

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II.—No. 33.

SATURDAY, 14th AUGUST 1875.

PRICE THREEPENCE.
Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

DINING AS A FINE ART.

SO much has been written on Dining that we are rather reluctant to assist further in the ventilation of the subject. The season however is propitious, and we should not be consistent Masons if we did not occasionally turn our attention to the festive aspect of the Order. Some of our contemporaries are, indeed, of opinion that Masonry and dining are united in indissoluble bonds. The *Saturday Review*, for example, appears to imagine that an "emergency meeting" is merely a polite euphemism for a banquet; and people who are much better informed than the scribes who sway the destinies of the great gall bag of the literary world, appear to be inclined to credit the Order with a love for good cheer which is quite foreign to its principles and the inclinations of its leading spirits. We do not deny that Masons are a genial body; we admit that they occasionally dine together, and that their so-called banquets do much to cement those ties which are the pride and the boast of the Craft. It would be odd indeed if men who sometimes profess to owe some of the mysteries of the Craft to Bacchus should decline to toast the jovial god in his own nectar. We, however, are not quite sure that Masons, as such, are more highly skilled in the art of dining than any other section of society. A Masonic dinner may chance to prove a great success; it may please every one; men may leave the table duly impressed with the wisdom of the chairman, with the eloquence of the various speeches, and the greatness and grandeur of the cause which has brought them together. Or they may go away vexed and disappointed, lamenting an evening lost, and talents wasted. The company may in the one case be as brotherly as the most zealous friend of the cause could wish, and in the other the stiffness and coldness of the outer world may come like a wet blanket to mar the pleasure of the passing hour. Much of the success of a dinner depends upon the chairman. If he be a wise and genial man, conversant with the world, and skilled in the great art of managing men, the gathering may be a great success. But if he is at all stiff or formal, if he be a dull man, and is determined to make long speeches; or a wooden man, with a voice like a coffee mill, and a countenance as little expressive as a hickory nut, all will go wrong. We maintain that the chairman of any assembly should be a wise man, or, if wisdom be a qualification difficult to find, he should at least possess fine tact and discrimination. The chairman who assumes the control of a festive gathering should, above all things, possess fine tact. He has it in his power to make all who are around him either happy or decidedly uncomfortable. A judicious word from his lips would instantly stop an indiscreet discussion, or have the effect of pouring oil upon troubled waters. In proposing his toasts he should make no set speeches; a few graceful words will give zest to the most stereotyped sentiments, but to have their due effect the words of the chairman must always be graceful and few. A long winded bore in the chair is an intolerable nuisance, and such a one should never be allowed to tyrannise twice over a festive gathering. A wise chairman knows exactly how and when to say a kindly, a graceful, or a charitable thing. He aims at placing every one at his ease, and even when he is dealing with so technical a portion of his duties as the programme of songs, he will not forget to let fall a word or two of praise, which, if rightly timed, will fall like balm upon the ears of the vocalists. It is true that these gentlemen are paid for their services, but they are generally brothers, and, even if they were not,

while they sit at the table, a true gentlemen will regard them as guests, and will treat them with courtesy and consideration. Did our chairmen know what spirit and life may be inspired in the breast of a vocalist by a few words of judicious praise, they would never forget to extend to them the same courtly attention which they are accustomed to bestow upon the distinguished guests.

We have attended dinners where all has gone gaily and merrily as a marriage bell, and it has been our lot to be present at others where the time seemed to drag heavily, and the flat dull oratory seemed to impart some of its lifelessness to the wines. We do not deny that an able chairman may find his duties arduous if he is not backed by clever and judicious speakers. It is becoming a custom to vote long orations in response to toasts whether they are dreary or not, a bore. We deprecate speaking for the sake of speaking, but we venture to think that courtesy should be above all things regarded at a Masonic banquet, and if brief orations be desired, it is better that the chairman should drop the hint than that un-Masonic expressions should be permitted to fall from the lips of the company. It is no doubt difficult for a man of ordinary calibre to say anything new in response to stereotyped toasts. But if it be impossible to be original, a speaker should not be dull. A few bright words, like sparks from the flint and steel, will always tell, and where it is possible, only bright persons should be called upon to respond. To take an example of the few non-Masonic toasts that we have in our mind, we may cite that of the press, which usually falls to the lot of some Masonic journalist. To say that the press is a great power is mere idle platitude; every one is aware of that. To assert that it is the fourth estate, is simply to talk bunkum. But if a speaker say that the English press is merely the mirror of the English mind, that the journalist simply holds this mirror up to society; and that for what is there seen society is strictly responsible, he is simply expressing a commonly ignored truth. While people neglect to use their brains, platitude will possibly command a certain amount of respect. It is so easy to cheer the silly sentiment one has heard a hundred times before, and an original idea strikes the members of a festive party as a startling novelty. Yet with all due respect for the threadbare platitudes which have done such good service, we are of opinion that old truths put in a fresh light will be received with respect, if not with positive enthusiasm. Englishmen are indeed conservative, and will applaud a noble sentiment when couched in the stupid language current amongst wooden men, but they can be touched by thoughtful eloquence, by the brief crisp sentences which are intended to reach the heart and fire the imagination.

In considering the Art of Dining from our Masonic standpoint, we must not forget a word or two upon an innovation which may grow into a fashion. At some recent dinners the ladies, by their presence, have given tone and colour to festivities which, without them, are often anything but feasts of reason, however much the flow of soul may be quickened by the aid of wine. We are glad to welcome them to the table, and, without for a moment desiring to break in upon that reserve and modesty which are the most striking charms of the sex, we could almost wish that some wise woman would take the toast of the ladies out of the hands of the complacent gentlemen who pour forth their fulsome flatteries with faces distended by broad grins. It is, of course, possible to say something sensible and thoughtful in response to this toast, and perhaps a clever woman might tell us, if she were so minded, exactly what the sensible members of her sex

think of the twaddle which, when applied to women, passes for homage, and the absurdities which pass for just praise. An American lady, who had the courage at a recent non-Masonic banquet to take this toast out of the hands of the stronger sex, told us we had hitherto seen society only *en profile*, and that if we would see it full faced we must know something of the opinions of women upon those vital questions which affect alike the happiness of men and women. We admit the justice of this remark, and although we should not care to see the ladies continually on their legs, we shall be glad if they will make diners out understand that they do not care for fulsome flattery, and do not desire to be praised for those personal charms which, however fascinating they may be, are trivial compared with the charms of mind.

A PROVINCE FOR BEDFORDSHIRE.

SPEAKING to the toast of "the Visitors," at the recent meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertford, at St. Albans, Bro. Howell, W.M. No. 1470 (Chiltern, Dunstable), remarked that he had the misfortune to belong to a County without a province—a state of things which he should like much to see altered. He had reason to believe that the Luton Lodge would favour a proposition to apply for one, and he was not at all sure that steps would not be taken to agitate the matter. Apart from the fact that the honours bestowed from time to time by the P.G.M. stimulated brethren to make themselves proficient, in order to attain the rank necessary to become entitled to them, it could not but be productive of good that, at stated times, the brethren of all the Lodges in a province should meet together, under the presidency of a distinguished brother, and make laws for their mutual benefit, and for the good of the Craft in general. In the County of Bedford, on the contrary, each Lodge was, as it were, isolated, the brethren of one did not, as a rule, know many of those of other Lodges, and there was an absence of that unity which is the strength of Freemasonry, as of everything else. The W.M. of St. John the Baptist Lodge, No. 475, Luton (Bro. Haselgrove), concurred as to the desirability of a province for the County of Bedford, and promised his co-operation.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

THE latest number of the published proceedings of this Grand Lodge contain abstract accounts of the Quarterly Communication held in Masonic Temple, Boston, on 9th June 1875, and of the late Special Communications held respectively on the 17th June and 3rd July. There were present at the first of these M.W. Percival Lowell Everett G.M., R.W. Charles A. Welch D.G.M., R.W. Henry Chickering P.G.W. as S.G.W., R.W. Lucius W. Lovell J.G.W., R.W. John McClellan G.T., R.W. Charles H. Titus, Recording G.S., R.W. W. T. R. Marvin, Francis Childs, Charles J. Danforth, George F. Homer, George F. Breed, Warren Currier, Bowdoin S. Parker, John R. Davison, John E. Shipman, William A. Smith, Irving B. Sayles, George L. Rhoads, Abraham H. Howland jun., John W. Atwood, Hosea Kingman, Theodore N. Foque, and John Wetherbee, the respective D.D.G.M.'s of Districts 1 to 6 and 8 to 18 (in each case both inclusive), together with W.R. Joshua Young G. Chaplain, Will. H. Chessman G. Marshal, W.M. W. H. Soule S.G.D. and Charles E. Smith J.G.D., Marlborough Williams S.G. Steward and Thomas W. Davis, Albert H. W. Carpenter, and Henry Stephenson J.G. Stewards, Baylies Sanford jun. G. Sword Bearer, Fred. D. Ely, Henry S. Bunton G. Pursuivants, Thomas Waterman, Charles M. Avery, and J. Francis Lotts, G. Lecturers, Bro. Howard M. Dow G. Organist, and Bro. Frank E. Jones as G. Tyler. Besides these were R. W. Winslow Lewis, John T. Heard, Will. D. Coolidge, Charles C. Dame, Will. S. Gardner, and Sereno D. Nickerson, all P.G.M.'s; R.W. Abraham A. Dame, Rev. Lucius R. Page D.D., and G. Washington Warren, P.D.G.M.'s; and R.W. Joel Spalding, H. Chickering, W. W. Baker, Samuel P. Oliver, Will. Sutton, Will. F. Salmon, Samuel C. Lawrence, Charles Kimball, Peter C. Jones, Benjamin Dean, Wyzeman

Marshall, Ivory H. Pope, Elijah W. Burr, and Tracy P. Cheever, P.G.W.'s; together with R.W. Andrew G. Smith, W. Samuel A. B. Bragg, and W. Joseph Winsor of the Committee on Returns; W. Henry G. Fay and Henry J. Parker of the Committee on Charity; and W. William J. Stevens of the Committee on Charters. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at 2 p.m., with prayer by the W. Rev. J. Young G. Chaplain. The Record of the Quarterly Communication of 10th March 1875, having been distributed in printed form among members, was approved without reading; the Records of the Special Communications of 15th April, at Leominster, for the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic Hall of Wilder Lodge, and of 12th May at Newtonville, for dedicating the new Masonic Hall of Dalhousie Lodge, were then read and approved. After this the Bye-laws and amendments to Bye-laws from sundry Lodges were presented for approval, and referred to the Committee on Bye-laws, and two petitions for Charters from Norfolk and Cochichewick Lodges then under dispensation were referred to the Committee on Charters. The proceedings of Temple Lodge, East Boston, in the trial of Fred O. Thomas were submitted for approval, and referred to the Committee on Trials. The death of Bro. Eben F. Gay Grand Tyler having been announced, and a Committee nominated to prepare a suitable memorial for the Records of Grand Lodge, a vote of thanks was passed to the Morning Star Lodge, Worcester, for its very excellent gift of a portrait of P.G.M. Isaiah Thomas. Judge Owen A. Bassett M.W.G.M. Kansas, R.W. John H. Brown G.S. of same G.L., and R.W. John F. Burrill G.S. of Grand Lodge Illinois, were then formally introduced, the brethren all rising, and the G.M. addressing a few words of hearty welcome to the distinguished visitors. The roll of Lodges having been called, Bro. Francis C. Whiston, of Boston, rose, and in a very effective speech requested the acceptance by Grand Lodge of the Masonic Apron worn by the Marquis De Lafayette on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the Bunker Hill monument, 17th June 1875, together with the autograph remarks of Daniel Webster and Lafayette at the banquet which followed that important ceremonial. R.W. John T. Heard P.G.M., and R.W. William S. Gardner having severally moved and seconded that the gift be accepted, and a vote of thanks passed to Bro. Whiston, the resolution was unanimously agreed to. The M.W.G.M. then rose and having described at length the steps he had taken to secure, if possible, the Royal Arch Apron worn by the late Major-General Joseph Warren, Past Grand Master, who was slain in the memorable defence of Bunker Hill, in the name and on behalf of Mrs. Charlotte L. Wheelwright and Miss Henrietta M. Russell, heiresses of the late P.G.M. Benjamin Russell, to whom the heirs of the late Gen. Warren had presented his apron, requested the acceptance by Grand Lodge of this priceless relic. R.W. Sereno D. Nickerson, in an interesting speech moved, and R.W. John T. Heard seconded the resolution, that the relic be accepted, the motion being carried unanimously. A resolution to the effect that an annuity of one hundred dollars be paid to each of the daughters of the late P.G.M. Benjamin Russell, as a slight token of their respect for his memory, and for their worth, was also agreed to. A report setting forth the virtues of the late Grand Tyler, Bro. Eben Flagg Gay, was then submitted and ordered to be recorded, after which the Committee on Ritual presented their report of the work and lectures of the second degree. These having been unanimously adopted as the work and lectures of this degree, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, the Committee nominated to consider the propriety of appointing a Board of Trials or a Masonic Commission to conduct Masonic Trials delivered their report, the purport of which was that all Masonic charges should be tried by Grand Lodge itself; that five commissioners, three to form a quorum, should be chosen to conduct each trial, the proceedings of which should be submitted to Grand Lodge at its regular Quarterly Communications, and that Grand Lodge should pass the final decree or judgment in the same manner as is now provided for in the trials by Lodges. The Committee further reported that, in order to carry these views into practice, it would be necessary to amend Article IV. of the Grand Constitutions, and accordingly they submitted such amendments as in their wisdom they considered would be necessary. The report was accepted, and the amendment referred to R.W. Will. S. Gardner, Sereno D. Nickerson, and Edward Avery. The Committee then presented their report on the

working and lectures of the third degree, and it was unanimously adopted. The Committee appointed to consider certain proposed amendments to Grand Constitutions then delivered their report, which was accepted. On the motion of R.W. John McClellan, five hundred dollars was voted for charitable purposes, to be disbursed by the Committee on Charity. The Committee on Bye-laws then presented their report on Bye-laws and amendments to Bye-laws, submitted by sundry Lodges; that on Charters recommended the issue of Charters to the Norfolk and Cochichewick Lodges; that to which was referred the appeal of Bro. Albert F. Kelly against the ruling of the W.M. of John Cutler Lodge, recommended that the appeal be sustained, and the ruling of the W.M. be declared null and void, was accepted; while the Committee on Masonic Insurance submitted that further action on a certain petition that G. L. should take steps to protect the rights of individual brethren in connection with Life Assurance Associations, was inexpedient. M.W.G.M. Bassett, Kansas, having addressed a few words before retiring, Grand Lodge was shortly after closed in ample form, at forty minutes past seven p.m., W. Rev. J. Young Grand Chaplain offering up prayer. At the Special Communication held on 17th June, for the purpose of taking part in the public solemnisation of the hundredth anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, and the death of General Warren in that conflict, a considerable number of those already enumerated were present, the M.W.G.M. P. L. Everett, wearing the late General Warren's Masonic apron, and R.W. Winslow M.D. as D.G.M., wearing that of the late Marquis de Lafayette. After the procession was over, Grand Lodge, at the invitation of the Lodge of St. Andrew, returned to a building in Union Street, occupying the site of the Old Green Dragon Tavern, famous, a century since, as the place where Masonic Communications used to be held. Here they met the officers and members of the De Molay and Richmond Commanderies of Knight Templars, but as we have already referred to this in the account given, a few weeks since, of the visit to Boston of the Richmond Commandery, we need not go into details a second time. The special communication on 3rd July was held to celebrate the anniversary of the day when General George Washington, under the old elm at Cambridge, assumed command of the colonial forces in the War of Independence. G.L. having been opened the G.M. shortly after called it from labour to refreshment, and the brethren proceeded in carriages to Lyceum Hall, Cambridge, and there, as guests of the municipal authorities of the city, took part in the ceremony, and at the banquet which followed, in Memorial Hall, Harvard Lodge, under the presidency of the Mayor, W. Bro. Isaac Bradford, the toasts were—Washington, the United States, Massachusetts, the Thirteen Original States, the Army and Navy, and Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to which last the M.W.G.M. responded in appropriate terms, and with considerable eloquence. Other toasts followed, after which the brethren returned to the Masonic Temple, and Grand Lodge was closed in ample form at eight o'clock p.m.

EAST WEST AND SOUTH.

BY A WANDERING FREEMASON.

III.

"ONLY nine ounces and nine pennyweights," said the Captain, in deep disgust, laying down the scales and upsetting his bottle of quicksilver: "haven't done such a bad week's work since I helped a Maori woman to pull peas at six shillings a day. No wonder Alfred wants to leave us. I'll give up the claim, and make over my share to Jack!"

It was in the early days of New Zealand goldfields, before the great find in Otago. On the very day that great discovery dawned upon the Middle Island, I set sail from its shores in miserable ignorance. A month afterwards, forty thousand men landed at Port Chalmers.

There were five of us—the Captain, Scottie (called after his nationality), Baker (called after his former trade), myself (called "Alfred" upon abstract grounds which were never explained to me), and Jack, a runaway sailor boy whom we hired for his rations and £1 sterling a day: digging for gold at Wai-kara-mumu, Massacre Bay, New Zealand.

They were *surface-diggings*, discovered by the Captain, a first-rate prospector. The whole surface of the side of a hill was found to be pervaded with gold-dust. Our difficulty at the outset had been to get water-power in immediate proximity. A fine stream, the "Wai-kara-mumu," ran round the base of the hill, but the labour of bringing the soil down to it would have been too great for our small party. When Scottie and I joined the Captain and Baker we found, high up in the hollow of a hill which rose behind ours, a deep rotten swamp, and saw at once the water-power we wanted, if we could bring it to bear upon the golden soil. This I pronounced possible, and the work of engineering the same was delegated to me accordingly. Whilst with rude extemporised instruments I was taking the levels and staking out the tortuous course which should make the precious water our auxiliary, my comrades were employed building a hut on the bank of the stream. All day long the stroke of the axe rang through the bush. Many an empty sardine-tin and broken beer-bottle was flung upon roots and boulders which had remained untouched until the advent of the white man. The Ka-kas,* clinging sagely to the supplejacks† which overhung their native streamlet, ceased not to cackle their astonishment, and ere retiring to rest doubtless warned their night-watchmen, the Mawpawks,‡ and excited them likewise to screaming indignation. All night long did the latter flit to and fro over our tent of blankets, permitting little sleep to me, at least. After a time when established as inhabitants, we became mutually accustomed and I seldom noticed their monotonous cry.

A capacious chimney of clay and boulders was erected at the end of our hut, beside the doorway (door we had none), and a pile of faggots and brushwood stacked for future fuel. By that time we had commenced the hard work in the hills. Across the narrowest end of the swamp, where it just dipped between two saddles and struck rock, we builded bit by bit a solid dam. Through the centre of the latter we inserted a wooden conduit, closed by a trap. We then began cutting the "race" along the line traced by me. Two feet deep, on an average, and one foot wide, we made it, on a regular gradient winding round one hill, taking advantage of a saddle to cross to another, and so descending to the side of our claim. This done, we halted, after some days' hard close work, for "refreshment."

This, by an unanimous vote, it was settled should be taken at the nearest "accommodation-house"||—Tākaka, some twenty miles off. Thither we journeyed, wading down the stream one bright morning, leaving poor Jack in charge of our dominions. I was glad of a change, as I should be of a trip to the sea-side now, and of the prospect of some variety in food, after a long course of salt meat, damper and tea, with an occasional fish or Maori-cabbage as a luxury. Especially I longed for fresh cows' milk; my comrades were equally athirst for milk to their taste of another description: and this was my first introduction to that ideal of celestial bliss, the digger's "spree."

No sooner had we entered the hospitable door of Miller, the highland proprietor of the solitary hostelry, than they began to imbibe, first with eagerness then with steady determination, beer (vile stuff), then brandy, whiskey, rum and gin (viler in quality, if possible), with utter impartiality. In two hours they were quarrelling, on the verge of a fight; Miller plied them with fire-water the more assiduously, and within four hours Scottie and Baker subsided into blessed insensibility. Towards evening came in one Maurice, known to fame as "the lucky digger," of whose good fortune and of the piles he had made and dissipated I had often heard. He had come from prospecting on the "Anatoka," and, with his usual luck, brought in his pocket about an ounce of gold, which he had scooped out of crevices with his knife. He let fall his swag,§ and came holding the little nuggets in his hand for us to see.

After supper we helped mine host to bar his doors and shutters; for a party of Maoris, headed by one "Tamati-Waka" (Tommy Walker), were camped in the neighbourhood. A law recently passed forbade their being sup-

* Ka-ka,—a small green parrot.

† Supplejack,—a tough creeper, looped and twined like a cord from bough to bough and from tree to tree.

‡ Mawpawk,—a night owl, called after its peculiar cry, "More pork."

|| Accommodation-house,—inn and general store.

§ Swag,—a burden slung by flax—withes across the back, usually consisting of a pair of scarlet blankets, a flannel shirt, a comb, a washing dish or prospecting pan and rations.

plied with liquor, and it was thought not unlikely they might attempt to obtain it by surprise or force. The "insensibles" were left as they lay, and I ascended to what, after long use to a Tasmanian Possumrug spread upon fern leaves, seemed a too luxurious couch.

Next day, a party of Germans arrived, on their way to some new diggings of which they made a great mystery, near the sources of the *Grey* and *Buller*: and I regret to say that the army of martyrs to alcohol was greatly augmented, including the Captain and Maurice. The landlord and I had to pile them one upon the other, against the bar, before retiring to rest. A special Providence is said to care for drunken men; to it alone those underneath must have owed freedom from suffocation before the dawn.

On the fourth day, considering that the state of our finances did not warrant further indulgence (the authorised term for a digger's spree, such as I have described, is a *fortnight*), I shovelled our friends outside the house, where, with Miller's assistance, they were drenched thoroughly with buckets of water, and rolled down the slope. There, heaped among the grass and fern, in the fresh air, they gradually revived and staggered to their feet: the first up being the most energetic in rousing and kicking up the others. The Captain had sense enough to make preparation for departure, which was effected towards nightfall, each of us being laden with from 60 to 90 lbs. weight slung across the back by leaves of the *Flax-bush*,* the burdens consisting of flour, salt meat, coffee, tea, sugar, and sundries.

After a jovial march, enlivened by stumblings and mishaps, as we waded along the creek or scrambled over the boulders in the darkness, we neared home and halted to listen to unwonted sounds of revelry which issued from the hut. Jack's rollicking voice sang out:—

"And now my song is ended, there's one last wish I crave,
That that infernal skipper may never rest in his grave:
May he be drowned, far away, upon some sandy shoal,
Where the sharks may rattle his bones about, and the devil may take his soul."

Here another voice struck up an irrelevant chorus—

Come, all you jolly diggers, come, diggers young and old!"

"My word!" said Scottie, "it's that scamp Maurice found his way here, to pump Jack about our claim."

So it proved: the pair were glorious, rattling their pan-nikins, and stamping round under the influence of new rum.

Thus began my life at the diggings. Having worked the claim for nine weeks, the gold-bearing limit of the soil was reached, and it became evident that to work longer wouldn't pay.

A description of surface-digging may not be uninteresting. The *race* which brought water to the side of our hill, was supplemented by a telescopic series of wooden troughs, called *boxes*, mounted on trestles. These *boxes* were fitted with false bottoms, so perforated as to make a series of shallow pits along their whole length. The trestles were moveable, and the alignment of the boxes was thus easily altered to suit our work; fresh boxes and trestles being added to suit distances as required.

The aqueduct being brought immediately alongside of our work, the soil from the hill's surface was flung in spadefuls into it. Over the earth thus thrown in the water rushed, sweeping it along, but depositing all metallic and heavy particles in the pits of the false bottom. At the end of the last box, the earth (called "tailings") fell out deprived of metal, and the water spent itself down the hill-side. At the end of each day's work, after closing the trap in the dam to cut off the water, the *boxes* were dismantled, the false bottom removed, and the gold dust carefully collected. Gains were reckoned and divided every Saturday; and as I reflect upon the rough and ready character of my companions, I am pleased at remembering the entire confidence each reposed in the other.

We dissolved partnership: Scottie and Jack elected to remain on the ground, the former purchasing the greater part of our plant, the remainder of which we carried to *Takaka*. The Captain and Baker started for *Nelson*, which I should have done also, had it not been my fate to again encounter "the lucky digger." We found him at Miller's, recovering from a severe attack of inebriety. On learning our intentions, he drew me aside, and told me in mysterious whispers he had had a remarkably rich *prospect*, which two men could work out and nett £500 each in a month.

* *Phormium Tenax*.

All his clothes and tools were gone in exchange for liquor, but he would make me the munificent offer of "halves" if I would furnish and start the concern. I agreed, made the requisite disbursements, and within a week started for Maurice's *El Dorado*, upon which that great discoverer bestowed the unsuggestive name of "One speck Gully."

A small dray, drawn by one bullock, laden with our plant, and managed by Miller's hopeful heir, a boy of ten, accompanied us one day's journey, beyond which was no practicable track. In the bottom of the ravine which formed the entrance to our gully we camped for the night. Two days were spent carrying the stores to the spot selected by Maurice, where, as we did not contemplate a very long stay, we erected a much slighter tenement than that of *Waikara-Mumu*. First we felled trees and cleared the ground, then we built a kind of American log-hut with long fern-trees, locally called "bungy." These trees are light to carry and soft to touch, have no branches but at the top; when severed their interior appears cellular and spongy, their core a complicated geometrical pattern darkly stained in. We dispensed with chimney, and suspended our pot outside, gipsy fashion, upon three forked sticks.

Our palatial abode I contemplated with intense satisfaction; never tired of admiring its interior snugness, its tight thatch of "ghighi," its hardened floor, the neat trench round about it, and, above all, the lovely prospect which greeted our opening eyes each morning on awaking, thro' the door-less door way. Just inside, well-sheltered, we planted our candlestick, literally a candle-stick or sapling. It was straight, six feet long, with sharp end driven into the ground. Its upper end was cleft in shape of a cross, and permanently distended by small wedges; into the gaping aperture thus made the end of the candle was inserted. Reviewing our arrangements, I felt "Monarch of all I surveyed," and *Crusoe's* feelings would have been tame compared to mine.

Maurice was an entertaining fellow. His thoughts ran in eccentric grooves, he narrowly missed being a genius, with methods of expression quite out of the common way. His distinguishing faculty was his strong perception, almost divination, of the presence of gold. Where another man would wander for weeks prospecting round and round, Maurice would hit upon the right spot almost at once. He had been three years a digger, had had many a lucky find, and had squandered his gains upon the "spree" as soon as made, remaining poor throughout. He had abandoned civilised life by reason of one heavy misfortune, and craved return to it in order to satisfy one great aspiration; these two were never absent from his mind, so that in conversation he would be sure to allude to one or the other. The former, was his having been in gaol. This, he asserted, arose from the villainy of a lodging-house crimp and beech-comber, who had nearly got him shipped off from *Wellington*, whilst he was there drunk on the spree, and who, after having robbed him of everything, trumped up a charge substantiated by falsehood. I never heard the other side of the question, but experience of the villainies practised undetected (both at home and abroad) upon the unfortunate votaries of alcohol, led me not to discredit his version. He dated everything, therefore, not from the year of our Lord, nor the month of the year, but so many weeks, months or years, "since I went to gaol."

For instance, "War broke out in *Taranaki* just two years and a half after I went to gaol"—"Collinson was found starved to death on the *Wairau* about nine months after I went to gaol."

His soul's ambition was to own a horse; he had, when a drover, often ridden the beasts of others, and had had gold enough to buy a stable-full; but somehow or other, always before effecting a purchase, opportunity had flown or his cash had vanished. He expressed his determination to work hard now, to stick to his next earnings, and to be happy, with a horse of his own, at last.

(To be continued).

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS—For the cure of burns, scalds, wounds and ulcers, this justly celebrated Ointment stands unrivalled. Its balsamic virtues immediately on application lull the pain and smarting, protect the exposed nerves from the air, give to the vessels the vigour necessary to heal the sore, and confer on the blood a purity which permits it only to lay down healthy flesh in the place of that destroyed. Holloway's Pills, simultaneously taken, must assist the Ointment's purifying and soothing powers. Together, these medicaments act like a charm. Travellers embarking for unwholesome climates, where pestilential airs are constantly producing fever, should provide themselves with these remedies, which will assuredly save them nights of weary watching and days of pain.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—:o:—

BRO. JOHN YARKER v. BRO. W. P. BUCHAN.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As a young Mason I am interested in the discussion now waging between Bros. Yarker and Buchan, and hope that something of importance will be decided before the friendly encounter ends. I want to know a deal about Freemasonry, and fraternally look to Bro. Yarker, an old veteran, to assist us "recruits." Bro. Buchan has all the fire and enthusiasm of a young volunteer, and so, what with age and youth, I am anticipating a storehouse of facts to be reared. Bro. Yarker refers Bro. Buchan to Aubrey's "Natural History of Wiltshire" for proof that Sir C. Wren was initiated 18th May 1691. Will Bro. Yarker kindly tell me the date of the edition (the first, if more than one) of the History mentioned? It is idle for Bro. Buchan to cavil as to the difference between to be and was "adopted." The note has reference to the day of "adoption," and so it is quite enough for all practical purposes. Let us not be hypercritical, and expect too much from the evidence now being accumulated after the lapse of years of neglect. I should like to know more about the work of 1721, which Captain Irwin has in his library, and which speaks of the "higher class," and I wish Bro. Irwin would permit some other brethren to peruse it, such as our well known writers, Bros. Lyon, Haghan, Woodford, Woof or others, or would the owner kindly transcribe all the portion in any way referring to the Craft, so that the context may exhibit the character of the complete paragraph. It is surely most important, and deserves much more than a passing notice, and I thank Bro. Yarker for calling attention to it.

Will our brother favour me with the evidence that in 1725 the Royal Arch was called the Fifth Order? I have not been able to discover any evidence that warrants such a positive statement, neither has any Masonic historian with which I am familiar made any such proof known, neither has Bro. Yarker himself in his "Speculative Masonry," which is a valuable work, and so I presume Bro. Yarker has something in confirmation of his emphatic affirmative, about which we are, as yet, in ignorance. How does Bro. Yarker know that Bro. Ramsay's system "was started in 1728?" I thought there was a lack of evidence on the subject, but now, as our brother again states emphatically his discovery, will he kindly say the grounds on which he rests so important an assertion? It was said Ramsay visited the Grand Lodge of England (at London), but the minutes of the Grand Lodge were searched carefully for me by an English brother, but all to no purpose, and certainly in France there has not been a record produced which refers to Ramsay of so early a date as 1728 (and his degrees).

The "Antient and Primitive Rite" must be a very old society. Of what date are its earliest records, and did it precede the "Antient and Accepted Rite?" Is it not true that many of the degrees are alike *virtually*, and, if so, which was first of the two Rites, for one must be the younger, and therefore the plagiarist? Now then, which was first? It does not matter two straws to me as to the answer, save and except to discover the truth, and I am determined to sift the loose statements so frequently made, and see for myself what it all means as to Degrees, Rites, Offices, Antiquity, Humbug, and Pretension, and from the whole I hope to evolve the truth. We have far too many degrees and authorities, and if it is true, as I am told, that the "Ancient and Primitive Rite" is a late creation, then I say away with it to the bottom of the sea, or anywhere but in Great Britain, for else ere long it will be imported into the "Emerald Isle" to the disgust of us all! If it is *ancient* and *worthy*, then stick to it, and do away with the counterfeits, but do not in the name of common sense go on multiplying until all that is really Masonry, and Freemasonry, is banished from our degrees.

With respect to the mark, is Bro. Yarker quite sure there was no ceremony. Why was there a fee for "chusing ye merk," and is he warranted in denying what now, in the ordinary course of things, cannot be decided either way? What "ancient documents go to prove that the Master's Degree had nothing to do with the Arch." This is news to me, and quite upsets my mind after it had rested on the perusal and study of Dr. Oliver's "Origin of the Royal Arch" (Spencer), and which connects the Arch with the Third Degree prior to say 1750. What had Dr. Dassigny to do with the Masonic Templars? His work was issued in 1744, and the Masonic Templars have not been traced until about 20 years after that date. Will Bro. Yarker, or any good brother, give me light?

MASONIC INVESTIGATOR.

OUR FREEMASONRY AND BRO. YARKER.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At page 86 Bro. Yarker asserts that he referred me in his first letter (page 53, 24th July, I suppose) to two MSS. "which themselves prove the antiquity of the system of the three degrees, and their identity with the present first three ceremonies." Now the proof here spoken of appears to me to exist only in the region of Bro. Yarker's imagination. Imagination, however, goes a great way with our pseudo Masonic historians. As a specimen of Bro. Yarker's extreme accuracy turn to page 53, where he tells us that the note in Aubrey's MS., which says that Wren

"is to be adopted," is the "sole minute, yet known to be preserved, of Sir C. Wren's initiation." What a wonderful transformation! Who but a doughty knight of the real old high grades could have managed that?

Then, again, when we turn to page 70, and behold our gallant warrior spurring on his Rosinante against the Mark Degree, how the better informed amongst the Mark supporters must have chuckled when they heard his solemn vow that "So sure as the 1598 speculative lodge system of Wm. Schaw was identical with our ancient three degree system, so sure was it that he would prove the Mark Degree wasn't!"

I have for long believed that the paragraph in Schaw's 1598 Statutes which says:—"Item, That na Maister or Fallow-of-Craft be ressavit nor admittit without the number of six Maisteris and tua enterit Prenteissis," &c., clearly showed that neither degrees nor secrets were here involved, but extra privileges.

If Bro. Yarker can produce some real "minute," or any properly clear evidence that a Masonic system of three degrees, "identical with the present first three ceremonies," existed either in or before the Seventeenth Century, and also therefore before A.D. 1717, pray let him do so in the next number. I trust he will not content himself with referring to some former quotation in some past volume, but give us real evidence now, and that to the point.

I am, yours fraternally, W. P. BUCHAN.

IRISH MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—From your article on the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin, you seem to consider the Report for the year 1874-5 satisfactory. I regret, however, that this is far from being the case, as both of the Irish Schools, Female as well as Male, are ill supported by the brethren in Ireland. The Lodges and their members, with a few honourable exceptions, spend money lavishly on refreshments, while they are slow to subscribe any to support the children of their deceased brethren. Take the number of the brethren belonging to the Irish Lodges (which does not represent the whole), and compare them with the number that supports the Schools, and it will be found that the latter are ridiculously small; and, anywhere in Ireland, if you ask an individual brother to subscribe, he excuses himself, as "my Lodge subscribes," yet, probably, the same man will boast he is a good Mason.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours fraternally,

G. H. KINAHAN.

CHARGES OF A FREEMASON.

By CORNELIUS MOORE, Editor of the Masonic Review.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In an article under the above heading, at page 84, we find the writer stating that candidates for Freemasonry "must be 'free born.' The Grand Lodge of England (he adds) has, within the last few years, substituted 'free man,' instead of 'free born,' thus in our opinion, striking at a most vital principle, which that body was especially bound to protect, and setting an example of the most pernicious tendency." How terrible thus to think that the mother of Freemasonry has gone astray! I used, foolishly I fear, to imagine that this substitution of "free man" for "free born," was a truly noble deed, and a specimen of real Masonic liberality! but since our worthy critic has told us that the tendency is "pernicious," I fear that like Galileo, the Grand Lodge of England will have to go down on her knees and do such penance as may be satisfactory to this worthy son of her worthy daughter.

As a Masonic reason for thus laying down the law we are told that—"The principle in the text is borrowed from one laid down by the Supreme Architect in the economy of salvation." Now, Bro. Cornelius, you must excuse me here reminding you of that other "text" which says, that before taking the mote out of your brother's eye you are first to take the beam out of your own." You a Masonic guide! You would tell us that English Freemasonry had done wrong when it, as you say, substituted "free man" for "free born." Why it appears from your own words that you have yet to learn what the real meaning of "Freemasonry" is. The chair of a Masonic Lodge, you must remember, is not exactly the pulpit of a Christian minister, nor is a Masonic review the proper place to promulgate the idea that the only way of salvation is through a belief in a Jewish Shiloh.

I am,

Yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

Glasgow, 9th August 1875.

REPORT OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Laughton Vicarage, near Gainsborough,
10th August 1875.

Sir,—By whomsoever you were furnished with a report of the proceedings of Lincolnshire Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Boston, in June last, allow me to attest that your report was accurate and fair,—not so the official report just issued. The Provincial Grand Secretary has thought proper to eliminate certain important matters

which you have published. You rightly state that I proposed a vote of thanks, which was cordially and unanimously passed, to Brother Pigott, and ordered to be recorded in the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincoln, for his exemplary services in the cause of charity during the past year, and acknowledged by Brother Terry; also the proposals of Brothers Sutcliffe and Mantle in the cause of charity, which I seconded, are briefly mentioned, my name also being studiously omitted, and all reference whatever to the discussions both in Committee and the Grand Lodge which you antecedently reported,—and, I presume, with due authority,—respecting the projected Oliver Scholarship at the Boys' School, and yet the recollection of this Grand Officer, the P.G. Secretary, is so vivid that he relates, what he himself declared, that it was not in the power of the Grand Lodge to vote any of its hoarded money to charitable purposes without the previous recommendation of some omnipotent committee. I hope the bye-law on this matter will be altered. Although I disclaim reporting or writing on any subject discussed in the Grand Lodge, without the sanction of the Grand Master, I do most seriously claim that a succinct summary of all topics of discussion be accurately and faithfully recorded, and that *no elimination*, at the caprice of any one, be allowed, without the authority, at least, of the Deputy Grand Master.

One recommendation for the disposal of the Oliver Memorial Fund is mentioned, the other is suppressed. A question naturally arises; is that fair or ingenuous? We shall most certainly have a scholarship at the Boys' School; shall Lincolnshire have the credit? or, is it to be set aside by a side wind?

We have the most exalted specimens of genuine Masonry in Lincolnshire; men who would scorn any act of breach of faith and honour, men whose hearts and purses are at the disposal of any Masonic charity. Among the foremost of these stand Major Smythe and Brothers Sutcliffe and Pigott; these gentlemen shall not be snubbed, even if jealous juveniles are anxious to clip my wings. These gentlemen, by indefatigable exertions, by unexampled charity, have made Lincolnshire stand in the front rank of Masonry; all honour to them, and to whomsoever it is due. But we repudiate a garbled record of charity and devotion, even with the imprimatur of our Provincial Grand Lodge, to be circulated amongst the brethren on earth, even if our witness be in heaven and our record on high.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

DANIEL ACE, D.D.,

P.P.G. Chaplain for Lincolnshire,
and P. Mark G. Chaplain for Lincolnshire.

REVIEWS.

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

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Travels in Portugal. By John Latouche, with illustrations by the Right Hon. T. Sotheron Estcourt. London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler, Warwick House, Paternoster Row:

WE are uttering a truism when we say there are travellers and travellers. There are travellers, for instance, who make the grand tour. This, not so very many years ago, meant a visit to the principal towns and cities of Europe. Now-a-days we fancy the grand tour embraces pretty well the whole of the civilised world. To this class belong the man, who by rail, road, or steamer has contrived, within a moderate space of time, to accomplish so many thousand miles of distance. He has seen towns innumerable, been bored by cathedrals, picture galleries, battle grounds, monuments innumerable. He has seen much, but learned little. In fact, his sole claim to enrolment among the noble and ignoble army of martyrs to an absurd fashion or mania for rushing about is that he has journeyed these several thousands of miles. To him, indeed, though not in its usual sense, may be applied the familiar adage,—“It is distance that lends enchantment to the scene,” for it is only the distance travelled that makes him care at all for scenery. Then there is the Alpine traveller, usually of the muscular Christian type of man, who has ascended Monte Rosa, Mont Blanc, the Matterhorn, and all the peaks and passes of the Alpine range. He possesses great courage and activity, great presence of mind, great powers of endurance. Never a season passes but we hear of his doings, how on one occasion he narrowly escaped death in a crevasse, how on another he achieved some ascent of marvellous difficulty, which had seldom or never been attempted before. He communicates, perhaps, to the Alpine Club, a modest narrative of his achievements, and, in a few years, subsides into private life, honoured and respected by his friends and acquaintances, but having contributed very little to the general stock of knowledge about the country he has traversed. Then there is the naturalist traveller, who is often a bore, always an enthusiast, to whom the grand historic monuments that have been handed down to us from remote ages are of comparatively little worth, so long as he can find you a new kind of flea—supposing him to be an entomologist; a new species of bird, beast, or fish—supposing him to have a preference for either of those branches of natural history. Again there is the connoisseur in art, who is in raptures with everything pictorial or sculptural, though he has but a sorry modicum of art knowledge, and can no more distinguish between a genuine work of Titian or Correggio than we can describe the inhabitants—if there are any—of the planet Mercury. Another class of traveller are Cook's tourists, for setting down whom as batches of escaped lunatics the late consul and novelist, Charles Lever, we believe, got into hot water with the Foreign Office. These do a given journey in a given time, stopping at given places, and paying a given sum for their

board and travel, though certain we believe take out tourists' tickets, and travel on their own hook between certain termini. We might, of course, extend this enumeration of the various species of the genus traveller almost *ad infinitum*, but we shall content ourselves with adding to our list one more, namely the man who travels for the purpose of enjoying and appreciating the country he visits, and of studying the people among whom he momentarily sojourns. To this class, we opine, belongs the author of these pages, Mr. John Latouche, whose experiences of travel in Portugal are no doubt familiar to such of our readers as have consulted the earlier numbers of the *New Quarterly*. That these experiences are now published in the form of a connected narrative must be a subject of congratulation, not only to the author's friends, but to all lovers of this class of literature.

In his preface to this volume Mr. Latouche describes his work as a collection of “nothing more than notes—mental notes, for I travelled without any design of future publication, and kept no single written memorandum of what I did or saw.” Whether they are the result of mental notes only, or whether the style of the work is “discursive,” as the writer suggests, is very immaterial. Here, at all events, is a most readable volume, from which we may gather more insight into Portuguese life or character than from all the guide books to this country that were ever written. Nor does it matter that he “did not travel continuously.” Rather rejoice we that his “travels were interrupted by periods of residence,” for these rests must have given time for reflection, time to digest what he had seen *en route*, and thus hasty conclusions have been probably avoided. Any slight derangement of a settled plan often induces a man to form impressions that are essentially unjust, and these pauses in his travels to which Mr. Latouche refers probably have enabled him to set right any such impression that he may have formed. Even since the first appearance in the *New Quarterly* of these notes, the author has seen fit to modify some of his statements, and it is just possible that, had he not broken his journey, these modifications might have been more frequent and more extensive. However this may be, the volume, we repeat, is eminently readable and is all the more valuable as it is intended, not for “the mere tourist, the ignorant, conceited, incurious, moneyed traveller, for whom so much deserved contempt has been expressed in current literature,” but for those “who go to Portugal to enjoy a pleasant winter climate,” or to “see a strange people, with a famous name in European history, to watch the successful working of a representative Constitution, to study archaeology, ecclesiology, or natural history,” or “who simply desire to take a month's holiday and a month's relaxation in spring, summer, or winter, in a quite new country (with no intention to ‘do’ the country in ordinary tourist fashion.” This is just the kind of book that is needed. We have Guide Books innumerable, valuable, no doubt, in their way, but of use chiefly to those who, without an atom of true sentiment about them, travel, because it is the fashion. These fix their route beforehand, marking out the various stages of their intended tour, how long they shall stop at this, how long at that place, what lions they shall visit, and what they mean to spend. With such, we fancy, Mr. Latouche's book will find but little favour. Of what interest, for instance, to this kind of people is a sketch of “Farm Work in Northern Portugal,” or of “Land Tenure and Tenant Farms?” The ordinary tourist neither knows nor cares anything about such interesting matters, and he would probably traverse Portugal, or any other country, from one end to the other and many times, without even giving a thought to these or similar questions. Yet, what more pleasant sight can be imagined than the following at pp. 45 and 46?—

“It was a ‘festa’—a holiday—and the peasantry were all in their holiday dresses; the women very gaily attired, with embroidered muslin kerchiefs on their heads, over which is worn the heavy, black Spanish-looking hat, with ornaments of floss silk, made to curl and to look like a black ostrich feather. The costume of the women varies slightly in almost every parish of the kingdom; but it generally consists of an ample serge petticoat, descending to the ankle, and gathered round the waist into innumerable pleats, a close-fitting bodice (either black or gaily coloured) over a linen skirt, showing white on the shoulders and the arms, with a bright coloured kerchief, commonly red, or orange, or blue, crossed over their breasts. All this makes a picturesque costume, which well suits the comely, buxom, black-haired peasant women of the Minho province, with their rich olive complexions and fine eyes. The women have attained their national dress, and in the remoter parts, the men also; but in many places the latter are less conservative, and wear *wide-awake* hats, trousers and short jackets, in lieu of the old national costume.

“The women use their peculiar peasant jewellery of ancient Moorish design on feast days only. Heavy necklaces, of complicated pattern, suspend huge heart-shaped lockets on their breasts; in their ears are heavy pendant earrings. The women will often wear three or four such necklaces of gold, of a standard of no less than twenty carats; we have been assured that many of the peasant women carry about them no less than twenty or thirty pounds worth of gold ornaments.”

The above scene was witnessed in the neighbourhood of Ponte de Lima, about ten or fifteen miles above Vianna on the river Lima. How many “ordinary tourists” would have left the high road to Oporto, and turned in this direction because it seemed to offer some “very rich and picturesque” scenery, or who among them would go out of their way to such a neighbourhood, “because it is classic ground to the student of Portuguese literature.” To them it would be no inducement to visit it, that “Not far from the town is the Quinta de Tapada, the country house of the great poet, Sá de Miranda, who holds the second place among the poets of Portugal, even if he does not deserve to rank with Camoens himself.” Would it occur to them to note that “the ‘Socco’ or wooden solid slipper, worn by both men and women—by women only on gala days—is precisely the foot covering to be seen in the bazaars of Cairo or Damascus; and the Portuguese will shuffle off their slippers, in token of respect, as they enter a house or church, just as an Oriental will leave his at the

entrance of his mosque." Again, we have another note which it is improbable the ordinary tourist could trouble himself to make:—

"Another instance of the prevalence and enduring character of Moorish art-forms is found in the Cangas or yokes of the oxen. While the ox-cart itself is purely Roman in shape and appearance, without having undergone the smallest change in its construction during fourteen centuries, the yoke is Oriental. It is, in shape, a high board, set edgewise upon the necks of the oxen, and is ornamented on each face, sometimes profusely and very beautifully, with characteristic Moorish incised designs." We have latterly had much experience of the value of macintoshes and other waterproof articles of clothing, but here is a waterproof, which, if not exactly becoming, is both cheap and serviceable.

"As the day was rainy, they"—the sturdy farmers on horseback, that is—"wore the curious waterproof cloak, made of rushes, which is peculiar to this province of the Minho—a waterproof which has many advantages over the very best macintosh coat; being, in the first place much lighter; in the second place, it does not make the wearer hot, or give him a head-ache, nor smell of tar; in the third place, a good one costs less than a shilling. Its appearance, however, is rather against it, and the wearer looks exactly as if he were thatched with straw from head to foot. These 'palhoças' are extensively used by all conditions of persons, and enable labouring men to do fieldwork on the rainiest days, when the water descends in tropical torrents, and when without some such protection no out of door labour could be done. Like many other customs and institutions in this province, where the Roman colonists have left such numerous traces of their presence, the 'palhoça' may perhaps be an inheritance from Roman times, and may be the representative of the *Toga Viminarlis* of the Romans—the toga made of twigs."

The people of the district of Beira, in which Viseu is situated are thus described at p. 289:—

"The natives, men and women, in their hooded gaberdines of brown cloth—their only garment—without hats, with unkempt hair, and with bare legs, are as wild and savage looking a set of mountaineers as I ever saw, but they are well mannered and well behaved. They are a taller and more robust race than I had yet met with in Portugal, and ever since their long-continued resistance to the Romans, under their shepherd leader Viriatus, to the time of the Peninsular War, when the soldierly bearing and behaviour of the Beira regiments won praise from the Duke of Wellington, the fighting qualities of these mountaineers have been famous. The finest regiments in the Portuguese army are, to this day, recruited in this part of Beira."

We close the list of excerpts with the following sketch of what in England is called the "sporting parson," a village priest, who kindly guided our author "over the first three leagues of roadless hills," on his way from Lanego to Viseu. "A big, ruddy complexioned, genial man, of middle age," says Mr. Latouche, "his talk was not of 'matin, laud, and compline prayer,' and I doubt if his Latin carried him further than the reading of his breviary and massbook. His reverence was, I was told at the inn, 'um grande caçador'—a famous sportsman, and much learned talk passed between us on his favourite pastime. He told me of waiting for woodcock at nightfall by the edge of damp meadows, and killing them by a pot shot on the ground. He told me of great shooting parties of a more legitimate kind, in autumn, on these heath-covered hills, when twenty or thirty or more sportsmen would walk in a line, interspersed with beaters and dogs, and get excellent sport with hares and red-legged partridges, great strong coverts of which birds rose now and then at our horses' feet, as if to corroborate his account; and the priest told me how sometimes an outlying she-wolf, with her cubs, would get up before the line, and then men and dogs would go wild with excitement, and every gun, far and near, would be fired off, and every cur start in pursuit, and in the enthusiasm of his description, the jovial priest favoured me with a Portuguese equivalent of our national 'Yoicks!' that rang again in the morning air."

The conversation that ensues between the author and this worthy as to dogs and wolf hunting we have not space to quote, as we have prolonged our notice of the volume beyond what we intended originally. We have quoted enough, however, though very far from the most entertaining accounts and sketches, to show the justice of the opinion we have expressed, that the volume is written admirably, and with great modesty, and that its contents cannot fail to prove of interest to our readers. We may add, in conclusion, that the illustrations, by the Right Hon. T. Sotherton Estcourt, are in every way worthy of the book they adorn. Their artistic merit is as conspicuous as is the literary merit of Mr. Latouche's notes, be these "discursive" and the offspring of "mental notes" or not. The book itself, too, is well got up, that is, printed on good paper and in good type, with a good table of contents, and both substantially and neatly bound.

LITERATURE.

Henry Kingsley's "The Grange Garden," is still current in the *St. James's*, and, we may add, still as interesting as ever. Mr. Gibbs, in his "Battle of the Standard," is adding considerably to his reputation, already high by reason of his "Arlon Grange," and "Harold Erle." The editor's account of "Across the Channel with Captain Boyton," is a pleasantly written narrative, and his "Olla Podrida" of notes are smart; but they might be more numerous.

All the Year Round is a capital number. The serials are good, the occasional papers are generally interesting, but, to our mind, the most attractive contribution to its pages is the sketch among "Remarkable Adventurers," of "Casanova," whose career, even more than that of Cagliostro, merits the description of "Remarkable." Our readers cannot fail to be pleased with the sketch, and the hour or two they may devote to reading it will assuredly not be regretted.

The *Charing Cross* opens with further chapters of "Two Wedding Rings," which bids fair to be a well written serial, but its companion "Quits, Sweetheart," is very indifferent writing. We fully endorse the views of J. S. T. as to keeping open "Commons for Exercise and Recreation." We are already over crowded enough, and all the vacant space that can be retained must be kept if possible. But we do not feel disposed to accept his logic. His purpose is good, but his line of argument is very poor. Of the other papers, those containing "Some Personal Recollections of Latude," and on "Modern Legislation," are interesting.

In *The London and Brighton* will be found several readable papers, "A Romance of Real Life" being about the most prominent. "Tales of the Diamond Fields" will well repay perusal, and so will "My first Case: a Doctor's Story," by R. H. Stone. The serial, "A Legacy of Vengeance," is a fair specimen of this class of writing.

The *Canadian Masonic News* has two admirable articles, one on "Speculative Masonry," and the other "Fogeyism and Radicalism." Both these we unhesitatingly commend to the notice of our readers. There is also a very full account of the twentieth annual communication of Grand Lodge of Canada, which was held on the 14th July. Of this we purpose giving a brief summary in our next issue.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE AND THE RELIEF OF THE SUFFERERS BY THE RECENT INUNDATIONS.

From *Le Monde MAÇONNIQUE*.

THE following is a translation of the circular letter addressed by the Council of the Order to all the Lodges under its jurisdiction:—

VERY DEAR BRETHREN,—In presence of the terrible disasters which have so cruelly smitten the people of one part of France, and have caused such wide-spread ruin, the Council of the Order, at its sitting of the 26th June last, decided that a subscription for the relief of the sufferers in the southern districts should be opened in the Grand Orient of France, and in all the Lodges in correspondence therewith.

The amounts so subscribed will be formed into a general fund, and paid in to the account of the Order, and the list of subscribers will be published.

We have no doubt, very dear brethren, that French Masonry will regard it as a point of honour, as well as a duty, to join its efforts to those which will be made for the relief of such dire misfortunes, and we earnestly invite you to forward the amount of your subscriptions as promptly as possible to the Grand Orient.

Receive, very dear brethren, the assurance of our fraternal sentiments.

In the name of the Council of the Order.

(Signed) DE SAINT JEAN, President,
COUSIN, Vice President,
CAUBET, } Secretaries.
POULLE, }

MASONRY IN ROUMANIA.

THE Lodges in this country, according to *Le Monde Maçonique*, held high festival on the 19th June last. Over a hundred brethren, belonging to every form of religion, and of every nationality, took part in this brilliant assembly, over which Bro. Costiasco, assisted by Bro. Ascher, editor of *La Misthra*, presided. Many admirable speeches were delivered, and the fête, to which music lent the charm of its presence, and which was publicly announced by a salute of cannon, was splendid. It is needless to add that the greatest cordiality prevailed throughout among the members of the different Lodges, whom a kindred spirit and the same love of humanity had brought together. We may remark, without fear of contradiction, that every one present will always retain the kindest recollection of this excellent day.

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 9½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 67 Barbican.—*Advt.*

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VOLUME I.

OF
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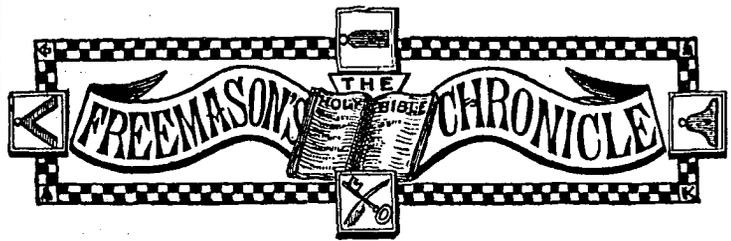
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE labours of Parliament are ended at last. The
Queen has recognised the services during the Session
of her faithful Lords and Commons, thanked them, and com-
mended them to their scarcely less arduous duties during
the recess. And by this time, perhaps, the majority of
noble lords and honourable members are well on towards
their third bag of grouse. But to summarise the Parlia-
mentary history of the week. On Friday, Lord Oranmore
and Browne put a question to the Duke of Richmond as to
the precedence accorded, or supposed to have been accorded,
to Cardinal Manning at the Prince of Wales's Garden
Party at Chiswick. The question was not a proper one to
have been put, nevertheless it was answered courteously
enough, of course, yet curtly withal. The fancied pre-
cedence to his Reverence of the Red Hat proved to have
been all moonshine. A number of Bills were then read a
second time, sundry questions relating to the Indian Army
asked and answered, and the Unseaworthy Ships Bill read
a first time, after which the House rose. There was a short
sitting on Saturday to get through some unopposed business.
On Monday, a great deal of work was accomplished.
After disposing of sundry questions, the Duke of Rich-
mond moved the second reading of the National School
Teachers (Ireland) Bill. A number of Irish peers opposed
the measure, the Earl of Donoughmore moving its rejection.
Lord Carlingford, however, supported the Government, and
the Bill passed this stage by 38 contents to 17 non-contents.
Then followed a long debate on the second reading of the
Unseaworthy Ships Bill, moved by the Duke of Richmond,
who, of course, took that opportunity of defending the
withdrawal by the Ministry of their original and more
comprehensive measure. Lord Carlingford, on the other
hand, criticised the action of the Ministers, and having
glanced at the nature of the measure before the House,
Lord Hampton addressed their Lordships, and the Duke of
Somerset, the Lord Chancellor and Earl Granville having
said their say, more or less briefly, the second reading was
agreed to. Other measures having been advanced, the
Commons' Amendments to the Agricultural Holdings
(England) Bill were agreed to, Earl Granville offering cer-
tain criticisms, the Duke of Richmond and the Marquis of
Salisbury meeting them. The Commons' Amendments to
the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (1873) Amendment
(No. 2) Bill were also considered, and after sundry observa-
tions from Lord Selborne and the Lord Chancellor,
agreed to with amendments. Other business, including the
first reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation)
Bill having been disposed of, their lordships adjourned.
The House met on Tuesday, both in the morning and
evening, the Unseaworthy Ships Bill passing through
Committee, and the report of amendments being agreed to.
There was plenty of other business also transacted at these
sittings. On Wednesday, a number of measures received
the Royal assent by commission; a number of others, in-
cluding the Unseaworthy Ships Bill, were read a third
time and passed; and others, again, including the Consolida-
ted Fund (Appropriation) Bill, passed through Committee,
and were reported. On Thursday, there was a brief sitting
for the purpose of passing a number of bills through the
final stage. It was also agreed not to insist on their
amendments to the Offences Against the Person Bill. Lord
Oranmore and Browne then asked a question respecting

the banquet given by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, at which the health of the Pope was proposed before that of the Queen. On Friday, the House assembled early, and the Royal assent was given to the remaining bills passed this Session, the Royal Commissioners being the Lord Chancellor, Earl Beauchamp and Lord Skelmersdale. The Queen's Speech was then read, and the Session of 1875 was at an end.

On Friday, in the House of Commons, a few unimportant questions having been answered, the third reading of the Unseaworthy Ships Bill was agreed to, after a short debate, in the course of which Sir C. Adderley was warmly praised by several members for his energy in connection with the bill, while the Chancellor described the bill succinctly, and most emphatically defended the conduct of the Government in relation thereto. A long discussion then ensued on the motion that the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, as amended, should be considered. A new clause was moved by Mr Norwood, but rejected. On clause 2 certain amendments were proposed by the Government, which had, at all events, the merit of drawing from Sir H. James a lengthy and rather smart criticism of the whole measure. Other amendments were made, considered, and accepted or rejected by the House, according as the weight of the Government leant for or against them. The bill was then re-committed, and a new clause added, after which it was read a third time and passed. The second reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill gave the opportunity to the Marquis of Hartington, as leader of the Opposition, of criticising the conduct of business by Ministers during the whole Session, the text of his speech being Mr. Disraeli's speech at the recent banquet to Ministers at the Mansion House. The noble Marquis's speech elicited frequent and hearty cheers from his supporters, but Mr. Disraeli was equal to the occasion, and replied very effectively, being also applauded to the echo. The Sheriffs' Substitute (Scotland) Bill was then read a second time, and the other business disposed of. The House met on Saturday shortly after twelve. The Consolidation Fund (Appropriation) Bill passed through Committee. The Restriction on Penal Actions and Remission of Penalties Bill was considered as amended. Having then passed through Committee with Clause 2 amended, at the instance of Mr. Lowe, it was then reported and read a third time. The Registration of Trade Marks Bill passed through Committee, was reported and read a third time. The Committee on the Land Titles and Transfer Bill was next resumed at Clause 41, the remaining clauses being agreed to, after an attempt on the part of Mr. Jackson to get rid of Clause 80. Several new clauses were also added, whereupon the House resumed and the Bill was reported amid cheers. The Lords Amendments to the Employer's and Workmen's Bill were accepted. On considering their amendments to the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Bill, however, differences of opinion arose, but every attempt to upset the Government view was defeated. The other business, save, perhaps, the Sheriff's Substitute Bill, which passed through Committee, needs no comment. On Monday, after a number of preliminary questions had been disposed of, the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, after some comment from Mr. Boord, to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer replied, was read a third time. The Land Titles and Transfer Bill was considered as amended, and then read a third time and passed. Then came the Indian Budget, or rather it would have come, but Mr. Fawcett moved a resolution, condemning governments for keeping the Indian Financial statement till the tail end of the Session. This, of course, only added to the delay, of which Mr. Fawcett complained. Lord G. Hamilton, however, replied smartly, and in the end carried the House with him by 90 to 55. He then rose and made his budget speech. This, of course, was criticised, but an amendment proposed by Mr. Smollett was defeated, and the original resolution of the Government was agreed to. Other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned till Wednesday. On that day several questions relating to Unseaworthy Ships, Colonel Baker's imprisonment, and other subjects were put and answered. The order of the day for the Increase of Episcopate Bill, at the instance of Mr. Beresford Hope, was discharged. The Lords' Amendments to a number of measures were considered and accepted, and the report on East Indian Revenues was brought up and agreed to. The House then disagreed with the Lords' Amendments to the Offences against the Person Bill, and a committee was appointed to draw up reasons. These amendments however were, as

will be seen above, not insisted on by their lordships. On Friday the House met at twelve o'clock, soon after which it was summoned to the House of Lords to hear the Queen's speech read. It then returned, and members having taken a hearty leave of the Speaker and each other, the Parliamentary "breaking-up" was at an end.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales will visit Sheffield, and doubtless next week we shall have to chronicle a magnificent reception by the great Yorkshire town, differing, at least in this respect, from the needy knife-grinder of Canning—"Story, God bless you! I have none to tell, Sir." No doubt the Sheffield blades from highest to lowest will accord the Prince and Princess a most glorious welcome. Every kind of preparation is being made for the visit. His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, who has a residence in the neighbourhood, has issued cards of invitation to meet their Royal Highnesses at a Garden Party on Tuesday. Monday will be a general holiday. On the evening of Tuesday there will be a grand illumination. A licensing committee has been appointed. Banners and decorations are being prepared everywhere. The police force will be strengthened. In fact everything is being arranged so as to do honour to this occasion, the town, and the Royal visitors. The Railway is also making all the needful arrangements for the conveyance of people from the neighbourhood.

Thursday was the Festival of St. Grouse, and considering the doubtful appearance of the weather during the past few days, the season of 1875 seems to have opened more auspiciously than was generally expected. The reports from both the Scotch and English Moors vary somewhat, but the balance of opinion inclines towards a far better season this year than either last or the year before. Birds are reported generally to be strong on the wing, and the young broods to have been successfully reared. There is little, if any, talk of disease, and if sport be confined within moderate limits, so that the ravages by disease of the last two years may be repaired, it is confidently anticipated that next year will afford any amount of shooting. Some good bags are reported, especially from the North Derbyshire and South Yorkshire Moors. On Earl Fitzwilliam's, the Hon. — Fitzwilliam and Capt. Boscawen bagged 40 brace. On Hollins Moor, Mr. S. Cadman shot 24 brace. On Hemlin Moors, Mr. Fox and party obtained 38 brace. Elsewhere similarly successful bags have been made, and only decent weather is needed to make the sporting season of 1875 pass off most auspiciously.

Talking of the weather, we have had some very heavy thunderstorms within the last few days. On Saturday last one broke over the metropolis and neighbourhood. At Woolwich one of three privates who had sought shelter under a tree on the Common was killed, his companions being also injured, but not fatally. In Lee and Blackheath and thereabouts, the deluge of rain flooded the streets and the lower floors of the houses to the depth of several feet; indeed, in many parts of Kent the storm was furious, and caused heavy damage. Similar reports have come from other parts of the country, and again on Thursday, from Northampton, Manchester, and Sheffield where the rain descended in floods, and great damage was done.

Captain Webb's first attempt to swim across the Channel has failed, owing to the roughness of the weather. It was a gallant venture, and had he achieved it would have gained for the gallant Captain a niche in the temple of fame. Webb started from a small boat moored off the Pier-head, Dover, at 5 p.m. on Thursday, the weather being all that he could desire, but after accomplishing just one half the distance, the ever increasing roughness of the water compelled him to desist, and he was taken aboard the lugger that accompanied him, none the worse for his labour. However, Captain Boyton did not cross the Channel the first time he essayed to do so, and possibly Captain Webb, if only the weather and tide will serve him, may accomplish it, if he determines to make a second attempt.

Great events often spring from trifling causes. There is no saying how much of the unpopularity which the late Government contrived to incur during its last years of office might have been due to its discontinuance of the usual Ministerial white bait dinner at the close of the Session. Mr. Disraeli is a man of tact, and knows well enough that the careful observance of even the least important formalities is oftentimes more necessary than a strict adherence to the weightier matters of the law. Accordingly both last year and this nearly all the Members of the Govern-

ment assembled round the familiar hospitable board at Greenwich, when each congratulated the other on the labours they had achieved, and the near prospect of a brief respite from work. We admire the wisdom of the premier in restoring this annual custom to all its pristine dignity. None can point the finger of scorn at him and his colleagues, as many, perhaps, may have done at the late Government, exclaiming, perhaps, *sotto voce*:—What a beggarly lot of rulers we have got, they cannot even dine!

The O'Connell celebration in Dublin did not end as well as it began. There were some rather serious differences of opinion in connection with one of the banquets, a considerable number being anxious that Mr. Butt should have spoken the praises of the Liberator and not Sir C. G. Duffy, whom the Lord Mayor had chosen for this task of honour. This led to a rather boisterous explosion, and neither the Lord Mayor nor Mr. Butt was able to allay it.

A rather serious matter has been brought under the notice of the Duke of Richmond, as President of the Council. On Saturday last, a deputation, representing the foreign importers of live stock—introduced by Mr. Twells, one of the Members for the City—had an interview with his Grace, and gave him to understand that unless the very severe restrictions imposed on the importation of cattle were somewhat relaxed, they would be compelled to close the supply altogether. Everybody, of course, has an interest in the question of meat supply, and the exclusion from our markets of the German and Dutch cattle would probably cause the price of meat to rise to famine prices. The deputation asked that they should be put on the same footing as the importers of Irish stock, or, in other words, that while every diseased animal should be rigidly condemned, cattle and sheep ascertained to be perfectly sound should go free into the market. The Duke promised inquiry into the matter as promptly as possible, but since then two cases have occurred, in one of which 700 or 800 Dutch sheep, in the other 1,500 sheep and lambs, were ordered to be transhipped to Deptford for slaughter because, in each, one sheep was found to be suffering from foot-and-mouth disease. This involved a loss to the importers of 5s per head. Now anything that can be done to prevent such losses should be done, but it must not be overlooked that one of such black sheep will most probably infect a whole herd. It is impossible for the most skilful veterinary inspector to discover the disease in its early stages of germination. Thus these animals that are certified to be sound may, nevertheless, have in them the germs of the disease, and thus might be the means of innoculating our own herds. It is, perhaps, the lesser of the two evils to bear with a short supply than to run the risk of having our home produce infected. If the cargoes were landed direct at Deptford, and there examined, instead of being sent up to London, the additional cost of conveyance to Deptford would be saved.

In the sporting world Yachting for the moment is in the ascendant. The Regatta of the Royal Victoria Club commenced on Tuesday, and will close to-day. That of the Royal Albert Club will be held next week. In Cricket there have been several return matches played between the leading counties, such as Sussex and Surrey, &c., those between Middlesex and Notts, and Gloucestershire and Yorkshire being still in progress. We note also the meeting of the International Gun and Polo Club at Spa. The principal race meetings this week have been those of Egham and Windsor.

Our foreign notes are few. The attempt to overwhelm Carlism has not yet proved successful, and the insurrection in the Herzegovina seems from all accounts to be extending, and becoming more formidable from day to day. If the revolt is strictly localised, we do not anticipate there will be any serious difficulty on the part of Turkey in suppressing it. But if Bosnian and Montenegrin interference is permitted or connived at, the Turks have a tough piece of work before them for the summer. We trust the Great Powers will signify unmistakably to these petty, if rude buccaners, that they have no intention of allowing the peace of Europe to be broken on their account. Once the insurgents find that Europe means peace, they and their adherents from other quarters will very soon come to terms and the rights of Turkey will no longer be imperilled.

A marriage will shortly take place between His Imperial Highness Prince Demetrius, G.M. and Sovereign Grand

Commander of the Supreme Grand Council, 33rd degree, for Scotland, &c., and eldest son of His Imperial Highness Prince Rhodocanakis, and Kathleen, eldest daughter of Capt. Geo. Newcomen R.N., of 33 Queen's Gate, South Kensington, and Feltwell Lodge, Norfolk.

We learn from *Le Monde Maçonnique* that M. Emile Littré, member of the French Academy, representative of the people, and author of a French Dictionary, as well as of numerous scientific works, was initiated on the 8th ult., in the Lodge "*La Clémentine Amitié*." Fr. Charles Cousin, Vice President of the Council of the Order, presided, and there was present a large attendance of brethren. M. Littré has already attained the ripe age of 74; his joining the Order, observes our worthy French contemporary, is no act of youthful phantasy or misplaced enthusiasm, but a deliberate act, and the result evidently of a well-matured conviction of the immense value of Freemasonry. The same authority, in speaking of the Lodge banquets, which occur ordinarily at the season of the summer solstice, anticipates that the collections made for the relief of the sufferers by the recent inundations will prove considerable, having regard, of course, to the number and position of those present. The Lodge *La Clémentine Amitié* has voted two hundred francs towards the subscription being raised by the Grand Orient, while, at the meeting held for the initiation of M. Littré, six hundred francs were collected, one-half of which will go to the Masonic Orphanage, and the other to the relief of the sufferers.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

THE Committee met at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, 11th August. Present—Bros. Major Creaton, chairman, H. G. Warren, R. Spencer, J. A. Farnfield, J. G. Stevens, A. H. Tattershall, L. Stean, W. Stevens, James Brett, S. Rawson, Griffiths Smith, I. Newton, Thomas Cubitt, W. Hilton, Prof. Erasmus Wilson and Jabez Hogg. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Wardens' Report stated that the Entertainment kindly voted at the last meeting was held on the 30th ultimo, and gave great pleasure to the inmates assembled. The death of two annuitants was reported. The Chairman was authorised to sign cheques for payment of annuities due 1st September. One candidate was placed on the list for election in May next, and permission was granted to an annuitant to reside in the Asylum at Croydon. Votes of thanks were accorded to Bro. Griffiths Smith, for drawing up agreement, and to the Chairman.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY EVENING.

PARLIAMENT was this day prorogued by Commission. The following is

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am happy to be enabled to release you from your attendance in Parliament.

The relations between myself and all Foreign Powers continue to be cordial, and I look forward with hope and confidence to the uninterrupted maintenance of European peace.

The visit paid to this country, on the invitation of my Government, by the ruler of Zanzibar, has led to the conclusion of a supplementary convention, which, I trust, may be efficacious for the more complete suppression of the East African slave trade.

I have learnt with deep regret that the expedition dispatched by my Indian Government from Burmah, with a view to open communications with the Western Provinces of China, has been treacherously attacked by an armed force while on Chinese territory. This outrage, unhappily involving the death of a young and promising member of my Consular service, is the subject of careful inquiry; and no effort shall be spared to secure the punishment of those by whom it was instigated and committed.

The condition of my colonial empire is generally prosperous. Progress has been made in the settlement of questions affecting the constitution and government of Natal; and I confidently look for important and valuable results from the proposal for a conference of the South African colonies and states.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the liberal supplies which you have voted for the public service.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is gratifying to me to find that the lengthened consideration you have given to the various statutes which have, from time to time, been passed for the preservation of peace in Ireland has resulted in a measure which, while relaxing the stringency of former enactments, is calculated to maintain the tranquillity of that country.

I have, with pleasure, given my assent to an act for facilitating

the improvement of the dwellings of the working classes in large towns, which will, I trust, lead to the decrease of many of the principal causes of disease, misery, and crime. I feel sure that this legislation, together with that relating to the consolidation and amendment of the sanitary laws, and of the laws relating to friendly societies, will greatly promote the moral and physical welfare of my people.

It has afforded me much satisfaction to give my assent to two important statutes for the amendment of the acts relating to master and servant and trade offences, and of the law of conspiracy as connected with these offences—statutes which will, I trust, place the relations of employers and employed on a just and equal footing, and add to the contentment and goodwill of large classes of my subjects.

Among the enactments which you have passed for the improvement of the law, I am well pleased to observe that a comprehensive measure for simplifying the title and facilitating the transfer of land in England has taken its place in the statute book; that an act has been passed for the amendment of the law of entail in Scotland; and that you have made provision, by amending the Judicature Act of 1873, for bringing the great changes in my civil courts, and their procedure which it inaugurated, into immediate and practical effect.

The state of public business and the differences of opinion naturally arising on a varied and comprehensive scheme, have unfortunately prevented you from completing the consideration of the Merchant Shipping Bill, but I rejoice that you have been able, by a temporary enactment, to diminish considerably the dangers to which my seafaring subjects are exposed.

By the Agricultural Holdings' Act, you have greatly and beneficially enlarged the powers of owners, limited in interest, to offer to their tenants a sufficient security for judicious outlay upon the farms they occupy, and, while maintaining absolute freedom of contract, you have raised a presumption of rights, under which a new inducement will be given to expend capital upon the improvement of land.

I have every reason to hope that the progress of the revenue, which has marked recent years, will be fully sustained in the present. The arrangements which you have made with respect to the reduction of the National Debt, and those for the better regulation of loans for public works will lead to valuable improvements in our system of Imperial and local finance.

The enactment for a registration of trade marks will supply a deficiency that has for some time been felt in our commercial system.

I trust that the act constituting a new bishopric at St. Albans may prove advantageous to the vast population of the dioceses affected by the measure.

In bidding you farewell for the recess, I pray that the blessing of Providence may fall on your recent labours, and accompany you in the discharge of all your duties.

MASONIC HONOUR.

THIS attribute of Masonic faith is no doubt frequently abused. Men put faith in others because they are members of the Craft, and, as the fruit of their trust, they are often deceived. The obligations of the Masonic Brotherhood, as all who have taken them well know, can only be violated at the expense of honour, as well as of one's general integrity. That which is gained by such derelictions is nothing less than perjured gold, which the years will cover with rust, and which will blast Masonic integrity as with the breath of a sirocco.

What is called honour, even in ordinary society, demands civility and respect, as well as a strict regard for truth, and all promises as well. No one can be an honourable man who violates or trifles with his own words or his own promises. They are his notes in the bank of honour, and if he suffers them to go to protest, his honour is gone, and he goes into moral bankruptcy. This is the result, even in general business society, as well as in the common walks of life. But much more than all this is required in Masonic relationships; for there men take upon themselves voluntarily obligations of relative integrity which they cannot violate without being guilty of *moral perjury*.

A Mason owes to his brothers who are worthy—that is, who are in good standing in the Order—respect and decent treatment, and in all dealings he is pledged by his obligations to treat a brother Mason, "or any other man," with a strict regard to justice, right and honourable equity; so that if the transaction is ever reviewed it will be seen that no wrong was done or intended.

The integrity of Masonic honour has ever been the boast of the Craft; so that it has grown to be a general conviction that he who has taken upon himself the obligations of the Fraternity is reliable—that is, that he will be true to his word, and that he will go to the length of his cable-tow in serving his brethren. But that all Masons fill the measure of this conviction is never claimed. We well know that it is human to err, and Masons have been taught that it is divine to forgive.

It is said that the eagle delights to ride above the fury of the storm, because there he dwells in safety, and feels the dignity of his kingship. It is, in some respects, the same with the Mystic Brother. In his Lodge he is secluded from the world, and taught the lessons of wisdom which enable him to govern himself with prudence, and conduct himself properly among his brethren. It is there he gains strength to build up his integrity, and, therefore, it is not remarkable that Masons, as a general rule, are honourable men. Why this is so may not be acknowledged by the world, for they do not see it, and consequently cannot comprehend it.

What men are in their faith and honour, in their integrity and principles, is the result of education, usually obtained after they have come to the years of maturity. The schools only instruct them in the sciences, and even the churches too often rely upon excitement,

or upon the doctrinal influences of theological dogmas, which are much more apt to sectarianize the mind than to mould the heart in the dignity of an enlarged capacity.

It is possible for men, under certain religious training, to make pretensions to religion, without becoming moral, as they get the impression that devotion to the Deity is paid in songs and prayers and sermons, instead of services to poor perishing humanity. Even Masonic honour teaches a different doctrine than this, because it demands that a true and faithful regard be paid to the wants and character, the complaints and sufferings, of humanity around us. This is honour worthy of any profession, and the world, and even our Masonic Order needs much more of it. The Mason who travels in his thought no further than the mere ritualistic services of the Order still remains a novice, and it is not wholly strange that many such fall below the standard of Masonic honour and integrity. To be faithful to one's word; to be frank in action, sincere in purpose, and true to our obligations, are the continual demands of Masonic honour.

Men may be rich, intelligent, enterprising, and even popular; they may hold office and place, and live in the full tide of public prosperity, and yet may be wanting in true honour. Many do not see it until it is too late, and they retire to their last resting place with a very few regrets.

Honour grows not save upon honest soil. It is never the product of pride, or even of policy. It is the outshoot, the foundation basis, the result of careful thought and honest purposes. Some men borrow books, and never return them. The ownership, they imagine, is a small matter, and if not guilty of direct theft, they certainly are of obtaining goods under false pretences. Such men are usually loose in moral principles, and reckless of any nice sense of honour, no doubt, in many other matters. Honesty and honour are very near akin, and it is a difficult matter for any man to display the one when he does not possess the other.

Among creditors and debtors it does not always follow that delinquency involves the latter, for, in many instances, the creditor is full handed, and might, if he would, show some leniency, such as would set the poor debtor up again. But, alas! for the selfish spirit of human cupidity, many a poor debtor is *hung* without ceremony, demonstrating that his creditor had neither mercy nor honour.

Among Masons, honour is an especial attribute—an essential virtue, and the perfect character of the Craft cannot be sustained without it.

"Act well your part; there all the honour lies,"

Is recognised as being soundly ethical, as well as correct in principle, in all fraternities. That this noble principle should be wisely vindicated by every Mason is the expectation of the Craft everywhere; for that which is right and honourable is strictly enjoined in every law of Masonic jurisprudence. Even what the world sometimes calls honour will not always fill the Masonic requirement, for that is often founded on wealth, or office, or scholarship, or in some honorary relationship. Masonic honour must be an indwelling principle, and must show itself in every department of business, as well as in social life. It is not enough that any one should be a "bright Mason," for ethical and philosophic Masonry requires more than mere mystic brightness. To be well versed in mechanical Masonry, it is true, is a universal obligation, and to serve in the temple of honour is equally so, for without honour there is no Masonry, and he who fails in its evincement is just that far below the Masonic profession.

In Masonic teachings, it is not supposed that any man will be brought to the threshold of the temple unless he is honourable, and it is on this account that honourable action is so strictly demanded of the Brotherhood. Of course dull and stupid men, as well as those who may be educated shysters, are not apt to pay any very strict regard to this particular Masonic feature. Their conceptions of Masonry are often crude and sinister, and if the institution does not work to suit their notions, their interest dies away like the sanguine hopes of defeated candidates.

Honour, indeed, is essential to the peace and progress and happiness of society everywhere, and well would it be if men generally would watch themselves more strictly in this particular trait of character, for if they did, the world would certainly have fewer causes for litigation, and the standard of human respectability would be greatly elevated.

Among us, as Masons, a more tenacious adherence to its demands would increase our influence largely, as well as add greatly to our mystic prestige.—"H." in *Masonic Advocate*.

ENTHUSIASTIC FREEMASONS.

A SPLENDID passage up the Scheldt, the sea almost as smooth as glass; the unclouded sky, decked with countless stars, and illuminated by the brilliancy of the harvest moon, reflects upon the gently rippling surface. All was full of life and enjoyment on board the good ship. Song floated upon the balmy air, varied by the sound of graceful movement on the "light fantastic toe." Gradually the gleeful spirits depart to rest, and there remain on deck nine members of the sterner sex. Some were known to each other as Masons, the remainder were soon discovered to belong to the mystic brotherhood. "We are more than enough to form a Lodge," suggests one. The hint is at once acted upon. A place was soon found, in which they were as isolated and secure from observation even as were the ancients in the valley of Jehoshaphat. A well known Past Master was elected to preside, the Lodge formally opened, and the whole of the fifteen sections rehearsed. "And," says our informant, "I can tell you they were worked exceedingly well, considering the impromptu arrangement of the accidental meeting." Well done, brethren! similar cases may have occurred, but certainly have not been recorded. You employed your time wisely, while gently floating up the Scheldt.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c. as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

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SATURDAY, 14th AUGUST.

- 453—Chigwell, Castle Hotel Woodford.
149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
308—Prince George, Bottoms, Eastwood, Yorks.
441—Union, Courtenay Arms Inn, Star Cross, Devon.
1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

MONDAY, 16th AUGUST.

- 45—Strong Man, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8. (Instruction.)
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
89—Unanimity, Astley Arms Hotel, Dukinfield.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
302—Hope, Masonic Hall, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Stockport.
872—Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven.
884—Derwent, George and Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, Derby.
925—Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1286—Bayons, Corn Exchange, Market Rasen.

TUESDAY, 17th AUGUST.

- 51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull.
160—True Friendship, Old Ship, Rochford.
448—St. James', Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.
452—Frederick Lodge of Unity, Station Hotel, Sutton.
510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
696—St. Bartholomew, Dartmouth Arms Hotel, Wednesbury.
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1006—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day Scorrer, Cornwall.
1089—Du Sherland, Fountain Hotel, Blue Town, Sheerness.
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot.
1166—Clarendon, Queen's Hotel, Hyde, Cheshire.
1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WEDNESDAY, 18th AUGUST.

- 193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
243—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Guernsey.
285—Love and Honour, George Hotel, Shepton Mallet.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
301—Apollo, Swan Hotel, Alcester.
311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes.
324—Moira, Wellington Inn, Stalybridge.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
610—Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Arms, Glossop.
679—St. Davids, Black Lion Hotel, Aberdare.
681—Scarsdale, Masonic Hall, Market Place, Chesterfield.
962—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield.
1086—Walton, St. Lawrence Boy's School, Croylands Street, Kirkdale.
1212—Elms, Masonic Hall, Home Park, Stoke, Devonport.
1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1345—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
1501—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe.
M.M. 175—St. Michael, Masonic Rooms, Helston, Cornwall.

THURSDAY, 19th AUGUST.

- 1320—Blackheath, Crown Hotel, Blackheath.
56—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
98—St. Martin's, Board Room, Town Hall, Burslem.
132—Unity, White Hart Hotel, Ringwood.
203—Ancient Union, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
450—Cornubian, Freemasons' Hall, Hayle, Cornwall.
456—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter.
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool. (Instruction.)
940—Philanthropy, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees.
1032—Townley Parker, Howard's Arms Hotel, Whittle-le-Woods.

FRIDAY, 20th AUGUST.

- 1278—Burdett Cutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
1495—Arkwright, Walker's Bath-terrace Hotel, Matlock-Bath, Derbyshire.

SATURDAY, 21st AUGUST.

- 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Lion Square, Hampton.

IRELAND.

- SATURDAY—13—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Glentworth-street, Limerick.
66—Star of Kilmartin, Masonic Rooms, Hillsborough, Down.
WEDNESDAY—161—Excelsior, Bishop Street, Tuam, Galway.
350—Cappagh, Masonic Hall, Omagh.
THURSDAY—93—Dublin, Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.
129—Industry, Bundoran, Donegal.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

- MONDAY—41—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, Freemason's Hall.
226—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-street.
R. A. 152—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution-street.
RIDAY—R. A. 83—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Britannic Lodge, No. 33.—This Lodge held its recreation banquet on Friday, the 6th instant, at the Alexandra Palace. The gathering was a numerous one, covers being laid for over a hundred guests, a large proportion of whom were ladies. The chair was taken by Bro. Crombie, one of the P.M.'s of the Lodge, in the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, of the W.M., Bro. Chynoweth. After the banquet, which it is almost needless to add was served by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts in their most approved style—indeed, we have seldom assisted at a more *recherché* one—the less formal part of the proceedings commenced. Bro. Crombie, in proposing the first toast—the health of Her Majesty the Queen—offered an almost needless apology for having had to undertake the duties of chairman at short notice. He expressed himself highly pleased at meeting so numerous a company, promised to indulge in no lengthy speeches, and trusted that this first attempt to enjoy themselves in such excellent company around the festive board would by no means prove the last. The health of the Queen was a toast which all Englishmen received with enthusiasm, and such an assembly of Masons would, he felt sure, accord it a most enthusiastic welcome. "God Save the Queen" having been sung, the Chairman then gave the health of the M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, speaking in appropriate terms of His Royal Highness's fitness for that important office, and with a view to enlisting the sympathies of the lady guests, who might not fully understand the relationship existing between the G.M. and the Craft, Bro. Crombie coupled with this toast the name of Her Royal Highness the Princess. The response was enthusiastic, the appropriate four part song, "The Cambrian Plume," by Brinley Richards, following. Among the other toasts were those of the Chairman, who fittingly and modestly acknowledged the honour done him, and the gratification he felt at having been able to preside, and who, in expatiating in the course of his remarks on the value of Masonry, mentioned incidentally that a son of his had served during the Crimean campaign, and that the true value of Masonry would be best illustrated in times of difficulty and danger, as, for instance, were a brother wounded or taken prisoner of war, his sufferings would certainly be alleviated if, fortunately, he came in contact with a fellow Mason. "The Ladies," who had so kindly honoured the gathering with their presence on this occasion; with this toast was coupled the name of Bro. C. Horsley, who indulged in a free poetic vein of language in returning thanks on their behalf. Other songs were sung, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Bro. Lawler, who, himself, gave the familiar "Largo al Factotum," from *Il Barbiere de Siviglia*, with his usual heartiness. Shortly afterwards the meeting broke up, amid general expressions of pleasure at its success. The Chairman was assisted in his duties by Bro. Magnus Ohren, P.M. and Secretary of the Lodge, who acted as his S.D. There were also present the Secretary Bro. T. A. Chubb; the following P.M.'s, viz., Bros. A. G. Church, G. E. Eachus, and F. G. Finch; Bros. C. W. Turner, Robertson, Davis, Clonston, Pauley, Wm. Sugg, Rowland, Pendred S.W., Ricks, G. W. Stevenson, Boddy, Bloor, Strouts, Henry Maudslay; nearly the whole of whom were accompanied by their ladies. The following were among the visitors: Major Crombie, Wm. Battye, Charles Bennett, W. W. Morgan, &c. Bro. Lawler was assisted in the musical arrangements by the Misses Wild and Wells and by Bro. Carter.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on the 11th of August, at the White Hart Tavern, Abchurch Lane, E.C. Present—Bros. Wood, ward W.M., Tarquand S.W., Blackall J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, J. Constable Treasurer, A. Bell S.D., Croaker J.D., Blinkhorn I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Masters Bros. E. Gotthel (Preceptor) and Bloomfield. Visitors—Bros. D. Posener, Walker, Geo. Harvey of Ebury Lodge 1348. Business—The second degree rehearsed, Bro. Walker candidate. The first three sections of the degree were worked by Bro. Gotthel, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was then adjourned to Wednesday, the 18th instant, when Bro. Turquand will preside. The brethren then separated.

British Kaffrarian Lodge, No. 853.—The Masonic brethren celebrated the anniversary of St. John's Day by attending divine worship at Trinity Church in the forenoon, and holding a banquet in the evening. The weather throughout was propitious. At 10 o'clock the brethren assembled in the Temple, Alexandra Road, where, after the ordinary Lodge ceremonies had been duly observed, they formed into procession. The newly formed Rose Croix Chapter being partly represented, and headed by the excellent band of the 32nd Light Infantry, proceeded to Trinity Church. The service was conducted by the venerable Archdeacon Kitton, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Lewis. The choir was in attendance, and besides the usual Psalms was sung the anthem, "Oh Lord my God." An appropriate discourse, founded on the text in St. Paul's First Epistle to Timothy vi. 1-7, was delivered by the Venerable Archdeacon, who explained that the subject was one which he had intended to preach from on the previous Sunday, if he had occupied the pulpit on that day, it being the 38th anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria to the throne. Gratifying allusion was made to the recent election of the Her Apparent to the high office of Grand Master of English Freemasons, and to the watchword of the Craft as reported to have been named on that occasion by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. "Loyalty" to the Sovereign of the realm or to supreme rulers, under whatever name or country was also impressed and dilated on. The preacher was listened to throughout his discourse with rapt attention by the large congregation assembled within the edifice. At the conclusion of the service, the brethren proceeded, in order of procession, to the Temple, where, after an interval, during which the Lodge room was thrown open to the public. The ceremony of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year took place, viz., Bro. T. W. Robinson, who then

invested his officers as follow:—Bros. C. J. Egan I.P.M., T. Broster S.W., J. C. Wenman J.W., W. F. Sissing Secretary, J. S. F. Johnson Treasurer, G. Randall S.D., James Webb J.D., Hazell I.G., J. Hendry Tyler, and H. Dickenson and W. Stoye Stewards. The Lodge was then adjourned until seven o'clock in the evening, when between forty and fifty brethren assembled at the Central Hotel, and partook of a sumptuous banquet, that reflected great credit on the establishment. Ample justice having been done the viands, the following toasts were proposed and responded to: the Queen, Prince and Princess of Wales and the Royal Family, the Governor, the Army and Navy, responded to by Bro. E. Vaughan, 32nd Light Infantry; the Grand Master, the Hon. R. Southey, responded to by the S.W.; the Craft throughout the world, responded to by Bro. E. Vaughan; the W.M. and officers of the past year, responded to by Bro. C. J. Egan I.P.M. and by the P.S.W.; the W.M. and officers of the present year, responded to by the W.M. and P.M. McIntyre; Visiting Brethren, responded to by Bro. Dr. Hullah, G. B. Attwell, Sonning and Kemp; Poor and Distressed Masons, by Bro. Portbury; Our departed Brethren, by Bro. H. Smith; The Ladies, responded to by Bro. Fleming and Hazell. A further adjournment took place, after which harmony was called on, and lasted until nearly midnight, and the brethren, after thoroughly enjoying themselves, departed.

Meridian Lodge, No. 893—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 9th inst., at the National School-room, New Street, Millbrook, Cornwall. Present—Bros. the Right Hon. Earl of Mount Edgcumbe W.M., Worth P.M. S.W., O'Neil P.M. J.W., Henwood Sec., Veale P.M. Treas., Bickford P.M. S.D., Harris P.M. J.D., Coath P.M. D.C., P.G. Filmer I.P.M. Steward, Hobbins I.G. pro tem, Fisher Tyler, Rev. F. T. W. Wintle Hutchings Chaplain, Carne Organist, Cawse, Evans, Peain, Tradgold, Sennett, Webber, Henwood, Ford, Yule, and Boyle. Visitors—Bros. Barnes P.M. and Hawke, Elliott Lodge, St. Germans. Business—To initiate Rev. John Bartlett, vicar Millbrook Church, Arthur Brickwood Hutchings, solicitor, Devonport, and Mr. John William Trevan, carpenter, Millbrook; to pass Bros. John Davey Henwood, surgeon, Charing Cross Hospital, London, and Thos. B. J. Ford, builder, Millbrook; to raise Bro. Haggerty to the sublime degree of M.M. After labour the brethren adjourned to the Commercial Inn for refreshment, and spent a most agreeable evening, presided over by Bro. Worth P.M., surgeon, Millbrook.

St. Barnabas, No. 948—A regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Linslade, Bucks, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. Present—Bros. W. King W.M., Killett P.M. as S.W., Farwig as J.W., Howell W.M. 1470 as S.D., Forbes P.M. 65 J.D., Bradshaw I.G., Fountain I.P.M., McCubbin P.M., Poynter P.M. 1070 Secretary, Morgan, Rafferty, Procter, Holland and others. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Nicholson presented himself for examination previous to passing. This ordeal having been satisfactorily gone through, the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bro. McCubbin having performed the requisite ceremony, the candidate retired. Bros. Wilkinson and Rae were then examined as to their proficiency in the 1st and 2nd degrees, by Bro. Forbes, were entrusted, and left the Lodge whilst it was opened in the 3rd degree. Upon again presenting themselves, they were raised, and took their seats in Lodge as M.M.'s. An adjournment to October having been agreed to, and the usual interrogatories made from the chair, the Lodge was closed in ancient form. The St. Barnabas Lodge has made very considerable strides during the past twelve months, and is now one of the largest in the united province of Berks and Bucks. In connection with it there is a Royal Arch Chapter meeting quarterly, the second Thursday in the months of February, May, August, and November, and on the same afternoon, at an earlier hour, the St. Barnabas Lodge of Mark Masters hold their meetings.

Furness Lodge, No. 995—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, the 3rd of August, at the Masonic Temple, Ulverston. Bro. R. Dodgson P.M. 995 and 1390, and P.P.G.S.B. Cumberland and Westmoreland occupying the chair. Bro. R. Dodgson rehearsed the first lecture in admirable style, after which Bro. T. Dodgson P.M. 995 and 1390 went through ceremony of "raising" with more than his usual impressiveness.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017—An Emergency Meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. Bros. J. Grunebanm W.M., A. D. Loewenstark P.M. as S.W., Posener J.W., Gulliford S.D., Salomons I.G., E. P. Albert A.G.P. Secretary, De Solla P.M., &c. The Lodge was opened, and ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. A. Freedman and Briedenbergh, who were initiated into the Order by the W.M. Bro. E. P. Albert then, by the courtesy of the W.M., passed Bros. Crump, Smith, and Budenber, and raised Bro. Cooper to the 3rd degree, in his usual effective manner. There being no other business on the agenda paper, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Hogg's, the Opera Hotel, Bow Street, where a capital banquet was provided, and a very enjoyable evening was passed. The visitors were Bros. G. P. Perks P.M. British Caffraria Lodge 853, R. Hurton 1003, Cairo 125 Progress Lodge, and D. Posener J.W. 185.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 5th instant, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Present—Bros. C. Deakin W.M., J. Ruse S.W., J. A. Smith J.W., F. H. Ebsworth P.M. Treasurer, F. Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, W. Batchelor S.D., J. Stock as J.D., F. Garbett I.G., J. H. Harnsworth P.M., &c. The Lodge having

been opened, Bro. R. Sparks was raised to the 3rd degree; Bros. J. K. Deakin and S. E. Shaw were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Messrs. E. H. Morley and J. Savage were initiated; the raisings and passings being rendered by Bro. Ebsworth in a very able manner. Bro. A. MacIntyre, St. John's Lodge, No. 73, was elected a joining member. A five guinea jewel was voted to the W.M., on his retirement from the chair, for his valuable services rendered in that capacity. The Lodge was then closed. There was no banquet, but an hour was passed in social conversation, after which the brethren separated.

Falcon Lodge, No. 1416—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 11th of August, at the Masonic Hall, Thirsk. Present—Bros. J. Fairburn W.M. 1337 acting W.M., J. Rhodes S.W., W. Coltman acting J.W., T. J. Wilkinson Secretary, A. G. Duncombe acting S.D., W. Hall J.D., G. Ayre I.G., H. Milburn Tyler, and Bros. Wright, Ellsley, Barley and Irving. Business—Messrs. C. G. L. Kipling and J. S. Farmery were balloted for and accepted, and subsequently having been proposed, were admitted, duly initiated, invested, and charged. The Secretary reported what had been done towards securing the admission of Arthur R. Bourne into the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Truth Lodge, No. 1458—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, 7th August, at the Royal Archer, Dale Street, Manchester. Present—Bros. Henry Smith W.M., Charles Pearson S.W., Charles Joel Kent J.W., John Kinder P.M. Secretary, Thomas Tyers P.M. Treasurer, James Taylor Steward, R. Fallows I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Jno. W. Turner, Thomas Tyers and John Kinder. Visitors—Bros. John Walton 422, Oswego, New York, U.S. America, John Hey S.W. 387, John Croll 25, Daniel Lomas S23, R. Dottie 1161, R. Pierpont 645. Business—Minutes of last regular meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Oldham then answering the test questions to the satisfaction of the Lodge, was entrusted by the W.M. and retired. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Oldham was passed to a Fellow Craft, by the W.M. in his usual able manner. The Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony at 6.30, after which the brethren and visitors adjourned to refreshments provided by the host, Bro. Potts, in his usual excellent style. The cloth being removed, the W.M. proposed the Masonic toasts. Bro. Turner I.P.M. proposed the Visitors, and Bro. Tyers P.M. the W.M., all of which were duly honoured and responded to. The brethren separated about nine o'clock, after spending a very pleasant evening.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507—The above Lodge of Instruction held its weekly meeting on Friday, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville Road. Bros. Shand acting as W.M., Scales S.W., Yeomans J.W., Stiles Secretary, Jas. Willing jun. S.D., Dawkins I.G., Cox Tyler, T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor, and Bros. Rapkin, Carter, Read and Kingham. The Lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of initiation. Bro. Rapkin acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the 1st lecture were worked by the brethren, assisted by Bro. Adams. The ceremony of the 3rd degree was worked, Bro. Read acting as candidate. Bro. Scales was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Shand, acting as W.M., for the efficient manner in which he had performed the ceremonies, and his able conduct of the duties of the chair. The meeting was adjourned to the following Friday.

St. Martins-le-Grand Lodge, No. 1538—A warrant having been granted for this Lodge, it were consecrated on Tuesday last, at Bro. C. Gosden's, Masons' Avenue. The ceremonies of consecration and installation were ably rendered by Bro. Jas. Terry P.P.G.S.B. Herts., assisted by Bro. Col. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex, Rev. Dr. Colles, and H. E. Frances. Bro. H. J. Green was installed as the first W.M. After the business of the Lodge a banquet was provided by Bro. C. Gosden, covers being laid for 40.

BOMBAY.

Holmesdale in the East Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 72 (E.C.)—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 29th June, at Bombay. Present—Mark Masters Alex. McKenzie P.P.D.G.M. W.M., M. Balfour P.P.D.G.M. P.M., C. E. Mitchell P.G.S.W. S.W., W. C. Rowe P.G.S.O. J.W., J. E. Tyers as S.O., O. Tomlinson as J.O., Dr. De Tatham S.D., C. Tudball Secretary, W. G. Davie as I.G., Hatchell Tyler, and several other brethren and visitors. The Lodge was opened in due and solemn form at 6.30 p.m. The summons convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for Bros. John Middleton and Charles Peters, of Concord Lodge, No. 757, E.C., both of whom were duly elected. The W.M. then informed the brethren that he had received instructions to instal Bro. Capt. Holloway as the first W.M. of St. Andrew's Lodge, Kanptee, but as he was not present he would proceed to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. C. E. Mitchell, as W.M. of Holmesdale in the East Lodge for the ensuing year. W. Bro. McKenzie expressed his regret that the absence of the Pro. Grand Master, W. Bro. Edward Tyrrell Leith, in England, prevented his taking the chair on this auspicious occasion. Bro. C. E. Mitchell was then presented and duly obligated. All the brethren below the rank of Installed W.M.M.M. were requested to retire from the Lodge, and a board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. C. E. Mitchell was regularly installed as W.M. The M.M.M. were then admitted, and the newly installed Master was proclaimed and saluted with the honours due to his rank. He then proceeded to invest his

officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Alex. McKenzie P.P.D.G.M. I.P.M. and Treasurer, W. C. Rowe P.G.M.O. S.W., Dr. De Tatham J.W., C. Tudball M.O., O. Tomlinson S.O., J. E. Tyers J.O., W. G. Davie Secretary, B. Robinson S.D. The J.D. and I.G. not being able to attend, were not invested, but the W.M. said he hoped to have the pleasure at the next meeting. The W.M. then thanked the brethren for the high honour they had conferred on him, and said he would do all in his power to keep the Lodge up to the high standing that it now held, and hoped he would receive the hearty co-operation of his officers, and, from what he knew of them, he was sure he would have their support. He then proposed, and Bro. Dr. De Tatham seconded, that a Past Master's jewel be presented by the Lodge to W. Bro. McKenzie, for the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge during the past year, as a slight mark of the esteem and regard in which he was held by the brethren. W. Bro. McKenzie then rose, and said he quite appreciated the honour the brethren wished to do him on the present occasion, but before the proposition was put to the vote he was sure the Lodge could not afford to go to such an expense, as it was only just beginning to get into a flourishing condition, and they must recollect they had, only during the last month, got a handsome kit from Bro. Spencer's, in England, but he was pleased to say that the Lodge had sufficient funds to pay for the same—(applause)—and he would be sorry to see the Lodge put to such an expense, he therefore must decline the honour they wished to do him, but appreciated their feeling of kindness just as much as a jewel. (Applause.) Bro. W. C. Rowe then proposed an amendment, and Bro. C. Tudball seconded, that a subscription list be circulated amongst the brethren of the Lodge, for the purpose of subscribing towards a Past Master's jewel for W. Bro. Alex. McKenzie, in token of the high esteem in which he is held by the brethren, and said that this would not affect the funds of the Lodge, and also be more appreciated by their worthy Past Master, which was carried unanimously. W. Bro. McKenzie then thanked the brethren for their great kindness, and said as they were determined to do him the honour of wearing a Past Master's jewel he should have much pleasure in accepting the same as it was not to be taken from the funds of the Lodge. He then proposed, and Bro. Rowe seconded, that Bros. Balfour, Robinson and Luke be elected members of the committee, which was carried unanimously. The W.M. then requested the Secretary to call a meeting at an early date. There being no further business before the Lodge, it was closed in peace and harmony at 8.30 p.m.

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WE understand that in the course of a few days the promoters will be able to announce that they have secured temporary premises for the City Club, and from the support received from the highest Masonic sources, there can be no doubt of their very shortly carrying out the original intention of opening one at the West End, in connection with it.

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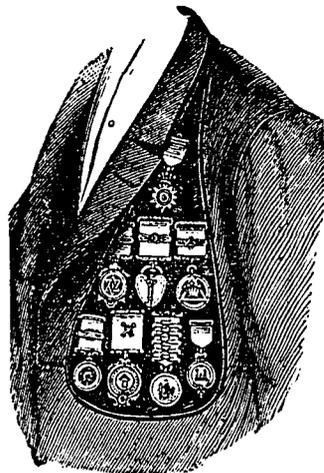
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