

THE
Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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APPROACHING INSTALLATION OF
THE PRINCE OF WALES.

WE are in a position to furnish, for the information of our readers, the official details connected with the approaching Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master, so far, at least, as regards the locality and date, the admission of Members, and the appointment or selection of Stewards. The ceremony has been fixed, by command of His Royal Highness, to take place at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, on Wednesday, the 28th April next, at 3 p.m. punctually. This building has been selected with a view to provide accommodation, so far as space and circumstance permit, not only for all qualified members of Grand Lodge, but also for Master Masons, not members of Grand Lodge, who may desire to be present. In order to make the necessary arrangements, each W.M. is requested to fill up and return to Grand Secretary, on or before the 31st instant, a form containing the names of all such Brethren; and no Brother, whether a qualified member of Grand Lodge or not, will be admitted unless his name has been so returned within the time specified. If the needful accommodation cannot be provided, an equitable distribution of tickets for the admission of Master Masons will be made to each Lodge. Brethren who are subscribing Members of more than one Lodge are to return their names on one list only. Tickets will not be transferable, and it is consequently requested that no Brother send in his name unless he is prepared to attend. We have further to state that, as an additional number of Brethren will be required to assist the Executive in carrying out the necessary arrangements for the admission and seating of the Brethren, the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to order that each of the London Lodges shall have the privilege of nominating a Steward for that purpose. The W.M. of each Lodge which may desire to exercise this privilege is accordingly requested to forward to Grand Secretary the name and address of such Brother, on or before the 31st instant. If the number of Brethren so returned, however, exceed the number required for this service, the selection will be determined by Ballot. It is to be understood that every Brother whose name is so returned must undertake to attend the meetings whenever he is summoned, to be present at the Hall at noon of the day appointed, and to undertake the duties assigned to him. Those who personally discharge the duties of Stewards will have the privilege of wearing a special Jewel which His Royal Highness has been pleased to sanction. The cost of such Jewel is not to exceed five pounds.

THE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT FUND.

WE announced, last week, the interesting fact that ninety-nine members of Grand Lodge voted in favour of Bro. Constable's motion, to which we have referred at length in recent issues. One hundred and fifteen of the brethren voted against the motion, which was therefore lost by the small majority of sixteen. In any circumstances we should regard this result as most encouraging, but when we remember that the motion was discussed at an advanced hour of the evening, when many brethren had left the Hall, and when we further bear in mind that the idea of providing an Endowment Fund is

quite new to many of the members of Grand Lodge, we are constrained to confess that thus far the success of the agitation has exceeded our most sanguine expectations. In truth we did not think that Bro. Constable would have been able to command so large a following at this early stage of the scheme. The idea of an Endowment Fund has indeed been readily taken up by many brethren, but adequate machinery has not yet been devised for the purpose of bringing the matter before the great body of the Order. Organisation is needed, and, if we might venture to make a suggestion, we should at once urge our friends who are interested in the matter to form a committee, and issue a brief address to the Lodges. We are fully assured that our brethren are prepared to come forward with their subscriptions, and that cash will be readily voted from Lodge funds. But in these matters Englishmen expect that the usual business formalities should be respected, and without the assistance of a zealous committee we fear the idea may languish for lack of proper management. It is very evident that there is a strong disposition on the part of the members of Grand Lodge to fall in with the views of the mover of the motion. The suggestion is one fully consonant with the principles of benevolence which are fostered by the Fraternity, and when the matter has been more fully ventilated outside, we are quite certain that a donation from the funds of the Chief Temple of Masonry will not be wanting. We have little or nothing to say as to the tone of the speeches of those who opposed the proposition, but we cannot forbear remarking that Bro. Havers' suggestion that a second boat should be presented to the Lifeboat Association entirely misses the object which the promoters of the Endowment scheme have in view. The secretary of the Association has informed us that there is never any difficulty in providing new boats to replace those which are unfit for service, but the Society really needs funds to meet the cost of keeping its great flotilla in working order. A new boat, contributed by a well meaning person, ignorant of the facts of the case, is a sort of white elephant to the Society. It must be maintained in working order; its crew must be paid their fees for periodical exercise, or actual service, and the station, we believe, must be visited at specific times by a confidential agent of the Association. Moreover, in each district there is a local committee, having the immediate care of the craft in the locality, and the necessary expenses of these bodies fall upon the parent society. The annual charge upon each of the boats possessed by the Association is £70, and as there are about 400 of these craft stationed at the various exposed points on the coast, the Society is called upon to find the very large sum of £28,000 to meet the working expenses of each year. We are prepared to say that at the present moment there is urgent need for funds, and that the Society will be thankful to have the annual charge of any one of its boats taken off its shoulders. If the Association were relieved to any appreciable extent from the undue financial pressure which its vast organisation entails, it would be prepared to undertake further work which calls for completion. There are still many stations on the coast that need a Lifeboat, and upon some of the more dangerous points it would be an advantage if two or more of these arks of safety could be maintained. The great cost, however, of maintaining the Lifeboat flotilla in an efficient working condition effectually prevents the Association from further extending its operations.

We feel assured that Grand Lodge cannot be fully acquainted with these grave facts, and we are quite certain that to our brethren generally they will possess all the charm of novelty. The idea has somehow or other got

abroad that the Lifeboat Association can always obtain any amount of money; that it has only to appeal to the public when it is in need of funds to find a golden stream pouring into its treasury. Members of the press, who see a little behind the scenes of most of the benevolent schemes which engross a share of public attention, know how idle these dreams are. They are constantly receiving requests of one kind or another, and the admirable secretary of the Lifeboat Association constantly appeals, and never, we are happy to say, in vain, to our journalistic brethren for assistance in bringing the operations of the Society before the world. The Association is greatly indebted to the press of the country for continuous and powerful aid in the furtherance of its benevolent intentions, but it is anxious to inspire organised bodies like the Masonic Fraternity with a desire to afford substantial assistance from funds which are subscribed for the purposes of charity. If the various corporate institutions which abound in England were to make an effort it might be possible to relieve the Association of all anxiety with regard to its future operations. We are certain that our brethren will be anxious to lead the way in this good work. They will be proud to give a new and thoroughly practical turn to the overflowing charity of Englishmen, and if they succeed in endowing their own boat, the London Mercantile world, the Civil Service, and other bodies will assuredly follow so good an example. With regard to our own past or prospective share in this work we desire to say little. We shall be prepared to fall in with the views of any Committee which may be formed for the purpose of making the Endowment idea a fact. We shall be willing to set forth the views of the Committee, to support its policy, and to publish any appeals it may desire to make, free of charge. If it should be thought necessary, we will readily receive contributions, which will be paid over to the account we have already provisionally opened with the London and County Bank. We do not, however, desire to force ourselves unduly upon the attention of the Order in this matter. The idea of an Endowment Fund did indeed originate in our columns, and we shall be proud, as its sponsors, to take an active share in the work of the Committee, but if it should be thought wise to dispense with our suggestions, and to adopt an entirely independent line of action, we shall still be ready to watch the agitation, and render such assistance as it is in our power to afford. All we desire is, to see the scheme successfully carried out. Wide publicity has already been given to the report of the debate in Grand Lodge, and if it should go forth to the world that the Masons as a body are indifferent to the claims of one of the noblest institutions of this country, the Order will be certain to suffer more or less in prestige. We venture, in conclusion, to urge Brother Constable and his friends to set about the formation of a Committee immediately. The ninety-nine gentlemen who supported the motion have given a tacit pledge that they will do all in their power to further the cause in their respective districts. There is nothing like striking while the iron is hot. We feel assured that an appeal from a Committee of Brethren will meet with a hearty and enthusiastic response from every Lodge in the Kingdom.

THE FREEMASON AT HOME.

THE Roman Catholic Church ignores Freemasonry, because it is a secret society. The Pope, the Cardinals, and the Priests, go on the assumption that secrecy must necessarily be an evil thing, and that if it were a gospel of truth it would be a gospel for all men, and not for a chosen few. This opinion is shared by many men of the world, who arrive at a similar result by a different process of reasoning, and who, ignorant of the basis on which our Order rests, argue from a false premiss, and so arrive at a mistaken conclusion. We need not be surprised, therefore, when a great institution like the Roman Catholic Church, supplemented by the cold intellect called worldly, arrives at a given mental conclusion to find that such opinion should be not uncommon with the sisters, and more especially with the wives of Masons. We, who are acquainted with the principles which guide our conduct, might easily afford to smile at what appears but as the confusion and blind wandering of a traveller lost in a forest. We might easily afford to smile, it is true, but this practice of the sneerer, who sits serenely aloft, and laughs

at the intellectual gropings of his less taught brethren, can never be the way with good Masons. Powerful for good and evil, as the Roman Catholic Church undoubtedly is, and knowing, as we do know, that the Pope himself, as a young man, was initiated into Freemasonry, we could bear its censure calmly enough. So with the men of the world who deride our Order, we may comfort ourselves with the knowledge that very few great things have ever been accomplished by what are called men of the world. That the very faculty of enthusiasm, which they lack, is the quality above all others which keeps the ball of this world rolling, and that, instead of being called men of the world, they should be called men outside the world. They hold the same relation to true progress as the critics do to the stage, or the press to the legislature. Of themselves they originate nothing; self-elected fault finders, they are useful as poppies in the corn are useful, to show where the soil is poorest, to flaunt a brilliant scarlet, and perish almost as soon as plucked. Presuming that we have, at least, to our own satisfaction, confounded the Pope and the cynic, there yet remains the wife to conciliate. And wives, as we most of us know, have distinct opinions, or, shall we say prejudices, on the subject of Freemasonry.

To make the matter clear let us take a case from the middle ranks of life. Tom Robinson, the suppositious Tom, is a young man of fair ability, a good digestion and a nice little business, what might be called, indeed, a going concern. In process of time Tom marries a charming girl—all girls are charming, it is a mere question of degree—and, for a while, Tom is as happy as the days are long. The little wife is a matron sure enough, but as surely the local tradesman and the polite omnibus conductor insist on addressing Madam as Miss. This natural error is duly reported to Tom, who is as proud of the mistake as the little wife herself—prouder he cannot be. Time goes on, and presently a little Tom makes his appearance, a fragile curly headed lump of humanity, that somehow lightens up Tom's heart whenever he looks that way, late at night or early in the morning, or, best of all, on Sundays. Presently the little wife gives Tom a miniature of herself in the shape of the most preternaturally beautiful little girl child that was ever seen in the wide, wide world. Now, Tom is the father of two children, the husband of a little wife, a little wife broadened out about the shoulders, and with just a line or two in her dear forehead, but not a whit less handsome in Tom's eyes than when long ago they two made love under the trees in the green summer time. Besides the little wife and the children, Tom has a going concern in the shape of a business, which thrift adds to year by year, and altogether Tom is in a good way, as many are at this present time, thank God! It so happens that among Tom's friends is one who, small blame to him, sees in Tom the very man for a Freemason—a sober, steady, kind hearted fellow, honest to the backbone, and withal fond of eating and drinking, and of the little wife at home. How the friend managed it, without asking Tom outright, will never be known—that is a secret as profound as the identity of the man with the Iron Mask, or the place where the cheap champagne comes from—but the friend did, somehow or other, have an influence over Tom, who in due course became a Mason.

At first the little wife, as she lay beside Tom in their nice white bed, had her misgivings that this new fancy might lead Tom away from his home, where they had all been so happy together, might take him into strange company, even bad company. So the little wife now and again moistened her pillow with tears, all the while that Tom, big and broad of shoulder, slept calmly and peacefully, dreaming of a white kid apron, trimmed with blue silk, filling itself with golden sovereigns and levitating towards the *girls' school*, as a handsome donation from Tom himself. Nor were the waking hours of the little wife quite free from care, for while Tom was busy with the books of the going concern—she, left at home, somewhat solitarily, as the way with Englishwomen is, could not hide from herself that a secret was hidden from her, and that she had not all Tom's heart, as she was wont to have. It happened, moreover, as time went on, that love itself changed, that Tom was even a little less attentive, apparently somewhat less fond than in the times the little wife could remember so well, when Tom's knock at the door, and his tread on the stairs, had set her own foolish little heart all of a flutter. This, likewise, which was no more than growth and use, was set down to Freemasonry.

And let us for a moment pause to say that, in spite of the poets, human love does change, that married love and single love do differ in degree as much as the orange blossom, white and pink with the scent of the morning, differs from the golden orange of the ripening autumn. Many a little wife is wrecked on this reef, because she cannot understand that staid Tom, with the bars of white in his curly black head, who even now would die to save her from harm—is a different lover from that Tom who begged for a kiss in the days that will never come back again. The little wife, however, of whom we write, being a sensible little woman, soon saw that Freemasonry, in spite of its secret, and its occasional evening from home, made Tom not a worse but a better man. She grew, day by day, to see how the circle of his sympathies enlarged. How, looking on his own children, his heart turned to the helpless ones left in the cold world when less fortunate brethren died. She saw him kind to dumb beasts, courteous to servants, generous and considerate towards herself, and although she never knew, and never could know how much he owed to Freemasonry, she felt that the Order could not be an evil which left her so much she loved and valued. It is the misfortune of the fancy which dictates these lines that it must for ever only hover about the confines of the subject. It is the fate of Freemasonry that it must be suspect; but little wives, if they will, may take it from us that whilst they remain charming as they are, and true as they are, the Freemason will always be happiest at Home.

FREEMASONRY IN ROME.

WHILE the Church of Rome is doing all in its power to discountenance our Order, a Masonic Temple has just reared its head within the precincts of the sacred city itself. Our readers will doubtless remember that in an early number we announced that a new Temple of the Craft would shortly be opened in Rome, and on Friday of last week the memorable event passed off with all the success which the most devoted members of the brotherhood could desire. The brethren mustered in very considerable force, there being upwards of 200 present at the ceremonial, the one source of regret being that Bro. General Garibaldi, who has fought so earnestly for freedom in his native country, was unable to be present owing to an unusually sharp and severe attack of rheumatism. His son, Menotti, was there to represent him. The order of procession was first duly arranged by the Master of the Ceremonies, the brethren of the several degrees being marshalled in the order of their juniority, the first degree leading, followed by those of the second and third, and of the higher degrees. Then came the representatives of foreign Lodges and the Grand Master, surrounded by the various dignitaries of the Grand Orient of Italy. The procession having passed through the several halls, at length reached the gates of the Temple itself, which were thrown open after the usual tokens of recognition, and the ceremonial proceeded. Then the Grand Orator, Bro. M. Macchi, delivered a long, powerful, and impressive address, in the course of which he alluded, in complimentary and graceful terms, to the presence of representatives of foreign Lodges, and especially of Great Britain, an allusion as gracefully acknowledged in Italian by Bro. Lieutenant Col. B. Ramsay. At length the ceremony was brought to a close amid general congratulations, supplemented, as the day proceeded, by complimentary telegrams from other provinces in Italy and from different foreign Lodges. The day following was specially devoted to a *conversazione* and musical entertainment appropriate to the occasion, the cantata specially composed by Bro. Swicher being rendered, both vocally and instrumentally, with great effect. Another Lodge meeting had been previously held at 2 p.m., at which again the most cordial congratulations were interchanged. The appearance of the Temple, the elegance of its design and decoration every where apparent, were the theme of general laudation, and when the day closed, but one feeling prevailed that the Inauguration Ceremonial had proved to be a grand success. Such is the answering echo of Italian Masonry to the blunders of the Vatican. And with every respect for the religious convictions of our Roman Catholic brethren, we echo most cordially, in all lands and in all ages, so mote it be!

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The regular meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, the 10th instant, Bro. Major Creton P.G.D. in the chair. Bro. Jas. Terry read the minutes, which were confirmed. A letter was read from the Marquis of Ripon, the late Grand Master, tendering his resignation as Trustee of the three funds belonging to the Institution, which was accepted. Bro. J. Stevens proposed that the Pro. Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, be invited to accept the Trusteeship of the Male and Widows' Funds, and Lord Skelmersdale that of the Sustentation Fund. The death of three annuitants was announced, as also that of an approved candidate (Mrs. Harris). The Reports of the House Committee and Wardens were read. Major Creton proposed, and Bro. Farnfield seconded, that an Honorary V.P. of this Institution be offered for the acceptance of Dr. H. J. Strong, the Hon. Surgeon of this Institution at Croydon, for his unremitting care and attention to the residents for the past eleven years; which was carried with acclamation. A letter was read from the Rev. J. N. Palmer, offering suggestions as to an improved system of voting at the elections, which was not entertained by the Committee. Permission was granted to an inmate to retire from the Institution on account of ill-health. The Chairman announced the death of Bro. W. P. Scott P.G.D., one of the Committee, and a member of the Finance Committee also, which was received with great regret, and a letter of condolence was directed to be sent to the widow. There were present Bros. J. Hogg P.G.D., B. Head P.G.D., R. Spencer V.P., H. Pullen P.G.S.B., T. Cubitt G.P. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., J. M. Stedwell V.P., J. Constable V.P., H. M. Levy, J. G. Stevens, J. Bellerby, J. Newton, W. Stephens, F. Adlard, L. Stean, C. F. Hogard, W. Hale, J. A. Farnfield, G. Smith.

In Memoriam.

Bro. Samuel Weatherill, whose exertions on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution we noticed some weeks since, and whose death has recently occurred, was initiated in the British Oak Lodge, No. 831, on the 29th June 1868, and continued a member thereof until it ceased in 1874. He joined the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1259, as one of the founders, on the 22nd March 1869, and was a member of it until his decease, having filled the chair in 1873-4, and being presented with a very handsome silver snuff-box on his retiring from that position. Bro. Weatherill was a very painstaking, conscientious member of the Order, always doing good, and inducing others to do so. He was a Steward at the last Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and brought in a list of £165. No doubt, had he been blessed with good health, this would have been considerably increased. He died on the 1st March, and was buried at Bow Cemetery on Saturday last, being followed to the grave by a great number of brethren, who wished to testify their regard for his memory by paying the last sad tribute of respect to departed merit. Bro. Weatherill leaves behind him a widow and large family. It only remains for us to add the expression of our personal regret that one who was so actively engaged in promoting the charitable objects of the Craft should have been thus called away in the full vigour of his active beneficence. It is at least a consolation to know that it had been our good fortune, even thus early in our career, to have offered him our hearty congratulations on his successful stewardship at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

The Roman Eagle Conclave, No. 6, met at Anderton's Hotel on the 27th ult., under the presidency of Sir Knight W. Hurlstone M.P.S. During the evening Bro. Walter Spencer was installed as a Red Cross Knight, and subsequently received the grade of Eusebius, in company with Sir Knight A. Perrot, the elected Viceroy. Sir Knight W. Cubitt Lucey M.D. was inducted into the Chair of Constantine, and appointed his officers for the ensuing year. Amongst the members present were Sir Knights W. F. N. Quilty P.S. and Treasurer, H. C. Levander M.A. P.S. and G.H.C., R. Wentworth Little G. Treasurer, A. A. Pendlebury K.G. C.R., A. C. Merton, J. J. Caney, Rev. W. B. Church P.S. G.H.P., A. Smith and G. Smith. Sir Knight T. Cubitt G.O. was the only visitor. A banquet followed the business in Conclave, and after the cloth was cleared a Past Sovereign's Jewel was presented to Sir Knight Hurlstone, who suitably acknowledged the gift.

REVIEWS.

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

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The Aerial World: A Popular account of the Phenomena and Life of the Atmosphere. By G. Hartwig, M. and P. D., author of "The Sea and its Living Wonders," "The Tropical World," "The Polar World," and "The Subterranean World." With 8 Chromoxylographic plates, a Map and numerous Woodcuts. London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1874.

Dr. HARTWIG will shortly be, if indeed he be not already, in the position of Alexander the Great, when the latter wept that no more worlds remained for him to conquer. In the course of his scientific investigations, the learned Doctor has overrun more worlds than the famous Macedonian Conqueror. He has explored, in a literary, if not a literal sense, the Sea and its Wonders. Though we are only on the eve of sending forth a new Arctic expedition for the purpose of ascertaining, if possible, the whereabouts of the North Pole, Dr. Hartwig has travelled thither before us, and has published an account of its wonders. He has taken us to the region of the Tropics. Nor has he omitted to acquaint us with all the wonderful secrets of the subterranean World. And now in the volume before us he writes most fully of the phenomena of the Aerial World, of the various kinds of air currents, of dews, of fogs and mists, of clouds, rain, hail, of aerial life, and last, but not least, of aerial navigation, as ballooning is popularly called. What other worlds there are for him still to write about, we should find it somewhat difficult to state. But the man of science will doubtless prove superior to the Macedonian madman, and find yet other spheres to enlighten us about. This, however, is a question that needs no present discussion. *The Aerial World* is before us, demanding our attention for the moment, and we may at once inform our readers that a more agreeable task has never before devolved upon us. We have read the work—we will not say throughout, but the greater part of it—with very great pleasure, and we feel convinced that our readers will be as delighted as we have been with this highly popular account of the atmosphere. The work is, as indeed are all the works by this author, a very voluminous one. It is, in fact, no light matter to read through the five hundred and odd pages of which it consists. But the style is admirable. As for information, it far surpasses previous books that have appeared on this subject. It comprises indeed quite a cyclopædia of knowledge, derived from all the most authentic sources. The published experiences of the greatest and most observant travellers have been ransacked in order that as much as possible of established fact should be placed before the reader. Nor have these researches been in vain, the result being, as we have just remarked, a singularly agreeable volume, which we commend unreservedly to the notice of our readers.

That so many voluminous works should have emanated from a single writer, seems almost incredible. Any one who has tried his hand at scientific investigation, even to a very limited extent, must be aware of the amount of patience and labour that are required, in order to produce any thing at all respectable in the way of results. All the more creditable is it that Dr. Hartwig has achieved such success in every one of his works. The purpose of the present volume is briefly stated by its author, in his very modest preface, to have been "to point out the manifold relations between the aerial ocean and man; and to describe the life of which it is the ever busy scene." A few extracts will serve to illustrate the manner in which Dr. Hartwig has carried out his self-imposed task. Thus, in the chapter on the Winds, we find the following description of the Bora, a sharp, dry, cold, north-east wind, which is common on the coasts of the Adriatic and Black Seas.

"Its name is beyond all doubt derived from the Greek Boreas. The hurricane of the tropics is hardly more terrible than the Bora on the eastern coast of the Black Sea, where it raves with particularly destructive fury at Nowo Rossiisk, a newly-founded Russian establishment at the head of a bay of the same name. This town, the site of which seems to have been very unluckily chosen, is situated with its two forts on the south-western coast of the bay. When the Bora blows with all its fury, the sentinels conceal themselves behind the breastworks; no signal can possibly be heard in the fort; no fire will burn, and whoever is surprised by the Bora on any open place is obliged to yield to its resistless force, and thrown down upon the ground. When the Bora rages in winter, the clothes wetted by the spray, which reaches the most distant houses, are in a few minutes frozen stiff upon the body, and sharp icicles are flung into the face and make it bleed. When the cold is very severe, the water drifted by the wind forms an ice-crust on the sides and decks of the ships, which, from the constant increase of weight, eventually sink to the bottom, as it is utterly impossible to take any measures for their safety."

A case is mentioned of a division of the Austrian army being overtaken by the Bora near Prewald when on its retreat from Italy in 1805, and suffering heavy losses in men from the soldiers being unable to march; and a little later on we are told that Professor M. Schön found that in January 1871 "loaded military waggons of a total weight of ten tons were alone able to maintain their balance against the assaults of this tremendous wind," while the lighter passenger cars were so fearfully shaken from one side to the other that the alarmed travellers quitted them at the first opportunity. A similar wind is the Mistral which prevails in the South of France, and is popularly regarded as one of the three plagues of Provence—not without reason, for we are told it "blows on an average during seventy-eight days in the year at Tonlon, eighty-four at Marseilles, eighty-five at Arles, eighty-eight at Aix, and ninety in the valley of the Durance."

Still more terrible is the Simoon of the desert, on whose approach "the crystal transparency of the sky is veiled with a hazy dimness,

occasioned by the sand of the desert whirling at a distance in the agitated atmosphere, but as yet no wind is felt. The camels, however, are conscious of its approach. They become restless and anxious, and appear overcome by fatigue. And a light hot wind arises, blowing in intermittent gusts, like the laborious breathing of a feverish patient. Gradually the pantings of the storm grow more violent and frequent; and, although the sun is unable to pierce the thick dust clouds, and the shadow of the traveller is scarcely visible upon the ground, yet so suffocating is the heat refracted by the glowing sand, that it seems as if the fiercest rays of the sun were scorching his brain.

"The fiery purple of the atmosphere gradually changes to a leaden blackness; the wind becomes constant; the camels, snorting and groaning, stretch out their necks flat upon the ground, and turn their backs to the raging sandstorm. The travellers of the caravan pile up their water-bags, so as to screen them as much as possible from the thirsty breath of the Simoon, and wrapping themselves up in their cloaks, seek a shelter behind chests or bales of merchandise."

The sufferings of the traveller are described as intolerable. "His lips spring open and begin to bleed; his tongue vainly longs for a refreshing draught; and together with a raging thirst, an insupportable itching and heaving invades the whole body, for the skin bursts in a hundred places, and the fine irritating dust penetrates into every wound." Following this is a description of M. Arminius Vambéry's experience of such a sandstorm, which overtook him in the desert between Khiva and Bokhara. It is too long, however, for quotation, nor can we do more than refer to the Harmattan, which prevails on the coast of Guinea, the Sirocco, and the Fön, an Alpine wind.

On the subject of waterspouts and landspouts, of thunder and lightning, of hailstones, of the mirage, and all other phenomena connected with the atmosphere, the reader will find abundant matter to interest him. But, perhaps, the closing portion of the work in which are treated the balloon, and its use in war and for scientific purposes will prove quite as entertaining. There is, in fact, so much in the compass of this single volume that is worth studying that it were a matter of the greatest difficulty to select any section of it which would not amply repay the reader for the time he may devote to its study. We have given evidence, in the case of a single chapter, of the kind of matter to be found in these pages. More than this we cannot do. There is little fear of Dr. Hartwig being disappointed in his hope that "after a perusal of its contents the reader should find his interest in the great pages of nature more keenly awakened than it will have previously been," or that he may have reason to regret the time and labour he has bestowed on the composition of his book.

Masonic Annual for the Province of Durham, Compiled and published by Bro. James H. Coates P.M. 949, &c., 24 Holmside, Sunderland.

This seems to be a useful guide, and may serve as a pattern to be adopted by Masonic compilers and publishers in other provinces. With its assistance little time need be spent in searching for any particular Lodge, or for any information relating thereto.

THE LODGE AND ITS LESSONS.—The great increase of Masonic Lodges proves two things, we think, incontestably. The one is, that Freemasonry is, in itself, a want for the age in which we live. It is a remarkable fact that, in this prying and bustling age, in which everything seems to be sacrificed to the dust and dirt and turmoil of public life, an institution so peculiar and unobstructive, so much adverse to open recognition, and so difficult of access, should be popular with all classes of society. And yet the secret of such a want, such appreciation, is, we think, not hard to find. Freemasonry may have its frailties and defects, like everything else that is earthly or human, but Freemasonry has this recommendation—it is a neutral ground for us all—an open platform, on which the most differing and the most distant may happily meet together in peace and goodwill, a little green oasis in this arid wilderness of toil and strife, in which the genial and the friendly, and the tolerant and the true, and the scholar and the statesman, may find alike rest for their bodies and refreshment for their minds. Many of us who day by day are toiling at "the form" or in the counting house, in the senate or in the camp, or are labouring as bread winners, by the energy of our bodies or brains, to cheer and sustain those nearest and dearest to us, can find in Freemasonry many an hour of intellectual improvement, many a season of faithful work, many a pleasant moment of social relaxation. Each new Lodge, then, that we found to-day is meant to be a centre of light, friendship, toleration and charity to its members. From it, we trust, some rays of brightness may fall on our fellow men. And if, alas! it be true that all things here are at the best but ephemeral and transitory, that they fade like the dying flower, and pass like some pageant of the day, yet let us hope that, from the crumbling fragment of many an earthly Lodge, there may emanate a spirit of truth and love and loyalty and benevolence, which shall outlive both the material fabric and the earthly members, and be perpetuated in a happier scene of perfect knowledge, of undimmed light and of eternal love.—*Pomeroy's Democrat.*

Nothing is more unpleasant, both to the individual who suffers from it, and also to others, than foul breath; some people are tormented by this condition. As it most frequently depends on a peculiar state of the stomach, it is best removed by restoring the organ to its natural condition, and this is most readily done by corrective doses of Holloway's Pills. They are most grateful and easy in their operation, and impart tonicity to the mucous membrane, so that the most delicate female, or sickly child, may use them without any fear of the ill effects produced by mercurial and other powerful drugs; they are prepared with the greatest care from vegetable products of rare balsamic properties.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE BENEVOLENT ASPECT OF MASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to congratulate you upon your new venture, of the ultimate success of which I have no doubt. The CHRONICLE as a record of Masonic matters is not only an admirable addition to the literature of the Craft, but it will prove in after years an invaluable historic repertory of facts and opinions.

I am glad to find that you are devoting much of your valuable space to the benevolent aspect of Masonry. Charity is the grand object of our noble Order, and although it may be often abused, yet every brother will agree with me that the good done enormously outweighs the evils which unhappily always follow in the track of the benevolent. Many a Mason who has given to an unworthy object is as ready to give again ungrudgingly when asked, as if he had never been imposed upon. Such charity as this, Sir, I regard as akin to the divine. I confess I attach the greatest importance to the practical aspect of the Craft, and I am of opinion that those glorious Charities, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, and the Boys' and Girls' Schools, will compare favourably with any of a similar nature in this country. I should be glad if more of the brethren would subscribe towards the support of these noble charities. The payment of the trifling sum of one shilling per week will enable a brother to have a voice in the government of these institutions. He may indeed chance to become a Life Governor, and thus exercise a direct control over the affairs of the charities. The East End of London has, I am happy to say, set the whole Masonic world an example in practical questions of this kind. The brethren in that locality are first and foremost in works of benevolence, and are deserving of the highest praise for their zeal in the cause of the suffering, the friendless, and the afflicted.

I would venture to suggest, Sir, that large additional funds might be obtained for works of benevolence if Lodges exacted a small monthly or quarterly payment from their members. The sums thus obtained might be annually divided between the three charities, or in any other way that the brethren might think best.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER.

BRO. CONSTABLE'S MOTION IN GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It may be presumed it is now generally known that Bro. Constable's motion to obtain a grant of £100 from Grand Lodge, in aid of the Fund about to be raised for the purpose of endowing the "Freemasons' Lifeboat," was lost by a majority of 16. The votes were 115 against 99. But the manner in which the question was negatived may probably not have been so widely disseminated. I therefore venture to think it might probably be interesting to some of your readers, who were not present at the meeting, to be made acquainted with the mode in which this rather important matter was disposed of.

The proposer submitted what he had to say in a pithy, practical speech. Bro. Brakeston Baker P.G.D., who undertook to second the motion, did not seem to enter upon his work very heartily, his few remarks fell flat, and were altogether disappointing. Bro. Fred. Binckes, whose enthusiasm on questions of benevolence is never at fault, vigorously exhorted Grand Lodge to sanction the Grant. Bro. John Havers P.G.S.W., who acknowledged that he generally advocated the unpopular side of a question, opposed, with seeming asperity, calling upon Grand Lodge to negative the motion without a division. The question was however submitted to the meeting, when the show of hands proved decidedly in favour; but before the acting Grand Master had time to ask a show of hands against the motion, Bro. Saml. Tomkins, the justly-esteemed Grand Treasurer, interposed, and in his mild way and voice, strongly opposed the Grant. This irregularity had the effect of alienating a number of brethren who were either previously vacillating, or whose power of judging for themselves is limited, or, at any rate, not sufficiently strong to enable them to resist the influence which persons of position invariably exercise over feeble minds. To permit Bro. Tomkins to address the meeting after the discussion had ended, and the show of hands demanded, was felt to be so glaringly unfair, and indeed so un-English, as to cause expressions of surprise at such an unusual course of proceeding being tolerated in an assembly of Englishmen. It was, however, undeniably the case, and the second show of hands seemed to be divided in equal proportions. A division was demanded, and the scrutineers announced the respective numbers as above stated. There was, however, a more potent cause which brought about the disappointing result. Bro. Constable's notice happened to be last upon the agenda, and a considerable number of brethren, who attended for the sole purpose of giving their support, residing some distance from London, had to leave before the discussion commenced. That such was the case may be gathered from the fact, that whereas at the beginning of the meeting the spacious hall, capable of holding upwards of 500 persons, was so crowded that a great many had to find standing room as best they could (for to obtain a seat after Grand Lodge was opened was simply impossible)—even the gangway filling half way up—when the time for voting arrived, only 214, including the

Grand Officers, remained. And here I will note the almost incredible fact that all the Grand Officers, past and present, with scarcely an exception, eagerly voted with the opposition. Even Bro. Baker, who seconded the motion, divided against it, because forsooth Bro. Binckes, with the concurrence of the proposer, amended the original proposition, to the effect that the Grant should be contingent upon the rest of the required sum being obtained. The childishness of such a course will scarcely be disputed. The sanction for the Grant, under any circumstances and conditions, is what was sought to be obtained, as the support of Grand Lodge could not fail to give stimulus to the movement, and, possibly, have the effect of inducing brethren of position and influence to take the matter in hand, and eventually bring it to a successful issue. It may be asked, why this exhibition of hostility on the part of the Grand Officers upon so trivial a matter as the grant of £100 towards an unquestionably beneficent object? The only explanation that suggests itself is, that, as the proposition did not emanate from the Dais, therefore it should not be entertained. The solitary argument against it, used by all the opponents, "that it was impolitic for Grand Lodge to apply its funds for purposes outside the Craft," is so utterly feeble and fallacious that to state is to refute it. Have not these funds, within recent years, been applied—and properly and usefully so—to render assistance to the helpless and needy, entirely irrespective of any connection with the Order? During the recent troubles in India, £500 was granted, and after the Crimean War £4,000 was voted to the Patriotic Fund. I forget the amount sent to Paris after the siege, but I dare say many brethren will be able to call to mind instances in which similar grants were freely voted. Then, why this show of unfriendly feeling when it becomes a question of affording some slight aid to the noble life-saving institution? It is hard to understand the lack of popularity under which that Institution suffers in nautical England. It cannot be asserted, with any approach to truth, that people generally show any particular care for its progress, or go out of their way to promote its prosperity. It was asserted openly, and, I think, ignorantly, in Grand Lodge, that the Institution has ample means at command to support all their Lifeboats, whilst privately it was foolishly suggested that the burden of maintaining these boats should be borne by the wealthy body of ship owners. Let us hope that neither such arguments as these, nor the temporary repulse in Grand Lodge, will deter the promoters from continuing their exertions, until the end in view is attained. The question of the grant will, no doubt, before long be again submitted. Should such be the case, it is to be hoped it may not be placed the last on the agenda; that it may be fairly tested. In the meantime, those who desire success should exert their influence to enlist the sympathies of friends, and work with hearty goodwill to accomplish the task. It is a truly Masonic object; for what are even the worst agonies, or sufferings, or privations on terra firma, when compared with the despair of poor wretches, clinging to the fraillest of supports, half maddened from hunger and exposure, surrounded by death in its most frightful aspect, anxiously watching for help from the shore, and, but too often, watching and waiting in vain. And how much less chance of rescue would exist were mankind to act upon the principle of the "circumlocution office," and wait until the precise persons are found whose duty it is to provide for these casualties, and who, having the power, are willing to do it. The Lifeboat Institution has done, and is continually doing, a great amount of service to humanity, deriving its means for support from comparatively few individuals, and fewer corporate bodies. It is certainly not creditable that the Masonic Craft does not stand first upon the list of its supporters.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

ASSISTANCE TO MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

8th March 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I read E. Gottheil's letter in your last issue, from which it appears he would convey to your readers that the weekly subscription movement for purchasing Life Governorships for Masonic Charities emanated from Bro. Constable.

While giving that brother credit for his zeal in the Charities, I consider that due praise should be given to Bro. Terry and others, who started the movement, by which it will be seen that Bro. Clark is only doing that which Bro. Constable did before him, follow the footsteps of good men and true.

Yours fraternally,

A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY.

THE CHEVALIER RAMSAY AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At page 151 of your issue for 6th March, there appears an account of the connection the Chevalier Ramsay is stated to have had with Freemasonry. We are informed that he invented certain new degrees, and that "he even had the audacity to propose, in 1728, to the Grand Lodge of England, to substitute them for the three primitive degrees of symbolical Masonry, a proposition which met with no more success than it deserved." Now I hardly know how it is, but a feeling has existed in my mind, for years back, that Ramsay was getting more credit in the Masonic way than he deserved. Although I have often seen statements about him similar to the above, I do not remember of ever seeing proper and substantial evidence brought forward in support of these statements. Perhaps, however, either you, Mr. Editor (or Bro. Editor I suppose I should say), or some of your correspondents, will be able to enlighten me upon this matter, and, firstly, in regard to this 1728 proposition to the Grand Lodge of England, I would wish to know

if any veritable documentary evidence, bearing upon this subject, is still extant in the archives of the Grand Lodge of England? Hoping to receive "more light,"

I am, fraternally yours,

Glasgow, 6th March.

W. P. BUCHAN.

THE STRONG MAN LODGE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—In your article, on "Athleticism and Masonry," you speak of the meetings of the Strong Man Lodge being held at the "Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell." They were held there till about five months since, but the locality, I believe, has since been changed. I cannot supplement this correction by stating its present whereabouts, but possibly some member will be able to furnish you with this information. Yours fraternally, Z.

[We obtained our information on this point from the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book for 1875*, wherein we read "45 Strong Man—Old Jerusalem Tav. St. John's Gate, 1st Thurs." We have since noticed among "Lodges of Instruction" (p. 96) the following entry "45 Strong Man—Crown Tav. Clerkenwell Green, Mon. 8." We cannot further account for the error into which we were unintentionally led.—Editor FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

G. R. D.—A matter of opinion; it was discussed, and decided against you.

A. K. H., Hadleigh.—(a) Will P.M.'s, W.M.'s and Wardens be admitted to ceremony of Installation of the Prince of Wales? *Ans.* Yes. (b) Is it necessary to procure tickets of admission, if so, where and how can they be obtained? *Ans.* You will find the needful information elsewhere in our columns. (c) Will Past Provincial Grand Officers be allowed to wear Purple? (c) Yes; but they must wear a Blue Collar over.

MASONIC ART.

By Mason's art religious domes appear, where the Almighty Architect is worshipped in spirit and truth.

By Mason's art the avaricious miser opens his iron-bound breast, and feels compassion's tender warmth.

By Mason's art the injurious and unruly tongue falls down before the throne of awful silence, and readily submits to her commands.

By Mason's art the wings of loose desire are clipped, and the lascivious mind refrained from all immodest and unlawful bent.

By Mason's art the pussy fop (mankind's disgrace) rejects a vain and gaudy outside and gladly accepts of more valuable and permanent furniture within.

By Mason's art ensigns of state and princely ornaments (the nursery of pride, where ambition keeps her lofty seat), as useless toys by free born sons, meet with disdain, since they can boast of a more lasting glory who are

Enrolled by the name they bear,
Distinguished by the badge they wear.

By Mason's art impartial justice her equal balance holds, and fraud oppressive owns her gentle sway.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

After the publication of the annual weekly return of the Bank of England yesterday, the markets recovered a little, and gave promise of returning animation. We have no change to record in the Bank minimum, and the rates for carrying forward at the settlement have been easy, and the tone generally is firm. News of the formation of a new Ministry in France is calculated to inspire more confidence, and to encourage better prices in certain dealings, so that, with the release of the dividends on the funds to be looked for very shortly, it may be hoped that there will be more inducement for speculative and investment purchases as the spring advances. One of the most fruitful topics of discussion at the present moment, is that relating to the action taken by the English bankers to exclude Scotch banks from setting up establishments in competition in this country. The question has been a cause of considerable agitation for a long time, and it has now found its way to the House of Commons. A Bill has been introduced, under the auspices of Mr. Goschen, which proposes to give the redress so earnestly sought for. It imposes, in

so many words, fresh restrictions on both English and Scotch banks, and introduces a principle which would, if generally applied, restrict Irish, Indian, Colonial and Foreign banks from attempting to carry on banking business in England. There can, therefore, be no doubt that very large issues are involved. Whether convenient or not, Parliament must submit to long discussions this Session before they can get rid of such a bill. The Board of Trade returns for February have been published, and show a great falling off in imports and exports as compared with the corresponding month in 1874. In exports the total value given for the month is £17,467,256 against £18,228,803, or a decrease of 4½ per cent.; as regards imports for the same period the figures are £25,925,518 compared with £31,350,778 last year. A principal cause of the falling off in the imports is again the diminished import of wheat, which shows a total value of £1,217,764 for the month against £2,382,871 in 1874, or a decrease of 49 per cent. while the reduction in quantity amounted to 34 per cent. * * * In the House of Commons the other evening, Mr. Puleston asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer a question in reference to a statement alluding to a deficiency of 4½ millions incurred by the National Debt Commissioners in their account with the trustees of the Savings Banks and Friendly Societies. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that it was a fact that the account between the National Debt Commissioners and the trustees of Savings Banks and Friendly Societies, showed a deficiency to the amount referred to. This deficiency arose from the rate given to depositors being higher than the Commissioners could get from the investments then open to them. Now, however, a lower rate was given to depositors. The deficiency, which had been going on accumulating for some years, would shortly engage the attention of Parliament in connexion with some matters referring to the National Debt which the Government intended to bring under the notice of the House.

The English Funds have been weaker, and the latest returns show that business has been done at slightly lower rates.

The Foreign Market has been looking up since the news arrived of the new Cabinet just elected in France. Some dealings are reported in Russian, Hungarian, and Italian Bonds, and the future of others is moderately hopeful.

The department for English railways is by no means slack, and some very encouraging remarks have lately appeared in the *Times* on the prospects of this description of property.

Miscellaneous shares are moderately firm, Imperial Ottoman Bank and Hudson's Bay attracting some attention, while American and Canadian securities remain without change.

The Budget will, it seems, be brought forward on the 15th of next month. A proposal that incomes under £300 should not be called upon to pay income tax, has been defeated by a large majority in the House this week.

The directors of the Masonic Savings and Loan Bank of San Francisco, at a meeting held on the 18th January, declared a dividend at the rate of 9½ per cent. per annum on "Term" deposits, and 7½ per cent. per annum on "Ordinary" deposits.

It is announced, from Berne, that the International Postal Treaty has been ratified between Great Britain and the United States.

At a special meeting of the shareholders of the Brighton and South Coast Railway this week, the proposal to divide the ordinary stock into preferred and deferred forms on the terms suggested by the directors, viz., that the option of changing into the new forms be confined to the first half of the financial year, was passed by a large majority.

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

Railway.	Miles open. 1875	Receipts.	
		1875 £	1874 £
Caledonian	737	—	—
Glasgow and South Western	315½	14,488	15,321
Great Eastern	763	44,163	44,892
Great Northern	517	49,892	47,744
Great Western	1,525	87,086	97,077
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	60,587	60,408
London and Brighton	376	21,443	22,302
London, Chatham and Dover	153¼	13,388	13,008
London and North Western	1,522¼	175,981	157,161
London and South Western	—	26,766	28,956
London, Tilbury and Southend	45	—	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259½	30,279	28,511
Midland	949¼	106,950	101,203
Metropolitan	8	8,868	8,462
" " District	8	4,863	4,212
" " St. John's Wood	1¼	449	442
North British	839	38,034	37,355
North Eastern	1,379	118,961	118,872
North London	12	6,574	6,719
North Staffordshire Railway	190	10,351	10,242
" " Canal	118	1,715	1,810
South Eastern	850	28,840	30,298

THE DRAMA.

THE approach of Easter is heralded by the announcement of several novelties in the theatrical world, though none of them are of a very startling character. Foremost in importance, as to time, comes Mr. Hare's venture at the COURT, the opening performance of which is fixed for to-night. Mr. Hare is a general favourite with the public, and he has, moreover, secured an excellent staff of artistes to co-operate with him. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Miss Amy Fawcitt, Mr. John Clayton, Miss Hughes, Miss Hollingshead and Messrs. Cathcart, Kelly and Kemble, form together an exceptionally strong company for performance of comedy, and Mr. Hare is to be congratulated on having secured their services. The opening programme comprises an original four-act comedy by Mr. Charles F. Coghlan, entitled *Lady Flora*, and a comedietta, entitled *Short and Sweet*. Commencing under such excellent auspices, his success can scarcely be doubted.

The novelty promised at the PRINCE OF WALES'S is the long-talked-of revival of the *Merchant of Venice*. It is now reported that Miss Carlotta Addison, and not Mrs. Baucroft, will play Nerissa, and that Miss Augusta Wilton will be cast for Jessica. The Bassanio, we understand, is to be Mr. E. H. Brooke, late of the Liverpool Alexandra Theatre. Every one interested in the fortunes of this theatre—and their name is legion—will anxiously await this interesting production.

Mr. Horace Wigan is, it is believed, about to resume the reins of theatrical management at the HOLBORN. This theatre has not been generally a prosperous speculation, but it certainly succeeded with the *Flying Scud*, and we see no reason at all why, with proper management, it may not be made to pay again. Melodrama is, we understand, to be the staple attraction, and a strong company is to be engaged to play it.

Melodrama, by the way, appears to have been gaining in the favour of the public for some time past, probably owing to the very natural reaction from the dreary absurdities of French opera bouffe. *The Two Orphans* was the greatest success of last year, and is still one of the chief attractions of the season. On Monday last it completed its 150th night of continuous performance. *The New Magdalen* too, successful last year at the OLYMPIC, has this year been successfully revived at the CHARING CROSS, whilst the ever green *Arrah-na-Pogue* is now drawing excellent houses at the SURREY, and another version of *The Two Orphans* achieving a like success at the MARYLEBONE THEATRE.

COLONEL CORDOVA'S ENTERTAINMENT.

In the gallery in Tichborne Street, formerly known as Dr. Kahn's Museum, an entertainment is now being given by Colonel Cordova, of a varied nature, comprising legerdemain in its very familiar form, "manifestations" after the fashion of spiritual *séances*, the so-called "spirit flight," the escape from the corded box, and ventriloquism. The "manifestations," in which Miss Dollie Dumas is the active agent, are inexplicable. It is not claimed for Miss Dumas that she receives any assistance; yet the various features of the spiritualistic representations are perfectly reproduced, while of the real cleverness of the illusion there can be no doubt. Miss Dumas occupies an isolated position, and these manifestations must be the work of her own hands. How she manages to free herself from, and re-engage herself in the hands, we cannot attempt to solve. Miss Nella Davenport makes her magical escape from the locked and corded box, and also gives a representation of what is termed "spirit reading." The tricks in general are decidedly clever, and the whole entertainment is calculated to inspire wonder and admiration. It must be understood that the deceptions throughout are attributed to mechanical agency, both Miss Dumas and Miss Davenport being termed "anti-spirit" mediums.

BALL AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

On Thursday evening the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress gave a grand ball. The company, nearly a thousand in number, included many of the Aldermen, the whole of the Court of Common Council, with members of their families; several of the Deputy Commissioners of Lientenancy of the City of London, Masters of the Livery Companies, officers of the Honourable Artillery Company, and many of the principal citizens besides. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress received the company in the saloon, which was charmingly decorated and lighted for the occasion, and dancing began about ten o'clock in the Egyptian Hall to the spirited music of the Coldstream Guards band, conducted, as usual, by Mr. Fred. Godfrey. The magnificent banners of many of the civic guilds were suspended from or grouped about the pillars of the Egyptian Hall, producing an agreeable effect. Dancing was maintained with great spirit until midnight, when supper was served in various parts of the house simultaneously. At its conclusion the greater part of the guests took their departure, but many of the younger portion of them remained to resume dancing, which was kept up with unflagging zeal into the small hours of the morning. Altogether the occasion was a very enjoyable one, and will, no doubt, be pleasantly remembered as an agreeable episode in the mayoralty of Alderman Stone.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 1s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Béziqne, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

THE MASTER OF A LODGE.

"FROM MACKAY'S LEXICON OF FREEMASONRY."

THE Presiding Officer in a blue or symbolic Lodge is called "the Worshipful Master." In the French Lodges he is styled "*Le Vénérable*," when the Lodge is opened in the first or second degree, and "*Le très Vénérable*," when in the third. The power of a Master in his Lodge is absolute. He is the supreme arbiter of all questions of order, so far as the meeting is concerned, nor can any appeal be made from his decision to that of the Lodge. He is amenable for his conduct to the Grand Lodge alone, and to that body must every complaint against him be made. For no misdemeanour, however great, can be tried by his Lodge; for, as no one has a right to preide there in his presence except himself, it would be absurd to suppose that he could sit as the judge in his own case. This is the decision that has been made on the subject by every Grand Lodge in the United States which has entertained the question, and it may be now considered as a settled law of Masoury. He is elected annually, but must have previously presided as a Warden, except in the case of a newly constituted Lodge or where every Past Master and Warden, as well as the present Master, have refused to serve, or have died, resigned, or been expelled. He is, with his Wardens, the representative of his Lodge in the Grand Lodge, and is there bound to speak, act, or vote, as the Lodge shall, by resolution, direct him. The right of instruction forms a part of our ancient regulations. He is to be treated with the utmost reverence and respect while in the chair, and his commands must be implicitly obeyed. The ancient charges on this subject are explicit. "You are not to hold private committees, or separate conversation, without leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master; **** but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to worship."

The jewels and furniture of the Lodge are placed under the care of the Master, he being responsible to the Lodge for their safe custody. It is his duty to see that the landmarks of the Order be not infringed, that the regulations of the Grand Lodge and the by-laws of his own Lodge be strictly enforced, that all his officers faithfully perform their duties, and that no ineligible candidate be admitted. He has the right of congregating his Lodge whenever he thinks proper, and of closing it at any time that in his judgment may seem best.

With respect to the removal of the Lodge, the Master possesses peculiar privileges, according to the regulations of the Grand Lodge of England, adopted in 1735. By these no motion for removal of the Lodge can be made during the absence of the Master. But this is a merely local regulation, and does not appear, generally, to have been adopted by the fraternity in America.

Lastly, the Master has particularly the charge of the warrant of constitution, and is empowered to select his Senior Deacon from among the Master Masons of the Lodge.

The Jewel of the Master is a square; because, as the square is employed by operative Masons to fit and adjust the stones of a building, so that all the parts shall properly agree, so the Master of the Lodge is admonished, by the symbolic meaning of the square upon his breast, to preserve that moral deportment among the members which should ever characterize good Masons, so that no ill-feeling or angry discussions may arise to impair the harmony of the meeting.

I cannot better close this article than with the following extract from the writings of Dr. Oliver, in relation to the qualifications of a Master of a Lodge:—"I am decidedly of opinion that much general knowledge is necessary to expand the mind and familiarize it with Masonic discussions and illustrations, before a brother can be pronounced competent to undertake the arduous duty of governing a Lodge. A Master of the work ought to have nothing to learn. He should be fully qualified, not only to instruct the younger brethren, but to resolve the doubts of those who are more advanced in Masonic knowledge; to reconcile apparent contradictions; to settle chronologies, and to elucidate obscure facts or mystic legends, as well as to answer the objections and to render pointless the ridicule of our uninitiated adversaries."

ANCIENT MASONRY.—The principles of Masoury consisted in love, in obedience and in universal charity to the brethren and to mankind. In love, first of all, to the Great Architect of the Universe for all blessings which they enjoyed, and next in exhibiting their gratitude in return for those blessings by showing to their poorer brethren the love which they bore them and the charity which they owed them. . . . There was nobody in the country so loyal as a good Mason. He was loyal to his sovereign, he was loyal and obedient to the laws and to the Craft to which he belonged. If a man was a good Mason they might rely upon it that that man was in every respect also a good citizen. Permit me to say that in the dark days, when civil liberty and religious truth were both endangered by tyranny and superstition, the Lodges of Masonry were the receptacles and protection of both. Tyrants have dreaded Masonry because Masons are the patrons of freedom. Superstition has denounced Masonry because Masonry is the friend and protector of truth.—*Lord Dalhousie*.

TRADITION.—Let no Mason, and therefore no Knight, speak disrespectfully of tradition, for upon it, as a chief corner-stone, is based the solid, ornamental, enduring superstructure of our Order, and their foundation is not built either upon sand! Let the Mason rather emulate the faith and wisdom of the learned Apostle Paul, who was deeply versed in the splendid traditions of the Jews, and who, when writing to the Thessalonians, rebuked the sceptical in these words: Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word or our epistles; and thus clearly announces his belief that, without the support derived from rational and trustworthy tradition, the Church itself could not live and history would be a myth. Blessed, therefore, are the uses of tradition.—*Bra. E. A. Guilbert*.

THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE.—This evening, Benefit of Mr. F. B. Chatterton.

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

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

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

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

GAIETY.—This evening, JOHN BULL.

GLOBE.—LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET and BLUE BEARD.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. At 8.0, CRYPTOCON-CHODSYPHONOTOMATA. At 9, LA PERICHOLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, A REGULAR FIX.

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

OPERA COMIQUE.—This evening, at 7.0, OPERETTA.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 8.0, WHITTINGTON.

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COURT.—LADY FLORA.

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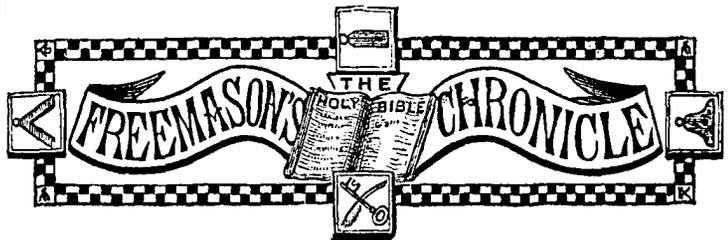
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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,
AND
ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

IN accordance with Resolutions of the respective General Committees, Special General Courts of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Monday, the 15th day of March, 1875. To consider the recommendations of a Joint Committee of the two Institutions, specially appointed to inquire into and to report upon the privileges of Stewards at the Anniversary Festivals, and the mode of election of the House and Audit Committees, viz., To erase the 2nd clause of Law 13, also Law 15. To consider the following Laws under the heading "Privileges of Stewards" (to follow Law 21), 2nd clause of Law 13 re-enacted. Also the following new law:—Every Steward at the Anniversary Festival, who shall procure Donations or Subscriptions to the extent of not less than Fifty Guineas in addition to his personal Donation, and shall collect and pay over the amount to the Funds of the Institution, shall receive one additional vote at each Election of Boys (and Girls), and a further extra vote for every additional sum of not less than Fifty Guineas so collected and paid over. Also to add to Law 37, providing for mode of Election of House Committee:—Scrutineers shall be appointed for the purpose of taking the poll, which shall remain open until 5 p.m. To elect Two Trustees of the Sustentation Fund of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The Chair in each case will be taken at Twelve o'Clock at noon precisely.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE, Sec. R.M.I.G.
 FREDERICK BINCKES, Sec. R.M.I.B.

OFFICES—5 AND 6 FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C. 6th March 1875.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

PERHAPS a little more life is noticeable in the most recent proceedings of Parliament. In the House of Lords, on Friday last, the Duke of St. Alban's drew the Lord Chamberlain's attention to sundry anomalies in the management of our theatres and music halls. Certain theatres, for instance, which are under that noble functionary's jurisdiction are closed on Ash Wednesday, whilst others outside his rule are open. The music halls on the Surrey side of the river are allowed to open on that day, while those on the Middlesex side must be closed. The Marquis of Hertford admitted the existence of these anomalies, and explained them, in a certain sense satisfactorily. There are three jurisdictions to which theatres are subject—the Crown as regards the patent theatres, the Lord Chamberlain, and local jurisdiction. Whether it will ever prove injurious to the British Constitution to make these three authorities into one, is, no doubt, a question of the first magnitude constitutionally, and one therefore, with which we do not feel ourselves competent to deal. It would not be amiss, perhaps, to have one law or system for all places of public entertainments, but the age is clearly not ripe as yet for so important a change. There always have been anomalies in this country, and we suppose there always will be. By the time London is ready for the reception of Macaulay's celebrated New Zealander, the incorporation of these separate jurisdictions into one will probably have been entertained, if not settled. What fate would befall Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights if our little systematic irregularities were all of a sudden made smooth we hardly care to inquire; we are convinced it would be something very terrible. On Monday, the resignation, owing to advancing age and infirmities, of Sir John Lefevre, Clerk of the Parliaments, was announced by the Lord Chancellor, and elicited from both sides of the House the warmest feelings of regret. The next announcement from the woolsack created some excitement, being no less than the notice of withdrawal of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment Bill. Serious opposition to the further progress of this measure, which involves, or involved, the highly important question whether the Appellate Jurisdiction of the House of Lords should remain or not, was anticipated, and this pressure, which had latterly assumed somewhat serious dimensions, both in and out of Parliament, was deemed reason enough for the Lord Chancellor's conduct. Not unnaturally this action of the Government was somewhat sharply criticised by Lord Selborne and Earl Granville, and the remarks of these noble lords brought up the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Derby, and the Earl of Malmesbury, so that quite a lively little debate followed. Nor did

the excitement end here, for the affairs of Spain were brought under the notice of the House by the leader of the opposition, who was anxious to know if the procedure of our Government in recognizing the Government of King Alphonso had been in any way exceptional. The Foreign Secretary explained what had happened, and shortly afterwards the House adjourned. On Tuesday a reaction appears to have set in to the little excitement of the previous way, the subject under discussion being the Increase of Episcopate Bill, which passed through Committee with one important amendment by the Bishop of Exeter. On Thursday the resignation of the Clerk of the Parliaments was again under the notice of the House, the Duke of Richmond moving a resolution to the effect that their lordships deeply regret his resignation, and deem it right to record their sense of the zeal and ability with which Sir John Lefevre had discharged his duties during his 27 years' tenure of office. Lord Selborne seconded it, and it was carried *nem con.* The Duke further moved that an address, accompanied by the letter of resignation and the above resolution, be presented to the Queen with a commendation of Sir John Lefevre to Her Majesty's grace and bounty. The Patents for Inventions Bill afterwards passed through Committee, and, having transacted some further business, the House adjourned.

In the House of Commons the principal question on Friday evening was that of Primary Education in Ireland. Mr. O'Reilly made a motion thereon, which was talked over at some length, chiefly by Irish members and the Irish Secretary; Dr. Lyon Playfair, who sits for one of the Scotch Universities, being the most conspicuous exception. The Government having expressed its views on the subject announcing its intention of dealing with the financial part of the question when the proper time arrived, the motion was at length withdrawn. The House shortly after resolved itself into Committee of Supply, when Mr. Hunt moved the estimate for the new Arctic Expedition—a motion to which the House readily agreed. A number of other votes were subsequently passed, and the House rose. On Monday Sir W. Lawson, who is always an amusing speaker, was anxious that our small military force should be made still smaller, but his proposal found but little support, and on a division was rejected by 224 to 61. Mr. Hardy afterwards introduced the Army Estimates. He was congratulated by several honourable members on the character of his statement, and the votes for the requisite number of men, as well as for their pay and allowances, were passed after a long and somewhat circuitous debate. On Tuesday a motion by Mr. Pease, on the subject of the Durham Capitular Estates, led to a somewhat close division, the hon. gentleman being defeated by the small majority of 17; 120 members endorsing his views, while 137 agreed to differ from them. This narrow difference of opinion was received with the usual demonstration of applause by the opposition, after which Mr. Dixon went lengthily into the New Education Code 1875, moving, by way of amendment, that Article 19 D be omitted. Nothing ensued, however, but a somewhat protracted debate and the withdrawal of the motion. On Wednesday the House had a somewhat irritable dose of Hypothec. Mr. Vans-Agnew's motion for the second reading of this bill was discussed at length, but rejected by 156 to 138, the close result being again highly gratifying, we are informed, to the Opposition. Thursday was almost wholly devoted to the discussion of naval subjects, the most prominent exceptions being a statement by the Premier as to the business of the House, in the course of which he mentioned that the Budget was fixed for the 15th prox., and a motion on the Income Tax by Mr. Sandford, which was considerably rejected. The House afterwards went into Committee of Supply, when Mr. Ward Hunt brought forward the Naval Estimates for the year. Mr. Goschen played the part of chief critic, and the vote of men was subsequently agreed to. The House shortly afterwards adjourned.

The new members for Norwich and St. Ives, Messrs. Tillet (Liberal) and Praed (Conservative) have taken their seats, and a Commission of Inquiry into certain corrupt practices which are reported by Judge Grove to have prevailed at the last election for Boston has been appointed on the motion of the Attorney-General, the members being *Mrs.* J. M'Intyre, Q.C., and two other gentlemen of the long robe, Messrs. Slade and Douglas Straight. It is not often we have to chronicle the intrusion into the body of the House of two strangers, but such an event happened on Monday evening. Two gentlemen entered, quite un-

observed, and took their seats on the second opposition bench, even the lynx-eyed janitor of the House, a policeman said to be acquainted with the personal appearance of every member, being himself deceived. The first to make the discovery was Lord Eslington, one of the tellers on Mr. Pease's motion, who at once handed them over to the tender charge of the Serjeant-at-Arms. The intruders thereupon found themselves in 'durance vile' for a brief space, when having been lectured on the enormity of their offence, and having expressed the greatest contrition, they were permitted to leave. They had, it seems, gone armed with an order for admission to the Strangers' Gallery and mistaken their way.

The sum realised for the Cospatrick Relief Fund is reported to be £3,050; after the deduction of the necessary expenses. Of this amount £2,700 has been already distributed: the orphan daughters of Captain Elmslie receiving £500, the relatives of the crew £865, the remainder being awarded to the relatives of the passengers. There thus remains still in hand, to meet any emergencies, a sum of £350.

The gale on Monday night and Tuesday morning appears to have been very disastrous to life and property, especially among the shipping. Two men engaged in the demolition of a goods shed, at the Carlisle Station of the Caledonia Railway, were killed by the fall of a portion of the brickwork, two others very severely, and two slightly injured. Several other accidents along the east coast are reported, in one of which the Berwick Life Boat succeeded in rescuing two lives—the crew of a sloop in distress, which afterwards became a perfect wreck.

Two deputations have lately waited on Lord Henry Lennox, Her Majesty's First Commissioner of Works, the object of one being to bring before his lordship the neglected condition of the northern end of Kensington Gardens and of the roads in the neighbourhood; of the other, to secure an earlier opening of Kew Gardens to the public. In the former case, the Commissioner acquiesced in the proposal to institute inquiries as to the drainage and other matters referred to, but he pointed out that anything in the way of floral decoration involved certain financial considerations which must be referred to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the case of Kew Gardens, which are not opened till one o'clock in the day, it was suggested that people were generally ignorant on this point, that they went, expecting to find admission much earlier, and, in the absence of other means for employing their time, sought refuge in the neighbouring public-houses; but Lord H. Lennox pointed out that people might know, if they would be at the trouble of finding out, so simple a matter for themselves. At the same time, he promised attention to the representations made to him. Are the British working classes incapable of taking care of themselves when they go for a day's outing? or is Government to provide a code of school-like regulations for people who visit our public institutions? Formerly, people took care of themselves in some fashion; now, it seems, they cannot restrain themselves from public-house recreation without the intervention or assistance of the Government. This is grandmotherly government with a vengeance.

Turf nomenclature is occasionally amusing, and, to people ignorant of our manners and customs, must often be the cause of some confusion. We doubtless all remember how Sterne, in the *Sentimental Journey*, introduces himself to M. le Comte de B—— as "Yorick," to the no small consternation of the Frenchman. Foreigners of the present day may not improbably have seen, with no little surprise, that at the recent Bristol meeting "Chilblain" won the Military Cup, "Breach of Promise" a selling steeple-chase, and the "Duke of Cambridge" the City Grand Annual, while "Milton" secured a Hunter's Hurdle Race, but was beaten by "Optimist" for an open hunter's flat race. The idea of the Commander-in-Chief of our Forces winning a hurdle race, and the author of *Paradise Lost* following his example, must be somewhat troublesome to the minds of our foreign friends.

The grand attraction of the week in the *Sporting World* is, of course, the arrival at Putney of the two University crews, and their daily appearance on the Thames, preparatory to the race of next Saturday. Not being specially versed in the mysteries of this particular kind of craft, we cannot help our readers to any wrinkle, so as to guide them in giving or taking the odds on this or that crew. Nor have we any particular idea what the odds may be. No doubt, Cambridge, with the prestige of victory during the past few years, is slightly the favourite, but, because one crew

was successful last spring, it by no means follows that another crew will be successful this. For ourselves, we will, for once, be oracular, and cry, Blue for ever! Let our readers judge for themselves as to the particular shade of that colour we are most partial to. But the race is by no means all there has been to attract the sportsman this week. Oxford has held her sports, and, of course, selected her champions for the Athletic Meeting at Lillie Bridge. There have been also a match for the Championship at Pyramids, in which Cook, the billiard champion, carried off the honours against Richard, and a four-handed match at billiards, in which Cook and Roberts, champion, and ex-champion respectively, played Stanley and Taylor, 1,500, the former giving 300 points, and winning by 190. Some marvellous breaks were made, the principal being Stanley's 210, Cook's 180, 161 and 122 (unfinished), Robert's 280 and 126, and Taylor's 345.

The West End tradesmen will have little to complain of if the season continues as it has begun. We have already in previous weeks announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales held two levees on behalf of the Queen. This week Her Majesty in person has held both a Court and a levee at Buckingham Palace, the presentations at the latter being nearly 200 in number. On Wednesday, too, being the twelfth anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, their Royal Highnesses gave a grand ball at Marlborough House.

The hope of last week, that Lord Aberdare's intervention would bring about the termination of the South Wales Lock-out, has, thus far, at all events, not been realised. Meantime the greatest distress is reported to prevail in the districts affected, and some disturbances are said to have occurred in the Unions. All men must be anxious to see the end of this disastrous state of things, and it behoves the advisers of the men to be very careful in the advice they tender. It was very well for the dwarf and the giant to go out to battle together, but, if we remember rightly, the dwarf got all the hard knocks, and the giant all the glory. It is very well for professional agitators and others to talk of the rights of labour. The capitalists retort about the rights of capital, and meanwhile the poor men and their families are starving. Lord Aberdare's facts are capable of proof or disproof: at all events, they seem to us to afford a basis for settlement without the sacrifice of anybody's rights.

On Monday at the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, Mr. Clements Markham read a highly interesting paper which he had compiled from the journals of Lieutenant Cameron, "On the Examination of the Southern Part of Lake Tanganyika in Equatorial Africa," that enterprising officer having, it is believed, discovered an outlet at the south-western extremity, which may prove to be the Congo, and being now on his way to the West Coast, in order, if possible, to settle, once for all, this important problem. On Wednesday at the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, the Rev. Horace Waller read a paper "On Livingstone's Discoveries in connection with the resources of East Africa."

At last we hear from France that the Ministerial crisis is at an end. M. Buffet after apparently insuperable difficulties has at length succeeded in forming a Ministry, of which the most conspicuous members, besides himself (Interior), are M. Dufaure (Justice), M. Léon Say (Finance), M. Wallon (Public Instruction), Duke Decazes (Foreign Affairs), and General Cissey (War). From Spain, we hear of a Carlist victory, but the end of the war seems no nearer. Will the two antagonists go on fighting, as did the famous Kilkenny Cats, till nothing is left of either? It would be better, we think, if Don Carlos and Don Alphonso tossed up for the throne. It would not be a very dignified way of settling their claims, but at all events it would save much bloodshed. Better peace with a monarchy than war and duarchy.

It is only a few weeks since we reviewed a work entitled *Social Pressure* by the author of *Friends in Council*. Little did we then imagine that in so short a time it would be our painful duty to record the death of the essayist, who has so often enlivened the hours of our leisure with his genial, kindly humour. We said then, and we repeat now, that "among the essayists of the day none" stood "so deservedly high in the estimation of the public" as he whose very unexpected death all classes are now lamenting. Considering how fluent a writer he was, we were justified in looking forward to many another pleasant volume from his pen. Sir Arthur Helps was only in his

58th year, and his latest efforts in *Social Pressure* were quite as brilliant as in his *Friends in Council*, by which perhaps, he is and will be best known in the world of letters. Nor was it only as a literary man that Sir Arthur Helps was known and esteemed. He was an old and valued public servant, having, on quitting Cambridge in 1838, become private secretary to the late Lord Monteagle, then Mr. Spring-Rice and Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the following year, on Lord Monteagle becoming Comptroller-General of the Exchequer, Mr. Helps was appointed private secretary to Lord Morpeth, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and subsequently Earl of Carlisle and Lord Lieutenant. On the retirement in 1859 of the Hon. W. L. Bathurst, from the Clerkship of the Privy Council, Mr. Helps was chosen his successor, and this office is now rendered vacant by his untimely death. Sir Arthur Helps received the honours of a Civil K.C.B.-ship in 1872. Besides the two works we have already mentioned he was author of "Essays written in the intervals of Business," "Companions of my Solitude," "The Spanish Conquest of America," "The Life of Pizarro," and "The Life of Hernando Cortez and the Conquest of Mexico," "Brevia," "Thoughts on Government," and other works. He also edited the Prince Consort's Speeches, and prepared for the press for Her Majesty her "Leaves from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands." He was, indeed, a sincere and devoted friend as well as servant of Her Majesty who has gracefully paid her early tribute of respect to his memory. We cannot do better than quote the passage from the *Court Circular* wherein the Queen bears testimony to the loss she has sustained by the death of her Clerk of the Council:—

"By the death of Sir Arthur Helps, the Queen has sustained a loss which has caused Her Majesty great affliction. As a loyal subject, and as a kind friend, he rendered to Her Majesty very important service. He assisted, with a delicacy of feeling and an amount of sympathy which Her Majesty can never forget, in the publication of her records of the Prince Consort's speeches, and of her life in the Highlands, to which he willingly devoted the powers of his enlightened and accomplished mind. The Queen feels that in him she has lost a true and devoted friend."

The annual Ball of Masonic and Military Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine K.H.S. and St. John the Evangelist and the Grand Council of the United Orders will take place, under their auspices, at Willis's Rooms, King Street, St. James's, on Wednesday, 31st March, and the proceeds are to be divided amongst the Masonic Charities and the Grand Almoner's Fund. The arrangements will be made by the Executive Committee, under Sir F. M. Williams M.Ill.G.S. and Grand Commander St. John, Colonel F. Burdett M.E. Grand Viceroy and D.G.C. of St. John; H. A. Dubois G.A. Treasurer and Commander St. John, and C. F. Hogard G.V. Chamberlain St. John, Hon. Secs. All members of the Red Cross and appendant orders are permitted to wear full costume, with jewels of any degree, with the exception of Craft and Royal Arch. The tickets for Ladies will be 16s, Gentlemen 18s 6d, and double tickets 30s, to include refreshments during the evening, and a champagne supper. Non Masons are eligible to attend. Tickets can be had at the Grand Recorder's Office, 17 Great James Street, Bedford Row.

By the death of General Sir James Hope Grant, G.C.B., the British army loses one of its most gallant and most experienced officers, at a time, too, when, owing to the changes that are taking place, his knowledge as one of the few generals who have commanded in chief before an enemy would have proved of infinite value to the authorities. This brilliant cavalry officer was born in the year 1808, and obtained a cornetcy, by purchase, in 1826, in the 9th Lancers, in which regiment he served 32 years, and of which, at the time of his death, he was colonel. His first service in the field was in the first Chinese war, when he was brigade-major to Lord Saltoun, and was present at the assault and capture of Chukeangfoo and the landing before Nanking. He also served in the first and second Sikh wars; being present at the decisive battle of Sobraon in the former case, and at the passage of the Chenab, the affair of Ramnuggur and the battles of Chillianwallah and Goojerat in the latter. When the mutiny broke out in India, Grant was in command as lieutenant-colonel of his regiment at Umballa,

He was appointed brigadier of cavalry and joined the small army of General Anson which marched on Delhi. He was engaged in all the actions connected with this siege, and a few weeks after the fall of the city, was despatched in command of a column proceeding to Cawnpore. He served under Lord Clyde, then Sir Colin Campbell, in the relief of Lucknow, and at its final capture, as well as in several other less important operations. In 1860 he was appointed to the command of our forces in China, and for his successes during the campaign was made a G.C.B., and, by the Emperor of the French, Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour. He was subsequently Commander-in-Chief at Madras, Quarter-master-general at the Horse Guards, and in 1870 succeeded Sir J. Yorke Scarlett in the command at Aldershot. In 1861 he had been appointed Colonel of the 4th Hussars, but in 1865 was transferred to his old regiment, the 9th Hussars. He had been on sick-leave for some time past, but it was only on the 27th ult. that Sir William Gull, who was in attendance, pronounced his case desperate. He died on the 7th inst. Sir James Grant married, in 1847, Helen, daughter of S. Taylor Esq., Bengal Civil Service.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Princes Albert Victor and George Frederick, were present last evening at the annual public supper of the boys of Christ's Hospital. The hall was crowded to excess, several of the governors, including Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Mayor, being in attendance. After the usual opening service the ordinary supper was partaken of and then grace and an anthem being respectively said and sung, the boys passed in procession before his Royal Highness, the Trades with their candlesticks, bread baskets, &c., &c., forming a conspicuous feature in the long line. During the supper the Prince and Princess with their suite walked round the hall, inspecting the arrangements, and after the National Anthem had been sung the Royal visitors departed, the boys strewing their path with flowers.

The Triennial Session of the Grand Encampment of Masons was held at New Orleans on the 1st December last, and continued five days. There was a large attendance of "Sir Knights" from all parts of the country, who were received and hospitably entertained by the "Sir Knights" and citizens of New Orleans. The Session was a great success, but considered as a mere Masonic demonstration we believe that little benefit accrues to the Order by these gatherings. The authorities of the Grand Encampment seem to lack power to enforce its edicts, and the regulations respecting costume were entirely disregarded. A report on Templar law was ordered to be printed, and was referred to the State Grand Com-mendery for consideration, but before the close of the proceedings this order was rescinded, and the whole digest was adopted. Cleveland, Ohio, was selected as the place for holding the next Session, in 1877. The honours were distributed as follows:—Sir James H. Hopkins, of Pennsylvania, Grand Master; Sir Vincent L. Hurlbut, of Illinois, Deputy Grand Master; Sir Walter L. Bragg, of Alabama, Grand Generalissimo; Sir Edward T. Shultze, of Maryland, Grand Captain General; Sir John W. Simons, of New York, Grand Treasurer; Sir Theodore L. Parvin, of Iowa, Grand Recorder; Sir Benton H. Langley, of Minnesota, Grand Senior Warden; Sir Charles B. Woodruff, of Kentucky, Grand Junior Warden; Sir Joseph P. Horner, of Louisiana, Grand Standard Bearer; Sir John H. Brown, of Kansas, Grand Sword Bearer; Sir Joseph W. Fellows, of New Hampshire, Grand Warden.

The annual benefit of Mr. F. B. Chatterton takes place at Drury Lane Theatre this (Saturday) evening. The programme, a very extensive one, will comprise a selection from the entertainment of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, Amy Robsart, The Belles of the Kitchen, Rebecca, and Aladdin, supported by the Vokes Family, James Fernandez, W. Terriss, Miss Genevieve Ward, &c.

American Revivalism, of which Messrs. Moody and Sankey are now giving us a specimen, is a comparatively ancient religious commodity. It is the direct out-growth of the camp meetings which have been so graphically described by Mrs. Beecher Stow. Revivalism indeed has

almost become a special calling on the other side of the Atlantic. Professor Finney and other "Evangelical" writers have prepared handbooks, showing that a revival and a special outpouring of the Spirit, whatever that may mean, may be obtained at any moment. Messrs. Moody and Sankey are skilled in the art of playing upon the emotions of the ignorant, but we shall be surprised if they succeed in creating anything like a sensation in London. Religious dissipation does not thrive in the Metropolis.

Bro. Right Hon. the Lord Mayor has arranged that, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., which will be the "Golden Wedding" of the well-known vocalist, Bro. Ransford, the dinner to his friends, in honour of that interesting event, shall take place at the Mansion House.

The annual Masonic ball, held at Portsmouth, will take place on the 12th April, at the Southsea Assembly Rooms, in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The Stewards include Bros. Colonel Meehan, Lieut. E. G. Holbrook T.C., George E. Kent J.P. (ex-Mayor of Portsmouth), Murrell T.C., Sub-Lieut. Feetham, and the W.M.'s and other Officers of several of the Lodges in Portsmouth and neighbourhood. Bro. J. Cornelius Wheeler, W.M. of the Senior Lodge in the town (Phoenix 257), is Chairman of the Ball Committee, and Bros. Holbrook, Feetham and German Hon. Secs. The orchestra will be composed of members of the fine band of the Royal Marine Artillery (Bro. J. Winterbottom's).

Bro. J. H. Ryley and Miss Barnum, who have achieved so great a success in their celebrated song, "The Quakers," took their benefit on the 4th instant, at the Royal Music Hall, Holborn (Bro. J. S. Sweasey proprietor). The Hall was crowded to excess, and in the course of the evening Bro. Ryley took occasion, in a neat and expressive speech, to thank his friends for their kind support.

The "Strong Man" Lodge of Instruction meets every Monday Evening, at the "Crown" Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, under the Preceptorship of Brother J. Beckett.

We are requested to state that the day on which the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will be the guests of the great City Lodge of Freemasons is fixed for Saturday the 13th March, and not Saturday 20th as previously stated. The Lodge will be opened in the pillar hall of the Cannon-street Terminus Hotel at four, and the banquet will take place in the large hall at six o'clock.

The election of a member for Tipperary took place on Thursday, and is understood to have resulted in a majority for Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Moore, the Conservative candidate, caused a protest to be handed to every voter, in which he says that "Mitchell is disqualified to be elected a representative of the County, or to serve as such representative, on the following grounds:—Firstly, because he is an alien; secondly, because he was convicted of treason-felony in 1848, and sentenced to penal servitude, and before the term of his sentence expired he escaped from prison, and has neither undergone the punishment to which he was sentenced, or been pardoned; thirdly, because he has been declared disqualified by the House of Commons to be so elected, and that such disqualification still continues. Mr. Mitchell has stated that he will neither go to Parliament nor defend his seat in the Court of Common Pleas; and that if he is unseated, Tipperary is virtually disfranchised, and that he intends to turn his attention to other Irish Counties with a view to getting them disfranchised; the great object he has in view being to shew the Irish people how to shake off oppression.

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. Morgan, 47 Barbican.—Adv.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

SATURDAY, 13th MARCH.

- 108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.
176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1426—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.

MONDAY, 15th MARCH.

- 1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Hall.
8—British, Freemasons' Hall.
21—Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
58—Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
85—Faithful, Swan Inn, Harleson, Norfolk.
185—Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
862—Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
901—City of London, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
907—Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall.
1150—Marquis Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall.
1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 12—Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
124—Union Lodge of Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley.
382—Royal Union, Uxbridge.
408—Three Graces, Haworth, Yorks.
424—Borough Lodge, Masonic Hall, Gateshead.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley, Yorks.
R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY, 16th MARCH.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street.
162—Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
165—Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street.
191—St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
435—Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
704—Camden, Bull and Gate Tavern, Kentish Town.
857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill.
1411—Ivy, Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark-bridge Road.
R. A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
R. A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, High Street, Huntington.
1214—Scarborough, Station Hotel, Southill, Batley.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
R. A. 80—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.

WEDNESDAY, 17th MARCH.

- Grand Stewards' Lodge.
140—St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich.
969—Maybury, Freemasons' Hall.
1044—Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
1305—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New-street, St. John's-wood.
1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glengall Road, Isle of Dogs.
R. A. 10—Westminster and Raystone, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
R. A. 217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
259—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley, Yorks.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
962—Sun and Sector, Portland-square, Workington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Rooms, Brighouse, Yorks.
1334—Norman Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.
1470—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
R. A. 820—Lily Chap. of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
R. A. 857—St. Mark's, Half Moon Tavern, Herne Hill.
R. A. 1375—St. Marylebone, British Stores, New Street, St. John's Wood.

THURSDAY, 18th MARCH.

- House Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
23—Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
49—Gihon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street.
55—Constitutional, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street.
63—St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
169—Temperance, White Swan, High Street, Deptford.
179—Manchester, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.
181—Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1139—South Norwood, South Norwood Hall, South Norwood.
1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park.
1257—Great Northern, King's Cross.
1365—Clapton, White Hart Hotel, Clapton.
1506—White Horse of Kent, 33 Golden-square.
1507—Metropolitan, Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
337—Caulour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Yorks.
541—St. Helen's, Hartlepool.
600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
910—Philanthropy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, Essex.

FRIDAY, 15th MARCH.

- House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
1143—Middlesex, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
201—Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
1118—University, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 82—Melra, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

FRIDAY, 15th MARCH—continued.

- 401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Slaidburn, Yorks.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1031—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill, Yorks.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Westgate, Otley.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.
1389—Fenwick Lodge, Masonic Hall, Sunderland.
R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.
R. A. 837—Marquess Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

SATURDAY, 16th MARCH.

- 329—Sphinx, Camberwell.
364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
715—Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, No. 1 Craven Road, Paddington.
149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham,
308—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

- MONDAY.—44.—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY.—36.—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register Street.
" 405.—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY.—160.—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicholson Street.
THURSDAY.—48.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
" 226.—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath Street.
" R. A. 152.—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution Street.
FRIDAY.—R. A. 83.—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Albion Lodge, No. 9.—This old established and flourishing Lodge met on Wednesday, 10th inst., at the Regent's Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street. Bros. W. R. Marsh W.M., Scott S.W., Moring P.M. Treasurer, S. Coste P.M. Secretary, E. Coste P.M. S.D., Pake J.D., Hassfeld J.G., and Past Masters Cater, S. Vallentine, Willey, H. Friend, H. Albert, Storr. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Weller and Harvey were raised to 3rd degree, Messrs. Robey and Blackman were initiated, and Bros. G. Coleman 134, and S. Upton 1000, were elected joining members. A sum of five guineas was placed on the list of the W.M., who had consented to act as Steward at the Anniversary Festival for Boys, on the 30th of June, and Bro. Moring P.M. gave the sum of £5 5s, which the brethren subsequently augmented to £10. The W.M. then presented Bro. Cater, the I.P.M., with a jewel. He was well calculated to wear it, for he had fairly earned it by his working and the manner he had conducted to the comfort of the brethren during his occupancy of the chair (the jewel is a Past Master's square, with a large diamond and suitable inscription). Bro. Cater suitably responded. A sum of 21s was given to a distressed brother. Bro. Moring P.M. said that on the 28th April His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales would be installed as M.W. Grand Master, and every brother in connection with the Order could not be present to witness that interesting ceremony. He would be pleased to have a Masonic meeting, where they could gather together to celebrate and do honour to that event. This was carried with acclamation, and when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's name was mentioned it was a signal for enthusiastic cheers. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, *a la Russe*, provided by Bro. Nicoll. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B. returned thanks for the Grand Officers. Bro. Cater I.P.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M., who, he said, was a thorough Mason in every sense of the word, and his zeal, not only in the cause of the various charities, but in his working, was a credit to the Order. The W.M. briefly responded, and in the course of his remarks said: He was only too pleased to do all he could for the benefit of the Lodge; his object was to work with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. Bro. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B. returned thanks for the visitors, and, in the course of a very good speech, echoed the sentiments of those who had been honoured with invitations, that this ancient and flourishing Lodge had lost none of its prestige, but had progressed, and would do so while it had such a W.M. and efficient officers to conduct its business. Bro. Cater I.P.M. returned thanks for the toast of the P.M.'s. The toast of the Masonic Charities could not have found a better representative than Bro. F. Binckes P.G.S. and Secretary Boys' School, who, in an eloquent speech, dilated on the three other charities, showing their amounts of funded property, and regretting that the Charity he represented did not possess it. The W.M. had consented to act as Steward, and a large sum had been given by the brethren, but the smallest modicum would be gratefully received, for there were 177 boys to be educated, and £7,000 a year was required for their support. He thanked the W.M. for his kindness, and for what he had done. Bro. Moring followed, endorsing all that had been uttered by Bro. Binckes, and the amount of subscriptions given by the brethren was a sufficient proof that they fully appreciated the Masonic feeling exhibited by the W.M. and every member of the Lodge. Bro. Scott S.W. returned thanks for the officers, and the Tyler's toast was then given. Bro. Kimber S.W. and Organist was, as usual, efficient and successful in his endeavours to amuse the brethren; as was also Bro. Thompson. The Lodge room was beautifully decorated in white and gold, with appropriate emblems. An Organ is fitted in the wall, and Bro. Dunster 174 played some appropriate music, that gave great solemnity to the proceedings. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Fennell 447, A. Cocke 222, Pollard 413, R. W. 180 P.M., Secretary Girls' School, F. Binckes P.M. Secretary Boys' School, H. Marfleet W.M. 217, Ayres 95, Annan 554, Oakley 793, Abbott 18, Holland 754, Dunster 174, Karaby 1155, Houlditch 889, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, &c.

United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury.—The usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, the 4th of March last. Among the brethren present were Captain P. H. Knight W.M., in the chair. Bros. Coppin P.M. P.P.G.S.W., acting as S.W., Dr. Brown J.W., Bros. Wiltshire, Plant, Dean S.D., J.D. and I.G. respectively, Pringuer Tyler. The minutes of the last Lodge night were read and confirmed, and on the motion of the W.M., seconded by Bro. Major Elmsale P.M., it was unanimously resolved that the Lodge do record on its minutes its deepest sense of the heavy loss it has sustained by the death of Bro. John Pont P.M.—for 26 years one of its members, 24 of which he had been appointed Hon. Sec.; and also that a letter be addressed to his widow and family, sympathising with them in their bereavement, and expressing the great sorrow of the Lodge at the loss of so good a Mason. Bro. Pont was initiated in May 1848, and from that time to his death, which occurred 22nd February 1875, his signature is absent from the attendance book on 22 occasions only. Bro. John R. Hall P.M. P.P.G. Assistant Sec., was appointed by the W.M. Hon. Sec., and duly invested with the collar and jewel of the office. A ballot was taken for Dr. W. H. Longhurst, the Organist of Canterbury Cathedral, which the W.M. declared unanimous. Some other business was transacted, and the Lodge adjourned.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 10th inst., at Bro. Frampton's, White Hart, College Street, Lambeth. There were present Bro. C. S. Jolly W.M., E. Thurkle S.W., B. Clegg J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, H. Mallett Secretary, C. Walters S.D., H. T. S. Ross J.D., C. Knott I.G., P.M.'s Morris, Fisher, Hull, Noke, Hunt, Whiting, and several other brethren. The Lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Goodman, Tupper and Beard were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bros. Ireland, Wood, Tallfutt, Dale and Benn, were passed to the degree of F.C.'s. A board of installed Masters was formed, and Bro. E. Thurkle S.W. and W.M. elect, was duly installed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Jolly the I.P.M. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient custom invested his officers, viz., C. S. Jolly I.P.M., B. Clegg S.W., C. Walters J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, Stuart Secretary, H. T. S. Ross S.D., A. Timothy J.D., C. Knott I.G., J. Skirving D.C., J. Robinson W.S., and Bentley Tyler. A ballot was then taken for Mr. T. H. Gantlett, which was unanimous in his favour, and he, being in attendance, was initiated in the ancient mysteries. The brethren, about 80 in number, then adjourned to the banquet. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the initiate, exhorted him in forcible terms to perfect himself. He should attend Lodges of Instruction, and he trusted by so doing, he would, at some future period, occupy the position he now held. Among the visitors, which were numerous, we noticed Bros. Cottebrune Past Grand Pursuivant, Fox W.M. Mount Lebanon 73, Landfield P.M. St. Johns 1343, Cantie J.W. Ivy 1441, Willis P.M. Domestic 177, Aden P.M., and May Westbourne 733, Lane W.M. Old King's Arms 28, Swallow W.M. Royal Union 382, Mander W.M. Eclectic 1201, Friswell Ebury 1318, Meredith P.M. 87, Grosvenor 1237. Bro. Cottebrune responded to the toast of the Grand Officers, and Bro. Meredith for the visitors. The brethren separated after spending a very agreeable evening.

Grosvenor Mark' Lodge, No. 144.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Regent's Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street. Bro. T. Parker in the chair, Lowenthal S.W., Brighton J.W., J. W. Murley M.O., Levander P.M. Secretary, C. Hamilton P.M. Secretary, Rook S.O. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The ceremony of installation was very creditably performed by Bro. Levander P.M., assisted by Bro. F. Binckes. Bro. Murley M.O. announced his intention to act as Steward for the Girls' School. The Lodge was closed and a very capital banquet followed, when the usual toasts were given. The outgoing W.M. was presented with a very elegant jewel.

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, No. 174.—The annual banquet of the members and friends of the above Lodge of Instruction took place on Monday evening, 8th March, at Brother Wright's, the "Cheshire Cheese" Tavern, Crutched Friars, when about forty brethren assembled, and spent a most enjoyable evening. The chair was occupied by Brother E. J. Moore, the W.M. of Lodge 174, who was supported by Bros. Brown as S.W., Webb as J.W., E. Tuck I.P.M. 174, Jno. Miller W.S. 174, R. H. Allen J.W. 554, J. Newton P.M. 174, E. G. Legge S.D. 1196, H. C. Webb D.C. 174, J. Crawley P.M. 174, J. G. Hilliard S.W. 174, Gardiner S.W. Royal Alfred, R. Bradbrook S.D. 1259; Brothers Horking, Ellis, Ives, Palmer, Harris, McDonald, Cull, W. W. Morgan, &c. The cloth having been removed, the Chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were enthusiastically responded to, and the intermediate time was pleasantly filled up by some capital singing, Bros. Hall, Bradbrook and Brown specially distinguishing themselves. The toast of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Crawley, who made a few pithy remarks upon the claims Brother Moore had upon the brethren of the Lodge of Sincerity. The toast was suitably replied to by Bro. E. J. Moore, who then proposed Success to the Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, and coupled with it the name of their much respected and energetic Preceptor, Brother J. Crawley. The Lodge of Instruction had been established many, many years, and Brother Crawley had won the esteem of all who had attended it. The brethren had been in some perturbation of spirit as to what they should do to testify the respect in which they held their Preceptor. Some had suggested he should be presented with a P.M.'s Jewel on this occasion, but that was decided unsuitable, as he was already in possession of one from the Lodge. Under these circumstances the

brethren had done what he considered was a very good thing, and that was to instruct him to present Brother Crawley with a purse of sovereigns; he thought the purse contained twenty-five, and all he need add was that it would have given him as much pleasure to have presented fifty. Brother Crawley thanked the brethren for their great and unexpected kindness. He was always pleased to assist his brother Masons in obtaining a proper knowledge of their duties, and he hoped he should long be spared to give them any instruction it was in his power to impart. The toast of the visitors was proposed and responded to, and then, as many of the brethren had to catch trains, this pleasant gathering terminated, all expressing themselves highly gratified at the pains taken by Brother Wright to conduce to the comforts of those present.

St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180.—This Lodge, so justly celebrated for its admirable working, met on the 9th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bro. W. C. Parsons W.M. occupied the chair. Bro. G. Bubb P.M. S.W., A. L. Annett J.W., H. Robinson P.M. Treasurer, H. A. Stacey Secretary, Pillin S.D., Smith J.D., Harrison I.G., Herf P.M., W. S. Farwig J.W., S. Hart Organist, and Past Masters Bros. A. Gallico, Simpson, Stoner, Cameron, J. R. Stacey, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Pavitt, Thompson, and Knauer were raised to the third degree, Bros. Baker, Atkins and Wood were passed to the 2nd degree. The working of the various degrees reflected great credit on the W.M. Bro. Cameron P.M. then stated that he would have much pleasure in serving as Steward at the next festival of the Girls' School, and Bro. Pannell C.C. said he had much pleasure in informing the brethren that the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor would take the chair on that occasion. He was also a Steward, and he hoped the brethren would liberally subscribe to their joint lists. A sum not exceeding ten guineas was proposed to be given to the widow of a deceased brother. Bro. A. Annett J.W. announced that the annual ball realised, after all expenses were paid, between £25 and £30. The Lodge was then closed until October, and the Brethren adjourned to the Crown Room, where a very excellent banquet, *a la Russe*, was provided by Bro. Francatelli and superintended by Bro. Knill. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given. The W.M., referring to the Prince of Wales's election as M.W.G.M., said it was one of those events in Freemasonry that the Craft would never forget. The installation ceremony would take place on the 28th April, and would be remembered by every brother who might have an opportunity of being present. The R.W. Bro. The Earl of Carnarvon, as Prov. Grand Master, had in every capacity shown his aptitude for the office. He had been elected as one calculated to fill that office with credit and honour to our noble Order. Bro. Pillin then sang the song, "God Bless the Prince of Wales," and an enthusiastic response was given by the brethren. The toast of the Masonic Charities followed, which was coupled with the names of Bro. Cameron P.M. and Bro. Pillin. The W.M. said he knew that the Lodge had sent three Stewards for the Masonic Charities, and small subscriptions given by the brethren would, in the end, result in a goodly sum. Those brethren who were Stewards would show what the Lodge could do. He was sure the brethren would do all they could in furtherance of that noble object. Bro. Cameron P.M. returned thanks. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the so-called newly-initiated. They were so-called, having been initiated on a former occasion; they had passed their second degree to-night. As on a former occasion he had not had the pleasure of proposing their healths, he would do so now, and he could only say the Lodge of the St. James's Union was proud to see them among them. The several candidates returned thanks. Bro. Gallico I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. Bro. Parsons, in reply, said he was pleased to hear the encomiums passed on him by his predecessor, who, during his year of office, had discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren. The toast of the visitors was then given, and Bro. Baxter P.G.S. returned thanks in an eloquent speech. He gave a just meed of praise to the W.M. for his excellent working and able presidency. Three brethren followed, and each one endorsed these remarks. The toast of the officers and the Tyler's toast concluded a very delightful and harmonious evening, Bros. G. Bubb, Herf, Gallico, Pillin and Atkins contributing to the enjoyment of the brethren by their excellent singing. Bro. Hart, the organist of the Lodge, gave great satisfaction by his artistic accompaniment. Amongst those present were Bros. E. Baxter P.G.S., J. Bacou P.M. 157, Cooper 55, A. Swanborough late 188, J. Levison P.M. 656 (Sydney), A. Boris 1446, Bell 25, C. Duke P.P.G.D. (Sussex), A. Godfroy Flood 297, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Bulsford, J. H. Stacey and Bacon G.S.W. Sussex.

Lodge of Harmony, No. 309.—This Lodge met at the Assembly Rooms, Red Lion Hotel, Farcham, on the 4th inst., present were the W.M. (Bro. H. Ford, Alderman of Portsmouth), Bros. Whale S.W., Gilbert J.W., Goldsmith P.M. as Treasurer, E. G. Holbrook P.M. Hon. Sec., Downing S.D., Robinson J.D., S. Gamblen J.D., several P.M.'s and other members. Every officer of the Lodge, except the Treasurer (who is also the I.P.M., and was prevented by illness), was at his post. The business on the notice paper was the initiation of three gentlemen, who had already been balloted for and elected, Messrs. T. Bailey, F. W. Brook, and W. Hunt. The ceremony in each case was most ably performed by the W.M., and the "working" of the various officers was perfect, that of Bro. Robinson, the Junior Deacon, a rising young Mason, more particularly so. This Brother gave the working tools of the first degree, and afterwards delivered an able lecture on the tracing board, to the gratification of all the brethren present. At the banqueting table the health of the initiates was given by the W.M., and duly acknowledged. The W.M. also gave "the Officers of the Lodge," referring particularly to the admirable manner in which his young friend, Bro. Robinson,

had performed his duties, being the first time he had undertaken the office. Bro. Robinson, who was called upon, responded. P.M. Holbrook (Town Councillor of Portsmouth) gave the health of the W.M., which was warmly received. He congratulated him on their highly successful meeting that evening, remarking that the Lodge was fortunate in having secured Bro. Ford's services as their W.M. for that year. The W.M., in an eloquent reply, spoke of the beauty and value of Freemasonry. "The visitors," proposed by P.M. Taylor, was acknowledged by Bro. C. Guy Robinson S.W. 705 (Lientenant in the Royal Navy).

Star Lodge, No. 1275.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, 5th March, at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich. Bro. H. Keebbe I.P.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. G. Pymm W.M., through illness, opened the Lodge. Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. Treasurer, then raised Bro. E. W. Chetwynd, passed Bro. E. H. Rand and J. Brooks, and initiated Messrs. E. Searle and F. J. Lindsey. Amongst those present were Bros. F. Walters P.G.P. (Middlesex) P.M. Secretary, Rev. G. P. Colles Chaplain. R. W. Williams S.D., C. W. Williams J.D., W. Bell I.G., F. B. Williams Organist, W. B. Woodman M.C., W. E. Williams, L. H. Williams, W. Kipps, G. F. Guest, W. Hardman, W. P. Tong, J. Ellis, E. Lane, H. J. Clare, H. W. Elmer, A. C. Woodward, W. F. Gardiner, &c. Visitors, W. B. Waghorn W.M. 946, J. Hayward S.W. and W.M. elect 946, W. B. Wallace 127, H. Potter 11, A. Burrell W.M. 1446, A. Stuart 1446, A. Boehr 1446, W. T. Morpew 1446, &c., &c. Propositions for several candidates for initiation were received, after which the Lodge was closed, and a banquet followed.

Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460, Halliford.—On Saturday evening, 6th March, a meeting of this Lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, for ordinary Masonic business and the installation of a new Master. The gentleman elected to this office was the Rev. Dr. Brette, of Christ's Hospital, who was installed by Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Provincial Grand Secretary of Middlesex. Lientenant Elliott, Royal Naval Reserve, was appointed Senior Warden. Colonel

Burdett, the Prov. Grand Master, and several Past Grand Officers of England were present, including Bros. W. Paas, John Boyd, and Thomas Cubitt. Apologies for absence were received from Grand Secretary, Bro. Hervey, and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. J. C. Parkinson. Lient. Colonel Peters, the out-going, and first Master of the Lodge, was presented with a Past Master's jewel, of the value of 15 guineas, in recognition of his zeal and ability in discharging the duties of his office during the past year. This jewel was constructed from a design by Bro. J. G. Marsh, architect, the Secretary of the Lodge, and was of beautiful workmanship. Five gentlemen, of distinguished position in society, were initiated into the Order in the course of the evening, and at the conclusion of the Lodge business the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, at which the new Master's health was proposed with great cordiality by Colonel Peters, and drunk with the heartiest fervency by the company.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

On Monday evening, 15th January, a large meeting of the Craft attended at the Leinster Marine Lodge of Australia, 266, I.C., to assist in commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Lodge, being the oldest Lodge in the Colonies. The Hon. J. S. Farnell, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, attended, and, according to ancient custom, installed the W.M. Brother A. S. Appleton and his officers. An interesting chronology of the events of the Lodge since its formation in 1824 was read by a P.M. of the Lodge, bringing many bygone circumstances of the Colony in a compact form for the information of the brethren. After closing the Lodge the brethren adjourned to a banquet prepared in M. Compagnoni's best style. The W.M. had on his right Brother Hon. J. S. Farnell, Provincial Grand Master; Brother the Hon. J. Sutherland, Alderman J. Davies, M.L.A., and many P.M.'s of the three constitutions. The usual Masonic toasts were given. The toast of the evening—"The Anniversary we celebrate," was drunk with much enthusiasm, being ably proposed by the R.W.P.G.M. After spending an enjoyable evening the brethren dispersed.

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