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## TOADIES AND OTHERS.

IF Masons act up to the principles they profess, there can be nothing like toadyism among them. Unfortunately, as we remarked in a recent issue, men, when they become Masons, do not always cast aside their un-Masonic weaknesses. Of course, we give them credit for striving to do so most earnestly, but the uncomfortable fact remains notwithstanding, that the relations between Members of the Craft are not always as Masonic as they should be.

One of the grand governing principles of our Craft is that of equality, by which we do not mean the cant equality of which theorists are prone to write, but that sensible kind of equality which places all men on an equal footing as regards certain conditions. For instance, men may be unequal as regards rank or wealth, but they may be equally respectable, their good deeds may shine with the same brilliancy, they may possess pretty nearly the same qualities of heart and mind. There may, in fact, be equality in certain respects, if not in all. This is well nigh the utmost we can hope for, and it is in this sense that Masonry regards all men as equal. We do not profess to say that all Masons are on an equal footing in all respects, or that they should be so. That were a proposition, which only an inmate of Bedlam would be likely to lay down. They are bound by the same vows, and to observe the same landmarks, but the equality they preach is not carried to an absurd point. At the same time it must be confessed there are too many members who sacrifice voluntarily, and too often for contemptible reasons, a portion of that equality which is their due. There are some who think it wise to carry respect for rank and ability to an extreme point. There is, perhaps, a magnate in the land who enrols himself a member of some Lodge. The majority of the members hail his advent amongst them with infinite pleasure. They consider his enrolment a mark of respect for the principles they profess. They show him that respect and deference which his status in society would command anywhere. But they do not turn this respect and deference into ridicule by servilely assenting to all his eccentric views and wishes. They claim the right to differ with him in matters of opinion, and, better still, they exercise this right. There are some, unfortunately, who think and act differently. There are those who fancy that any view propounded by a man of rank is better worth adopting than that laid down by his inferiors in the social scale. *Ceteris paribus*, perhaps, this assumption might not be very far from the truth. Assuming for a moment a perfect equality amongst the members in mental power, in virtue, in wealth, and therefore, in a certain sense, in the power to do good, there appears to be no doubt that inequality in rank would give a superiority to him who occupies the higher position. But this, we have said, is not the reason which actuates all minds. The bare fact that this or that view has been adopted by My Lord Tom Noddy, suffices to enlist the sympathies with him of plain, Mr. A. B. C., or X. Y. Z. These never think of inquiring into the justice or injustice of My Lord Tom Noddy's opinion. It emanates from him. It must be right, and they adopt it accordingly. These have half a mind, perhaps, at the first, to raise some reasonable objection, but the novelty of supporting the views of some nobleman is too much for them. They yield with what grace they may, and support, not for peace sake or some such worthy purpose, but for the single desire to ingratiate themselves in the favour of the great man, any proposal to which he may lend his countenance. This is one form of that toadyism which

exerts so powerful an influence in the world. Nor is it only the man of quality who has a number of his fellows always ready to accept implicitly his *dicta*. The man of fashion and the man of wealth find plenty who will readily yield acquiescence in all their views and actions on all occasions, not because they are of the same mind, but merely to ingratiate themselves in the good opinion of their patrons. It happens, of course, that many of these latter, while readily accepting the homage paid to their superior rank, wisdom, or wealth, have sense enough to analyse and see through the true motives of their followers, and not unfrequently give utterance to a few righteous sarcasms at their expense. But these have little effect. By long observance of toadyism the followers have gradually come to be insensible to every kind of reproach direct or implied. They are as slow at perception, as incapable of estimating the real meaning of what is said, as the Scot is pronounced to be in appreciating a joke. These fulsome adulators of men in high places are a perfect pest to society, and especially in Masonry, where freedom of thought and action, within certain limits, is the lot of every brother. It is no satisfaction to feel they would, and, in fact, do behave in the same fashion outside the walls of the Lodge. There is no creed so calculated to excite in us a just respect for others, while we yet retain a proper degree of respect for ourselves, as Masonry, and naturally enough we feel annoyed, nay even ashamed, perhaps, on finding that sundry of those who have joined our ranks have in no wise profited by the healthy teachings of the Craft. Masonry is capable of embracing, within its fold, men of all religions, and of every shade of politics, but we require them to be free men, and the toady, who is never happy save when currying favour with the patron of his choice, is not a free man, but a contemptible fellow.

Then there is the flunkey, whom we are disposed to set down as a more vulgar, a more pronounced specimen of the genus toady. The toady is more often a man of refinement, with sense to conceal the weakness he has so successfully cultivated. We do not mean to imply that flunkeys and toadies are severally representative of the same class of men in different grades. There are flunkeys in every station in life, and there are toadies. But the sycophancy of the latter assumes, we think, a less objectionable form. There is a vulgar meanness about the flunkey, which is less often noticeable in the toady, who, as we have said, has sometimes refinement to conceal the motives of his conduct. The flunkey often grovels in the dust at the feet of his idol, without the slightest sense of shame. The toady sidles up to him and softly insinuates himself into his good graces. The one follows like a cur, the other fawns like a spaniel. We do not venture to say there is, in the main, much difference between the two, but the one has seemingly a more respectable exterior.

Another objectionable kind of individual of the same species is the tuffhunter, the man who, whatever his own gifts may be, is never so happy as when courting the favours of the great. Such men will descend to any pettiness in order to win a smile, and a "Thank you!" from one moving in a higher sphere. He is ever their "very humble servant to command," to every one who has a handle to his name, or who is commonly reported to have had a grandfather. Such men not unfrequently enact their part very successfully. Men of good birth were not always men of good sense. They like flattery too, and when they find men of acknowledged parts paying homage to them, they are sometimes weak enough to fancy the tribute of respect is paid not to their rank, but to their virtues. Hence they take kindly

to the tuffhunter, and patronise him freely, and often to his advantage. The man who is ready at any moment to fall down and worship any image that may be set up by his patron, in order to subserve his own interests, such a man may do so profitably, perhaps, but he is not one whom we should hold up as an example for any friends of ours to follow.

Masonry has no place for the class of men we have been describing. Deference and respect must be paid to all men who are worthy, but the worship of idols is forbidden. The Craftsman who bows respectfully to authority is to be admired, but not he who does so obsequiously, without the slightest sense of self-respect.

## MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 12.)

### THE SOLDIER.

"Aye, put aside thy trusty sword, old comrade,  
And hang thy batter'd harness on the wall;  
Yet, like a war horse champing his curb,  
Thou'lt start at the trumpet's sound, and fight  
Thy battles o'er again."

THE military art has, in all ages, possessed a singular fascination for mankind. The pugnacity of the human race is one of its marked characteristics, and fighting is not merely life to the man of war, but it is the breath of the nostrils of the man of peace. It is by contention and strife that the world improves in civilization and in wisdom. Warfare, of some sort or other, is the decree of nature, and if we do not advance we die. If we do not fight against the physical evils which surround us, they overwhelm us; nay, if man hesitates to grapple with nature, and combat foot to foot, so to speak, for dear life, the "universal mother," will crush him without pity and without remorse. Life, then, is a battle, and we are all soldiers, fighting under various flags, for honour or for bread. It is perhaps because men instinctively feel that the fighting element in human nature is its most general attribute that the worship of Mars, and the veneration for military glory, is still so widely spread amongst us. The man who goes forth into the primeval wilderness, and with his axe brings the forest giant down, feels that he too, though he wears no livery, and does not march to music, is a soldier in the truest sense of the term. The physician, fighting against grim death and disease, what is he but a gallant soldier of science, who risks his life as often, in the deadly atmosphere of a fever stricken hospital ward, as his red coated brother does in the deadly breach? But the red coats, somehow, have carried off the higher prizes of glory from their less gorgeous brothers. Possibly greater heroism has been displayed by those colonists who contributed to make the western world a new centre of civilization than by any of the heroes of ancient or modern story. But disciplined courage has always had superior fascinations for the mass of men, and perhaps the soldierly nature is a greater favorite with the fair sex than any other. It has been said, and we believe with much truth, that a higher polish is acquired by gentlemen who have "knocked about in the army" than by any other class in the community. A soldier of middle age, who has seen society in all its varied grades, is usually remarkable not merely for ease of manners, and urbanity, but for that exquisite politeness which, in its highest development, approaches the ideal benevolence and self sacrifice of the Christian. Dean Swift, in one poetical piece, has declared that where wit and strength of intellect are concerned—

"Arms to the gown, the victory must yield."

Perhaps this may be true, but, in spite of the popularity of the church, the soldier carries the day in the public estimation. The tongue of the priest may fascinate many minds, but the scarred veteran wins, in the long run, more votaries than he.

We have said thus much of the military calling, because we desire to sketch, lightly and broadly, the lineaments of a brother who, during a portion of his life, was wedded to the career of arms. It was not his good fortune to win distinction in the field, but just as there are "mute, inglorious Miltons" in our midst who have never had a chance of giving forth their concealed poetic fire, so there are, doubtless, in the army ample materials for the making of great reputations. It is not every fighting-man's lot to march to the cannon's mouth, and the soldiers who so distinguish themselves are not always honoured with a line in the *Gazette*. The stuff out of which heroes are made is to be found in hun-

dreds of officers who have only drawn their swords upon the parade ground. We Englishmen are all aware of this fact, and if our race has a special talent for strategy or tactics, it has unbounded stores of true courage of that cool sort which ere now has won the admiration of the world. Our hero then is a soldier, whose service has been uneventful. If his own inclination had been consulted, he would gladly have taken his place in the field, but fate willed otherwise, and he has merely to look back with just pride to a rigid performance of duty and loyal devotion to his flag. During the stirring times of the Crimean War he was playing an important part in garrison life. Some of us can remember the satisfaction we all felt in the conviction that while the flower of the army was in the trenches, their places at home were supplied by gallant Englishmen, on whose zeal and courage we could all rely.

It was while he was in the army that our hero first had his attention turned to Masonry, into which he threw all the energies which his military duties left at his command. In the year 1852 he was initiated in the Phoenix Lodge, and afterwards joined the Lodge of Antiquity, of which for two years he was the Master. This somewhat exceptional honour was well merited, for from his first connection with the Order our soldier showed a high appreciation of its grand and glorious principles. In the year 1862, under the Grand Mastership of the Earl of Zetland, he was made a Grand Officer, and at the present time he is Vice-Patron and Trustee of the three Masonic Charities. When he was complimented upon his last promotion, he declared, with much truth, that "he had not been pitchforked into the position." He has served on the Board of General Purposes for a period of four years, and during his year as Grand Officer he presided occasionally at the Board of Benevolence. He has passed through all the offices of St. James R.A. Chapter, and now holds the part of Treasurer. He is most assiduous in his attention to his duties in connexion with the Charities, and as Chairman he has displayed that urbanity and good taste for which he is remarkable. Few men have worked harder for the cause than he, and perhaps he feels a just pride in the reflection that he is not indebted to his brethren for any special marks of their confidence and regard. Some day the man who has not received a testimonial will be pointed out as a most distinguished person. The few jewels he wears have been well and honourably earned. Our soldier is distinguished rather as a conscientious worker than as a brilliant orator or merely ornamental Mason. He speaks occasionally, and always to the purpose, but his oratory is usually suggestive rather than persuasive in its style, and has the effect of exciting discussion, or it throws new light on difficult or complex questions. Amongst Masons he is known as a genial and agreeable brother, who has a pleasant word or a bright smile for those with whom he is acquainted. He is, of course, essentially a social being, what military man is not? and enjoys the quiet and unostentatious luxury of his club with the zest of a man whose tastes and sympathies have not been blunted by time.

In the world he is known as a magistrate, and holds the sword of justice as firmly as he once held a not less awe inspiring weapon, and perhaps he feels as much satisfaction in being a terror of evil doers as he once felt when he stood at the head of a regiment of gallant fellows. Of his personal attributes we need scarcely speak. Our readers are too familiar with his features to need any special delineation of them. The broad forehead, from which the hair has receded, indicates intelligence, the keen eye gives promise of humour, and the lines of the mouth, and the contour of the chin, indicate firmness and decision. We may infer that he can tell a good story, and laugh heartily over anything witty or humorous. But his genial face is full of tender sympathy for the suffering or the oppressed. Under a firm demeanour he conceals a humane heart, and, like most cultivated Englishmen, he studies to hide the soft side of his nature under a mask of stoical indifference. A man of action and of decision, and of weight in Masonic counsels, valued for his high character and his simple devotion to truth and justice, his loss—if it would not be irreparable—would leave a sensible gap in our ranks of distinguished brothers. That he may long live to follow those pursuits to which he is attached is our sincere prayer.

"Stay, good Sir! thou canst not thither pass;  
Those *crétonne* folds, with sombre shadows, hide  
Our simple plot from prying eyes."

## SPECULATIONS ON THE PYRAMIDS.

THE various hypotheses that have from time to time been started with regard to the Egyptian Pyramids have, of necessity, to members of our Craft, possessed a special and peculiar interest. Whatever may have been the intention of the authors of these enormous piles of masonry, there can be not the shadow of a doubt that for upwards of 4,000 years they have remained unsurpassed as monuments of masonic skill, masonic energy, and masonic wisdom. The inquiring vigilance of forty centuries has failed to comprehend the mystery that surrounds their origin, and mysterious, to some extent, they will probably remain to the end of time. The Father of History, Herodotus, writing upwards of 2,000 years ago, makes reference to the Pyramids in a manner which proves them to have been even then of a venerable antiquity, and the objects of general wonder. Strabo, Diodorus Siculus, and Pliny have also had a good deal to say about them, though it cannot be affirmed that their speculations and surmises have added very much to the general stock of knowledge concerning them. Strabo, for instance, relates that one of the Pyramids was erected by the lovers of a famous courtesan, named Rhodopis; and Diodorus, writing a few years earlier, also gives currency to the same tradition. But the account given by Herodotus has certainly more of the appearance of being the correct one. According to this historian, the Pyramids were erected by King Cheops and his immediate successors, to serve as places of burial for themselves. And when it is remembered that the ancient Egyptians attached a very great importance to the preservation of their bodies after death, this does not seem an extravagant or improbable explanation. It is none the less certain, however, that the hypothesis thus broached has never been accepted without question, and at the present day, although the "tombic theory" is the one generally held by Egyptologists, a not inconsiderable section of the most able writers on the subject still hesitate to subscribe to it, or adopt it only in a partial and half-hearted manner.

In the middle ages, particularly during the period covered by the "Arabian Nights," the wildest and most extravagant stories were current as to the origin, history, and contents of the Pyramids. At one time it was asserted, that they had been built as treasure-houses for the Egyptian kings, and countless wealth was declared to be still concealed there; at another, that they contained the implements of unheard-of arts and sciences; and again, that they were the temples and repositories of all kinds of mystic terrors. The Caliph al Mamoun, son and successor of the illustrious Haroun al Raschid, and himself a man of great learning, determined at last to put an end to surmise by forcing an entrance into their inmost recesses. That our readers may have some idea of the degree of excitement which was felt on the occasion, we transcribe the words of a contemporary writer as to their presumed contents at that time. "In the western Pyramid," he writes, "thirty treasuries, filled with store of riches and utensils, and with signatures made of precious stones, and with instruments of iron, and vessels of earth, and with arms which rust not, and with glass which might be bended and yet not broken, and with strange spells, and with several kinds of magical precious stones, single and double, and with deadly poisons, and with other things besides. In the eastern Pyramid (the great Pyramid), divers celestial spheres and stars, and what they severally operate in their aspects, and the perfumes that are to be used to them, and the books which treat of these matters." It was on the eastern, or great Pyramid, that the caliph made his first attack, whence it may be inferred that the scientific treasures said to be concealed there possessed a greater attraction for the learned Mussulman than the treasures of silver and gold in the other Pyramids. An immense number of men were employed upon the gigantic task, and days and weeks were expended in what seemed to be a fruitless labour. The solid masonry for a long time resisted all their efforts. The interstices between the massive blocks of limestone were so exceedingly fine, the blocks themselves were so exquisitely true, that the implements of the labourers were blunted, and their patience exhausted before any considerable headway had been made. At last, just as they were about to abandon the attempt as hopeless, a stone was heard to fall into what seemed to be an empty space within the Pyramid. To work at once they went again with redoubled energy, and in a very short time they had laid bare, not only the descending passage, which had

probably been explored by Greeks and Romans hundreds of years before, but also the ascending passage, leading to what are called the king's and the queen's chambers. This, in all probability, had been untrodden since the Pyramid had been first closed up, some three thousand years before. And what did these Mussulmen find there? With frantic haste they clambered up the ascending passage, rushed along the grand gallery, and entered the king's chamber, burning with a desire to clutch the long-hidden treasures. All they found there was an empty and lidless coffer, or sarcophagus. No scientific instruments, no gold or silver, no jewels, magical implements, or even books. Their labour to all appearance had been in vain.

(To be continued.)

## MASONRY AND MAGIC.

(Continued from page 19.)

THIS then, according to Levi, is the great ARCANUM MAGICUM, the existence of an æther, a universal plastic element, a boundless ocean of power, hitherto concealed by adepts under the terms—*Gold, Sol, boiled dew, our Light, our Fire, Holy Spirit*—according as they wrote in the jargon of Rosicrucians, alchemists, fire philosophers, Gnostics, or Magi. Is this the same element described by Serjeant Cox, when he could no longer deny the facts of certain supra-mundane phenomena, as PSYCHIC FORCE?

On reconsideration, we are led to modify the assertion contained in our former paper, that this theory fails to account for phenomena affecting *solid* bodies. It is true we fail to find any explanation of the same in the writings of Levi; but this may be an omission. We can hardly deny the infinite possibilities latent in the manifestations of an element, the forces of which are so imperfectly known; which are only manifest to the mass of mankind in the electric shock or by the control of the mesmerist.

We are tempted to reproduce Levi's definition of

## THE MYSTERY OF DEATH.

"Wherefore are we born, to live so short a space? Why lavish such care upon children who must die? is what human ignorance cries, in most frequent and saddest doubt.

Thus also may well cry the human embryo, upon the approach of that birth which will precipitate it into an unknown world, in despoiling it of its preservative envelope.

If we study the *mystery of birth*, we shall find the key to the *mystery of death*.

Its foetal existence determined by a law of nature; the incarnated spirit is slowly awakened and produces with effort those organs which will hereafter be indispensable, but which increase its discomfort in proportion as they grow, in its pre-natal situation. The happiest time in the life of the embryo is when, in simple caryalid form, the membrane which serves as its asylum floats with it in a preservative and nutritive fluid. It is then impassive, living by the universal life, and receiving the imprint of those natural souvenirs which will, later on, determine the configuration of its body and the traits of its countenance. This happy age may be called, *the infancy of the embryo*.

Adolescence follows, the human form becomes distinct and the sex is determined, changes takes place in the maternal egg, like to the vague reveries of advancing youth. The placenta, the real and exterior body of the foetus, feels something new germinating within it, which is already attempting to emerge by breaking it. The child then enters more definedly into a life of dreams; its brain reversed, like to a mirror of its mother's, reproduces her fancies with such power, that it can communicate their shape to its own members. Its mother is to it, at this time, what God is to us—an unknown, invisible Providence, up to which it aspires even to the point of identifying itself with all that her emotions point to. It holds to her, it lives by her and sees her not; it would not even understand her; if it could philosophise, it would perhaps deny the existence and intelligence of that mother, who is, to it, but a prison and a preservative apparatus. Nevertheless, little by little, its subjection annoys it, it is agitated, tormented, it suffers and feels that its life is near its end. A moment of agony and convulsion comes, its cords are loosed, it feels that it must fall into the gulf of the unknown. The cata-

trophe occurs, and it falls; a painful sensation compresses it, a strange coldness seizes it; it gives a last sigh, which is changed into a first cry. It is dead to the life of the embryo, and born into the life of man!

In the life of an embryo it seemed as though the placenta was its body. That was, in fact, its special embryonic body, a body of no use to its new life in this world, and which is therefore rejected as an impurity.

Our body, used in this human life, is a second envelope, useless to our next life: therefore we reject it also, at the moment of our second birth.

Human life, compared to the next life, is but an embryo-nate. When bad passions end us prematurely, nature makes an abortion, we are prematurely born into eternity, exposed to that terrible dissolution which S. John calls *the second death*."

The next *arcanum*, according to old writers on occult metaphysics, is expressed by the two words "Coagula" and "Solve," corresponding to the active and passive principles of nature, to the male and female divisions in creation, to the mystic columns of Solomon's porch, JACHIN and BOAZ. Those, with the *grand Arcanum*, constitute the Magic triangle, and are formulated by Levi, into a fundamental dogma, THE EQUILIBRIUM OF FORCES. And in the symbol of this again, as superior triangle penetrating and interlaced with inferior triangle—we find the complete key of Art Magical, for our Royal Arch degree—the *Seal of Solomon*.

Given a knowledge of the grand Arcanum, the Astral Light or Psychic force; the effort of the Magician must be, firstly to gather it, to concentrate it for use, *Coagula*, and then to use it scientifically, always in due equilibrium, to distribute it in the desired direction—*Solve*. These arcana, the equilateral triangle seems to have symbolised in the ancient theogonies: expressing the secret of which initiates were the possessors, by which the Gods were influenced and occult forces subordinated to the will of man. Numbers of old fables or parables referred to this subject and the vicissitudes of its pursuit, conveying veiled counsel and warning, even by the voyage of Jason and the amours of Psyche.

Concurrent with the *material*, there runs a *divine* life through humanity. Human intellect has had its morning, its meridian is approaching, and its decline (by all analogy) may follow; but the divine part of man, the supra-mundane, must remain related to its source. The first in the order of *natural* laws is the law of AFFINITY.

The five-pointed star of our third degree, the pentagram of the Magi, is characterised by Levi as the symbol of the intelligence which governs the four elementary powers by unity; the prototype of balanced Light (of *our Light* in equilibrio), a ray of light descending from and returning to its every point. This, says he, represents the supreme *athanor* of nature, the body of man. A magnetic stream parts in two rays from the head, from each hand and from each foot. Each positive ray is balanced by a negative ray; the head is connected with the two feet, each hand with a hand and a foot, each foot with a hand and with the head. This is the sign of the Magician's power. The fact of positive and negative magnetic currents from the human frame is well-known to professors of animal magnetism; but we are not aware whether scientific experiment has confirmed the accuracy of the foregoing.

The pentagram, says Levi, when broken or irregularly traced, represents intoxication by the *Astral Light*, abnormal and irregular projections of the great magic agent, and their consequences in all kinds of wickedness and folly, called the *Seal of Lucifer*.

(To be continued.)

## MASONRY AND ANCIENT MYSTERIES.

[COMMUNICATED.]

IF we attempt to establish a connection between the far past and the present, we must bear in mind that the ancients have left us few memorials beyond their ruins and inscriptions. Their ruins indicate an amount of knowledge beyond our own; their inscriptions are sometimes in a character we do not yet understand, sometimes in a character we have partly deciphered, and sometimes in hieroglyphics, which, though we partly understand, may contain

signs, bearing secret symbols and meanings known only to the priesthood, and lost, at their extinction, to the world for ever; so that, in endeavouring to trace a connection between modern Freemasonry and the ancient mysteries, we have many difficulties to encounter. There cannot be a doubt that "free" or speculative Masonry is intimately connected with, and descended from practical Masonry.

Our word Mason has a very simple origin, being, it is said, derived from *Maçon*, French, from *Mas.*, an old word, signifying a house; thus a Mason is one who makes houses. As men in the early ages of society were destitute of those methods of diffusing knowledge which we now enjoy; and even of those which were used in Greece and Rome, where the art of printing was unknown, the few discoveries in art and science then made were principally confined to the priesthood. In those ages the pursuit of science must have been a secondary consideration. Architecture could only be preceded by agriculture; the first architects, therefore, would be the first philosophers. In order to preserve amongst themselves that information which they alone collected, appropriate words and signs would be communicated to its members, significant ceremonies would be performed at their institutions, that their engagements to secrecy might be impressed upon their minds, and greater regard excited for the information they were to receive.

Nor is this mere speculation, there exist at this day, in the deserts of Egypt, such architectural monuments as must have been reared in those early ages which precede the records of authentic history: and the erection of those stupendous fabrics must have required an acquaintance with the mechanical arts which is not in the possession of modern architects. It is an undoubted fact, also, that there existed in those days a particular association of men to whom scientific knowledge was confined, and who resembled the society of Freemasons in everything but the name.

In Egypt and the countries of Asia which lie contiguous to that favoured kingdom, the arts and sciences were cultivated with success, while other nations were involved in obscurity and ignorance; it is here, therefore, that Freemasonry would flourish, and here only can we discover marks of its existence in the remotest ages.

It is extremely probable that the first and only objects of the societies of Masons was the mutual communication of knowledge connected with their profession, and that those only would gain admittance into their Order whose labours were subsidiary to those of the architect. But when the ambition or vanity of the Egyptian priests prompted them to erect huge and expensive fabrics for celebrating the worship of their gods, or perpetuating the memory of their kings, they would naturally desire to participate in that scientific knowledge which was possessed by the architects then employed, and as their Order seldom failed, among a superstitious people, to gain the object of their ambition, they would, in this case, succeed in their attempts, and be initiated into the mysteries as well as instructed in the science of Freemasons. These remarks will not only assist us in discovering the source from which the Egyptian priests derived that knowledge for which they have been so highly celebrated, they will also aid us in accounting for those changes which were superinduced on the forms of Freemasonry, and for the admission of men into the Order whose professions had no connection with the royal art. When the Egyptian priesthood had in this manner procured admission into the fraternity, they connected the mythology of their country, and their metaphysical speculations concerning the nature of God and the condition of man, with an association formed for the exclusive purpose of scientific improvement, and produced that combination of science and theology which in after ages formed such a conspicuous part of the principles of Freemasonry.

The knowledge of the Egyptians was carefully concealed from the vulgar, and when the priests did condescend to communicate it to the learned men of other nations it was conferred in symbol and hieroglyphics, accompanied with particular rites and ceremonies, marking the value of the gifts they bestowed. What those ceremonies were we are, at this distance of time, unable to determine, but as the Eleusinian and other mysteries had their origin in Egypt, we may be able perhaps to discover the quality of the fountain by examining the nature of the stream.

The first colony of the Egyptians that arrived in Greece was conducted by Inachus about 1970 years before Christ, and about 300 years afterwards he was followed by Cecrops, Cadmus, and Danaus. The savage inhabitants of Greece beheld with astonishment the magical tricks of the

Egyptians, and regarded as gods those skilful adventurers, who communicated to them the arts and sciences of their native land. In this manner were sown, in Greece, those seeds of improvement which, in after ages, exalted that country to such pre-eminence among nations.

About 1500 B.C. the Eleusinian mysteries were instituted, in honour of Ceres; about the same time the Panathena were instituted, in honor of Minerva, and the Dionysian mysteries, in honour of Bacchus, who invented theatres and instructed the Greeks in many useful arts, but especially in the culture of the vine.

That the Eleusinian and Dionysian mysteries were ultimately connected with the progress of the arts and sciences is manifest, from the very end for which they were formed, and that they were modelled upon the mysteries of Isis and Osiris, celebrated in Egypt, is probable from the similarity of their origin; we must, therefore, naturally conclude that the Dionysia and mysteries of Eleusis were societies of Freemasons tinctured with the doctrines of the Egyptian mythology. The striking similarity among the external forms of those several associations, and the still more striking similarity of the objects they had in view, are strong proofs that they were only different streams issuing from a common source.

Those who were initiated in the Eleusinian mysteries were bound, by the most awful engagements, to conceal the instructions they received and the ceremonies that were performed; significant words were communicated to the members, Grand Officers presided over their assemblies, and the candidates advanced from one degree to another till they received all the lessons of wisdom and virtue which the priests could impart.

But besides the circumstances of resemblance, there are two facts transmitted to us by ancient authors which have an astonishing similarity to the ceremonies of the third degree of Freemasonry; the sacrifices, purifications, hymns and dances, which were necessary in the festival of Ceres, have indeed no place in the society of Freemasons, but these points of dissimilarity, instead of weakening, rather strengthen our opinion. It cannot be expected that in the reign of Polytheisia just sentiments of the deity should be entertained, and much less that the adherents of Christianity should bend their knees to the gods of the heathens. The ancients worshipped those beings who conferred on them the most signal benefits, with sacrifices, and other tokens of their humility and gratitude; but when revelations concerning the Divine Being had disclosed to man more amiable sentiments, the Society of Freemasons banished from their mysteries these useless rites with which the ancient brethren of the Order attempted to appease and requite their deities, and modelled their ceremonies upon this foundation, that there is but one God, who must be worshipped in spirit and in truth.

The opinions, therefore, of Freemasons that their Order existed and flourished at the building of Solomon's Temple is by no means so pregnant with absurdity as some men would wish us to believe. We have already shewn, from authentic sources of information, that the mysteries of Ceres and Bacchus were instituted about 400 years before the reign of Solomon, and there are strong reasons for believing that even the associations of the Dionysian architects existed before the building of the Temple. It was not indeed till about 300 years B.C. that they were incorporated at Tiers under the Kings of Pergamus, but it is universally allowed that they arose long before the settlement in Ionia, and, what is more to our purpose, that they also existed in the land of Judea; moreover, it is observed by Dr. Robinson, that they came from Persia into Syria along with that style of architecture which is called Grecian; and since we are informed by Josephus that that species of architecture was used at the erection of the Temple, we are authorised to infer not only that the Dionysiaes existed before the reign of Solomon, but that they assisted this monarch in building that magnificent fabric which he reared to the God of Israel.

Nothing, indeed, can be more simple and consistent than the creed of the fraternity concerning the state of the Order at this period. The vicinity of Jerusalem to Egypt, the connections of Solomon with the Royal Family of that Kingdom, the progress of the Egyptians in architectural science, their attachment to mysteries and hieroglyphic symbols, and the probability of their being employed by the King of Israel, are additional considerations which corroborate the sentiments of Freemasons, and absolve them from the charges of credulity and pride with which they have been so frequently branded.

## DID NOT LIKE MASONRY.

BY WM. ROUNSEVILLE.

I ONCE knew a man who did not like Masonry. That is by no means singular, for it has been clearly ascertained that besides Blanchard and the Pope, there are several persons in the world who should be recorded in the same category. But in this particular case there were some incidental circumstances which would serve to separate it from those of the distinguished individuals we have named, if not from the whole remaining list of dislikes of the venerable Institution.

In the first place this man of whom I write was a member of the Masonic body. I do not call him a Mason, because I have an abiding faith that all true Masons like Masonry, and the fact that he did not like the Institution is proof as strong as Holy Writ, to my judgment, that he was not a Mason. However, that may be, he had become one of the Fraternity in the regular way—had been proposed, balloted for, elected, initiated, passed, raised, etc., by the usual methods, and still he did not like Masonry. This is one of the singular and noteworthy facts connected with this case, because a great majority, if not nearly all of those who thus proceed, like the old Institution and speak in its praise. That this member did not, after thus progressing, proves him an exception to the general rule. Most persons like it, and do not scruple to avow the fact whenever an opportunity offers, others, few in number, perhaps, say nothing about it, while this one talked against it.

Another singular fact connected with this case, and which removes the individual from the possibility of a classification with the two distinguished gentlemen above mentioned, is that he was made acquainted with the "true inwardness" of the Institution; had sat in Lodge and Chapter as a member for a space of two years, and consequently might have been expected to know whereof he affirmed, and to have been able to give a reason for the faith that was in him. The gentleman above named had not those advantages, having neglected to avail themselves of the privilege of entering the door always opened to the worthy. It has been stated, it is true, that the Pope was a Mason before he became a Cardinal, and that he has lately been expelled from his Lodge for un-Masonic conduct, but it is preferred to regard the tale as an idle rumour, and hence our man who did not like Masonry must not be classed with the Pope or the President.

I mention another singular fact that exists in this case; the man who did not find that such was the case when he took the first degree. On the contrary, he liked that well. He did not find his dislike at the second degree; nor at the third degree, nor at the fourth, nor at the fifth, nor at the sixth, neither did he find his cause for dislike to Masonry when he was inducted into the seventh degree. It is allowable to say that he was well satisfied at every one of the stages in his progress, for he immediately went forward until he was a Knight Templar. His eulogies on that Order on the night of his creation were calculated to convey a strong impression that he liked Masonry "from turret to foundation stone." In point of fact, he stated that to be the case then and there, and it was only after a lapse of two or three years that he found that he did not like Masonry. It may be thought strange that it should require so long a period for him to discover the bad points in Masonry, but so it was. To an average mind it would seem that he could have discovered "the cat in the meal" before he had taken thirteen degrees, but, according to his own assertion, such was the fact. He actually took all the degrees in the Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery, and still had not then found out that he did not like Masonry.

There is still another fact in connection with this case that we must not forget to put on record. The earliest period, now recollected by the brethren, at which this member expressed that he did not like Masonry was just after an election in which he had been a candidate and defeated. He was heard to assert, when in company with brethren, that Masonry was good for nothing unless it would assist a brother in such an exigency as that, and he soundly rated those who had not voted for him. This fact presents an inseparable obstacle to our classifying this man, who did not like Masonry, with Blanchard and the Pope, because they uniformly insist, I believe, that Masons do vote for each other against all comers, while he strenuously insists that they ought so to vote but will not. As we do not desire to injure the opposition, we refuse to put together in the same class elements so incongruous.

It was noticed, by the strict attendants, on the meetings of the Lodge that our member was present but seldom. This was the winter following the disastrous election. Hence it was not surprising to them that he should announce that he did not like Masonry. And as they became more intimately acquainted with him some of them wondered why he ever liked Masonry, and what induced him to join the Fraternity at all.

In the spring our man, who had faintly avowed that he did not like Masonry, opened a dry grocery store in the village in which he lived. This fact precludes us utterly from classing him with the two distinguished men named above who do not like Masonry, for neither of them, so far as we can learn, has ever run a grocery, wet or dry. But the fact of the opening of this grocery could not well be omitted from a history of the case, because it is one of the horns of the dilemma on which the man, who did not like Masonry, impaled the Lodge.

Trade opened rather brisk in the afore-mentioned dry grocery, and the proprietor thereof congratulated himself on the prospect that he should soon acquire an abundance of shekels, and that his brethren of the Lodge were fast becoming liberal contributors. He congratulated himself that he had found the true use of Masonry, and that henceforth he would be able to make it pay; whereas, heretofore, to use his own phrase, "it had not paid him the first nickle!"

Matters passed smoothly enough through the spring with our grocery man, but on the commencement of the summer there was a

very noticeable falling off in his sales and receipts, and what troubled him more than this, was that many of his brother Masons began purchasing their supplies of one who was not a Mason, who kept a shop similar to his a little farther down on the opposite side. To obviate this difficulty and repair this loss, he was seized with an intense desire to attend the communications of the Masonic bodies to which he belonged. Scarcely a meeting escaped him, and he became voluble in the Lodge on the blessings which followed a membership therein. Still there were those who could not forget that he was the man who did not like Masonry, and these did not extend to him their most implicit confidence in regard to his new professions.

We have all of us read the story of the old man who found a rude boy stealing his apples. Our grocery man pursued a similar course of procedure. When he found that mild measures would not have the desired effect, he tried those more heroic. When Lodge visits and Lodge speeches failed to bring back his customers, he renewed his asseverations that he did not like Masonry—that it had never been worth a cent to him—that he would use his great and overpowering influence to put it down, etc. He should like to know what Masonry was good for if it would not make men patronize a brother in preference to an outsider, and here again our brother showed conclusively that he must not be classed with the distinguished dignitaries named in the first paragraph of this article. He finds fault with Masonry because it fails to incline its members to prefer each other in business; while they charge that very thing against it, and aver that it does compel its members to trade with a brother in preference to a profane. This is a difficult world to please, and Masonry has failed to do it in many an instance.

Time passed on. Neither threats nor abuse brought back the patrons of the grocery store, and when fall arrived there was a notice of "FOR SALE! CHEAP FOR CASH" over its front door. Things looked old and dilapidated about the premises, and the countenance of the proprietor had a look as though he would hardly attempt to break down any more Lodges.

While matters were in this condition, one morning an old Past Master, who had not worn the threshold of that establishment for the past year, entered for the purpose of purchasing some trifling article.

As he was putting it in his pocket, the proprietor began:—

"Mr. B——, had the brethren of the Lodge extended to me their patronage as I expected, I should not have been compelled to shut up or sell out now."

"Very likely," was the cool reply.

"I think the treatment they have given me is un-Masonic and outrageous."

"That is not so likely to be true," came from the Past Master.

"Ha! you justify such conduct!"

"I justify the members of the Lodge in not buying of you."

"Then you think that one member is not required by the Order of Masons to patronize another member in preference to an outsider?"

"All other things being equal, I think it the duty of members to give their patronage to a brother just as we would trade with a friend in preference to a stranger."

"That is what I asked of them, and they refused to trade with me in preference to my neighbour below."

"But you forget one thing—'all other things being equal.' In your case all other things were not equal. You sold sugar at ten cents which your neighbour sold for nine, and most things in about the same proportion."

"I made only a fair profit."

"Still, he undersold you, and is apparently prosperous, while you are driven to the verge of bankruptcy. This shows that his sales gave him living profits."

"Gave short weight perhaps?"

"A thing you have done sometimes."

"Do you charge me with dishonesty, sir?" shouted the man of goods, seizing a chair as if to smite down the calumniator.

"Keep cool! There is no need of adding crime to crime. I found your weight too small and your measure too short. All that you were full in was the price. In that you never failed. I quit trading with you on that account. I presume my neighbours have done the same for the same reason. I think they did right."

"Just as I expected! I do not like Masonry anyhow."

"And Masonry abhors the actions of which you have been guilty as nature abhors a vacuum. I do not wonder that you do not like Masonry. If you did like it it would prove it corrupt."

"Get off my premises! I will be insulted by your presence no longer."

"First let me hand you a copy of charges preferred against you in the Lodge, and to say that a list of the witnesses by whom it is expected to prove them will be given you as soon as it can be arranged."

As the old Past Master passed out, he heard his brother mumbling to himself, among the words of which he recognised the old refrain, "I never did like Masonry, and now I dislike it more than before."

It is a fact, which has been sometimes stated, that such men as this grocery keeper hardly ever do like Masonry. Unless it will give them votes and nickels, they do not like it. So mote it be.—*Voice of Masonry.*

## ALEXANDRA LODGE, No. 1511, HORNSEA.

THE ceremony of installing the W.M. of this Lodge for the ensuing year took place on Wednesday, and the event excited considerable interest in Masonic circles. This young, but popular and flourishing Lodge, was founded little more than a year ago, for the benefit of those brethren who reside at our suburban watering place, and others who are in the habit of visiting it during a considerable part of the year. The most gratifying success has attended the efforts of its founders, the Lodge now numbering nearly fifty members; while the practical interest it has displayed in the Masonic Charities has already earned for it a considerable amount of credit in the province. At a previous meeting the unanimous choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. Benjamin Lamb Wells as the new W.M., and his installation was witnessed by a large number of the Craft, amongst whom were many past and present officers of rank. The Lodge was opened in due form at half-past three o'clock, under the presidency of Bro. Thomas Oates W.M., when some ordinary business was transacted, and the W.M. elect begged the acceptance by the Lodge of a splendid new harmonium, which had been subscribed for by brethren whose names were engraved on a plate recording the presentation. The gift was cordially accepted. Bro. Oates then vacated the chair, which was taken by the Installing Master, Bro. George Hardy P.M. P.S.P.G.D., to whom Bro. Wells was presented for installation in the usual form. The ceremony was performed in the most impressive manner by the Installing Master, whose rendering of the charges was much admired by the assembly. On the dais was a perfect array of provincial officers, including the W. Masters of Humber and Kingston Lodges, at Hull. The ceremony having been concluded according to the ancient formularies of the Craft, the newly-installed Master invested his officers for the year, as follow:—Bros. Thomas Oates P.P.G.O. I.P.M., William Carr S.W., Matthew P. Hockney J.W., the Rev. T. W. Kelly P.P.G.C., West York, Chaplain, George Hardy P.M. P.S.P.G.D. Lecture Master, John Thompson P.M. P.G.S.B. Treasurer, Wm. Fugill Secretary, Thomas Liggins S.D., J. Helsop J.D., Henry James Amphlett Director of Ceremonies, George Eaton and T. Liggins Stewards, George Milner Organist, Cook Laking I.G., and Thomas Cryer Tyler. The W.M. then, in a few happily chosen sentences, thanked Bro. Hardy for his kindness in officiating on the occasion, and spoke in complimentary terms of the ability displayed in the imposing ceremony which had just taken place. The Installing Master acknowledged the compliment paid him, and expressed the pleasure it afforded him at all times to assist in furthering the interests of this young and flourishing Lodge. A very pleasing incident then took place, Bro. H. Voight stepping forward and presenting to the Immediate Past Master, in the name of the brethren, a very handsome gold Past Master's jewel, in token of their esteem and in recognition of the valuable service he had rendered to the Lodge in the first year of its existence. Bro. Oates accepted the gift with a due expression of his thanks, and was evidently much moved by this unexpected tribute of appreciation on the part of the brethren. The usual formularies were then gone through, and the Lodge was closed with the customary solemnity.

At five o'clock the brethren sat down to a *recherché* banquet, which was provided at the Alexandra Hotel, by Bro. Harrison. The spacious dining-room had been effectively decorated with trophies, flags, &c., in which the artistic skill of Bro. E. Johnson was admirably displayed, and the apartment presented a most cosy and elegant appearance. W.M. Bro. B. L. Wells presided, supported by the Immediate Past Master, the Installing Master, the Worshipful Master of the Humber Lodge, Bro. Alfred W. Ansell, the Worshipful Master of the Kingston Lodge, Bro. W. Hunt, and Bros. W. Tesseyman P.M., Alderman Charles Wells P.M. (ex-Mayor of Hull), Thomas Sissons Prov. Grand Registrar, R. T. Vivian P.M., Martin Kemp P.M., W. D. Keyworth P.M., E. Garforth P.M., J. Hudson P.M., John Thompson P.M., &c., and the vice-chair was filled by the Senior Warden, Bro. W. Carr. At the conclusion of the repast, the usual loyal and Craft toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. Alderman Charles Wells then proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W. Prov. Grand Master of N. and E. Yorks. and the W. Bro. John Pearson Bell, M.D., Past Grand Deacon, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire." (Cheers.) They had had an opportunity recently of seeing the way in which the Prov. Grand Lodge was worked, and from what he had seen he felt that the Earl of Zetland left a very favourable impression on the minds of the Hull brethren. At the time when Prov. Grand Lodge was held in Hull, he (the speaker) had the honour of occupying the civic chair of that borough, and in his capacity as Mayor he had the privilege of receiving the noble earl, and of spending some hours in his company at the Town Hall. Their worthy Bro. Dr. Bell was a veteran in Masonry, and was one of the oldest Past Masters in Hull. (Cheers.) During the late earl's illness a great amount of labour devolved upon his deputy, and the same would necessarily be the case for a few years, owing to the inexperience of the present Prov. Grand Master. Some time ago Dr. Bell entertained serious thoughts of retiring from the position he had so long and worthily filled, having attained the highest honours that could be placed upon him in the province. And it was only his firm conviction that his retaining that office would be to the benefit of the Craft generally that he was induced to reconsider his determination. (Cheers.)

The Prov. Grand Registrar returned thanks in a humorous speech, in which he passed a high encomium on the ability and zeal displayed by the Provincial officers.

Bro. W. Tesseyman P.M. next proposed "The Worshipful Master of the Alexandra Lodge, and the newly-appointed officers." He gave this toast with peculiar pleasure, having watched with much interest the rise and progress of this Lodge. From his acquaintance with Bro. Wells he felt that gentleman had all the qualifications requisite for a good Master, and he was assured that when his term of office expired they would have no cause to regret having placed him in that chair. (Applause.) He trusted they would all support the new Master as far as they possibly could do, by attending the meetings

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Home Enjoyments.—These can never be obtained till health dwells within the house, whatever the person's station or circumstances may be. Holloway's remedies, by their purifying and healing powers, secure bodily soundness in the most simple and natural way, by expelling all impurities, relieving all hurtful accumulations, and inducing perfect regularity of action. Invalids should give these innocent and effective medicaments a fair trial before they permit themselves to fall into a chronic state of ill health. Still more should they seek succour from Holloway's regenerating treatment before they yield themselves up to despair and sink under their sufferings. Both Pills and Ointment may be used with safety under guidance of their accompanying directions.

regularly, and doing all they could to further the objects of Masonry. No doubt, the Worshipful Master, by his kindness, ability, and good management, would so conduct the affairs of the Lodge that the Alexandra would go on as she had begun, and be held in high esteem, not only in this province but by the Grand Lodge of England. (Cheers.) He wished a successful and happy year to the new Master and his Officers, and concluded by again expressing a hope that the Alexandra Lodge might soon become second to none in the province. (Cheers.)

The Worshipful Master, who was enthusiastically received, briefly returned thanks for the very flattering manner in which the proposer of the last toast had spoken of him. He had been associated with Masonry for many years, and although, unfortunately for himself, he had not been so assiduous as he might have been, yet it was a source of the utmost pride and satisfaction that he had at last attained the honourable position to which the brethren had just elected him. (Cheers.) He was certain that the officers he had chosen were all willing to do their best to assist in the performance of the duties that were required of him; and for his own part, he should spare no effort to prove himself worthy of their choice. He was delighted to see so many Past Masters present on this occasion, and thanked them most sincerely for their attendance, and for the kindly feeling they evinced towards the Alexandra Lodge. He earnestly asked them to render what assistance they could in furthering the interests of the Lodge, and again returned his heartfelt thanks for the great honour which had this day been conferred upon him. (Cheers.)

Bro. Martin Kemp P.M. proposed "The retiring W.M. and his Officers." (Applause.) They were met to celebrate the first birthday of the Alexandra Lodge, and he believed he was speaking the sentiments of the brethren assembled when he sincerely wished it "many happy returns of the day." (Cheers.) He was glad to find that an immense amount of prosperity had attended his efforts, and he expressed a sincere hope that the Alexandra would continue to receive increased support in the future. (Cheers.) The very fact of the brethren having presented to the Immediate Past Master so handsome and valuable a token of their esteem showed how fully his services had been appreciated. (Cheers.) He had the pleasure of discharging a similarly pleasing duty in the Humber Lodge on the preceding evening, when the brethren presented to the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Jonathan West, a like tribute of their regard and appreciation. (Cheers.) It showed that when a man discharged his duty with fervency and zeal he was always rewarded by the gratitude and affection of those with whom he was associated. (Applause.)

Bro. T. Oates I.P.M., in responding, alluded to the difficulties which accompanied the formation of a new Lodge, but which had been happily surmounted, so far as the Alexandra was concerned. The Lodge had been brought into a very successful position, and the officers had all worked well with that single aim in view. (Hear, hear.) He thanked them, one and all, for their kind assistance, and trusted the Lodge might continue to prosper. (Cheers.)

The Worshipful Master then gave "The health of Bro. Geo. Hardy, P.M. P.G.P.G.D.," in doing which he spoke in felicitous terms of the way in which the Installing Master had discharged his duties on that occasion, and the eminent position which he had earned in the Craft by his diligent study of the principles of Masonry. Those principles were not only apparent in Lodge, but they influenced his whole social life—(cheers)—and he returned Bro. Hardy his cordial thanks for the assistance he had rendered to the Alexandra Lodge ever since its foundation. (Cheers.)

Bro. Hardy P.M. P.S.P.G.D. briefly acknowledged the compliment that had been paid to him, and said it had been a source of very great pleasure to be present this evening, and to instal Bro. Wells into the principal chair of this Lodge. He had had the pleasure of Bro. Wells' acquaintance from his boyhood, and felt sure he would faithfully discharge the duties which had been entrusted to him. If the Alexandra Lodge required his services at any time they should be freely offered. (Cheers.)

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Sister Lodges," expressing his thanks for the kind manner in which the past officers and brethren of other Lodges had rallied round him on this occasion. (Applause.)

Bro. A. W. Ansell, W.M. of the Humber Lodge, in responding, wished for the Alexandra a year of prosperity, as the youngest Lodge save one in the province. He felt that the brethren of older Lodges had a right to assist them. They had many old and tried friends in the sister Lodges, and in the Alexandra they felt they had a new friend coming amongst them in the province—one whom they wished to honour and love and whom they intended to support. (Applause.) Masonry was the highest exemplification of human love, tending to bring them into nearer relationship—no matter how far distant the Lodges were from each other; and thus they resolved to further the cause of Masonry wherever it might be. The Humber Lodge would endeavour at all times to support the Alexandra in their endeavours. In the North and East Ridings there was ample scope for the extension of Masonry, and they rejoiced at its unparalleled prosperity and progress. (Applause.) Having the Prince of Wales at their head as Grand Master, they felt that Masonry was an honourable profession, of which they had just reason to be proud. "Loyalty and charity" was their universal watchword; and, therefore, they should go hand in hand with all the noble principles inculcated in the Craft. He wished the Master and officers of this Lodge all happiness and prosperity during the ensuing year; and if the Lodge he represented could be of any service to them it would only be a matter of pleasure and duty to lend such aid as he was competent to offer. (Cheers.)

Bro. W. Hunt, W.M. of the Kingston Lodge, also responded to the toast. As a Mason, he had himself had the opportunity of visiting Lodges in countries the languages of which he did not understand, and had had the privilege of fraternising with the brethren in the same spirit of cordiality as he could have done at home. And this went even beyond the civilised countries of Europe. (Hear, hear.) They had the best possible proofs that the aborigines of Australia,

though they had lost the civilisation they once enjoyed, knew about Masonry—that it was one of the things which existed amongst them hundreds, or it might be, thousands, of years ago. The Earl of Carnarvon, when a young man, travelled a great deal in Palestine, and at the time of his return, he (the speaker) happened to be Master of a Lodge in Plymouth, and had therefore the honour of entertaining the noble earl. In the course of his speech on the occasion he told the brethren that while he was travelling in some parts of Palestine, and mixing with the Bedouin Arabs, he made himself understood by Masonic signs. They regarded him as a brother, and received him with the same cordial feeling as though he had been one of themselves. (Cheers.) He did not know that there were any Masonic Lodges amongst them at the present time, but no doubt there had been at some remote period, and that the legends had been handed down amongst them till the present day. (Applause.)

Bro. Alderman Charles Wells P.M. acknowledged the toast on behalf of the Minerva Lodge. He had been a member of the Minerva Lodge twenty-eight years, had attended pretty regularly, and had passed through most of the offices. And he felt sure nothing gave greater pleasure to the members of these Lodges than to reciprocate those visits to and from each other. He hoped the Alexandra would continue for a long time to have members in common with the Minerva, and that the latter would be, as they were at present, anxious to give any assistance to this Lodge, which they regarded as an offshoot of their own. (Cheers.) He had double pleasure in being present to-day and seeing his brother in the honourable position into which he had just been installed. He had recognised with much pleasure the Worshipful Master's desire to advance in the Craft, and felt sure the Lodge would not suffer by having placed him in the chair. He wished the Lodge to accept from a very old Past Master his best wishes for its future welfare. (Cheers.)

The Prov. Grand Registrar, in proposing "The Masonic Charities," referred at length to the essential relationship which existed between Masonry and benevolence, and extolled the noble institutions which they, as Masous, combined to support and encourage. Having alluded to these institutions in detail, he earnestly exhorted the brethren to give freely towards their support, and to respond substantially to the appeal which was made annually by Bro. Thompson, the Prov. Grand Steward of the Charities, who was also a most "sturdy beggar" in this respect. (Cheers.) In conclusion, he warmly appealed to the brethren to do all they could in furtherance of the benevolent objects of the Craft. (Cheers.)

Bro. John Thompson P.M., in responding, reminded those present that charity was the foundation of Masonry. The world outside might ask "What is Freemasonry?" and though they could not reveal its secrets they could point to those grand institutions which had been founded by Masons, and which would, no doubt, be vastly enlarged in the future. He wished to his heart every Lodge in the North and East Ridings had done for their Charities what the Alexandra Lodge did last year. (Loud cheers.) They were most all of them sadly deficient; and he compared the existing state of things in this province with the zeal manifested in the West Riding, where they most liberally contributed to the support of the Masonic Institutions. He then proposed to make a collection in the room, and amidst much good humour the plate was passed round, and the sum of £5 5s was realised. A conversation then ensued as to the practicability of raising the sum to ten guineas, which would endow a chair, and give to the Lodge a vote in perpetuity. The Senior Warden (Bro. W. Carr) then generously offered to subscribe five guineas for the purpose, and the announcement was received with hearty and prolonged cheering. The disposition of the sum having been left in the hands of the Worshipful Master, he decided to appropriate it to the Boys' School.

The Senior Warden then proposed "The Visiting Brethren," on whose behalf Bro. R. T. Vivian P.M. responded.

Bro. Charles Wells P.M. gave "The Ladies," for whom Bro. T. Reynolds gallantly responded, and this closed the official list.

During the evening some excellent songs were given, assistance being rendered as accompanists by Bros. T. Oates and E. Johnson, and the proceedings were characterised throughout by the utmost harmony and good feeling. Bro. H. J. Amphlett officiated as director of ceremonies.

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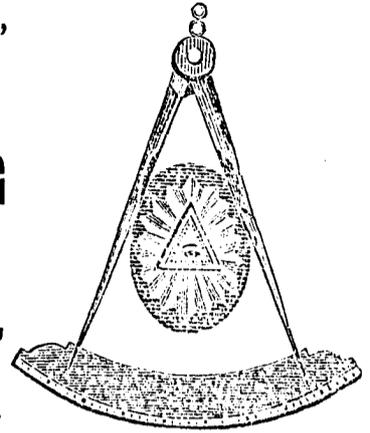
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OF THE

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IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

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



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**DRURY LANE.**—At 7.0, THE WHITE HAT. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT.  
**HAYMARKET.**—ROMEO AND JULIET.  
**LYCEUM.**—At 6.50, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING. At 7.45 HAMLET.  
**ADELPHI.**—At 7.0, VANDYKE BROWN. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN, and MY OWN GHOST. On Monday, PEEP O' DAY.  
**PRINCESS'S.**—At 7.0, FAINT HEART NEVER WON FAIR LADY. At 8.0, RIP VAN WINKLE, and HEAD OF A CLAN.  
**STRAND.**—At 7.0, TWO TO ONE. At 7.40, A LESSON IN LOVE. At 9.30, ANTARCTIC.  
**VAUDEVILLE.**—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.  
**GAIETY.**—At 7.30, OPERETTA. At 8.0, TOTTLE'S. At 10.0, TOOLE AT SEA.  
**DUKE'S.**—At 7.0, MEG'S DIVERSION, TOO TRUE, and BLACK EYED SUSAN.  
**GLOBE.**—At 7.30, CRYPTOCONCHOIDSYPHONOSTOMATA, and BLUE BEARD.  
**PRINCE OF WALES'S.**—At 8.0, MASKS AND FACES.  
**COURT.**—At 7.30, A MORNING CALL, BROKEN HEARTS, and A QUIET RUBBER.  
**ST. JAMES'S.**—At 7.30, PRETTY POLL. At 8.15, ALL FOR HER.  
**ROYALTY.**—At 7.30, A BLIGHTED BEING, and THE DUKE'S DAUGHTER.  
**CHARING CROSS.**—At 7.30, BROUGHT TO BOOK. At 8.15, MARRIED IN HASTE, and THE SILENT WOMAN.  
**OPERA COMIQUE.**—At 7.15, A HORNET'S NEST. At 8.0, MADAME L'ARCHIDUC, and TRIAL BY JURY.  
**CRITERION.**—At 7.30, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, THE DEBUTANTE, and BRIGHTON (last night).  
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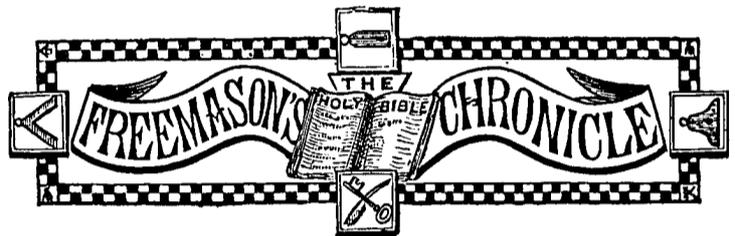
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

## OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

**T**HE announcement that the Queen will open Parliament in person has been received by all classes with satisfaction. Londoners especially are always glad of Her Majesty's appearance in public, for her visits to the metropolis have of late years been few and far between. Nor will our country cousins be less delighted with the news, for they will have an opportunity of seeing a sight that is worth seeing. It will be a reasonable excuse for them to run up to town and pay a visit to the theatres, and other places of amusement, and none enjoy such little trips so thoroughly. Let us hope we shall have the proverbial "Queen's weather" for the occasion.

There are signs that the third Session of the present Parliament will be a busy one, and that certain questions will give rise to no little excitement. The irrepressible Eastern Question has cropped up again in rather an unpleasant form, and the conduct of the Ministry in relation thereto will call forth no end of criticism. Then there will probably be a pretty sharp debate over the purchase of the Suez Canal Shares. The Slave Circular of the Admiralty has already been the subject of much controversy in the press, and is sure to be very sharply criticised in both houses. Then Army Reform, and legislation in connection with Merchant Shipping, and the conduct of the Admiralty in reference to the Vanguard Court Martial and the accident to the Iron Duke will have to be discussed. All these together make a formidable and important programme for the year's business, while we have taken no notice of finance, and the thousand and one other questions which are sure to arise as the Session advances.

There is little to add to our last week's chronicle of the Prince of Wales's visit to India. We left him at Delhi, and there he remained several days, visiting the places of interest in connection with the Mutiny, and being fêted here, there, and everywhere. His Royal Highness was present at the concluding operations of the military manoeuvres, which extended over three days. On Friday he dined with the Rifle Brigade, and on Saturday with the 10th Hussars, of which he is Colonel, and on Monday he left the City of the Moguls for Lahore, where he has since arrived and been heartily welcomed. Occasionally we have news of the Princess of Wales, who, from the announcements we read, must be thoroughly enjoying her visit to Denmark. Now we hear of her dining at the Palace, now of her being present at a *Thé Dansant*; now she is visiting the Theatre, and now receiving visitors. To-day the Westminster Royal Aquarium and Winter and Summer Garden will be opened by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, when Fellows' Life

Nominees', and season tickets only will be admitted. Doubtless the gathering of rank and fashion will be considerable, in honour of the Royal President.

*De gustibus non est disputandum.* A lunatic died a short time since, in the Prestwich Asylum, and a *post mortem* inquiry into the cause of death led to the discovery of nearly eleven-and-three-quarter pounds weight of articles—comprising shoemakers' sparables, 4-in., 3-in., 2½-in., 2-in. and other nails, tacks, buttons, pieces of buckles and glass, pebbles, a piece of leather, a piece of lead, and an American pegging awl and other things, numbering together 1841—in his stomach. We have heard a saying to the effect, that some boys are capable of digesting ten-penny nails, and we know there are jugglers who earn their living partly by swallowing knives and other choice and delicate articles. But it certainly is a novelty to read of any one living with his stomach full of nails, glass, pebbles, and the like. The coats of some people's stomachs are figuratively said to be of leather. The coat of this man's stomach must have been at least as tough as "old boots"—the toughness whereof is to us an unknown quantity—or perhaps we should say literally as "hard as nails." Had this unfortunate lunatic been a shoemaker at any period of his rational being that he swallowed so many sparables? If so, he certainly showed himself true to the very last.

Not the least among the numerous attractions at the Centennial of the National Independence to be celebrated this year at Philadelphia, will be the International Rifle Match. We have before announced that a challenge has been received in this country from the National Rifle Association of America, and accepted by the National Rifle Association of England. But some doubts having arisen in this country as to whether England, Ireland, and Scotland were invited to send separate teams each, of one nationality only, or mixed, Sir Henry Halford telegraphed for information, and the answer was to the effect that any team, English, Scotch, or Irish, or mixed would be welcome.

The weather, for a few days, was thought by a good many people to be favourable for a little skating, and suburban ponds were accordingly tested by a number of young men and lads, remarkable chiefly for their rash indifference to good advice. As might have been expected, the ventures, in more than one case, suffered, and, unfortunately, the life of one boy was lost, on No. 2 of the Highgate ponds. In the provinces, too, several deaths are reported. Four boys out of six who were immersed in a large pool near Garrison-lane, Birmingham, were drowned, and of two boys skating on the Soar, at Leicester, one was drowned, and the other rescued with some difficulty.

At a ball recently given at Coventry, by the members of the Volunteer Fire Brigade, the small hours of the morning had been reached, and dancing was yet as vigorously proceeding as ever, when all the lights were suddenly extinguished. Remonstrances were made by the firemen and others, but in vain, and lanterns and oil lamps had to be obtained to enable the guests to depart in comfort. It is said the Fire Brigade are so enraged at the treatment they received that they are determined to resign in a body. If this threat be persisted in, the Brigade will cease to exist as such the end of this month. We offer the Fire Brigade our sympathy, and we are sorry we cannot advise them to send the perpetrators of the outrage to Coventry, as the latter are already there, but they deserve such treatment.

Messrs. Smith and Son, publishers and booksellers, of the Strand, were lately summoned by Thomas Cannon, a reporter, for publishing a libel against that gentleman contained in a paper called the *Advocate*, one copy of which had been sold by one of Messrs. Smith and Son's employes. Mr. Flowers, the magistrate at Bow Street, before whom the summons was heard, adjourned it, on the ground of its being a novel case, and on Monday he decided to dismiss it. Messrs. Smith and Son would find it a hard matter to carry on their business if every paper containing a libel and sold by them should be made the subject of a charge. In the present case they had refused to sell the paper, and it was practically admitted by the complainant that the copy in question might have been disposed of through inadvertence.

A nice question was raised the other day, at the Sittingbourne Petty Sessions, as to whether cutting the combs of cocks was or was not cruel. The summons was taken out at the instance of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The combs had been cut of three bantam cocks which it was proposed to exhibit. Mr. W.

H. Jones, M.R.C.V.S., and Mr. Crook, one of the staff of *Land and Water*, gave evidence in support of the charge, and so did the well-known animal painter, Mr. Harrison Weir. Evidence having been given on the other side, the magistrates dismissed the summons but, on the application of Mr. Smith, of the Home Circuit, who conducted the prosecution, they granted a case for the higher court.

Hanging people must be thirsty work to judge from the amount of liquid refreshment consumed by Marwood on the occasion of the recent execution at Dumbarton. During the three days he was resident in the gaol he was supplied with a bottle of brandy, a bottle of whisky, and a dozen of bitter beer, a bottle for each of the first two days, and the dozen of bitter for the third, when all was over. There were also said to have been consumed, on the morning of the execution, a bottle of brandy, a bottle of whisky, a bottle of sherry, and a bottle of port.

Trade disputes are of frequent occurrence, and there is one in the iron trade in progress at this moment. The men in the employ of Messrs. Easton and Anderson, at Erith, are out on strike against the system of piece-work, which their employers have resolved to adopt. Both parties seem very determined, the men especially appearing to have taken strong measures, so that other men may not have an opportunity of being employed in their stead. We have nothing to do with the matter in dispute, but if it be true that picketing is being adopted, and men, who are willing enough to work on Messrs. Easton and Anderson's terms, are thus prevented, then we have another evidence of the tyrannical lengths to which workmen will go in order to gain their ends. It is high time something was done towards establishing courts of arbitration.

Sir John Hartopp was summoned on Thursday, before the judge of the Reigate County Court, to answer a charge of assaulting an innkeeper at Banstead, a Mr. John Ladd, who claimed £50 damages. The plaintiff, it seems, had been in the habit of supplying beer to the defendant's men, and had been ordered not to do so. In spite, however, of all warnings, whether verbal or written, Mr. Ladd had persisted in going on the defendant's land, till one day he encountered the latter when out shooting with some gentlemen, and attended by several keepers, and the assault complained of occurred. According to the plaintiff's version of the affair, he was, by order of Sir John Hartopp, set upon and seized by sundry of the keepers, who well pommelled him first, and then dragged him through a number of ponds afterwards. On the other hand it was contended that the man himself had lain down on the ground when ordered off. In the result a verdict was given against Sir John Hartopp, with forty shillings and costs.

Abroad the situation remains unchanged. The results of the elections in France are not yet ascertained, but general rumour has it, that the Conservative party have gained a decided advantage. On the other hand, the Republicans claim to have been victorious in the struggle. However, when the names of the elect are made public, we shall have an opportunity of judging which is right, general rumour or the Republicans. It seems too, that M. Gambetta has been prevented by the authorities from making a speech which he was at the pains of travelling south to Marseilles for the purpose of delivering. This fits ill with an Englishman's notion of a republic, where all men are free to act and speak as they will, so long as they say or do nothing to the detriment of the commonwealth. The Eastern Question remains in *statu quo*. Count Andrassy's note, it is believed, will be presented to the Porte with the concurrence of all the Great Powers, England included. The insurrection is not put down, though some of the leaders have surrendered their commands. The Carlist war is still in progress, if firing a few shells and shot from time to time can be described as fighting. Certainly both Carlists and Alphonists are deliberate enough in their movements. Meantime, unfortunate Spain suffers. The Royal forces become stronger and stronger, yet they fail to beat the enemy. The Carlists must be weaker now than they were a few months since, yet not so weak but they contrive to maintain their position, and occasionally send a few shells into San Sebastian. The Prussian Diet is in Session, and the Emperor has bestowed on some of his generals the Cross of the Black Eagle, a banquet, at which His Imperial Majesty presided, being held in honour of the occasion. Among those who have lately been visiting His Holiness the Pope, and paying him the compliments of the season, should be mentioned the Marquis of Ripon, who is said to have paid over to His Holiness the very handsome compliment of £10,000.

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

IT is well our readers should be made aware the limit of the time for inserting portraits in the official Historical Engraving of this memorable event is close at hand. None will be received after the end of next month. Any, therefore, who were present, and are anxious to figure in the engraving, should forward their photograph at once, or else they should call upon Bro. Haigh, at 213 Regent-street, and be specially photographed, free of expense. Already, we are told, over five hundred portraits are in hand, and there is yet ample space for some two hundred more. We have also received a list up to date of those brethren who intend patronising the engraving, and this list contains the names of most of the *élite* of the Masonic world, including the King of Sweden, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, the Baroness Burdett-Connors, the Earl of Carnarvon, present and past Grand Officers, present and past Provincial Grand Officers, and other Craftsmen of high degree.

We trust the picture will meet with success. Assuredly it deserves to succeed, for the event it depicts is the most memorable in the annals of Masonry since the Union in 1813, and created more enthusiasm throughout the whole Masonic world than any other we can call to mind. It was, indeed, a grand gathering of the Order, and those who were present cannot help, we fancy, wishing to have the fact of their presence handed down throughout all time. In many engravings the question of Who is Who? may be answered much in the same manner as the historic showman, who was asked, as regards the figures in his peepshow, which was Wellington and which was Napoleon Buonaparte? "Whichever you please, my little dears! You pays your money and you takes your choice." This will not be the case, however, in Bro. Hart's engraving of the Installation. Already, as we have said, over five hundred photographs have been sent for the purpose of insertion, and we doubt not the other two hundred for which there is still room will be forthcoming by the time appointed. It was an honour to have been present and taken part in the ceremonial, and this honour is perpetuated in the case of all whose portraits appear in the engraving. Let then any of our readers who have not yet complied with Bro. Hart's invitation do so without further loss of time.

We close this note of warning by repeating our hearty good wishes for Bro. Hart's success.

The Installation Meeting of the Etonian Lodge of St. John, No. 209, was held, on the 4th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Windsor. The Lodge was opened at 4.30 p.m., by the W.M. Bro. J. O. Carter, who was supported by Bros. W. R. Denne S.W. (W.M. Elect), Canvin J.W., Rev. J. S. Brownrigg D.P.G.M. Chaplain, Pulling Treasurer, Strange P.M. as S.D., Hume J.D., J. Roberts I.G., together with a strong muster of P.M.'s and members, as well as a number of visitors, including no less than three Prov. Grand Masters, namely Sir D. Gooch, Bart., Berks and Bucks, Col. Burdett, Middlesex, and Major General Brownrigg, Surrey. Mr. G. Blizzard having been balloted for and elected, was initiated. A handsome testimonial, consisting of a Provincial Grand Officer's clothing, and a clock, was then presented to Bro. Tolley, who, though not a member of the Lodge, had rendered very eminent services to it. The W.M., in his address, spoke very eloquently of the assistance which Bro. Tolley had rendered on all occasions, in working the different ceremonies, and Bro. Tolley displayed considerable emotion in his reply. Bro. W. R. Denne, the W.M. Elect, was then installed by Bro. Carter, and afterwards elected, as his officers for the year, Bros. Canvin S.W., Hume J.W., Rev. J. S. Brownrigg Chaplain, Wilson P.M. Treasurer, Carter I.P.M. Secretary, Roberts S.D., Schieman J.D., Nichols I.G., Strange P.M. D.C., Peart and Webster Stewards. The W.M. then presented a massive P.M.'s jewel to the I.P.M., Bro. Carter, and a gold albert chain to Bro. Pulling, as a slight acknowledgment by the Lodge of his valuable services as Treasurer during the last twelve years. The Lodge was soon afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, which had been placed at their service by the Mayor, and where an excellent banquet was served, by Bro. J. Johnson, of the White Hart Hotel. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were pro-

posed by the W.M., and received with great enthusiasm, Bro. Colonel Burdett responding for that of the "Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Officers of Grand Lodge of England," with which his name had been associated. Sir D. Gooch replied to his toast as Grand Master of the Province, and Major General Brownrigg to his as P.G.M. Surrey. The Rev. J. S. Brownrigg having first replied to his toast as D.P.G.M. proposed the health of the W.M., who briefly expressed his thanks. Bro. Tolley presided at the pianoforte, and at intervals between the toasts several glees and part songs were sung very effectively and with great taste, by Bros. Tolley, Christian, and Smith. A long notice, of which the above is only a summary, was forwarded to us in due course, but happening, unfortunately, to be misdirected, it returned, after many disconsolate wanderings, to the place whence it came. Considering the name of this journal is by no means unknown to the postal authorities, we think they might have exerted themselves more to find out the right address. Occasionally, we see paragraphs in the papers about the marvellous ingenuity which the Post Office displays in finding out addresses which are either wholly illegible or very imperfectly, and even wrongly, given, but they cannot be said to have exerted themselves in this instance.

Bro. Thos. Butler, principal M.C. at the Licensed Victuallers' School, Asylum, and Police Orphanage Balls, announces his fifth annual ball, at the "Criterion," Regent Circus, Piccadilly, in the Grand Hall, on Thursday, the 10th of February. All tickets must be filled up with the name of the presentees. Bros. Coote and Tinney's band is engaged; Bros. Thos. Meekham and R. Johnson will be the M.C.'s.

The composition of sherry has been freely discussed by the press of late years, and there is a pretty general opinion, we believe, that much of the so-called sherry has only the remotest connection with the wine of Xeres. However this may be in the case of certain brands—and there are many it has been our misfortune to taste which we should be sorry to describe as of any particular vintage, from any particular country—we have never found anything amiss with the *Specialité Sherry* of Messrs. Felton and Sons. On the contrary, we have always found it extremely soft and palatable. There is in it neither acidity nor heat, and a man may drink it, in moderation of course, without the lightest fear of its affecting his stomach with a sense of nausea, or his head with a racking pain.

The Lodge of Benevolence held its regular monthly meeting, at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, Bro. James Brett, the Junior Vice-President, presiding. The grants, amounting together to £425, made at the last Lodge were confirmed. Sixteen new cases were then proceeded with, of which one was dismissed. Grants, to the aggregate amount of £180, were made, in eleven cases, and the others were deferred.

We have the pleasure to announce that the 101st Anniversary of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145, as well as the Centenary Festival and Installation Ceremony, will take place on Tuesday next, the 25th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. The Lodge will be opened at five o'clock.

A warrant has been granted for a new Lodge, entitled the "New Cross Lodge," No. 1559, and it will be consecrated on Saturday, the 30th inst., at the Town Hall, New Cross. Bro. W. B. Woodman, J.D. 1275 and 946, is the W.M. designate, E. H. Thiellay, A.G.P. Middlesex, the S.W. designate, and Bro. Simmonds J.W. designate.

The 37th Annual Ball of the Old Concord Lodge will be held on 15th February, at the New Grand Hall, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. G. Hockley, and the following stewards:—Bros. Ward S.W. Vice President, A. Dottridge J.W., Gurton P.M., E. Dottridge P.M., Hancock Treasurer, Watson, Deverish, W. P. Goosey, Headley; Bro. John Emmons P.G.P., 254 Kingsland-road, is the Hon. Sec.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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## THE SATURDAY REVIEW AND DR. OLIVER.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I have had some experience as a reviewer, but I have seldom seen anything more grossly unfair than the following notice which appeared in the columns of the *Saturday Review* of the 8th inst:—

"The Pythagorean Triangle and Discrepancies of Freemasonry are posthumous works by Dr. Oliver, who, it appears, was a well-known Freemason. They are written in the style of mysterious nonsense, which is characteristic of the Order."

If the writer of these lines is a Mason, he must have heard of Dr. Oliver's high reputation as a Masonic writer, and that, however "mysterious" his works may be or seem to be, they are certainly not "nonsense." If he is not a Mason, he has no business to abuse that of which he knows nothing.

It would be impossible to place the writer of the above notice in the same category with Dr. Oliver. The latter was a scholar and a gentleman. The former may be the one, but he certainly is not the other.

Yours fraternally,

"Q."

## THE ANTIQUITY OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A propos of your article on the "Antiquity of Freemasonry," I must remark that the old MS. therein cited, said to have been signed by Henry VI., and copied by Leland, has not yet been found, and that grave doubts exist as to whether it ever existed.

The foremost Masonic investigators in this country, Bros. Hughan and Woodford, do not hold themselves justified in accepting it, though Dallaway\* apparently did not regard it with so much suspicion.

It was first published at Frankfort, in Germany, and all efforts to trace it in England having proved fruitless hitherto, its authenticity remains open to question. As to its inherent evidence, archaisms, &c. experts differ so much that nothing certain can be critically decided on that head.

Yours fraternally,

E. P.

Norwich, 17th January.

## MASONIC BALL AT THE TOWN HALL, LIVERPOOL.

THE twenty-seventh annual Masonic ball took place on 10th January and proved a brilliant success. The West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution is a credit to the county, and, thanks to the brethren of the various local Lodges, this annual ball materially helps its funds. The Institution can boast of a vested capital of £13,000, and out of this capital between 60 and 70 children are educated, at a cost of £8 to £15 each. This success is mainly attributable to the untiring exertions of Bro. R. Brown, W.M. 241, the Hon. Secretary, and Bro. R. Wilson P.G.S.D., the Hon. Treasurer. The arrangements for the ball were ably carried out by an efficient committee, and upwards of 1,000 visitors were present. The majority wore their Masonic insignia. The ball was under the patronage of His Worship the Mayor (Lieut.-Col. Thompson) and the Mayoress, both of whom were present, the Countess Bective, the M.W. the Earl of Carnarvon, Lady Skelmersdale, Lord Skelmersdale, Major Starkie, Lord De Tabley, Major Leigh, Hon. F. Stanley, Earl Bective, &c. The ball committee comprised Bro. M.W. Lord Skelmersdale, President; Hon. F. Stanley, Vice-President; H. Alpass P.G.S., Chairman; M. Chudey P.M. 241, Vice-Chairman; G. Hutchin S.W. 241, Treasurer; and Bro. H. Nelson P.M. 673 and 1505, Secretary, who was untiring in his exertions. Bro. H. M. Molyneux was a very efficient M.C. Bro. W. Vines, of the Canton Hotel, proved an excellent caterer, a special supper being provided in the council chamber. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. G. A. W. Phillips, and dancing was kept up until a very late hour.

## RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.

The Lily of the Valley Conclave, 127, met on Thursday, the 13th of January, in Freemasons' Hall, Holytown, Sir Knight H. J. Shields, 33°, M.P.S., Wm. McMurdo E.V.E., Daniel Baker S.G., J. McMurdo I.G.; visitor, G. W. Wheeler M.P.S. 114, who, at the request of Sir Knight Shields, conferred those two degrees on Companions R. Clark, Henry Dyer, and Robert Gray. A Sanctuary of K.H.S. was afterwards opened, when Sir Knight Shields, assisted by Sir Knight Wheeler and his officer bearers, received four Companions into the Sanctuary, and afterwards created them Knights of St. John the Evangelist. The ceremonies were very carefully wrought, all the accessories being perfectly attended to by Sir Knight Shields.

\* Discourses on Gothic Architecture in England.

## DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

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## SATURDAY, 22nd JANUARY.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.  
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

## MONDAY, 24th JANUARY.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)  
48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.  
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.  
R.A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Temple, 23 Hope Street, Liverpool.

## TUESDAY, 25th JANUARY.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.  
14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.  
55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Tavern, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)  
145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.  
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)  
253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby.  
310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle Street, Carlisle.  
357—Apollo University, Masonic Hall, Oxford.  
573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen.  
1016—Elkington, Masonic Rcoms, New Street, Birmingham.  
1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)  
1359—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton,  
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.  
R.A.—84—Do Lambton, Freemasons' Hall, Sunderland.  
R.A.—103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.  
R.A.—124—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Durham.

## WEDNESDAY, 26th JANUARY.

193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.30. (Instruction.)  
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)  
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover. (Instruction.)  
996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk.  
1039—St. John's, George Hotel, Lichfield.  
R. A. 236—Zetland, Masonic Hall, York.  
Rose Croix, Ivor Hael, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.

## THURSDAY, 27th JANUARY.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.  
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)  
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)  
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)  
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.  
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth  
214—Hope and Unity, White Hart Hotel, Romford.  
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre Street, Norwich.  
966—St. Edward's, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford.  
R.A.—657—Canonbury, Mason's Arms Tavern, Masons Avenue, Basinghall Street, E.C.  
R. A. 67—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborn-street, Hull.  
R. A. 292—Liverpool, Masonic Temple, 23 Hope-street, Liverpool.  
R. A. 424—De Burgh, Masonic Hall, West-street, Gateshead.  
R. A. 732—Royal Sussex, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.  
K. T.—Gwent, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.

## FRIDAY, 28th JANUARY.

569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road.  
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)  
1507—Metropolitan, 289 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)  
1385—Gladmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.  
R. A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.  
R. A. 471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.

## SATURDAY, 29th JANUARY.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.

## EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—310—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.  
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.  
R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.  
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John Fisherrow, Royal Hotel, Mussolburgh.  
THURSDAY—362—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.  
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

## GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—162—St. Mark's, 213 Buchanan-street.  
" 103—Union and Crown, 170 Buchanan-street.  
" 219—Star, 12 Trongate.  
" 362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.  
" 541—Marie Stewart, Freemasons' Hall, Crosshill.  
" R. A.—122—Thetis, 35 St. James-street.  
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.  
" R. A.—67—Cathedral, 24 Struthers-street.  
" R. A.—73—Caledonian of Unity, 170 Buchanan-street.  
WEDNESDAY—510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.  
571—Dramatic, 213 Buchanan-street.  
THURSDAY—465—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road.  
553—St. Vincent, 162 Kent-road.  
FRIDAY—153—Royal Arch, School Room, Pollockshaws.  
317—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Rutherglen.  
" 409—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.  
" R. A. 79—Commercial, 30 Hope Street.  
SATURDAY—305—St. John Woodhall, Freemasons' Hall, Holytown.

## NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

**Grand Stewards' Lodge.**—This distinguished body met at Freemasons' Hall, on the evening of Wednesday, the 19th inst., for the installation of W. Bro. Edwin March as W.M. for the ensuing year; this ceremony being the only one which the Lodge is empowered to work, neither initiation, passing, nor raising being permitted, and the Lodge being solely recruited by Grand Stewards as joining members every year. The installation was impressively conducted by W. Bro. J. M. Stedwell, the retiring W.M., and after business discussions the Lodge adjourned to banquet. On this occasion, Bro. Francatelli, manager of the Freemasons' Tavern, purveyed the best turtle—thick and clear—that even the City brethren (no mean connoisseurs) ever remembered. The Lodge—No. 0 on the roll of England—certainly vindicated its pre-eminence as regards the banquetting arrangements. During the evening, a beautiful selection of vocal and instrumental music was provided, under the efficient direction of W. Bro. W. Ganz, the Grand Organist, assisted by Bros. Thomas Baxter, George Perrin and F. Penna. Seldom has been witnessed so goodly an array of Grand Officers as here graced the board in the capacity of visitors. Amongst them were General Brownrigg, Provincial Grand Master of Surrey; Hugh Sandeman, District G. Master of Bengal; J. B. Mouckton, President of the Board of General Purposes, with Bros. Rucker, Murton, Parkinson, Boyd, Fenn and Dumas, Past Grand Deacons. There were, moreover, Bros. Greenwood P.G. Secretary of Surrey; C. F. Martier, of Manchester, a Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Canada, whose name we did not catch, and Walter Spencer, of the Bank of England Lodge. The new Wardens, Bros. E. Baxter and Walsh, showed practiced aptitude, and the old P.M.'s, Bros. R. Spencer, Norman and F. Binckes, were in their usual places. Bro. F. Hockley is the respected and efficient Secretary, and V.W. Bro Rucker has been elected and invested as Treasurer, vice R. Spencer resigned. A pleasanter or more enjoyable evening could not be imagined.

**De Swinburne Chapter, No. 24.**—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 12th of January, at Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Present—Comps. Smaile acting Z., P. O. Smith H., Sewell J., Blenkinsop N., Smith E., A. Loades P.S., J. Currie Janitor; Comps. Davis P.Z., Foulsham P.Z. Business—Two candidates were exalted to the supreme degree, by Comps. Smaile P.Z., officiating as First Principal, in a most solemn and impressive manner.

**Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge, No. 24.**—This Lodge held a regular meeting on Thursday, the 6th January, at Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Present—Bros. Geo. Cockburn W.M., A. Loades S.W., James Taylor J.W., A. R. Taylor Secretary, W. Cockburn P.M. Treasurer, John Boland S.D., J. D. Carr. J.D., J. W. Boston Steward, F. Brewis I.G., J. Corrie Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Dean Secretary 541, Harris 406, &c. Business—This was the first meeting held since the installation of the W.M. and appointment of officers. The ceremony of initiation was rendered in a most creditable manner, and the whole business of the Lodge conducted in a way that promises well for the ensuing year.

**Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.**—This Lodge held its first banquet at Bro. Maidwell's, the "Hercules," Leadon-hall-street, E.C., on Thursday evening last, 20th January, Bro. Atkins P.M. presiding, Bro. Horsley as S.W., and Bro. Webb as J.W. The banquet, which reflected great credit on Bro. Maidwell's skill as caterer, was thoroughly enjoyed by the brethren, and after some excellent music the meeting dispersed, the brethren expressing themselves highly gratified with their evening's entertainment.

**Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.**—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 18th of January, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. George McDonald R.W.M., John Bannerman D.M., J. Ballantine S.M., A. McLeod S.W., John Handbridge J.W., R. Richards Secretary, J. S. Ampleford Treasurer, W. Kay S.D., T. Youil J.D., Wm. McFarlane D.C., G. McDonald Steward, B. Levy I.G., A. Kay sen. Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Innis D.M. 408, J. Singleton R.W.M. 178, Wm. Jones 178. Business—Arrangements for the annual festival, appointment of committee to procure a suitable hall for future meetings, after which the Lodge was raised to the 3rd degree, and Bro. Singleton, R.W.M. of Lodge 178, requested leave for a brother to be raised. This being granted, by request of the Master, Bro. W. B. Patterson, in a very careful manner, raised Bros. Caldwell of this Lodge, and A. Jones of the Scotia, to the sublime degree. Bro. Wm. Jones, on behalf of the Scotia, thanked the Lodge and Bro. Patterson for the way in which his brother in blood, as well as in the Craft, had been raised to the degree of a Master Mason.

**Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73.**—The regular meeting of this Chapter was held on the 13th inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, Comps. J. H. Batten Z., H. A. Dubois H., J. W. Baldwin J., T. J. Sabine P.Z. Treasurer, F. Walters P.Z. S.E., B. Isaacs P.S., J. T. Moss P.Z., S. Frankenberg, J. H. Spencer, &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed; a ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. J. Mason as a joining member; two candidates were proposed for exaltation. The election of Principals and officers then took place, and Comp. H. A. Dubois was elected M.E.Z., J. W. Baldwin H., J. Mason J., T. J. Sabine P.Z. re-elected Treasurer, F. Walters P.Z. 1st Assist. P.S. Middlesex, S.E.

re-elected for the 10th time, B. Isaacs S.N., J. C. Mason P.S., W. Laing P.Z. Janitor. A sum of five guineas was voted for the purpose of presenting Comp. J. H. Batten with a P.Z. jewel on his retiring from the chair. The Chapter was then closed, and refreshment followed.

**Faith Chapter, No. 141.**—At a meeting of this Chapter, which took place on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C., Comp. E. Gottheil P.Z. installed Comps. N. Gluckstein Z., C. Hogard H., and J. Constable J., after which the M.E.Z. appointed Comps. C. C. Taylor I.P.M., M. Bamberger Hon. Treas., W. E. Gompertz S.E., J. Ross S.N., and Pindar P.S., Holland 1st Asst., J. Barnett 2nd Asst., D. Posener D.C., Ochse W.S., Longstaff Janitor. The following brethren were subsequently exalted to this degree:—A. W. Stead 1297, J. S. Eidmans 225, R. Dunthorne 141, C. E. Towell 1056, L. Asoski 1017, and W. W. Morgan 1385. The ceremony was very creditably performed. Seven candidates to exalt is not an easy task, but every one of the officers was well up to his work, and therefore the task was accomplished smoothly and satisfactorily. An exceedingly well served banquet followed, superintended by that prince of head waiters, Comp. W. Smith. The usual toasts, interspersed by songs and recitations, ended the proceedings, which were prolonged until a rather late hour. The visitors were Comps. Knight 414, Hopwood 49, J. Smith 1053, G. Williams 933, Dodson P.Z. 72, Peartree 185. A handsome P.Z.'s gold jewel was presented to Comp Taylor, on his retirement from the First Principal's Chair, as a token of the high esteem in which he is held by the members of this Chapter.

**Domestic Lodge, No. 177.**—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 14th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, in the presence of numerous brethren and visitors. A great improvement was manifest in the room, which has been considerably enlarged, Bro. G. Everett W.M. occupied the chair, Treadwell S.W., Jas. Willing jun. J.W., J. Smith P.M. P.G.P. Treasurer, Williams Secretary, Palmer S.D., and P.M.'s J. R. Foulger, Tims, F. Kent C.C., Walford C.C., &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The W.M. then raised Bros. Gilbert, Ferrier, Billingham, Sumner, Zoebelli, and W. J. Bennett, and initiated Messrs. W. Cook, S. R. Stevens, and J. Abrahams; the various ceremonies were perfectly and impressively delivered. Bro. Palmer S.D. proposed that the joining fee be in future £10 10s, which was carried. The report of the audit committee was read, showing a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £50 16s 3d. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Treadwell, S.W. and W.M. elect, was installed into the chair by Bro. J. Smith P.G.P., who, at the conclusion of the ceremony, informed the brethren that in the space of one year they would be entitled to apply for the Centenary Jewel. The W.M. was then saluted, and invested his officers:—Bros. G. Everett I.P.M., J. Willing S.W., Palmer J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. Treasurer, for the 35th time in that capacity, Buscall S.D., G. Clark J.D., White I.G., Spink D.C., McLean A.D.C., and Daley Tyler. Bro. Walford P.M. then proposed a vote of thanks to be recorded on the minutes to Bro. J. Smith P.M., for the able manner he had performed the ceremony of installation, which was carried unanimously. Bro. J. Smith thanked the W.M. and brethren for the vote; he regretted the absence of Bro. James Brett P.M., who had for so many years performed that ceremony, but his services were at all times at their command. Bro. Foulger P.M. then gave a notice of motion that in future the initiation fee be £10 10s. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 135 in number, sat down to a very *recherché* banquet provided by Bro. Clemow and superintended by Bro. Smith. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts; in alluding to the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales he hoped he would return to his native country in renewed health. Bro. E. P. Albert returned thanks for the Grand Officers, and said he was pleased to see the ceremony of installation so ably performed. Bro. G. Everett I.P.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M., who had been a member of the Lodge for twenty years, and he was sure he would fully discharge his duties during his year of office. The W.M., in the course of a very excellent speech, said he hoped to be enabled to follow in the footsteps of so worthy a predecessor. He then proposed the toast of the Visitors, and Bro. W. Worrell P.M. 766 responded in a very excellent speech. Bro. J. Smith P.M. then proposed the toast of the "Masonic Charities." The toast of the newly initiated followed, and Bro. J. Abrahams, in a few but appropriate remarks, returned thanks. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Past Masters, and in speaking of their individual merits, stated how excellently every one had discharged the duties of the chair. All had worked their way by individual exertion, and the last on the list was Bro. G. Everett, whom every one respected. He then placed a very elegant gold P.M.'s jewel on his breast, and hoped he might live long to wear it. (Loud cheers.) Bro. G. Everett I.P.M., in returning thanks for the valuable gift, replied for the Past Masters, and mentioned how great the success of the Summer Festival at Dulwich had been. He retired from the chair with the knowledge that his year of office has been a successful one, and in a Lodge numbering 195 members there was not one where more harmony and good feeling prevailed. He would wear the jewel with pride, and would always study the interests of the Lodge. (Cheers.) The toasts of the Treasurer, Secretary and Junior Officers was then proposed, and Bros. J. Smith P.M., James Willing S.W., and Palmer J.W., returned thanks, also Bros. Buscall, White and Spink. The Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. Bros. Dawson, Carter and Hudson contributed to the harmony. The visitors were Bros. Draper 1305, C. G. Hill 1366, Odell 866, Stokes P.M. 861, H. Wood 212, E. P. Albert A.G.P., H. M. Levy, Hudson 315, Brady 1158, Koch, P.M. 820, Hill 45, H. Webb P.M. 72, H. D. Arcey 901, W. Worrell P.M. 766, H. Massey P.M. 619, Mattoon 260, Fisher 834, Cox W.M. 1507, Walls 1381, and Maidwell 27.

**Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185.**—This Lodge met on Monday, the 17th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C. There were present—Bros. John H. Ross W.M., J. Barnett S.W., D. Posener J.W., John Constable I.P.M., J. Peartree Treasurer, P. Levy Secretary, G. Pare S.D., Bailey J.D., Croaker I.G., Rowles Tyler; also P.M.'s Bloomfield, N. Moss, Harfeld, Gottheil, Gluckstein, and H. Myers. The visitors were Bros. H. Browne 1426, G. Lewis W.M. 879, Johnson 879, W. Gimpertz jun. 869, T. R. Webb 521, E. T. Jolliffe 22, Charles Mead 141. The business of the evening consisted in raising Bro. Saillard to the third degree, passing Bros. Rowley, Schultz and Davis to the Fellow Crafts Degree, after which Messrs. S. Loewenthal and F. Upson were initiated in the usual form. The election of W.M., Treasurer and Tyler for the ensuing twelve months resulted in favour of Bros. J. Barnett S.W. as W.M., J. Peartree Treasurer, and Rowley Tyler. Ten guineas, wherewith to purchase a P.M.'s jewel for Bro. Ross, on his retiring from the chair, was unanimously voted. A repast followed, after which the various toasts were briefly given and responded to, the one referring to the W.M. elect, being considered the toast of the evening, was enthusiastically received. Bro. Barnett expressed his sincere thanks, and further remarked that any words that he might be able to utter would fail in conveying his feelings of gratitude to the brethren in having elected him to fill the high position of W.M. of such a Lodge as the Tranquillity. The brethren were aware that ever since he has been placed in office by Past Master Bloomfield, he has endeavoured to do his duties to the best of his abilities in all the subordinate offices, and trusted that when his year of Mastership is over the brethren may not have cause to regret in having put him in this position, or find their confidence misplaced. The visitors, in responding, expressed their satisfaction with all they have seen, heard and partaken of, and some expressed astonishment at the harmony which characterised the elections, and did not seem able to comprehend how it was possible to elect a W.M. without a dissident. Some excellent songs by Bros. Webb, Constable, Bailey, Gompertz, &c., contributed to the enjoyments of the evening.

**Minerva Lodge, No. 250, Hull.**—The first meeting in the New Year of the members of this Lodge took place on Wednesday evening last, at the Masonic Hall, Dagger-lane. There was a large attendance of the brethren, who were joined on the occasion by several Past Masters, present Worshipful Master (Bro. W. Hunt), and other officers of the Kingston Lodge. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, the Worshipful Master, Bro. John Brooke, presiding, and Messrs. J. C. Serres and Robert Sawyer were initiated into the mysteries of Masonry. The Worshipful Master was assisted by Bro. J. H. Emes I.P.M. in the performance of the ceremony of initiation, and the Wardens, Bros. C. Newton and R. Toogood, delivered the charges in the most able and efficient manner. Bro. Walter Reynolds P.M. applied to the W.M. for permission to use the Lodge room for working the Rose Croix degree, which was acceded to amidst acclamation. At the subsequent banquet, the Worshipful Master was supported by Bros. J. H. Emes I.P.M., W. Hunt W.M., E. Garforth I.P.M., Dr. Pyburn P.M. of the Kingston Lodge, Thos. Sissons P.M. P.G.R., John F. Holden P.M. P.S.P.G.D., George Hardy P.M. P.S.P.G.D., M. C. Peck P.M. P.G. Secretary, Scherling P.M., S. Moseley P.M., W. D. Keyworth P.M. P.P.G.S.W., Walter Reynolds W.M. P.G.D.C., &c. Dessert having been placed on the tables, the customary Craft and other toasts were honoured, the Worshipful Master proposing, in felicitous terms, the health of the W.M. and officers of the Kingston Lodge, who had so kindly paid their brethren of the Minerva a visit. He was exceedingly pleased to meet Bro. Hunt and those who were associated with him in his Lodge, and expressed the satisfaction it afforded him to witness the amity and good feeling which existed amongst the various Lodges in Hull. A proposal had been made with a view to the establishment of another Lodge in the town, and so long as the lines were extended in a proper and Masonic spirit there would be no objection to such a course. While they did not desire to disturb the unity which happily existed amongst their Lodges, they could have no disposition to prevent the extension of Masonic working in Hull if the new Lodge was formed according to the principles he had described. He trusted they might all be actuated by feelings of such amity and good understanding as he was proud to observe now prevailed amongst the various Lodges, and in conclusion he thanked the officers and brethren of the Kingston Lodge for their visit on this occasion. Bro. W. Hunt W.M. suitably acknowledged the compliment paid to him and his officers. Bro. J. F. Holden then gave the health of that veteran in Masonry who had been designated the "sturdy beggar" of the Minerva Lodge, on account of his persistent zeal on behalf of the Charities, and Bro. T. Sissons, the Prov. Grand Registrar, responded in a humorous speech. Bro. Pick, Prov. Grand Secretary, then gave the health of a gentleman who had for many years filled the office of Secretary to the Kingston Lodge, but who was about to relinquish that position, in consequence of his leaving Hull to reside in York. He spoke in the highest terms of the efficiency which Bro. James Kay had displayed in the execution of his duties, and of the general esteem in which he was held by the brethren. They all deeply regretted Bro. Kay's severance from the Craft in Hull, but wished him prosperity in his new sphere of action, and trusted that he would manifest the same zeal for Masonry in the city of his adoption as he had done in Hull. Bro. S. Moseley P.M. also spoke in the highest terms of Bro. Kay's personal excellencies and the ability with which he had conducted the affairs of the Kingston Lodge, and the toast was received with prolonged applause. Bro. Kay responded in suitable terms to the compliment paid him. The healths of the Worshipful Master, the Visiting Brethren, and other toasts were honoured, and the proceedings were enlivened with some excellent vocal and instrumental music.

**St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481.**—This Lodge held its regular

meeting on Monday, the 10th of January, at Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Present—Bros. Spearman W.M., Stevens S.W., Sewel J.W., Armstrong acting Secretary, G. Thompson P.M. Treasurer, Martin P.M. Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Cooke, S. H. Harris, Thompson, and a large number of visitors. Business—The W.M. worked the whole three degrees, in his usual impressive manner, with the assistance of his Officers. Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room, where the annual supper took place, a very happy evening being spent by all concerned.

**Benevolence Lodge, No. 489.**—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 13th of January, at the Masonic Hall, Bridgeland-street. Present—Bros. Rev. Thos. Russell G.J.W. Devon P. Prov. G.C. Oxon W.M., F. T. Wickham S.W., S. S. Cruwys J.W., H. M. Burrow Secretary, T. T. Wickham Treasurer, R. Dymond S.D., S. Goode J.D., G. W. Vincent D.C., E. Dannel Steward, J. Allan I.G., R. Grant Tyler; Past Masters Bros. W. L. Vellacot, C. Smale Organist, and several other brethren. Visitors—Bros. J. R. Gould, and J. Herbert 251. Mr. Wm. Conway, of Gloucester, merchant, was regularly initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. Other matters affecting the welfare of the Lodge were discussed and arranged, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment in the supper room.

**Zetland in the East Lodge, No. 508, Singapore.**—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on the 4th December 1875. Present—Bros. Basogoit W.M., Coveney as S.W., Colson as J.W., Wells as Secretary, Malion as S.D., Peterson as I.G., and Larai Tyler. Business—Bros. Paulson and Lyon were passed to the F.C. degree. Two applications were read, one for joining, the other for initiation. The regular meeting was held on the 13th of December. Present—Bros. Basogoit W.M., Coveney as S.W., Colson as J.W., Richardson as Secretary, Stubbs as S.D., Malion as J.D., Peterson as I.G., Larai Tyler. Business—Minutes confirmed. Bro. Hoffmann was passed to the F.C. degree, Mr. John Nelson Bates was accepted as a candidate for the Order, and Bro. Robert Marshall, W.M. of Harmony Lodge, No. 220, Liverpool, was accepted as a joining member. The usual annual banquet (St. John's Day) is to be held.

**Dramatic Lodge, No. 571.**—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Wm. Dobson R.W.M., J. Haslin W.M., H. J. Jockman S.W., R. Sewewright J.W. Business—Passing and raising of two brethren, and arranging for the consecration of Lodge.

**Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity, No. 663.**—The installation meeting of this Lodge took place at the Town Hall, Devizes, on Tuesday last, the 18th inst., when Bro. Thomas Barker Fox, the S.W. for the past year, and W.M. elect, was duly installed, according to ancient custom, by Bro. William Nott P.P.G. Reg. Wilts and P.M. of this Lodge, in the presence of the following installed Masters:—Bros. H. I. Ward W.M. 663, the Rev. T. F. T. Ravenshaw P.G.C. P.M. 663, J. H. Chandler P.M. 663, John Chandler P.P.G.S.W. Wilts P.M. 663, &c. The Rev. H. Richardson P.P.G.C. Wilts P.M. 663, T. H. Chandler P.M. 355, Charles Milsom P.M. 53 P.G.J.W. Somerset, R. de M. Lawson P.P.G.S.W. Wilts P.M. 632, Thos. Waite P.M. 144, and W. J. Mann W.M. 632. After the ceremony of installation had been completed, the W.M. appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follow:—Bros. H. I. Ward I.P.M., J. W. Burman, M.D., S.W., J. Parker J.W., Rev. H. Richardson, M.A., Chap., D. A. Gibbs P.M. Treas., W. Nott P.M. Sec., W. H. Burt S.D., H. Howse J.D., T. Ford I.G., Thos. Waite P.M. D.C., W. Day and S. Badham Stewards. Addresses to the officers on their investiture, and explaining their several duties, were delivered by the Rev. H. Richardson P.M., and the usual ones to the W.M., brethren, &c., by the Installing Master. A ballot took place for Bro. W. E. Fulford, of the Lodge of Israel, No. 205, as a joining member, and proved unanimous in his favour. Two candidates for initiation having been proposed for ballot at the next meeting, the Lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Crown Hotel, to which Bro. Watson Taylor, of Erlestoke Park, had, with his accustomed liberality, contributed a supply of venison and game.

**Royal Brunswick Lodge, No. 792.**—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. Bro. J. M. Kidd was invested as W.M. for the ensuing year. After the appointment of officers a banquet was provided by Messrs. Mutter. The W.M. proposed the usual toasts. An interesting event may be here recorded: the Lodge numbers forty members, on this occasion sixty visitors were present.

**Priory Lodge, No. 1000.**—The installation meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the Middleton Hotel, Southend. The W.M., Bro. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, and Prov. A.G.D.C., opened the Lodge, assisted by his officers. He afterwards, in a very able manner, installed Bro. E. E. Phillips S.W. P.M. 379 (who had been unanimously elected at the previous meeting), as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. invested as his officers:—Bros. A. Lucking I.P.M. P.M. 160 and P.A.G.D.C., Rev. S. R. Wigram S.W. P.M. and P.Z. 214 Grand Chaplain, W. Frost J.W., F. Wood Treasurer P.M. P.P.S.G.W., J. A. Wardell Secretary P.M. 160 P.P.J.G.D., Rev. T. W. Herbert Chaplain P.P.G., Chaplin S.D., W. P. Belliss J.D., W. Chignell I.G., J. C. Johnstone D.C. P.M. 20, G. R. Dawson and A. F. Godward Stewards, and H. Mountain Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, provided by

Bro. F. Cantor, of the Middleton Hotel, and presided over by the W.M., Bro. E. E. Phillips. The repast was served à la Russe. Besides the before-mentioned there were present, Bros. J. R. Hemmann P.M. P.J.G.D., S. Cox P.M., H. Rowley P.M. P.P.S.G.D., Harris P.M. and P.P.A.G.D.C., Rev. H. J. Hatch S.W. 160 P.G.C., F. J. Jillings, W. Waterhouse, J. Sheppard, G. F. Jones, G. J. Glassook, H. Luker, W. Allen jun., C. Sorbett, G. Berry, and B. Mackie. Visitors—Bros. Rev. — Harris P.P.G. Chap., E. Bonnen S.D. 95, E. Kemp W.M. 1024, De L'Anderson 654, A. C. Carter 276, Chas. Rolph P.M. 77 and 188 P.P.S.G.D. Kent, T. King 160, J. C. Underwood 160, S. G. Fairclough P.M. 1073 P.D.G.D. Malta, J. Weston 25, J. Reeve W.M. 160, J. Pritchard and E. C. Ryley. During the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The W.M., on behalf of the Lodge, presented the I.P.M., Bro. A. Lucking, with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel. The intervals between the toasts were agreeably sustained by some excellent singing by Bros. Hatch, De L'Anderson, Bonnen, Ryley, Biggs and others, and the brethren separated after having spent a very enjoyable evening.

**Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.**—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bros. J. Blum W.M., L. Salomons as S.W., Gulliford J.W., Albu S.D., Brall J.D., Hochfield I.G., L. Jacobs Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. A.G.P. Secretary, and P.M.'s Grunbaum, J. Lazarus, Eskell and Pollitzer. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. G. Hobinstock, A. Ernstein, and J. Kardenover were initiated. Bros. Sonn, Harwitz, Syer, Brall and Newstadt were passed to the second degree, and Bro. Briedenbach was raised to the third degree. The Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Café Royal, Air-street, Picadilly, where the brethren partook of a very excellent supper. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and Bro. P. E. Van Noorden and several others contributed to the harmony. The visitors were Bros. Harris 205, Klein 258, Defreese 1502, Lower 205, &c.

**Norman Lodge, No. 1334.**—This Lodge held its general meeting on the 19th of January, at the Masonic Hall, Old Elvet, Durham. Present—Bros. James Laidler W.M., W. C. Blackett P.M. as S.W., J. C. Goodall J.W., R. W. Salkeld Secretary, W. Sewell Treasurer, G. G. Forster S.D., John Anisley J.D., T. Hearon 124 as I.G., W. Singlehurst Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. W. Donkin I.P.M., J. Wortley, George Greenwell. Visitors—Bros. W. Brignall sen., W. Brignall jun., George Johnstone W.M. 124, W. A. Malcolm P.M. 124, W. Coton. Business—Bro. George Bailes P.S.W. was impressively installed W.M. by the W.M., Bro. Laidler. The following officers were invested:—Bros. J. C. Goodall S.W., G. G. Forster J.W., Sewell Treasurer, R. W. Salkeld Secretary, John Anisley S.D., C. E. Barnes J.D., P. B. Junor I.G., W. Singlehurst Tyler.

**Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.**—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, the 11th of January, at the Town Hall, Dunstable. Present—Bros. F. Howell W.M., Haselgrove W.M. 475 S.W., Randall J.W., Middleton Secretary, Cobley Treasurer, Saunders S.D., Otway J.D., Harris Chaplain, Cutler Steward, Sinkwell I.G., T. Day Tyler, Teale, Gard, Warren, &c. The emergency Lodge was called to ease the Installation meeting. Three joining members were balloted for and unanimously elected, and three candidates for initiation were elected, notice of another being given for the next meeting. Mr. Monk was then introduced, and initiated, by Bro. Haselgrove, and Messrs. Hopson and Collette by the W.M., who also gave the charge. A pleasant evening was well spent at Bro. Saunders's Sugar Loaf hotel.

**Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.**—This Lodge held its anniversary meeting on Tuesday, the 18th January, at the Town Hall, Dunstable. Present—Bros. Frederick Howell W.M., T. W. Haselgrove S.W., Cobley Treasurer, Randall S.D., Otway J.D., Harris Chaplain, Sinkwell I.G., Day Tyler; Bros. M. Harris, Teale, Ballans, T. Farr, F. Farr Wood, Hopson, Monk, Collett, Russell, Oakley, Saunders, Cutler, &c. Visitors—Bros. Phillips, Haselgrove, Alford (475), King, McCubbin (948), Marks (1479), Watts, three Great Principles Lodge, Cambridge, Stormer and Benning. Business—Lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, the ceremony of raising Bro. Teale was performed by the W.M. Bro. T. W. Haselgrove, W.M. No. 475, Luton, then took the chair, and most ably installed Bro. Howell as W.M. of the Lodge for the second year. A most cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Master for his services. The W.M. was then presented with a P.M.'s jewel by the Installing Master, in the name of the Lodge, and in doing so he declared that it was an honour which Bro. Howell had won by his zeal and ability, and he hoped it would not be taken as a precedent in the future, but that those only who deserved the prize would obtain it. Bro. Howell returned his sincere thanks to the brethren for their kindness to him. The officers were invested as follow:—Bro. Haselgrove S.W., Randall J.W., Harris Chaplain, Cobley Treasurer, Otway S.D., Sinkwell J.D., Harris I.G., Saunders Secretary, Cutler and Wood Stewards, Russell D.C. The Lodge was closed after a proposition had been made, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Sugar Loaf Hotel. Upon the removal of the cloth, the first toast was "The Queen and the Craft," proposed by Bro. F. Howell W.M. The toast was duly honoured, and the National Anthem was sung, Bro. Randall sustaining the solo, and the company taking up the choros. The next toast was likewise proposed by the W.M.—"The M.W. Grand Master." The toast was one which was always proposed on these occasions with peculiar pleasure, because His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master of England, as a man and a Mason, was one whom they were very proud of. The next toast was that of the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and other Grand Officers, to whose

eminent services the W.M. paid a just and a graceful tribute, the toast being received with distinguished marks of approbation. Bro. C. B. Harris, the Chaplain, then said:—I rise with feelings of the deepest satisfaction that I am honoured by being entrusted with the next toast, the toast of the evening as it certainly is, that of the Worshipful Master. (Prolonged applause.) We have met here after having been present at his installation as Master of this, Chiltern, Lodge for the second year of office, an honour which he certainly most highly merits and has richly deserved—(cheers)—although it has not been sought, but has come rather adventitiously; it was unexpected to him; and we could not by any possible means have placed in the chair a Mason who would have filled it with greater credit to himself, greater satisfaction to the Lodge, or with more zeal and energy. As a young Mason, I think our W.M. has done wonders during his year of office. I hope that his life and energies may be spared to us, and that he may go through the coming year with even greater results than in the past. (Cheers.) I call upon you most heartily to drink the health of our Worshipful Master. This toast was vehemently applauded. On rising to respond, the W.M. was greeted with round after round of cheering. He said:—Brethren—I am afraid my worthy friend and brother, the Chaplain of this Lodge, has complimented me far too much, and that you, in so handsomely responding to the toast, have been kind enough to give me a reception far beyond my deserts. I am sure that when I took that oath which I did last year faithfully to discharge the duties entrusted to me as the Master of this Lodge, I did so with the very fullest intention of doing everything in my power to further its interests, fully intending that no effort on my part should be wanting to get up the ceremonies, so that they should afford some pleasure to the brethren of the Lodge, and also satisfaction to myself; and you may be perfectly sure of this, that that means some rather hard work, because I do not disguise from any member in this room aspiring to any office in the Lodge, if they wish to fill the chair as the Master with satisfaction to the brethren, in the manner which every Lodge ought to demand of its Master, they will have to devote much time to it. It is, therefore, an office not to be taken lightly, but to be entered upon fully in a spirit of duty. I take your kindness to me as a testimony to the past, and I trust we may be spared to meet again in health and prosperity another year, and that then the pledges which I have again renewed shall have been fully kept to the best of my skill and ability, and to your entire satisfaction. I have to thank you most gratefully for the cordial support to me during my year of office. Your sympathy and kindness have rendered my work lighter, and nothing can exceed my gratitude to you all for your attendance and willingness at all times to render to me that obedience which you declare you will do when you enter the Order. I thank you very heartily, because no one knows better than I do how much the credit of one's year of office depends upon your sympathy and co-operation, and the absence of anything like cliqueness in the Lodge. I am delighted that we work together with singleness of mind to make each other better, to add to each other's prosperity, and to make life agreeable and happy to every brother. I am exceedingly obliged to you for the handsome jewel that you have been pleased to give me. In conclusion, before sitting down, the speaker proposed the health of the Installing Master, bearing testimony to the eminent skill and undoubted ability Bro. T. W. Haselgrove had displayed in the ceremony of the day. (Loud applause.) Bro. T. W. Haselgrove acknowledged the compliment in a graceful speech, in which he adverted to the many pleasant meetings he had attended at this Lodge. Bro. Phillips, of Luton, replied to the toast of "The Visitors" in an appropriate speech, as did also Bros. McCubbin, King, and Alford. The toast of "The Officers" followed, eliciting brief responses from Bros. Randall, Otway, Sinkwell, Cutler, Wood, and Saunders. The visitors having to leave by train, the proceedings were brought to a close at an early hour.

**St. Mungo Encampment, Knights Templar.**—This Encampment met on Monday, 17th January, at St. Mark's Hall, Sir Knight R. Bell E.C. presiding, who opened a Priory of Knights of Malta, to confer that degree on Sir Knight John Davie; he was assisted by Sir Knights Wheeler as Prelate, MacDudo as Aide-de-Camp, McLeish as Warder and Hardie as Sentinel, after which the Ancient Order of the Link and Wrestle was also conferred on the same gentleman. Sir Knight D. Reid was then unanimously chosen to fill the vacant place of Recorder, and Sir Knight Wheeler was elected as Assistant Prelate, as the Rev. J. C. Stewart can so seldom attend; Sir Knight J. Hughes was also appointed as J.W. The Encampment was then closed in due form.

**Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement.**—The regular weekly Convocation of this Chapter was held on Tuesday, the 18th inst., under the presidency of the following officers:—Comps. John Boyd, Treasurer, M.E.Z., Thos. Bull H., John Constable J., George Newman P.S., G. S. Norris S.E., J. H. Leggott S.W. Upon the usual preliminaries having been gone through, the ceremony of exaltation was completely rehearsed by the various officers, in a manner which elicited universal applause, and although the M.E.Z. tendered an apology for his anticipated shortcomings, we have seldom heard him to greater advantage. Comp. Allsopp was candidate. Comps. Morrian and Medwin were elected members, and testified their pleasure with the evening's proceedings. There were also present, Comps. G. V. Morgan, Bull, &c. An unusual treat was afforded by Comp. Boyd, who worked the first clause of the lecture, assisted by the companions.

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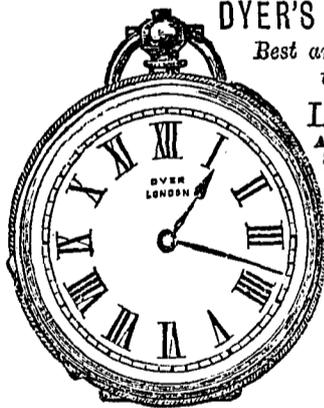
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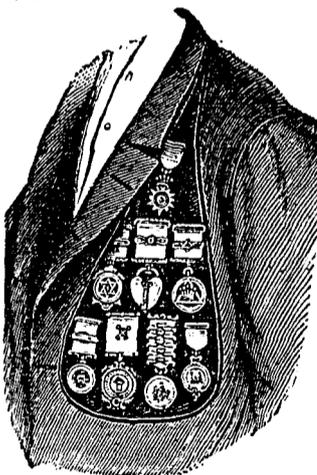
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