

THE

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ON THE CUSTOM OF SHAKING HANDS.

WE observe, from a recent issue of a French journal, that another revolution is about to be inaugurated in that land of change and surprises. The democratic custom of "shaking hands," or, as the reformers prefer to style it, of "shaking the body by the arm," is forthwith to be abolished. The Abbé Defourny, of Beaumont, the ostensible leader in this movement, calls for the reprobation, by ecclesiastical authority, of "a most disrespectful usage," which, he declares, originated with the Freemasons, and which "consists in shaking by the *poignée de main à l'Anglaise* the body of the person whom it is intended to salute." The reverend Abbé suggests, as an improvement upon this mode of salutation, an inclination of the body, coupled with the greeting, "Let Jesus Christ be praised," *Laudetur Jesus Christus*. In certain cases, as in the salutation of parents and superiors, this may also be accompanied by the kissing of hands. The Holy Father at Rome, to whom an application on the subject has been addressed, has given a somewhat hesitating approval of the proposed innovation. The case is now, therefore, fairly before the world, and we may expect to hear of some warm discussions between the advocates respectively of the old system and the new.

We have described the custom of shaking hands as the old mode of salutation, but probably the learned Abbé would join issue with us on this point. It would seem, from his remarks, that he regards this habit as of comparatively modern origin, instituted, in fact, by that wicked sect, the Freemasons, to displace the system formerly obtaining in Monarchical France. If the reverend gentleman, however, were not above consulting his Greek history, we think he would discover that the custom of *joining* right hands, at all events, is as old as the time of Pythagoras, else would not that philosopher have given the advice "*me panti emballein ten dexian*," that the right hand should not be given to all men, meaning, as we would interpret the expression, that one ought not to make friends with everybody. Homer, Aristophanes, and other Greek writers make use of similar expressions.

Whether the Egyptians and other nations of antiquity acknowledged the same custom may well be doubted, although Josephus describes "the giving of the right hand" as an unquestionable pledge of fidelity amongst the Persians. Even from the remarks of this writer, however, it is evident that the "giving of the right hand" was not their usual mode of greeting. From Herodotus we learn that the form of ordinary salutation amongst them depended upon the respective rank of the individuals. If they were of equal position, they kissed each other on the mouth. If there was a slight disparity of rank, they only kissed the cheek. But if one was greatly inferior to the other, he prostrated himself on the ground. The modern mode of salutation in the East is somewhat different. The greeting of a Mussulman consists in an inclination of the head, great or little in accordance with the rank of the person addressed, accompanied by the raising of the tips of the fingers to the forehead. The custom of "shaking the body by the arm" seems never to have commended itself to the grave Orientals. Even the Hebrews, though regarding the right hand as the symbol of truth and fidelity, do not appear to have, even in their own country, considered the joining of hands as a pledge of faith. St. Paul is the first of the sacred writers to speak of giving "the right hand of fellowship" to his co-workers; and he, in all probability, derived the expression

from the Greeks. Amongst the Romans the joining of right hands was unquestionably a very common mode of evincing mutual regard, and of exchanging pledges of good faith. Hence the expression "*jungere dexteras*," to join right hands—came to signify to enter into an agreement, to give a mutual pledge. The Roman goddess, Fides, the patroness of fidelity and honesty, was accordingly characterised by two hands clasped together.

Various have been the customs of salutation amongst barbarians, prostration on the ground being perhaps the most usual, the rubbing of one another's noses the most curious. But we have adduced sufficient evidence to show that the custom of grasping hands is of greater antiquity than the Abbé Defourny appears to think. If the custom really takes its rise from the "Masonic Grip," we have here an additional proof of the ancient origin of Freemasonry. But for our own part, we are inclined to think that, old as Freemasonry undoubtedly is, the pernicious usage complained of is more ancient still.

We believe that Polish peasants have a form of salutation very similar to that which the Abbé proposes to introduce in Western Europe. When one of them meets another he says, "the name of the Lord Jesus be praised," the other replies, "for ever and ever." Amongst the earlier Christians, too, and amongst the Jews in the time of their persecution, some such mode of greeting appears to have prevailed, but notwithstanding these and such like precedents, we cannot hold out much hope of success to the apostles of the new crusade. We think the time is yet far distant when an Englishman, or even a Frenchman, will be content to greet his fellow with a cold "*laudetur Jesus Christus*," or to reply with the still more chilling formula "*in secula seculorum*." The custom of shaking hands once grafted upon the character of a nation is likely to be as stable and permanent as the national character itself. When Dutchmen can be converted by a sermon into Frenchmen, and Chinamen in like manner can be changed into Scotchmen, then in all probability the Abbé's project may arrive at a successful issue. Until then we think his prospects are more than doubtful.

HOW MASONRY SAVED MY LIFE.

I BECAME a Mason before I obtained my majority in the -- regiment of foot. I joined a celebrated Lodge in the Metropolis, and although at first I took but a languid interest in the business, I soon became interested, and endeavoured to make myself familiar with the teachings of the Order. My regiment was at this time stationed at Chatham, but I always contrived to run up to town to attend Lodge, and I usually found the Masonic banquets much more enjoyable than the mess dinners. I had taken two or three degrees in the Order, and was looking forward in due time, to fill some honourable office in the Lodge, when war broke out between England and Russia. We had been expecting hostilities, and immediately upon the publication of the Queen's proclamation my regiment received orders to hold itself in readiness for active service. I had at once to give up all my dreams of Masonic advancement, and prepare myself for the stern duties of the field. My readers will doubtless remember the stirring incidents of the period of which I am writing, and I need not dwell upon the details connected with our departure for the Crimea. We were among the first troops to embark, and, with our luggage, we were crowded into one of those uncomfortable

troop ships of the *Urgent* type, which were the best means of transport our Admiralty then possessed. The magnificent *Jumna* and *Serapis*, with their sister consorts, were not then in existence. Some of the regiments were embarked on board of hired transports, and others were accommodated on board the line of battle ships, which formed a portion of the fleet which was to attack the forts of Sebastopol. The voyage was an unpleasant one, but we did not mind that. Our fellows were delighted at the thought of active service in the field, and no one dreamed of the hardships and sufferings which we were fated to endure. Our landing at Eupatoria, and the victory of the Alma, are facts of history too well known to need any reference here. We were in the hottest of the fire at the Alma, and our men behaved splendidly. We had many raw recruits in our ranks, but they bore themselves on this memorable day like seasoned soldiers, and gallantly upheld the traditional fame of the old —th. Some of us were sanguine enough to believe that this victory had decided the fate of the Russians, but we soon discovered that our task was only beginning. When the trenches were opened, we were among the troops ordered to the front, and from first to last we got more than our share of the fighting. We should not, however, have minded that if we had been properly cared for. We were a fortnight without tents, and when we got them, they were a poor defence against the weather; mere rags in fact, which admitted every breadth of wind. I, and two or three of the officers messed and slept together in a small tent, to the right of our position, and we soon found that the mess was a mere fiction. Hard bread and salt junk, with *green* coffee, were indeed served out to us, but we had no comforts, and our private stores, upon which we had based our hopes, were safe on board our ship in Balaclava harbour, and we had no chance of getting them. Often have I, after spending a night on the damp ground, with no other shelter than our flimsy tent and a blanket, risen to breakfast off biscuits and cold water. The men of course were no better off than ourselves, and as winter approached a great many of them were obliged to cut up their knapsacks into leggings, to defend their limbs from the wet and mud of the trenches. What awful nights those were which we spent on duty at the front! We did not care about the enemy; an occasional sortie from the garrison was welcomed as a relief from the dreary monotony of our watch. The excitement revived us, and the danger was as exhilarating as wine. A brush with the enemy, at the point of the bayonet, was a trifle, but to stand under arms for hours at a time, up to the knees in mud, this was a trial to test the powers of the strongest. After a night spent in this manner we frequently marched to the rear, to find that there was nothing for us to eat. Foraging was out of the question. The troops in the rear managed occasionally to pick up a day's rations in this way, but there was no such luck for our fellows. Salt junk, or salt horse, as the sailors call it, was beginning to tell upon us, and our mess at least was suffering from that indelible longing for fresh meat, which must be felt to be understood. The regiment which was quartered near us was French, and the men possessed a brute of a dog, which somehow or other managed to keep a little flesh on his bones, we longed to shoot and dine off the rascal, which was constantly prowling about our tent, but honour forbade us to attempt such an outrage. "Gaston" was known to be a great thief, and we strongly suspected that he made free with our scanty-rations; but we could never catch him in the act, until, one memorable night the rogue, forgetting his usual caution, slipped into our tent, and snatched a piece of pork before our very eyes. O'Flannigan of ours had been cleaning his revolver, and as the brute rushed passed, with the meat, he struck him a tremendous blow on the head with the butt end of the weapon. Poor Gaston rolled over, with a cry which was a cross between a howl and a shriek, dropped the meat, turned up the whites of his eyes, and gave up the ghost. We were not long in disposing of the body, and I must confess that roast dog is an excellent dish. I wonder our lively neighbours who have added horseflesh to the dietary of man do not think of the canine race. I might perhaps at the present time prefer a mutton cutlet to a broiled puppy, but when we were starving on salt junk and sea bread anything in the way of a fresh bite was a luxury. We had to pay for Gaston though through the nose. His comrades in the regiment soon cleared up the mystery of his disappearance, and O'Flannigan and I had to exchange

shots with a couple of fire eaters, who felt bound in honour to burn powder over the affair.

But this little incident keeps me from the pith of my story. I have to tell how Masonry saved my life, and I hasten at once to the denouement. Our lines had been steadily pushed forward towards the Russian batteries, and we were almost every day expecting a sortie, when, one evening, as I was looking over the earthen parapet in the direction of the battery, which had been playing upon us all day, I thought I saw a dark and moving mass advancing upon our left. I hinted my suspicions to Major L —, and we both watched carefully. Presently we saw the glitter of steel. "That was the sword of an officer," said L —, "the fool has been using the flat of it upon the back of a laggard. I am satisfied now that a large force is advancing upon us." A few minutes sufficed to make our few preparations to receive the enemy, and we awaited the attack in sullen silence. The moment the head of the attacking column was plainly visible, we commenced playing upon it with grape and canister. The Russians rushed forward with a loud shout, and we replied with a volley of musketry. The enemy was truly in great force, and had soon reached the parapet of our works, when a desperate attack, on our part, with the bayonet, drove him back in great confusion. We rushed out of the trenches, and a hand-to-hand conflict took place in the darkness the like of which I have never seen since, and hope I shall never see again. The Russians were ably supported by reinforcements from the rear, and we were assisted by a brigade of French Infantry which came up as soon as the firing was heard. We had driven the enemy to the counter scarp of his own works, when he rallied, and made a desperate charge, under which our men reeled and retreated for a moment. In the struggle I received a bayonet wound in the side, and fell. A fresh column of Russians had come out to relieve their comrades, and these fellows covered the retreat in a most masterly style. I expected every moment to receive the *coup de grace*, for the retreating Russians cruelly bayoneted our wounded as they lay helpless on the ground. A brute of a fellow had, indeed, brought his bayonet to the charge, with the intention of finishing one, when, with a sudden inspiration, I sprang to my feet, seized the hand of an officer who stood near, and gave him the sign. Fortunately he was a Mason, he of course instantly returned it, while, with his sabre, he thrust back the deadly point which was levelled at my breast. My brotherly foe immediately gave an order for my removal, and I was carried into the shelter of the battery by the very men who, but for my happy thought, would have given me a happy despatch to the other world. My wound was instantly attended to, and the next morning I received a visit from my preserver, who brought with him a surgeon, who soon made me as comfortable as circumstances would admit. The story of my miraculous escape soon spread through the division, and I received many kind visits from Masons, who proved themselves to be brothers in word and deed. Many little comforts were contributed by these good fellows, with the view of making my captivity as pleasant as possible. I was of course *hors de combat* for the remainder of the campaign. I was taken into the interior as soon as I could be moved, but my story went with me, and I everywhere received the kindest treatment from the Russian officers. My captivity was not of very long duration, and I need not dwell upon the subsequent events of the war. The death of the Czar hastened the peace, and I was among the first of the prisoners who returned to England. I need scarcely add that I have ever since been a most zealous Mason, and shall cherish the principles of the Order as long as I live. When I hear people railing against Masonry, or when captious critics demand to know what practical good the Order has achieved, I usually tell my story, and I am tempted to relate it once again in the enduring form of letter-press, in the hope that the moral of the incident may compel conviction in the minds of those who are too ready to believe that Masonry is merely humbug in disguise.

D. A. G.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Each quarter of the year tests the constitution, and discovers its weakest link. By the variable temperatures of the present season, the human system is severely tried; chest complaints, disordered digestion, and biliousness are generally more or less frequent. The wisest will save both pain and hazard by the early use of these infallible remedies. Holloway's Ointment, well rubbed upon the skin nearest the seat of disease, exerts most wonderfully purifying powers, never fails in expelling all noxious matters and removing all temporary obstructions, thus restoring healthy action to the organ. While the Ointment gently re-arranges disordered action, Holloway's Pills should be taken to remove all contaminations from the blood.

BRO. B. PENCHINAT'S ADDRESS AT THE
CLOSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE G.O. OF FRANCE.

TRANSLATED FROM *le Monde Maçonique*.

BRETHREN: each time it has been permitted me to take part in the proceedings of the General Assembly of the Grand Orient, I have been penetrated with the feeling that it would be difficult to exact of the members who compose it a better spirit. In the discussion, more or less animated, but always serious, of the questions set down on the various orders of the day, each one brings to it, so to speak, the distinctive marks of his own character and temperament. Yet, in spite of divergencies of opinion, and though it is well nigh inevitable, there should be, as in every case, triumphant majorities and defeated minorities, the spirit of brotherhood, of conciliation and reciprocal affection is never absent in our Masonic relations. Whatever may be the results of our ballots, we never fail to extend to each other and grasp cordially, and without distinction, the right hand of fellowship. What is the cause, what the reason of this mutual tolerance of which we feel so proud, of this touching harmony, which nothing disturbs? It is that we all, within these walls, have but one object in view, it is that all of us are in pursuit of one and the same ideal, the noblest that can be proposed to our energies as men; it is that, while it is possible we may differ in opinion as to the means by which we hope to attain our purpose, it is impossible we should have but one and the same end to attain. You know, as I do, what this aim, this ideal, this purpose is; it is the greatness of our beloved Masonry. As regards this, struggles and disputes are out of the question. We are of one mind; our hearts beat in unison, and that love of self, which we meet with everywhere in the profane world, is powerless to make headway in face of our firm faith, our profound convictions, our extinguishable love for this grand work of justice and truth. Our union on this basis is indissoluble, and hence our debates leave behind them no trace of bitterness, no memory of unworthy language, of wounded feelings, or of injured self-respect, and when the hour of separation is at hand, we leave behind us no angry nor rancorous feelings, for we all know that each brother has fulfilled his duty in the conscientious performance of what he believed to be good and useful, and for the common weal.

At the opening of this long and laborious session, you nominated Bro. de Saint Jean to preside over your labours. It was a just tribute of respect to one whose whole Masonic career has been one of perpetual devotion to our cause; it was a testimony of recognition for those numerous services he has rendered, and is willing to render, and I trust he will permit me, on behalf of the brethren present, to express to him our gratitude. We rely implicitly on him, and are firmly persuaded that, in all circumstances, he will know how to protect the sacred interests of that Masonry which is so dear to our hearts.

I shall not enter into details upon all the questions you have settled. Your votes inspired by the single desire to see our Order prosperous, to improve our regulations, and to bring our constitution into perfect harmony with the progress of society, will, I trust, be attended with happy results. It is when we come to put them in force that we shall learn their value; it is the practical application of the changes we have made that will prove whether we have been labouring under a delusion, or if our work has been beneficial. I earnestly hope that our labours may have been profitable, and that our conditions of life, as regards our Lodges, may improve day-by-day. Perfection is not of this world, but human institutions are capable of being perfected, and it is with this perfectibility that we busy ourselves whenever we meet within these walls. But there is one of your decisions on which I shall permit myself to dwell. The Council of the Order, which ordinarily leaves to the Lodges within its jurisdiction the initiative in respect of all bills which have for object the amendment and improvement of the constitution, has this year submitted for your consideration a plan, to which it appears to have attached the greatest importance, and by the terms of which it claimed for itself the right to deal summarily with Venerables and Orators who may have been guilty of violating the Constitution. From the general purport of the proposal it is easy to see, and none of you can have been mistaken—that among the Masonic crimes of which a President of a Lodge

or an Orator is likely to be guilty, the scheme had specially in view the case in which they might have permitted political or religious controversies in the Lodge; and in order to render more effective the authority of the Council, which always in such cases has the right to stop them in pursuing a line of conduct so much to be deplored, by suspending them from office, demanded the power of withdrawing them from their common rights, and from a trial before the ordinary tribunal, with a view to making them amenable to a still higher jurisdiction. You know the result, and I have no intention of re-opening the question, but as regards the causes which brought forward this grave question, I have the right to tell you what I think.

For the last two or three years, and especially within the last few months, Freemasonry has been assailed with the greatest violence; it has been denounced, calumniated, turned into ridicule, or represented as an element of disorder and revolution. We might say with truth that a great fiat has been issued, for there is not one of our opponents that has not thought it his duty to mingle his voice in this grand concert of imprecations and anathemas. Have we done aught that could justify, even in the slightest degree, this campaign so rudely undertaken against us. I have searched in vain, and I neither see nor know of anything, whether as regards the Lodges or the Grand Orient of France, of a nature to account for this deluge of invectives, or these denunciations before the civil power of our Order. Freemasonry has never deviated from the path it has marked out for itself. It has always maintained that it was unworthy of it to engage in the struggles of party, and regulating its actions in accordance with its principles, it has always confined itself within the lofty and serene sphere of a generous philosophy, the ruling spirit of which is love of humanity. By all means let Masons in their character of citizens have this or that conviction, let them enrol themselves under this or that banner, and give expression to their views in their private assemblies, or by their writings,—what matters it? They are citizens, they are free, it is their right. But when they meet in the Lodge as Masons, then it is important the Masonic constitutions should be scrupulously observed, that Masonic principles should be rigorously acted upon; in a word, that only Masonic questions should be discussed and determined. It is at the very time, when this ambiguous charge has been designedly urged against us in public by means of the press, and which consists in confounding the moral being of the Lodge with the political or private conduct of some of its members, that we are represented as conspirators, unceasingly sapping the foundations of society, plotting the overthrow of all civil and religious authority, and seeking in our Lodges, under the mask of a cold and passionless course of inquiry, the means for perpetrating the most horrible crimes. Nothing is further removed from the truth; deceit and injury are the weapons of those who are embarked in an unholy cause. Silence should be our only answer, were there not the risk that these lying assertions at length find credit, and get propagated; and thus we should become the victims of this terrible conspiracy against an institution, the noblest, the most honourable, the most worthy of consideration, esteem, and respect. At Basle, we protested with all the force of which we were capable against these calumnies; and we shall protest always. But, my Brethren, side by side with these protestations which issue, in spite of ourselves, from our indignant souls, we have a certain line of conduct to follow, if we would pass, with any chance of safety, the crisis that is before us, and permit me to explain this duty to you in a few words: as citizens, moderation, prudence, respect for established laws, and confidence in the future; as Masons, passive obedience to the Constitution we have sworn to uphold, and the most scrupulous regard for our statutes and regulations.

It was with a view to put down any possible violation of Masonic law, a violation which under present circumstances would prove so dangerous, not only to the Lodge that might have committed, but also to the whole Order, that the Council demanded of you that it should be armed with sufficient powers. Well, in thanking that body for its solicitude, let us here solemnly bind ourselves to prove, by our acts, that its fears were groundless, that not one among us, nay, not one, is tempted to foolishly compromise the sacred interests of our beloved Masonry, and never, be the circumstances what they may, to expose ourselves to the accusations of our adversaries by deviating from our strict line of duty, or from the obligation we have contracted.

Ah! my Brethren, have we not a sufficiently wide field for our studies, our researches, and our labours? Are you unmindful that the care of humanity should be our constant preoccupation; that so long as the voice of the cannon thunders forth its commands throughout the world, and war cuts off human beings by thousands, so long will there be sufferings to administer to, ignorant to instruct, vices to eradicate; so long as the moral and intellectual level of mankind is not as high as we wish it to be, so long shall we have to labour unceasingly? Is it not enough, then, that you have before you this overwhelming task, to which generations of men have devoted themselves, which will last out your lifetime without attaining its completion, and which our descendants in future ages will still carry on? Let us not, then, I beseech you, quit our proper sphere of action; and if we have to combat for our colours, for our principles of liberty, and the enfranchisement of human reason, let it be without passion as without weakness, let it be the performance of a Duty impressed upon our conscience, nothing less, yet nothing more.

I speak of combat. Is it not strange that we should be forced to pronounce this hated word, we who profess for all mankind the deepest love? Ah! forsooth, this combat, we have not sought it, we have given no provocation to our implacable and eternal foes. It is they, the enemies of liberty and of freedom; it is they, the partisans of slavery, as their aim, and of ignorance as the means, who have entered into the contest with such unheard of violence. Summoned by our principles to defend that liberty of conscience which our forefathers have conquered from clerical despotism, can we, I ask you, lay down our arms and quit the field of battle? Further, have we not been directly accused? Do you not bear in mind that burning philippic which recently emanated from a man of eminence in that party which ardently wishes for our death?

Defence then is legitimate, and we will defend ourselves by all possible means, at the same time keeping within the limits which the laws of the State and Masonry impose upon us. We shall enter into no religious controversy—Article 2 of our constitutions forbids it; but we shall set forth the principles of our philosophy, of our morality: and the country, and, may I not say, the whole world shall decide which are they who, be it among them or us, enjoy a greater community of ideas, and are more completely in harmony with those who of old, on the shores of the Lake of Tiberias or Genesareth, substituted for the law of hatred which ruled the ancient world this law of love and of freedom.

These provocations to the struggle have afflicted, but not surprised me. Our adversaries find before them, in the accomplishment of their unholy mission, an invincible obstacle, and one before which they will utterly break down if they succeed not in crushing it. This is Human Reason, which the philosophers of last century emancipated by instructing and elevating it, and by instilling into it its rights and its duties. It is this they proscribe and insult, and which they would annihilate. But we who lay it down that without this Reason there is nothing but error, deceit, or fanaticism; we who hold that, from the day it is annihilated, there will be an end once and for all to the dignity of manhood, this Reason that is thus cursed, we defend it, and will defend while there is a breath of life left in us.

There, my brethren, is the true cause of those accusations which are launched against us. In order to give their charges a semblance of justice, they pretend that Freemasonry means atheism; they represent us as the sworn enemies of all religious faiths. It is in vain we have pointed out to them that, were this the case, we should be, as they are, sworn to intolerance; that, on the contrary, we respect the opinions, faith, and religious convictions of all our brethren, in the name of that liberty of conscience which forms the motto of our Order; that in order to avoid clashing with each other, and never to disturb that harmony which should exist among us, all discussions of this character are rigorously forbidden in our Lodges, and scrupulously respected; that if Freemasonry professed any religion it would be its duty to give it full effect, and that thus it would violate our grand principle of liberty; that it should be lay, but not atheist, and that the confusion between these terms, so essentially different from each other, is a defect of logic and of good faith. Vainly have we answered all these things; they will not listen, and it is to be feared they never will consent to listen to this language of common sense and of reason.

Our conscience, sole judge of all our actions, imposes on us the obligation in these grave circumstances of rising to the height of our duty. Indeed, I am not very far from the conviction that this warfare, this persecution may, perhaps, in the end, be of service to our Order. Danger not uncommonly reawakens the listless, excites devotion, arouses in the mind a greater activity, and in the soul, a greater enthusiasm. We no longer live, thank God, in days when thousands upon thousands of men pay with dear life for the crime of heresy, that is to say, for the revolt of reason against the despotism of a religious sect. Resistance in these days is less dangerous, but were it dangerous, is it for us to hesitate? Already I see men who have attained eminence by their character, their talents, and the services they have rendered to science and their country, coming to us, and seeking admission into our temples. This is a feature that must certainly strike you, and cause you to indulge in the firm hope of approaching triumph. When allies of such worth come and ask of their own free will, and actuated by an impulse, of which they may well be proud, to fight under the banner of Masonry, we have the right to say boldly, and with head erect, that our cause is that of right, of truth, of eternal justice, since it is embraced by those who have made justice and truth the constant aim of all their efforts and labours.

A modern philosopher, Herbert Spencer, in the course of his remarkable work, *Introduction to Social Science*, makes use of a comparison, the justice of which has struck me, and which I will make known to you, because it tells its own tale, and is applicable to our present situation. When a man undertakes to ascend a lofty mountain, in order that, as an artist, he may feast his eyes on the grand and majestic beauties of nature, at first he sets out, alert and joyous, satchel on his back, stick in hand. But the hours pass; his pace slackens, the ascent becomes more difficult; by degrees his strength is exhausted, his enthusiasm evaporates, and he sits on a rock fatigued, ready to abandon his project, discouraged by the incessant difficulties and numberless obstacles which, at each instant, beset his path. All of a sudden he pulls himself together, he marks the distance he has accomplished, he sees that he has traversed more than half the route, and that the summit is not as distant as he had at first supposed; hope returns to him, he finds fresh strength to put himself once again on the road, and, thinking of the ideal pleasure which awaits him, he makes a final effort and attains the summit. We also, my brethren, have our mountain to scale, at the summit of which is found the realisation of our wishes and the limit of our labours. It is long since we undertook this trying journey, and from all appearances, it will last yet a long time. But is it the right moment to abandon the struggle, when the dangers are more formidable and more pressing, when there is greater need of calmness and presence of mind, of daring and energy, when we should exert to the utmost all the strength we possess? Is this the moment for us to give in? Certainly not. Let us turn a glance behind us, let us measure the distance that has been traversed, the difficulties that have been surmounted, and let us bear in mind that each step brings us nearer to our goal. Let us take heart, then; let us gird our loins, and forward!

My dear Venerables and Delegates, you are about to return to your respective Lodges. Hide not from our brethren the gravity of the present circumstances, reawaken their zeal, do battle with indifference, appeal to their feelings as Masons, if they be so in reality and in their hearts. It behoves us to marshal our ranks in order to meet the enemy which menaces modern civilization, and, as a consequence, our French Freemasonry, on the standard of which are inscribed the watch-words of humanity and progress.

Liberty, equality, fraternity, sacred triad, magic formula, which has freed our fathers from the oppression of the despot, be ever present to our minds, direct our actions and our thoughts, enlighten our hearts, grant us the needful strength, and may we, by thy help, in a not distant future, prove victorious over our enemies, less for our own glory than for the happiness of mankind.

MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL,
DUBLIN.

THE half-yearly meeting of the Governors of this Institution will be held on Thursday, the 11th November, for the purpose of transacting the ordinary business, the election of two pupils from the list of candidates hereunder, and also for the election of the Honorary Officers and Committee for the ensuing year. The rules as to the election of pupils are briefly:—That no candidate shall be under nine or over eleven years of age on the day of election; all elections shall be by voting papers; no candidate who has been three times on the voting papers, and not, on any occasion, obtained twenty votes, shall be again put forward as a candidate; vice patrons (donors of £60) are entitled to nine votes for each vacancy, and two extra votes for each additional £10; vice-presidents (donors of £30) to three votes for each vacancy and two extra votes for each £1; life governors (£10) and annual governors (£1) to one vote for each vacancy, and one extra for each additional £10 or £1 respectively. An official governor, who is also a governor in his own right, may vote in both capacities. Voting papers are to be sent in by the 4th November.

PARTICULARS AS TO CANDIDATES.

No.	Name of Applicant	Age next birthday	No. of Father's Lodge	Held at	Years subscribing to Lodge	Votes forward
1	Ballantine Wills	11	88	Belfast	4	64
2	Blundell Thomas H.	12	308	Ballymahon	9 Mo.	29
3	Gill George H.	11	73	Limerick	2	87
4	Harvey Francis W.	11	935	Wexford	7	16
5	Hitchcock George S.	10	6	Dublin	20	—
6	Irwin Herbert K.	10	102	Lifford	5	—
7	Leggett John A.	10	197	Dundrum	14	—
8	Little William S.	11	158	Hollymount	*	232
9	Mathews Charles L.	12	431,205	Ballymena	*	122
10	Robinson Alexander	12	197	Dundrum	*	42
11	Welch James M.	13	77	Newry	3	—

* Not stated.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL,
DUBLIN.

A GENERAL meeting of the Governors will be held at the School House, on Tuesday, 7th December, for the purpose of transacting the ordinary business, for the election of the Honorary Officers and Committee for 1876, and for the election of four out of eight candidates. The rules for the election of pupils are:—That all elections shall be by voting papers; no candidate shall be under seven or over twelve years of age; only two sisters shall be in the School at the same time, and the second shall not be elected till one year after the election of the first; no child who has been thrice on the voting papers, and not received more than twenty votes, on any occasion, shall be again brought forward; annual Governors (£1) and Life Governors (£10), shall have one vote for each vacancy, and one extra for each additional pound or ten pounds; officers of Lodges or Chapters who are both officially and in their own right governors, may exercise their privileges in both capacities. Voting papers are to be sent in by the 30th November.

PARTICULARS AS TO CANDIDATES.

No.	Name of Applicant	Age next Birthday	No. of Father's Lodge	Held at	Years subscribing to Lodge	Votes forward
1	Anketell Ida F.	10	131	Mullingar	*	585
2	Bradburne Laura	11	12,525	Dublin	11½	—
3	Burdge Truella L.	14	14	Galway	5	76
4	Cullinan Lilla J.	9	60	Ennis	1½	—
5	Hall Mary L.	12	291	Stewartstown	*	383
6	Hendley Florence	9	242	Boyle	31	464
7	Kewley Eliza J.	10	212	Castletown	5½	171
8	M'Intyre Margaret	12	642	Kilkenny	*	407

* Particulars not supplied.

FELTOE AND SONS' (27 Albemarle Street, W., late of Conduit Street) "Spécialité" Sherry is a very pleasant light wine, with no heat; a real vinous flavour, which, unlike that of the majority of sheries at low prices, leaves an impression on the palate of belonging to a real wine. . . . It is exceedingly pleasant to the eye; the taste is soft, round, and not acid; the flavour is vinous and dry, without any suggestion of artificial bitterness. We have no doubt that as a moderately stimulating accessory to the meal of a patient suffering from atonic dyspepsia it would be valuable.—*Medical Times.*

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY AT WHITEHAVEN.

THE annual Convocation of the Sun, Square and Compasses Chapter, No. 119, Whitehaven, was held at Freemasons' Hall, College-street, on Wednesday, 13th October. The Chapter was opened by M.E.Z. Comp. John Barr, E. Fearon H. and John Bowes P.Z., &c., as J., assisted by Comps. W.B. Gibson P.Z., Kenworthy P.Z., and James Porter P.Z., No. 327, Wigton, after which the remainder of the Comps., an unusually large number, were admitted. Several candidates were balloted for and afterwards exalted by the M.E.Z., the Historic Lecture being delivered by Comp. E. Fearon. After some routine business had been disposed of, Comp. W. B. Gibson P.Z., in the name of the Chapter, presented to the M.E.Z. a handsome gold P.Z.'s jewel, which bore the following inscription: "Presented to M.E. Comp. Barr in recognition of his invaluable service as M.E.Z. of the Sun, Square and Compasses Chapter, No. 119. October 13th 1875."

The M.E.Z. then called upon E. Comp. John Bowes P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., West Lancashire, to take the chair as Installing Principal, who installed the Principals, and invested the officers as follow:—Comps. John Barr re-elected Z., E. Fearon H., W. Sandwith J., John Tickle S.E., W. Armstrong S.N., E. Tyson P.S., J. M'Kelrie Trea., John Rothery and W. F. Lamouby Asst. Sojs., and W. Corrie Janitor. On the conclusion of the ceremony, E. Comp. W. B. Gibson P.Z., said they were in the habit of according to their kind Comp. Bowes annually a vote of thanks, but he had an addition to propose on that occasion; it was that, in consideration of the great assistance afforded by E. Comp. Bowes to the Chapter for a long time past, he be elected an honorary member for life. This proposition was seconded by Comp. Fearon, supported by Comp. Tickle S.E., and unanimously agreed to. The Chapter then voted ten guineas to the Boys' School. The business of the Chapter being concluded, the Comps. adjourned to the banqueting-room, where an elegant repast awaited them. The chair was occupied by the M.E.Z. Comp. Barr, supported on the right and left by Comps. W. B. Gibbon P.Z., Jas. Porter P.Z., E. Tyson P.S., John Bowes P.Z., &c., Kenworthy P.Z., M'Kelrie Trea. The cross tables were presided over by Comps. Tickle and Armstrong. The chairman proposed the usual loyal toasts.

Comp. Bowes then proposed "The three Grand Principals of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England," and in doing so referred to each individually, and said that with such chiefs they had every reason to be proud of that, the highest order of recognised Freemasonry. Comp. W. B. Gibson P.Z., proposed "the M.E.Z. Comp. John Barr." He said they were all deeply indebted to their M.E.Z. for the zeal and ability with which he had managed to work the Chapter, and therefore it was the unanimous desire of the members that he should retain the position another year.

The M.E.Z., in responding, said that he was deeply indebted to the Companions for their kindness. He assured them that it was no easy task to master the ceremonial part of his labour; that he had succeeded was owing in no small degree to the untiring exertions of their Preceptor, Comp. Bowes.

Comp. Pagen proposed "The Second and Third Principals and Officers of Chapter No. 119." He said he could not but echo the feelings of regret expressed by the M.E.Z., in Chapter, at the enforced absence of their worthy and E. Comp. Dr. Henry, H. elect. He had written from London to say how sorry he was that he could not be with them to receive the benefit of installation at the hands of his friend, Comp. Bowes, and they shared his sorrow, and sincerely hoped that his health, ere long, would be completely restored. He had great pleasure in proposing the toast, because he felt confident that the Chapter would be efficiently worked by their present staff.

Comps. E. Fearon, W. Sandwith, McKelrie, Tickle, Armstrong, Tyson and Rothery severally responded.

Comp. McKelrie proposed "The P.Z.'s of Chapter No. 119." He said the age of their Chapter precluded them from having many P.Z.'s; but out of the small number, two were present, Comps. Gibson and Kenworthy, and two more worthy brethren and trusty Companions could not be found. Their zeal in the Masonic cause was well known and appreciated in the province. They were both Past Senior Wardens of the Province, and as they all knew, Comp. Gibson was at present Prov. G. Secretary, their interest in Masonry was unabated, and they, therefore, might congratulate themselves that they had their names on their muster roll.

Comp. Gibson thanked them heartily for the kind manner in which the toast had been proposed and received, and said Comp. McKelrie was not far wrong when he said his friend, Comp. Kenworthy, and himself took a warm interest in Masonry. Their engagements were frequent, and it afforded them great pleasure to undertake the duties which they were invited to discharge.

Comp. Kenworthy also responded, and expressed the great delight he experienced in witnessing the efficient manner in which their Chapter was worked. When they lost their friend and Comp., Capt. Mott, it occurred to him, when M.E.Z., that Comp. Bowes would take the Chapter under his care, and put it in working order. This desirable object had been achieved, and they rejoiced on all sides.

Comp. Fearon proposed "The Installing Principal, E. Comp. John Bowes, P.Z. P. Prov. G.S.B. West Lancashire, complimenting him upon the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony of the day. He said Comp. Bowes was always both ready and willing to impart instruction to those who required it. On reaching the town, the night before, he at once expressed a wish to meet the officers in the Chapter Room to talk about the work they had successfully completed that day. He had very great pleasure in proposing the toast.

Comp. Bowes, in responding, said that, having lived in the county, and some of his oldest friends still living in it, he was naturally attached to Cumberland. With respect to Freemasonry, he had been a "working" brother for many years; but he was one of those who did not wish to keep the work in his own hands. When he first visited their Chapter, which he did on the invitation of his old friend, Comp. Kenworthy, they could do little of themselves. He offered his services to any Comp. who desired instruction, and Comp. Barr

came forward. What they had witnessed that day was a proof that they were both sincere. No one could have listened to the ceremony of exaltation without feeling that they were deeply indebted to the M.E.Z. for the labour he had bestowed upon the requirements of this office. He (Comp. Bowes) never remembered having a more apt pupil. He would only add that his best offices should always be at the disposal of the province. He was rejoiced to see that due care and oversight of Royal Arch Masonry was about to be inaugurated. A new Chapter was shortly to be consecrated at Kirby Lonsdale, with Lord Bective at its head, and then they might soon hope to see a Provincial Grand Chapter constituted. He thanked them very heartily.

Comp. Alsop proposed "The Principals, Officers and Members of Chapters in the Province," and coupled with it the name of Comp. James Porter P.Z., of Wigton, who responded. Comp. Kenworthy, in proposing "The Visiting Companions," said he had much pleasure in discharging that duty, as he should couple with it the names of two Cumberland men now resident in far distant climes, but who happened to be on a visit to the land of their birth.

Comps. George Glasse, of Victoria, Hong Kong, and John R. Smith, of Chicago, N.S. America, responded, and were warmly received. Comp. McKelric proposed "The newly exalted Companions," and Comp. Cowman responded. Comp. Gibson proposed "The Masonic Charities," and in doing so alluded in gratifying terms to the recent election to the Boys' School of Robert Duff, of Silloth, due in a great measure to the active personal exertions on the spot of Comp. James Porter, with whose name the toast was coupled. Comp. Porter responded in a most interesting and instructive speech. Comp. Bowes asked permission to propose a toast not on the list. The officers had all been considered, but there was an unofficial member who, if they would excuse the paradox, was always in office, and one to whom the Chapter was deeply indebted, he referred to Comp. White. The toast was heartily received.

Comp. White briefly responded. The Janitor's toast completed the list. During the evening a number of companions kindly favoured the company with songs, &c., under the able direction of Comp. Cooper Organist.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

A PROVINCIAL Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday last, under the banner of the Wentworth Lodge, No. 1239, and presided over by the R.W. Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., J.P., D.L., R.W.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield. The officers of the Wentworth Lodge opened the Lodge shortly before one o'clock, and soon afterwards the R.W.P.G.M., the W. Deputy Provincial G.M., and Provincial Grand Officers entered, and were received in due form. The meeting was a very large one, representatives being present from almost every Lodge in the Province, including the Mayors of several towns.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, after opening the Provincial Grand Lodge, said: Brethren,—In the first place, allow me to compliment the Wentworth Lodge for their preparations for the reception of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which has been held under the banner of the Wentworth Lodge for the first time. And I take the earliest opportunity of congratulating the brethren on the magnificent reception they gave to our M.W.G.M. of England in August last, and the remarkable manifestation of loyalty exhibited during the visit of our most illustrious Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and his amiable consort. Whilst I deeply regret the worshipful Mayor of Sheffield was not a member of our Craft, and that etiquette prevented an official recognition of Freemasonry, I am glad to be assured that the Craft is prospering to such an extent in Sheffield that it is proposed to enlarge and greatly improve the present Masonic Hall, and however much we feel grateful for the loan of the present building for this great gathering I trust we may soon meet in premises dedicated solely to Freemasonry in this most important centre of industry. Brethren, I thank you for your salutation. The great gathering I see before me on this occasion shows the interest manifested by you all in the Masonic affairs of the province, and trust that under my leadership the principles of Freemasonry may be upheld with the same consistency with which they were advocated by my distinguished predecessor, the Marquis of Ripon, and his able deputy, Bro. Bentley Shaw. It must be a matter of congratulation to this province that it has been enabled to command, this year, considerable accession of voting power at the Charity elections. Notwithstanding the numerous losses it has sustained through death, West Yorkshire alone has made the munificent contribution to our three great Charities of £2,000. This amount has been subscribed by 174 brethren only, so that there are something like 2,600 brethren in the province who have not directly helped our Charity Committee. Brethren, I must still say, what the Marquis of Ripon repeatedly told you, viz., that he always saw the old names on the subscription lists year after year; and I, like him, am naturally anxious that our subscriptions should be collected from those in the province forming the majority, and not left to the few. With 58 candidates for the Boy's School and only ten vacancies, with 30 applications for the Girls' School and only six vacancies, West Yorkshire should do more in the future than what has been done in the past, if it means to be successful with its own orphans. West Yorkshire was never in such difficulty as it has been in this October election. Had not the greatest efforts been made among the brethren, there was little hope of carrying even one girl. These efforts, however, has resulted in the election of the two girls, and one boy also has got in. For this we have to thank our Bro. Thomas William Tew D.P.G.M.; Bro. Thomas Hill, Chairman of our Charity Committee; Bro. H. Smith, our Provincial Grand Secretary; and Bro. Simpson, of St. Oswald's Lodge, who acted as a scrutineer. With respect to the collection of voting papers, there is

still great room for improvement. On the 5th October Provincial Grand Secretary Bro. Smith wrote to my deputy, Bro. Tew, that 1,800 boys' and girls' votes had still to come in, and on Saturday, the 9th October, and Monday, the 11th, the fate of our candidates was sealed. Henceforth, I beg and entreat all the brethren when they receive these voting papers to sign and send them back to our Provincial Grand Secretary without the loss of a single post. It has never been the object of Freemasonry to degenerate into a mere benefit society, or become a club in the popular acceptance of the term; and as admissions into Freemasonry are greatly on the increase I do earnestly impress on the Masters of Lodges Bye-laws 47 and 48 of this Provincial Grand Lodge with reference to joining brethren, and to the initiation of new candidates. This Province cannot be to particular who it initiates and who it receives. There are Lodges in the provinces which are Clubs and Lodges. I need hardly tell you it is necessary for the interests of Freemasonry that these Masonic Clubs should conform strictly to the law of the land, and whatever the hour of closing be in populous towns, these clubs and Lodges should close at that hour too. By extending Lodge gatherings to unstatutory hours, Freemasonry is liable to be brought into disrespect and disrepute. Lodges should be colleges for the purpose of operative and speculative Freemasonry, and for the inculcation of morality and philosophy, and not clubs for recreation alone. Since I last had the honour of addressing this Provincial Grand Lodge my indefatigable Deputy, Brother Tew, has consecrated two new Lodges. One of them has set a good example of charity by endowing two of its chairs for the Girls' School; and the other regrets, for the present, it has not a private room away from the public-house at which to hold its meetings, and in which the furniture could remain in its place without being taken away after every meeting. This is a sentiment in the right direction, and I and my deputy earnestly desire that every Lodge in West Yorkshire should soon have private rooms of its own. I cannot conclude my remarks, brethren, without referring with deep sorrow to the loss we have sustained by the death of Bro. Freeman, of Huddersfield, who rendered most valuable assistance in the revision of our P.G. Bye-laws. Bro. Jonas Hill has also been taken away from us. You will regret to hear that Bro. Thomas Hill contemplates resigning his chairmanship of our Charity Committee next April. We hope, however, he will reconsider his determination. We sincerely hope so; we really cannot spare him. I have only to add that I trust the discussions which may arise from the business before us will receive that impartial attention which is justly due to a Congress of this kind. (The R.W.P.G.M. was repeatedly cheered during the delivery of his address, and resumed his seat amidst loud applause.)

The rolls having been called, and the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, holden at Dewsbury in July last, confirmed,

An important discussion arose on a motion, of which notice had been given, by Bro. J. Cawthorn P.M. 458, P.P.G.A.P., "That this Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire take into consideration the necessity of thoroughly investigating the management and expenditure of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to the end that a more economic system of collecting and dispensing the funds of this Institution may be arrived at, so that candidates who from time to time are excluded from its benefits by reason of the present system may, by a more judicious and less expensive management, be enabled to participate in the benefits of the Charity." The motion was carried after an animated discussion, as it was generally considered that the cost per head for the education and maintenance of the children did not in figures compare advantageously with the cost in other educational establishments of a similar kind. At the same time the idea of imputing anything irregular to the House Committee or Managers of the Institution was distinctly disclaimed. Indeed, such an investigation, it was believed, would be for the good of the Institution itself, would tend to secure its stability, and would ensure to it the brethren's confidence and support, which were at the present time to some extent shaken by the statements in circulation. It was resolved, on motions by Bro. the Rev. E. B. Chalmer P.P.G.C., and Bro. J. Cawthorn P.P.G.A.P., that, for the purpose of making the desired investigation a committee of twelve be appointed, to consist of six members of the Charity Committee, and six independent members to be named by the R.W.P.G.M., and that they report the result of their inquiries at the next Provincial Grand Lodge.

It was resolved, on the motion of Bro. W. H. Gill P.M. 1019 P.P.G. Reg., that the sum of one hundred pounds be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, and that the sum of one hundred guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at the respective Festivals in 1876.

After the transaction of some other business, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

A banquet was then held in the Cutlers' Hall, the R.W.P.G.M. presiding. There was a large attendance, and the proceedings were of a most enjoyable character. The toasts were as follow:—The Queen, M.W.G.M.E. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales K.G. &c. &c., R.W.P.G.M.E. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Officers and Past Officers of Grand Lodge, R.W.P.G.M.W.Y. Lieut-Col. Sir Henry Edwards Bart. J.P. D.L., W.D.P.G.M., Bro. T. W. Tew J.P., and the Officers and Past Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, P.G.C., and our Clerical Brethren, the Masonic Charities, W.M.'s and P.M.'s of Lodges, and the Visiting Brethren.—*Sheffield Daily Telegraph.*

A crowded meeting of residents of Nine-elms and the neighbourhood was held yesterday evening, for the purpose of taking measures to free Vauxhall and other metropolitan bridges from toll. It was stated that the sum necessary to make Vauxhall-bridge open to the public would be £42,000, which ought to be granted by the Government, and its future maintenance should be divided between the counties of Middlesex and Surrey. A petition to this effect to the Chief Commissioner of Works was adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A pamphlet, signed "T. W. Tew and O. G. D. Perrott," reached me on Saturday, and has, I believe, been very widely circulated. To reply to it in your columns is impossible, but I hope you will allow me to ask your readers not to accept as truthful the accusations with which this unique production is replete. The twin authors are pleased to describe my case "as very weak," but, judging from the numerous notices and personal expressions I have received and heard, such is certainly not the general opinion. The pamphlet under notice reiterates the charges in the first (by Mr. Tew), which have been proved to be groundless—and adds others which have about the same foundation as the former. Let one instance suffice. At page 29, portentous prominence is given to the case of "James Gasson," the palpably evident construction being that the second record of a grant of £10 is not only a duplicate record, but increased to £10 for the purpose of fraud. The facts are—On 4th May 1872, Gasson received a grant of £5, for the usual outfit given on leaving the school. He could not find employment for some months, when Mr. Jackson, Watchmaker, Bethnal-green (that is "the lad's employer's name" as given), offered to receive him as an apprentice, on condition that the sum of £10 could be found. The boy being an orphan, and entirely friendless, I brought his case before the General Committee, who kindly made a grant of £10—£5 to be paid at commencement of his time, and £5 at the expiration of a year. This simple explanation could have been afforded, if asked for, but such a simple course of fair play is not understood by the pamphleteers in question. Equally easy of explanation is every other accusation so unjustly charged, and equally susceptible of solution is every apparent difficulty to which allusion is made.

In drawing attention to my salary, it is stated that I receive "£581 9s 6d, besides commissions and other remuneration." The £81 9s 6d was spent in the service of the Institution, and was money out of pocket, allowed under well-considered rule. What is intended by "commissions" is a base and unfounded calumny. What is meant by "other remuneration," I have not the slightest idea.

With the characteristics of the late Head Master I am so thoroughly acquainted that I feel no surprise whatever at his share in this "Reply to the Secretary," and if Mr. Tew elects to associate himself with him he must be content to accept the consequences.

I have a right to complain that these charges and accusations have been sown broadcast, based as they are on assumptions treated as facts without any opportunity for explanation. Condemnation has preceded enquiry, the old English maxim reversed, and officials are doomed as guilty until proved to be innocent. In fact, the motto of these specimens of Masonic practice is, "Try first and hang afterwards." This is apparent from "par. 6, page 3, second edition" (altered from par. 6 in first edition), which runs:—

"We demand the appointment of a new Committee, the dismissal of the Secretary and Matron, and a thorough investigation." Have the latter, by all means, if wished and deemed advisable; but pray let it precede, not follow, the *sus. per coll.* of the Committee, the Matron and myself.

It is just possible that of the thousands who so generously support the Institution, there may be some whose views are not those of "T. W. Tew and O. G. D. Perrott."

Surely, if I write somewhat strongly, the contents of this pamphlet fully justify my doing so, and I appeal to the Governors and Subscribers of the School for a fair field and no favour.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,
Yours faithfully and fraternally,

19th October 1875.

FRED. BINCKES, Secretary.

[We have received a copy of the Pamphlet referred to in the above letter. We had hoped to have taken notice of it in this issue, but the pressure on our space is such that we must defer our remarks till next week.—ED. F. C.]

REVIEWS.

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

1.—*The Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George. A Review of Modern Impostures, and a Sketch of its true History.* By His Imperial Highness the PRINCE RHODOCANAKIS. In two parts. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1870.

2.—*Reply to a Criticism in the Saturday Review on the Imperial House of Rhodocanakis.* Westminster: Nichols and Sons, 25 Parliament-street. 1870.

ALTHOUGH it is somewhat late in the day, we readily give publicity to this dispute between the claims of the Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George and the Masonic Red Cross Order, as we think our readers should have information upon this branch of Masonry, and the discussion which has been inaugurated thereupon by the present Grand Master Mason of Greece.

Some of our readers will be aware that, outside the degree of Master Mason, there is a Chivalric fraternity which has existed in this country for sixty or seventy years, called the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, the ceremonials of which claim that it was instituted by Constantine the Great for those Masons who aided him in his

war against Maxentius, which gave him eventually the throne of Constantinople. A few years ago this degree was revived in London, and a new claim to represent the State Order of the Byzantine Empire was added, with an assertion in the statutes that the degree had been planted here by the Abbé Giustiniani, whilst acting in London as Venetian Ambassador.

In the first chapter of the first part of the *Review* the Prince Rhodocanakis completely disposes of the Masonic Red Cross Order as having the slightest pretensions to derivation from the Byzantine State Order; and in the second chapter he ably disposes of the "Anzoli" claims, and the alleged Grand Mastership of Giovanni Andria Angelo Flavio Comueno, whom Pope Innocent XIII. and his relative, Francis Farnése, set up to make a sale of the most ancient Order in Christendom. The Prince adds:—

"Thus terminated an intrigue, remarkable in the history of popular deception, by which the historian already referred to, and probably one of its supporters, was nominated a Grand Cross—not, indeed, as he would have us believe, of the true Byzantine Order, but of its imitation, concocted between the puppet Angelus himself, and the house of Farnése."

In the second part of the work the Prince goes on to explain the descent of his House from Nicophorus Ducas, King of Rhodes (914-929)—who descends from the father of Constantine the Great—and the subsequent marriage of H.R.H. Prince Demetrius Rhodocanakis with Theodora Palaeologina (b. 1594, m. 1614, d. 1665), heiress of the Byzantine Empire, from which marriage his House derive their chief title to the Order in question.

In the *Reply*, Prince Rhodocanakis, Appendix A, gives a list of fifty-three works from A.D. 1546, "in which the Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George is noticed and recognised as the first Order in Christendom." In Appendix B a list of twelve works from A.D. 1498, "in which the House of Rhodocanakis is duly mentioned and recognised." In Appendix C a list of works from A.D. 1600, "in which members of the family of Rhodocanakis appear as authors." Appendix D contains "Extracts from Byzantine Historians, in which the attempt to seize the Crown of the Byzantine Empire by Constantine Ducas in A.D. 913, the nomination of his brother, Nicephorus Ducas, as King of Rhodes, and the origin of the House of Ducas and Rhodocanakis are fully recorded."

The discussion brought the Masonic Red Cross Order to close quarters, and caused the issue of the following document:—

"TO all members of the Masonic Order, known as the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, and to all others whom it may concern.

WHEREAS the Masonic Order, now known as the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine (hereafter concisely called the Red Cross Order), has been recently revived in England, and occupies a prominent position as a chivalric branch of the great fraternity of Freemasons; and WHEREAS discussions have arisen whether the Red Cross Order has or has not any alliance with the ancient Chivalric Order known as the Constantinian Order of St. George, and as it is expedient that such discussions shall be terminated by a declaration of the claims of the Red Cross Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas Tayleur, commonly called Earl of Bective (Lord Kenlis), the Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross Order, do hereby, for myself, and on behalf of the Council of the said Order, signify and declare as follows:—

THAT the Order of the Red Cross does not claim, or proposes to have, any connection with the ancient public Order of Knighthood known as the Imperial Constantinian Order of Saint George.

THAT the Red Cross Order claims to be a revived branch of the Masonic brotherhood which formed part of the system of the Baron Hünde in or about the year 1750, and which has since been working in England under various auspices until the establishment of a Grand Council of the Order in or about the year 1796.

THAT the Order as now conferred is, with certain modifications, the same as that over which the late Duke of Sussex presided from 1813 to 1843.

THAT the Red Cross Order claims to be a chivalric institution of Freemasonry for reception into which the degree of a Master Mason is a necessary qualification.

THAT the above articles were approved at a meeting of the Council of the Order holden at Freemasons' Tavern, London, on Friday, the 19th May 1871.

(Signed)

BECTIVE.

Grand Sovereign.

L.S.

A true copy.
(Signed)

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE,
G. Recorder.

London, 29th May, 1871.

To His Imperial Highness

The Prince Rhodocanakis, of Scio,

Knight Grand Cross of the Constantinian Order of St. George,
&c., &c., &c.

The Clarendon Hotel, New Bond-street, London."

We may add, for the information of our readers, that about the date mentioned in this Red Cross document there was a degree called the Red Cross of Babylon, which is very similar to the English Royal Arch Degree; but that we have as yet seen no satisfactory evidence which will connect the "Masonic Red Cross of Rome and Constantine" with Hünde's Rite, or, indeed, any of its offshoots, and that, in all probability, it has no history in this country much beyond the time of its Grand Master, Judge Waller Rodwell Wright, in 1811. When the Templar degree began to be popular in this country it was the fashion of Finch, and other lecturers, to invent degrees embodying the claims of all the ancient Chivalric Orders of Christendom; and the absence of the "Red Cross of Rome and Constantine" from foreign Rites would favour the supposition that the birth-place of the Order is England. We should be pleased to receive any proofs of higher antiquity.

INSTALLATION OF H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

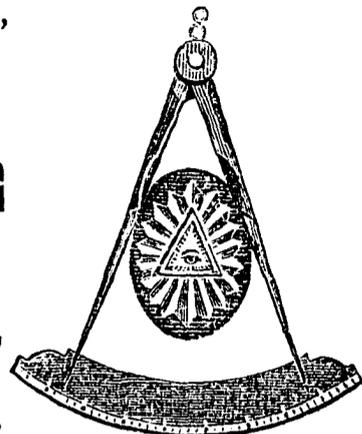
HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,
IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By Bro. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.D. No. 1201.



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MASONIC ORPHAN BOYS' SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Half-yearly Meeting of the Governors will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on THURSDAY MORNING, the ELEVENTH of NOVEMBER 1875, to transact the ordinary business, to receive the Report of the Scrutineers of the Ballot for the Election of TWO PUPILS from the approved list of Candidates, and to elect the Honorary Officers and Committee for 1876.

Breakfast on the table at half-past eight o'clock precisely. Brethren becoming Governors on or before Thursday, the 4th of November, will be entitled to vote.

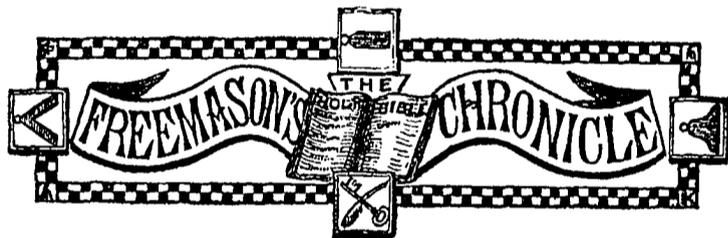
By Order, SAMUEL B. OLDHAM, Assistant Secretary.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

NOTICE is hereby given that a General Meeting of the Board of Governors will be held at the School House, on TUESDAY MORNING, the SEVENTH day of DECEMBER 1875, to transact the ordinary business, to elect the Honorary Officers and Committees of the School for 1876, and to receive the Report of the Scrutineers of the Ballot for the Election of FOUR PUPILS from the List of approved Candidates.

Breakfast on the table at half-past eight o'clock precisely. Brethren becoming Governors on or before Tuesday, the 30th day of November, will be entitled to vote.

By Order, SAMUEL B. OLDHAM, Assistant Sec.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE voyage of the Prince of Wales continues, amid the warmest demonstrations of good wishes for a successful journey out and home. Quitting Brindisi on Saturday, he reached the Piræus on Monday, when King George of Greece went on board the yacht to receive him, and conducted him to Athens. The Prince landed at a few minutes after noon, amid the salutes of various men of war in harbour. On disembarking the Prince entered a royal carriage with the King, and drove to the station, the people lining the route showing great enthusiasm. This was also the case when the party reached Athens and drove to the Palace; in the afternoon the Royal guest visited the Acropolis, and afterwards there was a state dinner. On Tuesday the event was the grand display of fireworks, and on Wednesday the King and Queen of Greece lunched with the Prince on board of the Serapis, his departure from harbour taking place in the evening. By this time doubtless he is well on his way to the Red Sea. A single *contretemps* has marked the journey thus far. The Serapis broke both cables in taking up her moorings, carrying away the bowsprit of the King of Greece's yacht, and nearly running foul of the Osborne. Happily the Hercules and Swiftsure brought her up in time and further damage was prevented. What in the name of fortune has befallen our navy that the vessel, on board which is the Prince of Wales, cannot take up its moorings without running a muck among the other vessels in harbour? There must be something rotten in the state of the navy when our ships of war and Serapises are so dangerous to each other.

In commercial circles the great event of the last few days has been what is known as the repudiation by Turkey of sundry of its pecuniary obligations. We are not, as Masons, much concerned about matters of this kind, but it occurs to us that Turkey must be singularly blind not to see that in matters financial "honesty is the best policy." She has vast undeveloped resources, which even a small amount of energy would enable the Government to turn to good account, and then if she should want money again, she would experience no difficulty in obtaining it; now we fancy she will find it no light matter to raise the wind if occasion demand it.

There have been several speeches lately by members of Parliament. Mr. Russell Gurney, the Recorder of London, made the Admiralty Circular about fugitive slaves, now, however, withdrawn, the text of his address to a Working Man's Association at Southampton, and Sir Stirling Maxwell, after commenting on the work done during the past session, received a vote of confidence from his constituents. On Friday last the chief secretary for Ireland, Sir M. H. Beach, delivered a speech on Irish Education, on the occasion of the degrees being conferred by the Queen's University of London. Considering the strange manner in which the mob have been treating the Rev. Mr. O'Keeffe, it strikes us a little more education, with a view to a little more enlightenment, is imperatively necessary. But possibly the Roman Catholic hierarchy are not of the same mind. The Home Secretary, Mr. Cross, also addressed a Working Man's Association in Edinburgh, returning thanks for the address they had presented to him, and expressing his belief that the labour laws passed last session would prove very beneficial.

This week the Alexandra Palace has been the scene of a Poultry and Pigeon Show on an unprecedentedly large scale. The entries exceeded 2,500, and were ranged in 147 classes, of which 84 were poultry, and the rest devoted to pigeons. The show took place in the Great Central Hall, along which were placed rows innumerable of pens. The music was not what usually greets the visitors to this magnificent place of recreation. There was more of discord than harmony about it, but after all it was an agreeable kind of discord, and one with which most of us are familiar, only not to such an extent. The crowing, the cooing, the cackling of a few thousand poultry for a few hours was very exhilarating, but not as melodious as the symphonies and sonatas more generally heard within the walls of the Palace. But, this apart, the show was a grand success, most of the best known breeders contributed of their stock, and had the weather been other than it was, the exhibition must have been as financially successful as it was in all other respects. There were splendid specimens of Dorkings, coloured, silver-grey, white, &c., of Cochins, buff, partridge, white and black, of Brahmas both dark and light, of Houdans, Crève-cœurs, Polish, Hamburgs, Game, Bantams, with some representatives of geese, ducks and turkeys. To enumerate the many varieties of pigeons were almost impossible, but those who delight in these pretty birds must have been pleased with what they saw. We hope the attendance on Thursday, which, if not a brilliant, was at all events not wholly a rainy day, may have made some amends for the dullness of Tuesday and the extreme moisture of Wednesday. On Monday takes place the Balaklava Banquet when as many of the gallant "six hundred" as are yet alive and able to be present are invited to celebrate their gallant deed of arms. The directors, with their usual liberality, came forward when there seemed a chance of the project falling through, and placed the Palace at the disposal of the gallant fellows, who moreover are invited to bring their wives and sisters with them. Several of the officers who were present at the battle will also be present. Subscriptions are flowing in, and there seems every prospect of the celebration passing off most successfully. There is one point that strikes us as a little out of character. The artist, Miss Thompson, whose picture the Roll-Call chanced to be praised by the Prince of Wales, will honour the occasion with her presence. We look for modest retirement in ladies far more than we do in men, and we do not see how having painted one or two battle pieces raises her to the dignity of a public Institution. This kind of way in which a person's fame is dinned into the ears of the public, smacks a good deal of trade advertisement. However, it matters not, if the veterans enjoy themselves. As *Jupiter Pluvius* is no respecter of persons, we imagine the Great Harvest Festival that was fixed for Wednesday must have been a failure as regards attend-

ance, whatever it may have been in other respects. Let us hope to-day will be bright and sunshiny, so that admirers of the winter promenade concerts may not be kept away.

Floods in various parts of the country appear to have become *current* news for every-day of the week. If the rains come down like this much longer we shall require a few immense sheds to be erected on the higher ground, so that when we swim to our friends in different neighbourhoods, we may be able to dress and undress with some degree of comfort. Or as the season is, just now, not particularly warm, we might take to paddling our own canoes to the doors of our friends, or of the theatres, concert rooms, or other temples of pleasure. Now is the time, when the country is partially under water, to think of erecting a National school for swimming. Let the gallant Captain Webb be installed Professor, with a well qualified staff of assistants. Teachers might be found, too, for the ladies, who would, doubtless, soon acquire the art under the able tuition of Miss Emily Parker and Miss Beckwith.

It seems as though our difficulty with China were likely to be settled—*tant mieux*. But the Chinese are a treacherous lot—*tant pis*. We shall consider the affair is settled, when the satisfaction is granted, but not till then. From Berlin we learn that the appeal of Count Arnim against the decision of the Court below has been affirmed by the Court above, with costs against the Count. While at home we have just lost an eminent and zealous Churchman, as well as great scholar, in the person of Dr. Hook, Dean of Chichester, we hear from Paris of the death of another eminent man, and one whose loss, as his reputation was more widely spread, will be more generally felt. We are referring to Professor Wheatstone, whose name in association with electric telegraphy has for years past been a household word. When men of this calibre die, their places are not easily or quickly refilled. The report of Professor Wheatstone's illness came upon us very suddenly, and caused general sorrow and anxiety when it was known in how critical a condition he was. On Tuesday the worst fears of his numerous friends were realised, and he died, as we have said, in Paris. The most fitting tribute of respect the country can render to his memory is to let him lie among our statesmen and poets, and men of science in the grand old Abbey at Westminster. From Copenhagen is announced the approaching visit of the King and Queen of Denmark, who will be accompanied by their daughter, the Princess Thyra. The visit will last, it is said, some four weeks, and will, doubtless, help to dissipate the comparative loneliness of the Princess of Wales during the absence of her husband in India. But perhaps the most noteworthy event we have to record from foreign parts is the visit of the Emperor of Germany to the King of Italy. This had long been talked of, but the illness of his Imperial Majesty proved more than once an obstacle in the way of its accomplishment. At last, however, the fates have been propitious, and Milan is, or rather till to day was, *en fête*. The reception of the Imperial guest was a grand success, and it appears to have produced a great impression on the visitor. We can hardly realise the emotions that must have passed through Victor Emmanuel's mind when he contrasted, as no doubt he must have done, the difference between Italy as it was in 1858 and as it is now—then a number of petty states—a mere "geographical expression"—Now a well-knit political body, increasing in strength and influence every year. To the late minister, Count Cavour, to his own firmness and loyalty, to the late Emperor of the French, and lastly to the King of Prussia, now his guest as Emperor of a consolidated Germany, is Italy indebted for its present condition of prosperity. All this no doubt occurred to the Milanese likewise, and those who flocked into their city from other parts of Italy, thus we readily understand how the reception accorded the German Emperor must have been more than usually demonstrative. Of the occurrences which signalled this auspicious event we need not speak, but incidentally we may remark that the Archbishop of Milan contrived to be absent from the grand banquet, owing to ill-health. The Carlist war is not yet ended; the insurrection against Turkish rule still slumbers on a feeble existence, and Prince Milan of Servia has been married. This is about enough in the way of budget as regards foreign matters, while at home there can be but little that is very exhilarating so long as this "demnition" moist weather prevails. While this lasts we are enjoying a perpetual wet blanket, not only round our necks but enveloping us entirely.

The Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln-inn-fields. Bro. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. in the chair, Bro. James Brett P.G.P. S.W., E. P. Albert Asst. G.P. J.W. Grants to the amount of £135, voted at the previous meeting, were confirmed. Twenty-four new cases were relieved, to the amount of £555. There were present—Bros. S. Rawson D.G.M. China, J. Savage P.G.D., S. May P.G.S., W. Smith P.G.S., T. Sabine P.G.S.B. Middlesex, C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., F. Binckes P.G.S., Secretary Boys' School, H. Garrod, W. Stephens, W. Mann, W. C. Parsons, C. Moody, C. E. Lacey, Keys, Reed, Bingenmann, Hunt, Marsh, H. Dicketts P.G.S., Head P.G.S., Moore, Dilley, Baldwin, Lewin, G. Brown, Thurkle, Fry, W. Steward, Tomkins, Wood, Cobham, Austin, Voikins, Keays, Thompson, Vyse, H. M. Levy, J. Hervey G.S., H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, &c.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Watford, on Thursday, 28th October, at half-past three o'clock, for the installation of the Most Excellent Companion, Thomas Frederick Halsey, M.P., P.Z. 404, as Provincial Grand Superintendent, and for the transaction of the general business of the Province.

The contest between Bro. Sir John Bennett and Mr. George Swan Nottage for the Aldermanic gown of Cordwainers' Ward, vacant by the death of Bro. Alderman Paterson, has resulted in the defeat of the former by a majority of 31 votes. The poll opened at ten o'clock and closed at 4 p.m., the Lord Mayor, attended by his assessor, Mr. Orton, presiding during the whole of the six hours. The numbers were declared to be for Mr. Nottage 162, for Sir John Bennett 131.

Monday is fixed for the presentation to Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold of the Freedom of the City. A special Court of Council will be held for the purpose, and when the ceremony is over, His Royal Highness will be entertained at a *déjeuner*.

The following is the present constitution of the Grand Orient of Peru:—Grand Master, Bro. Dr. D. Blas José Alzamora, Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, Judge of the Supreme Court; Deputy Grand Master, Bro. J. Sanchez Sylva; First Grand Master, *adjoint*, Bro. Manuel Vargas Guimel; Second Ditto, Bro. Elizondo; Grand Secretary, Bro. Arthur M. Wholey; Treasurer, Bro. John Hern.—From *le Monde Maçonnique*.

On Tuesday, 2nd November, the 15 sections will be worked in the Faith Lodge of Instruction, No. 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, Westminster, by the members of the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Mander W.M. 1201 will preside on that occasion.

With deep regret we have to announce the death of Bro. David D. Beck. He was initiated in the Industry Lodge, No. 186. On the 25th February 1874 he was elected M.E.Z. of the Industry Chapter, and on Tuesday, the 19th inst., he was to have been installed. He was one of the founders of the St. John of Wapping Lodge, No. 1306, and was W.M. in 1872. He installed his successor, and was presented with a very valuable gold watch, and a gold P.M.'s jewel of the value of £10 10s. He died on the 13th, and was buried on the 19th inst., at Nunhead Cemetery, followed by a numerous circle of friends and brother Masons, by whom he was greatly respected and deeply regretted. He was 48 years of age, and leaves a sorrowing widow and 5 children, the eldest being 15 years of age.

Miss Emily Mott, a daughter of Bro. James Mott, who made a successful *début* some time since, announces her annual concert, which will take place at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, on 1st November. Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Miss Blanche Cole, Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Lewis Thomas will sing on that occasion.

The fifteen Sections would be worked in the Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860, on Tuesday, 26th inst., Bro. Marx Gross in the chair. This Lodge meets at Bro. Allen's "Royal Edward," Triangle, Hackney.

THE DRAMA.

"Proof Positive" at the Opera Comique—"All For Her" at the Mirror.

"I KNOW the face, but I can't put a name to it," is the keynote to Mr. Burnand's play, at THE OPERA COMIQUE, of which theatre he has recently undertaken the charge. Hardly a sufficient foundation for a three act comedy, even though the defect of memory is carried to such an extent as to allow a man to mistake a strange lady for his wife, yet, out of this slender thread of an idea Mr. Burnand has, in some way or other, managed to construct a play. It is needless to say that a story of this kind, the whole point of which rests really on the self-conceit of a forgetful man, can excite no humour, interest, or sympathy. This fault is apparent in every work of Mr. Burnand's; he hits off the foibles of mankind with admirable cynicism; he has a very keen eye for the failings and frailties of his fellows, but there is a total want of sympathy between him and his public. One laughs always at, never with, Mr. Burnand's characters; they excite one's derision, never one's pity. It is impossible to get up any interest in the doings of a man who is so utterly idiotic as to mistake a strange lady for the wife from whom he has been divorced, and to imagine that, having been divorced in France, he has, under English law, committed bigamy in marrying again. The idea is one for burlesque, not for comedy. It is not only in conception, but also in execution, that Mr. Burnand has failed. What dramatic author, worthy of the name, would so construct his three act comedy as to bring its interest to a climax at the end of the second act? And yet this is precisely what Mr. Burnand has done, for, at the end of the second act, it becomes evident to everybody not a born idiot that the Mrs. Wellesley, whom Mr. Beckford mistakes for his first wife, cannot be anything of the kind, and the third act is occupied with the retangling of an unravelled skein. Of such workmanship as this it is impossible to speak in terms too strong. Mr. Burnand is, no doubt, very clever; at all events, one man thinks so, but he is not a dramatist. The piece serves to bring forward some old favourites, first and foremost of whom we welcome Miss Oliver, who plays Mrs. Wellesley with all her old brightness of style; and it also introduces to us two new friends, in the persons of Mr. George Clark, an American actor, whose distinguishing characteristic is self-confidence, and Miss Ada Lester, whose quiet and intelligent acting makes her an acquisition to a stage sadly deficient in actresses. To echo a suggestion from one of our contemporaries, could not the name of this theatre be changed? Even if Mr. Burnand were to call it "The Happy Thought," the name would be preferable to the ugly and inconvenient one which it at present bears.

It is no ordinary work that comes from the pen of Mr. Herman Merivale, who, in conjunction with Mr. J. Palgrave Simpson, has written the new play for THE MIRROR. In scholarship, in poetic sentiment, in dramatic feeling, his works stand out in welcome relief from the flashy comedies and the ridiculous sensation dramas, all real fire and real water, with which so many of our theatres are occupied. We have held, and shall always hold, that the mission of the stage is not to amuse only, but to ennoble the people, and we recognise with pleasure in Mr. Merivale a gentleman who both preaches and practises that doctrine. In seeing a play of Mr. Merivale's it is not only an intellectual treat that is afforded; he places us "in the company of wise and good men, to make us wiser and better than ourselves." The noblest thing on earth is self-sacrifice: "greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friend." This is the lesson which Mr. Merivale teaches us in *All for Her*; and although self-sacrifice is not fashionable now-a-days, the sight of it never fails to rouse admiration in the hearts of Englishmen. Hugh Trevor, a dissolute rake, the supposed bastard son of Lord Edardale, is in love with Lady Marsden, the affianced wife of his brother, the legitimate son. For her sake he destroys a certificate of marriage which would legitimise him and disinherit his brother; for her sake he submits to undeserved insults, to unmerited contempt; for her sake he makes the crowning sacrifice, and to save the man whom she loves takes his place on the scaffold. This is Mr. Merivale's simple and noble story; the thanks of all thinking play-goers are due to him for a play which is well constructed, well written, and possesses a powerful and healthy interest. Mr. Clayton can hardly be called a young actor; he has been long on the stage, and has, in his time, played many parts, but he has never had such an opportunity of displaying his ability as is afforded to him in the part of Hugh Trevor, and we are glad to be able to add that he makes the very utmost of his chances. The degraded spendthrift, ennobled by love, bearing in his face the signs of his true nobility, carrying on his body the rags of his disreputable life, receives ample justice at his hands. "Some day," Hugh Trevor says to Lady Marsden, "you shall know part of what the love of a fallen man can rise to; you will never know all." This is the kind of character which enlists in the highest degree the sympathies of an audience; a fallen man, raised to heights of heroism by the power of love. Mr. Clayton's performance of Hugh Trevor is by far the best thing which he has yet done. Miss Rose Coghlan merits high praise for her rendering of Lady Marsden. Nothing can give us greater pleasure than to record the success of such a play, thoroughly well written, well put on the stage, and admirably acted.

CHINESE CARVING.

FOR Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Pawns on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 67 Barbican.—*Advt.*

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

SATURDAY, 23rd OCTOBER.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
1541—Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill.

SUNDAY, 24th OCTOBER.

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

MONDAY, 25th OCTOBER.

15—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)

43—St. Paul's, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.
48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, Gateshead.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
377—Hope and Charity, Lion Hotel, High-street, Kidderminster.
737—Wentworth, Town Hall, Wellingborough, Northampton.
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Coopers'-street, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 26th OCTOBER.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
92—Moirs, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
1223—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford.
357—Apollo University, Masonic Hall, Oxford.
573—Perseverance, Shenstone House, Halses Owen, Worcester.
1393—Hammer, 92 Everton-road, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 27th OCTOBER.

193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds.
321—Unity, Crowe Arms, Crewe.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
996—Sondes, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.
1222—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High-street, Weston-super-Mare.
R. A. 236—Zetland, Masonic Hall, York.

THURSDAY, 28th OCTOBER.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1421—Lanthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, E.
39—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
594—Downshire, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
707—St. Mary's, Bull Inn, Bridport.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
Royal Arch Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire, Freemasons' Hall, Watford, at 3.30.
R. A. 766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.

FRIDAY, 29th OCTOBER.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—124—Seapatrik, Masonic Hall, Bridge-street, Banbridge, Co. Down.
165—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—392—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—102—St. Mark, 213 Buchanan-street.
103—Union and Crown, 170 Buchanan-street.
219—Star, 12 Trogate.
541—Marie Stuart, Prince of Wales's-terrace, Crosshill.
R. A. 122—Thetis, 25 St. James's-street
TUESDAY—413—Abhol, 213 Buchanan-street.
R. A. 67—Cathedral, 23 Struthers-street.
R. A. 73—Caledonian of Unity, 170 Buchanan-street.
WEDNESDAY—570—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
114—Red Cross of Constantine, Buchanan-street.
THURSDAY—Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street.
R. A. 117—Govan, Portland Hall, Govan.
FRIDAY—402—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.
153—Royal Arch, Schoolroom, Pollockshaws.
317—St. John's Operative, Freemasons' Hall, Rutherglen.
SATURDAY—28—St. John Kilwig, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
305—St. John's Wood Hall, Freemasons' Hall, Holytown.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, the "Hercules," Leadenhall-street, on Thursday evening last (21st Oct.) Present—Bros. Webb W.M., Ellis S.W., Blackhall J.W., Williams S.D., Parker J.D., Maidwell I.G., C. A. Grammer Hon. Sec., Austin P.M. Preceptor (pro tem), and numerous other brethren. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Livermore acting as candidate. The first, second and third sections of the third lecture were worked by Bro. Webb, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the first and second sections of the first lecture were worked by Bro. Horsley, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony. The fifteen sections will be worked next Thursday, 28th October, at 7 p.m.; the attendance of brethren on that occasion is invited.

Glasgow Chapter, No. 50.—This Chapter held its Installation meeting on Thursday, the 13th of October, at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. John Miller (re-elected) M.E.Z., Wm. Bell H., Jas. Louttit J., A Morrison Scribe E., W. Robinson N., P. Agnew Treasurer, Colin McKenzie 1st S., G. Gruille 2nd S., John Wright 3rd S., Daniel Leitch Superintendent of Works, R. Gardner Janitor. Visitors—Comps. F. A. Barrow P.G. Superintendent for Lanarkshire, A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G.S. Scribe E., T. Halket P.G.T., Jas. Balfour P.G. 1st S., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, E. Arthur N. 73. The Chapter having been duly opened, at the request of the M.E.Z., Comp. Wheeler proceeded to install the officers for the ensuing year, whose names are recorded above, for which he received the thanks of the Chapter. The deputation from the Provincial Grand Chapter were then admitted, the P.G.Z. congratulated the Chapter on the progress they were making, but expressed his regret that so few of the members attended the regular meetings; the Masonic life of a R. A. Mason seemed to be very short. Numbers joined, and then appeared to drop out of sight; he thought some steps ought to be taken to remedy this state of things. He was not finding fault with Chapter 50, his remarks applied to the whole of the Province, he might say to the whole of Scotland; he would be glad to do all in his power to remedy this state of things. After the Provincial Officers had retired, Comp. Miller opened a Mark Masters' Lodge, and advanced a brother to that degree, thereafter the companions spent a short time in harmony, under the presidency of Comp. Miller.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 19th of October, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. George McDonald R.W.M., William McGregor S.W., John Handbridge J.W., J. Ampleford Secretary, T. McKay S.D., R. B. Richards Steward, H. Kay Tyler. Past Master G. Weston. Visitors—Bros. J. Ferguson R.W.M. Dalnair Lodge, 503 J. Johnson jun., E. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, D. Reed R.W.M. 465. Business—Mr. John Wright having been duly proposed, was initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the R.W.M., after which a Lodge of M.M. was opened, when Bro. Robert Smith Roos of 73, was raised, along with Bro. Sigismund Gentle, for the Union Lodge, No. 332.

Thetis Chapter, No. 122.—This Chapter held an Emergency Meeting on the 18th inst., at 35 St. James's-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. John J. Scott M.E.Z., J. Johnston H., J. De Neil J., J. Quigley Scribe E., W. MacAlister 1st S., Gowan 2nd S., C. Baird 3rd S., D. Gilles Tyler, J. O. Park P.Z. The M.E.Z. opened a Lodge of Most Excellent Masters, P.Z. Park acting as S.W., J. De Neil J.W., when Comp. G. W. Wheeler conferred the degree on Bros. Alex and Love. The Chapter was then opened, when Bro. Love was exalted to the Royal Arch degree by Comp. Wheeler. The new 1st Sojourner, Comp. MacAlister, performing his duties in a highly satisfactory manner.

Faith Chapter, No. 141.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Wednesday, the 20th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. There were present Comps. C. C. Taylor Z., N. Gluckstein H., F. Hogard J., M. Bamberger Hon. Treasurer, Gompertz S.E., John Constable S.N., J. H. Ross P.S., Pinder 1st Ass., Longstaff Janitor, T. Mortlock I.P.Z., E. Gottheil P.Z., and a number of Companions. Bro. Adolph Gluckstein, of the Lodge of Faith 141, presented himself for exaltation. The ceremony being very impressively rendered by the M.E.Z. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Comp. Nardus Gluckstein was elected Z., and the remaining officers will follow in rotation, each one step higher. A well served repast followed, superintended by Comp. W. Smith. The usual toasts were proposed and responded to, and the evening enlivened with songs by Comps. D. Barnett, Pinder, Frankford, and a new song, by J. Constable, in which that Companion especially distinguished himself.

Robert Burns Chapter, No. 143.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 16th of October, at the Chapter Rooms, Halytown. Present—Comps. H. J. Shields M.E.Z., D. Baker H., W. McMurdo P.Z. as J., J. McMurdo Scribe E., N. G. Caldow Treas., A. Lills 1st Sojourner, C. Meek 2nd S., A. Smith 3rd S., A. Reid Tyler. P.Z. Comp. W. McMurdo. Visitors—Comps. G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, J. Johnson H. 122. Business—The installation of the officers; the board of Installed Principals consisted of Comps. Wheeler Z. 73, Johnson H. 122, Wm. McMurdo P.Z. 113, and H. J. Shields Z. 143. Comp. Shields then installed the remainder of the officers present. A Mark Masters' Lodge was then opened, with H. J. Shield M.M.M., H. Baker S.W., J. Johnson H. 122 as J.W., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as S.D. A petition was presented from Bro.

Dyer, who was duly advanced to the degree of Mark Master in a very careful manner. The thanks of the Chapter were given to Comps. Wheeler and Johnson for their services.

Macdonald Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 104.—The autumnal meeting of this prosperous Lodge was held at Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, Coleman-street, E.C., on Saturday, the 16th inst. The W. Bro. Robert Berridge W.M. being unavoidably absent, the chair of A. was occupied by the I.P.M., the W. Bro. William Worrell P.G. Organist, and amongst others present were Bros. T. W. White S.W., North Ritherdon M.O., E. Moody S.O.; the V.W. Bros. Thomas Meggy P.G.M.O. P.M. and Treasurer, and James Stevens P.G.J.O., P.M.; the W. Bro. Charles Hummerton P.G.D.C. P.M. and Secretary; Bros. W. P. Collins S.D., G. Yexley G.S.D.C., John Close, W. Johnston, J. R. Williams, J. M. Wohlgenuth, J. H. Pitt, H. F. Partridge, G. W. Verry, Truman, Grant, &c., and visitor, the W. Bro. Sigismund Rosenthal P.G.D.C. There were several candidates for advancement, but in each case absence from town prevented attendance, and the opportunity was thereby afforded for perfecting certain arrangements affecting the working of the Lodge, which resulted satisfactorily for the good of the Order in general and of the Lodge in particular. The brethren subsequently adjourned to a banquet, under the presidency of Bro. Worrell, who afterwards proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with considerable ability. The evening's pleasure was enhanced by the vocal efforts of Bros. Stevens, Meggy, Close, and Truman, and by a spirited recitation, by Bro. Moody, of "The Charge of the Six Hundred," in response to which the brethren "whipped round" for a donation to the fund for the forthcoming banquet of the gallant survivors of the glorious "Balaklava Charge." For a few brief moments the meeting resolved itself into a gathering of "Craft Masons," to do honour to the M.W.G.M., and to wish the royal traveller health, happiness, and "a safe return to his native land." A most enjoyable evening, characterised by that earnest good fellowship and social harmony which has always been conspicuous in the Macdonald Lodge, was brought to a close shortly before eight o'clock, when the brethren separated, "sorry to part," but hoping to "meet again" in February next.

Sincerity Lodge, No. 174.—This Lodge held its first meeting of the season on Wednesday, the 20th of October, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street. Present—Bros. E. J. Moore W.M., W. T. Wells S.W., G. J. Hilliard J.W., J. Newton P.M. Secretary, S. H. Rawley P.M. Treasurer, Appleby S.D., Seddon J.D., Webb D.C., Verry Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Barlow, Lacey, Tuck I.P.M., Balmer, &c., and a large attendance of members and visitors, amongst whom we may mention Bros. Harward, Morrison and Adrian from the United States of America, Bro. Self S.G.W. of Essex, Bros. Binckes and Terry, the Secretaries of our Boys' School and Benevolent Institution, Bros. Berric, W. W. Morgan, &c. The Lodge was opened and minutes of last Lodge and of the Lodge of Emergency held on 18th August were read and confirmed. The business on the summons was of an exceptionally heavy character. Messrs. Arthur Harper Bond, William Green Norman, George Gibson Harris and William Taynton were duly proposed, seconded and balloted for. The result being unanimous in their favour. Bro. G. Smith was raised to the degree of M.M., Bro. J. Vigor, formerly of the British Oak Lodge, was elected a joining member. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the four candidates named above were severally initiated into the Order. The W.M. conducting the ceremonies in a very satisfactory manner. Several interesting letters, referring to Lodge business, were then read, and other matters taken into consideration. The most interesting event of the evening was then brought forward, this was the presentation to Brother J. Newton, P.M. and Secretary, of a beautifully illustrated address on vellum, elegantly framed, together with a handsome gold watch and chain. Brother E. J. Moore W.M., in a few pertinent remarks, expressed the gratification it afforded him to be the medium through which the members of the Lodge desired to express their high appreciation of the valuable services P.M. J. Newton had rendered to the Lodge of Sincerity during the many years he had held the arduous post of Secretary to their Lodge. It was no light task to carry out the work that the office entailed, and he, as well as the brethren around him, were well aware that Bro. Newton must have heavily encroached upon the hours that should have been devoted to domestic comfort and enjoyment. Under these circumstances he had great pleasure in announcing that the brethren had determined to supplement their gift to Bro. Newton by offering for the acceptance of Mrs. Newton a gold locket and chain. Brother Newton returned thanks; he had always had great pleasure in fulfilling his duties in connection with the Lodge of Sincerity, and these handsome gifts would be a still greater incentive, if any were needed, to merit a continuance of the goodwill and esteem of the Lodge. The brethren next proceeded to banquet, where Bro. Moore presided in a most genial manner. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Bro. F. Binckes, in replying to that of the Grand Officers, said, that the brethren would insist on placing him in a position of embarrassment by coupling his name with this toast. He certainly was not a Past Grand Officer, as the post of Grand Steward, which he had had the honour to fill, did not carry that rank. He, however, was not entirely out of order, as it had been ruled that, in the absence of a Past or Present Grand Officer, a Past Grand Steward might reply to the toast. To the toasts of the Initiates, the new brethren each responded, Bro. Bond, in a few brief words giving evidence of being able to express in pithy sentences feelings natural on such an occasion. Bro. P.M. Tuck proposed the health of the W.M., he referred to the arduous duties the W.M. had had to perform during the evening, and to the excellent manner in which he had performed those duties. Bro. Berric here sang, in good style, "Happy we will on together." Bro. Moore replied: It was his duty to try and do his utmost to keep up the prosperity of the Lodge. He referred to the pleasure it had afforded him to present

the testimonial to Bro. Newton, and called attention to the Installation Jewel he was wearing, which had been presented to him by the Lodge. The Toast of the Visitors was replied to by the American guests. Bro. Harward expressing a hope that many English Masons would visit the States during the period appointed for the approaching Exhibition, and assuring them they would receive a cordial and fraternal greeting. "The Past Masters," was coupled with the name of Bro. Newton, who again thanked the brethren for the gifts they had honoured him with. "The Charities" was ably responded to by Bro. Terry, and the Tyler's toast brought this most interesting gathering to a close, not until great anxiety was manifested by those assembled as to whether they would be able to catch the inevitable last train. Subjoined we give the text of the address:—

SINCERITY LODGE, No. 174.

This testimonial, together with a gold watch, chain, &c. was presented to

BRO. JOHN NEWTON P.M.

in open Lodge, 20th October 1875, in accordance with a resolution passed at a Lodge meeting, held 19th May 1875, by the brethren, in recognition of the valuable services rendered to the Lodge, and especially in acknowledgment of the zeal and efficiency with which he has for a number of years carried out the arduous and important duties of Secretary, and also as a mark of personal esteem and friendship for the truly Masonic spirit always manifested by him towards his brethren of the Lodge.

Signed on behalf of the Lodge by the Members of the Testimonial Committee.

Chas. Lacey P.M., Chairman and Treasurer.

E. J. Moore W.M.
W. T. Wells S.W.
G. J. Hilliard J.W.
Jno. Appleby S.D.
C. H. Webb D.C.
Jno. Miller W.S.
S. H. Rawley P.M.

Jno. Balmer P.M.
Jno. Adkins P.M.
E. Tuck P.M.
Jas. Thomas
W. T. Roberts
Jno. Burchill

Fdk. Brown, Hon. Sec.

St. James's Union Lodge No. 180.—The first autumnal meeting of this influential Lodge was held on Tuesday, 19th inst. at Freemasons' Hall, Gt. Queen-street, W.C. Bro. W. C. Parsons W.M. in the chair, Bros. Stonor P.M. as S.W., F. Annett J.W., Robinson P.M. Treasurer, H. A. Stacy P.M. Secretary, Pillin S.D., S. Smith J.D., Harrison I.G., and Past Masters L. Herf, Smithett, Cameron, J. R. Stacey, and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, Bros. Baker, Atkin and Wright were raised to the 3rd degree, and Mr. Green was initiated. Great credit is due to the W.M. and the officers for their perfect working of the various ceremonies. A notice of motion was unanimously carried "That any brother offering himself as a Steward for either of the Masonic Charities, the Lodge should place a Life Governorship on his list until the Lodge became a Vice-President." A sum of £30 was voted to a distressed brother, and the brethren, in addition to that amount, liberally subscribed the sum of £38. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Francatelli, and superintended by Bro. Knill. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Smithett, in proposing the toast of the W.M., adverted to the excellent manner in which he had performed the various ceremonies during his year of office, his courteous demeanour in presiding over them, and the high estimation he is held in by every brother in the Lodge. The W.M., in reply, said he had to thank Bro. Smithett and the brethren for their kind expressions. He had been placed in the chair by the kindness of the brethren, and his aim was the welfare of the Lodge; he trusted, at the expiration of his year of office, that he would have the same good feeling manifested by the brethren. The toasts of the Visitors, Past Masters, Wardens and Officers followed, Bro. F. Annett very appropriately responding. The Tyler's toast was given, and a very enjoyable evening terminated. Bros. Cantle, Pillin, Stollard and Herf sang some very excellent songs. Several visitors were present. The Lodge of Instruction attached to this Lodge is held at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, and meets every Monday evening at 8 o'clock, under the able Preceptorship of Bro. J. R. Stacy P.M.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.—This Lodge held its first meeting of the season on Monday, the 18th of October, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street. Present—Bros. J. H. Ross W.M., Barnett S.W., D. Posener J.W., P. Levy Secretary, J. Peartree Treasurer, Pare S.D., Bailey J.D., Croaker I.G., Rawles Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. Constable, Bloomfield, N. Moss, S. E. Moss, Harfield, Holbrock, Solomon, Sydney, M. Harris. Visitors—Bros. Lean P.M. 1087, Plummer 177, Field 1321, Browne 1426, Terry P.M. (Secretary of the Royal Benevolent Institution) 228, Reed 765, Atkins 55, Frost 1347, Herold 1056, Morgan 1385, Baker 192, &c. The business of the evening consisted in passing Bro. Rowley, and in balloting for Messrs. Digby Sadleir, Thomas William Casburn Bush, Lionel Cohen, and Philip Felix Renaud Saillard. The ballot was clear, and the gentlemen were duly initiated by the W.M., who performed the ceremonies in a most perfect and satisfactory manner. Some routine business was then transacted, and the Lodge was closed. A banquet followed, at which Bro. Ross presided, and conducted the proceedings of the evening most ably. On the removal of the cloth he said:—Brethren, previously to submitting the toasts of the evening, allow me to congratulate you upon the resumption of Masonic duty, and the health you appear to enjoy. I hope that no circumstance has transpired during our vacation to mar your happiness. The first toast I shall offer for your reception is one of loyalty, and it always takes precedence in our assemblies, whether of Masonic or public regulation. An allwise Providence has hitherto spared her

Majesty from harm, and will, I hope, for many years, permit her to continue her peaceful and glorious reign. In proposing the health of the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, Bro. Ross referred to His Royal Highness's visit to our eastern possessions, and trusted God would grant him health and strength on his journey, wisdom to consolidate an everlasting peace, and safely restore him to his family, and the open arms of his English brethren. Speaking to the toast of the Pro Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon and the rest of the Grand Officers, the W.M. said it was a matter of consolation and profound pleasure to the Fraternity that the Order would not suffer in any way during the absence of the G.M., while we have so able and efficient a Pro Grand Master as the Earl of Carnarvon, whose diplomacy in matters politic as well as Masonic is well known, and with so courteous and willing a Deputy as Lord Skelmorsdale we are bound to be successful in our Masonic progress. The toast of the Initiates was suitably replied to, after which Bro. Constable I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. of the Tranquillity Lodge. All were gratified with the manner in which Bro. Ross performed his duties, and all would feel assured that so long as he filled the chair prosperity would be with them. Bro. Ross suitably replied, and afterwards gave "The Visitors," which toast was responded to by Brother Lean. The Past Masters was then given and acknowledged, and was followed by "The Charities," which was ably responded to by Bro. J. Terry, Sec. of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He thanked the brethren for the interest they had always evinced in the Institution he had the honour to represent, and concluded with the hope that at the next Festival, in February, they would be as willing as heretofore to do all they could to promote the success of the Institution. The Treasurer, Officers, &c., were in due course complimented, and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a termination.

Cornubian Lodge, No. 450.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, the 14th of October, at Freemasons' Hall, Haigh. Present—Bros. H. J. Warren W.M., G. B. Pearce S.W., John Combe P.M. P.P.G.D. J.W. pro. tem., J. P. Smith P.M. P.P.G.D. Secretary, F. Harvey P.M. Treasurer, W. Quick S.D., H. Broad J.D., James Roberts D.C., Polglase and Rees Stewards, Bigglestone Spray I.G., J. V. Bray Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Smith, Ellis, West, F. Pool, James Pool, Harvey, Coombe, Mudge and Osborne; several brethren were present as visitors from the following Lodges, Mount Sinai Lodge, 121, Penzance; True and Faithful Lodge, 318, Helstone; Druid's Lodge, 589, Redruth; Tregenna Lodge, 1272, St. Ives; Boscean Lodge, 699, Chacewater, &c. Business—To initiate, pass and raise three candidates. The whole of the degrees were worked in a faultless manner by the W.M., with the usual musical arrangements. Bro. Pearce S.W. and Bro. Quick S.D. gave the charges and lectures in each degree. Bro. Frost P.S.W. was nominated as W.M. for the ensuing year. Between 50 and 60 brethren adjourned to the dining rooms, on the premises, where a supper was provided by the Stewards. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and ably responded to; some capital songs were sung by the members.

Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction, No. 753.—The fifteen sections were worked in the above Lodge of Instruction, held at Lord's Cricket Ground Hotel, St. John's Wood, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., by Bro. F. G. Baker P.M. 753 and Preceptor, supported by Bros. Austen S.W., Long J.W., Healey, Secretary, L. R. Rogers J.D., Lucas I.G., Helsdon P.M. Among the brethren we noticed P.M.'s Cotton, King jun., Barber, Slyman, Purkiss, Vine, Lawrence W.M. 901, and thirty-eight others. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when, after the usual introductory address, the first lecture was worked in sections by the following brethren: Bros. Amor, Dunn, King jun., Blyth, Turner, Gordon and Burgess. The Lodge was resumed to the second degree, when the second lecture was worked by the following brethren: Bros. Lawrence, Long, Bentley, Parker and Taylor. The Lodge was resumed to the third degree, when the third lecture was worked by the following brethren: Bros. Austen, Tolmie and Slyman. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when Bros. Hall, Ballard, Vine, Foxley, Burford, Leigh, Keil, Mason, Hurdell, Finch, Cohen, Dunn, Haslett and Robertson were elected joining members. Bro. King jun. was unanimously elected an honorary member. After a vote of thanks had been passed to the Worshipful Master, and to which he made a graceful reply, the Lodge was closed in due form. We may here mention that we have seldom seen such good working of the sections, for there was hardly any prompting, and each brother seemed to try and outdo the other.

Alexandra Lodge, No. 985.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 18th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Holbeach. President—Bros. J. J. Bartram W.M., W. Redlington S.W., Thomas W. Curtis J.W., W. R. Mullins Secretary and Treasurer, James Hodgins S.D., Charles Jackson J.D., Jacob Markillie Tyler; Visitor, Bro. Kent, Franklin Lodge, Boston, 838. Business—Ballot for Bros. Slator and Wilkinson as joining members, and to initiate Mr. Thos. Thorpe and Mr. W. Porter.

Tregulow Lodge, No. 1006.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 19th of October, at St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall. Present—Bros. Edmund Rogers W.M., Theophilus Mitchell S.W., Francis Bartle J.W., Thomas B. Provis Secretary, Geo. Mitchell P.M. Treasurer, John H. Mayne S.D., Geo. F. Gregor J.D., Charles Tyzack D.C., James Kinsman Steward, George S. Bray I.G., Joseph Pryor as Tyler. The business consisted of the initiation of Mr. Joseph Letcher, St. Day, by the W.M., who conducted the ceremony in his usual able manner, and likewise gave the lecture on the

tracing board. The charge was given by the J.W., and the working tools were explained by the S.W. The passing of Bro. Timmins, by the W.M., who explained the working tools with his usual ability, the charge being given by the Treasurer in a very lucid manner, for which he was thanked by the brethren.

Grey Friars' Lodge, No. 1101.—On Wednesday, the 13th inst., the anniversary festival of this Lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Brother J. T. Freeman, the second initiate of the Lodge, was installed in the Chair of King Solomon, in the presence of a numerous and influential assemblage of brethren. The ceremony was performed by Bro. W. W. Moxhay P.M. 414, hon. member 1101, Prov. G.S.W. Berks and Bucks, in his usual happy and impressive manner. The W.M. was saluted by the members and visitors in each degree, all expressing their hearty good wishes; after which the appointment and investment of officers took place as follows:—Bros. J. Greenfield I.P.M., E. Margrett S.W., A. Welch J.W., Rev. C. R. Honey Chaplain, J. T. Stranson Treasurer, W. P. Ivey P.M. Secretary, W. J. Flanagan S.D., T. J. E. Howlett J.D., W. W. Ridley D.C., J. E. Danks I.G., W. Ferguson and T. Newman Stewards, W. Hemmings Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. Chas. Stephens, Hounslow P.M., R. Bradley P.M., Davis Organist, C. Bradley, Yetts, S. Wheeler and Moffatt, of the Lodge of Union 414, W. Wells W.M. 777, A. T. Rolfe, Great City 1426, F. P. Harbor 743, &c., &c. The effect of the ceremony of installation was considerably increased by the beautiful singing of Bros. Hounslow, R. Bradley and C. Bradley, under the direction of Bro. Davis, Organist, all of 414. The labours of the evening being ended, the brethren retired to refreshment, to the Upper Ship Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. Bailey, to which about fifty sat down. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; the glee and solo singing of the above named brethren, and the solo singing of Bro. James Robinson 1101, elicited rapturous applause. The Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. C. R. Honey, proposed, in eloquent language, "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary to the Boys' School, responded, congratulating the Lodge on the progress it has already made, and urging still further energy, till the W.M. of the Lodge has become a V.P. of each of the Masonic Charities. On the toast of "The Immediate and other Past Masters of the Lodge," the W.M. agreeably dilated upon the superior working of his predecessor, and presented and invested him with a splendid P.M.'s jewel, which was unanimously voted by the Lodge in recognition of the manner in which he discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year. The I.P.M. felicitously replied, assuring the brethren that his best exertions should be given to promote the welfare and prosperity of the Lodge. The jewel was very much admired. Upon the toast of "The Treasurer and Officers of the Grey Friars' Lodge 1101," the two Wardens replied, the Junior Warden, Bro. Welch, producing roars of laughter by his droll remarks. The Treasurer, in responding, stated that his office now was almost a sinecure, compared to what it was on his first taking it. The Secretary, in responding, read an analysis of the attendance during the past year, which caused much amusement, his motive in doing so was to induce a better attendance for the future. On the whole, a more agreeable meeting has not been remembered since the formation of the Lodge. Letters expressing regret at their inability to attend, with hearty good wishes, were received from the following distinguished brethren:—Sir Daniel Gooch Bart. M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. Berks and Bucks, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg V.W.D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes Bart. V.W.P.D. Prov. G.M., R. T. Woodhouse M.D. V.W.P.D. Prov. G.M., the R.W. John Hervey Grand Secretary of England, Robt. Wentworth Little, Secretary Girls' School, J. Terry, Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, W. Bros. W. Ballard W.M. 945, W. H. Robinson W.M. 840, J. Bance W.M. 574, Greville H. Palmer W.M. 771, W.M. 1492, &c., &c.

St. Oswald Lodge, No. 1124.—The regular meeting was held on 4th October, at Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry. Present—Bro. A. Walker W.M., John Thomas S.W., William Burton J.W., R. Graesser S.D., H. C. Corfield J.D., W. F. Rogers Steward, Rev. A. L. Taylor I.G., W. H. Spaul Secretary; Past Masters, Bros. J. Ward, E. Wood; Visitors, Bros. J. Blakeway, 262, S. Hazlitt, 1432. Business transacted—Bro. Thomas was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, Bro. E. Oswald Treasurer. The W.M., in his own name, and that of the J.W., presented Bro. Spaul with a handsome jewel, commemorative of the 28th April 1875. The W.M. also presented a very handsomely framed coloured likeness of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as M.W.G.M. of England, to the Lodge.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, the 18th day of October, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, E.C. Present—Bros. Pearey W.M., Stock S.W., Halford J.W., Killick Secretary, Gorbett S.D., Kidder J.D., Knight I.G., Christopher Tyler; Past Master, Bro. Beckett Preceptor. Business—Lodge opened in the usual manner, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Ockonden raised to the degree of M.M. 1st and 2nd sections of third lecture were worked. Lodge closed down in regular order. Bro. Stock unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodged closed punctually in perfect harmony. The fifteen sections will be worked on Monday, 1st November.

Devon Lodge, No. 1138.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 12th of October, at the Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbott. Present—Bros. W. R. King W.M., F. J. Pratt as S.W., J. S. Saunders J.W., Jno. Olver Secretary, W. Harris S.D., E. Huxtable J.D., C. Stevens Steward, R. Crooke I.G., John Haywood Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. P. D. Michelmore P.G. Steward, and F. D. Bewes P.P.G.S.B. Visitors—Bros. C. J. Harland P.P.J.G.D., D. Watson P.M., G. Hussey and W. J. Veitch, of St. John's Lodge, No. 328. Business—Minutes of last meeting confirmed. The Rev. George Towushend Warner, who had been previously balloted for,

was initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry, the charge being given by Past Master Bewes. This being all the business, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form at 9.30 p.m. The brethren spent a comfortable hour together after with the W.M., at the Queen's Hotel.

Eclectic Lodge, No. 1201.—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 18th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln-Inn-Fields, Bro. Mander W.M., J. H. Watts S.W., Pankhurst J.W., Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. P.M. Treasurer, Woods Secretary, E. J. Harty S.D., Taylor J.D., Saull as I.G., and Watts I.P.M. The Lodge was opened, and on the confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Walters, Blackwood and Walker were raised to the 3rd degree, Bros. Dr. Lloyd and Milmore were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Mr. R. Roby, having been balloted for and accepted, was duly initiated. The resignation of Bro. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. and Treasurer was accepted with regret, and the W.M., Bro. Mander, was unanimously elected Treasurer *pro tem*, until the regular election in January next. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. There was no banquet. Among the visitors were Bros. Smallpiece, Gardner, C. A. Burrell P.M., Coulton P.M., and several others.

Gladsuir Chapter, No. 1385.—The regular meeting of this Chapter was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts, on Thursday, 14th instant; among those present were E. Comps. T. S. Carter M.E.Z., J. Lowthian H., W. Cutbush J., J. Verry P. Soj., J. Terry P.Z., Comps. Livingston 1st A.S., Booth 2nd A.S., Cussans, Crutch, Yolland, Fisher, and Young. Visitors—E. Comps. Neall P.Z. 429, Berry 524, Willson 403. The business of the evening was to exalt Bro. James Cutbush S.W. 1385. The ceremony was performed by the M.E.Z., E. Comp. Terry very ably giving the Lectures. The following were then elected officers of the Chapter for the ensuing year:—E. Comps. Lowthian Z., W. Cutbush H., Hayward Edwards J., J. R. Cocks S.E. (re-elected), Verry S.N., Livingston P.S., W. Cutbush Treasurer (re-elected), and Goddard Janitor (re-elected). The companions afterwards adjourned to a capital supper, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507.—The first anniversary of this Lodge was held on Thursday, under the presidency of Bro. Jas. Willing, the first W.M., and one of the founders, assisted by the officers of the Lodge, a large assemblage of the brethren, and distinguished visitors, among whom were several members of Grand Lodge. The Lodge was opened by Bro. J. Willing, with Bro. Michael S.W., Williams J.W., G. Tims P.M. Secretary, &c. The minutes of the former Lodge and emergency meetings were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's account showed a balance of £25 in favour of the Lodge after paying for the furniture, Grand Lodge dues, and incidental expenses, a feature worthy to be recorded in a Lodge so young in existence. Bro. Sayers and Erwood were passed to the second degree, and Messrs. Gilbert and Swagson were initiated. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Jas. Willing I.P.M. installed his successor, Bro. Michael S.W. and W.M. elect, into the chair. The newly installed W.M. having been saluted according to ancient form, invested his officers:—Bro. Jas. Willing

jun. I.P.M., Williams S.W., Kingham J.W., Rose Treasurer, Tims P.M. Secretary, John Douglas S.D., Scales J.D., Side I.G., Stiles D.C. and Assistant Secretary, Colls W.S. and Daly Tyler. The appointment of those brethren gave great satisfaction. The W.M. then rose and said, he had a pleasing task to perform; a duty incumbent on him; that was to testify to the brethren the merits of one who was one of the founders of the Lodge. A committee had been formed to carry out the presentation of an excellent portrait of Bro. Jas. Willing jun., who had, as the first Master of the Metropolitan Lodge, so successfully conducted the affairs of the Lodge during his year of office. Bro. Michael said he hoped that, in years to come, Bro. Willing would live in their hearts, and that they might see him, in health and prosperity, for many years to come. Bro. Jas. Willing, amid the applause of the brethren, said he never expected so great a compliment to be paid him, but he accepted it as a token of the approbation of the brethren for his services, which always were at the disposal, not only of this Lodge, but of the Craft in general. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 69 in number, sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Cox. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bros. J. Smith P.G.P., T. Cubitt P.G.P., and T. A. Adams P.G.P. responded for the toast of the Grand Officers. Bro. J. Willing I.P.M. then proposed the health of the W.M., one whom the Lodge may be proud of; he would be a credit to it, not only for his working, but also for his Masonic qualifications. The W.M., in reply, said he should indeed be satisfied if he could be as successful as his predecessor, and, with the co-operation of the brethren, he would do all he could for the prosperity of the Lodge. (Cheers.) A pleasing task now devolved upon him, that was, to supplement the portrait that had been presented to the Lodge, by requesting Brother Willing's acceptance of a P.M.'s jewel; he hoped he might live long to wear it, and that it would be handed down as a heir-loom to his family. Bro. Willing returned thanks; their kindness would never be effaced from his memory. The toasts of the newly initiated brethren and the visitors followed, the latter responded to by Bro. G. Everett W.M. 177. Several brethren from America were pleased to express their opinion of the admirable manner in which the duties had been carried out, and thanks for the hospitality they had received. Several other toasts were given and responded to, and the brethren separated after spending a most pleasant evening.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507.—The usual weekly meeting was held on the 15th instant, at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road. Bros. Side as W.M., Berrie S.W., J. Carter J.W., Kingham S.D., Williams J.D., Scales I.G., James Willing jun. Treasurer, and Brothers Smith, Ormiston, Walters, Fowler, Michael, Child, Read, Shave, Little, H. Stiles, and T. A. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The ceremony of the second degree was rehearsed, Bro. Fowler acting as candidate. The ceremony of the third degree was then given, Bro. Ormiston acting as candidate. The working of the W.M. and officers was commendable. Bro. James Willing then rehearsed the ceremony of Installation, the candidate being Bro. Michael S.W. and W.M. elect of the parent Lodge. Bro. Borrie was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the meeting was adjourned.

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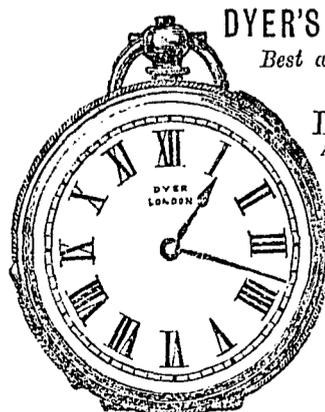
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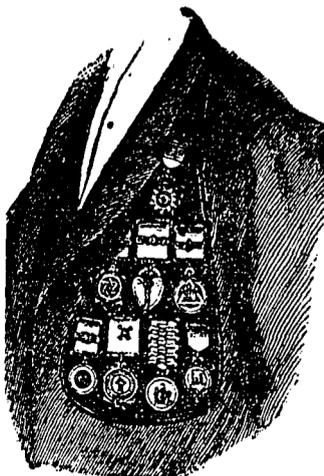
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