without end.

When Cadmus brought out of Phœnicia into Greece the Alphabet, it contained but sixteen letters, and some centuries elapsed before it was perfected to twenty-four; and we find, in the time of David, and part of Solomon's reign most of the Jews were so ignorant of the liberal sciences, that the building of the Temple was mainly owing to the skill and learning of Tyrian workmen, and especially to the superior knowledge and skill of one whose untimely fate we ever commemorate in our Lodges; whose mother was a woman of the daughters of Dan, and whose father was a man of Tyre, skilful to work in gold, in silver, in brass, in iron, in stone and in timber; in purple, in blue, in fine linen and in crimson; also to engrave any matter of graving, and to find out every device which might be put to him. This man, Solomon made overseer of all the artists; and that wisest of kings was not ashamed to secure his assistance, or to seek for knowledge wherever it might be found, and to make a proper use and application of it.

This action of Solomon conveys a lesson which ought not to be lost to the observing and reflective mind, that no one should ever presume to think himself perfect in wisdom, but always endeavour to attain higher degrees by every lawful and laudable method; to go step by step in a regular manner as Masons are ever taught, and readily to avail ourselves of all those advantages which the labours and studies of others so liberally afford us.

From considerations such as these, it is apparent that man has a natural right to indulge in speculation, and make researches after truth; but he must bear in mind, the more especially if he be a Mason, that he does so under a restriction, that he does not exercise himself in any enquiries that surpass his faculties, but only in those adapted to his capacity, with an intent to improve to the best advantage whatever he is capable of knowing; by joining in the language both of heaven and earth, and of the whole universe, which, with one common voice, proclaims the glory of our Grand Master on High, who has created nothing in vain, but has established the most exact agreement between every faculty and its object. He has granted somewhat to all our passions; but as the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing; as hunger and thirst, though they are daily gratified, daily return; so this passion—this desire of knowledge—though it is delighted with the discovery of every new truth, yet still it seems to yearn after somewhat further—after a higher perfection—after a happy hereafter—that we may be then perfect in knowledge—that we may then be fully enlightened. Should we at once attempt to trangress this salutary law, we would soon find that in much wisdom is much sorrow, and that he who imprudently endeavours to increase such knowledge increases sorrow.

In nature there is evidently a regular gradation. The brute part of the creation comes nearest the human, and somewhat borders upon it, and though it is not endowed with reason, yet it possesses something approaching it called instinct, the powers of which are variously regulated; but there are certain bounds which it was never known to pass. But man is superior to all, and being endowed by our Grand Master with reasoning powers, and He having afforded us objects enough suited to the power of our faculties, whereby we may exercise all the industry and skill, and parts of the most learned and wise, they ought so to be employed as to make us more happy and contented, using the *compass* to mark out our ways; the *square* to direct us in our actions, and the *plumb-line* to teach us uprightness: whilst with the *level* we moderate our desires, and make them regular and even.

It is on principles such as these the Masonic society is established; upon regulations based upon these principles it is supported. Founded upon this strong and lasting basis, our speculations become more than a pleasing amusement, by being also a mental improvement, and a practical benefit to ourselves and others. Offices of humanity, benevolence and unanimity are not only hereby deduced, and every social pursuit, not only the justifiable, but likewise the laudable, appears among those who are good men and true; but they continually endeavour also to convince that the works of the Grand Architect of the Universe are great, and that we should know as with a full belief, that not to earth is to be confined our aspirations. In their beauties we luxuriate; with their grandeur we are overwhelmed, and the eye wanders over mountain, hill and dale to a distance still beyond, where, like Jacob in his vision, we hope to arrive by the aid of that theological ladder, extending from earth to heaven, the three principal rounds of which are *Faith*, *Hope* and *Charity*—that *faith* which admonishes us to have a belief in God—the *hope* in the existence of an immortality; and that *charity* which embraces all the human family, and of which we are Masonically taught that the last is the greatest of the three; for though our *faith* may be lost in sight, and our *hope* be terminated in fruition; yet our *charity* will extend beyond the grave—through the boundless realms of eternity.

This is the Mason's voyage after truth.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF LANARKSHIRE.

THIS Chapter held its annual meeting on Friday, 26th November, in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow. The Provincial Grand Superintendent, Comp. F. A. Barrow 32°, presiding as P.G.Z., assisted by the following Comps.: W. W. Smith P.G.J. as P.G.H., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as P.G.J., J. Halket Z. 113 P.G.T, J. Balfour P.Z. 73, 1st P.G.S., H. J. Shields Z. 143 as 2nd P.G.S., and G. McDonald P.Z. 73 as 3rd P.G.S. A letter of apology was read from the P.G.S.E., stating that, along with the P.G.S.N., he had an engagement out of town. The P.G. Superintendent expressed his hope that a greater interest might be manifested in the proceedings of that P.G.C. by the members in the Province; it looked bad when some of the principal officers were absent, but he was fully determined himself to do all that lay in his power during the coming year to push forward Royal Arch Masonry, and to enable him to devote more of his time to it, he had resigned his office of D.P.G.M. in the P.G.L. of Glasgow. According to the constitution of Scotland, the appointment of the first four officers rested with him, the others were elected by the Chapter, and he trusted only those would be elected who, by their past labours, had proved that they where able and willing to work for the good of the Order in the province, for he conceived provincial honours should not be granted as favours, but as the reward of merit. He had, since he came to the meeting, had some doubt as to the propriety of the choice he had himself made, but trusting this was an exceptional case, he would make the appointments now, reserving to himself the right of revoking them should the duties not be efficiently preformed, and he could not do better than place Comp. Smith in the office of P.G.H., the office of J. he would defer for a few days, and in the meantime re-appoint Comps. McTaggart and Fraser as the two P.G. Scribes. The representatives of the 12 Chapters present would now proceed to elect the other office bearers. The following were afterwards declared duly elected, and with the exception of two, who were unable to be present, were duly installed into their places:—Comps. T. Halket P.G.T., Jas. Balfour P.G. 1st S., G. W. Wheeler P.G. 2nd S., G. McDonald P.G. 3rd S., G. Thallon P.G.C., J. Millar P.G.S.B., J. Dothie P.G.S. of Marks, J. B. Hardie P.G. Janitor. Arrangements having been made for holding the Annual Festival in the month of February, the Provincial Grand Chapter was then closed.

NEW ZEALAND.

AT the annual convocation of the Kilwinning Otago Royal Arch Chapter, No. 116, S.C., the following office-bearers were duly installed in their various chairs:—Comps. Saunders M. Ex. Z., Court Ex. H., R. Greenfield Ex. J., Fergusson Scribe E., Moodie Scribe N., Mills Treasurer, Singer Conductor and 1st Sojourner, Seidelberg 2nd Sojourner, Kidd 3rd Sojourner, Taite R. W. Mark Master, Smith Janitor. The ceremony was ably conducted by M. Ex. Comp. Caldwell, P.G., Superintendent of Royal Arch Chapters in New Zealand, holding under the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, assisted by M. Ex. Comp. Saunders. Amongst the visitors present were Ex. Comps. Eldridge Z., Ex. Joyce H., and Ex. Fordyce J., all of Chapter 844, E.C. After the installation, the Comps. adjourned to the Criterion Hotel, where a pleasant evening was passed, Host Barker catering in his usual excellent style.—*Otago Guardian*, 29th September.

THE LAST IRISH HARPERS.—The preservation of many of the finest old Irish melodies is due to the late Mr. William Bunting, and originated in this way. The rapid decrease of performers on the Irish harp suggested the idea of assembling the remaining harpers dispersed over the different provinces of Ireland. A meeting was accordingly held at Belfast in 1792, when no more than ten could be collected, to whom liberal premiums were distributed according to their merits. Mr. Bunting was appointed to note down the airs played on the occasion, and cautioned against adding a single note to old melodies which would seem to have passed, in their present state, through a long succession of ages. Though collected from parts distant from each other, and taught from different masters, the harpers always played them in the same keys, and without variation in any essential passage or note. This circumstance seemed the more extraordinary when it was discovered that the most ancient tunes were, in this respect, the most perfect, admitting of the addition of a bass with more facility than such as were less ancient. It was remarked that the instruments used by the harpers were tuned on one uniform system, though the performers on them were ignorant of the principle. A chief motive in convening this feeble remnant of the bards, was to procure purer copies of tunes already known, and to perpetuate a number of other extremely ancient ones, of which no copies existed, and which were, therefore, the more likely to be lost. The ends proposed by this meeting, were highly successful, and given to the world in the various collections put forth by Mr. Bunting.—*Leisure Hour*.

READING.—The two Lodges in this ancient Town have arranged for a Masonic Ball, to take place on the 5th of January next. We hope to give further particulars in our next publication.

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

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HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

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IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

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DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN. and A NABOB FOR AN HOUR. On 27th December, WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT.

HAYMARKET. — At 7.30, A HAPPY MEDIUM, and MARRIED IN HASTE.

LYCEUM.—At 7.0, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, QUICKSILVER DICK. At 7.30, LITTLE EMLY, and THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, FAINT HEART NEVER WON FAIR LADY. At 8.0, RIP VAN WINKLE, and HEAD OF A CLAN.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, FAMILY JARS. At 8.0, BUCKINGHAM.

STRAND.—At 7.0, TWO TO ONE. A LESSON IN LOVE, and LOO, AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—At 7.15, OPERETTA. At 8.0, PAUL PRY. At 9.0, TOOLE AT SEA. At 10.0, ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS. At 8.15, ALL FOR HER.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, MAN IS NOT PERFECT, BLUE BEARD, and CRYPHOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATO.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MASKS AND FACES.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT, and TRIAL BY JURY.

QUEEN'S.—At 7.30, THE WHITE CAT.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, PROOF POSITIVE, BLACK EYED SUSAN, and A TEMPTING BAIT.

COURT.—At 7.30 A MORNING CALL, A NINE DAYS' WONDER, and UNCLE'S WILL. On Thursday, BROKEN HEARTS.

CRITERION.—At 8, FLEUR DE THE, and A TRIP TO INDIA.

PHILARMONIC.—At 7.30, TWO TO ONE, and LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, THE FLOWER QUEEN, and BALLET.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, THE MESSIAH. On Tuesday, Performance by the GLOBE COMPANY, &c. Open Daily. ROMAN, &c.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, &c. On Tuesday, THE TEMPEST. Open daily, AQUARIUM, SKATING RINK, &c.

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PATRONS.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M., President.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

IN compliance with a requisition delivered to me, and signed by 15 Governors, a Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, 11th day of December 1875, at 12 o'clock precisely, on the following business:—

To consider, and, if approved, adopt, the Report of the Special Committee, appointed by the Quarterly General Court, on the 9th October 1875, with reference to the subject of providing accommodation for an increased number of Girls, the scheme to be submitted having also been recommended by the General Committee, on the 25th November. And farther, in the event of the adoption of the Report, to nominate a Building Committee, who shall be charged with the superintendence of the necessary works, with full power to draw cheques and perform all such duties as may appertain to their office.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE,
(Prov. S. G. Warden, Middlesex),
Secretary.

FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

SINCE her return to Windsor Castle, from the Highlands, the Queen has been entertaining a number of distinguished guests, the most important being the Queen of Denmark, the Princess of Wales, and the Princess Thyra. On Wednesday morning the band of the Scots Fusilier Guards serenaded under the windows of Her Royal Highness, it being the anniversary of the Princess's birthday. The town of Windsor too was gay with flags and banners, the bells ringing merrily in honour of the occasion. In the afternoon Her Majesty of Denmark, with the Princess and Prince Leopold, paid a visit to the Albert Memorial Chapel. Among the other visitors to the Castle may be mentioned the Premier, the Earl and Countess of Derby, and the Danish Minister and Madame de Bulow. Of the further progress made by the Prince of Wales in India, we must simply note that his Royal Highness visited Goa, the chief Portuguese possession on the Western coast. He was received by the Governor, who entertained him, and was entertained at a return visit on board the Serapis. He has since arrived at Colombo, Ceylon.

The principal topic of the week, one, in fact, that has almost engrossed the public mind, is the purchase, by the British Government, of the Khedive's shares in the Suez Canal, for the sum of four millions sterling. The importance of this step, whether we look at it merely commercially or from a political point of view, cannot be overrated. Our interests in India are so vast and so important that whatever is done to make them more secure is sure to meet with the approbation of the public. We do not remember a

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single act of any British Ministry which has been so unanimously endorsed by public opinion. Abroad, of course, there is not the same unanimity, very far from it, indeed. If foreign powers act common-sensibly, they will regard this action of the Disraeli Cabinet as a very natural, if a somewhat extraordinary, step. It is of vital importance that the road to India should be, if not British, at all events, under British influence. As England is now, or at least, when Parliament has ratified the bargain, will be, the holder of nearly one-half of the shares issued, it is clear she will exercise a commanding influence in regulating the traffic. France, of course, feels hurt, if we are to take the majority of French journals as exponents of French public opinion, but this is only natural, considering the scheme of the Suez Canal was planned by a French engineer, and carried out under his auspices. It was, in fact, one of the glories of the French Empire. The Government, however, maintain a descreet silence.

The Wainwright trial is over, and the Court at the Old Baily will no longer witness the indecent struggles of well dressed ladies to gain admission, in order to hear the details of a horrible murder. Henry Wainwright has been found guilty of murder, and sentenced to death, while Thomas Wainwright is pronounced guilty of being an accessory after the fact, and sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. Thus ends one of the most frightful chapters in the annals of English criminal history. Such is the latest illustration of the well known lines of Horace:—

"Rare antecedentem sceleetum
Deserait pede Pœna claudo."

At the Alexandra Palace, the Princess of Wales's birthday was honoured with a special programme, there being a grand concert and an illumination of the Italian Garden. To-day will be given the Oratorio of the Messiah, while the entries for the Doll Exhibition close this week. At the Crystal Palace also, a grand Orchestral Concert was given on Wednesday, to commemorate the auspicious event referred to above, while at to-day's concert will be given Mr. Macfarren's Oratorio of St. John the Baptist. The concerts both at the St James's and the Royal Albert Halls have been likewise held as usual, and the attendance has been satisfatiory to the zealous caterers of music at those well known institutions.

Next week all London will be alive with visitors from the country to see the Cattle Show of the Smithfield Club. The show will be held at the Agricultural Hall, and will be opened on Monday next, remaining open till Friday evening inclusive. Every precaution will be taken to prevent the appearance of any diseased animals among the exhibits. We hope the show will pass off satisfactorily to its promoters.

The weather is certainly wintry. Snow, for some few days has been falling, if not continuously, at all events to a great extent, and just previous the ground, which had been in places more like a swamp, had become as hard as iron, as the saying is. There is no knowing, of course, in this variable climate of ours, for how long this state of things may last, but some one has prognosticated a severe winter. We do not profess to be weather-wise, but at least the prophets have present appearances in their favour. One thing we note, which may be set down as a metropolitan institution almost. Whenever there is a visitation of snow, the streets are invariably in the most miserable condition of slush. On Thursday and yesterday locomotion was attended with the most intense inconvenience. Hansoms, whirling along at rapid pace, sent the mud flying, and it is difficult to imagine a more wretched appearance than London presented on those days. We pride ourselves on being a practical people. Is there no way of avoiding this; no way by which the scavengering could be carried out, so as to effect the minimum of discomfort to those who are compelled, by business, to move about? Of course, when the snow is falling, the difficulty of keeping the road and pathway clear is enormous, but some preventive measures might be adopted.

The 211th Anniversary Festival of the Scottish Corporation, was held on St. Andrew's Day, at Freemasons' Tavern, the Earl of Rosebery presiding, and there being present some four hundred and fifty gentlemen. The subscriptions for the year, as announced by the Secretary, amounted to about £2,000, including contributions from the Queen and the noble Chairman to the extent of one hundred guineas each. The same evening a Scotch Ballad Concert was given at St. James's Hall, in honour of the Patron Saint of Scotland.

An accident has happened to the Duchess of Manchester, who has sustained two fractures in one of her arms. However, the limb has been set, and, according to the latest accounts, Her Grace is progressing favourably towards recovery.

The married life of Mr. John Dolby does not seem to have been a very happy one, to judge from the evidence given on Thursday, in the Divorce Court, before Sir John Hannen. Mrs. Dolby is at present undergoing a term of imprisonment with hard labour, for having assaulted Mr. Dolby, whom she appears to have at divers times and seasons likewise assailed, hurling at him brooms, mallets, and on one occasion, she chased him round the garden, flinging about forty or fifty garden pots at his head. This is by no means a good illustration of connubial bliss.

Abroad, the news that reaches us, chiefly relates to the purchase of the Suez Canal shares; the action of the British Government being variously interpreted by different Governments. The Russians have received a severe check in Central Asia, an insurrection having broken out in Khokand, and more than one detachment of their troops having been cut to pieces. General Kauffman is said to have a force at his disposal just sufficient to protect Russian interests, and no more. A Cabinet Council has been held at Madrid, at which Generals Quesada and Martinez-Campos were also present. It was determined to form two armies, each of five divisions, one in Navarre, under the latter General, and the other in the Basque Provinces, under Quesada. We wish we could see there was some chance of the decisive campaign against Carlism being commenced. There are rumours of changes in the Turkish Ministry, and it is said that the Egyptian troops have occupied a portion of the Territory on the East Coast of Africa, of right belonging to the Sultan of Zanzibar. In America, the Public Health Association has been holding its third annual session at Baltimore, Dr. Joseph M. Toner presiding. The President for the ensuing year will be Dr. Edwin M. Snow, of Providence, Rhode Island, and the Secretary, Elisha Harris, New York. Two Vice Presidents, and an Executive Committee of six members were also elected. It is announced that the next annual meeting will be held at Boston. At Berlin, a general Synod of the Evangelical Church, in the older provinces of the Prussian Monarchy, was held on the 24th ult.

His Imperial Highness Prince Rhodocanakis has been re-elected Grand Master of Greece for a further term of three years, and was installed as such, amid great pomp, on the 26th October.

During the mayoralty of the late Lord Mayor, Bro. D. H. Stone, J.G.W., the supplementary work in the cause of Charity was very heavy. Nearly 100,000 letters and circulars were issued from the Secretary's Office, and the amount collected was £33,926 16s 11d. In recognition of the services of Bro. J. R. S. Vine, the late private Secretary, the members of the Iceland Relief Committee presented him with a very elegant clock, inscribed in Icelandic characters, and he was also presented with a testimonial from the French committee.

SHAKESPEARE'S SONNETS.—Shakespeare's Sonnets were first described in his own time—by Francis Meres, in 1598—as his "sugared sonnets among his private friends." They were first published in 1609, seven years before his death, and dedicated by Thomas Thorpe, the Bookseller, to "Mr. W. H.," in words that have sent critics upon many a wild-goose chase. The first description of them was the best, and the best modern editor of Shakespeare, Alexander Dyce, said in the account of Shakespeare prefixed in 1866 to a second edition of his works, "For my own part repeated perusals of the Sonnets have well nigh convinced me that most of them were composed in an assumed character, on different subjects, and at different times, for the amusement, if not at the suggestion of the author's intimate associates (hence described by Meres as his 'sugared sonnets among his private friends'); and though I would not deny that one or two of them reflect his genuine feelings, I contend that allusions scattered through the whole series are not to be hastily referred to the personal circumstances of Shakespeare." This is wholesome truth, and accords with what we have seen of the nature of the sonnet, and the original use of it. As to their structure, Shakespeare's sonnets are not technically true sonnets, but fourteen-lined poems of exquisite variety and beauty, each consisting of three quatrains of alternate rhyme, and a closing couplet.—From "*Cassell's Library of English Literature*," edited by Professor Henry Morley, for December.

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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, 4th DECEMBER.

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

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

MONDAY, 6th DECEMBER.

25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
46—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Bolton-le-Moors.
58—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley.
59—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Bath.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
85—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleston, Norfolk.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms, Dukinfield.
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel Assembly Rooms, Preston.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
134—Perpetual Friendship, Royal Clarence Hotel, Bridgewater.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
251—Loyal, Freemasons' Hall, Queen Anne's Walk, Barnstaple.
303—Benevolent, Masonic Hall, Holland's-road, Teignmouth.
306—Guy's, Crown Hotel, Leamington.
423—Yarborough, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Gainsborough.
431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Suffolk-street, Shields.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Cambridge.
597—St. Cybi, Marine Hotel, Holyhead.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport.
622—St. Cuthbert's, Masonic Hall, Wimbourne, Dorset.
804—Carnarvon, Town Hall, Havant.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Ashbourne.
884—Derwent, George and Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, Derby.
961—Prince of Wales's, Masonic Hall, Stow-on-the-Wold.
977—Fowey, Masonic Rooms, Fowey.
1060—Gundolph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1061—Rowley, Masonic Lodge Room, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry.
1286—Bayons, Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.
1309—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax, Yorks.
1380—Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Liverpool.
1426—Duncombe, King's Arms Hotel, Kingsbridge, Devon.

TUESDAY, 7th DECEMBER.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
7—Royal York of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
29—Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1381—Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
87—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
120—Paladin, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
160—True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford.
252—Harmonic, Freemasons' Temple, Stone-street, Dudley.
295—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, High-street, Huntingdon.
393—St. David's, Masonic Hall, Parade, Berwick.
414—Union, Masonic Hall, Grey Friars'-road, Reading. (Instruction.)
421—Loyal of Industry, Freemasons' Hall, South Molton.
457—Loyal Monmouth, Freemasons' Hall, Monmouth.
464—Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Newton-in-the-Willows.
624—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent.
660—Camalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorks.
702—Rherborne, George Hotel, Bristol.
734—Londesborough, Bridlington, and Dedication of New Masonic Hall.
814—Parrett and Axe, George Hotel, Crewkerne.
948—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Lindale, Leighton Buzzard.
966—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
984—Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverston.
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbot.
1186—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.
1258—Beaconsfree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1313—St. Mary, White Hart Hotel, Bocking, Essex.

WEDNESDAY, 8th DECEMBER.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.

11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
16—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldwarch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
761—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1260—Hervey, Freemason's Hall, W.C.
1284—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)

84—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
86—Doyles of Fellowship, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
187—Royal Sussex of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
321—Concord, Golden Ball Inn, Stockport.
328—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
329—Brotherly Love, Clough's Inn, Yeovil.
368—Samaritan, George Hotel, Sandbach, Cheshire.
389—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
439—Fidelity, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield.
603—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
681—Fawcett, New Masonic Hall, Seaham Harbour.
692—Benevolence, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
731—Arboretum, Arboretum Hotel, Derby.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1080—Marmion, Private Rooms, Tamworth.
1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading.
1418—Falcon, Kirkgate, Thirsk.
1493—Francis Pett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham.

THURSDAY, 9th DECEMBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
1260—Hervey, 153 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

71—Unity, Masonic Hall, Lowestoft.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
112—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Fore-street-hill, Exeter.
130—Royal Gloucester, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
195—Hengist, Belle Vue House, Bournemouth.
316—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
332—Virtue and Silence, White Lion, Hadleigh, Suffolk.
333—Royal Preston, Victoria's Garrison House, Fulwood, Lancashire.
341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye, Sussex.
456—Shakespeare, Town Hall, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.
458—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter.
477—Mersey, 58 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
487—Portsmouth, Masonic Hall, Highbury-street, Portsmouth.
496—Elias de Derham, Masonic Hall, The Canal, Salisbury.
530—St. Cuthbert, Parson-lane, Howden.
536—De Ogle, Black Bull Hotel, Morpeth.
553—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)

659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth, Northumberland.
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
767—Beauraper, Lion Hotel, Bridge-street, Belper.
915—Abbey, Abbey Council Chambers, Abingdon, Berks.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-le-Woods.
1098—St. George's Priory Rooms, Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Monmouthshire.
1147—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1204—Royal, Belle Vue Hotel, Malvern.
1363—St. John's, King's Arms Hotel, Grays, Essex.
1430—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.

FRIDAY, 10th DECEMBER.

177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1307—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instructive.)
36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
170—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Mount Radford, Exeter.
316—True and Faithful, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.
445—Fidelity, Pomfret Arms Hotel, Towcester.
475—Bedfordshire of St. John the Baptist, Town Hall, Leigh.
697—Union, George Hotel, Colchester.
1087—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1145—Royal Denbigh, Assembly Rooms, Denbigh.
1303—Pelham, Masonic Hall, Lewes.
1350—St. Peter's, Three Swan's Hotel, Market Harboro.'
1405—Arkwright, Walker's Bath-terrace Hotel, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire.

SATURDAY, 11th DECEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

148—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
308—Prince George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, near Todmorden.
1391—Commercial, Freemason's Hall, Leicester.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—1—First Lodge of Ireland, Masonic Hall, Tuckey-street, Cork.
" 5—Waterford, Masonic Hall, The Mall, Waterford.
" 116—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Carlow.
" 122—Patrick's, Masonic Hall, Dunnon, Co. Tyrone.
TUESDAY 30—True Blue Killyleigh, Co. Down.
" 171—Duke of Clarence, Dublin.
" 719—St. Alban's, Private House, Main-street, Newtownlimavady, Derry.
" 881—Clones, Thompson's Hotel, Clones, Co. Monaghan.
" 935—True Blue, Anne-street, Wexford.
THURSDAY—20—Light of the West, Grand Jury Room, Sligo.
" 109—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Belfast, Antrim.
" 138—Londonderry, Londonderry.
" 349—Roscommon, Court House, Roscommon.
" 382—Castleblaney, Castleblaney, Monaghan.
" 411—Drogheda, Masonic Hall, Drogheda, County Louth.
FRIDAY—178—St. John's, Castle-street, Lisburn, County Antrim
" 211—Magherafelt, Court House, Magherafelt, County Derry.
SATURDAY—13—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—3—Canongate and Leith (L. and C.), 86 Constitution-street.
WEDNESDAY—3—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-street.
" R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—8—Journeymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—86—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—372—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
" —506—Clydesdale, 105 Rose-street.
TUESDAY—34—St. John, St. John's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 72—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 87—Thistle, 20 Hope-street.
" 427—Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan.
WEDNESDAY—178—Scotia, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 333—St. George, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
THURSDAY—R. A. 50—Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street.
FRIDAY—R. A. 144—St. Rollox, Garnaval-road.
" 116—Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 512—Thorntree School-room, Thorniebank.
SATURDAY—28—St. John's, Black Bull, Kirkintilloch.
" —R. A.—143 Robert Burns, Freemason's Hall, Holytown.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Neptune Lodge, No. 22.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 25th ult., at the Guildhall Tavern, E.C., under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Eames. The Lodge was called at Two o'clock, and the business of the day proceeded in due form. Mr. Matthew Webb, the "Channel Hero," was initiated by the W.M. with his accustomed ability, and with great impressiveness. Bros. Newton, Roberts and Jolliffe were raised, and Bro. De Verges passed. Bro. Partridge S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Russell's proposition, that the Lodge pay the cost of

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the Royal Installation Jewel, was carried nem con. Upon the business being closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and regaled themselves with the good viands the Guildhall Tavern at all times supplies. The toasts of the evening, as a matter of course, were the initiate and the W.M. elect; to both the Master did ample justice, and complimented the great swimmer of the age upon his manly and daring feat. Our gallant Bro., in a brief reply, closed his remarks by saying he was pleased to hail the gentlemen around him as brethren. Bro. Partridge, in acknowledgment, promised to maintain the dignity of the Lodge and carry out the great principles of Masonry in their entirety. There was a very large number of visitors, but space precludes our giving further details, suffice it to say, the whole assembly were highly gratified with the day's proceedings.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 29th of November, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, St. John's-square, E.C. Present—Bros. Pearcy W.M., Trowinnard S.W., Kidder J.W., Killick Secretary, Stock S.D., Lake J.D., Hill I.G., Christopher Tyler; Bro. Tolmie, Deputy Preceptor. Visitors—Bros. Franklin 238, Baker 228, Gedge 228, Winkler 382, and Bincks 28, New York. Business—The Lodge was opened in the usual manner, and the minutes confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Winkler candidate. The W.M. worked the 1st section, Bro. Tolmie the 2nd and 3rd, and Bro Saull the 4th. Bros. Franklin, Gedge, Baker, Bincks and Winkler were elected members. The Lodge closed punctually and adjourned.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 78.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, 30th November, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. G. McDonald R.W.M., J. Bannerman S.W., J. Handbridge J.W., J. S. Ampleford Secretary, J. B. Hardie S.D., J. Ballantine J.D. The work consisted of the initiation of Messrs. Frederick Carl Lindt and Henry John Rogers, which was very carefully performed by the Master. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, when Bro. G. W. Wheeler passed two brethren to the Fellow Craft degree, and thereafter the Master opened the Lodge in the 3rd degree, and raised the same two gentlemen to the sublime degree, as they were about to leave Scotland.

Caledonian of Unity Chapter, No. 73.—This Chapter held its regular monthly meeting at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 30th November. Present—G. W. Wheeler Z., J. Stewart H., John Kinnaird J., J. Balfour P.G. 1st S. Scribe E., E. Arthur N., J. Bannerman Treasurer, R. Mercer 87 1st S., D. Gilchrist 2nd S., J. Arthur 3rd S. There were also present, G. McDonald P.Z. 78 P.G. 3rd S., D. Gilchrist P.Z. 73, R. Mercer S.E. 87, J. Annand Z., and R. Allen 1st S. of 144. A Mark Lodge was afterwards opened, with Wm. McGregor as S.D., when Comp. Wheeler advanced Bro. Henry J. Pollock to that degree.

Commercial Chapter, No. 79, Glasgow.—This Chapter held its regular meeting in the Commercial Hall, on Friday, 26th November. Comps. J. Lamb Z., J. Hunter H., J. Brodie J., Jules Brodé I.P.Z., J. McKeith 1st S. The business consisted of the initiation of one candidate in the Mark Degree, at the request of Comp. Lamb. The ceremony was ably performed by Comp. R. Mercer, 1st S. of Chapter 87.

Chapter 87.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Wednesday, 1st December, at No. 12 Trongate, when Bro. McNaight, assisted by the new office bearers, very ably wrought the Mark degree. The Chapter is about to take its old stand in the Province, under the reign of the new office bearers.

Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement.—The regular weekly convocation was held on Tuesday, the 30th ult., under the presidency of the following officers and Companions:—J. Constable M.E.Z., J. W. Green H., J. Noehmer J., J. W. Norris Asst. Scribe E., J. Smith Scribe N., J. W. Gilbert P.S., W. Ramsay as Preceptor. After the usual opening preliminaries, the ceremony of exaltation was completely rehearsed by the M.E.Z., Comp. L. Terry being candidate. The election of officers for the ensuing fortnight resulted as follow:—J. W. Green M.E.Z., J. Noehmer H., C. Seer J., J. Smith N., J. Constable P.S. The meeting was not so numerous as might be expected, knowing as we do the demand for R.A. Instruction, and the few available Chapters in the Metropolis. The Metropolitan has been in existance for many years, and numbers on its roll hundreds of Companions, as high on the Masonic list as in the social scale. We hope to see the Chapter opened punctually next week at the appointed time (6.30.), and to hear a few of the clauses in connection with the ceremony. The Chapter may be congratulated in having some able workers following the footsteps of Comp. Brett P.G.P. in the persons of Comps. Boyd, Ramsey, Gottheil, Lemann, &c., who are regular in their attendance.

Caveac Chapter, No. 176.—The regular Convocation and Installation meeting of the above was held on 25th Nov., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, City. Comp. T. Quilhampton Z. was absent through severe indisposition. W. S. Wyman H., W. K. Leeman J., F. Walters P.Z. Treasurer, W. M. Goss S.N., W. J. Stride P.S., J. B. Sorrell 1st Assistant, A. W. Thorpe D.C. and P.Z's. Scott, R. S. Trueman and P. A. Nairne. The Chapter was opened by Comp. M. Scott, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. J. B. Sorrell jun. S.D. 176., W. T. Lover J.W. 1178, and J. Johnson 1423, were exalted. Comp. W. S. Wyman was installed Z., G. K. Leeman H., and J. B. Sorrell sen. J.; F. Walters P.Z. was reinvested for the 6th time Treasurer, W. M. Goss S.E., W. J. Stride S.N., J. Baxter Langley P.S., S. Pouncoby 1st Assistant, R. P. Tebb 2nd Assistant, H. Faiza W.S., A. Middlemass M.C., C. T. Speight Janitor, for the 9th time. The Chapter was then closed, and the Comps. partook of a sumptuous banquet and dessert, when the usual toasts were given. The presentation of a P.Z. Jewel was deferred on account of the absence of the M.E.Z., Comp. Quilhampton. The visitors were Comps. J. Lacey P.Z. late 176, and H. Garrod P.Z. 507.

Joppa Chapter, No. 188.—The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 29th ult., 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. Treas., P. Dickenson S.E., and P.Z.'s E. P. Albert, E. S. Jones, W. Littaur, S. Lazarus, Pollitzer. The Chapter was opened and the minutes of the former meeting were confirmed. The Installation of Principals then took place, and Comp. M. Emanuel who is a P.Z. of the Segontium (Carnarvon), was duly inducted into the chair of Z. by Comp. E. P. Albert P.Z., and the M.E.Z. then very ably installed Comp. M. J. Emanuel into the chair of H., W. Littaur J., and S. V. Abrahams P.Z. Treas., P. Dickenson S.E., L. Lazarus S.N., L. Jacobs P.S. and Smith Janitor, who were severally invested. The newly installed M.E.Z. then showed his proficiency by exalting Bro. Buderus 1298 and Grove Ellis 188 into Royal Arch Masonry in a very perfect and impressive manner; the report of the Audit Meeting was read, it showed that after all debts were paid, there was a balance in hand, and the Treasurer's account showed that during the past year the Chapter had never been in a more flourishing condition, it being free from all liabilities. The M.E.Z. then rose, and said he had much pleasure in presenting Comp. H. M. Levy, on his retiring from the chair, with a very elegant jewel and silver goblet. It shewed their high appreciation of their M.E. P.Z., and it would be a great source of pleasure to him to view the jewels he had so worthily received in the course of his Masonic career. He had always shewn himself a good Mason, and had done good service to the Chapter, and had exerted himself in promoting its interests. It was always a pleasant thing to acknowledge a friend's worth, but it was especially so in this instance. The year had been a successful one, and he had very much pleasure in placing the jewel on Comp. Levy's breast. It might be handed down as a memento of the respect the Chapter held him in. Companion H. M. Levy, in responding, said, "he was deeply indebted to the M.E.Z. for his kind expressions, and regretted he had not done so much for the Chapter during the past year as he had wished. He, nevertheless, had exerted himself in every way in its behalf; but what he had done, he was proud to say, had won their good opinions. He had always had the interests of the Chapter at heart, and would continue to do so. The Chapter had never been in a more flourishing condition: he was sure it would remain so under the able presidency of the M.E.Z." The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions adjourned to the banqueting-room, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by the Albion Tavern Company, superintended by Companion Keeping, that gave great satisfaction. The M.E.Z. then proposed the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts. The toast of "The newly exalted Companions" was given, and Companions Buderus and Grove Ellis returned thanks. The M.E.Z., in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," said how pleased he felt to see around him Companions whom he, as well as every member of the Chapter, were delighted to meet, and he hoped, on future occasions, they would again honour the Chapter with a visit. The Visitors were—Comps. Captain G. J. Kain M.E.Z. 766, C. Hogard J. 141, W. C. Parsons P.S. 180, H. Massey P.Z. 619, W. Musto 933, and E. M. Haigh 367, who severally returned thanks. The toasts of the M.E.Z., P.Z's, and Officers followed, and the Janitor's toast concluded a very agreeable and harmonious evening, which was contributed to by Companions J. Riley and A. Abrahams.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Wednesday, the 1st of December, at Bro. Chard's, White Hart Tavern. Present—Bros. Nelson Reed W.M., Ockenden S.W., Walker J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, Constable Treasurer, Tollis S.D., Blackall J.D., Hollands I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M. Bro. E. Gottheil Preceptor. Business—Lodge was opened and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Churchward candidate. The first three sections of the first Lecture were worked by Bro. Hickman, who was ably assisted by the brethren, many of whom showed, by the knowledge they exhibited, that their attendances at this popular Lodge of Instruction had produced most beneficial results. The 4th section was rehearsed by Bro. Hickman, in a highly satisfactory way, the questions being asked by Bro. Gottheil. Bros. Bush 185, Sayer 1185 and James Churchward 1139 were elected members. Bro. Ockenden was appointed W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and a cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Nelson Reed, for his conduct in the chair, brought the business of the evening to a close. During the evening it was announced that it would be necessary to seek a fresh *habitat* for the meetings of this Lodge of Instruction.

Northampton Chapter, No. 360.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 25th of November, at the George Hotel, Northampton. Present—Comps. G. Robinson M.E.Z., Jacob H., J. U. Stanton J., J. T. Green E. pro tem, R. Howes N., W. Kingston P.S., Tovey and Dean Janitors. P.Z.'s Comps. M. A. Boeme and Geo. Cotton, Comps. Roberts, Simpson, Gadsby, &c. Business—Comp. Jacob was elected M.E.Z., Stanton H., Green J., Kingston N., Robinson E. The meetings of the Chapter will shortly be held at the New Masonic Buildings.

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Caledonian Railway Lodge, No. 354.—Installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 1st December, in the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Glasgow, under the presidency of Bro. Shaw. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, amongst the latter we recognised Bros. E. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, F. W. Burns I.P.M. 87, J. Morgan R.W.M. 219, D. Reid, R.W.M. 466, J. Oliver S.W. 360, and McClelland D.M. of 403, Helensburgh. The installation ceremonies were very carefully rendered by Bro. A. A. Smith I.P.M. 354, P.G.I.G., who congragulated Bro. Jas. Shaw on his being installed for the third time as R.W.M. of this flourishing Lodge; he proceeded to instal the following brethren into their respective offices, viz.:—D. Buchanan D.M., W. H. Caldwell S.M., A. B. Rogers S.W., John Harley J.W., R. A. McLean Secretary, D. Colquhoun Treasurer, D. Leitch S.D., Thos. Hurley J.D., McKenzie and James Douglas B.B., J. Coutts D. of M., C. Rose D. of C., H. Allison S.B., Wm. Deeks S.B., John Shaw P.S., H. Pool I.G., J. Minnoch Tyler. The Master having returned thanks to Bro. Arrick A. Smith for his services to the Lodge, not only now, but for years past, Bro. Smith replied, and then presented the Lodge with a 3rd degree maul, which he thought was necessary for the proper working of that sublime degree. The R.W.M., in accepting the gift, said it was not the first they had received from Bro. Smith, and he believed it would not be the last. The Lodge was then placed under the care of the new J.W., and the usual loyal toasts were given from the chair; Bro. G. W. Wheeler, who was called on to respond for English Freemasonry, said he was proud to be a Member under both constitutions, and also glad to own himself an honorary affiliated member of 354; Bro. Read, Master of 466, responded on behalf of the Provincial G.L. of Glasgow; Bro. McKenzie, in an excellent speech, proposed the visitors, and coupled it with the names of the Masters of 87 and 219. Bro. Burns and Morgan both suitably acknowledged the compliment, expressing the gratification they felt on being present. The "Press" was given from the chair, after which Bro. Wheeler proposed Prosperity to 354, coupled with the health of Bro. Shaw, to whom a good deal of that prosperity was attributable, and he thought the Lodge had done wisely in returning him to the chair for the 3rd time. Bro. Shaw replied, and a vote of thanks having been given to Bro. Coutts for his services at the harmonium, the Lodge was closed in peace.

The Northern Counties Lodge, No. 406.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, 1st of December, at the Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Present—Bros. W. Knox P.G. A.O.O.W. W.M., Spearman W.M. 481 acting as S.W., Rev. S. H. Harris P.M. acting as J.W., Armstrong Secretary, Armstrong S.D., Salmon I.G., Martin P.M. Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Hughes I.P.M., Foulsham P.P. G.S.W. Visitors—Bros. Waller W.M. 1244, Spearman W.M. 481, W. Mean W.M. elect 541, Bell S.D. 155. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form, by solemn prayer; two brethren having answered the usual questions most satisfactorily, were duly passed to the degree of F.C. The Secretary then presented the W.M. (in confirmation of a resolution passed at the last regular meeting) with an address, elegantly illuminated on vellum, congratulating him on the occasion of his marriage during his year of office. The W.M., in returning thanks, for this unexpected mark of regard from his brethren, hoped that he would be spared to see the Northern Counties Lodge increase and prosper, and that by every act of his, he would endeavour to retain and deserve the respect and esteem shown to him so practically that night. Subsequently, during refreshment, Bro. Hughes I.P.M., in proposing the health of the W.M., presented him with an elegant marble clock, as a testimonial from a few members of the Lodge, hoping that it would always mark good time and times in his house. Bro. Foulsham P.M., in a most eloquent address, congratulated the Lodge on having a W.M. who had won the goldeen pinions of all who knew him; and also the W.M. in governing a Lodge that knew so well how to appreciate true Masonic worth. Bro. Knox, in returning thanks, was quite overpowered at this further proof of kindness, and although he acknowledged that he had always done his best, still a great deal of his success was due to the zeal of his officers, and the indefatigable help of the P.M.'s. The usual toasts concluded the proceedings.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—The regular meeting was held on 11th November 1875, at the Masonic Hall, Drogheda. Present—Bros. Clark P.M. H.K.T. as W.M., Whitty S.W., Flean J.W., Glenny S.D., Griffin J.D., McCausland I.G., Hannan Clerk Chaplain, Browne Tyler, Harbinson P.M. as Secretary; P.M.'s Bros. Dean, Harbinson, and Clarke. Business transacted—Application for charity considered and granted. Bro. W. H. Irwin was raised to the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason. Bro. E. R. Bolton was passed to the Fellow Craft degree. Bro. John Langley Whitty was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year (1876); and Bros. Robert Harrison Supple, and Matthew Shaw Preston to be I.G. and J.D. respectively; the other officers to be promoted in rotation.

East Surrey Concord Lodge of Instruction, No. 463.—A most interesting gathering of the members of this Lodge of Instruction took place on Tuesday last, the 30th of November, at the Fox and Hounds, West Croydon, the occasion being the celebration of the annual festival. Bro. Podmore presided, and was supported by Bro. Sharp, Pocock (Secretary), Geo. Yaxley, Thos. Yaxley, John Close, Ebbutt, Ebbutt jun., Bignell, Watkinson, Walker, Cook, Cook jun., Goodman, Streeter, Ridge, Gripton, J. K. Pitt, Legg, Hanaworth, Reid, Black, Wisdom, and a considerable number of friends. The repast provided was most ample, and each brother was loud in his expressions of approval. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and the heartiest good wishes were tendered by those present for the continued success of the Lodge, which was announced as progressing most satisfactorily.

Vane Chapter, No. 538.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Thursday, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Comps. S. Pollitzer Z., Lindus H., Burmeister J., Kench P.Z. Treas., Reed P.Z. S.E., Rev. P. Holden S.N., Wood P.S., and Comps. W. C. Parsons, Walters, &c. The Chapter was opened and the minutes were confirmed. The name of one candidate was on the agenda paper, but he was not present; the election for principals then took place, and Comps. Lindus was elected Z., Burmeister H., Wood J., Kench P.Z. Treasurer, Reed P.Z. S.E., Rev. P. Holden S.N., W. C. Parsons P.S., and Sadler Janitor. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions separated. There was no banquet.

St. Vincent Lodge, No. 553.—The Lodge held an emergency meeting at the Kent Maid, Glasgow, on Thursday, 25th November. Present—the R.W.M. R. McDougal, R. Hunter S.W., W. Paxton J.W., J. Halley Secretary, W. McClelland Treasurer, J. Bost S.D. The Master said this meeting had been called to work up the arrears of business, so as to give all the members who were entitled to it the M.M. degree, and enable them all to take part in the first election in the Lodge. Though one of the youngest Lodges in the province, their progress would compare favourably with that of the oldest and best established, and he wished the youngest member to be entitled to the privilege of eligibility for office at the next meeting. Bro. Shaw R.W.M. of 354 was present, and wished them to pass a candidate for him. He was sure the Lodge would gladly accede to his request, and as he had a very important engagement to attend, he would place Bro. Shaw in the chair, and ask him to perform the second ceremony. Bro. Shaw then, in a careful manner, passed five of the brethren to the Fellow Craft degree. Bro. Fergerson R.W.M. of St. John's, No. 503 Dalmuir, then took the chair, and said Bro. McDougal had requested Bro. Wheeler of 73 to work the 3rd degree. Bro. Wheeler then raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason the following eleven brethren, viz., Bros. Jas. Groves, W. Butler, W. Marshall, J. Prout, W. Anderson, Thos. Weston, W. Campbell, D. McCuich, A. Smith, and F. Marsh, for the St. Vincent Lodge, and Bro. F. B. Brown for the Caledonian Railway Lodge. The Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony.

William Preston Lodge, No. 766.—The installation meeting of this celebrated Lodge was held on Thursday, the 25th ult., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, City. Bros. Augustus Braun W.M., J. Pringle S.W., W. M. Mansfield J.W., William Worrell P.M. Secretary, Capt. G. J. Kain P.M. Treasurer, S. D. Lewis J.D., P. C. Steinmann D.C., Dr. Cutmore I.G., and W. Grant Tyler, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the election meeting, and the emergency meeting of the 28th October were read and confirmed. tTwo brethren were raised to the 3rd degree, and Mr. J. A. S. Matthews was duly initiated into Freemasonry. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. John Pringle S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge and installed into the chair by the retiring W.M. in a very perfect and impressive manner. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient custom, invested his officers: A. Braun I.P.M., W. M. Newton S.W., W. E. Newton J.W., Capt. Kain P.M. Treasurer, W. Worrell P.M. Secretary, S. D. Ewins S.W., Dr. Cutmore J.D., E. Kidmore I.G., W. Drake D.C., G. Newman Steward, and W. Grant Tyler. Bro. W. Newman P.M. gave a notice of motion, "To raise the Initiation fee to 10 guineas." The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous banquet. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. E. P. Albert, Asst.-Grand Pursuivant, returned thanks for the toast of the Grand Officers. The toast of the W.M. was given and responded to. Bro. B. Horsley, P.G.R. Middlesex, returned thanks for the toast of the visitors, who were—Bros. E. P. Albert A.G.P., Dr. Carpenter, Donald King, H. E. Francis, R. E. White, &c. Several other toasts followed. A very elegant P.M's jewel was presented to the I.P.M., Bro. Braun, for the able manner he had discharged the duties of his office. Bro. Donald King sang some very excellent songs, and capital harmony was sustained. The brethren separated early.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Bro. S. C. Lewin W.M., H. J. Tuson S.W., J. J. Pakes J.W., F. Walters P.M. P.G.P. Middlesex, the Treasurer, was unavoidably absent, W. Myatt S.D., J. Baxter Langley J.D., G. T. Simon I.G., and P.M.'s G. Andrews, W. Myatt. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. G. Andrews I.P.M. then raised Bro. J. Croot 1826, by courtesy of the W.M., in a very perfect manner. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated, there being no banquet. The visitors were Bros. J. W. Baldwin W.M. 1423, W.M. Goss S.W. 176, W. T. Lover J.W. 1173, and T. W. Croot 1328.

Kingston Lodge, No. 1010.—The installation of Bro. William Hunt P.M. P. Prov. G.D.C. Devon, as Worshipful Master of the Kingston Lodge, No. 1010 of Free and Accepted Masons, took place on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of a large assemblage of brethren, including a number of present and past officers of the Hall and other Lodges in the district. The ceremony was performed in accordance with the ancient usages of the Craft by the W. Bro. John Pearson Bell M.D., Past Grand Deacon of England, and D.P.G.M. of North and East Yorkshire, who was most heartily welcomed by the brethren on this his first appearance amongst them since his recent and severe indisposition. He was ably assisted in the delivery of the charges by Bro. E.W. Garforth, Immediate Past Master of the Lodge, and Bro. S. Walliker officiated as Director of Ceremonies, while Bro. Dr. Pybus P.M. presided at the organ. Bro. Hunt having been installed, he proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year, as follow:—

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Bros. E. W. Garforth I.P.M., C. H. Johnson S.W., Geo. W. Pybus J.W., the Rev. Lewis Heath (vicar of Newland) Chaplain, S. Moseley P.M. P.J. Prov. G.W., Lecture Master, C. Copland P.M. P. Prov. G.S.B. Treasurer, James Kay Secretary, Geo. Bohn S.D., John James King J.D., John Hare Gibson M.D., Director of Ceremonies, W. D. Keyworth P.M. P. Prov. G. Supt. Wks. Almoner; Bros. Paul. C. E. Strömer, Geo. Spink, and Richard Gale Stewards; Bro. James Pybus M.D. P.M. Organist, Bro. Frederick W. T. Thorp I.G., and Bro. Daniel Swallow Tyler. The annual banquet took place at the Royal Station Hotel, where a large company assembled under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Hunt, who was supported by the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master and installing officers, Bros. Alderman Charles Wells P.M. (ex-Mayor), Ald. J. L. Linton P.M., Lewis Heath, J. Fraser Holden P.M. P.G.S.D., T. Sissons P.M. Prov. Grand Regis., R. E. Harrison P.M., H. Haigh P.M., M. S. Moseley P.M. P.P.G.J.W., F. Summers (ex-Sheriff), Dr. Wallis, James Pybus P.M., Paul Strömer P.M., Copland P.M., R. Vivian P.M., J. Hudson P.M., John Thompson P.M., E. W. Garforth I.P.M., W.M.'s of the Humber, Minerva and Alexandra Lodges. The vice chairs were filed by the Wardens of the Lodge, and Dr. J. H. Gibson officiated as Director of Ceremonies. The customary Loyal and Craft toasts having been duly honoured, the latter being acknowledged by the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the W.M., Bro. Hunt proposed the "Mayor and Corporation," which was enthusiastically received. Bro. Alderman Wells suitably responded, and in turn proposed, in eulogistic terms, "The Worshipful Master of the Kingston Lodge," the toast being received with loud and prolonged applause. Bro. W. Hunt, in acknowledging the compliment paid to him, thanked the brethren most heartily for the warm and cordial manner in which they had been pleased to receive the proposal made by his Worshipful Bro., Alderman Wells. He felt exceedingly gratified at being placed in the honourable position he now occupied. It was nearly a quarter of a century since he became a Freemason, after some little thought and enquiry into the subject; and he confessed he was more influenced in that step by an acquaintance with several good and esteemed friends, who were Masons, than by anything he could learn or preconceive as to the principles of the Craft. (Hear, hear). He knew, some good men in whose footsteps he felt he should be proud to tread: and during the period he had been a Mason, he had reason to be thoroughly satisfied with the step he then took. He had filled several offices in connection with his own Lodge in another Province, of which, 18 years ago, he was elected to fill the chair of worshipful master (spp.) He had also, he hoped, done some little service to the province to which he belonged, inasmuch as he was one of the original promoters of a fund which now maintained from 12 to 14 annuitants. In looking back upon his progress and path in life as a Mason, he did not feel that he had any great reason for regret, except that he had not attained to that excellence that he might have done, and of which a Mason was capable. He felt that, in Masonry, they had an institution worthy of admiration, for several reasons. It had been mentioned with pride and satisfaction that day, at a meeting of the Subscription Library, that that institution had existed for 100 years. Now Masonry has existed more than a century, and therefore it is to be admired on account of its age. It is also an excellent institution from its Catholicity (Hear, hear.) In this world, and in this country, men were divided into all kinds of sects and parties, both religious and political; and it really was most refreshing when they could all meet on a common platform, separated from the conflicting influences of partisanship: and where all men were equal. Not only did this grand principle prevail in this our country, but it extended universally all over the world, wherever the brethren met. (Applause.) He might briefly say, that the distinction which had been conferred upon him this day, by his brethren of the Kingston Lodge, is no occasion of personal honour to himself, inasmuch as he had been a P.M. before. But, during the twelve years he had been in Yorkshire, he had felt that he should like to take some active part in Masonry in this Province. (Applause.) Transplanted from his own beautiful county of Devonshire, into this grand and magnificent county of Yorkshire, he felt he should like to do something for the promotion of the interests of the Craft here. (Applause.) He, therefore, thanked them most heartily for the honour which they had this day conferred upon him. (Cheers.) Bro. T. Sissons, Provincial Grand Registrar, then gave the health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. E. W. Garforth, though comparatively a young Mason, he had worked hard to qualify himself for the office he had held, with so much credit to himself and benefit to the Lodge, and his willingness, at all times, to forward the interests of the Craft entitled him to the warmest thanks of the brethren. (Applause.) Bro. E. W. Garforth I.P.M. in responding said, when the brethren selected him to fill the high and honourable position he had just vacated, he determined, so far as his ability and health would allow, to make himself efficient. He had tried to do so, and if his humble efforts had met with the approval of the brethren, and had tended in any way to the progression of the Lodge, he was amply repaid for any time and trouble he had expended in it. (Loud applause.) It is a great satisfaction to himself, being so young a Mason, to occupy the position of a Past Master of the Craft. And let him, as a word of encouragement, say to the young brethren present, that if they laboured to make themselves efficient, they must, sooner or later, reap the reward; and, by so doing, they would also promote the welfare of the Lodge to which they belonged. (Hear, hear.) He should be ungrateful, indeed, were he to pass over those who had been intimately associated with him in the conduct of the affairs of the Kingston Lodge. He had been well supported by good officers, to whom he was most thankful for the assistance and consideration they had at all times extended to him. They must pardon him if he appeared invidious, but he felt bound to single out one Past Master, Bro. Paul Strömer, who, in his unavoidable absence, had filled the principal chair, and had so ably supported him when he had been present. (Applause.) He must also give a due meed of praise to their worthy Secretary, Bro. James Kay, who had never been reluctant to give his valuable time and exertions to assist in promoting the interests of the Lodge. (Applause.) He trusted that Bro. Hunt would continue to receive the cordial and hearty support of all his officers, and that his year of office might be both an agreeable and a successful one. (Cheers.) The Worshipful Master proposed the "Sister Lodges," the toast being acknowledged by Bro. Jonathan West, W.M. of Humber Lodge, No. 57; and Bro. John Brooke, Prov. J.D., and W.M. of Minerva Lodge, No. 250. Bro. C. H. Johnson S.W. then gave "The Visiting Brethren," on whose behalf Bro. Thos. Oates, W.M. of Alexandra Lodge, No. 1511, responded. Various other toasts were given, and the proceedings were enlivened with some excellent songs, glees, &c. Bro. C. H. Hunt, presiding efficiently at the pianoforte.

Hervey Lodge of Instruction, No. 1260.—A meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held at the Clifton Arms, Fulham-road, on Thursday, 25th November, when the Fifteen Sections were ably worked, under the able presidency of Bro. F. G. Baker P.M. and P.Z. 753 and M.E.Z. 1260, assisted by Bros. Collings S.W., G. Harrison J.W., Goodacre S.D., Spalding J.D., Ward I.G., King jun. P.M. and Secretary, King, Baker, Cox, Hall, Bigwood, H. Whittick 511, Powell 753, Hansford 457, Henson 1319, and others. The Lodge was opened at 7 o'clock p.m., and after the minutes had been read and confirmed, the W.M. gave the introductory charge, when the first lecture was worked in sections by the following brethren:—

1st Section by	Bro. Goodacre	...	...	No. 1260
2nd "	" Bro. Hancock	...	...	No. 511
3rd "	" Bro. Spalding	...	...	No. 1260
4th "	" Bro. Blyth	...	...	No. 173
5th "	" Bro. Long	...	...	No. 753
6th "	" Bro. Turner	...	...	No. 903
7th "	" Bro. Rogers	...	...	No. 902

The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, and the 2nd lecture worked by the following brethren:—

1st Section by	Bro. G. Harrison	...	...	No. 1260
2nd "	" Bro. King	...	...	No. 1260
3rd "	" Bro. Baker	...	...	No. 463
4th "	" Bro. Collings	...	...	No. 611
5th "	" Bro. J. D. Coulton	...	...	No. 382

The Lodge was then opened in the 3rd degree, and the 3rd lecture worked by the following brethren:—

1st Section by	Bro. King jun.	...	...	No. 1260
2nd "	" Bro. Coulton	...	...	No. 382
3rd "	" Bro. Rogers	...	...	No. 902

The Lodge was then resumed to 1st degree, when Bros. Whittick 511, and Salmon 1260, were elected joining members. A vote of thanks was then passed to the W.M., for his very able working of the fifteen sections, for which Bro. Baker replied; also to the visiting brethren, for their kind and valuable assistance, for which Bros. Coulton and Rogers returned thanks. The Lodge was then closed. We may here state that the whole of the sections were worked with great accuracy; this reflects the greatest credit on those who assisted.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Friday, the 26th of November, at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet. Present—Bros. Hayward Edwards W.M., James Cuthbuh S.W., Dr. Livingston J.W., Askew Secretary, W. Cuthbuh P.M. Treasurer, R. F. Young S.D., F. Venables J.D., Goddard Tyler; P.M. Bro. John Lowthin, and a goodly attendance of members. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. James Cuthbuh was elected W.M. for the year 1876, and Bro. W. Cuthbuh P.M. was re-elected Treasurer. A slight repast followed, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, the 30th of November, at the Town Hall, Dunstable. Present—Bros. P. Howell W.M., Haselgrove S.W., Randall as J.W., Middleton Secretary, Saunders as S.D., Otway J.D., Russell D.C., Harris Chaplain, Cutler as I.G., Day Tyler; Bros. Warren, Teale, Pallass, &c. Visitor—Bro. Farr, No. 475. Business—The bye-laws were read aloud, and subscribed to, and the W.M. then worked the following sections, assisted by the brethren, namely: First Lecture, 1st section, the S.W., 2nd, the J.W., 3rd, the I.G.; Second Lecture, 1st section, the S.W., 3rd, the J.D., 5th, the S.D.; Third Lecture, 3rd section, the Chaplain. The whole were well done, and a very interesting and instructive evening was spent. A joining member was proposed, likewise a candidate for initiation, and the Lodge was closed.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—A meeting was held at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road, King's Cross, on Friday, the 26th November. Bros. Berrie W.M., Scales S.W., Kingham J.W., Shaw S.D., Raphin J.D., Side I.G., Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, Willing P.M. Treasurer, S. Stiles Secretary Tims P.M., Jones, Blease, Fowler, Walters, Salisbury, Tettenborn, Read, &c. The Lodge was opened in due form, with solemn prayer, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge opened in 2nd degree. Bro. Walters having offered himself as candidate for raising, was examined, entrusted, and withdrew. Lodge opened in 3rd degree. Lodge resumed in 1st degree, and the 1st and 2nd sections of the 1st lecture were worked by the brethren, under the able direction of Bro. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor. Bro. Scales was unanimously appointed W.M. for ensuing meeting. This was the evening appointed by the bye-laws to examine the inventory of the furniture, &c., which were verified and approved by the brethren. The whole of the furniture and accessories necessary for this Lodge of Instruction are amply provided, and are of an elegant

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description. Bros. Adams P.G.P., Willing P.M., and Stiles were unanimously re-elected Preceptor, Treasurer and Secretary respectively. A cordial vote of thanks was given to these brethren for their very efficient services during the past year. Bro. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, in reply said, that this being a young Lodge, he congratulated the members upon the reputation in which it was held, he had frequently been complimented for the knowledge displayed by the brethren in their several offices, and that while they continued to support him by their attendance and application, his best services were at their disposal. He hoped to be able to say so for the next fifty years. Bro. Willing P.M. Treasurer, in thanking the brethren, referred to the great success the Lodge had attained. He felt sure that while the able services of Bro. Adams were so efficiently given, the Lodge must continue in its prosperity, and be recognised throughout the Craft, for its correctness of working, and for the rapid development of the genuine principles of Freemasonry. He might add, that since the foundation of the Lodge, the brethren had so harmoniously worked together, that he felt convinced many happy friendships had occurred, and that while they had the good services, practical knowledge, courteous behaviour, and unvarying attendance of their worthy Secretary, the Lodge must continue in the path of prosperity. Bro. W. M. Stiles, Secretary, said he was gratified to hear that his humble services as Secretary for the past year were so cordially approved by the brethren. He had fulfilled his duties to the best of his abilities, and they had honoured him by re-electing him. He should willingly strive to continue in their good favour by promoting the comfort and happiness of the brethren, and the interests of the Lodge. He also wished to call attention to Bro. Adams's ball, which was announced to take place at Willis's Rooms, in February next, and he hoped the Lodge, to which he was proud to belong, would be well represented there. It was then arranged that the first Anniversary Banquet of this Lodge of Instruction be held, under the presidency of Bro. Jas. Willing jun. I.P.M. 1507, and J.W. 177, on Friday, the 28th January, at 6.30 p.m., at the Metropolitan Club, Tickets 6s each. Bros. Adams, Michael, Kingham, Douglas, Soles, Side, Stand, Berrie, Rapkin, Read, and Saintsbury, were appointed Stewards, and Bro. W. M. Stiles Hon. Secretary. Lodge closed in due form, with solemn prayer.

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THE REV. SIR E. R. JODRELL, BART., TO MESSRS. FELTOE & SONS, ALBEMARLE STREET, W.

WHEN at Hall I received an Analytical Report of your "SPECIALITE" SHERRY, and you must forgive me for saying that at first I regarded the whole matter as a most egregious piece of humbug. Having, however, tasted the Wine in question, and found it most agreeable to the palate, I determined, on my own responsibility, to have it analysed for myself, having fully also determined previously to expose any hoax, pro bono publico, or to give you the benefit of the analysis, should it turn out in your favour. I have the pleasure to forward you Professor Redwood's (of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain) Analysis, which says more than I can express. I am very particular as to the wine I drink, and as I have hitherto been buying every-day Sherry at 6 per dozen, I am rejoiced to find now that I can purchase Wine of equal strength and superior bouquet at half that price. This should be known to the general public, and you can make any use you deem proper of this letter, and also of Professor Redwood's most elaborate Analysis.

31 Portland Place, London. Yours faithfully, (Signed) EDWARD REPPS JODRELL.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 50. SATURDAY, 11th DECEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

VANITAS VANITATUM.

IT is astonishing the perverse obstinacy which many brethren show in the matter of jewellery. We presume there is a certain littleness in the minds of some men, which, even when they become Masons, the grand principles of our Order are incapable of wholly eradicating. For the life of us, we cannot see why men should bedeck themselves with so much glittering tinsel, as though the more they wore of it the abler and more useful did they become as members. Jewellery becomes a woman; or to be more truthful, and at the same time more gallant, it is the "female form divine" which alone can set off the brilliance of the gems with which custom permits her to adorn herself. It is even questionable in the minds of many, if a woman is not more charming to the eye the more she relies for effect on her own beauty of form and face—unaided by the glitter of gold and priceless gems. It has been said that—"Beauty unadorned 'a adorned the most," but be this as it may, there cannot be a doubt, that for a man to cover his fingers with rings innumerable, and his breast with all kinds of showy stars and crosses—unless, of course, they have been conferred upon him for honourable services to his country or his kind—is an egregious folly, evincing a pettiness of mind which is little else than contemptible. And if the proposition hold good with regard to profane men, *à fortiori*, does it hold good of Masons, who unite in one common brotherhood for the good of man, not for individual show. We are told indeed, at the very outset of our Masonic career, that the simple badge of Masonry is more honourable than the noblest and most ancient Orders of Knighthood. This being so, the love of finery, to which so many give rein, is the more surprising. Jewels that are honourably won in the course of Masonic duty may be worn with honour. These, in truth, we have not in our mind at the moment of writing. It is the multiplication of Masonic badges and emblems to which we so strenuously object. It is the wearing of un-authorised jewels against which we protest. One of our correspondents some time since described one of these peccant brethren as having the breast of his coat covered with a mass of jewels, only three of which he was entitled to wear. The rest were, in fact, a mere trade advertisement, he being, if we remember rightly, a jeweller by trade. Again there has been a controversy raging as to the right of Master Masons, to wear the five-pointed star, this being affirmed to be the jewel emblematic of their rank. We have failed to discover any valid authority in support of this view, and we imagine, were the right established, beyond all doubt, that every brother, when raised to the third degree, would be formally decorated with this badge, just as he is with the simpler one he is indubitably entitled to wear. This, by the way, however. The point we are driving at is, not so much the wearing of a single jewel, about the propriety of wearing which there may, perhaps, be some doubt, but the far more blazing question, whether it shall be permitted brethren to bring ridicule, and, it may be, contempt, on our Order, merely in order to gratify their own inordinate vanity.

It must be in the experience of all our readers that when, in private society, a man appears with a whole array of rings and studs and links about him, he would perhaps prefer to be deaf to the comments that are made, and made not always as silently as they might be. We laugh at the ignorant savage who childishly, as we imagine, adorns himself with feathers and beads, nose-rings and anklets. Why, then, should we, as Masons, who profess to have legitimate and praiseworthy ends in view, whose aim is to promote the welfare of man, why should we give way to such silly vanities? It is not so long since Grand Lodge issued a circular against the wearing of unauthorised jewels. It rests, of course, with the W.M. of each Lodge to enforce strict obedience to this circular, and if these do their duty, there will soon be a disappearance of all such silly display. At all events, it will not be outwardly offensive to discipline and good taste.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 6).

THE CRAFTSMAN.

THE architectural profession is just now passing through one of those periodical revolutions which, when they come, must sorely trouble the minds of those who have no genius to grapple with the new problems which such revolutions always present for solution. The present is a period of unparalleled activity in the building trades; London is rapidly being rebuilt in solid stone. Magnificent public buildings are rising around us, and the Cockney may fairly be proud of the grandeur of the capital. The Gothic revival has done much to improve the taste of the masses, and architects are slowly learning to understand the principles of this the most plastic of all the styles. Much has been done for architecture by such critics as Ruskin, who has made Continental Gothic familiar to the untravelled Englishman. The renaissance is falling into disrepute so far as church architecture is concerned, but for public buildings, for secular purposes, it still holds its ground. The new Foreign Office is a notable example of this style, and the great Meat and Poultry Markets, in Smithfield, are also admirable examples of the mixed Italian and Classic, adapted to strictly utilitarian purposes. If modern Freemasonry concerned itself with the practical business of the architect and the builder, it might possibly happen that the skilled handicraftsman would of necessity carry off all the highest honours of the fraternity. Many distinguished architects are Masons, but happily the great truths of speculative Masonry may be acquired by those who have not specially studied the arts of construction. We are, at this moment, thinking of a brother whose image we desire to transfer to our canvas; but, although he is an architect who has made a name for himself, we do not think that he has specially distinguished himself in Freemasonry. To many of our readers he is doubtless well-known, and if we were to describe his burly figure, or his peculiarities of manner and speech, we should not find it necessary to give any further clue to his name and titles. They would at once recognise a familiar acquaintance whose presence in the Lodge room we have of late missed. In the City he holds a position which, if his talents were less conspicuous than they are, would entitle his opinion upon any point of his profession to some weight. He has held a distinguished place in the Society of British Architects, and it has been his fortune to erect some remarkable public buildings which will hand down his name to a remote posterity. The magnificent markets in Smithfield were erected from his designs; and, although his tastes run in the direction of the Classic rather than the Gothic, he erected the Guildhall Library (a most beautiful building) in the latter style; and some years since he successfully restored the Guildhall itself, a fine example of the architecture of the thirteenth century. Such public services as

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these would be sufficient to render any man famous amongst his fellow citizens. Even in these days of progress and of reconstruction, it does not fall to the lot of many members of the architectural profession to build such vast national monuments as the Meat and Poultry Markets. Many a man who is obliged to hide his genius in the shade would be glad of an opportunity to try his powers upon a work of national importance, but the dreamers who build castles upon no better foundation than a drawing board, are not always the persons to make good practical architects. Architecture, indeed, is the most tentative of all the arts. A design which looks well on paper may prove a failure when it is realised in solid brick and stone, and the man who does not know how to alter and amend as the building is rising before his eyes, is not deserving of the name of an architect. Our hero is a man of practice. He possibly cares little for the theories of mere archæologists, and strives, in all his works, to adapt the means to the end. His wide studies have embraced engineering as well as architecture, and his designs for the widening of London Bridge are universally admitted to be admirable. If the Bridge must be widened, our worthy brother's plan is the best that can be conceived, but we greatly fear that the suggested alterations will not cure the evil, and we shall not be sorry if this admirable scheme is shelved, and a new channel of communication opened below the Tower. In all the various relations of life our brother is popular. He is not a diner-out, and does not care much for the festive board, but in his own home he is a genial host, and in his business relations he is thoroughly honourable and straightforward. His integrity as an official is almost proverbial, and his grasp of all the details of his duties is profound. He is much more ready with his pencil than he is with his tongue, and he would possibly much rather prepare a sketch plan of a building than make a speech, or offer a mere business explanation of his designs. It is not often that a man of action and genius can manage to shine as an orator. It is no reproach to our worthy brother to say that he does not possess the gift of speech. Nature, which has bestowed so many gifts upon him, has withheld this, the most fascinating of her treasures; but true art, which is always contemplative, does not often need the assistance of oratory, it speaks for itself, and in a language which is universally understood.

Our worthy brother naturally is not disposed to rest upon his laurels. He is fully conscious that he has further renown to win. It it will be his fortune to add a Vegetable Market to the magnificent range of buildings in Smithfield. A splendid Council Chamber for the Corporation will shortly be erected from his designs, and it may some day or other be his fate to rebuild the City of London School upon a new and more convenient site. In the execution of these new works we can only wish him God speed, and ultimate success We may, indeed, venture to express a hope that he will find time amid the serious duties of his office, to devote some attention to the claims of Freemasonry. A great architect should be ambitious to distinguish himself in the Lodge room. His practical knowledge should enable him to give point to those grand speculative truths which are the glory of our Order.

PRICES AND THEIR FLUCTUATIONS.

THE enormous advances in price of nearly every article of domestic and general use during the last quarter of a century have given rise to much discussion, and will, probably, furnish a fruitful ground of controversy and speculation for many years to come. From the earliest times, since money has been coined, prices have been subject to fluctuations, owing to the greater or less scarcity of the articles of purchase, or the greater or less scarcity of the medium of exchange. When coal is plentiful and easy of access, it is cheap, and in proportion as it becomes scarce and difficult to obtain, it becomes dear. In like manner, where gold, the principal medium of exchange, is plentiful, as at the gold diggings, it causes everything else to rise in price, and where there is but little of it in circulation, prices are low. The present almost general rise in prices is attributable to the recent remarkable gold discoveries, which have had the effect of lowering very considerably the value of the precious metals. Since the discovery of gold in California and Australia, the quantity of gold in use in the world has been nearly doubled; and this has led to readjustments of prices, both of commodities and labour, throughout the civilised world.

If we refer to past history for a parallel to this, we find at least one instance of a rise in prices as general and of even greater magnitude, The conquests of the Roman empire added so enormously to the wealth of Italy that from about the date of the accession of Augustus a most remarkable rise in prices commenced, which continued without interruption until about the end of the fourth century. A variety of other circumstances contributed to this rise, the principal being the debasement of the coinage as practised by some of the Emperors. The effect of all these circumstances was inevitable. In the reign of Domitian, prices had reached an enormous pitch. Beef was only to be had at a price equivalent to 7/ per English pound of the present day, whilst Pork and the better kinds of sea-fish fetched 10/6 per pound. The Sybarite who indulged in luxuries in those days had to pay as much as £5 or £6 for a plump goose, and £8 for a pheasant. Peas, beans, lentils and millet cost from 32/ to 64/ per English peck, and some kinds of fruit even reached very high prices. The price of citrons varied from 10/6 to 16/ each, whilst Damascus plums could only be had at the rate of about eight for half-a-crown. Melons would be about 1/, and Pomegranates about 6d a piece. A modest pint flagon of the commonest beer cost 10d, and the better class of beer, the "Bass's bitter" of those days, fetched 1/8 per pint. The cheapest wine was 1/4 per pint, the best about 10/ per pint. Clothes were not much dearer than at present, except boots, which could not be got for less than from 50/ to 80/ per pair. Of course salaries and wages were high in proportion. An agricultural labourer would earn as much as 16/ per day, a stone-mason 30/, and a wall-painter from £2 to £2 10/ per day. The lawyer's fee of those days was £6 8/8 instead of 6/8 as at present, and no advocate would attend the hearing of a case under about £30. The standard of wealth altogether must have been very much higher then than now. Seneca, the philosopher, is reported to have died worth two millions and a half sterling, and instances are given in history of single repasts for which the amount of a modern fortune was expended.

From the beginning of the fifth century, however, the tide began to turn. Mining operations had for the most part ceased, and gold began to get scarcer. The fall seems to have been as rapid and even more decided than the rise. In King Alfred's time, an entire ox could be had for 7/, a cow for 6/2, a pig for 1/10½, a sheep for 1/2, and a goat for 4½d. The three most expensive animals were horses, asses, and MEN, but one of each might be had for the sum of five GUINEAS; the price of a man being £2 16/3, of a horse £1 15/2, and of a donkey 14/1.

Tradition, of a more or less reliable character, affords us some interesting statistics as to the wages received by the various classes of operative masons in olden time. It would be interesting on some future occasion to endeavour to collect these statistics, but we fear the task would be extremely difficult. The ancient members of the Craft were, unfortunately, not much given to placing on record any facts relating to their occupation or their Order; and much even that has been recorded has been lost or destroyed.

THE HISTORICAL PICTURE.

We understand that the success of the Great Historical Engraving of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is now assured. The Artist, Brother E. J. Harty, has received the highest possible patronage. Amongst the latest subscribers are the King of Sweden and the Swedish Deputation of five of his Nobles, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Irish Deputation, the Baroness Burdett Coutts, the King of the Belgians, and the King of Greece. Other Royal and distinguished personages will shortly be added to the list. We learn that the period for the insertion of portraits of those who were present at this interesting ceremony will shortly close, the Engraver being under contract to finish the plate at an early date. Brethren who are qualified should lose no time in communicating with Bro. Harty, whose address they will find in another column. We do not doubt that the picture will prove to be the most interesting Masonic souvenir, without exception, that has ever been published.

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GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND.

AT the stated Communication of Grand Lodge held on the 2nd of December the following were elected Grand Officers for 1876.

GRAND MASTER.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.
The Marquis of Headfort.

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.
Lord Danboyne.

GRAND TREASURER.
Arthur Bushe.

GRAND SECRETARY.
Viscount Bernard.

GRAND CHAPLAINS.
Rev. John J. Macsorley, Rev. Lord Plunket.

SENIOR GRAND DEACON.
The Hon. David Plunket, Q.C., M.P.

JUNIOR GRAND DEACON.
Alderman Joseph Manning.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS.
George A. Stephens.

GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES.
Theophilus E. St. George.

GRAND STEWARD.
George Moyers, L.L.D.

GRAND SWORD BEARER.
Harry Hodges.

GRAND ORGANIST.
Charles O. Grandison.

GRAND INNER GUARD.
Humphrey Minchin M.B.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

A GENERAL meeting of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Female Orphan School, was held at the School House, Burlington Road, on Tuesday, the 7th of December. R.W. Robert W. Shekleton, D.G.M., Vice-patron, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous 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 four pupils into the Masonic Female Orphan School, have to report that, with the aid of the Assistant Secretary, we have examined the several voting papers sent in.

The total number of papers received up to the time of the scrutiny was 1,130. Of these, 16 were not properly signed, and 51 were from Governors whose subscriptions were unpaid.

The total number of votes recorded was 4,917, viz.:—

Ida Florence Anketell	...	788	Mary L. Hall	...	502
Laura Bradburne	...	959	Florence Hendley	...	1,069
Trucila L. Burdge	...	104	Eliza J. Kewley	...	103
Lilla J. Cullinan	...	699	Margaret M'Intyre	...	693

The recording of the rejected votes would not have made any alteration in the relative position of the candidates.

Dated this 3rd day of December 1875.

JOHN A. HOGAN, Lodge No. 6,
HARRY HODGES G.L.G.,
GEORGE HILL MAJOR G.M.L.,
} *Scrutineers.*
SAMUEL B. OLDHAM D.G.S., *Assistant Sec.*

Florence Hendley, daughter of James Hendley, of Lodge 242, Boyle, Lieutenant and Quartermaster of the Mayo Militia, and previously of the 80th regiment,

Laura Bradburne, daughter of Samuel Tudor Bradburne, of Lodges 20 and 125, Dublin, Accountant,

Ida Florence Anketell, daughter of Thomas Anketell, of Lodge 131, Mullingar, station master on the Midland Railway, and

Lilla Jane Cullinan, daughter of Cormac Michael Cullinan, Lodge 60, Bantry, Assistant-Surgeon in the army,

Were then declared duly elected as pupils of the School.

From the report of the Finance Committee it appeared that the receipts during November amounted to £288, making the total amount now to the credit of the Institution £10,786.

A cheque was drawn for £203 2s 5d, the month's expenses.

A ballot having taken place for the Honorary Officers and Committees of the School for 1876, the following were declared duly elected:—

Chaplains.—Rev. John J. Macsorley G.C., Rev. Lord Plunket G.C.

Physicians.—John T. Banks M.D., George H. Kidd M.D.

Surgeon.—Philip C. Smyly M.D.

Oculist.—Sir William R. Wilde.

Dentist.—John A. Baker F.R.C.S.I.

Honorary Secretary.—Joseph Fawcett Errington, LL.D., Q.C., P.G.D.

Education Committee.—Hon. Judge Townshend, Rt. Hon. Hedges E. Chatterton, Lucius H. Deering, George Hubsand, Charles H. Woodroffe, Rev. J. J. Macsorley, The Rev. Lord Plunket.

Finance Committee.—John G. Gibbon, George Hepburn, Harry Hodges, John A. Hogan, Stuart N. Lane, George H. Major, Thomas H. Sanger.

Apprentice Committee.—William Allen, George Crowe, John Dunne, Mus. Doc., Joseph Manning, George T. Whitestone.

Ladies' Committee.—Mrs. W. Allen, Mrs. J. T. Banks, Mrs. J. W. Casson, Mrs. C. J. Ferguson, Mrs. Longfield, Mrs. R. Milner, Hon. Mrs. P. C. Smyly, Mrs. J. F. Townshend, Mrs. C. H. Woodroffe.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

MASONIC STUDIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The highly suggestive articles on this subject which appears in your last impressions, wherein many of our Masonic shortcomings are admirably and accurately sketched, and their remedies pointed out, induces me to offer a few observations on the same theme, and to venture to again lift the mirror and endeavour to "see ourselves as others see us." The truly earnest and intelligent Mason has to bear many humiliations, and often suffers a kind of martyrdom; how frequently is he doomed to sit and listen to the scandalous outrages committed upon the beautiful rituals of the Order, murdered before his very eyes, powerless to lend a helping hand, and prevented by propriety from rushing to the rescue? Is it not distressing to contemplate that, year after year, some Lodges will select a brother to take charge of affairs who possesses no sort of real Masonic knowledge, and whose claim to their suffrages consists, perhaps, in being a "decent kind of a fellow," or, which is oftener the case, is deemed qualified on account of seniority. It may safely be asserted that, as a general rule, indifference holds sway on occasions of elections, and but little thought is bestowed upon the probable abilities or fitness for the post of the one to be elected. But what is more humiliating, and worthy of the most earnest protest, is the election to the highest honour the Lodge can bestow upon any of its members of a brother who, however deserving of esteem in all other respects, has never grasped even the rudiments of education, and is consequently incapable of expressing, much less appreciating, the great and important lessons which devolve upon him, as the head of the Lodge, to teach. It is true, such men often deliver what they have to say with considerable fluency, but, parrot-like, heedless alike of common sense meanings or grammatical accuracy, and were it not for the solemn thoughts the ceremonials inspire, would often be ludicrous enough, and give plenty of exercise to the risible faculties, especially as is but too frequent in such cases where there is a redundancy in the use of the letter H, or when that most unfortunate and strangely abused member of the alphabetical family receives the "cut direct," and its existence is entirely ignored. Adjourning to the banquet table, its genial influences are productive of affectionate sentimentality, leniency in criticism, and strong inclinations to overlook the glaring faults which, but awhile ago, had been the means of calling forth torrents inexpressible. Returning thanks to the toast so kindly proposed, confidence is expressed that the prosperity of the Lodge is bound to be safe and secure under such Mastership, and boiled words of admiration are uttered in honour of the Master's performances. Now, to say nothing of the notorious untruths issuing from lips which ordinarily would scorn to speak that which was false—the practice of such transparent deceptions must eventually prove inimical to the best interests of the Craft. The reading of Lodge and Chapter reports which periodically appear in Masonic organs would lead one to imagine that skill and efficiency is the rule, and mediocrity and obtuseness the exception, whereas experience of facts prove just the opposite. There are numerous other evils with which the body Masonic is afflicted, crying aloud to be remedied. I must not, however, trespass further upon your space.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

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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 Discrepancies of Freemasonry*. Examined during a week's gossip with the late celebrated Bro. Gilkes and other eminent Masons, on sundry obscure and difficult passages in the Ordinary Lodge Lectures, which, although open questions in Grand Lodge, constitute a source of doubt and perplexity to the Craft. By the Rev. G. Oliver D.D., Past M.P.S., Grand Commander S.G.I.G. 33° for England and Wales; Past D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Past D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire; Honorary member of numerous Lodges and Literary Societies in every quarter of the Globe. Author of "The Revelations of a Square," "The Book of the Lodge," "Historical Landmarks," &c. With numerous diagrams. London: John Hogg and Co., Paternoster-row. 1875.

SECOND NOTICE.

On Tuesday the discussion is resumed, and, having regard to the progress the Order had made of late years, it is urged that improvements in the ritual, without in the slightest degree disturbing ancient landmarks, might be introduced. It is argued that during eighty years of the last century, no less than seven or eight new rituals appeared, "each being an improvement on its predecessor, with a few exceptions, and each receiving the sanction of the Grand Lodge." Since then, comparatively speaking, little has been done to improve the lectures. Here, again, a contrast is shown between the conduct of the Order in the United States and England, greatly to the advantage of the former. We read:—

"The several Grand Lodges are engaged in an amicable contest, which shall carry out with the most beneficial effect the best interests of the Order; and hence we find nothing in Masonry, as it is practised there, to condemn, but much to commend. They do not waste their time in talking; the debates upon all speculative questions being left to the several committees—what you call Boards, each of which has its own peculiar department. To one is entrusted the supervision of credentials; to another the settlement of grievances; to others the management of ways and means, of accounts, charters, and dispensations; charity; pay roll; accounts of delegates; foreign correspondence; unfinished business; and private details. The Grand Lodges have merely to determine on their reports, which are usually found to be drawn up with so much judgment and discrimination as not to be susceptible of any hostile opinion; and hence the members of Grand Lodges are seldom in collision with each other."

In reply to a question, how it is "the brethren in the United States work better than ourselves?" the Skipper, who is responsible for the foregoing exposition, explains:—

"The Grand Lodges emulate the glory of rendering the practice of Masonry worthy the patronage of serious and scientific men. The establishment of a correct method of lecturing occupies much of their time. Rituals are drawn up, examined by special committees, and published under sanction; and lecturers are nominated to visit the private Lodges under each jurisdiction, for the purpose of preserving the strictest uniformity of rites, ceremonies, and mode of working."

The other advantages which the Craft possesses in the United States, in the shape of an excellent and well-supported press, we alluded to separately last week. We need say nothing more here, but we may take this opportunity of pointing out a shortcoming we noticed in connection with the *Pythagorean Triangle*, a conspicuous illustration of which occurs at p. 135. In comparing Masonry in London and in Ohio, the advantage is greatly in favour of the latter. Now we expressed our opinion that the publishers had wisely decided to leave the text of Dr. Oliver untouched. At the same time we suggested it would have been better to have added explanatory foot notes, translations, &c., where desirable. In the present instance Ohio is taken as having a population of "about a million of souls, or 200,000 male adults;" and there are said to be "100 Lodges and more than 2,000 Masons, or one in every 100 males." On the other hand, London with a far greater population has "only about half the number of Lodges, which contain under 1,500 brethren." The note appended to this is as follows; "This conversation took place many years ago." Now at the expenditure of a few pence, and with a mere modicum of time devoted to statistical researches, "the publisher's note" might have given the present state of Masonry in Ohio and London; and the reader would then have known whether there was still the same difference in favour of Ohio now as when Dr. Oliver wrote this work, or whether the difference had been increased or lessened. The publishers, of course, know their own interests best, better, at all events, than we do, and if the trumpery outlay that must have been incurred were worth saving, why, it was worth saving. Had we had the publication of this work entrusted to us, we should have left Dr. Oliver's work intact. At the same time we should have thought it due to his memory, and to his eminent literary services, to incur the expense of adding a few explanatory notes wherever it seemed desirable. However, we quit this subject, and pass once again to the Discussions. The qualification questions, arranged in the form of Triads, is very ingenious. We next come to the derivation of the word "Lewis," with which, no doubt, our readers are familiar. The French ceremony of adoption or application of a Lewis, which they derive from Louvecean or Louiton, is worth quoting. The Skipper is the spokesman, and he describes it thus:

"On the birth of a male child, if the father, being a Master Mason, is desirous that it should be formally adopted by the Lodge, and received as a Lewis, he makes his request to the Venerable—what you call W. Master—by petition; and an especial Lodge is convened for the purpose of carrying the wishes of a worthy brother into effect. The Lodge-room is profusely decorated with garlands of flowers, and the censers are replenished with fresh incense. At the time appointed, the infant is brought by its nurse into the anteroom, and the Lodge is opened. After some preliminary ceremonies, the wardens, who act as sponsors for the child, are deputed, with the father, and some others, to introduce it, and when the procession arrives in the east, it halts under an arch of flowers, and the W.M. demands their business. The S.W. replies, that they have ventured to introduce to his notice the newly-born son of a brother who is a Master Mason, and pray that it may be adopted by the Lodge as a Lewis, which includes the privilege of initiation at the age of eighteen years, of which, indeed, this is the first stage. The Venerable then asks the child's name, and what Masonic appellation is intended to be conferred upon him; to which inquiry the S.W., in the character of godfather, replies, by stating the surname preceded by a Christian name, which expresses some Masonic virtue, as wisdom, fortitude, justice, &c., in the hope that it may influence the infant's future life and character. Descending the steps of the pedestal, he puts up a prayer for the welfare of the child—the incense is kindled—the O.B. of an E.A.P. is tendered to the S.W. on behalf of the Lewis, and his Masonic name is publicly proclaimed, amidst the acclamations of the brethren. A minute is made of the proceedings, and a circumstantial report, drawn up and signed in open Lodge by all the brethren, is presented to the father of the Lewis, as a certificate of the child's inauguration. And the novice, thus purified, is bound in after-life to bear the burden and heat of the day when his parent, borne down by age and infirmity, is incapable of providing for himself."

Readers of Clavel's *Histoire Pittoresque* will remember the description given by that eminent writer as bearing out the above.

The discussion then turns to the study of Masonry, in the course of which the author gives, at random, sundry Masonic aphorisms, and also insists on the establishment of a purely Masonic press. As we made this latter question the subject of a separate article last week, we need not refer to it at any length. We may remark, however, it is insisted that a Masonic magazine "should contain nothing but Masonry," and the very small amount of Masonic matter in the *Freemason's Magazine*, published in 1793, and few years following, is assigned as the reason why its career was so brief. We have often ourselves wondered how a professedly Masonic periodical should have contained so small a proportion of Masonry, and we feel that a review or magazine, appearing, it may be quarterly or monthly, should be wholly Masonic; but we see no objection to a weekly, like our own, or other journals we could name, containing a modicum of profane news. The concluding subject which is dealt with on this second evening is Freemasonry and Templarism, for the brief comments on which, we refer our readers to the book itself.

On the third evening the points discussed are, "The Cardinal Points. The North. Support of the Lodge. Charge of Son Worship. Birth of Light. Free and Accepted." It will not, of course, surprise those of our readers who are at all acquainted with Dr. Oliver's works to learn that the learned Doctor introduces a favourite theory of his, and endeavours here, as he has done elsewhere, to treat Freemasonry as a purely Christian institution. What degree of success may be said to attend his efforts on this occasion we shall leave the reader to decide for himself. It is sufficient for us to say that his arguments display a considerable amount of skill and ingenuity. Many Masons, no doubt will demur to the learned Doctor's view, but we see no objection to it from a Christian point of view, in so far at least as this. Every Christian believes that his religion will, in the fulness of time, be the one religion professed of all mankind. There will then be neither irreligion nor any difference of religion. Thus Masonry, being a morality based on religion, will rest on an essentially Christian basis. As it is, the most important requisite in every candidate for admission into the Order is, that he have faith in one Omnipotent being, whom we designate as T.G.A.O.T.U., but the fashion, so to speak, of that belief is left to the individual. Hence wisely has it been ordained that all religious disputations shall be excluded from the Lodge. Thus the floor of the Lodge is not only Holy Ground, on which none but men who believe in a God may lawfully and conscientiously assemble, but a common ground for the assemblage of religious men, whatsoever the fashion of their creed may be.

At page 200, is another illustration of that oversight to which we have already more than once referred, in not having had the text of Dr. Oliver carefully supervised. By "The Charter of Colne," we presume is meant the Charter of Cologne, or, if written as the Germans write it, "of Cöln," especially as the date given, 1535, is the date of that spurious charter. We hardly imagine a scholar, as Dr. Oliver was, would have written "Colne" for "Cologne." Had the revision of proofs been entrusted to some one who was a scholar, as well as a Mason, this egregious error would never have been passed unnoticed.

On Thursday the venue is changed, and the party assemble at the doctor's residence, and there discuss "Universality. Extent of the Lodge. Freemasonry, an open institution. Whether it be sectarian? Ground and covering of the Lodge." To the Universality of Masonry, the learned author takes exception, and his arguments are very clear and very subtle. The discussion on this point is very interesting, and is enlivened moreover, by sundry extracts from old and disused rituals. As a quotation or two would fail to convey a just idea of the merits of the argument, we must leave our readers to judge for themselves.

The remarks we intend offering on the two remaining discussions we shall reserve till next week, as we fear we have already exceeded the space at our command, and the last third of the volume is quite as full of important matter as the two-thirds we have thus far examined and commented on.

Kalender für Freimaurer auf das Schaltjahr, 1876. Bro. C. Vo

DALEN. Sechzehnter Jahrgang. Leipzig: Verlag von J. G. Findel. 1876.

THIS is a useful publication; invaluable, indeed, to our German brethren, who will not fail to appreciate the excellence of Bro. Van Dalen's work. It is capitally printed, methodically arranged, and contains the latest, and, doubtless, all the most authentic information respecting the Order in Germany. The officers of the several Grand Lodges, with the names of the representatives from foreign Grand Lodges, are given in their order. Then we have a list of the principal officers of Grand Lodges in other countries. Next is given an alphabetical list of German cities and towns, with the names of their various Lodges and the Grand Lodge in whose jurisdiction they are situate, and also the various German Lodges in foreign countries, and the system under which they work. The other contents include a record of Masonic events for the year 1874-5, an obituary of eminent native and foreign brethren, and a list of Masonic publications in Europe and America. We congratulate Bro. Van Dalen on the appearance of this useful little compilation, the result, evidently, of much well-directed labour.

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

THE contents of *Blackwood* which we think will please our readers most are, Part VIII. of "The Dilemma," in which the relations hitherto existing between Yorke and Mrs. Falkland are materially changed, by reason of the latter's marriage with Col. Kirke; the early chapters of a new story, "Left-handed Elsa; a poem, in Elegiac measure, entitled "Elizabeth," the story of which is connected with the siege of Paris; "The Scot at Home;" Conversation No. IV. "In a Studio;" besides a most interesting essay on the subject of "Statistics," which is handled with consummate skill, while the actual dryness of the subject is kept as much as possible in the background. There are also some capital "Notes from the Crimea." In short, the number is excellent, and no single article in the whole programme should be passed over.

"Joseph Haggard's Daughter," by the editor, is the first on the list of contributions to *Belgravia*, and if we mistake not, it will turn out not the least successful of the serials by the gifted author of "Lady Audley's Secret." Iza Hardy contributes a neat set of verses, entitled "A Midsummer Night; or Two Starlight Vigils;" Mr. Sala an amusing sketch of "The Patent Woman. As described in the papers of the late Mr. Prometheus, C.E." Of the other contents, Mr. Marshall's "London Amusements," No. XI. of "Brighton Reminiscences," Mr. Escott's paper "Concerning Tusculums," and the sketch of "The Village Concert," are the most noteworthy. It should be added that the illustrations are excellent.

In his "Social Status Quo," in *Tinsleys'*, Dr. Maurice Davies quotes a very formidable illustration of the thoroughness with which the Roman Catholic Church denounces its enemies or those within its own fold who run counter to its laws and tenets. The excommunication—which must certainly be the major one, for we can conceive of none more formidable—applies to the case of Rev. Mr. Hogan; is quoted from the American journals of the time (1837), and contains a greater number of choice expletives than we have ever seen, save in the well known curse with which readers of Tristram Shandy are familiar. Dr. Davies also contributes another of his Troubadour songs, and there are several other short poems, of which we quote the following, being No. VIII. of "Dreams of a German Jew:"—

My darling, we sat together,
Close in the skiff so gay;
That night it was calm still weather:
We swam o'er the sea's wide way.

The moonbeams' lustre surrounded
The Spirit Island so fair;
And lovely music sounded,
And dance of mists waved there.

The sound grew dear and dearer,
The dance waved to and fro;
The skiff comes nearer the wearer,
But sad o'er the sea we go.

We may mention also, that the serials are all concluded, and thus we have the pleasure of looking forward to a new couplet or triplet of novels to commence the new year with.

The new serials in *Cassell's Family Magazine* are, to judge from early evidence, not unlikely to prove worthy successors to "The Manchester Man," and "Pretty Miss Bellew." Of course, we shall be better in a position to judge of their respective merits when further progress in their development has been made. "Caught in the Briars," is the title of the first, and is by the author of "Lost in the Winning," while Beatrice Leigh Hunt contributes the other, "Two Points on View." A practical man lays down instructions how to "Build Your Own Greenhouse," and Phillis Browne, "How not to Waste." There is a paper by A. Gilbert, on "Small Traders," in which are shown the time, labour, and insignificant profit connected with some of the smallest trades in the metropolis. There are also an educational paper, entitled "Little Children: How to Teach Them;" "Chit-Chat on Dress," by our Paris correspondent; some very sensible remarks by Mr. Payne, on "Christmas Dinners," and the usual array of notes *de omnibus rebus* by "The Gatherer."

The new serial in *Temple Bar* is entitled "Vittoria Contarini; or Love, the Traitor," by the author of "Bitter Fruit." It gives promise of being a most successful story. Of the eight other contributions we may mention a paper on "Spanish Herbs and Herbalists," an account of "Cornille, and the Literary Society of his age," a most interesting narrative; a slave trade story, "The John Harris," and a well written history of "A Neglected Humourist"—the humourist in question being Foote, of whom so many quaint anecdotes are recorded. One or two of his humours we take leave to quote. "A scotch Peer, notoriously thrifty, served his wine in very small glasses, and descanted eloquently upon its spirit, age and excellence. 'It is very little of its age,' observed Foote." Again. "The Duke of Norfolk, who was rather too fond of the bottle, asked him in what new character he should go to a masquerade. 'Go Sober,' answered Foote." Here is another. "A rich contractor was holding forth upon the instability of the world. 'Can you account for it, Sir,' he asked, turning to Foote. 'Well, not very clearly,' he responded, 'unless we suppose it was built by contract.'" And here again another. "'Why are you for ever humming that air?' he asked of a gentleman who had no idea of time. 'Because it haunts me,' 'No wonder, for you are for ever murdering it.'"

There has been latterly, in "*All the Year Round*," a series of papers describing the lives and exploits of "Remarkable Adventurers." The last number contains an addition to the series, in the shape of a life of the Count de Bonneval, the remarkable incidents in whose career certainly entitle him to be ranked among the adventurers of distinction. He may be described as a sort of Freelance of the beginning of the last century, who so long as he had an opportunity for gaining distinction in the field, cared little for whom he fought. He first distinguished himself during the war of the Spanish Succession, in Italy, under Catinat, Villeroy, and Vendôme. In 1706 he abandoned the side of France, and entering the service of the Emperor, served under Prince Eugene. In the war between the Empire and Turkey he increased his fame as a soldier. The latter years of his life he spent in the service of Turkey, having sought refuge in Constantinople to escape the consequences of certain indiscreet utterances against Prince Eugene, and having turned Turk, to avoid extradition, at the demand of the Emperor. He was engaged in negotiating his escape from Islamism, and a return to the Church of Rome, when death closed his career in 1747. The above is a very imperfect outline of the sketch in the pages of this periodical, but it will suffice to show how well worth reading it is. The other papers are of the usual order of merit.

In the *Leisure Hour*, besides the conclusion of Mr. J. B. de Liefde's excellent account of the "Siege of Stralsund," and No. IX. of Dr. Rimbault's "By-paths of Musical History," in which he writes with his usual judgment and ability on "The National Melodies of Scotland," we have a short, but interesting narrative of a "Visit to Siam," a description of "Port Royal," by the Rev. Fred. Arnold, No. VIII. of "Caricatures and Caricaturists," some "Natural History Anecdotes," and a number of other highly entertaining contributions. The most noteworthy of the contents in *Sunday at Home* are an account of the so-called "American Evangelists," No. XV. of Dr. Edersheim's "Jewish Life in the Time of our Lord," and a paper on "Domestic Slaves in Egypt."

Among the contributions to *Chambers's Journal*, we have noted two by Mr. W. Chambers, which are well worth reading. These are the "Story of the Dalrymples," in which we have an account of the Massacre of Glencoe, for which the most notorious of the family—at the time Master of Stair—was responsible, and "Glencairn, a Dramatic Story in Three Acts." The paper "About Iceland," is, in fact, a review of Captain Burton's "Ultima Thule: a Summer in Iceland."

All the World Over is a new monthly magazine, devoted to "Travel, Incident, Legend, Research," edited by Mr. Edwin Hodder, F.R.G.S., and published by Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son, Ludgate Circus, and Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton, Paternoster Row. The present number contains two chapters of a serial story by T. Ambrose Heath, entitled "A Love Chase; or, Autumn Manœuvres," and Chapter I. of "Field Sports in Ceylon," by Edwin Capper, the majority of the other papers being devoted to Travel, such as descriptions of Genoa, Ragusa, Alexandria, &c. There is also, a "Map to Cook's Nile Tours." The price of the magazine is Sixpence, and to judge from the contents and the neat style in which it is presented to the public, we should anticipate for it a successful career.

The *Voice of Masonry*, for November, opens with a valuable paper by Bro. W. J. Hughan, on "Godfrey Higgins on Freemasonry," followed by another, by Bro. Dr. Mackey, on "The Royal Arch Banners," and again another, by Bro. Geo. F. Gouley, "Can a Man be a Christian and belong to another Society?" There is also an account of the proceedings at the Thirty-Fifth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, Illinois, and other appropriate matter, both of Masonic and family interest.

Le Monde Maçonnique contains the usual excellent programme of news, both home and foreign. Among the latter it gives, in extenso, the sentence passed upon certain Freemasons in the island of Porto Rico, for the sole crime of being Freemasons, and an account of the proceedings, together with a declaration of principles enunciated by the recent Masonic Congress at Lausanne. There is, too, a most interesting biographical sketch of M. Chatrian, who, in conjunction with M. Erckmann, enjoys so wide a reputation for his admirably written stories, "Doctor Matthias," "Waterloo," "The Invasion," &c., M. Chatrian, our readers will be gratified to hear, was initiated into Freemasonry in the Lodge "Alsace-Lorraine," on the 14th of October last.

In the *New England Freemason* we have noted No. 5 of that interesting series of papers on the "Old Halls in London associated with Masonry," an account of "The Irish Daughter Lodge of Mother Kilwinning, a centre of the high degrees in Ireland," and a long and most valuable paper on "The Antiquity of Masonry," being "an address delivered before the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, at the Quarterly Communication held 8th September 1875, by R.W. Charles Levi Woodbury, Past Deputy Grand Master." The last of these is so admirable that we intend quoting it at full length; only, being so long, we are unable to find space for the whole of it in a single issue.

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THE CLAIM OF MASONRY TO BE A MORAL AND SOCIAL INSTITUTION.

From the "Canadian Masonic News."

MASONRY has been well described by *Arnold*, to be "a moral society, instituted with the praiseworthy design of recalling to our remembrance the most sublime truths, in the midst of the most innocent and social pleasures, founded on liberality, brotherly love, and charity."

With this object in view, the Masonic Lodge is made to represent the Universe; it reaches to Heaven its celestial canopy; its length extends from East to West; its breadth between North and South, thus typifying the universality of the Institution. The Sun, the glory in the centre, is emblematic of the light of the Divine Creator; the Star, the symbol of prudence; the seven stars indicate the regularity of our meetings, and initiation of candidates into our ceremonies and mysteries; the planetary border and the four tassels representing the cardinal virtues; the beautiful flooring of the Lodge portraying the vicissitudes of life, in the material or moral prosperity or adversity of the Craft; complete the first outline of the religious, moral and typical embellishments of a Masonic Lodge.

A Masonic Lodge is founded on holy ground—that ground whereon Abraham, Moses, David and Solomon have consecrated it to the Most High; and been thus founded, we open and close our Lodges in every degree with reverent invocations, and with solemn prayer to Him who declared to Abraham, that He would establish His holy name on Mount Moriah for ever. To him likewise we dedicate and consecrate our Lodges, invoking, with the reverential awe which is due from the creature to his Creator, His aid in all our laudable undertakings, and implering His protection in our labours, whether He be addressed as the Grand Architect of the Universe, the Grand Geometrician, or the Most High. It is an established and fundamental law, that no one can pass the Masonic threshold, without previously declaring disinterested motives for so doing and desiring to participate in our privileges, and pledging himself that a favourable opinion entertained of the Institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to his fellow-man, influences him in so doing. Neither can he proceed further, until he has devoutly joined in prayer to the Great Architect of the Universe, and expressed his full belief in a Divine Creator, the one true and ever-living God. With these pre-requisites, a solemn covenant to preserve our secrets and maintain our ancient landmarks and usages, neither of which affects his duty to his God or his country, is exacted of him,—an ancient custom, supported by the Holy Writings, wherein the propriety of secrecy receives even the approbation of the wise Solomon. He has thus pointed out to him the volume of the Sacred Law, ever open in our assemblies, the Square and the Compasses, which are explained to him with all due solemnity. On the first, he is solemnly enjoined to place his faith, and make it the rule and guide of his life; on the second, to form his conduct with his fellows, and on the third, to keep his passions within just and proper boundaries, not only with his brethren, but with the whole universal family of man. Subsequently to these, moral, solemn appeals are made to him on the divine attribute of charity—that charity which extends beyond the grave, through the boundless realms of eternity, and under circumstances that cannot fail to leave an indelible impression on his mind, and incite him to the exercise of that pre-eminently Masonic virtue, in its most expanded sense, whenever opportunity be afforded him.

Being thus charged, he is invested or clothed with the Masonic badge, the emblem of innocence, and the bond of friendship—rich in symbolic beauty, and more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle, more honourable than the Star and Garter, or any other Order that could be conferred upon him, at that, or any future period, when he is exhorted in the most felicitous language upon his duty to his God, his neighbour and himself; his duty as a citizen as an individual and a brother, more especially the latter character as regards his secrecy, his fidelity, his obedience, and to omit no opportunity to extend the cultivation of his mind.

Proceeding onward, and again invoking the blessing of the Almighty, the hidden mysteries of science are explained in the second degree, and Geometry, under its comprehensive designation, as including all other arts and sciences, is presented for his study and contemplation. Again is prayer offered up in his behalf, when he is raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, in which the beautiful legend, embodying the resurrection and regeneration is depicted in sacred and impressive form. And we would here say that no one can witness the beautiful and sublime ceremonies of this degree, without having his thoughts raised to Heaven, without being filled with the most powerful emotions, and without his heart expanding with benevolence and fraternal feeling toward the brethren united to him by the mystic tie. It is unnecessary for us to dwell upon all the tools and symbols of this degree, the *gauge*, apportioning employment and duties; the *gavel*, depicting the primitive state of man, and his enlightenment by education; and of the *trowel*, the emblem of divine charity, uniting all by the cement of friendship, and fraternal regard. The *square* of moral conduct, the level of moral equality before God and our brethren; the *plummet* of justice; the *compasses*, of the divine limits of good and evil; the pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty; the footstool of the Holy One, and his astral diadem—the moral steps of communication from the volume of Sacred Law to Heaven—the great *parallels*—the *circle* emblematising eternity, and typical of the Creator's mysterious origin and future duration, all these invest our ceremonies with surpassing interest and inspire us with sublime emotions. To these, we must not omit to add the emblems of freedom, fervency and zeal, symbolised by chalk, charcoal and clay; our instructive *tracing boards* and beautiful ceremonial lectures.

Our readers will at once perceive from the above, that the claim that Masonry is "a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," is no flight of the imagination. And whether we trace it from Adam to Enoch, Noah, Shem, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Job, Moses and Aaron, in one epoch; or from Joshua to Samuel, David and Solomon, in other epochs; or pass in review the lives of the Scribes Ezra and Nehemiah, and of the prophets down to the Christian era, the same pure principle, more or less developed, of our ancient fraternity, are continually manifest to the diligent enquirer and searcher after truth. We therefore entreat those who have entered the portals of Freemasonry to employ their leisure time so that they may add an intellectual buttress, pinnacle, or copestone to the beautiful moral structure of our society. It is in the power of all the brethren to give such direction to the Masonic labours as may dignify our profession, invest it with an enduring interest, enable it to become, in a great measure, the depository and teacher of the arts and sciences, and the bright exemplar of moral power and union throughout the civilised world.

DECEMBER.

D ark days are now proverbial, but this month
E ngages higher thoughts of holier life;
C ommuning on the past, remembrance brings
E ach deed performed, and duties left undone.
M ay next year's hope and promise be fulfilled
B efore another reck'ning comes too late.
E nable us, O God, to do Thy Will,
R epressing evil, and promoting good.

M. A. Baines, in *Colburn's New Monthly*.

The Foundation of the Order of Hospitallers, or Knights of St. John.—In the year A.D. 1048, some merchants from Amalfi obtained permission from the Caliph to build a hospital at Jerusalem for the protection of pilgrims. A piece of ground near to the site of the Holy Sepulchre was assigned to them for this purpose, and a chapel and hospital were built there, the first being dedicated to St. Mary, and the second to St. John the Almoner. During the siege of Jerusalem many of the sick and wounded Crusaders were brought into the hospital; and, in gratitude for the benefits they received there, they determined to dedicate their lives to charitable acts, and to enter the Monastery of St. John. They assumed as a dress a black robe, with the figure of a white cross with eight points. Pope Pascal II. bestowed many valuable privileges upon the order, and the Poor Brothers of the Hospital of St. John became a wealthy community, famed throughout Europe. During the reign of Baldwin of Bourg, the third King of Jerusalem, the Hospitallers resumed the sword, binding themselves by a vow to draw it only against the enemies of Christ. The Order of St. John was then divided into the several classes of knights, clergy, and serving brothers. The knights were highest in rank, and commanded in battle or in the hospital; the serving brothers filled the offices of esquires, or assisted the clergy in attendance upon the sick. The vows, which were taken by all, without distinction, included the duties of chastity, of obedience to the council, and of a renunciation individually of all worldly possessions. —From "*Cassell's History of England*," for December.

A Region of Contrasts.—It has been sarcastically, but perhaps not undeservedly, remarked, that the City of Westminster is, and has long been, the centre of dissipation of the whole empire; and such perhaps it may be, for the region to the north of Pall Mall has been, ever since the institution of "clubs," the head-quarters of luxury; while a visit to the purlieus of Westminster proper—to the south of the Abbey and Victoria Street—would serve to convince the most incredulous that dissipation does not belong to the upper classes exclusively. Here, however, as in other parts of the great metropolis, recent years have witnessed vast improvements. The building of Victoria Street, and the demolition of old buildings for the construction of the Metropolitan District Railway, necessitated the removal of some of the worst neighbourhoods of Westminster. Still, in the district bordering on the river, the general aspect of the dwellings is to a great extent unchanged.—From *Cassell's* "*Old and New London*," for December.

Courtesy.—One word more about your "bluff and honest" people I wonder who married those two words! Cannot you have polite and honest, refined and honest, gentle and honest, courteous and honest, as well as bluff, or rough, and honest? You have put the words, mark, in juxtaposition, but there is no real vital connection between them. It is as manifest as can be that honesty is one of the noblest characteristics of a good man. Without that, all acquirements are but decorations on a tomb; that is to say, they cover rottenness and corruption. For a dishonest man contravenes the first principles of peace and happiness in society. He degrades his nation, his family, and himself. A man may be dishonest in many ways, and when detected, he should be visited with the opprobrium of society—whether he picks a pocket, swindles a company, steals a reputation, or simulates what he is not. But because a flower is to be right at the root, is it to have no leaves, no flower, no fragrance? and because a man is honest, is he to have none of the finishing virtues of humanity? You must see how nonsensical such a position is.—From *The Quiver*, for December.

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THE MASON'S SIGN.

SONG BY G. W. WHEELER.

I.

Duncan McPhie was a cannie wie chiel,
A Freemason he, quite trusty and leal,
He'd a snug country cot, and twa children young,
A braw-big wife, and she had a long tongue,
And she tried all she could his secret to know,
But she soon found out that that "was no go."
He loved her truly, and he loved her well,
But he plainly said that he could not tell.
Yet she bothered and teased him; it was really absurd,
How she bothered and teased him for the *Freemason's Word*.

II.

She tried all her arts, but she tried all in vain,
By no means in her power the word could she gain;
Though so often foiled, yet still she would try,
At times she would laugh, at times she would cry,
At times she would coax, and then she would glour,
Then she would sulk, nor speak for an hour;
She'd say then, "Such cruelty never was heard,
If he loved her one bit he'd soon tell her the word.
Thus she bothered and teased him; it was really absurd,
How she bothered and teased him for the *Freemason's Word*."

III.

But a woman, you know, will never be beat,
When she's made up her mind to accomplish a feat,
She therefore determined to try a new dodge,
The next time he was late returning from Lodge.
It happened one night, when 'twas stormy and cold,—
In the country he lived, as already I've told,—
He rapped at the door? Who's there? "Why its me."
"Well, go to your Lodge, if you have not a key.
I won't let you in, without word, grip and sign,
If you can't give me them, you're no husband of mine."

IV.

What could the man do in so sorry a case?
'Twas too late to go back, and no *Inn* in that place,
His wife she was there, with the door on the chain,
He was outside—in the cold and the rain.
So he thought it was better the secret to tell,
Before you blame him, see you do as well.
"The *Pass word*, my dear, *I'll* tell what it means,
The one chiel says '*Bacon*,' the other says '*Greens*.'"
"But the grand word and sign?—tell me them, and I'm dumb."
"Turn finger down thus, and say '*Ne'er fash your thumb*.'"

V.

She opened the door, saying, "Come in, my dear,
No mortal from me these words ever shall hear;"
And, like a true woman, she kept to her word,
Those sounds, for a month at least, never were heard.
Once more it's full late, his wife; now he'd come,
Was heard to call out, "Oh, ne'er fash your thumb.
My cousins are here, they know what it means,
I soon let them know 'bout your *Bacon* and *Greens*.
Do you think I'd sit here by myself and be dumb,
While, drinking your wine, you say '*Ne'er fash your thumb*.'"

VI.

The poor man was glad to escape to his bed,
His heart it was aching, as well as his head.
Here was destroyed the fond dream of his life,
The faith he had placed in the *truth* of his wife;
He had given that word on her pledge to be dumb,
Yet the sign she'd betrayed,—"Ne'er fash your thumb."
So he thought that on her he'd now steal a march,
And find the *true* word in the depth of the Arch,
For she'd bothered and teased him; it was really absurd,
How she bothered and teased him till he gave her the word.

THE DRAMA.

"Buckingham" at the Olympic—"The White Cat" at the Queen's.

MR. WILLS is, without doubt, a good dramatist, but he is an uncommonly bad historian; there is, of course, much licence allowed to a dramatic author, as to a poet, but we think that the bounds of this licence have been overstepped by Mr. Wills. Not content with having, in his play of Charles I., blackened the character of one of our most noble Englishmen, in order to exalt the memory of a deservedly reprobate king, he now endeavours still further to darken history by placing before us, as a chivalrous gentleman, a man who was a gambler, a libertine, and a blackguard. It is strange that English people can be found willing to weep over the sorrows of a Charles, and to laugh at the simulated humiliation of a Cromwell; it is to some extent a sign of a deteriorated age, but this is no excuse for Mr. Wills. If he does not know it already, he must learn that it is one thing to distort history, quite another to sully the memory of our illustrious dead. The Buckingham of his latest play, although somewhat dissolute, is an honourable gentleman, in love with Mary, daughter of Lord Fairfax; Elizabeth, daughter of Cromwell, is in love with him, and Cromwell, partly out of love for his daughter, partly wishing to find himself connected with a noble family, is anxious to make Buckingham his son-in-law. Adopting a royal mode of attaining his object, the Protector offers to Buckingham his choice between marriage with Elizabeth and execution. That nobleman chooses marriage, but, by a ruse, Mary Fairfax is enabled to occupy the place of the bride. Finding this out immediately after the ceremony, Cromwell orders the bridegroom to the Tower, for execution, a fate which is averted only by the death of the ruler. From this brief sketch of the plot it will be seen that there is room for many striking situations, which are led up to with admirable art. The dialogue is always good, some of the speeches rising to absolute poetry of expression. The fault we have to find with the play we have indicated already. We cannot expect to find at the OLYMPIC a company worthy of the piece; it is objectionable to listen to a duke who revives recollections of Bob Brierley, and a Cromwell who reminds one of a first murderer at the Victoria. The two leading ladies, who appear in London, we believe for the first time, are overweighted, and the cast generally is sadly weak. There is much in the play that is worthy of observation, but for the reasons which we have noted we must restrain our approval until we find Mr. Wills reading history with an unbiassed mind.

One of the sayings of the unfortunate man now languishing at Dartmoor will seldom remain long without an exponent, we mean that saying which applies to the connection between money and brains. Mr. Mayer has gone to almost unheard of expense in producing *The White Cat*, and with this effect: there are one or two scenes of dazzling splendour imbedded in a mass of sombre dulness. The combined openings of a hundred pantomimes would hardly represent fairly the chaos of which this so-called fairy play is composed. The adventures of the lady who is first a princess, then a country girl, then a warrior, then a cat, and, lastly, a wife, are utterly incomprehensible, admirably as that lady is played by Miss Rose Massey. Mr. Stoyle tries hard to extract some fun out of the most uncongenial part of King Mignonette, and a host of pretty girls do their best to brighten our eyes; but the play is past all understanding. If it is meant as a pantomime, it is prematurely born, and is without the chief attraction of a pantomime, the fooling of the clowns. In Paris *The White Cat* drew extremely well, by reason of its somewhat lavish display of female charms; in London it is, perhaps, worse than improper, for it is supremely dull.

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	739	58,028	50,845
Glasgow and South Western	315½	15,922	15,875
Great Eastern	763	41,726	44,728
Great Northern	523	52,652	52,64[illegible]
Great Western	1,534	100,158	100,538
Lancashire and Yorkshire	431	68,150	68,905
London and Brighton	376¼	27,908	28,409
London, Chatham and Dover	153½	14,561	14,597
London and North Western	1,586	167,154	166,124
London and South Western	626¼	30,156	29,211
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	1,910	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	34,319	33,172
Midland	975¼	113,430	109,025
Metropolitan	8	9,192	8,424
" " District	8	5,108	4,729
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	445	417
North British	844½	41,183	37,782
North Eastern	1,400½	117,720	119,482
North London	12	6,421	6,462
North Staffordshire Railway	191	10,17[illegible]	9,997
" " Canal	118	1,546	1,41[illegible]
South Eastern	350	28,834	30,60[illegible]

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LYCEUM. — At 7.0, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, QUICKSILVER DICK. At 7.30, LITTLE EMLY, and THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, FAINT HEART NEVER WON FAIR LADY. At 8.0, RIP VAN WINKLE, and HEAD OF A CLAN.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, FAMILY JARS. At 8.0, BUCKINGHAM.

STRAND.—At 7.0, TWO TO ONE. A LESSON IN LOVE, and LOO, AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—At 7.15, OPERETTA. At 8.0, PAUL PRY. At 9.0, TOOLE AT SEA. At 10.0, ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS. At 8.15, ALL FOR HER.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, MAN IS NOT PERFECT, BLUE BEARD, and CRYPHOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATO.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MASKS AND FACES.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT, and TRIAL BY JURY.

QUEEN'S.—At 7.30, THE WHITE CAT.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, PROOF POSITIVE, BLACK EYED SUSAN, and A TEMPTING BAIT.

COURT.—At 7.30 A MORNING CALL, BROKEN HEARTS, and UNCLE'S WILL.

CRITERION.—At 8, FLEUR DE THE, and A TRIP TO INDIA. On Monday, OLD PHIL'S BIRTHDAY.

PHILHARMONIC. — At 7.30, TWO TO ONE, and LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, THE FLOWER QUEEN, and BALLET.

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THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE reception of the Prince of Wales in the island of Ceylon has been, in the highest, gratifying. The native chiefs mustered in great numbers and welcomed him most heartily. Of course, there has been the usual amount of banqueting and merry-making, together with the proper complement of levees, &c., &c. In addition, the Prince has enjoyed some capital sport, and, according to the last telegrams, displayed great courage in quitting his post, and entering a thick bamboo jungle in the midst of a herd of wild elephants. This, no doubt, is the first time the telegraph has heard of the courage that is hereditary in our English princes. His Royal Highness, has also, it seems, met with some mishap, through the upsetting of his carriage, but the accident appears to have been greatly exaggerated, and the risk to which he was exposed must, after all, have been comparatively trifling. By the latest accounts, the Prince had returned on board the Serapis, and would sail for Tuticorin, whence he would make the journey by rail to Madras. Thus, the capitals of all our Indian presidencies, will, if this news be true, be honoured with the presence of His Royal Highness.

The Queen of Denmark has left England, *viâ* Dover and Paris, for her own country, whither she will shortly be followed by her daughter, the Princess of Wales, who will spend Christmas in Copenhagen, remaining with her father and mother till the early spring, when her husband, we hope, will have returned from his Indian tour. The Duke of Connaught has been enjoying some sport a short way from Gibraltar, in the interior of Spain. He met with a very courteous reception from the Spanish municipal authorities.

The visitation of snow has been attended, as far as the metropolis is concerned, with the usual amount of dirt and discomfort. The streets have been all slush, and when the cold was most intense, locomotion was a matter of some difficulty. Lovers of snow-balling and skating, are of course, disappointed at the thaw setting in. Business men gain, however, by finding it possible to move about with some degree of comfort. We notice that a considerable amount of salt was used in order to melt the snow. We think this a mistake. Sand or cinders is far preferable. Either of them remedies the slipperiness, while salt not only does this, but makes the melted snow dreadfully cold and uncomfortable to those who must trudge through it, *nolentes volentes*.

The Cattle Show is pronounced to be, by competent judges, a great success. There may not have been the same number of entries as in previous years, but the average quality of the exhibits is admittedly good. Of

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course, the neighbourhood of the Angel, Islington, has been thronged with carriages and foot passengers. The scene was not quite so brilliant as some of those depicted in our Christmas Annuals, or the Christmas number of the *Graphic* and other periodicals. Rather the reverse, indeed, for the horses and carriages, the omnibuses, and the foot passengers looked dingy and dirty enough. However the clerk of the weather is not that paradox of paradoxes a *dry humourist*. He lands such discomforts as he has in store for us London folk straight away under our very noses, without the slightest faltering. *Mais revenons à nos moutons*, which is more appropriate as a quotation than are the majority of such. We say this, of course, with all modesty. The sheep were the feature in the Show. The Southdowns, the Kentish, the Leicesters, the Lincolnshire, and other breeds were in considerable force, and most of the prize pens were magnificent. Among the Cattle, a shorthorn, a beautiful white cow, carried off the principal prize. The pigs were fat, and the visitors far more eager in prodding the animals than even the most enthusiastic of stock owners. The decisions of the judges appear to have given general satisfaction—save, of course, to the non-winners—and the attendance, as far as we have heard has been excellent, certainly equal to what might have been expected in not particularly genial weather. Not the least important feature in the Show were the agricultural implements and the root exhibition of Messrs. Carter and other well-known seedsmen. Among the successful exhibitors must be mentioned both the Queen and the Prince of Wales. By the way, we believe it is a fact that the classic Angel at Islington is not in the parish by whose name it is distinguished, but in Clerkenwell.

It is evident that, whether the weather will let them or no, people mean enjoying themselves this Christmas-tide. It is impossible to walk along the principal thoroughfares, especially at the West End, without being reminded that this day fortnight we are in for what the *Saturday Review* has described one of our emergency meetings to be, namely, a "gorge" on a large scale, in fact the greatest gorge of the whole year. Geese and Turkeys, sucking-pigs and pastry, beeves and sheep, fruits and vegetables, are visible in all the caterers' shops. The booksellers are only too happy to supply any number of seasonable books, The toy shops are over crowded with all the greatest novelties in the shape of toys. Housewives are busy with their preparations, making puddings and mincemeat by the hundredweight, and paterfamilias looks on as quietly as he can, with sundry terrible misgivings as to the bills that will pour in upon him when the bells have hardly done ringing the old year out and the new year in. Happily the old saying is true, that Christmas comes but once a year, so paterfamilias wisely gives his better half *carte blanche* to organise the gorge on the grandest scale imaginable, with the somewhat cynical assurance that all this eating and drinking will be of service to all the pharmaceutical chemists throughout the Kingdom. We hear much of the mighty beeves and turkeys and puddings that are consumed at this season of the year, but very little of the pills and potions that are used to counteract the excess of bile which too frequently follows.

But as last year, so this, the number of firesides that will be cheerless and desolate has been greatly increased by the occurrence of several terrible accidents. The German ship Deutschland has run aground on the Kentish Knock, and it is known that many of her passengers and crew have perished in the waters. How many lives are lost is not yet accurately ascertained, as many as fifty, and even more, being the number according to some reports. The Quartermaster Bock, the survivor of three who got adrift in a lifeboat, and who was landed at Sheerness, is in a fair state of recovery. He must have had a dreadful time of it during the six-and-thirty hours he was exposed to the inclemency of the weather. Another boat with four others in it also got adrift, so it is said, but at the time of writing nothing has been heard of it. Besides this, there have been three colliery explosions, each being attended with a fearful loss of life. In the case of the Swaithe Main explosion, near Barnsley, over a hundred bodies have already been brought to the pit's mouth, and sixty more are still said to be missing. At the New Tredegar Colliery, twenty-two lives were lost, while at the Llan Colliery, near Cardiff, twelve others have perished. Here then we have some two hundred people swept into eternity with hardly a moment's warning, and within a few days of the period set apart, of ancient custom, for festivity and rejoicing.

The Mansion House Fund for the relief of the sufferers by the recent inundations in the South of London and in other parts of the country, already exceeds the sum of £15,000, and amounts of money are being daily voted to the people of those districts which have suffered most and are most sorely distressed. As charity begins at home, it seems to us it would have been a more graceful act had Grand Lodge voted £100 to this Inundation Fund instead of voting such an amount even for so laudable an object as the further exploration of Palestine. The long hidden foundations of the Temple are in little danger of being washed away, while in far too many cases the little all of our poor and distressed brethren at home has been wholly destroyed. Our charity should be as practical as possible.

Among Ministerialist doings, we note the visit to Manchester of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, where he was welcomed heartily at a grand gathering of the Conservative party. Mr. C. S. Read has resigned his post as Vice President of the Local Board, and publicly announced his reasons for doing so. This is the first secession from the Ministry which has occurred since it came into office, now nearly two year since. The reason for this step, Mr. Read states, was his disagreement with the policy of Ministers on the subject of cattle transit, and the restrictions imposed on it by the Privy Council. There have been the usual deputations to sundry Cabinet Ministers, the most important having been to Lord Derby and the Home Secretary.

There is little, if anything, to record in the sporting world, the frost having necessarily caused the postponement of the Croydon and other steeplechase fixtures.

There are to be two grand attractions at the Alexandra Palace to-day. The great Oratorio of Esther, by Handel, will be repeated, under the conduct of Mr. H. Weist Hill, at three o'clock in the afternoon, and when the concert is over, the German Gymnastic Society will give a grand display in the Grand Central Hall, commencing punctually at 6 p.m. On Monday next, and three following days, will be held a great Dog Show, when over a thousand pounds in prizes will be given away. At the Crystal Palace the Saturday concert and dramatic performances are the principal attractions. On Saturday, the first concert of the season, by the Amateur Orchestral Society, will be given at the Royal Albert Hall, in aid of the All Saints' Convalescent Hospital, at Eastbourne. The patron of this Society is H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. To-day, at St. James's Hall, will be held a Saturday "Pop," while the last Monday "Pop" before Christmas is fixed for Monday.

We are, it seems, to have our army organised on a satisfactory basis at last. The War Office has been a long time in labour, and for once in a way we have neither an abortion nor a puny scheme of reform, but a wide and comprehensive one. Both the late and present war ministers are to be congratulated, Lord Cardwell for having proposed, and Mr. Gathorne Hardy for having carried into execution, plans which, as regards arrangement, will give us a chance of meeting a crisis somewhat hopefully, at all events with less of that hurry and distraction which has generally characterised our efforts at the commencement of a war. Henceforth our troops will enjoy the advantage of knowing where they are and whither to go, and this is no trifling gain, when we call to mind that even in France, where, till the late war broke out, they were said to manage these things far better than here, the greatest confusion reigned, and soldiers, summoned to arms on a sudden, had not the remotest notion whither they should betake themselves. Our military authorities appear to have done their work very quietly, very methodically, and very efficiently, and there has been heard well-nigh everywhere a general chorus of approval. It must not be inferred, however, that further steps in the same direction will not be needed. There is still a great problem to solve. Given the nucleus of an army, in the shape of skeleton regiments, brigades, and divisions, to find the number of men to make it. This is a problem which will never, perhaps, be solved till a political crisis comes, and then, no doubt, the patriotism which has carried us successfully through so many contests will supply the needful flesh, blood and sinew. While on matters warlike, we may as well notice that further experiments have been made with the 81-ton gun, with a view of testing the kind of powder that will be most useful.

The purchase by the English Government of the Suez Canal Shares is still the principal topic of the day, at least on the Continent. A discussion in the French Legislative Assembly was expected to have come off, but the election of the 75 senators for life has been shown to possess too

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absorbing an interest. Frenchmen, however, certainly do not relish the action of our government. The Great Northern powers are very reticent on the subject, nor do their official organs give us any clue to the views they hold. On Wednesday, a balloon accident occurred in France, by which the passengers, including the celebrated aëronaut M. Godard, sustained all of them injuries of a more or less serious character. The news from America refers principally to the President's message, which, considering the rumours afloat as to serious differences between Spain and the United States, on the subject of the insurrection in Cuba, was looked forward to with some interest. However, General Grant's utterances are of a reassuring character, and there seems to be not the slightest danger of any interruption to the amicable relations prevailing between the two countries. While, on the one hand, President Grant thinks it more than probable that Spain may fail in putting down the insurrection in Cuba; he is also of opinion that the insurgents deserve not to be acknowledged as belligerents, having thus far given no evidence of their ability to establish anything like a government. The other important point in General Grant's message referred to the resumption of specie payments. The state of affairs remains unchanged in Spain. The Carlist and Alphonsist armies still confront each other, but in consequence of the weather, military operations appear to be postponed indefinitely. A Carlist court-martial has sentenced Saballs, one of his generals, to deprivation of his military and civil rank, and four years imprisonment. The annual festival in connection with the Russian Military Order of St. George has been celebrated at St. Petersburgh. The Czar presided at the banquet, and proposed the health of the Emperors of Germany and Austria, who are both members of the Order. The Czar's speech is said to have caused some excitement in French political circles, yet the speech, as reported, contains nothing which will explain the excitement. There is little to report as to the insurrection in the Herzegovina. An engagement was reported to have taken place some time since between the insurgents and the Turkish troops, under Raouf Pacha, with a loss of 10,000 to the latter. It turns out, however, the loss is only 1,000, and further news, perhaps, may still further diminish this number.

The regular monthly meeting of the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday, the 8th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bro. Lieut. Col. Creaton V.P. in the chair. The Secretary, Bro. Jas. Terry, read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. The report of the House Committee and the Warden's report were read and confirmed. Six candidates were placed on the list, and one case was deferred. The meeting was then adjourned. There were present—Bros. S. Rawson, J. E. Saunders, B. Head, J. Brett, W. Stephens, Newton, T. W. White, C. Hogard, J. Constable, Richards, R. H. Giraud, A. H. Tattershall, C. Lacey, J. A. Farnfield, J. Bellerby, W. Hilton, T. Cubitt, and F. Adlard.

A Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Girls' Institution will be held this day at Freemasons' Hall, the business being:

"To consider, and, if approved, adopt the Report of the Special Committee, appointed by the Quarterly General Court, on the 9th October 1875, with reference to the subject of providing accommodation for an increased number of Girls, the scheme to be submitted having also been recommended by the General Committee, on the 25th November. And further, in the event of the adoption of the Report, to nominate a Building Committee, who shall be charged with the superintendence of the necessary works, with full power to draw cheques and perform all such duties as may appertain to their office."

The fifth annual concert in aid of the Post Office Orphan Home will take place this day, 11th December, at St. James's Hall, under the patronage of the Right Hon. Lord John Manners, M.P., Postmaster-General, on which occasion the following talented artistes have promised their services:—Madame Liebhart, Miss Marion Severn, Madame Osborne Williams, Suchet, Champion, Misses L'Estrange, Mary Davis, Penna and Pulham, and Bros. T. Lawler, Farquharson, &c. Madame Albert, a talented pupil of Sir Julius Benedict, will make her first appearance. The conductors are Sir Julius Benedict, Bro. Wilhelm Ganz P.G.O., and Herr Lohmeyer.

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, 11th DECEMBER.

1426—Great City, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, **Regent-street, at 8.**

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
206—Prince George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, near Todmorden.
1391—Commercial, Freemason's Hall, Leicester.
1556—Addiscombe, Alma Tavern, Addiscombe. (Emergency.)

MONDAY, 13th DECEMBER.

5—St. George and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
48—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8 (Instruction.)
186—Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
957—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

49—Derwent, Castle Hotel, High-street, Hastings.
69—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
86—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
102—Unanimity, King's Arms, North Walsham.
105—Fortitude, Hyrhe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
183—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields.
263—Salopian, Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury.
295—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
305—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
314—Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
328—Prudence, Three Tuns, Halesworth, Suffolk.
411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham.
607—Cricklade, Court House, Throgstone.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
662—Montagu, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
731—Eastner, Feathers Hotel, Ledbury.
853—Sympathy, Swan Hotel, Wootton-under-Edge.
889—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall.
941—De Tabley, Royal George Hotel, Knutsford.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth.
1073—Greta, Court-buildings, Keswick.
1273—St. Hubert, Freemasons' Hall, Bridge-street, Andover.
1396—Morning Star, Queen's Hotel, Newton Abbot.
R. A. 404—Watford, Freemasons' Hall, Watford.
K. T. Stuart, Freemasons' Hall, Watford.

TUESDAY, 14th DECEMBER.

R. A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
R. A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.
92—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
131—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Truro.
241—Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool.
257—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, Wakefield.
319—New Forest, Masonic Hall, Lymington.
371—Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, Harpurhey.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Instruction.)
414—Union, Masonic Hall, Grey Friars'-road, Reading.
434—St. James's, Masonic Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
456—Peace and Harmony, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell, Cornwall.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
519—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
560—Vernon, Swan Hotel, Stourport.
622—Lansdowne of Unity, New Hall, Chippenham.
[illegible]—Wellington Hotel, Aldershot.
653—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, Gosport.
[illegible]—Howe and Cleveswood, Bull's Head, Loughboro'.
[illegible]—Royal Forest of Dean, Lodge Rooms, Newnham.
1272—Cornstone, Red Lion, Leyenstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1314—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Wilton, Lancashire.
1402—Jordan, Masonic Hall, Torquay.
1435—Cickenham, Talbot Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex.
R. A. 591—Buckinghams, George Hotel, Aylesbury.

WEDNESDAY, 15th DECEMBER.

165—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1420—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)

20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham.
125—Prince Edwin, White Hart, Hythe, Kent.
127—Amity, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Poole.
[illegible]—St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
222—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
271—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Court-place, Guernsey.
286—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham.
461—Unanimity and Sincerity, Clerk's Hotel, Taunton.
535—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
[illegible]—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
799—Eamleston, Bull Hotel, Bedford. (Instruction.)
801—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester.
811—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
824—Moira, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
847—Zetland, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
861—Faith, Drovers' Inn, Openshaw.
908—Segontium, Masonic Hall, Carnarvon Castle.
910—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
923—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
979—St. David's, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
981—Scarsdale, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Chesterfield.
982—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1046—Walton, St. Lawrence Boys' School, Overland-street, Kirkdale.
1254—Glegan Porta, Bell Hotel, Strand-street, Sandwich.
1272—Kins, Masonic Hall, Home Park, Stoke, Devonport.
1284—St. Alban's, Royal Hotel, Great Grimsby.
1347—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1351—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
M. M. 178—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 16th DECEMBER.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
48—Globe, Guildford Tavern, Goswell-road, E.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
814—New Concord, Rose-and-Crown Tavern, Hoxton.
1260—Harvey, 151 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

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THURSDAY—continued.

1339—Brockwell, Tulse-hill Hotel, Tulse-hill.
1507—Metropolitan, 200 Pentonville-road.

86—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
110—Loyal Cambrian, Bush Hotel, Merthyr Tydfil.
172—Unity, White Hart, Ringwood.
203—Ancient Union, 23 Hope-street, Liverpool.
262—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
426—Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.
439—Scientific, Private Rooms, Bingley, Yorks.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
663—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
949—Philanthropy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.

FRIDAY, 17th DECEMBER.

1279—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 200 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

157—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
516—Phœnix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.

SATURDAY, 18th DECEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

IRELAND.

SATURDAY—18—Antient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.
MONDAY—184—Prince of Wales' Own, Masonic Hall, Belfast.
" 217—Tyrawley, 4 Dillon-terrace, Ballina.
" 270—St. George's, Enniscorthy, Wexford.
" 287—Abercorn, Masonic Hall, Waterford.
" 321—Tullamore, Court House, Tullamore, King's County.
" 331—Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Masonic Hall, Ballymena.
TUESDAY—8—St. Patrick, Masonic Hall, Cork.
" 22—Truth, Masonic Hall, Arthur-place, Belfast.
WEDNESDAY—6—Moses, Masonic Hall, George-street, Dungannon, Tyrone.
" 161—Excelsior, Bishop-street, Tuam, Galway.
" 350—Cappagh, Masonic Hall, Omagh, Tyrone.
THURSDAY—13—Meridian, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 93—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 129—Industry, Bundoran, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—100—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson-street.
THURSDAY—48—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 258—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-street.
" R. A. 153—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 46 Constitution-street.
FRIDAY—R. A. 83—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—102—St. Mark's, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 219—Star, 12 Trongate.
" 302—St. Clair, 25 Robinson-street.
" 403—St. George, Odd Fellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
TUESDAY.—419—Neptune, 25 James-street.
" 419—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
" R. A. 69—St. Andrews, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 426—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Renfrew.
WEDNESDAY—117—Partick, St. Mary Freemasons' Hall, Partick.
" 354—Caledonian Railway, 20 Hope-street.
" R. A. 150—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 465—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road.
FRIDAY—360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
" 408—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 321—St. Andreas, Public Hall, Alexandria.
" 306—St. Thomas, Freemasons' Hall, Larkhall.
SATURDAY—524—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, East Kilbride.
" 546—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Bank-street, Coalbridge.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge, No. 24.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 2nd of December, at Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Present—Bros. Thomas Cochrane W.M., George Cockburn S.W., Pringle J.W., A. Loades Secretary, W. Cockburn P.M. Treasurer, John Bolam acting S.D., John Taylor J.D., William Foulsham P.M. D.C., A. R. Taylor I.G., J.Currie Tyler; P.M.'s—Bros. George Brewis I.P.M., J. Hall, J. Cocke, 481. Visitors—Bros. R. Smaile P.M. 541, Knox W.M. 406, Spearman W.M. 481, Deane Secretary 541, Rev. E. Cohen 481. Business—Lodge opened in due form, by solemn prayer. Mr. W. J. Brown balloted for, and initiated into our ancient rites, in a most impressive manner by the W.M. Bros. McPherson and Blencowe having most creditably passed their examination, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the ceremony being most ably performed by the W.M., and rendered additionally solemn owing to the choral service being sung by Bros. Liddell and Dewar, assisted by the Organist of 48. The Lodge then proceeded to the election of W.M. and Treasurer for the ensuing year; when Bro. George Cockburn S.W. was duly elected as W.M., and Bro. W. Cockburn unanimously re-elected as Treasurer. Bros. W. Foulsham P.M., G. Cockburn W.M. elect, Page, Carr and Bolam were elected to act as Finance Committee, and, on the motion of the W.M., Bro. J. Currie was nominated Tyler and Bro. Liddell Organist. During refreshment, Bro. Brewis I.P.M., in proposing the health of the W.M., spoke at some length, and amid great applause, as to the assiduous attention that Bro. Cochrane had paid to his official duties, and congratulated him and the brethren on the great success that had attended his year of office, and with mingled pleasure and regret called upon the brethren to drink the health of the W.M. for the last time. The toast was received with the greatest enthusiasm. The W.M. in replying, did so, to repeat the words of Bro. Brewis, with feelings of mingled pleasure and regret, his year of office had been one of great pleasure to himself, but he could not help a feeling of regret in leaving the exalted position the brethren had placed him in. In conclusion, he begged to propose the health of the W.M. elect; he had known and worked with Bro. Cockburn ever since his initiation, and he was certain that the brethren had made a wise and worthy choice in placing him in the chair for the ensuing year. Bro. Cockburn, who was received with great applause, said that he could not sufficiently thank the brethren for placing him in the proud position of W.M. elect of their old and time-honoured Lodge, the oldest on the register out of London. He would do his utmost, nay, more than his utmost, to deserve the honour conferred on him that night, and, with the assistance of the P.M.'s and his officers, he trusted to leave the Lodge in the hands of his successor in as flourishing a condition as it had been left to him by Bro. Cochrane. After the usual toasts the brethren separated.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules, Leadenhall-street, on Thursday evening, 9th December, at 7.30. Present—Bros. Webb W.M., Briant S.W., Hollands J.W., Burr S.D., Hewlit J.D., Maidwell I.G., C. H. Grammer hon. Secretary, Crawley P.M. Preceptor. Bro. Salmoneus having answered the usual questions, was entrusted, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. The first, second, third, fourth and fifth sections of the Lecture were worked by Bro. Musto, assisted by the brethren. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The attendance of the members of this Lodge of Instruction is particularly requested on Thursday, the 23rd instant, to consider a proposition of several brethren to change the evening of meeting from Thursday to Wednesday.

St. Cuthbert Lodge, No. 41.—This Lodge held its annual St. Andrew meeting on the 30th ult., at Masons' Hall, Kirkcudbright. Present—Bros. James Cowan W.M., John Halliday S.W., J. Stuart Moody J.W., Laurention Norin Secretary, Archibald Jack Treasurer, David Clark S.D., David Hair J.D., Rev. R. G. Blair Chaplain, D. G. Williamson, John Legge, W. McKenzie Stewards, William Mounsey I.G., James Livingston Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. D. Craig, James Clark, James McMuldrow. Business—The officers for the ensuing year were elected, as follows: James Cowan W.M., James McMuldrow P.M., Thomas Campbell D.M., William Armstrong S.M., John Halliday jun. S.W., J. Stuart Moody J.W., Archibald Jack Treasurer, L. Norea Secretary, David Clark S.D., David Hair J.D., William Mouncey I.G., James Livingston Tyler. The brethren afterwards met together at supper in the Royal Hotel. The chair was occupied by the newly elected R.W.M. Bro. James Cowan, and the duties of croupier were discharged by P.M. Bro. David Craig. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. A number of complimentary toasts followed, and the evening was enlivened by songs and recitations.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, the 6th of December, at The Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, St. John's-square, E.C. Present—Bros. Trowinnard W.M., Stock S.W., Powell J.W., Killick Secretary, Halford S.D., Crawley J.D., Winkler I.G., Christopher Tyler. Business—Lodge opened in the usual manner, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Read candidate. The first four sections of the first lecture were worked. The W.M. received a well deserved vote of thanks for the able manner in which he had conducted the duties of the chair, for the first time. Bro. Stock elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Angel Lodge, No. 51.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 7th of December, at the Lodge Room, Cups Hotel Colchester. In the absence, from illness, of the W.M. (Bro. Welch), the chair of K.S. was ably filled by the I.P.M. Bro. Charles Cobb, and there were also present—Bros. G. Gard Pye S.W., W. P. Lewis P.M. acting J.W., T. J. Ralling Secretary, C. O. G. Becker M.D. P.M., T. R. Quilter P.M., Fred. A. Cole P.M., Samuel Chaplin P.M., Thos. Rix P.M. (697), Hy. Samuel P.M., W. G. Oliver P.M. (507), J. J. C. Turner Organist, J. Hanly I.G., A. R. Staines, T. M. Bear, Chas. E. Denton, H. H. Elwes, E. Hennemeyer, W. Bray, B. Barber, W. Brightwell, W. Mustard, and C. Gunner (Tyler). Visitors—Bro. Chas. Chalk, No. 555, Ireland. The only ceremony was the passing of two brethren, which having been carried out, the Lodge proceeded to the election of a Treasurer, in the room of Bro. W. Slaney, whose decease was reported last month. Bro. Fred. A. Cole P.M., pursuant to notice, moved "That Bro. Alfred Cobb P.M., P.P.S.G.W., be requested to accept the post of Treasurer of the Lodge, as successor to our late lamented Bro. Slaney P.M." Bro. Cole, in a few well chosen words descanted upon the fitness of Bro. Cobb for the office of Treasurer, and reminded the brethren of the efficiency with which he had fulfilled all the offices till he reached the W.M.'s chair in 1868. The motion having been seconded by Bro. G. G. Pye, it was carried by acclamation, two hands only being held up against it. The Secretary reported that the Board of Benevolence of Grand Lodge had granted (subject to confirmation on the 22nd of December) the sum of £20 towards the relief of the widow of a late member of the Lodge. Bro. Lewis P.M. called attention to the fact that several brethren were in arrear, and gave notice that at the next meeting he should move that Bye-law No. VI. be carried into effect. Bro. Pye said he would second it. The brethren subsequently adjourned to the festive board, when some glees and songs were kindly given by several members, under the direction of the efficient Organist.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—The Installation meeting was held at Kilwinning Hall, Glasgow, on the 7th December. Bro. J. Morgan, R.W.M. 219, ably officiating as Installing Master to the following list of Officers:—George McDonald sen. 12 W.M. reinstalled, J. Bannerman Deputy, J. Bamlintine Substitute Master, A. McLeo[d]

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S.W., J. E. Hanbridge J.W., R. R. Richards Secretary, J. S. Ampleford Treasurer, G. W. Wheeler Chaplain, A. Young B.B., Wm. Kay S.D., T. Youle J.D., J. Kinnaird P.G.S., J. McNiven S.S., G. McDonald J.S., McMurray S.B., A. Smith S.B., McFarlane D.C., B. Levey I.G., A. Kay O.G. The brethren afterwards adjourned to refreshment. After the usual toasts, Bro. McInnis S.W. 408 proposed the health of the new Master; Bro. Wheeler that of the Installing Master, paying him a well merited compliment for the way in which he had performed those duties. Bro. Morgan in reply said, though a young Mason, he had tried to make himself a proficient one, which he considered the bounden duty of every one who takes office. Bro. Bannerman gave prosperity to 73. And the evening's proceedings were wound up with Auld Lang Syne, by the brethren.

United Lodge of Prudence, No. 63.—This Lodge held its meeting on Monday, the 6th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Present—Bros. M. Fowler W.M., E. N. Iconides J.W., C. Murton Secretary, A. Scrutton I.G.; P.M.'s T. Fenn P.G.S.D., J. Haseltine, J. Williams, J. L. Bristowe; Visitors—H. Crosswaite, E. Smith P.M. 7, F. Huggins P.M. 18, T. Howton J.W. 263, C. Hewitt 90, T. Bird, J. A. Macsiler. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. J. A. Varden, which proving unanimous in his favour, he was duly initiated. The Treasurer and Tyler having been re-elected, the Lodge was closed.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—A numerous assemblage of the brethren met on Monday, the 6th instant, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, City, E.C., Bros. S. L. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., E. P. Albert P.M. A.G.P. Secretary, A. Auerbach as Treasurer, J. Miller S.D., A. J. Campion as I.G., M. Spiegel as J.D., P. E. Van Noorden Organist, and P.M.'s I. Abrahams, L. Alexander, B. M. Levy, M. Alexander; and Bros. Haines, J. Lyon, Hellier, Bottenheim, Botibol, Rogers, Isaac, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Hellier, Dewsnap and Lavy were passed to the 2nd degree, and Bros. Schaldenfric, Wasserberg and Rogers were raised to the 3rd degree. The working of the W.M., who was ably assisted by the officers, deserved especial praise. The election for W.M. then took place, Bro. A. G. Dodson being unanimously selected. The W.M. (Bro. Hickman) congratulated that brother; he had worked side by side with him, and had witnessed how able he was to conduct the duties of the chair; he hoped, at the expiration of his year of office, he would meet with the approbation of the brethren. Bro. Dodson briefly returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. Bro. L. Auerbach was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Woodstock Tyler. The W.M., Bros. Bottenheim and O. Roberts P.M. were elected trustees of the Benevolent Fund. The election of auditors and committee took place. It was then carried, unanimously, that the sum of five guineas should be given from the funds of the Lodge to form a nucleus to present Bro. Hickman with a suitable testimonial, for the efficient manner he had conducted the duties of the Lodge, both in working and presiding; also for the high estimation he is held in by every brother of the Lodge. The brethren liberally subscribed, and a committee was formed for carrying out the testimonial. A distressed brother was relieved with the sum of two guineas. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshments. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. In proposing that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., he said, he was pleased to know the accounts of his journey were so satisfactory. He hoped his Royal Highness would be spared to return to his native country in renewed health. (Cheers.) Bro. E. P. Albert A.G.P. returned thanks for the Grand Officers. Bro. L. Alexander P.M. replied to the toast of the Benevolent Fund, and Bro. A. Auerbach gave a further donation of two guineas to that fund. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M. elect, spoke of his Masonic qualifications; he hoped his year of office would be attended with every success. Bro. Dodson returned thanks for the toast. He hoped that he would have the benefit of the assistance of the officers of the Lodge. Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M., in eulogistic and deserved terms, proposed the toast of the W.M., and congratulated the members on having so worthy a brother to occupy the chair. Bro. Hickman was one who thoroughly understood his duties. (Cheers.) The W.M. thanked the brethren for their kind expressions; it showed they were pleased with his exertions on their behalf, and he thanked every officer for the kind assistance he had received during his year of office. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Visitors, whom he mentioned seriatim. He was gratified to see among them Bro. W. W. Morgan; also Bro. E. J. Harty, the talented artist of the great Historical Picture of the Installation of the M.W.G.M. He should always be pleased to see them, not only on this, but on any future occasion. Bro. Emanuel returned thanks for the Visitors. He had heard a petition read from the widow of a deceased P.M., who had a step-daughter who was in a consumption. He (Bro. Emanuel) was connected with an institution at Ventnor, where this dreadful complaint was specially treated, and he assured the brethren that he would undertake that a vacant bed should be placed at the disposal of the distressed sister in question. A charge of ten shillings per week was made, by the rules of the Institution, and this he would have pleasure in paying out of his own pocket; he hoped it might enable her to be properly attended to, and be the means of restoring her to health. The rest of the visitors severally returned thanks, and paid just compliments to the W.M. for his excellent working. The toast of the P.M.'s was then proposed by the W.M., who said he was gratified in following the footsteps of Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M. Every P.M. of the Lodge had kindly given him assistance, and to this was mainly due the success of his year of office. Bro. O. Roberts and the rest of the P.M.'s responded. Bro. L. Lazarus returned thanks for the toast of the Junior Wardens; Bro. L. Auerbach to the toasts of the Treasurer, Secretary and Junior Officers; and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close. The Visitors were Bros. Emanuel P.M. 1069, Bloomfield P.M. 185, W. Swain 356, E. J. Harty S.D. 1201, J. K. Pitt 463, N. Reed 765, W. W. Morgan 1385, H. J. Young 299, Praeger 15, Franks 212.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 8th of December, at Bro. Chard's, White Hart Tavern, Aldgate-lane. Present—Bros. T. W. Ockenden W.M., Walker S.W., J. R. Tellis J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, J. Constable Treasurer, J. Blackhall S.D., J. Churchward J.D., Fred. Crocker I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M. Bro. E. Gotthell Preceptor. Business—Minutes read and confirmed; Bro. Chapman presented himself as a candidate for the 2nd degree, and having replied to the usual questions, was duly passed. Bro. Constable worked the 1st section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren; the 2nd section, assisted by the W.M.; the 3rd section by the Preceptor, assisted by Bro. Constable. Bro. Fenner 1227, and Bro. Bono 1185, were elected members. Bro. Pearce was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, the meeting being appointed to be held at Bro. Gosden's, Masons-avenue, E.C. A cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Ockenden, who is a painstaking young Mason, brought the proceedings of the meeting to a close.

Bank of England Lodge, No. 263.—The regular meeting was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Thursday, the 9th inst. W. Bro. Sir Michael Costa, one of the oldest members, was present, at some sacrifice of convenience, to witness the initiation of a compatriot, which was performed by another compatriot, Bro. Miceli W.M. Amongst visitors were present—Bros. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., Bylis P.G.S. (Under Sheriff), Frances, Gibson, Phythian, Perugini and Taylor. Three new portraits have been added this year to the magnificent album of this Lodge, which is believed to be without equal in the world. The earlier portraits, of 40 years' since, are priceless works of art; the binding can only be matched in the British Museum, and two stout porters are required to carry the book, which we regard it as a great privilege to have inspected. The Lodge is moreover rich in gifts of an elaborate character made to it by members of successive generations. The Bye-laws of the Lodge limiting its number to 30 members, brethren have to wait for some years after initiation before they can become subscribing members.

Shamrock and Thistle Lodge, No. 275.—This Lodge held its election and installation meeting on Friday, 3rd December, at the Hall, Struther-street, Glasgow. The R.W.M., Bro. R. Yuill, having opened the Lodge, as he had been nominated for re-election, resigned his chair to the I.P.M., Bro. McNaughton. The numbers being announced, it was found that there was a majority of one in favour of Bro. Yuill, but he declined to take the chair, as he said, by mistake, he had dropped in the wrong ball, and voted for himself, instead of his opponent, he, therefore, refused to accept the chair as he had only stood again in deference to the expressed will of the Lodge. The other elections were then proceeded with, a Board of seven Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. D. Ranald was duly placed in the chair by Bro. A. Bain P.M. 103 P.G.B.B. Bro. J. Campbell P.M., of 128, then installed the following Officers of the Lodge, viz., Bros. R. Patterson Depuly Master, Hugh Mathieson Substitute Master, W. Findlay S.W., Nelson J.W., Harn Secretary, Hutchison Treasurer, W. Smith Conductor, W. Mair S.D., J. McLeish J.D., Cass I.G., Bisland P.G.S., J. Hardie J.S., J. Hardie Director of Music, Albut S.D., and J. Guthrie Tyler. Refreshment followed labour.

Union Lodge, Glasgow, No. 332.—Election of Officers. Bro. McNair, who has very worthily filled the chair three years, having declined to stand again, Bro. M. Kirdie S.W. was elected, by a majority of one, over Bro. J. Frash. The utmost good feeling was exhibited by this brother, and all the other aspirants for office, though nearly every one was contested. The following were elected, and will be installed at the next meeting. Bro. R. Mitchell P.M. as Depuly Master, J. Murray Substitute Master, J. McInnes S.W., Apperson J.W., J. Laird Treasurer, J. H. Gill Secretary, T. Findly S.D., J. Mitchell J.D., Alex McNair Provincial Grand Steward, J. Stewart S.S., T. Birrell J.S., McKenna B.B., Slamar D.C., D. S. Mirbie Architect, J. Rawbouch Jeweller, J. Stewart S.B., J. M. Laren S.B., W. J. Burns I.G., D. Ramsay Tyler. In the course of the after proceedings, Bro. R. Mitchell congratulated the Lodge on having five Past Masters present, most of whom had sat three years in that chair.

Pomfret Lodge, No. 360.—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday, the 2nd of December, at the George Hotel, Northampton. Present—Bros. V. T. Barford W.M., J. T. Green P.M. S.W., R. Winter J.W., Geo. Robinson P.M. Sec., B. Wilkins P.M. D.P.G.M. Treas., T. Whitehouse S.D., F. Gadsby J.D., J. U. Stanton P.M. Steward, H. W. Parker I.G., C. Dean Tyler. P.M.'s—Bros. E. Cox I.P.M., Bolmé, Simpson, Flewitt, Tuffley and Cotton; Bros. A. Dorrell, J. S. Norman, T. Manning, T. Sargent, J. L. Spoor, Mitchell, Winsom, Atkins, Williams, Aldridge, E. C. Ashford, G. Eliard, A. Richardson, H. Brown, &c. Visitor—Bro. C. H. Scales 1232. Business—Bros. Aldridge, Eliard and Ashford were duly passed to the second degree, the W.M. performing the ceremony; Bro. Bolmé, the oldest member and Past Master of the Lodge, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. Wilkins P.M. D.P.G.M. was unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year; Bro E. Cox P.M. in the course of the evening advocated the claims of the Masonic Charities in a very spirited manner.

Maryhill Lodge, No. 510.—This Lodge held its installation meeting in their own hall, Maryhill, on Wednesday, 8th of December. The Lodge was opened at eight o'clock by Bro. Lochart R.W.M., assisted by Bros. M. Carney S.W., and D. McLachland J.W. After

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some formal business, the Master said he had much pleasure in calling on Bro. McBride P.M. of 170, Leven St. Johns, P.G. Secretary for Dumbartonshire. Bro. McBride expressed the pleasure he felt at being asked to install the Worshipful Master elect, Bro. John McKay, who hails from the same Lodge as himself, and from his long knowledge of whom he had no doubt the Lodge will have no reason to regret its choice. The following brethren were duly installed by Bro. McBride, assisted by Bro. Wheeler, viz. :—Bros. John McKay R.W.M., Alexander Neray D.M., Malcolm Carey S.M., D. McLachland S.W., James Kay J.W., William Neil Treas., P. F. Craigie Secretary, Matthew Hart S.D., John Kirk J.D., Rev. W. S. Shanks Chaplain, George Hathcote D.M., William Atkin, S.S., L. Aitkin J.S., Andrew Gibson I.G., D. Bregan O.G. The Lodge was then placed under the care of the J.W. After the usual loyal toasts, that of the retiring office bearers was given. Bro. J. Govan, late Treasurer, in replying, said, when he took office they were largely in debt for the purchase of the hall, furniture, &c., but he was glad to say he had been able to reduce that debt by £70. (Cheers.) Bro. G. W. Wheeler, in replying for the visitors, paid a well merited compliment to Bro. McBride, for the able manner in which he had conducted the installation ceremony.

Clydesdale Lodge, No. 556.—This Lodge held its election on Monday, 6th December, in its own Hall, 106 Rose-street, Glasgow. There was a very close contest for the office of R.W.M., the candidates being Bro. Phillips, the present Master, and his Senior Warden. In declaring the poll, they were found to have 47 votes each; a brother, who had just arrived, entered the Lodge room, and tendered his vote for Bro. Phillips, who was declared duly elected, his opponent protesting, and promising to bring the protest before the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Clones Lodge, No. 881.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 7th of December, at Thompson's Hotel, Clones. Present—Bros. Edward James Elliot W.M., J. H. Montgomery S.W., J. Robinson J.W., E. G. Fitzgerald Secretary, John Elliott Treasurer, J. W. Presho S.D., John Gough J.D., Rev. Alex. Ross Chaplain, W. M. Fitzgerald I.G., Wm. Heaney Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. E. G. Fitzgerald, E. J. Elliott, Thomas Higgins and John Elliott. Business—Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Treasurer's report audited and confirmed. The following members installed:—Bros. J. H. Montgomery W.M., J. Robinson S.W., J. W. Presho J.W., John Gough S.D., W. M. Fitzgerald J.D., Hueston I.G. The Lodge was passed to the 2nd degree, and the following members received the degree, viz.: Bros. James Clarck, W. Johnston, John McCoy, Samuel Cochrane and James Armstrong jun. The Lodge was then lowered, and afterwards closed in usual ancient form.

Victoria Chapter, No. 1056.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Monday, the 6th December, at Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. Present—Comps. Geo. Newman M.E.Z., J. D. Taylor H., Noehmer J., Pendlebury P.Z. S.E., Hooper S.N., Musto P.S., Forge 1st Ass.; P.Z.'s Eernhaus, Forsyth, E. Gotthell, Clark, Bosworth. Visitors—Comps. J. Kelvey P.Z. 153, G. Keath 325, E. G. Hill P.S. 975, W. Trevena P.Z. 159, John Seex J. 186. Business—Chapter opened, and the minutes of former meeting read and confirmed. Report of Audit Committee read and adopted. Bros. W. C. Phillips W.M. 453, and Henry Amos 1201, presented themselves for exaltation, and having proved themselves in all respects qualified, were duly admitted into this degree. A banquet followed, after which the usual toasts were proposed and responded to with commendable brevity. The proceedings, throughout, presented a pleasing spectacle of harmony and unity, which has, indeed, been the peculiar characteristic of this Chapter from its foundation, and this tendency has, no doubt, in a great measure, contributed to produce its present flourishing condition. To judge from the happy faces of the Companions, the enjoyment of the evening was complete and unalloyed.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Bro. J. A. Smith W.M., W. Batchelor S.W., W. J. Lover J.W., F. H. Ebsworth P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.M. P.P.G.P. Middlesex, Secretary, F. Garbett S.D., J. Stevens J.D., J. Wootton I.G., J. Porter M.C., and Past Masters J. H. Harmsworth and C. Deakin. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bros. J. Easterbrook, J. Savage, and J. H. Deakin were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bro. W. W. Young was passed to the second degree, and Messrs. Veigy and Gaurit were initiated. The Lodge was then closed, and a very good banquet followed. The visitors were Bros. P. Magee 548, J. F. Woodley, late 169, A. Morgan 254, R. Gill 1364, and W. Dyke 141.

Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 1254.—The brethren of this Lodge assembled at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, to celebrate their seventh yearly festival; and, according to ancient custom, to instal the W.M. for the ensuing year. The choice had fallen on Bro. B. Barber, who was unanimously selected, at the previous Lodge, to fill the chair. The Lodge having been duly opened, Bro. H. W. Hooper P.P.G. Reg., presented Bro. Barber to the V.W. Installing Master, Bro. H. L. Brewster P.P.G. Reg., as the W.M. elect for 1876, and he having, in the presence of the brethren, answered the usual questions, a board of Past Masters was formed, and the ceremony of installation was most effectively gone through; Bro. Brewster duly proclaiming Bro. Barber, in the East, West, and South, as the W.M. of the Lodge for the ensuing year. The following brethren were invested with collars, to serve as his officers, viz. :—Bros. F. Horspool I.P.M., G. Huxam S.W., W. Brodie J.W., H. W. Hooper Treasurer, W. Pidsley Secretary, E. T. Fulford S.D., W. A. Gregory J.D., W. R. Commings I.G., W. Roberts O., J. Sampson C., R. Nobbs D.C., F. Sanders S.S., H. Elmore J.S., P. L. Blanchard Tyler, and Blanchard jun. Assistant Tyler. At this stage of the proceedings Bro. Barber, (after eulogising the I.P.M., Bro. Horspool, in most appropriate language, and alluding to the happy Masonic year just brought to a close, as well as the many excellent and estimable qualities of the worthy brother), in the name of the Lodge, presented him with a handsome and valuable P.M.'s jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him by the Lodge, added to which was an artistic and beautifully illuminated scroll, executed by Mr. Chas. H. Clarke; containing the names of the brethren who had subscribed thereto, and the following inscription, viz:—"This Scroll, together with a P.M.'s gold jewel, was presented to Bro. Frederick Horspool, the last of the Founders, by the officers and brethren of Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 1254; as a mark of their fraternal respect and esteem, and in recognition of his valuable services as W.M. during the past year." The scroll was mounted in a handsome frame, decorated with Masonic emblems, by the Messrs. Rowden. The gold jewel was supplied by Bro. W A Gregory, and took the form of a Masonic square, suspended from the top bar by a gold ribbon, bearing in raised letters of solid gold the name and number of the Lodge. Unanimous and long-continued applause heartily testified to the pleasure experienced by the brethren in thus conveying to the recipient such a tangible proof of their full appreciation of the successful efforts he had made (during his year of office) towards having the beautiful and impressive Masonic ritual carried out in all its integrity.—Bro. Horspool, on stepping forward to acknowledge the receipt of the jewel and scroll, said he deeply felt the honour conferred upon him, and the handsome jewel would ever remind him of their great kindness. The beautiful scroll, hung up in his home, would be treasured by him and his. He was more than satisfied with his past year's work from the expressions of approval of those around him, and he trusted that the strings of the bond of union between Masons had been drawn more closely together, and Masonic principles had been thoroughly understood and practised during his year of office. The Lodge was then closed in peace, order, and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. C. Langdon's, Globe Hotel, and partook of the annual banquet, doing full justice to the many excellent things so admirably served up by the host and hostess, the whole of which was unanimously praised by those who sat around the table. Bro. Barber, as W.M., occupied the chair, Bro. Huxham, as Senior Warden, the vice-chair, and Bro. Brodie, as Junior Warden, sat on the south side of the table. They were supported by about forty of the brethren of Semper Fidelis and other sister Lodges, and the dessert being placed on the table, which, like the banquet, was most choice and ample, the toast-list was gone through, and the glees, songs, &c., therein set down, duly interspersed with the toasts, were most enjoyably and effectively rendered. The son of an old Exonian, Bro. J. H. Mance, of Commercial Lodge, No. 180, Scotland, responded to the toast of Visiting Brethren. Mirth and melody were spiritedly kept up during the whole of the evening, and much amusement was caused by some encore verses (to a popular song) sung by a brother, in which he cleverly punned certain names, and playfully rhymed a few matters connected with the Craft and the Exeter Lodges. This, together with several other agreeable episodes, contributed to the full enjoyment of the seventh annual banquet of Semper Fidelis Lodge.—*Exeter Gazette Daily Telegram.*

Star Lodge, No. 1275.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, Bro. J. J. Limebeer W.M. in the chair, supported by Bros. H. J. Green S.W., R. W. Williams J.W. the Rev. G. R. P. Colles Chaplain, J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex Secretary, C. W. Williams S.D., W. Hipps D.C., E. W. Chetwynd D.C., and P.M.'s W. Ough P.G.P., H. Keeble, and several brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. A member for joining was proposed, and Bro. C. Marr was passed to the 2nd degree. There being no other business the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a capital banquet and dessert. The visitors were Bros. Grabham P.M. 700, H. Nell 1326, F. B. Williams 162, Rainman 205, &c.

Olive Union Lodge, No. 1304.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday the 2nd of December, at the Masonic Hall, Banks Street, Horncastle. Present—Bros. Chas. Dixon S.W., Hy. Nicholson J.W., Chas. M. Hodgett Sec., Jas. Ward Treas., Chas. Heasman P.P.G.S. of W.S.D., E. Wilson J.D., John C. Osborne P.P.G.O. Org., Geo. Jarvis I.G., W. Cook Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Hy. Sharp and Robt. Nicholson. Business—In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Hy. Sharp I.P.M. took the chair; the Lodge was opened in due form and the usual routine business gone through; Bro. F. M. Smith of the Caledonian Lodge was balloted for as a joining member, and was unanimously elected. During the past month information has reached the Lodge that Bro. E. C. Clitheroe, who was initiated in the Olive Union in 1870, died at Worcester, Cape Colony, on the 9th of October. Bro. Clitheroe had gone thither as a civil engineer, having been engaged by the English Government in constructing railways. A vote of condolence with the widow in her loss was unanimously agreed upon by the brethren. We also regret to notice the death of Bro. Rd. Lincoln P.M., which took place on the 18th of November, at Haltham, near Horncastle. Bro. Lincoln's name had been associated with Masonry in Lincolnshire for a long period; he was formerly in office as Master of the Shakespeare Lodge, Spilsby; he assisted at the dedication of the Olive Union Lodge in 1860, and during the first year accepted the post of Tyler to the Lodge. For many years he had been in receipt of a pension from the G.L., and died, as before stated, at the ripe age of 81 years.

Falcon Lodge, No. 1416.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 8th of December, at the Masonic Hall,

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Thirsk. Present—Bros. J. S. Walton acting W.M., John Rhodes S.W., G. Anderson J.W., T. J. Wilkinson Secretary, A. G. Duncombe Treasurer, W. Coltman S.D., W. Hall J.D., G. Dinwoodie, and R. Atkinson Stewards, G. Ayre I.G., J. Farmery Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. G. Marwood P.D.P.G.M., R. W. Hollon P.G. Treasurer, J. S. Walton P.P.G.S.B. Visitors—Bros. J. Ward P.G.P., A. Farmer W.M. 111, P.P.G.D.C., J. Bailey P.M. 111, P.P.G.J.W., W. Paley M.D., S.W. 837, Rev. A. T. Atwood, Union Lodge, W. Hardy, R. Palmer, W. A. Hutchence, Anchor 1337, and Bro. W. H. Gainsforth, York 236. Business—Bro. John Rhodes S.W. was installed W.M. by Bro. G. Marwood J.P. P.D.P.G.M., and appointed the following officers:—G. Anderson S.W., G. Ayre J.W., T. J. Wilkinson Secretary, A. G. Duncombe Treasurer, W. Coltman D.C., W. Hall S.D., C. Groonsides J.D., G. Dinwoodie and J. Lee Stewards, R. Musgrave I.G., J. Walton organist, J. S. Farmery Tyler.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 3rd inst., at the Metropolitan Club, King's Cross. Present—Bro. Scales as W.M., W. M. Stiles S.W., Shand J.W., Side S.D., Fowler J.D., Smith I.G., T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor; Bros H. Stiles, Ormiston, Solomon, Cox, Fenner, Read, Jones and Tettenborn. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Fenner acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the 1st Lecture were worked by the brethren, assisted by Bro. T. A. Adams Preceptor. Bro. W. M. Stiles, S.W. and Secretary, was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The ceremony was very perfectly worked by the W.M.

The members of the Confidence Lodge of Instruction will, on Wednesday next, meet at Bro. Goeden's, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street, on which occasion the ceremony of Installation will be rehearsed by Bro. S. L. Hickman W.M. 188. The Lodge will be opened at 7.30 p.m.

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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 51. SATURDAY, 18th DECEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

CHARITY.

THE season is at hand when the virtue of Charity is either practised or assumed. In saying this we have no wish to imply that people exhibit a lack of this virtue at other seasons, but somehow it has grown into a custom that almsgiving, and, generally speaking, goodwill towards our fellows, should be indulged in more prominently now than at other times. Never a day passes but the papers contain all kinds of appeals to the benevolent to contribute to the wants of their poorer brethren; and there is hardly a journal which does not contain lists of charitable donations to this or that Institution or person, or, it may be, to the poor-box, so that our magistrates, before whose notice so many cases of pitable distress are being continually brought, may have funds with which to relieve them. We may regard this custom as essentially Christian, because the birth of Christ inaugurated a new dispensation of love. We may associate it only with the special rigours which prevail in winter. We may regard it from a business point of view, as marking the close of one year, when we consign all unpleasant memories to oblivion, and the beginning of another, when we look forward cheerfully, and hope for continued or increased prosperity. At such a time the most selfish person can hardly avoid wishing that others may fare well likewise. However, it matters very little why we are or appear more charitable now than at other seasons. It is a subject for congratulation that, in this world of care and strife, where people are ever jostling and tripping up their neighbours, in the hope of bettering themselves at the expense of others, one period of the year should be specially set apart for the cultivation or exhibition of goodwill.

But while we are grateful for even the smallest of blessings, and the periodical dispensation of charity is a very considerable blessing, we are ofttimes disposed to ask ourselves whether charity has not grown to be more of a business than it was formerly. We cannot traverse the commercial portion of the metropolis, or even the one street of a small country village, without noting how careful, how considerate are the preparations for this Christmas charity. We see everywhere announcements of "Christmas Presents," "Presents for the Million," comprising almost every variety of article, from the penny drum or trumpet to the costliest jewellery. And too often people buy these things as a matter of course, and give and receive them as a matter of course, quite as often as for any sense of pleasure that is felt in the giving or receiving. Again, this Christmas charity is ofttimes a tax upon those whose means are limited. People give without regard to their ability, but simply because it has come to be a custom to give, just as it was the practice, if a man ate a chop in a friend's house, to give a gratuity all round to the servants. Others give from more selfish motives. It has been said that gratitude is a kindly sense of favours to come, and a good many people make presents now in the firm belief that it will be a source of profit to them in the coming year. We may almost imagine there are some people who keep a set of books in which they record their charitable, as in their business books they record their commercial transactions. Then a balance is struck, and the amount of profit and loss on charity is ascertained. We shall be told, of course, that in thus estimating the charitable deeds peculiar to this season, we are taking the lowest possible view, that we have in us no sense of charity whatever, or we should not thus analyse the motives of people in doing good. It is far pleasanter, of course, to look at things from the rosy point of view, and to believe that all the world now and at all times, is animated by the best and purest and most disinterested motives. Were it likely to do good to make this affirmation, we should not hesitate for one moment to make it. We would far rather think good than evil of other people, but thinking will not alter facts. It is true beyond question—pity 'tis, 'tis true—that people often dispense Charity from a sense of pride, because they will not be outdone by their neighbours, or of ostentation, because they love to hear themselves annexed at more than their true value, or from a still less honourable motive, because they look to profit by their good deeds. Equally true is it that Charity is far too often a tax, and people give who can ill afford it simply because it is customary. Yet good cometh of this evil, and, save in the last case mentioned, some folk benefit by the gifts that are given, be the motives of the donors what they may. Therefore it is, we have said it is matter for congratulation that one season of the year should be specially set apart for the exhibition, or it may be, the cultivation of good will.

Having exhausted, or at all events said all we care to say as to the Charity that is mere counterfeit, having noted that all that is set down as Charity must not be taken as such; let us turn for a few moments to the far pleasanter picture, and consider what is that Charity which is not counterfeit. Charity is that virtue which all Masons humbly strive to illustrate by every act and deed of their daily life. In fact, Masonic, like Christian, Charity, embraces all the other virtues. It includes, though it is not confined to, almsgiving. But this form of Charity must not be exercised either indiscriminately or inconsiderately. We must not give to our own detriment. In the bestowal of alms we must discriminate between those worthy and those unworthy to receive, giving what we can afford to give only to the former; for, as one of the greatest of ancient philosophers said, "the mis-placing of a benefit is worse than the not receiving of it; for the one is another man's fault, but the other is mine. The error of the giver does oft-times excuse the ingratitude of the receiver; for a favour ill placed is rather a profession than a benefit." Nor is this form to be measured by the extent of what is given. The widow's mite which she cast into the treasury was as acceptable as the most lavish of gifts. It is not the value of what is given that we regard, but the spirit of the giver. It by no means follows that the rich man who gives his guineas is a charitable man, yet a poor man who thoughtfully expends a shilling on some worthy object is worthy of the highest praise. But charity, as we have said, is something more than almsgiving. The man who has it is ever kind, without envy, without boastfulness, without pride. Charity delights in whatever is good and true and beautiful; it is full of pity for whatever is evil and false and ugly. And though a man possess all the other virtues, yet will they avail him not, if he possess not charity. But perhaps a brief extract from the writings of an eminent Mason of a day gone by will best illustrate this virtue. "In order to exercise this virtue," the late Bro. Hutchinson, in his *Spirit of Masonry*, "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 hand 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 to those sentiments

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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 creation." And again, "The objects of true Charity are merit and virtue in distress; persons who are incapable of extricating themselves from misfortunes which have overtaken them in old age; industrious men, from inevitable accidents and acts of Providence, rushed into ruin; widows left survivors of their husbands, by whose labour they subsisted; orphans in tender years, left naked to the world." The man who is thus animated towards those objects is indeed a charitable man.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 7.)

THE GOWNSMAN.

THE legal profession is not generally popular with the mass of Englishmen. It is true that the old people, who declare that they "hate a lawyer like poison," are rapidly dying out from amongst us; but the multitude are still disposed to regard an advocate as a person who is paid to tell fibs, while the more thoughtful and the educated maintain that the superficial studies of the barrister, although they quicken the least nobler of the intellectual faculties, do not afford scope for the play of those higher powers of mind which are indispensable in the statesman. A lawyer is seldom a statesman, he is rarely a profound thinker, or a student of science. He acquires a knack, which is common enough to journalists, of quickly "getting up," as it is phrased, any subject that he may find it necessary to understand. An advocate in Court will astonish you by his apparent knowledge of medical science, by his apparent mastery of the details of architecture or engineering, or by an apparent acquaintance with the technicalities of the naval profession. All this knowledge, however, is, in nine cases out of ten, "got up" specially, and it is at once discharged from the mind, when the occasion for its use or display has passed by. The basis of the man's mind is law; he approaches every question which may be submitted to his judgment with a legal bias, and can no more forget his training than an opera dancer can lay aside her over-developed limbs with the silken hose with which she covers, but does not conceal, their abnormal proportions. The superficial quickness of the legal intellect is, no doubt, useful in the ordinary relations of life. The lawyer cannot help weighing evidence, or exposing defective logic, even when he has put off his professional harness. Perhaps he sometimes forgets that the bad logician may have a good case, or he ignores the weight of the evidence which has been clumsily presented, or made to prove too much. The practice of dialectics is not always an advantage to the cause of truth. A man who is skilled in the art of tripping up an opponent, is sometimes too much taken with the sport to think of the consequences. In overthrowing a clumsy foe, he may often forget that he sometimes gives truth an ugly fall, and ranges himself for the moment upon the side of the "father of lies."

We are glad, however, to know that we have in the ranks of Masonry many gownsmen, who use their knowledge and display their dialectic skill for the good of the Order. It is in the nature of Masonry to gather to itself all that is best and brightest in the learned professions, and we expect these specially skilled brethren to open the stores of their knowledge for us, just as the Church of Rome, in the days of its glory, expected the poets and musicians to devote their genius to the service of the Church. The man who is conversant with those principles of eternal justice which constitute the science of Equity, may often display his knowledge with advantage in the Lodge room. If, for example, he is high in office, and conversant with Masonic jurisprudence, he may help to illumine those debatable points of our law which have often exercised the minds of the brightest members of the Order. The gentleman whose portrait we are about to sketch is, we need scarcely say, a lawyer, and wears, with honour and distinction, the silk of a Queen's Counsel. His high office in the Order renders him a conspicuous person in Grand Lodge, and few who have ever seen him in his place, at the extreme end of the Dais, on the proper right hand, can forget his striking appearance, or peculiar characteristics. His natural advantages but serve to adorn those mental gifts for which he is remarkable. In the prime of life, of middle stature, and florid complexion, his handsome features are marked with those traces of thought and care which are the result of many a battle at the Bar, and much burning of the midnight oil over briefs and books of legal lore. He and that "Distinguished Mason," whose portrait we sketched some time since, might almost be termed twin brothers. He usually sits with his head resting in his hand, the fore finger extended and pressing upon the angle of the forehead. The attitude at once reminds a spectator of the famous portrait of Sterne. It is the attitude of a thinker and a wit. Beside him lies his satchel, gorgeously embroidered with the symbols of the Order, and doubtless crammed to repletion with papers. His duties, we need scarcely say, are agreeably performed. Whenever a dispute arises between any of the brethren who are under the sway of our Constitution, his profound knowledge is always called into play, and so wisely has he hitherto held the scales of justice that his decisions have never been reversed by Grand Lodge. At the last Quarterly Communication he had to decide upon an appeal by Bro. Robert Levingstone, of Poona, and so clear and so masterly was the judgment of our original upon this somewhat difficult case, that it was at once unanimously allowed. But although he can hold the scales of justice thus evenly, it has been noticed that he sometimes shows a decided bias in Grand Lodge in favour of the privileged denizens of the Dais. It is said that when any brother below ventures to bring forward a question it is not received by him with that degree of favour which he usually accords to those who immediately surround him. This partiality, if it be such, may be unconsciously exercised, or it may be that those who have suffered from his inexorable logic are not always fair judges of his conduct. An earnest man, with a good idea to develope and press upon the attention of his brethren, has, perhaps, little patience for those refinements of temperament with which the legal mind can make the worse appear the better reason. Our foregone conclusions may run in the direction of truth and justice, but it is not always possible to induce either an opponent or a judge to take our stand point, and look at the thing through our eyes. Our hero may sometimes err in favouring those whose worldly rank or Masonic importance entitle them to consideration, but no one can say that he willingly, and with his eyes open, employs either his logic or his learning to crush the least experienced Mason who may venture to address the Lodge. He is a good speaker, but perhaps exhibits a little of the manner of the Bar, and somewhat of what Dickens called the "Jury droop" when he is addressing a Masonic audience. These slight defects of oratory are, however, characteristic of lawyers, who usually regard every subject under discussion as a "case," and if they are not called upon to exercise judicial functions, they cannot help taking sides, nor can they ever realise that an audience is not a jury, sworn to give a true verdict according to the evidence. Of the social qualities of our hero, we need scarcely speak; he is genial at the table, and, like a true gentleman, he puts every one at his ease. It is not for us to say how often his talents have been exerted to support some dignitary of the Order, who, without such aid, might have made a sorry figure.

"As Æneas
Did from the flames of Troy upon his shoulders
The old Anchises bear"—

So has he, doubtless, oft upheld a tired or dull Cæsar of the Order, when sinking, under the weight of his Masonic harness, into a troubled Tiber of difficulty and confusion.

The brethren of the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, have it in contemplation to give a Masonic ball, under the dispensation of Grand Lodge, the proceeds to be devoted to Masonic Charities. Either of the undermentioned would be pleased to receive assistance from members of the Craft, who may desire to act as Stewards and members of a Committee, in order to carry out the scheme.

CHAS. PULMAN W.M. 720, J.W. 1430, W.M. M.M. 139, British Museum, W.C.

BENJN. RICHARDSON, *Secretary* 720, D.C., M.M. 139, 3 Ramsden Road, Balham, S.W.

CHAS. P. MCKAY I.G. 720, Sec. M.M. 139, 53 Bryne Road, Balham, S.W.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

IN compliance with a requisition presented to Bro. Robert Westwurth Little, S.G.W. Middlesex, Sec. to the Institution, a special meeting of Governors and Subscribers was held on Saturday, at Freemason's Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton P.G.D. V.P. in the chair. Bro. Little read particulars of the scheme, which was recommended by the Special Committee of the General Committee, and by them passed into this Court. It provided for the erection of a large new hall, with a covered way between it and the new laundries in the grounds. The cost of these additions, which would provide for the accommodation of 94 extra children, was estimated by Bro. Mazza, the architect, to cost £30,790. The adoption of this report was proposed by Bro. T. W. White, and seconded by Bro. H. Dubois. Bro. Dr. Ramsay asked whether the sum named in the estimate would cover the whole expense. The Chairman said that, after full consideration, the Committee believed it would be much under the estimate. Bro. R. W. Stewart enquired whether the architect's commission was included in the estimate, which would amount to something like £1250. Bro. Mazza said it was not included in the estimate, but it would amount to £1200. The Chairman said the Committee were of opinion that, instead of patching it up to increase the accommodation, as had been the case for the last dozen years, at a cost of something like £16,000, they would be acting more wisely to incur a larger expenditure at once, and erect a building that was equal to their requirements. Bro. Kenyon objected to the large outlay; he said the present position of the School was not healthy, being surrounded by houses, and would shortly be hemmed in closer; by spending £21,000 they would be reducing their annual income £1,000. While they had the responsibility of providing for 94 extra girls a more healthy spot might be selected; and, as an amendment, he moved its rejection. Bro. H. Browse P.G.D. also spoke on the subject. Bro. W. Winn informed the meeting it had already been ascertained that £1,200 had not been included in the architect's commission, and a further charge would be required for the furniture of the new building. Bro. Dr. Ramsay asked the chairman as to the healthiness of the present building, and was informed by him that there had been but two deaths in seven years. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, spoke of utilising the Infirmary, Dining Hall, &c., at a cost of £1,000, but submitted to the decision of the committee, and their adoption of the proposed scheme. Bro. Herbert Dickett P.G.S. testified to the healthy condition of the present site, and adduced as evidence that two Royal Commissions had been entrusted with enquiry for Patriotic School. The Parish had also built a district workhouse there. Col. Burdett, P.G.M. Middlesex, thought the neighbourhood was being too much built on to admit of the School being healthy, and he believed in a short time the whole place would be densely populated. After some further discussion, Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. proposed, and Bro. John Boyd P.G.P. seconded, that the whole matter, together with any further schemes, be referred back to the committee, who were nominated. The following Life Governors: Bros. Poynter Kenyon, D. Rolls, J. Smith, Roebuck, Dr. W. Ramsey, G. Kenning, Fish, and W. Stephens. A vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman. There were present—Bros. Col. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex, J. Symonds P.G.D., H. Browse P.G.P., J. C. Parkinson D.P.G.M. Middlesex, T. J. Sabine, R. Dickett, John Boyd P.G.P., J. Smith P.G.P, H. Massey, Poynter, Berry, D. Rolls, W. Smeed, R. W. Stewart, T. W. White, S. Rawson D.G.M. China, Mazza, Tattershall, F. Binckes, H. M. Levy, G. Kenning, C. Lacey, Fish, Davage, E. H. Thiellay, Farnfield, Griffiths Smith, J. M. Vaughan, J. M. Montague.

BRO. C. DUVAL'S ENTERTAINMENT,

In Aid of the Funds of the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution.

CHESHIRE stands well among our Provinces in the support it extends to our principal Charitable Institutions. It has, moreover, a Masonic Educational Institution of its own, in which the brethren naturally take pride, and which they strive most earnestly to make as efficient as possible. As a means to this end, an entertainment was organised in aid of the funds of this Institution, on the evenings of the 6th, 7th and 8th instant, under the patronage of Right Hon. Lord de Tabley R.W.P.G.M., Bro. George C. Legh D.P.G.M., and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the Masters, Wardens, and Officers of Lodges 477 and 537, Birkenhead; 606 and 1276, Seacombe; and 1289, Rock Ferry. This series of entertainments was held on the 6th inst., at the Concert Hall, Liscard; on the 7th, at the Queen's Hall, Birkenhead; and on the 8th, at the Rock Hotel Assembly Rooms, Rock Ferry. They were given solely by Bro. Charles Duval, an Irish brother, Lodge 139, Ireland, and R.A. Chapter 73, Limerick whose talents as a mimic and vocalist have been so generally and so deservedly recognised by the press, both here and in Ireland. The programme consisted of his "Odds and Ends," and included his recitation of "The Bells," and his impersonation of a variety of characters, such as "Signor Howlini," "Chawley of Oxrs," "Captain Rattlecash," "Betsy Scrubbs," "Colonel Peppard," "Miss Dashaway," "Professor Dullbore," "The Town Crier," &c. He gave, also, of his Specialities, such as "His Original Burlesque Science Lecture," "His Tragedy in Five Acts," "His Double Characters and Duetts in Two Voices," &c., &c., together with sundry from his répertoire of songs which includes "The Agony Column," "Off to Punchestun," "The Race of Life," "The Maid of All Work," "Little Bynkes," and "Barney and Mary." On each evening the Lodges mustered in considerable strength. The entertainment was admirably given, and the reception accorded to our talented brother was in the highest degree enthusiastic, worthy alike of the skill of the performer, and the purpose for which his entertainment was given. As a result, Bro. Duval handed over to the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution the sum of £30, being one-half of the nett proceeds. We trust the example of the Birkenhead and neighbouring Lodges may be followed, not only in Cheshire, but in other of our provinces, and in the metropolis likewise. We feel sure Bro. Duval would meet with a hearty welcome everywhere, and that his great talents would be duly appreciated by the Craft throughout England. We must not be understood as suggesting that Bro. Duval's ability should be utilised for the cause of charity to his own detriment. We are aware of the heavy calls made upon him, and those similarly engaged. It is possible to enlist the services of a popular artist without trespassing on his good nature. It is a common thing to get up some dramatic, musical, or other entertainment in aid of the funds of some charity. The Committee of Management take all the risk, and if the performance is successful, the performer and the charity are alike advantaged. We merely throw out this as a hint to those zealous in the cause of charity. Many a man will purchase tickets for such an entertainment who would not otherwise heed much the divine claims of charity.

IMPROMPTU SONG.

Written and Sung at the Annual Meeting of the "Alexandra" Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, Hornsea, 15th December 1875.

I'm going to sing a little song, and do as I'm requested,
'Tis all about a gathering in which you're interested;
The noblest set of men I've known, e'er since that I was born, see,
Are the members of the "Alexandra" Lodge, that's down at Hornsea.
Attention pay,
You may depend, I'll not offend,
By what I say.

'Tis just about a year ago, you all recorded votes, Sirs,
And elevated to the East, our worthy Brother OATES, Sirs;
Right well he has performed his part, he's played no paltry pranks, Sirs,
But as the EX-MAYOR truly says, "he's deserving of our thanks," Sirs.
Attention pay, &c.

He was very soon surrounded by a lot of noble swells, Sirs,
And first and foremost in the lot, was Brother B. L. WELLS, Sirs;
He was not "up" in Masonry; but now he "guts on faster,"
And this evening you've elected him to be your future Master.
Attention pay, &c.

For another able officer you have not to look far, Sirs,
There, in the South, you will perceive our Brother WILLIAM CARR, Sirs;
I'm very sure you'll all agree that he has done his duty,
And if he glides into the West you'll see more of his beauty.
Attention pay, &c.

There, in the North East, you may see our Brother MATTHEW HOCKNEY,
I know no word to rhyme with his, except the name of Cockney;
I use this word advisedly—it does not mean disgrace, Sirs,
But it testifies he's wide-awake, whene'er he takes his place, Sirs.
Attention pay, &c.

Then COLBECK, as our "laugh and split," is really quite elated,
When he gets a candidate who wants to be, by you, initiated;
While from our worthy Secretary you often get good wiggings,
So if you don't behave yourselves I'll send for Brother LIGGINS.
Attention pay, &c.

Brother THOMPSON, as your Treasurer, has done his duty fine O!
And proved that he is competent to take care of the rhino,
His balance-sheet is gratifying; your good applause, he's won it,
The only wonder in my mind is—how the deuce he's done it.
Attention pay, &c.

Our Inner Guard a true man is, right well the work he tackles,
A very useful little man is our good Brother SHACKLES;
While in our Outer Guard we have a man who does'nt tire
In keeping off intruders—I mean our Brother CRIER.
Attention pay, &c.

Our Past Masters, to help us on, are never slow or tardy, [HARDY;
We've had friends WELLS and BROOKE to-night, and likewise Brother
We value their assistance—I'm certain you'll not doubt it,
We should not have got on so well if we had been without it.
Attention pay, &c.

Our Lodge began with thirteen men, but all were good and true, Sirs,
And at the end of our first year, we numbered forty-two, Sirs;
You'll find at end of '76, our brotherhood excels, Sirs,
For we mean to rally round our Master—Brother B. L. WELLS, Sir.
Attention pay, &c.

Then fill your glasses to the brim, and take your time from me, Sirs,
Success to "Alexandra"—the jewel of Hornsea, Sirs;
I'm sure the brethren understand the confidence I feel, Sirs,
You all will labour in the cause with "fervency and zeal," Sirs.
Attention pay, &c.

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THE ANTIQUITY OF MASONRY.

REPRINTED FROM "THE NEW ENGLAND FREEMASON."

An Address delivered before the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, at the Quarterly Communication, 8th September 1875, by R.W. Charles Levi Woodbury, Past Deputy Grand Master.

A LITTLE more than a century and a half ago, Freemasonry, except for mystic purposes, suspended handicraft labours, and devoted itself to the speculative part of the art. Before that time both kinds were carried on together, surely as far back as the oldest (A.D.1599) Lodge record which has survived to our day. How much earlier Masonry included speculative subjects is a question where opinions have varied, and men have been inclined to dogmatise variously. Masonry is the oldest art whose works are extant. To the Freemason it would be interesting to know if it had, as our traditions say, always a speculative side, and also whether it has had a continuous existence as an art, or has at times been lost and again invented or rediscovered. These are the questions I propose to examine to-night. If the art of Masonry was speculative as well as practical, in ancient times, and yet was lost afterwards, our claim to antiquity could not mount higher than the period of its rediscovery; but if there has been a constant succession, all evidence of speculative opinions is of historical value.

Without troubling you with my opinions, I shall lay before you some evidence gathered on the descent and the early organisation of Masonry, not claiming that these facts are conclusive, but asking whether they do not justify further research into this interesting subject.

It will be admitted that if we find fragments of usages, designs, as well as tools and methods of work of the ancient Masons in use in the same Craft in modern times, an inference of a continuous channel of descent is presumptively established. It will not be disputed that the ancestors of modern Masons, like other men, lived in those days; that then commerce existed, people migrated, barbarians became civilised by contact with enlightened people, arts were transmitted through castes, counting a descent thus for thousands of years in some countries, and elsewhere by initiation and instruction, from generation to generation. Thus, Masonic organization, supported by successive initiation of apprentices, may have existed from the early times. Let us enquire whether Masonry has not always been a spiritual man of brains and brawny arms, uniting the best culture, learning, intellect and taste of its time with practical, hard-working art.

In the remains of the most ancient religions which have been handed down to us are found exoteric and esoteric doctrines, together with particular initiations through which the select few were gradually raised to the knowledge of the mysteries and higher thoughts included in their rituals and dogmas.

The earth is strewn with the wrecks of ancient temples, whose relics attest that all religions had recourse to the Masonic art to express their highest acts of devotion and oblation. The adepts who constructed them must have held intimate relations with the hierarchies of those creeds whose symbols and mysteries are entwined in the temples of their faith. The antiquarian draws with confidence from the forms and symbols of these ruins testimony to supplement the meagre remains handed down through literary channels, and we also may find something there of the organisation and lore of those early Freemasons that will be instructive to compare with things of to-day.

There are strong reasons for thinking that the art of Masonry was not an original discovery in each of the various ancient centres of civilization. It is probable that it was invented, cultivated and developed in some centre, and from thence was carried by its professors to other and growing countries, at the invitation of religious or political rulers, to give enduring expression to the feelings of reverence of the people, and to the exposition of dogmas, by embodying in holy and public buildings symbols and configurations designed to recall to the mind important doctrines of their theology. Such, indeed, is one of the objects of Masonry at this day.

The travelling propensities of the great master workmen of antiquity are verified by the records. We find Greeks of celebrity working in Asia Minor; and even working in Egypt under the Macedonian dynasty. Thus, Cleomanes planned the city of Alexandria; and Dinocratus not only rebuilt the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, in Asia Minor, but was long engaged in important works at Alexandria; and Sostratus, of Gnidus built the Pharos at Alexandria. We find also Hermodorus, of Salamis, and Samus and Batrachus, of Lacunia, and Appolodorus, of Damascus, erecting important temples at Rome. Four masters worked on the foundations of the Temple of Jove at Athens. Ictinius, with the aid of Callicrates and perhaps other Masters, built the Parthenon. We also read in Chronicles that King David *gathered and set the strangers*—Masons—to hew wrought stones to build the house of God. In Kings we find that Masons were sent from Tyre to King Solomon, and that Hiram's Masons and stone-squarers and Solomon's Masons and stone-squarers did hew the great and costly stones to lay the foundation of the Temple. In those ages it thus appears that art was not translated to another country, any more than true art now can be, by imitation, but that practical, skilled workmen themselves travelled to the place, and established the style sought for by making the moulds and plans of the details, instructing, overseeing the construction, and governing the workmen.

The Master Mason's talent is manifested in every curve and joint, and even in the very setting of the work. Plato says, in the "Eleatic Stranger," "The master workman does not work himself, but is the ruler of the workmen." "He contributes knowledge, but not manual labor, and may, therefore, be justly said to share in theoretical science. But he ought not, when he has formed a judgment, to regard his function at an end, like the calculator; he must assign to the individual workmen their appropriate task, until they have completed the work."

Plutarch says of Phidias, the celebrated sculptor, who was the chief superintendent of all the works of Pericles: "He directed all, and was chief overseer of all for Pericles." Able writers on architecture, commenting on these and other evidences, affirm that in the Greek, Egyptian and Mediæval Architecture, the architect was always a master workman, personally skilled in the manual part of the art, to whom the beauty, solidity and invention in their structures are due, and are now calling for a return to that relation, declaiming that their late separation into distinct branches is deteriorating to art itself.

The organisation thus shadowed out has three degrees: the tyro or apprentice, the trained and educated craftsman, and the Master Mason, who combined the skill of all the others with the high theoretic science and skill as a manager and overseer in architectural matters. It was his genius that gave form and style to the venerated Temple, from its foundation to its last coping stone, and compelled the warm sandstone and the cold marble to become a symbolic witness of the esoteric as well as the exoteric faith of the employers. It was he who, as the progress of kindred sciences afforded new knowledge, applied it to his art, whether in the line of strength, grace, beauty, or economy.

The ancient Master Mason, as a result of the reliance of ancient religions on monumental symbology, necessarily had intimate relations with the religious chiefs of the country where he practised his art, had perfect knowledge of their esoteric symbology, planned and executed the forms in which they were established on the monuments; his successors also were their pertinacious conservators: thus grew the conventional in religious Masonry.

One historian of Egypt (Sharp) affirms that even from the earliest times these sculptors and designers of the temples were of the priestly caste or order of society; and another celebrated investigator of Egyptian antiquities, Wilkinson, also includes "the sacred sculptors, draftsmen and Masons" in the priestly grade. They were the only Egyptian Craft, except land surveyors, elevated to this social rank.

The priestly caste had, we know, those mystic initiations which spread from ancient Egypt over the world, and of which so much has been written. Whether the Masons were initiated in all or only a part of these mysteries can only be inferred, but we may infer that higher initiations were conferred as the candidate advanced in his art.

Vitruvius defined Masonry, near 2,000 years ago, as "A science arising out of many other sciences, and adorned with much and varied learning." Plato, as we have seen, four centuries earlier, spoke of it as a science. Solomon and Hiram of Tyre, we have seen, considered the loan of Master Masons as worthy to be repaid by the concession of twenty cities; and the description of his varied talents, in King Hiram's letter, accords with the requisite talents elsewhere demanded for the grade.

Those who conceive the Mason as a mere wall-builder have need to enlarge their understanding.

An able reviewer of Fergusson's History of Architecture, in the "London Quarterly," says, "To those but little educated in the ways of art the *master workman* is a mystery, his influence and existence are half doubted, half denied, or wholly misconceived."

In the true antique spirit do our old Constitutions inculcate the study of the seven liberal arts. It was through these that the Fraternity advanced their art from rude beginnings until there arose a creative intellect from among them, who could embody all extant, mystical, cosmic science into one temple, symbolical and monumental of the speculative science shut within the breasts of Master Masons, open to those who held the key, but sealed to the uninitiated and profane.

Such a monument, signed astronomically with the date of its construction, was the Pyramid of Ghizeh; contrived by its initiated and learned builders not only to embody their religious mystery, but to be capable of yielding to the analysis of the future antiquarian and physicist the key to the knowledge of the state of Astronomy, Geodesy, and kindred arts at the era of its construction. Such, also, were probably the builders of the palaces of Babylon and Nineveh, whose hidden stores of knowledge are now being revealed to us.

In like organization, and possibly of like caste, were the devoted bands of more creeds than one, who, united with brotherly love, raised the first temple at Jerusalem, and those, too, who, fresh from the Chaldean plains, laboured with Nehemiah or Zerubbabel, their swords girded to their sides, to rebuild and restore the despoiled dwelling place of the God of Israel. Was there no initiation in things sacred among these Syrian builders also? Was there no hidden wisdom, no speculation on ineffable things in their Craft?

What mystery the inspired psalmist hangs about the corner-stone! How grandly the author of Job puts, in the words of the Almighty, the Masonic character of his work of creation: "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who hath laid the corner-stone thereof? When the morning stars sang together, and the sons of Elohim shouted for joy." How, also, the prophet Amos describes the Lord standing on a true wall with the implements of the Masonic Craft, a plumb line or a trowel in his hand, declaring he will set a plumb line in Israel. Was not the Masonic artisan favoured of Heaven? Did not Aholiab and Bazaleel work on plans communicated through Moses, "with every wise-hearted man in whom the Lord had put wisdom and understanding?" Had Hiram and his craftsmen no aid from inspired kings and prophets in those works whose forms, ornaments, and structure typified occult mysteries? Have the three great creeds of this day, the Christian, the Jewish or the Mahomedan, ceased to revere, in that long perished Temple, the symbol of holy aspiration? There is no need to multiply illustrations of the speculative science.

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of the early Masonic Craft. Let us consider the traces of a succession in the Craft of Masonry.

In the old Masonic MSS. of Constitutions, printed in fac-simile from manuscript No. 23,198, edited by Matthew Cook, and written probably in the 15th century, Nimrod charges (fol. 380) the Masons, whom he sends to his Cousin Assur, to build a city, that they serve Assur faithfully, but that "ye govern you against your lord" (Assur) "and among yourselves."

This Masonic tradition of the Eastern life of their Craft is curious when we reflect that to this day strangers in the East are governed by the laws and council of their own country, rather than of the nation they sojourn among. Such a system applied to sojourning Masons of one country, protected by their own country, working together in another, would naturally produce the organization of Freemasonry. In this light we find the Latin vulgate carefully distinguishes Hiram's Masons from Solomon's Masons (Kings v. "cementarii Hiram.") Early as this MS. bears date, it must be admitted that some of the organization of speculative Masonry is shown in this extract. The free spirit of self-government sheds a ray of light here of great significance.

The brother who believes there is something in Freemasonry deeper than its admirable morality and generosity, something that underlies and gives expression to its universality, something behind its symbols that has brought from antique times a flavour like the odour of Shittim wood of the tabernacle, may boldly enter on the investigation; and if his industry never slackens, his faith never tires, and he has access to the means of investigation, light from the East will break on the mysteries of that strange gem bearing the seals of the royal Solomon, and his right royal Phœnician brother which is before him.

Andrea, in A.D. 1610, in his confession of R. & C., wrote, "He who can see the great letters and characters that God wrote on the edifice of heaven and earth, and can use them to his profit, is already prepared for us, though himself unaware of it."

It is my purpose here not to enter the hidden wisdom of this royal and reverential art, nor to discourse of those mysteries of that Craft of which the same author says, "God has surrounded us with his cloud, that to us, his servants, no force can be applied or directed, so that, had he the eye of an eagle, no one could see or recognise us."

Architectural Links.

By the aid of antiquaries and archæologists, facts may be established, from which the inductions of transmission of the Masonic art necessarily follow.

Reading the stone records from the vantage ground of antiquarian investigators, you will find yet extant many bonds uniting the past with the present.

Masons' Marks are the marks the various craftsmen put upon their work to indicate to the overseer who has done the job, in order that, the quality being inspected, it may be measured and paid for.

The industry which unlocked the Egyptian hieroglyphics, and the cuneiform of the Chaldees, which has given access to the Vedas and the Zend Avesta, will aid the Masonic student in this undertaking also.

They are still in use in operative Masonry and were particularly and memorably known in speculative Masonry long before attention was directed to the subject in connection with Oriental antiquities.

These marks, many of them identical, have been traced on the stones in great religious works, in all ages of which remains exist. The Gothic Cathedral and the Roman Basilica show them. Sir Gore Ousely, sixty years ago, thought he had found the relics of an extinct and novel language on the stones at the ruined city of Persepolis; what he copied turned out, on subsequent investigation, to be Masons' marks.

The investigations of Col. Warren, under the auspices of the Topographical Engineers of England, lately made on the site of the Temple of King Solomon, at Jerusalem, have been fruitful in this particular. In the lower courses of the wall which sustains the platform whereon the Temple stood, the courses now covered fifty to ninety feet deep with broken work and other débris, he found abundance of these Masons' marks on the stones lying in the courses, and also in the vaults and tunnels under the platform. There for near three thousand years they have remained hidden from human sight. Scholars recognise many of these marks as Phœnician characters, thereby giving another confirmation to the declaration of Kings and Chronicles that the craftsmen and Art of Masonry were imported into Jerusalem from Phœnicia.

Still other researches in Palestine, since attention has been drawn to these witnesses on the state of the art, have discovered them, at the ruins of Palmyra in the desert, upon some mosques of early date, also in Hebron and many other places in Syria; and one authority says that on Egyptian temples, far earlier in date than the Temple of Solomon, the like marks are found still fresh, after thirty-five centuries. Some of these marks of Masons have another purpose, viz., to connect the stone with the plan of the building, and indicate the course in which it is to be laid and its position. Simple as this link in the chain of evidence may appear, it not only connects the antique with the modern Masonic art, but is a source of other important deductions.

In India, also, these Mason marks are found in the stones of ancient temples, and, what is remarkable, often in conjunction with several symbols of Masonic Lodges of to-day. The scholars and philologists who have gone so far in collecting evidence of Aryan origin and migration have considered all these marks with that purpose in their minds: and many are struck with the number of them which resemble or are identical with the ancient caste marks of India.

I regret I cannot reproduce here the drawings of these marks; some are to be found in Lyon's History of Masonry in Scotland, others in King's Remains of Gnostic Art; and others in Jennings' recondite work on a branch of our Craft; others are found in the Orient, unveiled, and in the recovery of Jerusalem; others doubtless exist in works to which my attention has not been called. Some I have seen in the Nabathian alphabet. In due time archæological students will collect and discourse on the teachings of the whole; forming, as they do, a chain of evidence of the progress and succession, of the Masonic art, through many peoples and many ages, we must regard the further prosecution of their labours on these simple relics with the deepest interest. It is argued by learned architects, and I believe now conceded, that the arch can be traced from the era of the Pyramid to the present time; and Wilkinson says even the pointed Gothic and Saracenic arches are deducible from the earliest Egyptian. Various columns and styles of architecture of ancient ages retaining their conventional proportions and capitals, sometimes with a few modifications, but oftener in purity, are accepted and in use to-day.

(To be continued.)

Holloway's Pills: Winter Specifics.—All can estimate the disadvantages to the human system from breathing foul air, such as must necessarily be inhaled during our winters. The safest corrective and best purifiers of the blood are Holloway's Balsamic Pills, which are too well known and too highly esteemed to require commendation here. Besides cleansing the system, they improve the appetite, render digestion perfect, admirably regulate the liver, increase the secretion of the kidneys; they mildly yet effectually act upon the bowels, without griping or causing any inconvenience. So long as human nature remains what it is, every person will now and again require regulation of organs, disordered by irregular or too generous living, and too liberal potations.

THE DRAMA.

"Broken Hearts," at the Court Theatre.

MR. GILBERT'S dramatic works have been wanting, hitherto, in one quality essential to their success, that of sympathy: whilst pointing out, with exquisite accuracy of touch, the weaknesses of mankind, and depicting, with admirable satire, its follies and petty vices, they have usually failed to rouse in the breast any feeling of tenderness or pity. His pen has been dipped in gall with no admixture of the sweet milk of human kindness: his writings have been polished as gems; they have afforded a treat to the intellect, and food for the brain, but they have failed to awaken the heart. From this reproach he has at length freed himself by the production of one of the most delicate dramatic poems to be found in our literature; a poem worthy of a place beside "Une Nuit d'Octobre," of Alfred de Musset, possessing all its dreamy passion, all its twilight tenderness, all its quiet, deep undercurrent of feeling. There is no satire here, no contemptuous mocking of the frailties of common humankind; but, in its place, a love story, exquisitely delicate in construction, and told in language worthy of its theme. To a mysterious island, unknown to mortals, have retired several maidens, with hearts broken by the deaths of their loves; amongst these are two sisters, Lady Hilda, who had secretly loved Prince Florian, and retired from the world on hearing of his drowning at sea; and Vivir, who, though heartwhole, accompanied her sister out of sympathy with her grief. The boundless capacity of loving which women possess require still some object on which to find its exercise, and Lady Hilda chooses a fountain as her substitute for Prince Florian, whilst Vavir pours out her pure adoration to a sun-dial. On this same island chance throws Prince Florian, shipwrecked, but not drowned; he possesses a veil, conferring invisibility on its wearer, and, overhearing the addresses of the maidens, responds in place of the respective objects of their love. Done out of a spirit of boyish frolic, this has the saddest effect. Hilda's love for him is returned, but Vavir is left to cherish a hopeless passion. On being told by Florian, with great tenderness, the real state of affairs, she murmurs with sad foreboding,—

"No need; I know the rest.
The maiden dies—she pardons him, and dies."

Hilda's attempt to save her sister, by giving up her lover, only leads us to the inevitable end. A death scene of true pathos closes the sufferings of the gentle Vavir. We have omitted the story of the dwarf monster, as it seems to us rather an episode than necessary to the framework of the plot. Mr. Gilbert was right, we think, in committing the gossamer web of his play to the tender care of supernaturals rather than to the rough handling of mortals. The emotions played on are too sensitive, the feelings too fine to bear the rude contact of a workaday world. The dialogue is admirably written, the many speeches replete with poetry of thought, and elegance of diction. The acting is worthy of the piece; Miss Bessie Hollingshead, as Vavir, gained complete hold of the sympathy of her audience; in appearance, in gesture, and in expression, she realised completely the fine and charming but luckless maiden. A performance so natural, and so full of artless beauty, has not been seen on our stage for years. Mrs. Kendal gave full effect to the greater dramatic power and more intense passion of Hilda, the two parts contrasted well; one all gentle unstudied grace, the other varied by bursts of rage, despair, and passionate love. The part of Florian is not one which makes any severe call on the resources of an actor; Mr. Kendal is all that is required, frank and free, with a certain nobility of bearing. Mr. Anson plays the part of the Dwarf Monster, hopelessly in love with Hilda, and when he has acquired sufficient boldness to give his passion full play, his rendering will be a very striking one. The play is admirably placed on the stage. On account of its literary worth, its skilful workmanship, and admirable acting, this play deserves to be more successful than any produced of late years.

"The Royal Institution of Great Britain has now for its opposite neighbours the well-known firm of Messrs. Felice and Sons, proprietors of the popular 'Specialité' Sherry, whose unbounded success in the sale of this wholesome wine has compelled them to remove from Conduit-street to their present handsome, extensive and convenient premises in Albemarle-street."—The Morning Post, 12th July 1875.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

MASONIC STUDIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The interest I have for many years past taken in the promotion of what may with propriety be termed "Masonic Studies" will, I trust, be sufficient apology for troubling you with a few further remarks upon this truly important subject.

To dispel the darkness which, Masonically speaking, shrouds the mind of the vast majority of brethren, and to induce them to seek the light of knowledge, is a problem which has exercised the ingenuity of those who work steadily, though unostentatiously, in the cause of Masonic education, but, it must be confessed, with no appreciable success. Sundry schemes have from time to time been devised to attract attention to the places where instruction is willingly and gratuitously given, but to little purpose. The reason for this apathy is, however, not difficult to discover. To lay the foundation upon which to build a radical reform in this respect, it will have to be made clear, in the first place, that promotion in a Masonic Lodge is utterly unobtainable without the possession of such abilities as will not fail to ensure a masterly finish of the work. And secondly, brethren should be made to understand that the incapable aspirant to a dignity for which he is conspicuously unfitted will be certain to earn for himself only derision and contempt. In your able remarks upon this subject you properly advise diligent application to study, and constant, or at least frequent, attendance at Lodges of Instruction. The wisdom of this course admits of no dispute; indeed, to my mind, there is no alternative. To learn from manuscript or private verbal instruction is all very well, and no doubt affords considerable assistance to the student, but I assert that without constant practice in a Lodge of Instruction, failure, comparative or complete, is sure to be the result. This opinion will, I believe, be endorsed by all. But although the necessity of this course is universally acknowledged, yet how few there are who take the trouble to profit by the opportunities these Lodges afford, and it must be stated there are fewer still who take any steps whatever to acquire the rudimentary knowledge necessary to produce even a superficial show of fitness for the high post it is their ambition to attain. Why would they? So long as brethren are permitted to graduate in the minor offices, though lamentably inefficient; so long as they are advanced to the higher honours, until reaching the precincts of the Master's chair; and so long as elections are carried on without reference to capabilities, and merely as a matter of course, this deplorable state of things will remain uninterrupted. There are some, however, who are sufficiently conscientious, at the twelfth hour, to obtain from one source or another, a smattering of the ritual; then the aid of the Lodge of Instruction is invoked, regular attendants obligingly give up their offices to gratify the new-born enthusiasm of this eager searcher after knowledge; the Preceptor, with infinite patience, tries his best to instil some of the most necessary information into the pupil who, to attain proficiency, ought to have commenced his studies years earlier; and when everything has been done that could be accomplished within the extremely limited period at command, and all possible efforts are exhausted, in nine cases out of ten, in the end, the student proves a complete and unmitigated failure. But what of that? He has attained the summit of his desires; previous experience assures him that his incompetency will be no bar to his obtaining, at the end of the term, a handsome complimentary testimonial, in the shape of a costly glittering jewel, and being henceforth ranked amongst the rulers of the Craft. His desire for further instruction is dead, he speedily forgets the little he knew, he is complacently content, and the Lodge of Instruction beholds him no more. And from this class are recruited those who, having gatheredsuch questionable laurels it was in their power to win, and hopeless of pushing their way to higher elevations, shrink into utter insignificance, and sometimes repay the many favours bestowed upon them by heaping obloquy and scattering disparaging epithets upon a society into which they ought never to have been admitted, and whose members have ever dealt with forbearance and good natured indulgence with all their shortcomings. It is scarcely an enviable task to enumerate the evils which afflict an order of which one is proud to be a member, but it is somewhat conciliatory to reflect that he who earnestly desires its progress and prosperity must not shrink from the performance of duties, however repugnant and unpalatable. It has been too long the injudicious practice to bestow praise freely where none is deserved, and to withhold just censure where it is absolutely needed. Such a policy can scarcely be productive of any desirable result, but I look forward, with hope and confidence, that, by the aid of the Masonic press, and the influence of intelligent working brethren, the sad abuses which disgrace and disfigure our procedures, will eventually be abolished.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

BRO. DR. OLIVER'S TWO POSTHUMOUS WORKS

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Since the appearance of your Review of those valuable works, I have run through them, and would venture to offer a few remarks upon them. There are a class of Masons to whom both may be exceedingly useful, though I much question whether they can be considered perfect exponents of the subject of which they profess to treat.

There are three classes of modern Masons, who profess to make enquiries into the Pythagorean doctrine of numbers (vide Dr. Oliver's *Pythagorean Triangle*), viz.: the Rosicrucians, the Hermetic Philosopher of the Ancient and Primitive Rite, and the Royal Oriental Order of the Sal Bahe. Like Dr. Oliver's knowledge, that of the first is merely exoteric, for neither of them seem to perceive the gist of the matter, namely, the doctrine of the geometrical nature of the divine mind, out of which springs this exposition of numbers. This grand idea, Pythagoras gained either from the Egyptians or the Brahmins, who had it in common from a primitive source, but, in all probability, Pythagoras learned it in Egypt. The two last named Orders, of the Oriental Orders of Freemasonry, offer a general development of the esoteric idea, the one from Khamitic, the other from Aryan sources, and to those Dr. Oliver's work will be welcome, as a valuable collection of facts upon the point. The work on the *Discrepancies of Freemasonry*, in spite of some minor errors and slips in the relation of fact, offers most valuable information and suggestions upon the difficult points of Freemasonry; but the real nature of the *vesica piscis* escapes recognition, although the learned brother gives such a valuable exposition of its geometrical qualities.

Bro. John Hogg has rendered a real service to the Craft in the publication of these two works, and should the last help on the so much needed revision of the Lodge lectures, the subject of the fra cannot altogether escape recognition in the lecture of the Fellow Craft.

I remain, yours fraternally,

JOHN YARKER.

THE GOVERNMENT OF OUR SCHOOLS, &c.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In accordance with my promise, I now ask you to favour me with a space to show "how, among the first fruits easily gathered by a strong governing body, such as that proposed by M. A., would be an ample provision for all approved candidates for election."

I confine myself to this one advantage to be gained by a strong government, not merely on account of its importance, but also because I think other points will be far better handled by brethren who can describe themselves (as does M. A., in your paper of 20th November) as having "a considerable acquaintance with some of our large schools."

As regards the Boys' School:—

In October 1874 there were 45 approved candidates, of whom 11 only could be admitted.

In April 1875 there were 48, elsewhere stated 49, approved candidates, of whom 8 only could be admitted.

In October 1875 there were 58 approved candidates, of whom 9 only could be admitted.

In other words, the Managers of the Institution came before us last October with the humiliating confession, "Here are 58 boys, whom we ought to take by the hand, and want of funds will compel us to decline aid to 49 of them.

This cry of distress implies that the governing body has not felt strong enough (and, constituted as it is, I should have been astonished if it had) to call on brethren for a very small thing, from such a Fraternity as ours.

A glance at the ages of the non-elected candidates, and a comparison of page 35 of the report published in June 1874, will show that an additional £3 5s (Three pounds, five shillings) a year from each of our 1,500 Lodges would amply provide for the expenses of all these children, even if new site and buildings are required.

I imagine no one will maintain that our resources are already so heavily taxed as to make this small sum a serious addition to our expenditure.

I refrain from giving the figures, because I hope brethren will work them out for themselves, from the reports of various years, when they will, I think, be amazed to find that I have not understated the average contribution required.

Lists of approved candidates, of whom *four-sixths* are to be, at least for a time, rejected, are not creditable to us. They are spots in our feasts of charity which a strong government would easily remove.

Yours fraternally,

HEREWARD.

SMALL EXTRAVAGANCES.—If any who read these lines are conscious that their pockets are made of such materials that whatever money is put into them will burn a hole until it gets out, I would advise them, whenever they take the air, to leave their money at home, or, better still, to keep an exact account of every halfpenny they spend. It is astonishing how foolish small extravagances appear, when they have to be put down in black and white, after the temptation to indulge in them is over. And they must be put down in detail, and not conveniently classed together under the general heading of "sundries." The item "sundries" is never admitted into well-kept household accounts. No one who has not tried it would believe what a check it is upon personal expenditure to keep a thorough account of money spent, and not only a check, but a help; for prices may be compared, and thus lessons learned from experience.—From "Cassell's Family Magazine" for October.

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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 Discrepancies of Freemasonry. Examined during a week's gossip with the late celebrated Bro. Gilkes and other eminent Masons, on sundry obscure and difficult passages in the Ordinary Lodge Lectures, which, although open questions in Grand Lodge, constitute a source of doubt and perplexity to the Craft. By the Rev. G. Oliver D.D., Past M.P.S., Grand Commander S.G.I.G. 33° for England and Wales; Past D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Past D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire; Honorary member of numerous Lodges and Literary Societies in every quarter of the Globe. Author of "The Revelations of a Square," "The Book of the Lodge," "Historical Landmarks," &c. With numerous diagrams. London: John Hogg and Co., Paternoster-row. 1875.

CONCLUDING NOTICE.

THERE remain now only two discussions on which to offer any comment. The subjects of the former of these are "The Travelling Mason. The Sacred Name. Discrepancies in the Work. Removal of Landmarks. East and West. Types of Christianity." The discussion chiefly turns on the present and former rituals, and the meaning of certain terms and phrases as used therein. Several different views are expressed, as indeed is but natural where a number of men of different temperaments, sundry of whom are predisposed to cavil at any opinion, no matter how logical, that may be set before them. For the discussion we must refer our readers to the book itself, as extracts would convey but a very imperfect idea of its character, while a summary would occupy too much space. The argument, however, be it said, is very skilfully conducted, and containing, as it does, many references to catechisms no longer in use, and of which some, no doubt, are ignorant, the chapter cannot be otherwise than interesting, especially as regards the Travelling Mason, and the various reasons assigned by various authorities for his travelling in the First and Second Degrees Eastward, and in the Third Westward.

In the last discussion, while sundry of those present at the five previous meetings are unable to attend, two new characters are present, of whom one is described as a captain, while the other is a merchant, who is anxious to be initiated, and at the same time wishful to learn, as far as it may, consistently with the vows of secrecy, be divulged to him, some idea of the art of Masonry. We cannot say we are by any means pleased at the appearance of the former of the two newcomers, who is thus described:—"Our brother, the Captain, was in reality a lieutenant on half-pay, and the superior title was accorded to him by courtesy. He resided in a neighbouring village, and occupied his leisure time in the honourable and useful employment of superintending the National School there, and leading the church psalmody, with nasal correctness, on the Sabbath Day. He was passionately fond of his glass, if obtainable at the expense of a friend; and when favoured with an opportunity, he seldom failed to improve it to his own satisfaction, if not to the gratification of the company present, to whom, after a certain period of his potations, he became rather annoying; for he would sneeze and snort and stamp, and perform a number of other antics more extraordinary than pleasing, and kept (*sic*) up a continual fire of nautical phrases and snatches from an old song, which, in the early part of the evening, he would persist in singing from end to end; but, fortunately, after a few glasses he became stupefied, his memory deserted him, and he generally stopped short after a single stanza. He had an inveterate habit of quoting passages, whether applicable to the subject in hand or not, from the Church Catechism which he taught the children of his school. This was often extremely offensive, although he was perfectly unconscious of it, and altogether indifferent to the convenience or comfort of any one except himself. He had a favourite dog, called Toby, an ugly, pug-nosed, vicious brute, which at such times he was in the habit of summoning, though not present."

No one will be surprised to hear that this Captain was not of much account as a Mason, but we are surprised that Dr. Oliver should have introduced such a personage into the company of gentlemen, nor are we by any means satisfied with the reasons he assigns, which are these, "I have introduced these impertinences here, not merely because they actually occurred on this occasion, and constitute the type of a character from which it is to be feared few of our Lodges are exempt, but also as a lesson to others, who may be addicted to the practice of disturbing the serious proceedings of Masonry by absurd buffoonery, wretched attempts at wit, and unmeaning exclamations." We think it was unwise to mar the general effect of the book, which, whether we agree with the opinions expressed in it or not, is certainly entertaining, simply because a boorish brother dropped in and made all but himself wretched and uncomfortable for the whole evening. Poor Bro. Gilkes was very seriously disconcerted by the Captain's numerous and inane interruptions. Of course, in the presence of a profane, the discussion is far more guarded, and is limited almost entirely to such enlightenment as Bro. Gilkes and the others feel themselves justified consistently with their obligations in offering to the intending candidate. Perhaps the most interesting part of this eminent brother's exposition relates to the Points, which at first somewhat confuses the candidate, though he afterwards remarks, "If your illustrations are all as interesting as this, I anticipate a fund both of instruction and amusement from my initiation."

We shall conclude this portion of our remarks by quoting the last two paragraphs in confirmation of certain remarks we have really felt it our duty to offer.

"You will also observe, my good friend," I said, "that the capacity of a candidate for place and power, or, in other words, for a higher office in the Lodge, can only be estimated from his antecedents, for who would back a losing horse? Experience is the touchstone of merit, and I can assure you that, unless you prove yourself zealous and attentive to the preliminary duties of the Lodge, by being constantly present, uniformly diligent and obedient, and anxious on all occasions to improve yourself in Masonry, you will never be fit for a leader, nor is it likely that your fellows will confer upon you that most unmistakable token of their confidence—the uncontrollable power of regulating their proceedings.

"'And lastly,' Bro. Gilkes concluded, 'I would impress it firmly on your mind, that whoever accepts the office of W. Master, stakes his reputation and character as a Mason on maintaining and preserving the status and prosperity of the Lodge during his term of office; and both will be grievously imperilled if, by supineness, mismanagement, or any other influential cause, the community which have entrusted their vital interests to his charge shall find reason to repent of their choice. And so, brethren, I give the right word and right point of a Mason—ADIEU.'"

Having thus gone, at considerable length, through this work, it only remains for us to say that, taken as a whole, it forms a capital addition to Masonic Literature. There are theories in it we do not approve, nor do we think they will meet with the approval of our readers. But though we dissent from certain of the propositions as laid down in these pages, we none the less admire the skill and ingenuity which the author has displayed, and the enthusiastic love of Masonry which is conspicuous in, we might almost say, every sentence.

The Commencement of the Second Christian Epoch. By a Christian. Caxton Printing Works, Beccles, Suffolk.

WE have read the title-page of this book most carefully. We have only glanced at the contents. We confess we regret the time thus wasted. The work treats "of the re-organization of the Universal Church of Christ; public laws and society throughout the world, according to the New Christian Dispensation of common sense." We have never heard of any antagonism between Christianity and common sense, either in this age that is, or in the ages that have gone by. There are millions of millions of our fellow men who worship God, but not as Christians worship Him—these we respect. There are a few who profess to worship no God—such we abhor. But a Christian who describes the "New Christian Dispensation," as being that "of common sense," insults the Christianity he professes to believe in. If Christianity is only now entering, or about to enter upon the epoch of common sense, how must we describe the epoch that is, or is about to be concluded?

We are told the "book is purposely not entered at Stationers' Hall, that any of the people may be free to print it." We imagine few will evince their lack of common sense by availing themselves of the opportunity. Nay, more, we hold the publication of such a work to be highly injurious to a community which is mostly Christian, and, accordingly, we urge our friends not to waste their time in reading it.

Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland.—The Quarterly Communication was held at Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, in the Grand Lodge Room, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 15th of December, in the absence of the three Grand Principals by Comps. Malcolm Hamilton Ramsay, of Carlon, as Grand Z., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as Grand H., D. Mitchel Grand Treasurer as Grand J., L. Mackenzy W.S. was in his place as Grand Scribe E., J. Duthie Z. 67 as Grand 1st S., Dr. Carmichel 2nd S., and H. J. Shields, 33 degree, Z., 143 as 3rd Grand Sojourner. The Grand Chapter having been duly opened by the three Acting Grand Principals, the G.S.E. read the minutes of the last quarterly meeting, which were confirmed; he also read the minutes of several committee meetings, and the Finance Committee's report, showing that the Chapter is in a very flourishing financial condition, and recommending the investment of an additional £300. Proxy commissions were read from three different Chapters, and sundry presents were received and suitably acknowledged from the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Colorado. Three applications for new charters, as recommended by the committee, were then considered, and one for the town of Rothsay, to be called the St. Blane, recommended by Chapter 75, Glasgow, was granted, to be No. 163. A second Chapter for the City of Dundee was then granted as No. 164, and one for Castol, in South Africa, recommended by the District Superintendent, was also granted, to stand as No. 166. Comp. W. M. Bryce P.Z. No. 12, brought forward the motion of which he had given notice, "That in future the hour of meeting be 6 p.m.," seconded by Dr. Carmichel, and supported by Comps. Wheeler, Duthie and Shields, as it would give the Chapters in the West of Scotland an opportunity of attending the meetings and returning the same night. Comp. R. J. Brown, of Edinburgh, also supported, as he knew the Edinburgh would not wish to monopolise all the management of the Order. Comp. Murray, Edinburgh, promised to substitute five for six, seconded by Comp. Barry of Dundee. Comp. Abbot, Leith, seconded by Mitchell, promised that it be retained at 8 p.m., the original motion for six being withdrawn in favour of five o'clock, which was carried by a large majority. A correspondence was read by the G.S.E. from the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, in which they said they had forwarded a commission in favour of Comp. L. Mackenzy G.S.E., to represent them at the G.C., he had replied, stating that he already represented the Grand Chapter of Oregon, and suggesting that three names should be sent for them to select from. They had rejoined, still wishing to appoint him; as it was an innovation in their general practice he thought it best to lay the matter before Grand Chapter. Comp. Shields explained that in America it was quite usual for a Companion to hold two or more such appointments. It was then moved and carried, that, in deference to the wishes of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, we receive Comp. Mackenzy as their representative to this Chapter. (Cheers.) The commission was then read, and Comp. Mackenzy having expressed the fraternal feelings of the G.C. of Pennsylvania, the acting G.Z. made a suitable reply, requesting their representative to convey to them how fully we appreciated and reciprocated those feelings. This having all the business, the Grand Chapter was closed in due form.

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INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,

IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By BRO. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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ROYAL MASONIC INSTALLATION GALLERY COMPANY, 213 REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

THE THEATRES, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.—On the 27th December, CINDERELLA.

DRURY LANE.—This evening (last time). At 7.0, THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN, and A NABOB FOR AN HOUR. On 27th December, WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT.

HAYMARKET. — At 7.30, A HAPPY MEDIUM, and MARRIED IN HASTE.

LYCEUM. — At 7.0, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING. At 8.0, MACBETH.

ADELPHI.—At 6.45, QUICKSILVER DICK. At 7.30, LITTLE EM'LY, and THE GOOSE WITH THE GOLDEN EGGS.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, FAINT HEART NEVER WON FAIR LADY. At 8.0, RIP VAN WINKLE, and HEAD OF A CLAN.

OLYMPIC. — At 7.0, THE SERGEANT'S WEDDING. At 8.0, BUCKINGHAM.

STRAND.—At 7.0, TWO TO ONE. A LESSON IN LOVE, and LOO, AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—At 7.15, OPERETTA. At 8.0, PAUL PRY. At 9.0, TOOLE AT SEA. At 10.0, ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS. On Wednesday, TOTTLE'S.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS. At 8.15, ALL FOR HER.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, MAN IS NOT PERFECT, BLUE BEARD, and CRYPHOCONCHOIDSYPHONOTOMATO.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MASKS AND FACES.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT, and TRIAL BY JURY.

OPERA COMIQUE. — At 7.0, PROOF POSITIVE, BLACK EYED SUSAN, and A TEMPTING BAIT.

COURT.—At 7.30 A MORNING CALL, BROKEN HEARTS, and UNCLE'S WILL.

CRITERION.—At 8, OLD PHIL'S BIRTHDAY, and A TRIP TO INDIA.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, NEW FARCE. At 8.0, SPECTRESHEIM. At 10.0, THE FLOWER QUEEN, and BALLET. On Friday, LORD BATEMAN.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, Concert, &c. On Tuesday, and during the week, GRAND CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME, &c. Open Daily.

CRYSTAL PALACE. — This day, CONCERT, &c. Open daily, AQUARIUM SKATING RINK, &c.

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SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—MAZEPPA, this evening at 7.0.

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THE CLUB Premises, situate No. 101 Queen Victoria-street, are now being fitted up, and will be shortly opened to the Members. In order to secure the advantages offered to the first subscribers, application for Membership should be sent in at once to the Secretary, from whom all necessary forms and information may be obtained.

J. A. LATHBURY, *Secretary.*

Temporary Offices: 87 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

CROYDON.

AN Entertainment will be given, at the Oriental Buildings (adjoining the District Railway Station), New Bridge-street, E.C. (graciously lent for the occasion by Bro. Major Wieland), on Thursday, 23rd December 1875. At 8.30 p.m. Tickets 2s and 1s.

Apply to Bro. T. W. Ockenden, Manager, 36 Finsbury-square, or to Bro. J. Terry, 4 Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE PUBLISHING COMPANY LIMITED.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders will be held at the Offices, 67 BARBICAN, LONDON, E.C., on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., at 5 o'clock.

By order,

JOHN CONSTABLE,
Assistant Secretary.

15th December 1875.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THERE is nothing particularly exciting at home just now, so the public mind is chiefly directed towards the approaching festivities. Smithfield Market—we still retain the name, though the ancient market has long since disappeared, and but little remains to mark its site—is crammed with Christmas beef. The new Poultry Market adjoining, is a much more comfortable place to be jostled in than old Leadenhall. It is a commodious building, only lately opened to the public. East and West, and South and North, are evidences in well nigh every street that our Christmas carnival will be on as grand a scale as ever, nor is Covent Garden, with its piles of oranges and nuts, and other fruits, behind the rest of the world in preparing for the eventful period. When the proper time comes we shall make a point of wishing all our readers the compliments of the season. May they have the maximum of pleasure with the minimum of bile to follow.

The Queen is still at Windsor, and, in company with all the members of her family, paid her annual visit to the Mausoleum of the late Prince Consort, on Tuesday, the 14th instant, being the fourteenth anniversary of his death. A special service was afterwards performed *in memoriam* of the sad occasion. On Wednesday the infant daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh was christened, in St. George's Chapel, in the presence of the Queen,

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acting as sponsor for the Empress of Russia, the other sponsors being H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, H.R.H. the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha (represented by H.R.H. Princess Christian), H.I.H. the Cesarewitch (represented by the Russian Ambassador), and H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, for whom Prince Leopold stood proxy. The infant Princess was christened Marie Alexandra Victoria. The ceremony was strictly private, following, as it did, immediately on the sad anniversary of the day previous. On the evening of the same day H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, with her children, left Marlborough House, *en route* for Copenhagen, where she will spend Christmas, remaining there till about the time when her husband may be expected from India. The Duke of Connaught has gone on a visit to our Minister in Morocco, Sir J. Drummond Hay, in order to enjoy some boar hunting, with spears, in the interior of the country. He is expected to remain for a few days.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has at length reached Madras. After visiting Madura, where he was received with the usual demonstrations of enthusiasm, His Royal Highness set out for Trichinopoly, which he left for Madras on the 12th, reaching the latter city the following morning. His reception was brilliant, the Governor, Commander-in-Chief, the Chief Justice, and the native Chiefs being in attendance, awaiting his arrival at the railway station. There was also a large assembly of Europeans and natives. His Royal Highness having replied to the address presented to him, set out for Government House, where quarters had been provided for him, passing through two dense lines of natives, who lined the route the whole distance, and who exhibited every mark of cordiality and respect. A levee was held at 1 p.m., and the Prince's bearing toward the Rajahs who were present is said to have produced a most favourable impression on their minds. A banquet followed in the evening, followed by fireworks, the whole town being brilliantly illuminated. The day following, being the anniversary of his father's death, His Royal Highness remained in the strictest seclusion. To-day he sails for Calcutta.

The Court of Queen's Bench has lately been the scene of a somewhat important trial, at which the Lord Chief Justice presided, and in which a Mr. Stacpoole, lately an officer in the 78th Highlanders, sought to recover damages from Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, who commands that distinguished regiment, for having, by unfair treatment, driven him from the regiment. Evidence having been heard on both sides, and Counsel having severally addressed the jury, a verdict for the defendant was given, after only a few minutes' deliberation.

The Dog Show at the Alexandra Palace has proved a magnificent success. There were as many as 1,039 entries, including some 1,500 dogs, of well nigh every size and breed. There were 10 bloodhounds, in two classes, eighty-six mastiffs, in five classes—two champion, and three others, including one for puppies—some magnificent specimens of the St. Bernard, both rough and smooth-coated, Newfoundlands, Deerhounds, and Greyhounds. Then followed a tremendous array of Pointers (large, medium, and small size), Setters (English, black and tan, and Irish), Retrievers (black, and others than black), Water Spaniels, and other varieties of Spaniel, together with a few Otter Hounds. Then followed Fox Terriers, Sheep Dogs, both rough-coated and smooth, Dalmatians, Bull Dogs, large and small, Bull-terriers, large and small, with other varieties of Terrier, and also a numerous entry of fancy dogs, Pomeranians, Pugs, Maltese, King Charles's Spaniels, Blenheims, and Toy Terriers, besides nearly forty entries of puppies in two classes, sporting and non-sporting. The work of judging went on all Tuesday, and the decisions of the judges appear to have give general satisfaction, though not a few of the exhibitors imagined they ought to have received a commended, while others, no doubt, quarrelled with the places assigned them. The show was a grand one, and included among the finest specimens of almost every variety of breed. A Black Newfoundland was marked dangerous, and people properly gave him a very wide birth. Among the exhibitors were both the Prince and Princess of Wales.

On Thursday afternoon H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh laid the first stone of the new National Opera House, to be erected on the Victoria Embankment, A marquee had been erected for the accommodation of those invited to be present, being somewhere about 1500 in number, and the bands of the Coldstreams and the Honourable Artillery Company, with a guard of honour, were in attendance. The Duke, on his arrival, was received by Sir James Hogg, Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, Mr. F. Fowler, the architect, and Mr. J. H. Mapleson, the director of the National Opera. An address to His Royal Highness having been read and responded to, the stone was laid with the usual forms and amid the cheers of those assembled. A luncheon was afterwards given at the St. Stephen's Club, the Duke of Edinburgh proposing the toast of the occasion, namely, "Prosperity to the Grand National Opera House." Another lunch also came off in honour of the event at Willis's Rooms. Bro. Mapleson presided, and there were present the majority of the members of the Board of Works, with a number of ladies and other guests. This, too, passed off very successfully. Bro. Mapleson certainly has our best wishes for the success of his project.

The Duke of Richmond, President of the Council, made a long speech on Wednesday, at the annual dinner of the West Sussex and Chichester Agricultural Society. In the course of his remarks his Grace defended the policy of the Government in restricting the traffic of cattle, pointing out that it was in the power of the English local authorities to stop all movements of cattle, when necessary in consequence of any outbreak of disease; that in Ireland the Orders of Council were differently carried out, there being in that portion of the Kingdom but one central authority, acting under the direction of the Irish Executive. The Ministry had not thought it wise to impose more severe restrictions on the movements of cattle. His Grace illustrated his case by quoting his own experience as one of the largest stock owners in the County of Sussex.

On Wednesday was a kind of full dress rehearsal of the annual play at Westminster. The selection this year is the Andria of Terence, and, according to the accounts published in the daily papers, the performance passed off very successfully for a first night. The dormitory where the play is acted was crowded, a considerable number of the spectators being ladies. On Thursday, the winter speeches and prize distribution came off at St. Paul's School. There were present a large number of the friends of the boys, together with a pretty strong muster of old Paulines. The speeches comprised the usual selection from the Greek, Latin, French, and English Drama, with other pieces specially adapted for recitation.

Another dreadful catastrophe has lately happened at Bremerhaven, a considerable number of people having been killed and injured by an explosion of dynamite on board the Mosel; but this is now ascertained, not to have been an accident, but a deliberate act on the part of a man named Thompson, who has since died, but who, previous to death, confessed that he had deliberately planned the destruction of the vessel. There has also occurred a terrible colliery explosion in Belgium, by which over a hundred lives have been sacrificed. Over 120 dead bodies have been recovered from the Swaithe Colliery. There appears to have been neglect somewhere in connection with the wreck of the Deutschland off the Kentish Coast. Though in the neighbourhood of two lightships, which signalled in the usual manner with rockets, and though it was known at Harwich that assistance was required, none was rendered till many hours after the vessel struck the rock, and consequently more lives were lost than would have been the case had assistance come more promptly. The loss of this vessel gave rise to a brief debate in the German Parliament, when one or two of the speakers expressed themselves somewhat bitterly.

There is news from Africa of the safe arrival, at Lounda, of the Livingstone East Coast Expedition, under the command of Lieutenant Cameron, R.N. From a telegram from that officer, to Sir H. Rawlinson, President of the Royal Geographical Society, it appears that the expedition was compelled, by adverse circumstances, to abandon the Congo route, but it followed the waterbeds lying between that river and the Zambesi.

Arrangements have been made by the Admiralty, by which Mr. Allen Young, the Arctic traveller, will communicate with Smith's Sound in the summer of 1876, in the hope of obtaining some news of the proceedings of the Arctic Expedition under Captain Nares.

At a meeting of the Common Council held on Thursday, the question of widening London Bridge came under discussion. The Bridge House Estates Committee brought up their report, in which they recommended that the bridge be widened in accordance with the plan of Bro. Horace Jones, the City Architect. A long discussion followed, the result

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being that the motion for the adoption of the report was lost by a majority of eight votes in a Court composed of ninety-eight members. The debate was accordingly adjourned.

The Shakers appear to have been having rather an uncomfortable time of it at Bristol, and other places. So great was the uproar in Colston Hall, when it was attempted to hold a meeting, that Mrs. Girling was not even heard, and none of the girls appear to have received any inspiration to indulge in a gay and festive dance. So vehemently was the dissatisfaction of the visitors expressed, that the Shakers abandoned the platform, and the assembly was only dispersed by extinguishing the gas.

The interest in Paris centres, for the moment, in the election, by the Legislative Assembly, of its seventy-five life members of the Senate. By a combination of the Legitimists with the Left, the latter appears to have achieved a great success. What effect this will have on the future Government of France is not yet apparent, but already there are rumours of a resignation of M. Buffet's Ministry. Telegrams have reached Constantinople from the officer in command of the Turkish forces in the Herzegovina, to the effect that the insurgents have been defeated, with very considerable loss. It also appears that the Sultan's Firman, guaranteeing certain important reforms in the Sultan's dominions, has been published, but a doubt exists whether these reforms will ever be worth much more than the paper on which they are written. It is further believed that the publication of this Firman is not particularly relished by the three great Eastern Powers of Europe, the Empires of Russia, Germany, and Austria. Very likely not, if the report be true, that the promised reforms are more extensive than those which the Powers in question were about to urge, for Turkey thus takes the wind out of her neighbours' sails. The situation of affairs in Spain remains unchanged. The Italian government, having bought up the railways, are now, it seems, about to adopt, in great part, General Garibaldi's scheme for improving the navigation of the Tiber. According to the latest advices from the Straits Settlements the Malays, variously estimated at from 400 to 800, have been utterly routed by a small detachment of English troops. If the rumours, on which the *Standard*, in a recent issue, contained some lengthy comments, be true, it is not unlikely we may have another Ashantee war. The King of Ashantee, and a former tributary, the King of Juabin, are at loggerheads, and the aspect of things is said to be so serious that Governor Strahan has ordered a hundred Houssas to the frontier, with a view to learning the true state of things and protecting, if necessary, the interests of the tribes which enjoy our protection.

We (*New Zealand Herald*) understand that the Masonic brethren of the English Constitution in this Province intend applying to the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, for the institution of a Provincial Grand Lodge, and also to nominate for approval the name of a brother as Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. W. H. Hook, the respected organist of the Great City Lodge, announces an evening concert, for Wednesday, 22nd inst., at the Angell Town Institution, Gresham Road, Brixton. Bro. Hook will be assisted by the members of the choir of St. James, Camberwell; Misses M. Woodville, Melville, J. Mass, A. Bliss, Florence Woodville, Edith Blair, Laura Clement; Bro. Chaplin Henry, Lindsay Sloper, H. Walker, H. Daniel, G. T. Carter, Alfred Pittman, C. Morgan, &c.

As will be seen by an advertisement in another column, an entertainment is announced on behalf of the Aged Freemasons' Institution, at the Oriental Buildings (adjoining the District Railway Station), New Bridge Street, E.C., on Thursday next; Bro. Major Wieland has gratuitously lent the Hall, and tickets may be obtained of Bro. Ockenden 1512, manager, 36 Finsbury Square, or of Bro. Terry, 4 Freemason's Hall, W.C.

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, Bezique, Ecarté, &c. Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 8s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, Barbican, E.C.

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, 18th DECEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

SUNDAY, 19th DECEMBER.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle, Rochdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 20th DECEMBER.

8—British, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8 (Instruction.)
185—Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C., at 8.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
350—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
466—Merit, George Hotel, St. Martin's, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
672—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
936—Bedford, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.

TUESDAY, 21st DECEMBER.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.
87—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
402—Royal Sussex, George the Fourth, Nottingham.
592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
660—Camalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, Yorkshire.
696—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
1006—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
1046—St. Andrew, Bush Hotel, Farnham, Surrey.
1049—De Sherland, Fountain Hotel, Blue Town, Sheerness.
1258—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1336—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Lancashire.
1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd DECEMBER.

Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
193—Confidence, White Hart, Aldchurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1334—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
308—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
1233—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High-street, Weston-super-Mare.

THURSDAY, 23rd DECEMBER.

House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Londenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
54—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Harvey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.
160—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
804—Downshire, Masonic Temple, 21 Hope-street, Liverpool.
1146—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington, Lancashire.

FRIDAY, 24th DECEMBER.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park. (Instruction.)
1807—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

IRELAND.

MONDAY—204—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
" 743—Ashfield (Coothill) Private Room, Coothill, County Cavan.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.
405—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—119—St. John Fisherrow, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—302—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—332—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
" —356—Clydesdale, 106 Rose-street.
" St. Mungo Encampment, K. T., 213 Buchanan-street.
TUESDAY—0—Mother Kilwinning, Old Masonic Hall, at 4.0 p.m.
" —3 bis.—St. John's, St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street.
" 72—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 87—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
" 427—Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan.
WEDNESDAY—510—Maryhill, 187 Muir-street, Maryhill.
570—Dramatic, 213 Buchanan-street, at 4.0 p.m.
THURSDAY—483—St. Vincent, 163 Kent-road.
FRIDAY—R. A. 79—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
" 231—St. Andrews, Public Hall, Alexandria.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

St. John's Lodge No. 3 (bis.)—This old and influential Lodge met in their own hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on the 14th inst. Bro. Wm. Bell R.W.M. in the chair. The business opened with the affiliation of three joining members, D. Willis of 73, W. Keer of 419, and J. Andrews of 553, after which the Master, in that impressive style for which he is noted, initiated the following seven gentlemen:—J. Park, J. A. Jardine, S. Paton, A. Morrison, D. Gardner, D. Stone, and E. J. Donaldson. The nomination of officers took place. Bro. Bell having refused to stand again, Bros. Neilson D.M., Lorn S.W., and Dalsells Treasurer were nominated to fill the chair for the ensuing year, so the brethren have a good choice.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge of Instruction held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, "The

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Hercules," Leadenhall Street, on Thursday evening last, 16th December. Present—Bros. Brient W.M., Hollands S.W., Williams J.W., Grammer Hon. Sec., Atkins P.M. Treasurer, Howlett S.D., Horsley J.D., Cohen I.G., Bro. Austin P.M. Preceptor, and numerous other brethren. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Redderforth, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Brient, assisted by the brethren; the Lodge was closed in the third degree. The 4th section of the second lecture was worked by Bro. Brient, assisted by the brethren. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was then closed in ancient form. The attendance of members of this Lodge of Instruction is requested for next Thursday, 23rd December, when a notice of motion, by Bro. Horsley, to change the meeting from Thursday to Wednesday, will be discussed.

Chapter 50, Glasgow.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Thursday, 9th December, at 213 Buchanan-street. Comp. J. Miller P.G.S.B. the Z. presiding. The Chapter was opened in the Excellent degree, with J. Duthie as S.W., J. Lonttit J.W., C. McKenzie, when Bro. M. Murdoch was elevated to that degree by Comp. McMercer, S. of Chapter 87. The Royal Arch Chapter was then opened, with Comp. J. Miller Z., J. Duthie, Z. of 67, as H., J. Lonttit J., C. McKenzie 1st S., R. Mercer 2nd S., and J. Robinson as 3rd S., when Bro. McMurdoch was exalted to that degree by Comp. Duthie in his usual style. No other business offering the Chapter was duly closed. Amongst the visitors was Comp. R. Campbell of Chapter 147, New Brunswick.

St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 69.—This Chapter, by a dispensation from the Supreme Chapter, held its election meeting on 14th inst., T. D. Humphries, Dr. Ph., Z. presiding. The following Companions were all unanimously elected:—T. D. Humphries Z., G. Heron H., J. M. Oliver J., Hugh Wright Scribe E., J. Fash N. J. Blackwood Treasurer, Wm. Thomas 1st S., R. B. Prout 2nd, S., Jas. Gibson 3rd S., D Ramsay Janitor. At the request of the Chapter, Comp. Wheeler Z., of 73, with the assistance of Jas. Balfour, P.Z. of 73, then proceeded to instal those Companions into their respective offices. The Z., on resuming the chair, forcibly impressed on the officers the necessity of their punctuality in attending to their respective duties, as, without they set a good example, they could not hope that the Chapter could prosper. He then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Comps. Wheeler and Balfour, as without their aid to night, as well as on many previous occasions, the work of the Chapter would have been left undone. He was thankful for their services in the past, but hoped the new officers would learn their duties so as to require less help in future. The Lodge was then duly closed.

Temple Lodge, No. 101.—The ordinary monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. There were present—Bros. Clarke W.M., Flack S.W., Thomas J.D., Pettifer I.G., and P.M.'s Wynne, Farthing sen., Scott, Hastelow, Bond, Cox, Reynolds, May, Grimbly, and Farthing jun., as well as numerous other brethren. Mr. John Robins was balloted for, and unanimously elected, after which he underwent the ceremony of initiation. Bro. Lonsdale was passed to the 2nd degree. The ballot was then taken for the W.M. and Treasurer for the ensuing year, when Bro. Flack S.W. was unanimously elected to the former, and Bro. Bond P.M. was re-elected to the latter office. Bro. Taylor was unanimously elected, by show of hands, to the office of Tyler. The brethren subsequently adjourned to banquet.

Robert Burns Chapter, No. 143.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Saturday, 11th inst., at Holytown. A Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was opened, H. J. Shields Z. presiding, when Bro. Thos. Woods was advanced to that degree, Comp. Wheeler, Z. of 73, conducting through the veils. The Chapter was then opened, H. J. Shields Z., D. Barker H., T. Laird J., Wm. McMurdo acting as T., J. McMurdo S.E., G. W. Wheeler acting as 1st S., D. Lelly 1st S. acting as 2nd, and W. Patterson 3rd S. At the conclusion of the ceremony, which was very ably worked, Comp. Shields said they had a very pleasant duty to perform, but he would request Comp. Wheeler to do it. Comp. Wheeler then, in the name of the Chapter, presented Comp. Wm. McMurdo with a very handsome P.Z.'s jewel, paying him a well merited eulogium, not only for his exertions in forming the Chapter, and presiding over it for years, but for his eminent services in the Craft. Comp Wm. McMurdo made a suitable reply, thanking the Companions, and promising not to relax his efforts now that he had left the principal chair.

St. Rollox Chapter, No. 144.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Friday, 10th inst. A Lodge of Most Excellent Masters was opened, J. Annand, J. McLeish M.E.M., and D. Gilchrist S.W., when G. W. Wheeler, Z. of 73, conferred that degree on Bro. P. Young. A Chapter was then opened, J. Annand Z., J. McLeish H., and G. W. Wheeler acted as J., when Comp. H. J. Shields, Z. of 143, exalted the same Bro., Comp. Allen for the first time acting in a most efficient manner as 1st S.

Prudent Brethren Chapter, No. 145.—A Convocation of this Chapter met on Tuesday, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Comps. John Boyd P.Z. in the chair, C. A. Long H., Thomas Bull J., J. Lust P.Z. Treasurer, G. S. Stutes P.Z. S.E.; and P.Z.'s H. Dicketts, W. Platt, &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The elections for Principals took place, who were, Comps. C. A. Long M.E.Z., T. Bull H., and C. Moody J. Comp. John Boyd P.Z. installed these Companions into the three chairs in a very perfect manner. Ballots were taken for the admission of Comps. J. H. Leggott, Chapter 1056, and C. T. Pringle, Chapter 211, as joining members. Ballots were also taken for the admission of Bros. W. Miller 1257, E. W. Braine 65, W. R. Williams 145, N. B. Headon P.M. 1246 and Masters 146, and being unanimous in their favour, were duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. The investiture of officers then took place:—Comps. J. Last P.Z. Treasurer, G. S. Stutes P.Z. S.E., Parkins S.N., E. H. Thiellay P.S., Cox 1st Ass., Venn 2nd Ass. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions sat down to a very sumptuous banquet. The M.E.Z. then proposed the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts, and presided with great ability, showing the judicious selection the Companions had made. Comp. Walford P.Z., in proposing the toast of the M.E.Z., in the course of his speech said how pleased he, as well as every member of the Chapter, was to see him, on the night of his installation, perform the ceremony of exaltation in so efficient a manner. The newly-exalted companions severally returned thanks for the toast. Comp. C. A. Cottebrune P.Z. returned thanks for the Visitors, and complimented the Chapter on their excellent choice of the M.E.Z., and also the other Principals, who were all so perfect in their working, that it was pleasure to witness it. The toast of the H. and J. was responded to by Comps. T. Bull and Moody. Comp. E. H. Thiellay P.S. returned thanks for the toast of the officers. The Janitor's toast was given, and the company separated. The visitors were Comps. C. A. Cottebrune P.Z. 177, Barnes Amor (Regularity Chapter), Read P.Z. 1319, H. Massey P.Z. 619, Bond, Lux 186, White, and H. M. Levy P.Z. 188.

Temple Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 173.—This Lodge held its regular meeting at the Green Dragon Tavern, Stepney, on Monday, the 13th inst., Bro Charles Lacy W.M. presided. The business commenced in the usual form, and in the course of the evening Bros. Posener, Weingott, Turquand and Boulton were advanced to the degree of Mark Masters. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in favour of Bros. Geo. Verry as W.M., T. Mortlock P.M. Treasurer, and Grant Tyler. After slight refreshment, the usual toasts were briefly given, and with some songs by Bros. Stuttivant, Kinnear, Mortlock and Joy, the proceedings terminated.

Caveac Lodge, No. 176.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on 11th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, Bro. J. Brockett Sorrell W.M. in the chair, assisted by Bros. P. A. Nairne I.P.M., W. M. Goss S.W., W. J. Stride J.W., J. Brockett Sorrell jun. S.D., Stanfield J.D., G. K. Lemann P.M. acting as I.G. The meeting was duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary, Bro. Charles T. Dovey P.M., and confirmed. Bros. Beaumont and Griffiths were examined, and afterwards raised to the 3rd degree, after which Bros. Akenhead and Morice were passed to the 2nd degree. The Lodge being resumed to the 1st degree, several matters were brought forward, and then duly closed with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned to a very sumptuous banquet, presided over by the W.M., and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Nairne in eulogistic terms, and acknowledged in a few well chosen sentences. The health of the Visitors (of whom were present, Bros. W. G. Moore W.M. 634, Waterworth P.M. Ghion Lodge 49, and Edward B. Grabham P.M., Felix Lodge 1494), was responded to by Bros. Moore and Waterworth, who spoke of the magnificent rendering of the ceremonies by the W.M., whose year of office promises to prove a brilliant success. The toast of the Officers was acknowledged by Bro. Goss S.W., and after the enjoyment of a most pleasant evening, the banquet concluded with the Tyler's toasts.

St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180.—A numerous assemblage of the brethren met on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Present—Bros. W. C. Parsons W.M., Gillard S.W., F. Annett J.W., Robinson P.M. Treasurer, H. A. Stacey P.M. Secretary, Pillin S.D., Smith J.D., Harrison I.G., Farwig W.S.; and P.M.'s Bros. Z. Herf I.P.M., G. Babb, J. R. Stacey, Stoner, Smithett, Cameron, and Hamilton. The Lodge was opened according to custom. Bro. Green was raised to the 3rd degree, and Mr. L. Reibold was initiated. The ceremonies were very perfectly and impressively rendered by the W.M., the officers exhibiting a thorough knowledge of their duties. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. Gillard S.W. was unanimously chosen. Bro. Robinson P.M. stated he had been Treasurer for some years, and he hoped during that period he had given the brethren satisfaction, but he begged most respectfully to resign that office, and he was sure he had a worthy successor in Bro. Babb P.M., who was afterwards unanimously elected. Bro. Gilbert was re-elected Tyler. Bro. Stoner P.M. was elected Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund. Bros. Stollard, Farwig and Pillner auditors. Bro. Smithett P.M. proposed that the usual Past Master's Jewel be presented to the W.M. on his returning from the chair. A vote of thanks was recorded on the minutes to Bro. Smithett P.M., for the able manner he had discharged his duties as Treasurer. It was then proposed that the annual ball should take place, in connexion with the Lodge, for the purpose of increasing the Fund of Benevolence. Bros. Plato Leite J.W. 795, and W. Sharpe 705, were proposed as joining members. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, numbering 76, adjourned to the Crown Room, where a sumptuous dinner and dessert was provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Kettl. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Smithett P.M., in eulogistic terms, proposed the health of the W.M., whom he characterised as a good Mason, and one who had conducted the duties of the chair in a very efficient manner. (Cheers.) The W.M. thanked the brethren for their kind expressions; he hoped that during his year of office he had given them satisfaction. The toast of the Newly Initiated followed. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M. elect, which was received very enthusiastically, and was duly responded to. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bros. J. Sadler, Swallow, H. M. Levy and others. H. A Stacey, Father of the Lodge, returned thanks for the Past Masters. The toast of the Officers afforded Bro. Annett J.W. an opportunity of showing his "quality," and the Tyler's toast concluded a very delightful evening.

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enhanced by the harmony of Bros. G. Bubb and H. Sydney, Bro. Hart accompanying on the piano. The visitors were Bros. Randall 1470, May 1470, Williams 32, Mower 12, Weil 238, H. M. Sydney 84, Blake 23, Leighton Werner 504, Cowan 1572, J. H. Sadler W.M. 795, J. Blum W.M. 1017, R. Caffett 145, Swallow W.M. 1563, Otway 1470, Randall and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Wednesday, the 15th December, at Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. Present—Bros. S. Hickman W.M., D. Posener S.W., Tollis J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, J. Constable Treasurer, Hollandé S.D., Croaker J.D., Riddle I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. E. Gottheil Preceptor, Bloomfield, and Loewenstark. Business—Lodge opened, minutes were read and confirmed. The first section was worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. The W.M. then, in the most impressive manner, worked the ceremony of installation, and inducted Bro. Posener into the chair of K.S. The ceremony was rendered in a faultless and impressive way, and the brethren expressed their gratification at the Masonic accuracy shown by Bro. Hickman. Bro. Loewenstark proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Hickman, which was, seconded by Bro. Gottheil. Bro. Hickman, in reply, referred to the assistance he had received in his preparation from Bros. Gottheil, Constable, and Bloomfield, by whose kindly aid he had been able to work the ceremony, and he was gratified to know that his exertions were appreciated by the brethren. Bros. J. T. Briggs 157, H. J. Gabb 813, R. M. Clarke 1321, and Joseph Davis 188 were elected members. There were upwards of 40 present.

Star Lodge, No. 219.—This Lodge held its regular meeting in their own hall, 12 Trongate, Glasgow, on Monday, 13th December, Bro. John Morgan R.W.M. in the chair, Harn S.W., Meaning J.W. The Auditor's report and printed balance-sheet were presented to the Lodge, showing a marked improvement in their financial position. The following candidates having been approved of, were then introduced and initiated:—Martin McLymont, John McMurry, and Parlam McFarlane. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, and Bro. George Westcall and George Farret, along with two brethren of the St. Andrew Lodge, 465, were passed to the Fellow Craft degree, both ceremonies were impressively wrought by Bro. Morgan, with a fulness which is very seldom heard in a Lodge at ordinary workings, introducing in fact a good portion of the lectures. At the conclusion, the P.M. of 128, and Secretary of 360 were affiliated as honorary members.

Lodge of Fortitude, No. 281.—The ordinary meeting of this Lodge was held on the 8th inst., in the Athenæum, Lancaster, when a considerable number of members were present, Bro. E. Airey J.P.M. occupying the Master's chair. Mr. Richard Stanton was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. Bro. Thomas Atkinson S.W. was unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year, and the installation will take place on the 29th inst, at two o'clock. The Treasurer and Tyler were re-elected. The Lodge closed in peace and harmony.

St. George's Lodge, No. 333.—This Lodge met at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on the 8th inst., when Bro. Winton P.M. installed the following brethren:—Also Thomson as R.W.M. (re-elected), J. Winton D.M., J. McFarlane S.M., J. Findey S.W., J. Forsyth J.W., R. Anderson T., A. Dunn S., R. Munro S.D., J. Hill J.D., A. Boyd Chaplain, J. Clark S.S., J. Martin J.S., J. Mellow M.C., A. McIntyre S.B., R. Finlayson J., E. Adams A., A. Fash P.G.S., G. Christie I.G. and A. Wright Tyler. Bro. Winton then presented the Lodge with a large Past Master's Jewel. Bro. Thomson, on behalf of the Lodge, thanked Bro. Winton for his valuable present, as also for his services in installing the officers. The Lodge then went to refreshment, and spent a couple of hours very pleasantly, giving the usual toasts appropriate to the occasion.

Athol Lodge, No. 413.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Tuesday, 14th of December, at St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, when J. Miller P.M. P.G.D. of M., installed the following brethren: Bros. John Wallace I.P.M., James Loutitt R.W.M., Neilson D.M., Baikie S.M., J. Leitch S.W., Holmes J.W., P. Agnew Treasurer, R. Graham Secretary, Burnet Chaplain, Robinson S.D., Wm. Grindley J.D., O'Brien P.G.S., Coxhead I.G., and R. Gardner Tyler. The Lodge was then called to refreshment, and the usual toasts given. The new Master in giving that of the retiring officers, said no one could have worked on more amicable terms with the Lodge and its officers than their late Master. Bro. J. Wallace replied, stating the pleasure he had felt while occupying that seat, and he had been able to leave the Lodge £20 richer than it was last year; he would now call on them to toast their new Master, who he felt sure would carry them on to increased prosperity. Bro. Loutitt, in replying, said he felt out of place in that chair as he was no orator, and was without experience in the duties of a chairman, but so far as regarded the working of the ceremonies, he should be more at home there. Bro. J. Booth, the new Master of 87, replied for the visitors, and Bro. R. Campbare of Lodge 22, New Brunswick, to that of Freemasonry all over the world.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 430.—A very numerously attended meeting of this Lodge was held at the Queen's Arms Hotel, Dukinfield, in the Province of Cheshire, on Wednesday, the 8th December. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Isaac Buckley W.M. We are unable to give a complete list of brethren present, but the following were appointed and installed officers of the Lodge, by Bro. P.M. Holmes, viz:—Bros. Wm. Williamson Anderson W.M., J. Buckley I.P.M., Sam Scott S.W., J. W. Watson J.W., J. A. Smith Treasurer, Geo. Robert Hall Secretary, Jas. Eaton J.D., Sutton I.G., Thos. Raw Tyler. The officers were addressed and invested by the newly installed W.M., and the charges were given by Bro. Jos. Barton P.M. 268. A handsome Secretary's jewel, with an inscription, was presented by Bro. Eaton P.M. to the late Secretary, Bro. Sam Scott, for services rendered to those six brethren who attended the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. A very excellent banquet followed the installation ceremony, graced by a numerous array of visitors, amongst whom may be mentioned, Bros. John Yarker P.M. 430, and P.S.G.W. of Greece, Jas. Holmes P.M. 268, and P.P.G. J.D. of E.L., Jno. Eaton P.M. and P.P.G. Supt. of Works of E.L., Walter Newton P.M. 268, W. H. Holt W.M. Milton Lodge, &c., &c. There were also present Bros. Nield P.M., Eaton P.M., James Garforth, Walter Garforth, Walter Johnson P.M., G. Barrows P.M., John Barrows, Cummings, &c., &c.

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 13th December 1875, at Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Present—Bros. James Spearman P.G.S. of W. W.M., J. D. Stevens S.W., H. Sewell J.W., Armstrong acting as Secretary, George Thompson P.M. Treasurer, Rd. Eynon S.D., H. S. Turner J.D., J. Grist Steward, H. C. Carr I.G., H. C. Martin P.M. Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. J. Cooke I.P.M., Smaile 541 P.G.S.W., Robson 48 720, S. H. Harris 406; Visitors Bros. J. M. Lissack 27, Barker S.W. 1342, Wood 48, H. S. Mendelssohn 48, Knox W.M. 406. Busines—Lodge opened in solemn form. Mr. Knowles was regularly initiated into the Order by the W.M. Bro. Anderson, after due examination, was passed to the F.C. degree, and two brethren, having proved their efficiency, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s in a most able manner by the W.M. During refreshment, and in response to the toast of the visitors, Bro. P.M. Smaile P.G.S.W. took occasion to compliment Bro. Spearman on the manner he had gone through the three degrees that night; anything more solemn or perfect than the rendering of the beautiful ritual of the three degrees he had never heard. This opinion was freely endorsed, amidst great applause, by several P.M.'s and distinguished Masons present.

Benevolence Lodge, No. 489.—This Lodge held its ordinary meeting on Thursday, the 9th of December, at the Masonic Hall, Bideford. Present—Bros. Rev. Thomas Russell, J.G.W. Devon P.P.G.C. Oxon, W.M., P. M. Smale S.W., S. S. Crowya J.W., H. M. Burrow Secretary, R. Dymond S.D., S. Goode J.D., G. W. Vincent D.C., R. Wilkinson Steward, J. Allan I.G. P.M. Bro. W. L. Vellacott, and several other brethren. Business—Bro. Cann was raised to the Sublime Degree; other matters connected with the business of the Lodge were discussed and despatched. The W.M., before closing the Lodge, referred to their late Tyler, Bro. John Venton, whom they had that day committed to the grave. The deceased Bro. was the first initiate of the Lodge, thirty-two years ago, and had passed sixty-three out of the seventy-three years of his life in the unbroken employment of the same firm.

Polish National Lodge, No. 534.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 9th December, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Present—Bros. W. G. Moore W.M., F. Rath S.W., Cumming J.W., Pass Secretary, Boyd Treasurer, Ebner S.D., Aspinal J.D., Jagielski D.C., Taylor I.G. P.M. Bro. Mercik. Visitors—Bros. Cox W.M. 1257, Goss S.D. 870. Business—Bro. Hayday was passed. The W.M. offered himself as a Steward for the Girls' School.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 860.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Thursday, the 9th December, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—William Henry Wallington W.M., C. Knox S.W., Allen J.W., L. F. Little P.M. Secretary, Dallwood P.M. Treasurer, Dr. White S.D., Mason J.D., Dobson I.G., Cheshire Steward, Gilchrist Tyler, P.M.'s Dallwood, Bates, Underwood and Thompson. Business—Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. Thos. Pinn and James Gawthorp Kitchingman, which proved unanimous in their favour. The first named gentleman was then initiated into the Order. Bro. Jones was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M., and Bros. Landegram, Burteton and Johnson were passed to the second degree. The Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet; the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Dallwood I.P.M., in proposing the health of the W.M., expressed himself highly gratified at the excellent way in which the working in Lodge had been conducted, observing that the rendering of the three degrees he had never heard surpassed. Several songs were sung, by the W.M., Bros. Knox, Dobson, &c., in excellent style, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946.—The regular monthly meeting of the above was held on Wednesday, at Grotto Hotel, Cross Deep, Twickenham. Present—Bros. J. Hayward W.M., Johnson S.W., Wolgemuth J.W., J. R. Stedwell P.G.S., W. Platt P.M. Secretary, J. W. Price S.D., C. Woodman J.D., and P.M.'s Bros. W. Sneed P.G.J.W. Middlesex, Whitley P.G.J.D., and W. Waghorn I.P.M. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. Atkins and Harrison being in attendance, were initiated into the Order by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a capital banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and after some very good singing, by Bros. Platt, Johnson, C. Woodman and Whitley, the brethren returned to town.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, numerously attended by the brethren and distinguished visitors, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Present—Bros. Gruenbaum W.M., Blum S.W., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert Assistant Grand Pursuivant P.M. Secretary, and P.M.'s De Solla, Eskell, S. V. Abrahams, Pollitzer, Loewenstark, Blumenthal, &c. The Lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, Bro. E. P. Albert presented Bro. J. Blum S.W. and W.M. elect to the Lodge. A board of installed Masters having been formed, he was duly installed by Bro. S. V. Abrahams P.M., whose rendering of the ceremony met with the warmest encomiums. The W.M. then invested his officers: Bros. Gruenbaum I.P.M., V. Myers S.W.,

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Gilford J.W., S. Alba S.D., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert Assistant G.P. Secretary, Salomons J.D., Hookfield I.G., Hand D.C., Rule Steward, and Smith Tyler. The sum of 20 guineas was proposed from the funds of the Lodge to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, for Life Governorships, which was carried unanimously. Bro. S. V. Abrahams P.M. then presented the returning W.M. Bro. Grunebaum, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant P.M.'s jewel and a gold watch, as a mark of their regard and esteem. Bro. Grunebaum suitably returned thanks for the valuable presentation, after which the Lodge was closed, and a very sumptuous banquet followed. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bros. Wright G.P. and E. P. Albert responding for the toast of the Grand Officers. A special toast was given to Bro. Diosy, of the Polish National Lodge, who eloquently responded. Bro. H. G. Buss P.M. 27, P.G.R. Middlesex, and several brethren responded to the toast of the Visitors, who were, 42 in number. The toasts of the W.M., Past Masters and Officers followed, and the brethren passed a delightful evening. The W.M. provided a musical treat, under the direction of Bro. E. P. Van Noorden, Organist of the Lodge, who was supported by Bros. Donald, King, Largo, Mason and Lawler. Among the visitors were Bros. Wright G.P., H. G. Buss P.G.R. Middlesex, Hickman W.M. 188, M. Alexander P.M. 188, L. Alexander P.M. 188, Israel Abrahams P.M. 188, B. Abrahams P.M., Demerara, O. Roberts I.P.M. 188, Ross W.M. 185, C. Hogard P.M. 205, P.G.S.B. Essex, Diosy 534, Robinson 1502, Woolf 1423, Chambers 141, E. Schumann 183, Freystadt, S. Abraham late 188, Dispeoker 73, H. D. Marks 1502, E. Rimmell, Tongue 534, L. M. Myers 188, Spiers late 1364, Davis, E. J. Harty 1201, A. Myers, W. Aronsberg, &c.

Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 8th December, at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present—Bros. John T. Freeman Prov. G.S. Berks and Bucks W.M., Edward Margrett S.W., W. P. Ivey P.M. Secretary, W. G. Flanagan S.D., R. Dowsett Organist, Ferguson and Newman Stewards, J. Early Danks I.G., W. Hemmings Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Chancellor, Egginton, and Brown. Business—To confirm the minutes of the last regular Lodge. To raise Bro. Cottrell. This ceremony was performed in a most impressive manner. It was announced that the approaching ball should be an invitation one, therefore the names of the stewards will not be published. Mr. Thomas Simonds, of Newlands, was proposed and seconded for initiation.

Devon Lodge, No. 1138.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 7th December, at the Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbot. Present—Bros. W. R. King W.M., B. Prowse S.W., J. S. Saunders J.W., Jno. Oliver Secretary, R. L. Lloyd Treasurer, Wm. Harris S.D., E. Huxtable J.D., C. Stevens Steward, R. Crooke I.G., Jno. Haywood Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. H. G. Beachey, P. D. Michelmore P.G. Steward, George Stockman jun.; Bros. B. Stooke, W. Ryder, C. D. Beddek, W. H. Banfill, L. E. Bearne, Jno. Williams, H. S. Gaye, T. J. H. Westall, H. Voysey, H. Martin, Fitz M. Martin, Dr. W. L. Pope D.D. P.P.G.C. Business—Lodge opened, minutes of last meeting confirmed. Bro. Oliver was elected W.M., and Bro. R. L. Lloyd re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. It was then proposed, seconded, and unanimously carried, that the banquet which takes place the first regular meeting in January be provided by Bro. King, of the Queen's Hotel. Bro. Colonel Beddek, being about to proceed to India, asked for his necessary certificate, and for his name to be retained on the list of members during his absence, which was readily complied with. Bro. Beachey P.M. announced to the brethren that, having obtained a warrant for an Arch Chapter in connection with the Devon Lodge, the consecration would take place on the 18th January 1876. The Lodge was then closed.

Hereward Lodge, No. 1332.—This Lodge held its meeting on Wednesday evening, 8th of December, at Bourn, Lincolnshire, and unanimously confirmed their previous lodge minutes, in their election of W.M. for the ensuing year, when the Rev. Daniel Aoe, D.D., P.P.G.C. for Lincolnshire, of Lodges Nos. 660,1232, and 1482, and at present Grand Chaplain of Royal Arch Chapter Provincial, and Mark Grand Lodge Provincial for Lincolnshire, was duly installed W.M. of Hereward Lodge, No. 1332, Bourn, Lincolnshire, 1875-76. The brethren were favoured with the distinguished presence of two of the Secretaries of our Masonic Charities in London, to do honour to the new W.M. One of those gentlemen attested that he had known their new W.M. for nearly twenty years, both as a clergyman in the metropolis, and as a member of the Craft; and in every relation of life he had proved their new Master as a gentleman of the highest honour and integrity. Several high officers, very eminent in the Craft, would have been present had not the weather proved extremely inclement. The brethren, however, who assembled on this auspicious occasion, spent a most enjoyable evening, not the shadow of a shade to disturb their harmony. The speeches too, delivered, were admirable, especially those of our London Secretaries on the utility of our Masonic Charities and their urgent claims for support. The Lodge at Bourn has very creditably for sometime past worked its way successfully under difficulties, and it is confidently expected that the new Master, with the Past Masters, and other honoured brethren, will fully prove that the Hereward Lodge has undeniable claims for distinction and success, to which it is entitled by charitable exertions and quiet perseverance in well doing.

The Gilbert Greenall Lodge, No. 1350.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 14th of December, at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington. Present—Bros. William Richardson W.M., C. Crosier J.W., T. Auckland Secretary, T. Sutton Treasurer, J. Hannah I.G. Visitors—Bros. D. W. Finney P.M. P.Z., &c., Brierley, Woods, Mossop, and Hawkins. The business was of the ordinary routine character. One candidate was proposed for initiation. The brethren afterwards adjourned for refreshment.

Commercial Lodge, No. 1391.—This Lodge held its 70th meeting on Saturday, 11th of December, at the Masonic Hall, Leicester. Present—Bros. R. A. Barber jun. W.M., E. Mason S.W., R. Moore J.W., J. Ewing Sec., A. Chamberlin S.D., Geo. Matt J.D., C. J. McBride D.C., H. Meadows and J. W. Hunter Stewards, E. H. Butler I.G., C. Bembridge Tyler. P.M. Bro. Geo. Clifton. Visitors—Bros. S. S. Partridge Prov. G. Sec. P.M. 523, J. T. Thorp W.M. 52?, A. Sargeant P.G.S., A. Palmer P.M. 279, &c., &c. Business—Mr. E. T. Hutchinson was balloted for, unanimously elected, and initiated by the W.M.; the first lecture on the tracing board was afterwards impressively given by Bro. Ewing, Sec.; over thirty members were present, both in Lodge and at the supper table; the usual toasts were given by the W.M., and a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close shortly before eleven o'clock.

Baldwin Lodge, No. 1398.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 13th December, at the Castle, Dalton-in Furness. Present—Bros. Frederick Bell S.W., John Walton J.W., Robert Blake Secretary, C. Godby J.D., Rev. J. M. Morgan P.G.C. Chaplain, William Pratt Tyler. P.M. Bro. William Whiteside. Visitor—Bro. R. Cowdery. Business—Bro. W. Whiteside P.M. conducted the Lodge during the unavoidable absence of Bro. Clarke W.M., and several matters relating to the welfare of the Lodge were brought forward.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court. Present—Bros. J. W. Baldwin W.M., E. H. Thiellay P.G.A.G.P. Middlesex S.W., J. Baxter Langley J.W., T. J. Sabine P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Treasurer, F. Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex Secretary, E. W. Devereux S.D., S. Wolff J.D., A. Loos I.G., B. Wright D.C., and P.M.'s J. T. Moss P.P.G.R. Middlesex, H. A. Dubois P.P.A.G.D.C. Middlesex, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. A. Rumbelow, F. Henreux and F. H. Harvey were raised to the 3rd degree. The Bye-laws of the Lodge were read, and the election for W.M. then took place, which was unanimously in favour of Bro. J. Baxter Langley; J. T. Sabine was re-elected Treasurer, and F. Gilbert Tyler. The Audit Committee was appointed, and a jewel, of the value of 12 guineas, was voted to the W.M. on his retiring from the chair. A petition on behalf of a distressed brother was received and duly signed. It was then resolved that application be made for a new Chapter, entitled the "Era." The Lodge was then closed, and refreshment followed labour.

The Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—The members of this prosperous Lodge assembled in goodly array on Saturday last, the 11th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. The Lodge was opened punctually at the time appointed on the summons, by the I.P.M., Bro. Nathan B. Headon, who was supported by Bros. J. Hamilton Townsend, the W.M. of the Lodge, James Stevens P.M., Edward Moody P.M. Secretary, John Sees S.W., Blackie S.D., J. W. Catchpole J.D., Thomas D.C., W. H. Hook Organist, Charles Taylor 1st St., W. Steadman Tyler, &c. The Lodge was opened with the usual preliminaries, after which the candidates for raising were examined as to their proficiency, which resulting satisfactorily, Bro. Headon raised Bros. Wright and Wynne. Bro. James Stevens then took the chair, and raised Bros. Evenett and Cadiot. The remaining candidates for the sublime degree, Bros. W. E. Thompson and Bertram, were then introduced, and were raised, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Thompson P.M. 177. In each case the ceremony was conducted in a most able and impressive manner. Bro. J. H. Townend now took the chair, and passed Bros. Powell, Keith Frith, Luggar and Hudd. The Lodge was resumed to the 1st degree, and a ballot was taken for Messrs. Julius J. Wyler, Robert Lawson, John March Ginders, and Clement Royd, which was unanimous. Messrs. Shore, Atkins, Wyler, Lawson and Ginders, were then severally initiated into the Order by the W.M., who performed the ceremony in a most perfect manner, Bro. Stevens describing the working tools. Bro. Moody's motion (that from the 1st January 1876 the Initiation Fee be raised to ten guineas) was then discussed, and on being put to the meeting, was unanimously carried. After the transaction of other business the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper, which was served in an ample manner. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. briefly spoke to the several Loyal and Masonic toasts. To that of Lord Skelmersdale and the rest of the Grand Officers, Bro. John Boyd P.G.P. replied: he referred to the gratification it had afforded him to be present at the Consecration of the Great City Lodge, and he now, on this, his first visit since that occasion, complimented the members on the great success they had achieved. The toast of the Visitors was replied to by Bro. Little, who was followed by Bro. Swallow, who thanked the brethren for the kind invitation which they had given him, as the W.M. of the City of Westminster Lodge, to pay them a visit; he only regretted that he had not been able to bring more of his officers with him. Bro. Swallow concluded by expressing a hope that the W.M. and Officers of the Great City Lodge would honour the City of Westminster Lodge with their company on the occasion of its next meeting. Bro. Townsend, on behalf of the Officers of his Lodge, said he should have great pleasure in paying the return visit. During the evening Bros. Stevens, Hook, Middleton, Bertram, and others, gave some capital songs, and the proceedings did not conclude till a very late hour had been reached. Amongst the visitors were Bros. John Boyd P.G.P., R.W. Little G.S.W. (Middlesex), Secretary Girls' School, J. G. Yelland G.S.B. Herts, Swallow W.M. City of Westminster, White J.W. City of Westminster, Simpson 405 Sec. Con., Ebbutt 463, Allison 186, Charles Palmer McKay 720, Marsden 205, Portway 1260, W. W. Morgan 1385, J. K. Pitt 463, Walters 1445, Dr. O'Connor 363.

Alexandra Lodge, No. 1511, Hornsea.—The annual meeting of the brethren of this Lodge was held at Hornsea, near Hull, on Wednesday afternoon, when the W.M., Bro. Thos. Oates, presided. There was a large attendance, including several past

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officers of rank. P.M. Bro. John Thompson felt gratified in presenting his first annual statement, as it showed such success and progress as was almost unparalleled in any young Lodge. It was started just a year ago with only 13 members, and he could now boast of 42; the Lodge had paid a very heavy sum for expenses, which was always incidental to a new Lodge, and still it completed its year with a balance in hand. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and the choice of the brethren fell unanimously on Bro. Benjamin L. Wells, who had officiated as S.W. during the past year. P.M. Bro. John Thompson was re-elected Treasurer and Bro. Crier Tyler. A vote of thanks to the retiring Master, for his praiseworthy efforts in conducting the affairs of the Lodge, was proposed by P.M. Bro. Charles Wells (ex-Mayor of Hull), and seconded by Bro. J. Brooke Prov. S.J.D. and W.M. of the Minerva Lodge, No. 254. This was carried with acclamation, and W.M. Bro. Oates briefly acknowledged the compliment paid to him. The ceremony of installation will take place on Wednesday, the 12th of next month, when a large and influential attendance is expected. At the conclusion of the Lodge business, the usual loyal and Craft toasts were honoured, and the proceedings were enlivened with some excellent songs, one being an *impromptu*, written by a member of the Lodge, and was received by the brethren with hearty applause.

Addiscombe Lodge, No. 1556.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on the 11th instant, at the Alma Tavern, Addiscombe. Present—Bros. S. T. Turquand W.M., T. F. Mallett S.W., J. Parsons Smith J.W., W. S. Masterman acting P.M., H. E. Frances P.G.D. Treasurer, Gray S.D., Pill J.D., L. Turquand I.G. and thirteen other brethren, including Bros. Pettitt No. 95, and Broomhall No. 778, who were visitors, when Bros. Lowrie and Wheeler were ably raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bro. Foster was passed to the second degree, and Bros. Godwin, Colston and Davis were duly initiated into the Order. At the consecration of the Lodge, in August last, there were only seven members, since that period twelve brethren have been initiated, and two joining members have also been added, making the number on the roll at the present time twenty-one; this large increase in so short a period fully justifies the brethren who exerted their influence in forming this Lodge, and proves that such a step was absolutely necessary to meet the requirements of the neighbourhood. An excellent banquet was provided, to which the brethren did justice, after which the usual Masonic toasts were duly given, and responded to most heartily. Bro. Broomhall, in his reply on behalf of himself and brother visitor, expressed his pleasure and surprise, that in a country Lodge the ritual and ceremonies were worked with such accuracy, order, and solemnity, equal indeed to any working he had heard in a London Lodge. The brethren separated with general congratulations and hearty good wishes.

Duke of Connaught Lodge, 1558.—This new Lodge held its second regular meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Thursday, the 19th inst. Present—Bros. W. Snowden W.M., W. S. Cackett S.W., T. Sleap J.W., J. Dann P.M. and Secretary, W. Mitchell S.D., A. Runacres J.D., J. Kemp I.G., W. Chalk W.S., F. Geisler Tyler; also Bros. C. E. Power, T. Taylor, C. Sims, R. Pearman, W. Rowlands, J. E. Pentreath, G. Harris, J. H. Swan, J. Emins; also Visitors, Bros. C. B. Wright, Asaph 1319, S. J. Harvey, Royal Jubilee 72, C. E. Towell, Victoria 1356, J. M. Walters, Westbourne 133, T. T. Dryson, Royal Union 382. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. The W.M. vacated the chair, and Bro. P.M. Dann officiated. Bros. Power, Taylor, Sims, Pearman and Pentreath were duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. A ballot was taken for Bro. W. Rowlands, of the Royal Jubilee Lodge, No. 72, as a joining member, which being unanimous, Bro. Rowlands was admitted and enrolled as a member of the Lodge. Ballots were taken for Messrs. G. Harris, J. H. Swan and J. Emins, and those gentlemen were regularly initiated. The W.M. resumed the chair. The Secretary read a copy of a communication from Grand Lodge, dated 7th December 1839. Bro. Sleap J.W. moved that the question of raising the initiation fee, from five to seven guineas, be taken into consideration. Bro. Mitchell S.D. seconded the motion, which was carried by a large majority. Bro. John Morgan Walters, of the Westbourne Lodge, No. 733, was proposed as a joining member. Candidates for initiation were proposed. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed and adjourned till the second Thursday in January next. The brethren then went to refreshment, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a most happy and convivial manner.

Morecambe Lodge, No. 1561, Lancaster.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the North Western Hotel, Morecambe, on the 3rd inst., Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore W.M. occupying the Master's chair. There were several members present from the Lancaster Lodges. Bros. Ward and Bannister were passed from Entered Apprentices to Fellow Craftsmen, and at the close of the charge the W.M. (Bro. Dr. Moore) gave a lecture on the Second Degree, which was highly appreciated by those present. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Storey 281, for his present to the Lodge of an oil-cloth. Two candidates were proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563.—The second meeting of this Lodge, since its consecration, was held on the 9th inst., at the Café Royal, Air-street, Regent-street. The W.M. and officers were all in their respective places. Bros. Swallow W.M. (P.M. of the Royal Union Lodge, Uxbridge), the Rev. P.M. Holden S.W., White J.W., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. Treasurer, Scott (P.M. 749) Secretary, Phillip S.D., Turner J.D., W. C. Parsons (W.M. 180) I.G., Shand D.C., Hutchinson W.S., and Bros. Willis, Gibson, Worrell, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Bishop, Turner, Browning and Hart being duly qualified, were passed to the 2nd degree, and Mr. Gardner was balloted for, accepted, and initiated into the Order. The working was perfectly rendered, and with due solemnity. The bye-laws proposed were submitted to the Lodge by the Secretary, when it was proposed by Bro. W. C. Parsons I.G., and seconded by Bro. Shand D.C., "That the same should be printed, and a copy sent to every brother of the Lodge, so that they should be fully discussed at the next meeting." This was carried unanimously. The Lodge was then closed until the second Thursday in January. A very excellent banquet followed, and after the removal of the cloth the W.M. presided, giving the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and a most enjoyable evening was passed. Bro. Lancaster S.W. 1201 was present as a visitor.

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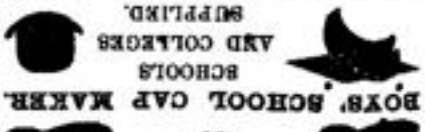
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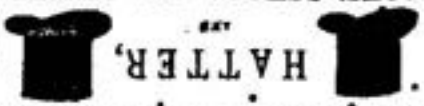
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THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 52. SATURDAY, 25th DECEMBER 1875. [PRICE THREEPENCE. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

OUR SECOND VOLUME.

WITH the present number of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, we close our Second Volume. Twelve months since we were just preparing to launch our projected journal. Amid much encouragement, many predictions of our ultimate success, and numerous promises of help, we ventured to put forth our programme. Some of our critics, perhaps a few of our enemies, were of opinion that, in that programme, we aimed too high, and made promises which could not be fulfilled. We were content, however, in spite of the sneers of half-hearted friends, to allow our performances to speak for themselves, and now, with the issue of our fifty-second number, we may fairly claim that we have accomplished all we intended. We promised our readers a high-class Masonic journal, which should inform them, not merely of all the current events of any importance in the Masonic world, but which should keep before their eyes the literary and antiquarian lore in connection with the Craft. We promised that while we should carefully veil from the vulgar those things which should not be discussed in a newspaper, we should approach the consideration of Masonry in no narrow or pedantic spirit. It was our ambition to be the organ of intercommunication between Masons in various parts of the globe, and in this also we have succeeded beyond our most sanguine expectations. In America and in Australia our articles have been freely quoted by the general press, as well as by journals devoted to the affairs of the Order. We have found many warm friends, and many readers, in the United States, while at home we have received cordial support from the brotherhood. Our circulation has steadily increased, and it is still increasing. The need of a respectable organ of Masonic opinion was widely felt when we stepped forward to supply the want, and, notwithstanding the apathy with which Masons have hitherto regarded the journalism of the Order, we have been gladly recognised as an authority, and welcomed as a friend. The apathetic attitude of Masons with reference to their own press has arisen, we believe, in consequence of the inferior quality of the literary *menu* with which that press in the past had been content to regale the brethren. Any stale odds and ends of Masonic news were considered quite good enough for the columns of a Masonic journal, and the literary matter which was served up by some of our contemporaries was generally beneath contempt. Stale platitudes and worn out truisms may, indeed, content dull minds, and furnish the material for the lucubrations of respectable stupidity, but the Order, which comprises in its ranks the culture and intelligence of the middle and upper classes, assuredly demands that its representative organs shall, at least, be on a footing of equality with the high class journals which cater for the intellectual and social wants of the public. What we have done in the past is, at least, a guarantee that, in the future, we shall not permit ourselves to fall behind our ideal. It will be our aim to make THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE still more widely representative of the opinions and the wants of the Masonic world. Many new features of interest will be added to our programme, and the Masonic Portraits, which have given such general satisfaction, will be continued from week to week. We may say, with regard to this latter feature of our journal, that our aim is to present our readers with faithful literary sketches of Masons who are widely known, or who have deserved well of the Order. Mere biographical notices of distinguished living persons are almost always unsatisfactory. They are usually written in a flattering style, and often for purposes which are anything but worthy of respectable journalists. If we have discarded the mere vulgar method of ticketing a man with his name and titles, our readers may feel assured that we have done so for excellent reasons. If our sketches prove to be faithful transcripts of the peculiarities of the persons who, figuratively speaking, will honour us with "sittings," they will speak for themselves. If they be unfaithful or inaccurate, they will, of course, miss their mark, and we, at all events, shall know when and why we have failed. We may add that, although in these papers we shall speak freely of those whose lineaments we shall attempt to draw, we shall always speak kindly, and shall never permit any feelings that are not Masonic to influence our pen. We shall chide without malice, and praise, where praise is deserved, without one thought of insincerity or flattery. Having said thus much of the past and future, we may venture with some show of reason to urge upon our brethren the task of making THE CHRONICLE yet more widely known to the Order. Every one of our readers may render us some service in this respect. They can make us known to those of the brethren who have not yet looked into our pages. They may help to disabuse the minds of some among us of those prejudices against Masonic journalism, which we are glad to know are slowly giving way before a more enlightened consideration of the scope and duties of the Order. Our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic have welcomed the Press with open arms. Nearly every district under the government of a Grand Lodge has its Masonic paper or magazine, and the general newspapers devote much of their space to Masonic intelligence. Here, while there is less apathy on the subject of Masonic journalism than existed a few years since, yet much still remains to be done before the Masonic press of England is placed upon an equality, so far as circulation and influence are concerned, with the Masonic press of the States. We leave this matter in the hands of our readers, fully assured, as we are, that they will do what is thought just and right. With the close of the year men are accustomed to review their past conduct, and make resolutions for the future. It is a wholesome custom, and one which commends itself to every mind. We trust that our friends, in their mental examination of duties but half fulfilled, or claims but tardily recognised, will give some thought to the great task on which we have laboured through the now rapidly fleeting year. Some of them could have lightened that labour had they chosen. Perhaps the idea of attempting to put a shoulder to the wheel has occurred to many a brother who now regrets that his good intentions were not realised. At this season, when the minds of Christian and Jew alike are chastened by the holiest of associations, the recollection of duties unperformed is a portion of that religious discipline which is common to every creed. To remember and to amend is the duty of the just man. We will say no more on this subject, and we now take our leave with hearty wishes that all our readers may spend a jovial Christmas, and may be blessed with a Happy New Year.

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MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 8.)

AN EASTERN STAR.

FEW of us who can only boast of average inches are able to understand or appreciate very tall men. Malignant little imps of five feet five or so, will tell you that the giant of the evening, who towers head and shoulders above the other guests, and upon whose arm the lady he takes down to dinner looks like a white camelia on a black coat, is a slow, dull creature; that his circulation must be feeble, because the heart, which is about the same size in all men, has so much additional work to do in forcing the blood to the extremities. Others will tell you that a very tall man can hardly ever put his feet down without treading upon somebody's corns; he cannot, we are informed, sit at table like other people, because of the extreme length of his legs. "He is always shaky on his pins," says a third detractor, whose nether limbs are so short that he could not sit on horseback without imminent risk of sliding from the saddle. "He talks you down, with his big, strong voice," says another; "he looks at little people with the same contempt with which a Newfoundland dog regards a terrier, and roars out his words as if it were the privilege of big men to ride rough shod over the world." Notwithstanding that these hostile opinions are very general, we confess to a liking for tall men. We have usually found them to be harmless and straightforward fellows, free from guile, and as tender hearted as the fair sex. Here, for example, is a gentleman whose great stature is his most striking personal peculiarity. He is a kindly giant, whose heart is easily touched by the tale of woe. He is not the man to take his ease by his own fire-side while duty calls him to labour for his fellows. An active philanthropist, he is always present at the elections of the Masonic Charitable Institutions, and happy, indeed, is that orphan or that aged Mason whose cause he has espoused. He is none of your roaring giants, of whom little men speak so bitterly; his comely features are grave, and his deportment is quiet and decorous. Yet, under the calm exterior is hidden a fund of humour, and he possesses histrionic ability of no mean order. The calm face is flexible enough to express all the varied emotions of humanity, and the tall form is sufficiently graceful and well balanced to assume, with ease, any attitude or contortion. Under that close cropped, stubble hair, lies a brain which possesses the rare power of imitation. Our giant has that glorious gift, which in all ages has made the Mime attractive to his fellow creatures. Men who possess these attributes are always irresistibly compelled to exhibit them. Acting and mimicry are necessary to their very existence. We do not call our brother charitable because he is always ready to display his talents for the benefit of others, we base his claim to the title upon far more sterling qualities. The tale of distress readily excites his active sympathy, and he never draws tight his purse strings when money can do aught to heal the wounds of the afflicted. Some men's philanthropy consists of mere words; they can say kind things, or express a vague pity for the unfortunate, but they do not understand the art of giving. The line of their charity is drawn at the pocket. So far as the Lodge funds can help, they are willing to hold up a hand and vote relief, but when they are pressed to contribute, they give nothing, or give reluctantly. The highest authority tells us that cheerful giving is the true test of philanthropy. Soft words may sound sweet enough to the ear, but they do not place bread upon the table, or mend the "looped and windowed raggedness" of the deserving poor. Our kindly giant, in the noble simplicity of his heart, usually pities the distressed in those plain figures which represent good and lawful money. But he is careful to remember that true charity begins at home. We have no words which will adequately express the contempt we feel for men who give for the sake of the hollow applause of the multitude, and who neglect those who are dependent upon them. The man who is zealous in the cause of charity, who is a boon companion at table, and a jolly good fellow everywhere but at his own fire-side, is so contemptible a being that we will not waste words in talking of him; his own conscience, if he has any, must bring him his fitting punishment. Our hero, like many big men, is gentle and kind to children. The youngsters, by the bye, seem to have an instinctive knowledge of character, and we are almost inclined to think that that man must have something good in him to whom an infant will open its arms. Little children approach our giant with perfect confidence, and play pranks with his tall, burly form, which remind one strongly of the playful fooling of the Lilliputians with Gulliver. At a juvenile party he looks like a tall pine, surrounded with a dense under growth of graceful ferns. This association of extreme youth and maturity is always delightful to right-thinking persons; the merriment of the youngsters, the simulation or real jollity of the grown person, the real Freemasonry of mind between guileless manhood and innocent infancy—all this to minds that are not jaded with over work, or satiated with pleasure—is like the music of angelic voices in some heavenly choir. But we are forgetting that our giant is famous for Masonic excellence, as well as for the social virtues. He has presided over one of the most influential Lodges in London, and has passed, with *éclat*, the first chair in a Royal Arch Chapter, and is now the Scribe. He is Secretary of one Lodge, and perpetual Director of Ceremonies in another. His Masonic duties are performed with intelligence, tact, and zeal, and he is justly regarded as a worthy pillar of the Order. So sincere a man as he is must have many friends, and his friendship wears well. Some men never can keep their friends for any length of time. They are constantly forming new acquaintances, and they wear them out rapidly. Our hero retains the hearty good will and fraternal affection of such brethren who know him. They respect and love him for his simplicity, for the firmness with which he pursues the straight and narrow path of rectitude, for his high Masonic ability, and for those talents and that strength and force of character which have contributed to raise him conspicuously above his fellows. We regret that our brother has been prostrated by a painful illness, which temporarily extinguished his mimic fires, and removed him from the sphere of active usefulness in which he delights to shine. He is, however, so far recovered as to resume those duties which are consonant with his feelings. We wish him God speed on the road to perfect health, and many years of active work and wholesome enjoyment.

> "This tall fellow, good sir, is sick,
> I pray you use him gently.
> Sir Leech, what says thy skill;
> Canst cure this mystic malady
> As readily as a broken pate,
> Or must we dub thee dunce, and seek
> Some other dabbler in the healing art?"

MANAGEMENT OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

WE are glad the year has not passed without a full and exhaustive report on a subject which has been greatly exercising the mind of Masonry of late, and causing, we may add, no small amount of uneasiness. In the early summer it was known that serious differences had arisen between the scholastic and managerial staffs of our Boys' School. Agreement between these at length appears to have become conspicuous by its absence, to differ being the one solitary point on which there was a community of feeling between the two. But, further than this, Bro. Tew, D.P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, published a pamphlet, in which he expressed an opinion that the School was not so economically managed as it should be, the brunt of his attack being levelled, principally, at the official expenditure, which he considered far too high under the circumstances. In the autumn, a second pamphlet appeared, from the pen, of Bros. Tew and Rev. O. Perrott, the late Head Master, in which the same opinion as to the financial management was expressed, but entering into greater detail. It contained also a mass of matter relating to the recent differences between the Secretary and the late Head Master, which ended at length in the resignation by the latter of his important office. A long discussion ensued in these columns, and in those of our contemporary, and considerable bitterness was exhibited by the disputants. At length it was determined by the governing body of the School to institute an inquiry into the merits of the charges made against the management by Bros. Tew and Perrott. This Committee devoted a considerable amount of time, and the utmost care in investigating the several matters which had formed the subject of such public denunciations, and without calling in the assistance of an accountant, for which authority had been given them, they recently presented their report, completely exonerating the school officials from the charges which had been made. As it was no business of the committee to investigate the differences which had prevailed between the Secretary and the late Head Master, of course this part

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of the question remains as it was. But the point which was of the most importance, has happily been settled, and henceforth we hope the course of the School will progress without further disturbance.

We can hardly find words to express the pleasure we feel at a result so satisfactory. We do not doubt for one moment that the views so strenuously urged by Bros. Tew and Perrott were urged *bonâ fide*, in the firm belief that the office expenditure was excessive, and that the accounts presented to the public did not appear, perhaps, as clear to the minds of the uninformed as they might have been. But it cannot be other than a matter for the heartiest congratulation to learn that the powers that be have done their duty honourably. It would have been a great blow to the Craft had any irregularities been brought home to those charged with preparing the accounts, and, we repeat, we cannot find words to express our pleasure at the result of the late rigid investigation.

Now that this unpleasant subject is at an end, we trust the career of the School may be altogether unchequered. Bro. Binckes may be, occasionally, over-zealous in his anxiety to promote the welfare of the School. He is, no doubt, a little impetuous—we trust he will pardon us for saying so—in his mode of argument, but none have ever doubted his marvellous activity in furthering the good cause. We need only compare the proceeds of each festival before he was Secretary with what was realised this year in order to gauge the measure of his zeal and its results. Accordingly, we congratulate him most heartily on the result, and we trust that Bros. Tew and Perrott, finding the charges advanced by them have no basis of fact to rest upon, will, as the men of honour and gentlemen we know them to be, drop any further antagonism, and heartily co-operate with the rest of the Masonic world in promoting the interests of this important charity.

BURIED ALIVE.

From the *Keystone*.

MY case is not without precedent. Others have been buried alive before me, and by good fortune, exhibited evidences of consciousness in time to secure a rescue. But I presume that I am the first Freemason ever subjected to this discipline. Will the readers of the *Keystone* listen to my story?

My health from boyhood has been feeble. I am not scholar enough to describe, or even name my peculiar ailment; but I was always hard to wake from sleep, sometimes had fainting fits, suffered much from swimming in the head, and the like. I became a Mason at the age of twenty-four, and found the association, in all respects, pleasing and useful. The Lodge worked carefully and well. No erring brother stood a chance of being overlooked until his sin grew chronic within him. We had no disreputable brethren among us. Yet we were social, and had *high jinks* whenever the Craft was "called from labour to refreshment." We sung the Masonic songs well and freely. Twice a year a bounteous banquet was spread, which, with the attendant *jollabilities*, was always anticipated by the members with rare relish. In brief, ours was more than an ordinary Lodge.

One afternoon I had gone into the woods to select a piece of timber for a particular work—I am a wagon maker by trade—and finding a suitable tree, I began to cut it down. While doing so a large snake came suddenly out from a hollow place near the ground, and passed directly between my feet. I always had an antipathy to snakes, and the suddenness of its appearance threw me into a fit. I fell backward to the ground as if dead. The woodchopper who was with me took me on his shoulder—I am a very light weight—and carried me directly to my boarding-house, summoning a physician, whose office we passed, to wait upon me.

All efforts to resuscitate me, however, failed. Applications of all sorts, even the most pungent vivisections, the hot bath, electricity itself, was tried upon me; but my appearance was that of a dead man, and at last the medical practitioner declared that "life was extinct."

It was about this time that my dormant senses returned to me; at least I cannot remember with distinctness anything which occurred before I heard—and, oh! how distinctly the voice fell upon my ears, "He is dead!" Some one remarking upon my florid appearance, and the warmth of my flesh, I heard the doctor explain, with quite a display of erudition, that "such phenomena were not rare in persons of my peculiar temperament; but that these were not appearances of vitality." He advised, however, that no steps should be taken for my burial until the plainest evidences of death were apparent. Then I heard the doctor leave the room, and the conversation of the two or three persons around me, expressing surprise (no one gave utterance to grief) at my sudden death. Then my body was laid out in the usual manner, but with what I thought to be unnecessary coarseness and indelicacy, and I was left, nude and alone, in a dark room.

At this time, I confess, my feelings were of rather a ludicrous nature, mingled with some indignation, than of fear. I felt so confident of reviving in a few hours that the thought of how droll would be the scene of my unexpected resuscitation was uppermost in my mind. I had that indistinct perception of passing objects common to a state of coma, yet could concentrate my ideas upon a single point with considerable force. The lines,

"Solemn strikes the funeral chimes,"

rang in my mind. The job on which I had been engaged occupied much of my thoughts, and I computed over and over the measurements of the timber upon which I was reflecting at the moment of my attack.

The night passed rapidly enough and daylight seemed as plain to me, through my closed lids, as on any other occasion. Then I became a silent witness of a scene never to be eradicated from my memory.

A delegation from the Lodge came to the room, and, for a considerable period, stood around me in consultation. Their words were tender and sympathetic. They had telegraphed, as I learned, to my widowed mother, and the funeral would proceed as soon as she arrived. At a called meeting, the evening before, they had assumed all the expenses of my interment, together with those for a monument, which they had already ordered. They had adopted eulogistic resolutions in my honour. They had, in brief, taken prompt steps to assure my mother, my friends, and the entire community, of their respect for my memory.

Now I was laid in the coffin, and my body removed to the Masonic Hall, where a guard of brethren was detailed to stand watch over me through the second night. It must have been one or two o'clock in the morning that a final consultation was held over my body, to decide the solemn question of death. The ruddy appearance of my skin, and the high temperature of my flesh, before adverted to, had excited much surprise, and no less than four physicians, together with the coroner, several experienced undertakers, and others, stood around me to settle the question.

And now, for the first time, I began to feel some alarm. The reader will, of course, understand that my mind was not in a logical condition. In truth, it must have been in a feeble state of action, so much so, that I had not previously contemplated the possibility of premature burial, nor realised the horrible condition in which I was placed. But as one after the other tests failed, when acrid substances put under my eyelids, and sharp instruments penetrating my nerves, and great charges of galvanism, throwing my muscles into spasms, failed to elicit a single evidence of real life; when I heard the coroner and the undertakers, one and all, declare me "dead as Julius Cæsar"—in fact, when the last of the experts ceased his experiments, and retired from the Lodge-room, a horrible fear began to come over me, to which language is inadequate to give expression, a fear which continued but with ever-increasing intentness until the end of the chapter.

My life was saved by the fortuitous circumstance of a railroad accident, which prevented the arrival of my mother. This necessitated placing my body in a vault, that upon her coming she might once more look upon my face, before my remains were finally interred. In all other respects the funeral services proceeded as though I was to be placed in mother earth. The beautiful Masonic services were performed in opening a Funeral Lodge, my coffin lying near the altar in the centre. The appointment of a Marshal, his orderly arrangements for a procession, the beautiful prayer of the Chaplain, the selections of pall-bearers—how well I understand these details! Every word of the Master's eulogy fell upon my ear, and I followed him, mentally, line by line, and as he recited that funeral poem, commencing

"Dead, but where now," &c,

It would be spinning out this subject unnecessarily to describe the procession and the proceedings at the Church and receiving vault. Suffice that all things were done with exceeding gravity and decorum. My body was taken first to the Methodist church, where a funeral discourse was given, in which my character was tenderly reviewed; then to the graveyard, where I was deposited, as I have said, in one of the vaults, fortunately open to the air. At the suggestion of one of those who had retained a lurking scepticism as to the fact of my death, the lid of the coffin immediately above my face was slightly loosened, to which circumstance I probably owe my life. The horrors of that night why should I relate? Consciousness fully returned. One by one my muscles yielded to my agonised will, and I moved my feet and hands, and opened my eyelids; I screamed aloud. More than once I must have fainted and recovered. And when my mother, tottering into that horrible receptacle of the dead, came to look upon my face, it was bathed with a clammy perspiration, the eyes were open, and an expression of horror overspread it, which was too much for her affectionate heart. She fell upon my coffin senseless, and was long in being revived.

I need not say that no time was lost in releasing me from my confined situation, and restoring me by the aid of hot baths and tenderest care, to strength. A handsome sum of money was made up, by which I was enabled to travel for several months in the company of my mother, and until the horrible impressions of that premature interment faded from my mind.

We have to thank Messrs. Claudius, Chant and Sheppard for two very handsome presentation copies, one plain, the other coloured, of their recently published portrait of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master of England. The pose is easy, the likeness excellent, and the regalia quite *en règle*. Considering the smallness of the cost, the plain lithograph, without frame, of course, being only sixpence on ordinary paper, and one shilling on India paper, while for the coloured one, or the aquagraph—which is to water colours what the oleograph is to oil paintings—the charge is but two shillings, we think the publishers ought to have a very large sale. The price of the one, with a simple gilt frame—all the more effective for being simple—is half a guinea, and of the coloured, twelve shillings and sixpence. We should add that the frame is washable, and thus the portrait may be said, in a certain sense, to be everlasting.

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THE ANTIQUITY OF MASONRY.

REPRINTED FROM "THE NEW ENGLAND FREEMASON."

An Address delivered before the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, at the Quarterly Communication, 8th September 1875, by R.W. Charles Levi Woodbury, Past Deputy Grand Master.

Continued from page 380.

Thus also of the decorations known as the egg and tongue mouldings. The tools of the ancient Egyptian artisans have been found, and resemble in shape those in use at this day. The mallet and the wedge were found in the Pyramids, and Burton also found one in a tomb, with a basket of drills, chisels, bows, &c., that had lain there perhaps twenty centuries before Cambyses invaded Egypt.

The working dress of the Egyptian Mason of the old times consisted of the apron, similar to what it now is; judging from the paintings yet extant, this, with a pair of sandals, constituted his entire working dress in hot weather.

My knowledge of Egyptian lore does not enable me to affirm with confidence the inference which may strike some of my readers; but it is singular that several of the numerous Egyptian kings, whose statues have been preserved, wear the apron without their royal robes. In the list of Egyptian antiquities in the British Museum, published by Sharpe, No. 61 is the statue of the King Ptharnes Miotiph, Son of Ramises 2nd, whose date is about 1120 B.C., whose only clothing is a short apron; this figure is given, ch. 2, sect. 46, in the history of Egypt by the same author. A cast from his tomb also shows him wearing a similar apron. No. 98, of the same list, is the statue of King Oimenepthah, 2nd, wearing no clothing but sandals and the apron. A cast from his tomb, also in the museum, shows the apron under a transparent gauze robe. Elsewhere I have seen drawings of two Royal figures at the portal of some temple or tomb wearing the apron alone; but I do not recall the place where they are found. As everything of this sort was symbolic in Egypt, we may speculate whether the apron so worn without the usual royal robes, by a king, the head of the priestly caste, did not indicate an initiation, undescribed by antiquarians, into the arcana of the sacred sculptors, draughtsmen and Masons who pertained to this caste.*

The method of work has remained much the same; the Egyptian broached work was as perfect as it is now. The chisel draft on the cyclopean stones in the Temple foundations at Jerusalem is just as on a dressed stone of to-day.

Another class of proofs of descent are found in the mystic designs of the old masters, carved on their slabs or constructed in their edifices, which are still in use. Layard, the explorer of the ruins of Nineveh and Babylon, was astonished to find the figure known as the Greek honeysuckle perfectly designed and used there; thence it passed into the architecture of ancient Greece, thence into Western Europe, and through modern church architecture to the present. It is of common use now, in its identical original form, both in Protestant and Catholic churches. What a proof of the tenacity with which the conventional clings in the Craft, where Zoroastian, Chaldee, Pagan and Christian temples, in a succession of twenty-six hundred years, inherit and transmit the same mystic symbols alike to innovators and successors! Students also have traced and written many learned works, showing how certain mystic emblems of a faith, so early as almost to be prehistorical in its origin, have been transmitted, such as dome, pinnacle, and spire, through all successive eras to the present age; and although their symbolic meaning has occulted from the general public, not merely retaining but gaining favour as new appliances render the art more capable of executing such designs with brilliancy. What traveller has not paused to gaze on the spires of Cologne and Strasburg, or to admire the domes of St. Peter, St. Sophia, St. Isaac, St. Paul, the latter the glorious work of our modern accepted Grand Master, Wren. The round towers of Ireland and the needle of Cleopatra bear witness like these to the continuity of the conventional in the Masonic art. The mystic beacon derived from the form of the church, mosque, or temple in all ages, and held esoteric, is another link.

Another curious instance of the conventional perversion of a symbol is in the brazen pillars which stood before the door of the Temple of Solomon. They are reproduced by the latter Phœnicians in the pillars of Hercules, which stood at the port of the Mediterranean; but at this day, in Phœnician-settled Spain, they are borne on the reverse of the silver dollar. Thus that which was once a symbol of life, the mystic basis of religion, has, among the profane, sunk to represent a mere dollar's worth of earth. Truly, Solomon's successors are wiser than kings.

Considering the vast and varied knowledge on antique remains gathered by modern discoverers, we are justified to anticipate that ere long it will be demonstrated that conventional Masonic art was so allied with theology in ancient times that every part of a temple taught a special lesson of its own; that form and symbol gave every stone a signification as perfect as a hieroglyphic character; and an initiate could read intelligibly the ideas embodied by the architect Mason in the building of Egyptian and Semitic temples as if they were written in the common language of the country. In those days there were sermons in stone, and the Champollin of art bearing the key is not many generations distant. Much of symbology, in the course of its long descent and many migrations, has become so conventional a part of art that the original meaning has grown very obscure. Where the religion of a country has fundamentally changed, the forms and decorations of the temples, because they are symbolic, sometimes become modified to suit the change; but still, as Masonry is one art, they largely retain the impress of the past. Of this, did time allow, I could give many illustrations. So, also, inventions in the beauty of design have occasionally modified, but I think never obliterated, the conventional aspect of religious symbology. Egypt, Greece and Rome still are three radiant lights of the Masonic state. For the burnt and buried Babylon, for the desolate Jerusalem, for the moulded Semitic architecture of Tyre, of the plains, and of the mountains, we hold our Lodge of sorrow, and cheer our longing souls with the faintest relics of their golden glory.

In putting forth my propositions, I feel that some will be appalled at the length of time included in the subject, and will hardly realize that many other parts of our civilisation can be traced clearly, descending from prototypes as distant as Greek Masonry from our era.

Modern scholars and divines readily admit that the metaphysics of Aristotle, of Plato, and of that branch of Platonism that mingled with the Chaldean and Zoroastian metaphysics in the school of Alexandria, are at the root of all present divisions and diversities in schools of theology. Modern science has reasoned its way from observation and proof, until now it declares the doctrines taught by Democritus, three centuries before our era, include the highest known expression of the cosmic theory of matter. Pythagoras, who brought into Europe from Egypt the helio-centric theory of the universe, after a long obscurity, has his merits again recognised, and Euclid is of equal authority now as when he prepared his geometry. Three of the four books religious of the world are more than seventeen centuries old. In literature, the drama and oratory, we look to the classic ages for models. In the practical arts, those which yet depend on hand-skill, rather than on machinery, had then the habitudes they now have, joined to even greater skill. The goldsmith, the metal worker, the gem engraver, the sculptor and stone cutter, the shipwright, the harness-maker and the hand-loom weaver, plied their trades and their art, descended generation by generation through their apprentices, moving from one centre of trade and wealth to another, in accordance with the laws of prosperity which govern civilisation. Figure weaving and the India shawl are older than the days of Abraham, and the hand-loom, in its pristine form, is still used to weave the latter. The potter's wheel is still unimproved. The ship of to-day bears on her stern the carved lares and symbols which her prototypes bore in the days of Pagan Rome. The fashionable jewellery of to-day is copied from Etruscan and Egyptian models. The fine arts revel in the goddesses, nymphs and Cupids of Greek design. Some of the mummies of Egypt reveal teeth plugged with gold as well as if an American dentist had tried his torturing tools on them. My limits forbid more illustrations of the conventional rule other artisans have lived and died in for more than sixty generations.

The present sum of human knowledge has been longer in accumulating than the records of history bear witness. Even the few arts which are of modern origin, with rare exceptions, lean for support on more ancient arts. What reason is there to withhold from the Craft of Masonry the same inferences of a descent from the ancient Craft which is so readily accorded to other arts? Research into architecture would furnish further illustrations of the descent of this art, important in my view because the conventional images is ever the highest evidence of its continuous transmission. We must deal with the past from such materials as time, war and fanaticism have spared to come down to us. Masonry is replete with the actual relics of its ancient work. These attest for themselves. In the vulgar sense, except a few papyri snatched from Egyptian tombs, there are now no extant no written records of those days which are original. There is no Jewish or Christian MS. extant earlier than the fourth, perhaps than the seventh, century in the date of its writing.

The conjecture as to the accuracy of a copy is sadly complicated if it is the copy of copies many times removed from the original; but if copies of various known dates agree in the text, it is held proof of an authentic line of descent, although the entire chain of copies back to the original is not produced or accounted for. The rocks last longer than parchment or paper; and chisel marks endure better than ink. The memory of man expands little over seventy years; beyond that, written records or stone records alike rest on reasonable conjecture for proof of authenticity. The dead generations cannot be gathered from the valley of dry bones and paraded as witnesses; you must interrogate the relics of their works and abide the reasonable inferences deduced from them. Eastern art did not fall with Egypt, Babylon or Rome. The light of earlier times had not faded away when the energy of the Arab followers of Mahomet revived its flickering beams for nine centuries more. Upon these sources Europe drew for knowledge and skill in art, science and philosophy—certainly till the close of the fifteenth century. Oriental philosophy again interwove its metaphysics into European theology. Even the Crusaders, poor soldiers of the cross, learned not only war and art from their adversaries, but were charged with returning with their creeds imbued with more than one emanation from Eastern mysticism. Anderson, a hundred and fifty years ago, claimed they also brought Freemasonry from the East. Masonry, which had decayed in Europe with the eclipse of Roman civilisation, became illumined by association with Saracenic skill, invented and perfected the Gothic art, and gradually, through Fraternities of trained Masons, spread it over Europe.

In the practical hands of the Master Masons it grew in grace and beauty, until it entirely superseded the debased Roman styles, and became the devotional art of mediæval times, symbolising the mystic ideas of the dominant religion in those sublime cathedrals, still the objects of religious art. The organisation of the Craft resembled that of the Egyptian and Greek of yore. The masters were practical as well as scientific in architecture; the Fellow Craft had the same manual skill, but inferior attainments, in the higher parts of the profession; the apprentice was glorious as usual over his modest progress. Their initiations and signs bound them into a close fraternity of grades. At York Minster, A.D. 1370, their contracts with the Chapter provided none should work on the chapel without the common consent of the Master and keepers of the work (Wardens?) and Master Masons. Their Mason marks are yet extant. The secrets of their

* The royal apron, described by Wilkinson as being part of the Royal dress, bears a striking similarity to the style of apron worn by Grand Masters. From his description it was worn as the Grand Master wears his.

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art and Craft were kept by oral tradition, and protected by sacred obligations; and yet they were so *free* and liberal as often to admit high dignitaries of Church and State, whose taste in art they were desirous of cultivating, into the mysteries of their Fraternity, which in truth was the only school for art in Europe. Like the Masons of Hiram of yore, these were travelling bodies, moving from one scene of labour to another, and, as they chose to contract, being in the direct employ of Church or State, they were enabled to secure rare and valuable privileges indicated to the thoughtful by the name of Freemasons.

I cannot, indeed, claim for them, as for their Egyptian predecessors, that they were of priestly caste, yet they held like relations to Church and State; for kings and bishops then rejoiced to be of the Masonic Craft, and still seek their Lodges with flattering alacrity.

Let me cite some mediæval illustrations, drawn from the reviewer in the *London Quarterly*, before referred to:—

"Benedict Abbott, of Warmouth, in A.D. 676, crossed the ocean to Gaul, and brought back with him stone masons to make a church after the Roman fashion."

"In A.D. 1174, by the just but occult judgment of God, the church of Christ at Canterbury was consumed by fire." The monks took counsel with the English and French Masons, and finally committed the work to William of Sens, "a man active and ready, and, as a workman, skilful both in wood and stone," who "went on preparing all things needful for the work, either of himself or by the agency of others."

Thus also in the reign of Henry III., Bishop Grosstête describes the duty of the master: "In all kinds of workmanship the master of the works and workmen has the full power, as indeed it is his duty, to investigate, and examine," etc.; "and this he should do, not only through others, but when it is needful with his own hands."

Hope says, "Many ecclesiastics of the highest rank conferred additional weight on the Order of Freemasons by becoming its members."

"In 1442 King Henry VI. became a Mason. Afterwards, in conjunction with Thirske, Master Mason of the chapel of King Henry V., the king laid out the plan of his own sepulchre."

Investigations have cumulated instances of gentlemen of quality that were crafted members of Masonic Lodges in Great Britain elsewhere than at York, during more than a century prior to the London organisation of 1717. Gov. Belcher, of Massachusetts, states he was admitted in 1704; Elias Ashmole, in his diary, says he and Col. Mainwaring were so made in 1646 in England; and the records in Scotland, cited by Lyon and by Hughan, among many others, show Boswell, of Auchinleak, was present as a member in 1600, and made his Masonic mark on the record of Edinburgh Lodge. The records of Kilwinning and of the Lodge at Aberdeen show numerous earls, lords, ministers, lawyers, merchants, etc., were members in that century.*

I forbear further citations, nor shall I attempt to tell you when or how these Masons absorbed the speculative parts of their royal art, which we, their successors, yet practise under the landmarks of their Ancient Constitutions. There was something elevated in the esoteric doctrines of these travelling Lodges, that drew to them not merely the learned and generous among the great, but also the few believers in human progress, and the scattered but earnest seekers after the deep truths occulted in nature's laboratory, long before Freemasonry ceased to be a manual art.

With the renaissance, came in vogue the separation of the duties of an architect from those of a Master Mason; but we have copies of Constitutions, written earlier than this, which show that modern Freemasonry descended from the cathedral-building craft, whose Master Masons were men of science as well as of manual skill.

Conscious that I have merely begun to collect the available materials to illustrate my subject, I should apologise for presenting an unfinished labour to your attention, were my object other than to arrest hasty conclusions, by showing that candour requires this broad field for explorations should be fairly exhausted before the annalist or the Craft are entitled to sit in judgment on the question of the origin of the royal art, or to demand that this, which now rests in tradition, an open question, shall be relegated into the field of established truth. Late historians, elucidating early records, have wrought confusion on many disparagers of the early history of our organisation, and I trust to be pardoned for thinking that even traditions are capable of receiving much light, when their credibility is examined with a catholic spirit by appropriate tests. The accumulated evidence of descent of many designs, symbols, decorations, tools and usages now in use, their conventional character, the similarity of organisation of the Craft, the liberal knowledge possessed by its Masters, the broad scope of the science of Masonry from the first, and the mystic flavour it seems always to have drawn from its exterior connections, have deeply impressed my mind. The Masonic student alone can collate evidence from these sources with success. The darkness comprehended not the light, and I may conclude by quoting the language of one who seems to have known the light in the sixteenth century:—

"And though our structure should be seen by a hundred thousand men, it will ever remain untouched, uninjured, unseen, and even hidden in all eternity to the Godless world, *Sub umbra alarum tuarum Jehovah*, until that millennial epoch when that which is now known to few, and portrayed secretly in pictures and symbols, shall fill the whole earth, and be loudly and freely announced."

* The Statute 34 Ed. III. ch. 8, A.D. 1360, and of 3 Hy. VI., A.D. 1425, clearly show that there were three progressive degrees among the Masons; that they were self-elected, and held congregations, chapters and general assemblies, and also that the chief masters often took works by contract in gross.

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MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Will some of your readers, who are versed in Masonic jurisprudence, kindly give me information on the following point?

A catch motion has been passed in my Lodge by a majority whipped up for the purpose. Shall I be justified in proposing that the minutes, so far as they relate to the motion in question, be not confirmed, so as to give the Lodge an opportunity of reconsidering the question before finally committing themselves to the obnoxious resolution?

I may add that the two P.M.'s present, the W.M., J.W. and the S.D. voted against the motion. The S.W. and J.D. were unavoidably absent, or they would have voted with their brother officers.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Fraternally yours,

10th December 1875. W.M.

A SUGGESTION TO OUR JEWISH BRETHREN.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Whatever may have been the case at the time when our charitable institutions were first established, and before Freemasonry at last became true to its principles by deserting the ranks of sectarian prejudices, and exerted its beneficent influences in favour of justice and religious toleration, it will not be denied that, especially in these comparatively latter years of freedom of opinion and conscience, the Jewish brethren have not been behind-hand in giving large and liberal support to the Charities. It is also a fact that, hitherto, the orphan children of the Ancient Faith have been unable to participate in the benefits of either of them. Not but what the Institutions are open to them as much as to the children of any other community; they cannot, however, avail themselves of the privilege, unless certain exceptional conditions are inaugurated. The object of this letter is to ascertain the feasibility of a plan being adopted whereby Jewish children might not be prevented from entering the lists of candidates on account of religious scruples. The method once found, the discussion of details might be left to a committee especially formed for the purpose of seeing the matter carried into effect. There are, undoubtedly, difficulties in the path, and perhaps formidable obstacles bar the way, but practical men, possessing resolute will, are not generally deterred from pursuing their course by any inconvenience they may have to suffer. Now there are four Jewish Lodges in the capital, and, I believe, some in the provinces. One of the London Lodges boasts a Benevolent Fund Annuity of nearly £2,000, another nearly £700. I have no knowledge what the other Lodges possess, but the inherent benevolent disposition and naturally charitable instinct of the true Israelite warrants the conclusion that, in this respect, they have not been neglectful. From these accumulations a sufficient amount might be granted to form a nucleus for a fund, to be enlarged by subscriptions from individuals, the interest from which to cover the extra expenses arising from the additional outlay necessary to procure the attention and instruction requisite in the education of a Jewish Masonic orphan. If the matter were taken in hand by competent men, I venture to assert that not only Jewish, but many Christian brethren would cheerfully give practical aid, and exert their influence in the promotion of a work which must commend itself to the right-thinking and justice-loving mind. For there are many of our Jewish brethren who, perhaps, from no fault of their own, have left families totally unprovided for. The substantial relief and care bestowed upon them by the Jewish community is well known and proverbial. Nevertheless, I think it the duty of the Jewish members of the Craft to take some, at least, of these orphans under their especial care, and thus utilise moneys which, for any practical purpose, might as well never have been collected. The call upon these funds is unfrequent, and comparatively insignificant; twenty, thirty, or at most one hundred pounds is the amount generally bestowed; the rest remains unproductive, and is of no benefit to anybody. Trusting these remarks may elicit discussion, as the opinion of others upon the subject would be most gratifying to

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS: WINTER SPECTRES.—All can estimate the disadvantages to the human system from breathing foul air, such as must necessarily be inhaled during our winters. The safest correctives and best purifiers of the blood are Holloway's Balsamic Pills, which are too well known and too highly esteemed to require commendation here. Besides cleansing the system, they improve the appetite, render digestion perfect, admirably regulate the liver, increase the secretion of the kidneys; they mildly yet effectually act upon the bowels, without griping or causing any inconvenience. So long as human nature remains what it is, every person will now and again require some regulation of organs, disordered by irregular or too generous living, and for [illegible] persons,

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THE MASONIC YEAR 1875.

A FEW days hence and 1875 will be numbered with the past. Moreover, this present issue completes not only our second volume, but the first year of our existence. Hence the occasion seems not inopportune for reviewing the twelve months so nearly completed.

The year 1875 will be a memorable one in the annals of Freemasonry. Taking the whole Order, in its distribution throughout the old and new worlds, we may safely describe the position it now occupies as one of unexampled prosperity. It is not simply that we have grown in numbers only, though such growth, provided it be accompanied by a proportionate increase in strength, is of itself matter for hearty gratulation; but above and beyond this numerical increase, which has occurred to a greater or less extent in all countries where Masonry flourishes, the Order has acquired a firmer position than ever, partly by the accession, as new members, of men eminent by their rank and position or by their talents, partly by a greater strengthening of the ruling powers, and, lastly, by greater activity among the rank and file. And as the Craft is thus stronger in itself, its influence on the profane world has grown in proportion. Some may still sneer at it as child's play. Some may still decry it as a secret society, whose aim is the overthrow of religion and order. Ultramontane bigots may still fulminate their anathemas against us. But these sneers and false accusations and curses fall innocuous at our feet, if even they do not prove, in the main, of service to our cause. There are not a few who regard it as an honour to be excommunicated by a Pope. There must be something substantially good in Masonry, they argue, when a tyrant priesthood goes out of its way to curse. But let us leave conjecture alone, and revert to facts pure and simple. The angry denunciations of the Craft, by Bishop Dupanloup, and their approval by Pio Nono, together with a slight amount of persecution in remote countries, are all our enemies can point to as a set-off to an increase in strength, wealth, and influence, which must truly be described as marvellous. Having stated the case thus generally, let us now proceed to give the details of our history during the year that is still current, English Masonry claiming, as a matter of course, our first attention.

The event which occupies the greatest prominence in the year's history is, undoubtedly, the election and installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. Initiated into Freemasonry some seven years previously, by the late King of Sweden, His Royal Highness already held the honorary rank of a Past G.M., England, besides being G.M. of the Temple, and Grand Patron of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, England, as well as Patron of the Order both in Scotland and in Ireland. When, from motives that seemed good to him, the Marquis of Ripon felt called upon to resign the Grand Mastership, the Prince of Wales at once accepted the invitation to fill the vacancy thus caused: thus following in the footsteps of three of his ancestors, the Duke of Cumberland, George, Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Sussex. The formal election was held at the regular Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, on Wednesday, the 5th March; Bro. S. G. Grady proposing, and Bro. Grey, Deputy Master of the Prince of Wales's Lodge, seconding the nomination; which was carried unanimously, amidst the most enthusiastic cheering. It was then announced that the ceremony of Installation had been arranged by His Royal Highness for Wednesday, the 28th April, the day fixed by the Constitutions for holding the Annual Grand Festival, and it was further arranged that an additional number of Stewards should be appointed, in order to assist in carrying out the ceremony, the said Stewards receiving permission to wear a special jewel commemorative of the event. At first some difficulties occurred in selecting a proper place where the Installation could be held. At length the Royal Albert Hall was chosen, and it is needless to say that a better choice could not have been made. Not only was it capable of being securely tyled against the intrusion of profanes, it was also the most commodious hall in London, or, at all events, the one which, taking the previous consideration into account, would accommodate the greatest number of brethren. Large, however, as was the available space in this magnificent hall, it was very soon found that it would be impossible to accommodate all applicants. Hence, as regards the main body of the Craft, the attendance was restricted to the W.M., Wardens, P.M.'s, and one M.M. from each Lodge. By a marvellous display of zeal and energy on the part of Bro. Sir Albert Woods G.D.C., Bros. Fenn, Monckton, and the Stewards generally, the preparations for the imposing ceremony were successfully carried out, and on the day itself the eight thousand fortunate brethren who were privileged to be present assembled, clothed themselves, and were seated without the slightest hitch. Outside the Hall the scene was animated enough as regards the continuous arrival of every description of vehicle, but it had been ordered there should be no display of Masonic clothing or emblems outside the precincts of the Hall, consequently, idlers had nothing to gaze at, beyond a few thousand gentlemen in evening dress, driving up more or less rapidly to the several points of ingress. Of the Installation itself we say but little. The eloquence of the Pro Grand Master was equal to the occasion, the heartiness of His Royal Highness in acknowledging the honour conferred upon him was unmistakable, while the enthusiastic reception accorded him by the assembly was great beyond conception, the salute being given with a precision and fervour that was quite startling. After the introduction to His Royal Highness of the representatives from the Grand Lodges of Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, and Denmark, and the appointment of the Grand Officers for the year, Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, and the assembly dispersed, highly delighted with the success of the day's proceedings. In the evening the banquet was held at Freemasons' Hall, His Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master presiding, supported on his right by his brother the Duke of Connaught, the youngest M.M. in England, who had been raised the evening previous in the Prince of Wales's Lodge, and on his left by the D.G.M. Lord Skelmersdale. The health of the Grand Master was proposed by his brother, and it is needless to say, was most warmly responded to by the brethren present. The other toasts were drunk with great heartiness, and the evening terminated with a splendid concert, His Royal Highness remaining for a short time. Thus ended the most eventful day in the modern history of Freemasonry, a day which will ever be remembered as affording the most indubitable evidence of the firmness and stability of the Craft, as well as of the esteem and respect in which it is held by all classes. It only remains for us to add that, at the meeting of Grand Chapter, on the following Wednesday, 5th May, His Royal Highness was installed and duly obligated as Grand Z., Comp. John Havers presiding as first Principal, Comp. H. Sandeman acting as Grand H., and Comp. J. Rawson as Grand J. The Prince then invested his officers, among whom may be mentioned Comp. Earl of Carnarvon as Pro G.Z., Lord Skelmersdale as Grand H., and Lord de Tabley as Grand J.

We now record the doings in connection with our three Charitable Institutions. The annual festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons was held on Wednesday, the 28th January, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, R.W. Prov. G.M. Staffordshire, occupying the chair. His Lordship's appeal to the Craft for an increased support of this admirable Charity was a very earnest one, and when the worthy Secretary, Bro. Terry, rose to read the list of subscriptions, the guests were delighted beyond measure on hearing that a sum of £6,630 13s 6d, with eleven lists still outstanding, had been collected for the funds of the Institution, a result eminently satisfactory, and showing that those who had consented to act as Stewards of the festival had been very zealous in the performance of their duties. The full amount subscribed proved in the end to be slightly in excess of £7,000, the exact sum being stated as £7,020 16s 6d. The result of this liberality was soon apparent, and we had the pleasure of announcing, a fortnight later, that 15 widows and 22 males would be elected in the May following, instead of 3 widows and 12 males, thus bringing up the number of annuitants to 130 men and 100 widows, besides 16 widows receiving a moiety of their late husbands' annuities. The number of vacancies was subsequently increased, by deaths, to 28 men and 18 women, there being 33 candidates for the former, and 35 for the latter. The election was held on Friday, the 21st of May, the number of votes for the successful candidates ranging from 1,120 to 251 for the males, and from 867 to 490 for the females.

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The indefatigable Bro. Terry is to be congratulated on the prosperous condition of the Institution, of which he is Secretary, and whose claims he so earnestly advocates whenever an opportunity is afforded him. Let us hope that the success of 1875 is only the precursor of still greater successes, and that in the coming year it may be in our power to make announcement of an addition to the number of our annuitants, as has been made in the year now ending. We should also mention, as further evidencing the kind zeal of Secretary Terry, in promoting the happiness of those under his charge, that a summer entertainment was, and a winter entertainment will be, specially organised for the amusement of our worthy "Patriarchs."

The prize day at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, was fixed for the 8th of May, and accordingly on that day the Lord Mayor, G.J.W., who had consented to preside at the annual festival on the Wednesday following, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, arrived early, and inspected the institution, the arrangements of which gave unlimited satisfaction to the distinguished visitors. Afterwards, in the presence of a numerous assembly, a capital programme, comprising several excellent selections of music, both instrumental and vocal, and a number of recitations, was gone through very successfully. The Lady Mayoress then distributed the three principal prizes, namely, £5 given annually by Bro. Winn, to Maria Louisa Flintoft, for taking honours in the Cambridge examination; gold medal for general proficiency, given annually by Bro. Pass, together with £5 given annually by Bro. Winn, to Leila Lucy Caparn, and silver medal for good conduct, given annually by the Institution, with £5 given annually by Bro. Winn, to Maria E. Searle. The Lord Mayor then distributed the prizes given by the Institution, the principal recipients being Maria Louisa Flintoft, for taking honours, and for German (given by Bro. Hirsch); Leila Lucy Caparn, for passing Cambridge examination, for French (given by Bro. Rev. P. de Bretto D.D.), and for drawing (given by Bro. Starkey); Maria E. Searle for needlework; Jessie M. Blair for music, and Bro. Hemsworth's prize for amiability as voted by her schoolfellows; and Mary Theresa Claisen for drawing (given by Bro. Starkey) and music (given by Bro. Moultrie). After a brief adjournment for refreshment, the girls went through the usual calisthenic exercises, in which they exhibit such marvellous proficiency. Then followed dancing, and it was not till a late hour that the company dispersed for home. On the following Wednesday, the 12th of May, the anniversary festival was held at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of our R.W. Bro. Lord Mayor Stone, G.J.W., supported by a numerous and influential attendance of brethren. In the course of the evening the Secretary, Bro. Little, read out the list of subscriptions, which represented an aggregate sum of £7,269 3s, with thirteen lists still outstanding. The toast of success to the Institution was very ably proposed by the Lord Mayor, and responded to by the Treasurer, Bro. S. Tompkins. Thus, Bro. Little and the Festival Stewards are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts to uphold and extend this School. Incidentally we may mention that the name of Bro. Constable figures conspicuously in the list of Stewards, he having collected no less a sum than £420 12s, of which £199 10s—or the value of nineteen life-governorships—was the result of his system of drawing, those entitled to draw or ballot being the 3,990 holders of the shilling tickets representing the aggregate value of the said governorships. This, we believe, is about double the amount collected under this system the year previous, and if a few more stewards follow the noble example of our worthy brother, our Institutions will be materially benefited. At the two elections, held on the 10th April and 9th October respectively, there were chosen, in the former case, thirteen girls out of thirty-one candidates, while at the latter six only could be elected out of thirty candidates. At the present time there are, we believe, 148 girls maintained, clothed, and educated by the liberality of the Craft. Several propositions are under consideration for the extension of the School, and as recently as the 11th inst. a special meeting of governors and subscribers was held for the purpose of receiving and deciding on the Report of the Special Sub-Committee of the General Committee, which had been nominated to consider the question. Their Report was in favour of a considerable extension of the existing premises, so as to afford increased accommodation for 94 more girls, an increase which, it was said, would involve an outlay of over £20,000. After a long discussion it was resolved to nominate a further Committee, for them to consider afresh the various schemes under proposal, and any other that may be suggested. And there for the present the matter rests.

The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which is unlike our two other Institutions, in possessing no invested funds, affords the greatest triumph of what energy and liberality combined will effect in the cause of Charity. The anniversary festival was held on Wednesday, the 7th July, on which occasion the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M. England, and Prov. G.M. Somerset, presided, and there were present to support his Lordship, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, President of the Board of Stewards, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Sir Henry Edwards, with other zealous and able brethren, together with a number of Stewards from London and Provincial Lodges. The occasion will be specially memorable, as the first on which the fair sex were seated at the banquet with the members of the Craft. Hitherto the ladies have dined together, in a separate room, but the change we have mentioned was inaugurated this year, and as the result appears to have been eminently satisfactory, we doubt not the custom will be followed, not only by this, but likewise by our other Institutions, on these important occasions. There is no reason we are aware of why it should not be generally followed, and if the cause of charity is promoted by the novelty of the arrangement, there is, on the contrary, every reason why the precedent thus set should be observed in future years. At all events, the first festival at which the experiment has been tried has been an unprecedentedly successful one as regards the sum collected. Hence, we cannot withhold our acknowledgments from Bro. Binckes, or whoever suggested the idea. But to return to the festival. The various toasts were duly proposed and responded to, that of "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys" being urged by the Pro Grand Master with considerable eloquence, and enthusiastically received. After this, Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the School, having announced that Francis Dalrymple Lane had won the chief prize for good conduct, and Richard Newton Carter the prize to which he was elected by his schoolfellows, then read the list of donations, which amounted to the munificent sum of £12,704 7s 6d, with thirty-five lists yet remaining to be handed in. This means, of course, a total exceeding £13,000, and so grand a result must have far exceeded even the most sanguine anticipations. It is not a little singular that, when, a short time previous to the festival, we were urging the claims of our Masonic Charities generally, and of this School, as having no invested funds in particular, we pointed out how, by the practice of a little self-denial throughout the Craft, the annual subscription to each Charity might fall very little short of £15,000. We confess we were not a little surprised on finding the very first subscription made after these remarks were offered so well on its way towards the £15,000 we had mentioned. We hope we may be even nearer the mark as regards future subscriptions. The speeches and distribution of prizes took place on the Wednesday previous, 30th June, there being present the Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.G.S.W., President of the Board of Stewards, with a large attendance of Stewards, brethren, and ladies. The programme was very successful, and was listened to with great pleasure. Between the parts of the programme the noble chairman distributed the prizes, offering a few words of hearty congratulation to each recipient. His Lordship also offered a few general remarks, thanking the Masters and Committee for the efficient manner in which they had conducted their duties, the progress the School had made, and the excellent behaviour of the boys. After a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman had been proposed and carried unanimously, and briefly acknowledged by Lord Balfour, the company adjourned to refreshments. The School band was in attendance during the day, and played excellently well. At the half-yearly elections held in April and October respectively, eight out of a list of forty-eight candidates were chosen, while at the latter, ten were appointed out of fifty-eight. The number of boys now in the School is 178. Here, too, there has been a remodelling of the staff, Dr. Morris having been appointed Head Master *vice* Bro. the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott resigned, while the staff of Assistant Masters has been almost, if not entirely, changed. We need not dwell on the causes which led to these changes. A special committee of governors and subscribers was lately appointed to investigate certain questions raised by Bros. Tew and the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott, and affecting the management of the School. In common with the whole Craft, we regret any disagreements between the scholastic

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and managerial staffs. Nor can it be otherwise than matter for regret that questions affecting the financial management of the Institution should have been brought forward. However, it is satisfactory, in the interests of the School, to know that, after a most minute and careful inquiry, the Special Committee have reported that the financial charges of mismanagement, made, no doubt, under a misunderstanding of the Annual Reports, have not been borne out.

We gladly turn, however, from this subject, to one more pleasing, and which, like the precedent introduced at the Annual Festival of the Boys' School already referred to, stands out by itself as an even bolder and more marked departure from the usual Masonic practice. The Baroness Burdett Coutts, the daughter of a Mason, who had kindly granted permission to one of our more recently constituted Lodges to bear her name, having notified her intention of presenting three chairs to that Lodge, arrangements were made for the ceremony of presentation. A dispensation having been obtained from His Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. for the brethren to appear on the occasion in full Masonic clothing, the afternoon of the 29th July was fixed for the novel meeting, and punctually at the hour appointed, the Baroness, accompanied by several gentlemen and ladies, met the brethren of the Burdett Coutts Lodge in the Zetland Room at Freemasons' Hall, which had been specially prepared for the ceremony. The brethren having sung a hymn, her ladyship formally presented the three chairs, expressing at the same time an earnest hope that they would be occupied by as worthy men in the future as those who had preceded them. Bro. Terry, the first W.M. of the Lodge, who presided, thereupon occupied the chair of K.S., calling upon the S.W. and J.W., Bros. Crutch and Toy, to be seated in the other two. The Secretary of the Lodge, Bro. Verry, then read an address of thanks to the Baroness for having, in the first place, allowed the Lodge to bear her name, and having presented it with a copy of the volume of the Sacred Law, and now for her further act of kindness in giving these chairs. To this address, which concluded with an earnest prayer that the G.A.O.T.U. might build up for her great happiness here and hereafter, and which, handsomely engrossed, and enclosed in an album case, was presented by the Deacons, Bros. Lloyd and Crouch, the Baroness offered her warmest acknowledgments, and an equally earnest hope for the welfare, both here and hereafter, of all the brethren. It having been moved, seconded, and unanimously carried that the reply should be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge, the whole party adjourned to an elegant *déjeûner*, at which Baroness Burdett Coutt's health was proposed in glowing terms by Bro. Terry, and drunk with great heartiness. Her Ladyship and friends were shortly after escorted from the room by the Chairman and Stewards. Thus ended a ceremony, the first of its kind which has ever taken place in this country. We feel, moreover, a special pleasure in recording this event. The lady who thus honoured the Craft is not only the daughter of a Mason who, as a public man, had long held a high position in the world's esteem; she is eminent likewise for her great philanthropy, dispensing her charities with discrimination, but with the most open hand, and thus proving her love for that particular virtue which Masons so earnestly strive to practise.

There have, happily, been but few deaths to deplore among either the rulers or the rank and file of Masonry. The retirement, to which reference has already been made, of the Marquis of Ripon, necessitated a change in the government of West Yorkshire, and Sir Henry Edwards has been appointed to the Grand Mastership of that most considerable and influential province. By the death, last year, of R.W. Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell P.G.M. of Norfolk, the headship of that province became vacant, but a very worthy successor has been found in the person of Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., who was installed in office towards the end, as Bro. Sir H. Edwards was installed towards the beginning, of the year. On both occasions there was a great gathering of the brethren, and great rejoicing at the sure progress the Order was making in public estimation, both at home and abroad. On the other hand, if our losses have been few and painful, for the most part only, to individual Lodges and friends, our accession of strength has been very considerable, while others, like the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold, though initiated in 1874, have risen still higher, the former having been raised to the sublime degree of M.M. the evening before the installation of his brother as M.W.G.M., while the latter was appointed S.W. in the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, and subsequently raised. Of other public characters initiated into Masonry during the year we may mention the name of Captain Boyton, the exhibitor of the life-saving apparatus known by his name, and Captain Webb, who swam the Channel between Dover and Calais, the greatest athletic feat on record. Of new Lodges added to the roll of Grand Lodge, it appears that nineteen were constituted between the Quarterly Communications held in December 1874 and March 1875, fifteen between those of March and June in the latter, twelve between those of June and September, and seventeen between September and that in the present month, making in all an addition of sixty-three. In Royal Arch Masonry there have been added to the roll of Chapters twenty-eight new ones, while the Prov. Grand Superintendency of Herts, which had been dormant for some years, has been reconstituted, E. Comp. Halsey being appointed Prov. G. Superintendent. Prov. G.M. the Earl of Zetland has also been exalted in the Zetland Chapter. Further evidence of increase will be found in the dedication on 14th July, by Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., of the New Surrey Masonic Hall, of a new Masonic Hall at Bideford, of one at Barton-on-Humber, and the laying the first stone of a Masonic Hall at Great Grimsby, on the 2nd of August, Bro. Sutcliffe P.P.G.S.W., officiating on the occasion. It should also be noted that a Masonic Club is in course of formation. The locale of the Club is in Queen Victoria-street, and the premises are already being fitted up. The committee includes, among other influential Masons, Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., Bro. Alderman Stone G.J.W., and the Duke of Manchester. The experiment is a very laudable one, and has our best wishes for its success. Another proposal on the carpet is likewise worthy of record. The Province of Lincolnshire is trying to raise funds enough to found an Oliver scholarship *in memoriam* of one of the best and ablest and most respected members who have ever belonged to the Craft, one of whom it may be said, without the slightest approach to exaggerated praise,

"Nihil tetigit, quod non ornavit."

In Mark Masonry, we may mention that at the half-yearly Communication, held on Tuesday, the 30th November, the Earl of Limerick was elected M.W.G.M. for the ensuing year, while a new Lodge, entitled "the Sutcliffe Lodge," in honour of Bro. Sutcliffe, R.W.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire, was consecrated by that esteemed Mason on the 30th September.

Thus much for Masonry in England, the cause of which has been generally brilliant, while there has been nothing to give cause for even a momentary pang of regret, except in respect of one solitary detail.

In Ireland, as in England, the past year closed with a serious loss to Masonry. His Grace of Leinster, who had ruled the Craft for some threescore years, with singular gentleness, ever tempered by firmness and a due regard for the interests of the Order, died, in October 1874, full of years and honours, and beloved and respected not only by his brethren of the mystic tie, but by all classes and conditions of men. The Duke was also head of all the other Masonic bodies in the kingdom, being K. of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Great Prior of the Great Priory, President of the Grand Chapter of Prince Masons, and S.G.C. of the Supreme Grand Council, A. and A. Rite. It will be readily understood from this how great was his loss to Masonry. However, a not unworthy successor in the Grand Mastership of Craft Masonry was found in the person of the Duke of Abercorn, the justly popular Viceroy of Her Majesty. He accordingly was installed M.W.G.M. on 6th January. The ceremony of installation was performed by R.W.D.G.M., Bro. Shekleton, after which His Grace was duly obligated and invested with the insignia of his office. After the election of Grand Officers, the Lodge was closed in ample form. This auspicious event was celebrated on the 16th of April by a grand Masonic ball at the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, under the patronage of Grand Lodge. There was a good attendance, and the promoters had the satisfaction of feeling they had achieved a great success. At the Quarterly Communication held on the 2nd inst., His Grace was re-elected for the year 1876, the following being the Grand Officers for the same period:—The Marquis of Headfort S.G.W., Lord Dunboyne J.G.W., Arthur Bushe G.T., Viscount Bernard G.S., Rev. J. T. Macsorley G.C., and Rev. Lord Plunket G.C.; Hon. D. Plunket, Q.C., M.P., S.G.D., Alderman Jos. Manning J.G.D., G. A. Stephens G.S.W., Theo. E. St. George G.D.C., G. Myers, LL.D.

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G. St., Harry Hodges G.S.B., C. O. Grandison G.O., and H. Minchin 409 M.B.G.I.G.

On the 20th April, the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M., presided at the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin. His Grace congratulated the authorities on the satisfactory progress the School had made, one of the pupils at the Royal Dublin Society's Art Examination having obtained a certificate from the Council of Education, South Kensington, while two others obtained certificates from the Royal Dublin Society. There are forty girls on the establishment, four vacancies having been declared and filled up at the election held on the 7th instant, from an approved list of eight candidates. From the report for the year 1874, it appears this Institution possessed invested property to the extent of over £8,600, and that the income from all sources, and including a balance in hand to start with was over £3,100, while the expenditure was only between three and four pounds in excess of £1,900. It is in contemplation to fully extend the benefits of this School, even to doubling the number of pupils, if the finances will allow, and as soon as suitable premises have been obtained. We hope and trust our Irish brethren will be successful in their efforts to place this School on a firmer and wider footing. As regards Masonic orphan boys, the Craft maintains twenty-three such, at Bro. the Rev. S. S. Sheen's, Adelaide Hall, Merrion-square. There were two elections in the course of the year, at the first of which, held on the 13th of May, two were elected from an approved list of eleven candidates, while at the other, on the 7th of November, the same number were chosen from a like number of candidates. Among other events that marked the progress of Masonry during the year, we must mention the election of Judge Townshend as President of the Grand Chapter of Prince Masons, in succession to the late Duke of Leinster, Judge Townshend having for some time filled the office of Vice-President, and having virtually, in fact, discharged the duties of the higher office long before the death of His Grace. The address or report of the Judge on taking up his appointment contained satisfactory evidence of progress, the Order having, in point of numbers, a little more than doubled itself in the course of the last twenty years. It should also be noted that a new Masonic Hall, Parsonstown, Dublin, for the use of St. Brendon's Lodge, 163, was opened and dedicated in the month of June. The committee having obtained a house in William-street, had the top floor and all partitions removed, thus leaving available a room of considerable dimensions. Instructions were issued to, and carried out under the direction of, Mr. A. B. Milne, C.E., to make the necessary alterations for the conversion of the building into a hall suitable for holding the Lodge meetings.

In Scotland, Masonry continues to advance with a steady progress. Though the record of the year contains no such exciting event as the installation of a Royal or Vice regal G.M., the greatest activity has prevailed throughout the Craft, and sundry matters deserve a place in this chronicle of the year. First and foremost must be mentioned a proposal for establishing a Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which is to combine within itself all the advantages of our English Benevolent, Girls' and Boys' Institutions. The scheme originated with Bro. Capt. Geo. R. Harriott, Prov. G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright, and was noticed by us at some length in one of our earliest numbers. Later on in the year we were enabled to announce that the proposal had every prospect of success, among those brethren whose support was promised being Bros. D. Murray Lyon, Ayrshire; Dr. Cowan, and J. Young, Perthshire; Dr. Pagan, Fifeshire; Col. Acheson, Dundee; J. Laurie G. Secretary, Major Ramsay, J. Murray, &c. Since the date of this latter announcement, however, we have heard nothing further of the scheme, and must content ourselves with wishing that no long time may elapse ere it assume a more tangible form. As yet there exists only in Scotland "The Fund of Scottish Benevolence," founded in 1846, so that this addition to the charitable institutions of the Craft north of the Tweed will doubtless be hailed with acclamation and cordially supported by them. On the 15th April was held a meeting at the Peacock Hotel, Newhaven, for the purpose of presenting to Bro. John Laurie, Grand Secretary, and P.R.W.M. of Canongate and Leith Lodge, No. 5, a splendid testimonial, in recognition of the valuable services he had rendered as R.W.M. of the Lodge. The testimonial took the form of a combined clock, barometer, &c., &c., together with a massive and elegant tea and coffee service for Mrs. Laurie. Bro. Officer S.S.C., P.S.G.D. and P.M. No. 1, presided, and after the usual toasts had been disposed of, proposed the health of Bro. J. Laurie in feeling and appropriate terms, expressing the pleasure it afforded him in having been the medium of conveying to his esteemed Bro. a testimonial to which the latter's eminent services as a Craftsman so justly entitled him. Bro. Laurie replied, expressing his warmest gratitude for the very substantial token of the esteem and friendship which he had received that day, and expressed himself as ready and anxious to do all in his power to promote the welfare of the Craft. Amongst other events of more than local interest may be recorded, that the foundation stone of the new public school buildings at Tarbolton was laid, under the auspices of the Tarbolton Lodge, to which the great poet, Bro. Robert Burns, was affiliated; that the laying of the foundation stone of the New Schools at Cumnock, in Ayrshire, was carried out on the 19th August, the ceremony being performed by Colonel Mure, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Ayrshire; and that the memorial stone was laid, by the same P.G. Officer, on the 25th September, of the new schools now in course of erection at Kilwinning, in the same county. On both these occasions the attendance of brethren was very numerous, especially at the latter, Kilwinning being held peculiarly sacred among Scottish Masons. At the Quarterly Communication of Grand Chapter, Comp. L. Mackensy G.S.E. was received as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. In the first instance, correspondence had arisen owing to Comp. Mackensy being already a representative of the Grand Chapter of Oregon, and the matter was accordingly submitted to Grand Chapter. It having been pointed out that it was not uncommon in America for the same Companion to hold two or more such commissions, it was moved and carried, amid cheers, that, in deference to the wishes of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, Comp. Mackensy be received as their representative.

Nor is the condition of Freemasonry less flourishing in the Colonies and dependencies of Great Britain. The visit of the M.W.G.M. to India has been attended, thus far at least, with one public display of Masonry. His Royal Highness accepted the invitation of the Bombay Lodges to inaugurate, with the usual Masonic ceremonial, the Elphinstone Wet Dock, and the first stone was laid accordingly, in the presence of a vast assemblage of spectators, and to the intense gratification of the brethren of that district. A Ball, also, was given by the Craft in honour of the Prince's visit, the Town Hall being used for the occasion.

No doubt, when the Prince reaches Calcutta, the capital of the Bengal Presidency, the brethren in that district, one of the oldest constituted provinces out of Great Britain, will accord to him the same hearty welcome as their fellows in Western India. It is hoped, indeed, that His Royal Highness will be able to spare the time to lay the foundation stone of the New Masonic Hall, which is about to be erected for the use of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal. In accordance with a resolution passed on 24th of June by the D.G.L., a committee was appointed, and met at Freemasons' Hall, Bentinck-street, Calcutta, on the 3rd July, when the necessary resolutions for building the new hall were agreed to, and it was arranged to form a company, called "The Bengal Freemasons' Hall Building Company," with a capital of 1.50,000 rupees, in shares of 100 rupees each, bearing interest at 6 per cent. It was expected that everything would be in readiness to commence operations by the time of His Royal Highness's arrival, and a forcible appeal to him to inaugurate the building was intended to be made. We doubt not, if time and circumstances permit, His Royal Highness will accede to the wishes of the Bengal brethren. Early in the year (on 26th February) R.W. Bro. Captain Marmaduke Ramsay was installed at Freemasons' Hall, Lahore, as D.G.M. of the District Grand Lodge of the Punjab, the R.W. officiating as D.G.M. G. Daley, P.D.D.G.M., having duly installed Bro. Ramsay, the latter addressed the brethren, briefly congratulating them on the satisfactory progress the Craft had made in the seven years since the District Grand Lodge had been constituted, there being seventeen Lodges and 483 subscribing members now, as against seven and 217 members. He further added that the Masonic Institution in the District, commenced by Lodge "Hope and Perseverance," possessed 12,800 rupees invested money, and maintained and educated four boys, two at the Bishop's School, Simla, and two at the Lahore High School.

The Grand Lodge of Canada held its twentieth annual

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Communication at London, Ontario, on the 14th July, under the presidency of R.W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, acting G.M. At the outset, R.W. Bro. Kerr deplored the serious losses which the Grand Lodge had sustained by the deaths of M.W.G.M. Wilson, and their Grand Secretary, R.W. Bro. T. Bird Harris. Both these eminent Masons died in harness, and their funerals, which were conducted with full Masonic honours, had been most numerously attended. During Bro. Wilson's illness, Bro. Kerr had acted as his representative at the dedication of the New Masonic Hall at Hamilton. Masonic Halls had also been dedicated at Seaforth, and for the use of the Malahide Lodge, No. 140, Aylmer, Ontario. Several dispensations had also been renewed by the late G.M., and new ones granted during Bro. Kerr's tenure of office. The auditor's report showed invested funds to the amount of 47,569 dollars. M.W. Bro. J. Kerr was then elected G.M., and the other Grand Officers having been elected, the ceremony of installing them in their several offices was duly performed by M.W. Bro. Col. A. A. Stevenson, Montreal. At the Quarterly Communication, held on 3rd March, the Grand Lodge of Quebec was acknowledged by Grand Lodge, England, as an independent Grand Lodge. On the 8th October, the Masonic Hall was the scene of a most interesting event, the retiring G.M., Bro. Wm. Dunbar, being presented with a magnificent set of Past G.M.'s jewels and regalia, in token of his long and valuable services to the Grand Lodge, and especially for the successful part he took in arranging amicably the disputes between the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec. There was a large attendance of brethren, and the addresses, both of R.W. Bro. Thompson, in presenting, and of R.W. Bro. Dunbar in acknowledging, the testimonial, were applauded to the echo. Nor is the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick behind its sister Grand Lodge of the Dominion of Canada. New Brunswick Masonic Hall Company, which proposes to erect a Masonic Hall in St. John, held a meeting on the 7th June, for the purpose of appointing directors. The capital of the Company will be 100,000 dollars, and the cost of ground, hall, &c., &c., is expected to reach the sum of 70,000 dollars. The new Hall will be a commodious building, four stories high, and besides offices and reception rooms for the Grand Secretary, will contain rooms for the use of Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and the Templar and other Masonic bodies. The Company has already purchased, for 18,000 dollars, a block of buildings 100 feet on Germain Street and 200 feet deep, and notice has been given to the several tenants that their leases will determine on 1st May of next year. Active operations will then commence at once, and it is hoped the new Temple will be complete and ready for use in about two years.

Among other colonial items may be mentioned that on 15th January a large number of the Craft attended the meeting of the Leinster Marine Lodge, New South Wales, No. 206, under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge, Ireland, for the purpose of commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Lodge. R.W. Bro. the Hon. J. S. Farnell, P.G.M., attended, and installed the new W.M., Bro. A. S. Appleton, and his officers, after which a banquet was held, at which Bro. Appleton presided. The toast of the evening was drunk with great enthusiasm. According to the *Graaf Reinet Herald* a scheme has been set on foot, originating with the Jaffa Lodge, No 861, Cape Town, for the purpose of establishing an independent Grand Lodge for South Africa. The question has been submitted to all the Lodges in the Colony, and in due time, no doubt, a decision will be arrived at. On the 23rd September the Trafalgar Royal Arch Chapter, St. Helens, New Zealand, held its installation meeting. Comp. W. B. Sealy, M.D. and W. W. Squires, M.D., were re-elected M.E.Z. and H. respectively, and to the former of these, as well as to Comp. W. M. Stanton, re-elected Scribe E., testimonials were presented, in recognition of their valuable services.

If we next turn our attention to the condition of Freemasonry in foreign parts, we shall find, on the whole, very great cause for congratulation. Where attacked, the Craft has held its own most successfully. Elsewhere, unmistakable progress has been made. In France, the chief event in connection with the Order is the silly, and, beyond all question, bitter attack of Bishop Dupanloup, who, lacking occupation perhaps, has found leisure to utter a most violent denunciation of the principles we not only profess, but practise. Were there the slightest prospect of our satisfying this angry bigot of the perfect innocence of Freemasonry from the charges advanced against it, it might, perhaps, be worth our while to argue the case, in order to prove, as even the feeblest-minded Mason could not fail to do, that his violent hostility was unjust. But the most conclusive argument would avail nothing. We content ourselves, therefore, with a bare statement of facts. Without rhyme or reason, this foolish bigot, a monk of rank and station, both in Church and State, attacked Freemasonry, early in the year, denouncing it as a secret body, whose sole aim was the overthrow of religion and social order. No long time elapsed when another bigot, of even higher ecclesiastical rank, to wit, Pio Nono, gave expression to similar sentiments, and in violent and unchristian language denounced a society which numbers among its professors, kings, princes, nobles, and wise men of nearly every land. These attacks had a certain effect, as every attack has, but it was one the strikers never anticipated. Instead of overwhelming Masonry, these disturbers of the public peace have been themselves overthrown. Counterblows also were struck, among the most effective being the reply to Bishop Dupanloup's pamphlet by our esteemed Bro. Caubet, one of the Secretaries to the Council administering the Grand Orient of France. The only result, thus far then, is, ignominy to the Bishop of Orleans and his abettor, the Pope. Even the profane world laughs at them, and our *Saturday Review* explained the hostility of the Ultramontanes on the ground that a church which itself worked secretly, would never tolerate secret working in others. But to pass to more genial matters. Progress is made everywhere. In France, new Lodges have been constituted, and, better still, the Order has been strengthened by the accession to its ranks of such men of eminence as M. Littré, member of the Académie Française, M. Chatrian, one of the ablest and most brilliant writers of the day, and others of similar stamp. Moreover, the Grand Orient has shown itself eager in the practice of that particular virtue to which Masonry more especially devotes itself. The subscription opened under its auspices towards the relief of the sufferers by the very terrible inundations in the South-East of France amounted, on the 12th of December, to little short of sixty four thousand francs.

In the month of September a Congress assembled at Lausanne, consisting of delegates from certain Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in various countries. The Congress, before separating, issued a manifesto or declaration of principles, in which were set forth, in accordance with the ideas proper to this branch of Masonry, the aim and object of our noble institution. The several councils assembled, have entered into a treaty of alliance, establishing a "Confederation of Supreme Councils of the A. and A. Scottish Rite." It further recognised the jurisdiction of the following Supreme Councils: namely those of North America (Boston), and South America (Charleston), Central America (Costa-Rica), England, Belgium, Canada, Chili, Colon (Cuba), Scotland, States of Columbia, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Argentine Republic, Switzerland, Uruguay, Venezuela. It was further arranged that the next Congress should be held at Rome, in 1878, and that after that, one should assemble every ten years, at such place as had been determined on at the preceding Congress. In the interval between two conventions, a tribunal of five delegates, chosen by the Confederation, will take cognisance of any difficulties that may arise among the various Councils. The interest in the proceedings of this Congress, confined, as it is, to this particular Rite, will be limited to those who recognise the high degrees, and among these, the principles enunciated will, according to *Le Monde Maçonnique*, be only partially accepted. As regards Masonry itself, it is held in high esteem in Switzerland. There is a Grand Lodge, "Alpina," with twenty-seven Lodges under its jurisdiction, and including not far short of two thousand members. In Italy, likewise, the Order has made wonderful progress. On the 5th of March, the New Masonic Temple, a very handsome building, was formally opened and dedicated to the purposes of the Craft. Over two hundred brethren were present, and a procession was marshalled by the Grand Master of the Ceremonies, the brethren marching in order of juniority, and after them the representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges and the officers of the Grand Orient of Italy. Having traversed the several halls, the procession at length reached the doors of the Temple itself, and, having entered, the Grand Orator, Bro. J. Macchi, delivered a long, powerful, and impressive address, in the course of which he made graceful allusion to the presence of foreign representatives,

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and especially to that of one from Great Britain. The proceedings were soon after closed, amid mutual congratulations. The day following, another Lodge was held, and after that a conversazione and musical entertainment. Thus terminated one of the most important ceremonials of the year, not only to our Italian brethren, who now muster over ten thousand, but to the whole world of Masonry. Now have we a Masonic Temple in the very heart of the Eternal City, within sight almost of that High Priest whose hostility to our Order is the most pronounced. Nor is this all we have to record. We believe our Grand Lodge, England, has recognised the Grand Orient of Italy, thus cementing still more closely those feelings of affection and admiration which have so long connected the peoples of the two countries. Moreover, on the occasion of the Emperor William of Germany's visit to Milan, the Italian Masons offered that monarch, who is Protector of the three Grand Lodges in Prussia, their warmest congratulations, and the wishes they expressed for his welfare and that of German Masonry were very cordially reciprocated by the Emperor. In Greece, His Imperial Highness Prince Rhodocanakis has been re-elected Grand Master for a further period of three years. As regards other countries in Europe, let it suffice if we quote the well-known adage, "No news is good news." As far as our information goes there is nothing to record save that the Royal Art is even more firmly established than ever.

It is in the United States, however, where Masonry flourishes most extensively, at all events as regards its numerical strength. There are said to be not far short of fifty Grand Lodges—apart from Coloured Grand Lodges, the recognition of which is a question not yet entirely settled—and six hundred thousand members. Here it is the labours of Masonry are most actively prosecuted, and here it is that brethren enjoy a recognition more public, perhaps, than in any other country, hardly even excepting the United Kingdom itself. Here, also, is it that Masonry enjoys the support of a zealous and intelligent press, almost every state having over one or more periodicals, which are unceasing in their support of the interests of the Craft. The greatest harmony prevails among the Grand Lodges, and every endeavour is made to establish as nearly as possible complete uniformity in the ritual. The Grand Lodges have their several committees or Boards, to each of which is allotted a special duty, and so carefully is the work entrusted to them performed, that hardly ever any change or modification is proposed by Grand Lodge in the suggestions they offer. It will be easily understood then that in the United States this Secret Society of ours is far more public in its doings than are we at home. Masonic processions through the principal thoroughfares of a city occur not unfrequently, and, whenever they occur, they are invariably received with what may almost be called an ovation. Such a procession marched through some of the leading thoroughfares in New York early in June, on the occasion of the opening and dedication of the magnificent new Masonic Temple, erected for the purposes of Masonry. About twenty-six thousand brethren, the bulk of them being Templar, Arch, and Craft Masons, marched in this procession, each division with its marshal and his staff, and a band of music; the Governor of New York, with the Grand Master and other Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of New York, bringing up the rear of the line, which was preceded and closed by platoons of police. The line of march was thronged with spectators, who received the brethren with great cordiality, the ladies who filled the windows of the houses being specially enthusiastic. The Temple is a magnificent structure, and the appointments of the various halls are in keeping. The Temple having been opened and solemnly dedicated to purposes of Masonry, the brethren dispersed, and the rest of the day was devoted to festival and rejoicing, the New York Lodges, Chapters, and Commanderies exhibiting a truly Masonic hospitality towards their numerous guests, who had come from all quarters, North, South, East and West, to take part in the ceremonial. Later in the same month another event occurred, none other than the visit of the Richmond Commandery, No. 2. of Virginia, to the Northern States, to assist at the centennial commemoration, at Boston, of the Batule of Bunker's Hill, fought on the 17th June 1775. The Richmond Knights were the special guests of the De Molay Commandery of Boston, who met them on their arrival at Providence Depôt, and with several other Commanderies escorted them to Faneuil Hall, where a formal address of welcome was delivered, and an impromptu banquet partaken of. The procession, numbering over a thousand Templars, in full regalia, and with the bands numbering over eleven hundred, was received with acclamation as it passed along, the long column halting *en route* at the residence of Eminent Sir Curtis Gould, in Columbus Avenue, when each of the visiting Knights was presented, by a party of young ladies, with a splendid bouquet. On the 17th, Masonry played an imposing part in the commemoration of the fight, where Prov. G.M General Warren lost his life, in the service of the Union. On this occasion M.W.G.M. Everett, of Massachusetts, wore the original apron formerly worn by that illustrious soldier, while M.W.P.G.M. Dr. Winslow Lewis wore the apron of General the Marquis de la Fayette. The visit closed with a grand banquet, at America House, and before leaving, the Eminent Commander, Sir W. E. Tanner, of the visiting Commandery, was presented with a handsome jewel of gold, in the form of a Maltese Cross, 2¼ inches square, the gift of the ladies of Boston. They then left for Providence, R.I., where the reception they experienced was equally cordial, and afterwards visited New York, where they were met by a delegation of the Palestine Commandery, of which M.W. Bro. Ellwood E. Thorne, G.M. of the New York G. Lodge, was the Commander. Having been conducted over the New Temple, and having, during the whole of their stay, been fêted in the heartiest manner, they left for Jersey City, where they took train home again for Richmond. Such an event is worthy of being commemorated, as contributing, more than any other which has occurred in the last ten years, to cement the union between North and South, tending, as it must tend, to subdue any lingering soreness begotten of the great Civil War, ended in 1865, that may yet be felt by either section of the States. All honour to a society which is not only beneficent to individuals and bodies worthy of being succoured, but which even outvies political influences in strengthening the ties which unite the once hostile States of the Great American Union. On the 8th October the corner stone of a new Masonic Temple, at Reading, Pennsylvania, was laid, in the presence of about five hundred members of the Craft, including the M.W.G.M., Bro. A. R. Potter, and most of the Grand Officers of Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The ceremony having been duly performed, the M.W.P.G.M., Bro. Hon. Richard Vaux, of Philadelphia, delivered an appropriate oration, on the antiquity of the Order, and the benefits it confers upon society. From statistics published in one of our American contemporaries it appears that the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Rite, of the Northern Masonic jurisdiction of the United States, which held its annual session on the 17th August, is now a corporate body of considerable proportions, both as to numbers, there being considerably over five thousand members, and financially. As regards Royal Arch Masonry, it appears from the latest report of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the United States that there are no fewer than 37 Grand Chapters, 2,014 Chapters, and 123,779 R.A. Masons in the Union. On the 3rd July the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts held a special Communication, for the purpose of commemorating the day when Ill. Bro. General George Washington assumed the command of the Colonial Forces in the War of Independence, forces which, under his wise generalship, became, in a few years, the army of the United States. There were present M.W.G.M. Percival L. Everett, and a considerable number of Grand Officers. After taking part with the municipal authorities in celebrating this event, the Grand Lodge was conducted to Memorial Hall, Harvard College, where they were entertained at a banquet, under the presidency of the Mayor. As to the meetings of the various Grand Lodges throughout the States, it is impossible for us to say more than that everywhere the Communications, whether quarterly or annual, have been most numerously attended, and that only in a few instances has it been necessary to refer to anything painful as having occurred during the year. Thus the death of Dr. Winslow Lewis, a P.G.M. of Massachusetts, who had been a member for forty-five years, who had achieved distinction in almost every branch of Masonry, and who was an honorary member of Masonic bodies innumerable, was an event that could not fail to call forth the deepest sorrow, even though the distinguished gentleman died in the fulness of years, and having achieved a high reputation in his professional career. Among other brethren who have been gathered to their forefathers, and who

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achieved distinction in the political world, we must not pass over, without a brief tribute of respect to their memory. Bro. Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, and Bro. Wilson, President of the United States Senate and Vice-President of the Union. One other matter of interest to the student of Masonic history deserves to be recorded. In the memorial volume, published in commemoration of the opening and dedication, in the autumn of 1874, of the New Masonic Temple at Philadelphia, very strong evidence is adduced in favour of Pennsylvania being the oldest Masonic Province in the United States. It is stated that the precept issued to Bro. Daniel Cox, under date of 5th June 1730, by the Duke of Norfolk, M.W.G.M. of England, was acted upon, and that a Provincial Grand Lodge was actually constituted, contemporary evidence of a highly important character being derived from the *Pennsylvania Gazette*—a newspaper printed by the celebrated Benjamin Franklin—of the 8th December 1730, and the 26th June 1732. This evidence is very strong, though perhaps, the Grand Lodge of Boston may not accept it as quite conclusive.

One other item of foreign news relates to the persecution of Masons in the Island of Porto Rico. This being a colony of Spain, a Roman Catholic country, the news perhaps is not surprising. Certain worthy members of the community have been sentenced, some to four, and others to two years' imprisonment, merely for the supposed crime of being Freemasons. We have it on the authority of *Le Monde Maçonnique* that an appeal has been lodged against this sentence, but the result, as yet, is not known. If the sentence be confirmed, we trust the good offices of Grand Lodge of England may be brought to bear, and that our unfortunate *Porto Rican* brethren may be restored to liberty, even if the authorities think it wise to forbid Masonic meetings in the Island.

We have now concluded this necessarily somewhat imperfect record of the Masonic doings of the year. It remains for us to add a few words as to the progress made in literature during this period, and a few concluding remarks. As regards our literary progress, we cannot say much, but what little we have to say, is mostly favourable. It is in the United States where Masonry finds the strongest amount of literary support. Thus, as we have already said, within the jurisdiction of nearly every Grand Lodge, the interests of the Craft are strenuously advocated, by one or more periodicals. These, as far as we have been able to gather, have either made substantial progress, or at all events maintained their ground, with but one or two exceptions. Besides these, the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges are before the Masonic public, while the Dedication Memorial Volume, already referred to, in honour of the new Masonic Temple at Philadelphia, is a very valuable contribution to the history of the Craft. A new magazine, entitled *The New England Freemason*, made its appearance late in 1874, under the joint editorship of Bros. Sereno D. Nickerson, A.M., and Charles H. Titus, A.M. This periodical is well edited, and contains invariably a good selection of Masonic articles, with a choice selection of Masonic news. In Canada, there appeared another new magazine, *The Canadian Masonic News*, which, like the preceding, is both well edited, and furnished with well written and interesting matter. In Scotland, the opening of the new year witnessed the appearance of the first number of *The Scottish Freemasons' Magazine*, a bi-monthly, which, however, lapsed after a brief existence of a few months only. It promised well, and contained some good matter, but we imagine it must have failed through lack of support. There has also appeared a pictorial volume, prepared under the auspices of Bro. Dr. Loth, illustrating the emblems of the thirty-three degrees of *the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite*. In England, there have appeared, quite recently, two posthumous works by the late Dr. Oliver, published by Bro. Hogg and Co., of Paternoster-row, and there is now appearing, monthly, a *Masonic Cyclopædia*, by Bro. Kenneth, "Cryptonymus," published by the same firm. We may also mention that the Rev. Bro. Woodford's *Defence of Freemasonry* was published in the early part of the year. Of this work we may say that its aim is good, but it would have been far more effective had the writer adopted a more vigorous style of writing. Of course the sale of the great Spencer Library is an item of literary news which cannot be passed by in silence. This Library contained a number of rare and valuable works, collected from such important Masonic libraries as that of the late Duke of Sussex and other eminent brethren, together with several unpublished MSS., by Dr. Oliver, and other Masonic writers. Several of the most valuable lots realised considerable prices. The last literary item concerns ourselves. We launched the frail bark of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE on the 2nd January 1875, and we have at least the gratification of feeling that our career has not been unworthy of the honourable ambition which has animated us from the very outset. We have striven earnestly, and to the best of our ability, to promote the highest interests of the Craft. In matters controversial, we have striven to observe a strict impartiality. We have placed our columns at the service of the Brethren for arguing moot questions, and offering new suggestions. We have striven earnestly to do our duty, and if we have not always satisfied the expectations formed of us by our friends and supporters, we at least may enjoy the pleasant sense of having left no stone unturned in order to make our journal a success. We trust we may not have a less agreeable delivery of our conscience at the end of the year 1876. However, we have referred to ourselves elsewhere at greater length, and it hardly becomes us to be egotistical in two places at once. We are thankful for the support thus far accorded us, and hope by, if possible, still greater efforts in the future, to command the respect of the Craft generally.

In the foregoing sketch we have necessarily omitted several matters, which, to many, no doubt will seem quite as interesting, and therefore noteworthy. Had we, however, attempted to introduce all the important events that have occurred, we should never have accomplished the intense task. It only remains for us now to say just a few words in conclusion, and by way of hearty congratulation, on the present condition of the Craft. In the United Kingdom, the Heir Apparent is Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, England, and Patron of Grand Lodge, both in Ireland and Scotland; in Sweden, the King is Grand Master; in Denmark, the Crown Prince is ruler; in Holland, the King's Uncle has been Grand Master for nearly sixty years; in the Empire of Germany, the foremost Mason, the protector of the three Grand Lodges in Berlin, is no less important a personage than the Emperor William himself, while his son, the Imperial Crown Prince, is second in Masonic rank only to his father. In the United States, some of the most eminent public men are either simple members or rulers in our beloved Order. In every country, in fact, in both hemispheres, wherever Masonry flourishes, there will be found some of the ablest and best members of the community enrolled in our Order. Yet, in face of these facts, which are undeniable, some laugh, some sneer, some denounce our sacred mysteries. Of course we can afford to treat the people who act thus towards us, with indifference. We doubt not, however, that in good time they will, like sensible people, see the error of their ways, and encourage instead of oppressing and denouncing the cause of Masonry. This consummation devoutly to be wished may not be realised this year, or even for some years to come, but its realisation is only a question of time. Day by day, the acts of Masonry are made public, and the quaint terror at our secret working is hardly ever felt by men of sense. Under these circumstances we can afford to wait patiently, in the firm conviction that the more that is said of us the more highly and more widely shall we be appreciated. May the year that is coming prove as prosperous as that which is now about to close! May our Grand Master return from India in health, and with increased strength to fulfil the arduous duties of his high position! May he and his ever enjoy the favour of the G.A.O.T.U.! And may the Craft render him that cheerful obedience which has ever animated all good and true brethren! Nor must we pass, without mention, the ladies, whose interest in our welfare has grown with our growth. We wish them all the happiness they can desire, both in this world and hereafter. Let them not be over-curious, but content themselves with a firm belief in the truth and honour of Masonry. Let them bear in mind the old saying, that "A good Mason *must* be a good man." The faith we profess, if acted up to strictly, renders it impossible he should be otherwise. Thus women are, or should be, our best friends, and as such they have our most cordial good wishes for their present and future happiness.

In fine, while cherishing with a loving care the pleasant memories of the past, may we ever keep before us a firm faith in the glorious future of our Order.

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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

HER Majesty, as usual of late years, left Windsor Castle a few days since, for Osborne, where she will spend Christmas in comparative retirement. Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has reached Copenhagen, where she was received by her father's subjects with the utmost enthusiasm. Of course, her presence in the Danish capital has been promotive of no small amount of festivity. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh came into town a day or two since, and had an interview with the First Lord of the Admiralty. It is said His Royal Highness will take command of the Monarch, turret iron-clad, in order to complete the usual period of service afloat. The Prince of Wales has reached Calcutta, and here, no doubt, he will meet with the same hearty welcome accorded him as in the two other Presidencies. It is hoped his Royal Highness will find time to lay the foundation stone of the New Masonic Temple which the brethren in the Bengal District are about to erect. As it may not, perhaps, be generally known, we take the opportunity of mentioning that Bengal is one of the oldest Masonic provinces out of England, under the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge, having been constituted as a province as far back as 1728.

It seldom rains but it pours. We have had during the last few weeks at least half-a-dozen very calamitous accidents—accidents which have been attended with a very serious loss of life. Early on Wednesday morning, one of the boys on board the training ship Goliath, lying a mile or so above Gravesend, off Grays, let fall a petroleum lamp in the lamp room. The consequence was that a fire broke out, which very soon spread throughout the whole vessel. At the time there was 465 persons on board, and of these, seventeen are reported as missing, and three drowned. The boys behaved with rare English pluck, and stuck by the ship till all chance of extinguishing the fire was gone, when, with difficulty, they were induced to quit. A Mr. Wheeler, one of the masters, was among the drowned, having sunk exhausted, after clinging as long as he possibly could to the bottom of a boat. Mrs. Bourchier (wife of Captain Bourchier, the officer in charge), and two of her daughters, experienced some difficulty in escaping. One of these latter descended hand over hand by means of a rope, two of which some one fortunately had taken the precaution to hang over the stern. In doing so, however she severely lacerated her hands. Mrs. Bourchier, herself had to leap from the vessel into the water, owing to the second rope having been burnt. Captain Walters, of the training ship Chichester, and his men, rendered invaluable

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service, the former himself rescuing one of the boys found clinging to a fender hanging from the bows, though the flames were scorching his jacket, and the foreyard was dangling over the bow, and threatening every moment to fall. It is more than possible that of those missing, sundry may never be heard of again. It is believed that several are drowned, but nearly the whole of them could swim, and it is quite possible that some may make for their homes. To us it seems strange that an oil, admittedly dangerous, unless the greatest care is taken with it, should be used on board ship, but "my Lords," perhaps, are governed by a sense of economy, and are readier to risk the loss of a ship than to grant annually a few more pounds in the purchase of a more expensive oil.

Further experiments have recently been made at Chatham with the New Flying Machines invented by Mr. Simmonds, and meant for use in military operations by an army in the field. A high wind prevailed at the time, and it was therefore impossible to obtain any trustworthy results, as one of the long poles or arms had, in working it, become injured. The experiments were made under the superintendence of Mr. Simmonds himself, by a number of Sappers and non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers.

The question of widening London Bridge formed the subject of a very interesting paper, by M. S. F. Walmisley, at the meeting, on Thursday evening, of the Civil and Mechanical Engineers' Society, in Westminster Chambers. Mr. Walmisley pointed out that the whole question resolved itself into one simply of expense. A new bridge could be built, a new tunnel bored, a new ferry established, or the present structure itself could be widened. There were no engineering difficulties in the way of either proposal. It was simply for the authorities whom it might concern to determine what amount of money should be laid out in affording additional transit across the Thames at this point.

The official inquiry into the loss of the *Deutschland*, off the Kentish Knock, is not yet completed. A mass of evidence has been taken, but the charge of wrecking has been abandoned. Of course, the excitement in Germany has not yet cooled down, but the bulk of Germans have faith in the impartiality of our English tribunals. Moreover, there have been published lately a number of statistics as regards German vessels lost, or in difficulties off our English coast, and from these it is shown that a very considerable number of lives have been saved by English life boats, tug boats, and luggers.

The charge against the directors of the London Saw Mills and Short Length Timber Company, Limited, has been dismissed by Alderman Sir R. Lusk, before when it was heard, at Guildhall. Mr. George Lewis had taken up the case out of pure charity, and had succeeded in obtaining a sum of £850 from the accused, in compensation to the thirty men, mostly retired soldiers and clerks, in a humble position, who had invested about £1,030 in the Company. Mr. Lewis did not retract any of the statements he had made on the first occasion when it had come before the court; but he thought he was acting best in the interests of his clients by accepting for them the sum offered. Under these circumstances, the worthy Alderman having complimented Mr. Lewis on his conduct of the case, had no option but to allow the case to be withdrawn. The defendants left the court, amid very strong demonstrations of ill-feeling on the part of the complainants.

The relations between acrobats and their apprentices have been recently a matter for investigation before the Lambeth Police Court. A Mr. Brown, the master, appears to have taken two youngsters, a boy and a girl, under his charge, with a view to training them as acrobats. They seem to have got on, for a time, pretty well together, but the boy was not unfrequently thrashed. It is not, perhaps, very strange that a boy of eleven or twelve should occasionally stand in need of a little corporal punishment, but it was urged that a greater amount of severity was exhibited than was proper. A considerable amount of wrangling and jingling among the several parties interested in the quarrel appears to have prevailed, and the unfortunate magistrate was apparently nonplussed as to how to deal with the matter. However, it was finally arranged that the boy should be sent to an industrial school, that the girl should still remain in the charge of the acrobat, who, however, was to send her to school for three months, and, further, that the mother, who had been in receipt of a pound per month for the use of the children, should be allowed to visit her daughter occasionally. Both the youngsters appear to have been well cared for, and well nourished by Mr. Brown, and the boy had attained a considerable degree of skill, so far, indeed, as to be able to perform on the flying trapeze blindfold. Both boy and girl evinced a strong indisposition to return to their mother, nor is this wholly surprising when we consider that they fared very indifferently at home, and that her maternal instincts could not have been very strong, or she would not have hired them out for so insignificant a sum.

A very serious charge was made on Thursday against a Mr. Henry Powell, a captain in the merchant navy, for that he, being master of the good ship Oberon, which came into collision with an Italian barque, Chiavari, did not stand by and render such assistance to the latter as was in her power, without danger to his own ship, as required by the Merchants' Shipping Act of 1873. The prosecution was conducted by Mr. Poland, under instructions from the Treasury, while Mr. Hill defended. The latter raised a preliminary objection, on the ground that the prosecution should have been instituted immediately after the occurrence in November 1873, and that so long an interval should not have been permitted to elapse. Sir Thomas Henry, however, decided against this objection. After hearing a considerable amount of evidence, the case was adjourned till yesterday.

A verdict of wilful murder has been given in the terrible tragedy at Norwich, by which the lives of three boys were taken by a lunatic, those of two others being yet in danger from the dreadful wounds inflicted by the murderer. A Miss Winifred Wales appears to have committed suicide by taking a quantity of opium, being it is said, induced to commit the fatal act through love for an actor at the Britannia Theatre. A great conflagration occurred on Thursday morning at the East of London, the steam flour mills of Messrs. Huskinson being burnt down. The flames rapidly attained a complete mastery over the building, and all the engines could do was to direct their efforts to saving the adjoining premises, which happily they succeeded in doing.

Pantomime before Christmas seems an anomaly, but at the Crystal Palace, "Jack in Wonderland; or, The Magic Beanstalk, the Great Giant, and the Merry Pranks of the Good Little People," written by Mr. Blanchard, has appeared, and given considerable satisfaction to those who have had the good fortune to witness it. Nor is this to be wondered at when we bear in mind that the acting was good, the dancing magnificent, and the dresses and appointments in the highest degree effective. But for an accident which Mr. G. Conquest experienced, the Pantomime, at the Alexandra Palace, would have appeared, as announced, on Tuesday. Owing to this circumstance its appearance was delayed till yesterday. The title is, "Harlequin and Yellow Dwarf, or the King of the Gold Mines," and it has been written expressly, by the Brothers Grinn—a very appropriate name, as it happens—for Mr. George Conquest, who, with his son, takes the most prominent part in the action. We shall defer details till next week. For Boxing Day, a great circus entertainment is announced to take place, and if the weather be at all seasonable, there is every chance of there being a very considerable attendance.

On Thursday was given, at St. James's Hall, a "Christmas Concert," though there appears to have been nothing particularly Christmas in the programme, beyond the fact of its being held two days before Christmas Day, and that a few carols were effectively sung by the Albert Hall Choral Society. However, the performance was a good one, and the attendance was in every way worthy of the entertainment afforded.

We cannot compliment the clerk of the weather on his recent conduct. He has been mighty fickle of late. We have had a dose of mud and mugginess, during the last few days, which has hardly been surpassed even within the memory of "the oldest inhabitant." Last year, we had, about this time, a very genial frost, and it is possible, of course, when these lines appear, that Father Christmas may appear in his usual seasonable toggery. At the moment of writing, however, there is nothing particular to warrant this belief. At the same time, let us hope the winter will not pass away without giving us a chance of enjoying something wintry at least. But snow or rain, mugginess or genial frost, we doubt not that, somehow, the world will contrive to enjoy itself as much as it has enjoyed itself in former years. The youngsters, in particular, if they cannot display their skill on the ice, will,

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we doubt not, find some means of solacing themselves with a more than usually vigorous attack on the good things. We hope they will have a thoroughly good time of it.

In France the Legislative Assembly has at length completed its task of electing its twenty-five Life Senators, among whom is our very violent friend, Bishop Dupanloup. At Rome, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, who made himself so publicly offensive at the O'Connell Festival, by proposing the health of the Pope before that of the Queen, has been received by His Holiness, who conferred upon his municipal worship the Order of Gregory the Great, and who further requested his visitor to convey his blessing to the good City of Dublin. According to Russian news, the insurrection in Khokand may be said to have been suppressed, General Kaufmann, having despatched a force which successfully stormed the insurgent positions. The leaders are said to have fled beyond the frontier, while the followers have pleaded for mercy. Further success has been gained over the Malays by the British troops, and there is every prospect of the murder of Mr. Birch being amply avenged, and that at a very early date. The Sultan has appointed a committee in order to see that the reforms authorised in his recent Firman are carried out properly. It is rumoured that the Khedive is negotiating the cession of his founder's shares in the Suez Canal. Both the British Government and a French Company or combination, with M. de Lesseps at its head, are said to be bidding for them. There is little news from Spain, the weather being unfavourable to military operations.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

When this number comes before our readers, the Christmas of 1875 will have been inaugurated, and our younger friends, especially, will be looking forward with an eagerness that is quite natural to enjoying the pleasures of the gay and festive board. We wish them, one and all, "a happy Christmas," or to be more *en règle* perhaps, the Compliments of the Season. May all success attend them in their efforts to achieve good fortune! May they, and their belongings, enjoy all happiness, both now and hereafter!

The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. J. M. Clabon, P.G.D., President, in the chair, the vice-chairs being occupied by Bro. J. Nunn P.G.S.B. V.P., and J. Brett P.G.P. Bro. J. Hervey G.S. read the various grants requiring confirmation, and 26 new cases were relieved to the amount of £500, while 3 cases were deferred. There were present Bros. S. Rawson P.D.G.M. China, J. Smith P.G.P., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., E. P. Albert A.G.P., J. Boyd P.G.P., S. Hickman, C. Hogard, Bartlett, H. Dicketts P.G.S., W. Stephens, W. C. Crick, W. Mann, W. H. Myers, Griffiths Smith, Howe, S. Poynter, H. Massey, Munyard, Neall, Hemsworth, Newton, Baldwin, Bergmann, H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, Pullmann, West, &c.

The Auckland (New Zealand) *Evening Star* of 26th October publishes the following:—

The funeral of the late Mr. R. Gratton, of the Thames Hotel, took place this afternoon. The melancholy cortege left the deceased's private residence in Emily Place shortly after three o'clock. In front of the hearse the members of the various Masonic Lodges marched in procession. All appeared in regalia. Prominent among the insignia were the distinguishing badges of the Ara Lodge, of which Lodge Mr. Gratton was a member. Mr. Robinson, the worthy Master of this Lodge, was present. After the corpse followed the relatives and friends of the deceased and the Oddfellows in procession. A large number of the general public swelled the funeral train. Preparations for receiving the body had been made in the Protestant burying ground, and there the interment was made, the officiating minister being Dr. Kidd. As Mr. Gratton was a Roman Catholic this statement will no doubt cause some surprise, and we therefore give the following facts in explanation. On Sunday some of the Masons heard that there existed among the Catholic clergy a disinclination to perform the funeral ceremony on account of the deceased's membership among the Freemasons. Mr. Robinson waited on Father W. McDonald and now states that he was led to believe that so long as the Craft did not make a demonstration by appearing in regalia they were willing to perform the rite. A final answer was not given at 11 o'clock yesterday morning. At three in the afternoon the clergy absolutely declined to have anything to do with the obsequies. The Masons then took the matter up, and in the short time allowed them made preparations for conducting the funeral in their own state. Mr. Hayward conducted the funeral arrangements.

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, 27th DECEMBER.

30—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Fore-street-hill, Exeter.
43—St. Paul's, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
69—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
197—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
170—All Souls, Masonic Hall, Melcombe Regis, Weymouth.
192—Hengist, Bella Vue House, Bournemouth.
377—Hope and Charity, Lion Hotel, High-street, Kidderminster.
707—St. Mary's, Bull Inn, Bridport.
737—Wentworth, Town Hall, Wellingborough, Northampton.
900—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 28th DECEMBER.

Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

206—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford, Kent.
171—Perseverance, Shenstone House, Hales Owen, Worcester.
1238—Beaconstree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1305—Hamer, 66 Everton-road, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 29th DECEMBER.

102—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1324—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)

197—Royal Sussex of Hospitality, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
901—Sondes, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.

THURSDAY, 30th DECEMBER.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)

103—Friendship, Crown and Anchor, Great Yarmouth.
290—Worcester, Bell Hotel, Worcester.
296—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
304—Phœnix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
R. A.—54—Hope, Spread Eagle, Rochdale.

FRIDAY, 31st DECEMBER.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

SATURDAY, 1st JANUARY.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—68—Star of Kilwarlin, Masonic Rooms, Hillsborough, Co. Down.
" 126—Carlow, Masonic Hall, Carlow.
" 302—Desmond, Masonic Hall, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
" 308—Ballymahon, Court House, Ballymahon.
" 372—Gilhall, Princes-street, Dromore, Co. Down.
" 735—Ashfield (Corkhill) Private Room, Corkhill, Co. Cavan.
TUESDAY—124—Saugatrick, Masonic Hall, Bridge-street, Banbridge, Co. Down.
" 190—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—351—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
" R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—102—St. Mark, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 108—Union and Crown, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 219—Star, 12 Trongate.
" R.A.—124—Thistle, 16 St. James-street.
TUESDAY.—419—Neptune, 26 James-street.
" R. A.—67—Cathedral, 24 Struthers-street.
" R.A.—73—Caledonian of Unity, 170 Buchanan-street.
THURSDAY—R.A.—117 Govan, Portland Hall, Govan.
FRIDAY—448—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Conclave of Sorrow.—Sir Knight John Johnson P.M. Naval, H. of Chapter No. 122, M. of St. Mungo Encampment of K.T., a member of No. 4 Conclave, Edinburgh, of the Red Cross of Constantine, E.V.E. 114, Glasgow Conclave, Deputy-Commander K.H.S., and Hon. Sovereign of Lilly of the Valley, 127, Holytown, having died after only four days' illness, the members of the two last-named bodies determined to testify their respect for departed worth by holding a Conclave of Sorrow, which was done on Saturday, 11th of December. A raised platform was constructed, suitably draped with black cloth and crape; in the West, the place of the chair of the deceased Exeellent, the East was occupied by the two Sovereigns, Sir Knights Shields and Wheeler, the former presiding, the latter acting as High Prelate, Wm. McMurdo as Sus., D. Baker S.G., J.

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McMurdo J.G., and G. Read as H. The impressive service for the dead was very carefully rendered by the officiating Knights, after which Sir Knight Wheeler M.P.S., as having known him longest, delivered a short address, dwelling on his many amiable qualities, the goodness both of his head and heart. It was a touching coincidence that their departed friend was the first person in Scotland on whom he had conferred the degree of the Holy Sepulchre, and the first to be carried to his sepulchre. Bro. Johnson was unmarried, but an address of condolence to his surviving relatives was agreed to, and the Conclave was closed in solemn form.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, 21st December, in Kilwinning Hall. Bro. G. McDonald R.W.M. presiding, assisted by Bros. J. Bannerman D.M., J. Balantyne S.M., A. McLeod S.W., J. Hanbridge J.W., G. Wheeler, C. R. Richards S., J. Ampleford T., S. Kay S.D. Bro. D. Reid, I.P.M. 405, was also on the dais. The case of a deserving widow was brought before the Lodge, and a sum voted for her immediate necessities. The Lodge was then raised to the 2nd degree, when Bro. Wheeler passed Bro. J. Candlwell to the degree of Fellow Craft. There being no further business, the Lodge was then closed.

St. Marks Lodge, No. 102.—An installation meeting was held on Monday, 20th December, when, in the presence of a large number of the brethren, Bro. T. Halket installed Bro. Smith, and his office bearers for the ensuing year, the list of whom we have already published. Bro. Halket, on Wednesday, also installed Bro. B. Prout as R.W.M. of Kilwinning, No. 4, and the remainder of his office bearers, whose names we published on the day of election.

Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185.—A general meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 20th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C. Bro. J. H. Ross W.M. in the chair, assisted by Bros. Barnett S.W., D. Posener J.W., J. Peartree Treasurer, Phil Levy Secretary, G. Pare S.D., Bailey J.D., Croaker I.G.; there were also present Bros. J. Constable I.P.M., and P.M.'s Bros. S. Solomon, E. Z. Bloomfield, N. Moss, S. Moss, Harfeld, Meyers, Gluckstein, Gotthell, and a numerous assemblage of members. The evening's proceedings commenced with the usual routine observed at Masonic meetings of this kind, after which Bros. Sadleir, Bush and Cohen were admitted to the Master's degree. Messrs. Johannes, Ernst, Schultze, Conrad, Koppleman, Lederer and Moss Davis having been ballotted for, and accepted, were duly initiated into the Order. Although the W.M. was evidently suffering from a bronchial affection, he managed to perform his duties with his accustomed ability and precision. Bro. Asher I. Meyers, of Prosperity Lodge, No. 65, a gentleman of some literary attainments, and connected with the *Jewish Chronicle*, was admitted a joining member. Notice of motion was given by the I.P.M., that ten guineas should be voted from the funds of the Lodge to present a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Ross, on his approaching retirement from the chair. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment. The usual toasts followed, in proposing which the W.M. truly distinguished himself. His speeches were short, that is in itself an increased advantage, but pithy and very well expressed. Bro. Constable, in a few happily chosen terms, proposed the health of the W.M., which was received with the utmost enthusiasm, for Bro. Ross is extremely popular with the brethren. The time is always pleasantly passed in this Lodge, especially when good singing forms part of the diversion. Bros. Constable, Bailey, Ross, Benjamin, and others, exerted themselves to please, and the applause, which followed their excellent singing, proved they were appreciated. Bro. Bilby presided at the harmonium in the Lodge room. The visitors were Bros. James Cox S.D. 765, C. McLean P.M. 1087, J. Smith 1257, Henry Roberts 22, H. Massey P.M. 619, J. J. Cohen S.W. 1340, Benjamin 180.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—The members met on Wednesday, at Bro. Chard's, White Hart, Aldermanbury-lane. Present—Bros. D. Posener W.M., G. Walker S.W., Tollis J.W., J. K. Pitt Sec., J. Constable Treas., Blackhall S.D., Turquand J.D., Biddell I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M.—Bro. E. Gotthell, Preceptor. Business—Preliminaries duly attended to. The ceremony of initiation rehearsed, Bro. Brown acting as candidate; the ceremony of raising followed, Bro. Barr acting as candidate; Bro. Walker elected W.M. for the next meeting; a vote of thanks was cordially given to Bro. Posener, and with reasonable good wishes the brethren separated.

York Lodge, No. 236.—On Monday, the 20th inst., the installation of Bro. Francis Rawling took place at the York Lodge. There was a large attendance of brethren, including representatives from other Lodges. Bro. W. Cowling P.M. officiated as Installing Master. The officers were afterwards appointed as follow:—Bros. Rev. W. Valentine S.W., G. C. Beckett J.W., Rev. H. V. Palmer P.M. Chaplain, W. Cowling P.M. Treasurer, Jos. Todd P.M. Secretary, Thos. Cooper P.M. D.C., A. Buckley S.D., T. B. Whytehead J.D., T. S. Cambridge Organist, W. H. Gainforth I.G., Kirby Asst. Secretary, and J. Tinniman and Geo. Garbutt Stewards. Bro. Redfarn was appointed Tyler. The annual banquet will be held on Monday next, 27th Dec., being the feast of St. John the Evangelist.

Royal Brunswick Lodge, No. 296.—This Lodge held its anniversary meeting on the evening of Monday, the 13th December, at Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, Sheffield, when Bro. Henry Ecroyd (the W.M. elect) was installed in due and ancient form, and in a very able manner, by the I.P.M., Bro. Pawson. The customary homage was paid to the W.M. by a large assemblage of distinguished brethren, including Bros. Henry Smith Prov. G. Secretary West Yorks, Hamilton, M.A., Mus. Bac., Prov. G. Chaplain, Roddewig Prov. G.D.C., Denton, member of the Grand Lodge of Sweden and Norway; the W.M.'s and P.M.'s of the Britannia and Wentworth Lodges, Sheffield; the Scarsdale Lodge, Chesterfield; Phœnix Lodge, Rotherham; Pelham Lodge, Worksop; Royal Alfred Lodge, Alfreton; Philanthropic, Leeds; Clare Lodge, Harrowgate, &c. The following officers were duly invested by the W.M.:—Bros. John Bidal S.W., Walter Nicholson J.W., Rev. Samuel W. Earnshaw, M.A., Chaplain, M. de Bartolomé, M.D., Treas., Robert Schott Sec., Geo. Cubley S.D., W. Skinner, M.R.C.S., J.D., John Marples D.C., Thomas Harrison I.G., Charles Clement Carr and Moses Hartley Stewards, Sankley Org. and Hessey Tyler. The brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Brookes, and presided over by the W.M., Bro. Ecroyd. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, Bro. P.M. Seebohm, F.Z.S., proposed the health of the W.M., and Bro. P.M. Longden that of the visiting brethren, which was responded to by Bro. Captain Traill.

Probity and Freedom Lodge, No. 367.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 16th instant, at the Bull's Head Hotel, Smallbridge, Rochdale, and was well attended. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting unanimously confirmed. A ballot took place for Mr. James Leach, and, proving favourable, he was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Bro. Wm. Schofield W.M. elect was then installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, and appointed the following officers:—Bros. William J. Kinder S.W., Wm. Berwicke J.W., A. T. Shore S.D., J. Schofield J.D., C. M. Jones P.M. Treasurer, Swift Secretary, Robert Wren P.M. D.C., Henry Ashworth I.G., W. Davis Tyler. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. T. Baker Ashworth P.M., in a most impressive and eloquent manner. Four candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the Lodge was then closed. An excellent banquet was served by Bro. McOwen. The usual toasts were proposed by the W.M. Responding to the toast of the "Provincial Grand Officers," Bro. Jones P.M. and Bro. Roberts P.M.—both P.P.G. officers—gave the brethren some interesting information respecting the proposed East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.

Clyde Lodge, No. 408.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday, 17th December, at 170 Buchanan-street, Bro. Harper R.W.M. assisted by Bros. Downie I.P.M., J. McInnis D.M., Wm. Bisland S.W., W. S. Williamson acting J.W., G. Anderson Treasurer, and a large number of brethren and visitors. Amongst the latter were Bros. Prout R.W.M. No. 4, Wheeler No. 73, Patterson Treasurer No. 102, Jack R.W.M. No. 128. Bro. Prout asked the Lodge to kindly initiate two gentlemen for him, and the request being granted, Bro. Harper the R.W.M. performed the ceremony in a very careful manner. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, when Bro. Wheeler, at the request of the R.W.M., passed two Brothers for St. Mark's Lodge, and one for Clyde Lodge, to that degree. Bro. Pattison, Treasurer of St. Mark's, returned thanks on behalf of his Lodge, for their courtesy to them, and also to Bro. Wheeler for performing the ceremony. The Lodge was then opened in the 3rd degree, and Bro. Wheeler raised a Bro. to the sublime degree, the R.W.M. proposing a vote of thanks to him for his services.

St. Mungo Encampment of Knights Templar, Glasgow.—The regular meeting was held on Monday, 20th December. Sir Knight R. Bell E.C. presiding, when a Priory of the Knights of Malta was opened, with R. Bell Prior, G. W. Wheeler Prelate, C. McKenzie Marshall, J. Smith 1st Aide de Camp, J. Hughes 2nd Aide de Camp, when Sir Knights Baker, Hardie, Brown, and Douglas were duly created Knights of Malta. The same Sir Knights, with the addition of S. Hughes, were afterwards instructed in the ancient degree of the Mark and Wrestle, by Sir Knight R. Bell, Prior.

Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. Present—Bros. Honeyman W.M., Gillard S.W., Lee J.W., Mander Preceptor, T. Call Secretary, Tolmie, Martin and L. Reibold. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd and 3rd degrees, and the ceremony of raising ably worked by the W.M. Resumed to the 1st degree, and the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th sections worked by the brethren. Bro. L. Reibold, of Lodge 180, was unanimously elected a joining member, and Bro. Gillard to be the W.M. for the ensuing week. The Secretary announced that, in accordance with the rules, the ceremony of installation would be worked, by Bro. W. C. Parsons, W.M. Lodge 180, on Thursday, 30th inst., at 7.30 p.m. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony.

St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 465.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held in their own hall, Garngad-road, Glasgow, on 16th of December. The Lodge was opened by Bro. David Reid R.W.M. The auditor's report was presented, from which it appears that the Lodge is in a prosperous state, rapidly clearing off the cost of their hall. A Board of Installed Masters having been duly formed, Bro. D. Gilchrist, R.W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Wheeler to Bro. Reid, for the benefit of installation. Bro. J. Morgan, R.W.M., Star 219, afterwards proclaimed him in the Lodge, and also installed the rest of the officers, in a very masterly style. The Lodge was then

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called to refreshment. Bro. J. Booth R.W.M. of Thistle Lodge 87, replied on behalf of the P.G.L. of Glasgow. Bro. Reid, in proposing the new Master said, though his friends had so strongly urged him to stand again, yet as his friend Bro. Gilchrist had got two more votes than himself, he would loyally do all he could to help him in the chair to further the interests of the Mother Lodge. (Cheers.) He trusted that the office bearers who had so well assisted him would do the same for his successor. Bro. Gilchrist suitably acknowledged the toast, and proposed that of the P.M.'s. Bro. Reid said he was sorry that he was the only P.M. now in the Lodge, the other having emigrated. The New Officers was responded to briefly by Bro. Clark, Deputy Master. Bro. McNabb, 354, responded for the Visitors; and Bro. Wheeler (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), and Bro. G. Adam for the Press. Happy to meet, and sorry to part, was then given from the chair.

Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity, No. 663.—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the Town Hall, Devizes. Present—Bros. H. J. Ward W.M., T. B. Fox S.W., T. Raymond J.W., W. Nott P.M. Secretary; P.M.'s Bros. the Rev. H. Richardson, T. Waite, J. H. Chandler, &c. Business—The minutes confirmed and bye-laws read. Ballots were taken for the W.M. and Treasurer for the ensuing year, when Bro. T. B. Fox S.W. was unanimously elected W.M., and Bro. D. A. Gibbs Treasurer. Bros. Holloway P.M. and Randell were elected to the Audit Committee, and Bro. Nott P.M. a member of the Provincial Charity Organization Committee. A grant amounting to £10 was made to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. A candidate for joining was duly proposed and seconded, to be balloted for at the next (the installation) meeting, which will take place on Thursday, the 13th January.

New Concord Lodge, No. 813.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 16th instant, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Present—Bros. H. J. Gabb jun. W.M., J. R. Gallant S.W., T. J. Cusworth J.W., W. H. Mais P.M. Secretary, G. Sinclair Treasurer, R. H. Harper S.D., Fasquesas J.D., S. George Steward, Walisby Organist, and Speight Tyler; P.M.'s T. Bartlett, Atkins and Salisbury. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. A. Keast, Weedon, Jameson, and Tiddeman were raised to the 3rd degree. The ceremony was very impressively delivered by the W.M., who also gave the traditional history and explanation of the tracing board. The bye-laws of the Lodge were read. A notice of motion was given, that in future the name of the locality should be changed from the "Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton," to the "Rosemary Branch Tavern, Islington." The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by H. Gabb sen. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, including those of the W.M., P.M.'s and Visitors, who severally responded, and were Bros. Cook P.M. and Treasurer 65, and Braine P.M. 65. Bro. Gallant S.W. responded to the toast of the Masonic Charities, and announced that he is a Steward at the next Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The toast of the Officers was acknowledged by Bro. Cusworth. The Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. Some capital songs were sung by Bros. Cusworth, J. Blyth, Wicks and Braine, accompanied by Bro. Walisby on the piano.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on the 22nd inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bros. T. Kingston W.M., C. Walker S.W., Moore J.W., Walmisley S.D., Blakemore J.D., Robert Wentworth Little, S.G.W. Middlesex, Secretary, Quilty P.M. Treasurer, C. E. Packer I.G., Gilbert Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Haley I.P.M., Jas. Weaver P.P.G.O. Middlesex, and Horlstone. Visitors—Bros. N. Headon (I.P.M.) and C. Moody (Sec.) Great City Lodge. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Collinson was passed. Bros. Smith, Richardson, and Devine were raised. Bro. Little's resignation of the post of Secretary having been accepted, Bro. Weaver was invested in his stead. Bro. Little's valuable services were suitably acknowledged, and he was elected an honorary member of the Lodge. The usual banquet followed, presided over by the W.M., and the customary toasts were given and responded to.

Royal St. Edmunds Lodge, No. 1008.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds. Present—Bros. James Hedley Bevan W.M., Frederic Fenruside S.W., J. R. Thompson acting J.W., William H. Lacia Secretary, Harry Thompson acting S.D., Thomas F. Lacia J.D., J. D. Perrett D.C., E. M. Fyson I.G., Charles Gooch Tyler, about 20 other brethren were in attendance. Business—Lodge was opened in ancient form; the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed; a ballot was taken for Mr. George King, who was duly elected, and afterwards initiated into the 1st degree of Freemasonry, the ceremony being performed by the W.M. in his usual good manner; the officers also being thoroughly up to their work. The Lodge was then closed, after which the brethren retired to refreshment, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Lodge of Truth, No. 1458.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 4th inst., at the Royal Archer Hotel, Manchester. The Lodge was duly opened by Bro. Smith W.M. The first business on the summons was the confirmation of minutes of last regular meeting, which was unanimous. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Wm. Richardson, and, being favourable, he was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The ceremony of installing Bro. Charles Joel Kent W.M. elect into the chair of K.S. was performed by Bro. Caldwell P.M., and after the admission of the brethren and the customary salutes, the Worshipful Master appointed his officers as follow:—Bro. J. Batchelder S.W., J. Braxton J.W., T. Tyers P.M. Treasurer, Wm. J. Kinder Secretary, R. Fallows S.D., W. Cox J.D., J. Taylor I.G., R. Caldwell P.M. D. of C., E. Walton and R. Wheeldon Stewards, T. Davis Organist, C. Beswick Tyler. The following Lodges were represented:—Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire, and Nos. 341, 879, 999, 1011, 1077, 1083, 1161, 1219, 1359. Banquet was served in excellent style, by Bro. Potts, and perfect unanimity prevailed amongst the brethren. A gratifying incident was the attendance of the W.M.'s father, Bro. Kent, P.M. of a Metropolitan Lodge.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—This young and rapidly increasing Lodge met on Thursday, the 16th inst. at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road. Present—Bros. Michael W.M., Williams S.W., Kingham J.W., Time P.M. Secretary, Douglas S.D., Scales J.D., Side I.G., Stiles D.C. and Asst. Secretary, Colls W.S., Willing I.P.M., and Brot. Gilbert, Jones, Saintsbury, Cheek, Hatton, Rojers, Read, Erwood, Time jun., Esay, Tittenborn, Cox, Hopton, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. H. Stiles, T. Gilbert jun., Swaysmae and Solomon were raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Cave, Van Camp and Lovegrove were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Messrs. G. Edwards, H. Scales, and F. Badderley were initiated into the Order; the work being perfectly delivered by the W.M. The visiting fee was reduced to 7s 6d. Bro. Jas. Willing I.P.M. having consented to act as Steward at the next Anniversary Festival for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the sum of £20 was voted from the funds of the Lodge to be placed on that brother's list. Several propositions were handed in, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren sat down to a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. Cox. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, including those of the W.M., Officers, and Visitors, who were Bros. Willis P.M. Bedford Lodge, Jones, H. Massey P.M. 619, &c. The sum of £30 was subsequently subscribed by the brethren, to be placed on Bro. Jas. Willing's list.

Chislehurst Lodge, No. 1531.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at the Bull Inn, Chislehurst. Present—Bros. John Coutts P.G.P. W.M., G. F. Guest S.D., W. Kipps J.W., J. Griffin P.M. Secretary, J. Mason S.D., H. Glotter J.D., W. Hardman I.G. Bro. J. Coutts W.M. opened the Lodge, and the minutes were confirmed. By the courtesy of the W.M., who was suffering from a severe cold, Bro. J. Griffin P.M. and Secretary initiated Messrs. J. Williams Haybow and Samuels, and passed Bro. Kipps, a brother of the S.W., who came expressly from Hull for that purpose. The Lodge was then closed, and refreshments followed, when the brethren returned to town.

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