

THE
Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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THE DISCUSSION OF MASONIC
QUESTIONS.

WE note with pleasure the growing interest which Brethren take in the discussion of Masonic questions, not only of questions of jurisprudence and the like, but of questions affecting our ritual. We never have been of the number of those who think publicity in things Masonic an evil. We are, of course, aware that the greatest caution must be exercised in carrying on these discussions, and, as far as we are concerned, we shall exercise the needful amount of care on all occasions, so that nothing that may not properly be spoken shall appear in our columns. It is evident, however, that a new spirit has come over Freemasonry. Some there may have been in former days, who were not sufficiently reticent where reticence was an obligation; while, on the other hand, there was an even greater number of brethren who fancied that a single line of public announcement as to the sayings and doings of Freemasons was a crime hardly less terrible than that of high treason. Even in these more enlightened days there are still to be found some who think the publication in the columns of a Masonic journal of a formal *printed* document is a great sin. But this number is rapidly diminishing, and will doubtless, as the saying is, grow small by degrees and beautifully less, till at length the Mason who objects to reasonable publicity will be as great a wonder as the fossil remains of an antediluvian reptile. Thus the discussion raised, a few weeks since, by "P.M., P.Z.," has already evoked many able letters from the more studious among our brethren. Such learned Masons as Bros. Dr. Bedolfe and Gottheil may be trusted not to say what ought to be left unsaid. They, however, have expressed their views not only with great ability, but at considerable length, and discreetly as to the wisdom or unwisdom of modifying or altering the ritual which has been handed down to us. The originator of this discussion merely pursues the even tenour of his way, seeking information as to the correction of this or that rendering of this or that particular passage; and, we hope we may say, obtaining opinions at all events worthy of careful consideration, if not the opinions that may be wisest and best for us to adopt. But this is far from being the only result his very natural curiosity has obtained for him, and, indeed, for the whole Craft in this country. Among those who have joined in this discussion is a correspondent who signed himself "P.G.W.," and his suggestion as to the appointment by Grand Lodge of Lecturers, whose duty it shall be to lay down the law as to which is, and which is not the correct version to be adopted, is worthy of being considered most carefully by those whom it may concern—that is, by no less a body than Grand Lodge. It cannot be a matter of indifference to our rulers, that even a slight degree of laxity should prevail in the interpretation of our doctrine. What is handed down orally, is always liable to more or less of verbal variation. We cannot point to the man among us, or, indeed, in any other society, whose memory is sure as to every word in a ritual which, if printed, would make a respectable-sized volume. We say, such a man is not to be found anywhere. But, though we may not be able to find one who is word-perfect, we may, at least, find one who is sense-perfect in his teaching—that is to say, one who will rightly interpret, if he does not express with literal accuracy, the doctrines of Freemasonry. For instance, several of the questions propounded by the estimable "P.M., P.Z." show an utter ignorance, on the part of one or other of the Preceptors quoted, of

the sense intended to be conveyed. But if verbal perfection is unattainable, the perfection of sense is not in the same predicament. It is possible to interpret rightly all through our services—if we may use the word—the meaning of their authors. The sense still remains to us, though we may occasionally be at a loss for the exact words they employed. Moreover, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the key to the solution of a difficulty will be found in the context. Classical scholars know full well that many sentences in ancient authors are omitted or imperfect, but they supply the sense by judging of the passage in which our writers occurs. So we, if we experience a sense of hesitation as to which is the correct interpretation in our ritual, ought not to be at a loss in deciding by means of those passages which immediately precede and succeed it. It may perhaps occasionally happen that two renderings will commend themselves almost equally to the Preceptor's mind; but though he may not feel himself capable of deciding in such rare cases, we whose duty it is to follow his instruction, must necessarily benefit by his exposition of the doubts and difficulties which perplex him. We are certain of this, that the language of our ritual should be as nearly uniform as possible, and we consider the suggestion of "P.G.W." as to the appointment of Grand Lecturers one worthy of adoption by the authorities of Grand Lodge. We are not so Quixotic as to expect that successive generations of Grand Lecturers will employ exactly the same words, and in the same sequence. We have, however, a right to expect that, as far as possible, we may always receive from them the same interpretation.

The far larger question of reforming our ritual so as to suit the more enlightened ideas of the present day is one we feel indisposed to discuss, at least under existing circumstances.

MASONIC PORTRAITS. (No. 35.)

THE STATESMAN.

Custode rerum Cæsare, non furor
Civilis aut vis exiget otium,
Non ira, quæ procedit enses,
Et miseris inimicat urbes.

IT is a favourite argument with certain of our opponents that the Society of Freemasons is the declared enemy of all religion and all government. Our organisation is a secret one, and our ramifications extend to well nigh every country in the world. Professedly we have at heart the welfare of mankind, but secretly the one labour we devote ourselves to unceasingly is the utter subversion of all that man holds most sacred, religiously, politically, and socially. It is to little purpose we endeavour to meet this grave charge by pointing to the presence in our ranks of some of the highest and ablest members of all leading civilised communities, that is, of men the most deeply interested in the maintenance of religion and sound government. We are told that such personages are merely the dupes of the more designing members of the fraternity, that they are initiated only into the lesser and comparatively harmless mysteries, while a knowledge of our more dangerous tenets is reserved for a few choice spirits. These latter it is who rule and direct the policy of the Craft, and are at the bottom of all those various religious and political convulsions which now and again disturb the tranquillity of the world. In vain do we attempt to meet this rejoinder by

quoting those of our published Constitutions which enjoin the love of God and man, and obedience to the laws; in vain do we cite the case of princes and nobles and others of high degree who take an active part in our government. There is no arguing with those who will not be convinced. Our arguments and the arguments of this class of opponents are, in fact, as two parallel lines, capable of being prolonged infinitely, but never of meeting together and establishing a coincidence of opinion. Again, there are those who take a far less exalted view of Freemasonry. They are careless about our supposed antipathy to religion and morals, but they think us a parcel of zanies, who to an excessive regard for the pleasures of the table unite a most ridiculous love of show. We dine much and often, and we do so, bedecked with ribbons and aprons and jewels. We are charitable, perhaps, but always ostentatiously so. As for our vaunted secrets, we have none, or at least none worth keeping or making a fuss about. We are, in short, a huge confraternity of men, who practise a certain amount of harmless mummery, eat and drink hugely, and bedizen ourselves ridiculously. It is almost as difficult to meet this class of opponents as the former. We say there are wise and temperate men among us who hate mummery, excessive indulgence, and the display of tinsel. The answer is, perhaps, *Nemo mortalium omnibus horis sapit, Dulce est desipere in loco*, or some equally trite phrase. In spite, however, of the seeming impossibility of carrying conviction to the minds of these and other opponents of Freemasonry, we purpose laying before our readers a short sketch of one of the brightest ornaments of our Society, in the hope that if we fail to convince our enemies of their error, we may at least afford some comfort to our friends and well-wishers.

Our portrait is of one who has attained the foremost rank within and outside the pale of Masonry. By birth a patrician, he has shown himself at each successive stage of his career in the highest degree worthy of his exalted rank. He closed his academic course by taking first class honours in *litteris Humanioribus*, a distinction his *Alma Mater* acknowledged a few years later by conferring on him the honorary office of High Steward. On quitting the University he took the oath and his seat in the hereditary House of Parliament, and at once made his mark in the political world, as he had previously done in the world of letters. He was, in the first instance, appointed to a minor office in one of the earlier administrations of the late Earl of Derby. In 1866 he attained the rank of Cabinet Minister, and on the formation of the present Conservative ministry he once again resumed the seals of office as Secretary of State for the Colonies. We are, of course, aware that it hardly falls within our province to express any opinion on the political career of one of our brethren. Yet we feel that we are not exceeding the limits of prudence when we say that during the whole course of his colonial administration this distinguished member of our society has faithfully and conscientiously devoted himself to the duties of his office. To him is due the honour of having initiated a grand and comprehensive policy, whereby the inter-relations of our colonies among themselves and with the mother country have been drawn together more closely and familiarly. In the order of things this policy has met with a certain amount of opposition. Local jealousies have occasionally interfered to arrest its progress. But these have merely served to bring out in stronger relief the true magnificence of a scheme whose sole object is the greater consolidation of our empire. Opponents as well as friends now recognise this, and doubtless ere long his plans will be carried out in their entirety. Here then is one who has achieved the most brilliant success, both at his University and in his career as a statesman. At this very moment he is one of eleven men to whom are entrusted the destinies of a mighty empire. Is it conceivable that such a man should countenance a society of conspirators against law and order? And yet he is a Freemason of some twenty years' standing, and one of our leading magnates.

Pass we now, however, to what will more immediately interest our readers,—the Masonic career of the successful student and statesman. He was initiated into Freemasonry in February 1856, in the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10. Early in the following year, owing to certain foreign brethren having a few months previously been condemned to various terms of imprisonment with hard labour, for the sole crime of being Freemasons, our noble brother rose in his place in Grand Lodge, and moved a resolution to the effect that the Board of General Purposes be directed to

draw up and publish a statement of the principles of our Order, showing the basis of our Society in every age. The purpose of such resolution will be sufficiently obvious if we quote a few words from the speech in which the resolution was advocated. "Let that statement clearly show," said the speaker, "that if there be one great principle which has been the mainspring of our Order, that principle has been religion. And that if there be any practice which has been religiously adhered to, it has been that of non-intervention in political and religious matters." The motion, however, was opposed by the D.G.M., the late Earl of Dalhousie, then Lord Panmure, mainly on two grounds—that it would afford the enemies of Freemasonry an opportunity of offering a direct insult to Grand Lodge, and that a declaration of Masonic principles was unnecessary, as all the world knew what those principles were. The motion was negatived without a division; but though the expediency of passing such a resolution may have been doubtful, the *animus* which prompted it was, and always will be, universally respected. In May 1858, Westminster and Keystone Lodge was the scene of a grand gathering of brethren, including the Grand Master the late Earl of Zetland, the D. Grand Master, the late Lord Panmure, with other Grand Officers, and a strong muster of Provincial Grand Masters, the occasion being the installation of our brother as W.M. of his Lodge. The ceremony was performed by the retiring Master, Bro. Wyndham S. Portal, who had on his right the Earl of Zetland, and on his left Lord Panmure. At its conclusion the brethren, to the number of over two hundred, adjourned to banquet in the great hall. In returning thanks for his health, the newly elect W.M., in the course of a brilliant speech, expressed his gratitude to those country brethren who had done the Lodge the honour of being present on the occasion. "Many of us in this room," said he, "have not seen each other before, but we do not meet as strangers," and he added: "Each fresh step I take in the study of our great science, each fresh line I find in the pages of our history, convinces me still further of its incalculable ramifications, and makes me gaze with wonder and with awe on the boundless horizon of its influence." Some further remarks were addressed specially to his London brethren, in the course of which we find the following:—"We have met sometimes to agree, and, perhaps, sometimes to differ; but, let me assure you, that whenever we do meet, nothing can be more pleasant or more congenial than the thought that, when we do differ, it is only from a sense of duty—from a conviction of principle. That difference of principle, therefore, need not imply any diminution of the respect and regard which is due from Mason to Mason."

The year previous, he had affiliated to the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford, and his progress in Craft and Arch Masonry has ever since been commensurate with his merits. In 1868, he was appointed, by the late Earl of Zetland, to the Provincial Grand Mastership of Somerset. On the resignation, in 1870, by that nobleman of the Grand Mastership, which he had held uninterruptedly from the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex in 1843, the Marquis, then Earl, of Ripon was elected Grand Master, and our noble brother became Deputy Grand Master. In 1871, the Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1383, was warranted, and the subject of our sketch became its first W.M. In 1874, on the resignation of the Marquis of Ripon, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who already enjoyed the rank of Past Grand Master, was chosen to fill the vacant chair. His Royal Highness's installation took place in April 1875, at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, on which memorable occasion our then Deputy Grand Master enacted the chief part in inducting the new G.M. into his office. His speech was in every way worthy of so great an event, and was received with marked enthusiasm by the eight or ten thousand brethren who were present. The very first act of our new chief was the appointment of this eminent brother as Pro Grand Master. A week later, and he became Pro Grand Z. of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. He is likewise Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the A. and A. Rite, in which capacity he assisted in conferring the 33° on the Prince of Wales, when the latter became its Patron. He is also Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, having presided over that body between the years 1860 and 1863. These are the chief, though far from being the only, distinctions he has had conferred upon him, nor are these his only claims upon the respect of all true Masons. Few

there are so deeply versed in all the different branches of Masonic knowledge, and fewer still who furnish in all their acts such indisputable evidence of the value of Masonic teaching. As regards our Charities, he is, as might be expected, a foremost supporter of them all, the last occasion on which he exhibited, practically, his interest in their welfare being in 1875, when he occupied the chair at the Festival of the Boys' School. It is hardly necessary, after what we have said, to adduce further evidence of the appreciation in which he is held. We may mention, however, incidentally, that no less than three Lodges have been named in his honour. These are No. 708, Hampton Court, founded in 1857; No. 804, Havant, founded in 1859—a notice of the consecration of whose new Lodge quarters appeared in these columns only a few weeks since—and No. 1572, a metropolitan Lodge, constituted last year, and meeting at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. A fourth Lodge, which will be consecrated this very day, will also be named after him.

It is time, however, we put the finishing touches to this very inadequate sketch of one of our worthiest Craftsmen. We consider we have proved our case, if not to the complete discomfiture of our enemies, at least to the satisfaction of our friends. We are constantly being charged with exercising a pernicious influence over religion and morals, and with plotting to overthrow the bases of all established government. We point, in reply, to the constituent members of our body, and we say these charges are, *primâ facie*, groundless. We include in our ranks very many of the best and worthiest members of society, who, above and beyond all personal inclination, are directly interested in the spread of religion and morals, and with the maintenance of order. We say there are thousands of such men among us, and we cite in illustration the case of one who is publicly known, not only as one of the chief Masonic luminaries in this country; but likewise for his great scholarly attainments and his brilliant career as a statesman of the highest rank. Others of like mental calibre have preceded him in our ranks, others accompany him, and doubtless others will follow in his footsteps. And so long as we can point with pardonable pride to their presence among us, we can afford to laugh at the slanders that are launched against Freemasonry. We need have little fear for the safety of our Craft with such captains to command it. Without the slightest idea of flattery we may address to him the lines which the poet to whom we are indebted for the motto to this portrait addressed to Lollius—

"Est animus tibi
Rerumque prudens, et secundis
Temporibus dubiisque rectus."

OPENING OF A NEW LODGE AT GORLESTON.

THE consecration of a new Lodge is at all times of great interest to the Craft, but more especially so when it occurs in their own province. On Monday morning a large muster of brethren from Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Halesworth, and other places in Suffolk, as well as a few brethren from Norwich, mastered at St. Andrew's Hall, Gorleston, for the purpose of assisting at the ceremony of opening a new Lodge in that remote corner of Suffolk. The foundation of the new Lodge is entirely due to E. P. Youell, Esq., a resident in the town—who takes great interest in the Craft—and who, not being able to find a place suitable for the purpose, has erected, at his own cost, a small but convenient Lodge-room, adjoining the St. Andrew's Hall Lecture Room, and fitted it up with every requisite for the work. The new Lodge has been named the "St. Andrew's Lodge;" but why this name has been chosen we cannot say, although as the church is named after St. Andrew, we suppose that saint was the patron of the fishermen of the town and neighbourhood, as St. Nicholas is the patron saint of Yarmouth.

The ceremony of consecration was intended to be performed by the P.G. Master for Suffolk (Lord Waveney), but his lordship was unavoidably detained in Ireland, and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Rev. E. Lockwood) having recently died, the Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G. Chaplain of England, was deputed by the P.G.M. to perform the important office. Excellent arrangements were made for the purpose, but unfortunately the space was so limited, and the number of brethren present so numerous, that the ceremony, therefore, lost a great portion of its effect. The Lodge was summoned for half-past eleven, some time being usually required on these occasions when so many visiting brethren are present to settle the order of proceedings. At half-past twelve, the Lodge was duly opened by Bro. Lucia P.G. Secretary of Suffolk, after which the warrant of constitution from the Grand Lodge in London was read, and the names of the brethren proposed as officers having been duly approved of, Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, accompanied by the P.G. Officers for the Province was then introduced in due form. The ceremony of the consecration was then ably carried out

by him, Bro. Rev. J. Tweed P.G. Chaplain for Suffolk assisting, with Bro. Mann of Lowestoft at the harmonium. Bro. Martyn then called upon the W.M. elect, Bro. Youell, to answer certain questions, which being satisfactory, he was inducted in due form into the W.M.'s chair, amidst the applause of the brethren. He then proceeded to appoint the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Capt. Dods S.W., J. Hammond J.W., Thurlby S.D., Stainer J.D., Fiske I.G., Bond, of the Friendship Lodge, being appointed as the immediate P.M. The business of the Lodge so far having been concluded, the brethren then arranged themselves in procession, and, preceded by the band of the West Norfolk Militia, wended their way to St. Andrew's Church, where arrangements had been made with the vicar for a special service to be held. A large number of the inhabitants were present. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Tweed P.G.C., from 1 Ecclesiastes, 10th verse, the offertory on the occasion being given (by desire) to the Church Restoration Fund. On their return to the Lodge-room, a vote of thanks was moved by the W.M. to the P.G. Chaplain for his admirable Masonic sermon on the occasion, and to the vicar for kindly granting the use of his church. A vote of thanks was also passed to the Halesworth brethren for signing the petition to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge. After which the Lodge was closed in due form. As many of the brethren on these occasions come from various parts of the county, it will not allow of much time to be lost; therefore, shortly after five o'clock, the brethren assembled in an adjoining building, called St. Andrew's Hall, which had been most tastefully decorated for the occasion, and where a most elegant repast had been prepared. The W.M. (Bro. Youell) presided, and was supported by Bro. Martyn and the other Provincial Officers of the Province, as well as by many visiting brethren. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, that of the W.M. being given in a most felicitous manner by Bro. Martyn. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent singing from some of the brethren present, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

We must not omit to state that the band of the West Norfolk Militia played various pieces of music during dinner in a most admirable manner.

Too much praise cannot be given to Bro. Clarke, P.G. Director of Ceremonies, for the able manner in which he carried out the duties of his office on this occasion; and to Bro. Bond, of Friendship Lodge, Yarmouth, praise must be awarded for his excellent arrangement of the business of the day.

The banquet was supplied by Bro. Franklin in his usual admirable manner.

The official number of the new Lodge is 1,631, and by that it appears there have been 131 new Lodges opened in various parts of England since the Walpole Lodge, No. 1,500, which was consecrated in Norwich two years since.—*Norwich Mercury*.

CONSECRATION OF THE LODGE DRAMATIC, No. 571, GLASGOW.

THIS long-delayed ceremony took place in St. Mark's Hall, on Wednesday, 1st Nov., at three p.m. The P.G.L. was represented by Bros. F. A. Barrow P.G.D.M., acting as P.G.M., J. Baird P.G.S.M., who acted as P.G. Chaplain, G. McDonald R.W.M. No. 73 as P.G.S.W., R. Jack R.W.M. 128 acting P.G.J.W., J. Morgan P.G. Sec., A. Bain P.G.B.B., J. Balfour P.G.D. of Ceremonies, and J. B. Hardie P.G.O.G. The acting Provincial Grand Master performed the ceremonies in an impressive manner. In the unexpected absence of the Chaplain, he said it would rest with him to deliver an address—he would not call it an oration, as set down in the programme, because he was not an orator. He entered into a lucid exposition of the principles of the Order, arguing that these principles, though beautiful in themselves, are useless if they are not reduced to practice. And he would particularly call upon the Master, Wardens and Officers of the Lodge Dramatic to see that, in practice, they strictly adhered to the principles laid down in the charges delivered to Masters, and assented to by them. From his previous knowledge of the Masters and some of the Officers, he had no doubt they would do so, yet the tendency of all new bodies was to try as soon as possible to enlarge themselves, therefore it was necessary to recommend a strict adherence to the grand principles. Masonry was not a religion, but its precepts, if carried into practice, may, like religion, tend to make men better, and more moral. If at any time any of the brethren overstepped the bounds of prudence, and, from the numbers who joined, it was to be feared that some would, let them try, in a brotherly spirit, to get them back to the paths of true morality, and carry out the grand principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Bro. Dobson R.W.M., on behalf of the Lodge, as well as himself, tendered Bro. Barrow and the rest of the P.G.L. their best thanks for their zeal that day, and the excellent way in which they had performed the ceremonies, and concluded by proposing that they be all admitted as honorary members. This was accordingly done. Bro. Barrow, on behalf of the other members of P.G.L., acknowledged the compliment paid them. They then retired, and the Lodge, after the transaction of some local business, was closed in due form, by Bro. Dobson.

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WHICH IS CORRECT?

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—After due consideration I have decided not to continue this controversy, which, if continued, would lead me beyond the bounds I at first contemplated. My public and private avocations alike forbid it.

I have had but one object in view—viz., the improvement of our philosophical teaching, for such it claims to be, and such it ought to be considered by all thinking men.

I do not know by what right my friends who have opposed me assume themselves to be representatives of the Craft, but apprehend that, when the Craft does earnestly bestir itself in this very important affair, as sooner or later it will, leaders will be chosen who will not content themselves with mere verbal quibbles, or who, in matters of fact, accuse their opponent of being "unimaginative."

For the reasons above stated, I now withdraw from the contest, not doubting that, even after many days, the good seed I have sown will bear fruit.

I have nothing to withdraw. I have offered, as an individual ruler of the Craft, thoughtful addresses to thoughtful men, in all earnestness and truth; and if the exercise of my duty has in any way caused pain to friends, I can only express regret, and trust all ill-feeling will be mutually forgotten.

With thanks, Mr. Editor, for your courtesy in inserting my letters,

I am, fraternally yours,

W. VINER BEDOLFE M.D., P.M. 1329,

Author of "Footsteps of Masonry."

Dulwich, 30th October 1876.

[We regret the determination our esteemed brother has come to, and that he will take no further part in this discussion. We had looked forward to deriving no small amount of profit from his well-known ability, and careful study of Masonic doctrine. ED, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—If any remarks in my last letter have given pain to Bro. Bedolfe, or if he considers I have dealt hardly with him, I know, he will forgive me when I assure him that they were directed not to him personally, but against some of his statements, which, as an humble Preceptor of a Lodge of Instruction, I felt it my duty to combat, and, if possible, to controvert. A discussion of this kind can with very little difficulty be conducted in a calm and dispassionate spirit, seeing that the aim of either disputant can only be to promote the interest of the cause he is proud and anxious to serve. Actuated by the same principle, I will pass by the first sentence in the second paragraph of his last letter, "His paper is written with undoubted talent; he eludes each point with wonderful tact," and I am willing to look upon the questionable compliment with a forgiving eye. According to my friend's dictum an opponent should give his replies categorically. This is not easy, unless the propositions under consideration follow consecutively, and are methodically numbered. He will, therefore, in this instance allow me to state my views as they happen to present themselves, and he must connect them as he thinks best. I will now proceed to examine what further forces have been marshalled to sustain the onslaught upon one of the redoubts of the Masonic citadel. The Doctor starts by proclaiming that he has given his aid to introduce certain modifications, which, as has been pointed out, are gradually being adopted in various Lodges. I am not disposed to question the fact. He farther inquires, "Is it presumption to ask to be a fellow labourer?" Certainly not. But why does my friend stigmatise as "tinkering," work which he seems anxious it should be known he has helped to perform? The necessity for improvement, and the advantages likely to arise if many matters in our system are modernised and rendered more consistent with the present mode of thought has already been conceded. Is it, then, fair criticism to cull a passage here and there and exclaim, "How can you tell your pupils that which you know to be untrue?" The system has been handed down to us in its imperfect form, and the elimination of its discrepancies is by no means an easy task. The process must be gradual, and extreme caution is necessary lest all resemblance to the original be destroyed. The Doctor either mis-read or mis-conceived the purport of my remarks, when he accused me of having stated that the "lectures are simple tradition." Such an assertion would be silly. I can also only express myself in proportionally grateful terms for his considerably volunteering to defuse the term "tradition." It is many years since I left school, but I have not forgotten it. My friend opines that it is incumbent upon me to prove in what manner the story of Ishmael, Hagar, and Isaac is applicable to the origin of "Freeborn." I do not admit that I am called upon to do anything of the sort, but will, nevertheless, endeavour to show that it is a useful and pointed illustration. Freedom is an important, and, indeed, necessary qualification to a Mason desirous of performing his duties faithfully and conscientiously. Few, if any, whose time and talent are the property, or at the disposal, of a master, can become profitable servants of the Order. Indeed, as numberless examples in our own experience have abundantly proved, the whim

or misfortune of the master will invariably render the servant a burden and incumbrance, when it was hoped he might have been a source of strength and support. Hagar occupied what might have been deemed an unassailable position in the household of Abraham. Yet being after all only a hired dependent, caprice and importunity easily succeeded in contriving her banishment, and to reduce her to a condition of dire want and distress. Can it be said the illustration is entirely devoid of force? In the same narrative we are also admonished to guard the young against vulgar and low bred associations, and by keeping them free from baneful influences prepare them for an upright and virtuous life. The learned doctor persists in regarding men who attend Lodges of Instruction as a parcel of school boys. He seems to gauge their intellectual power by a singularly low standard. He assumes, upon what ground I am unable to conceive, that the Scripture narratives are "unwisely adopted," and when used as isolated facts, are productive of "unspeakable sin, misery, and crime." He would raise no objection if each were followed by a suitable explanation. But what reason has he to assume that the brethren who study the Lectures are incapable, not only to explain, but to draw a fitting moral from these passages. The doctrine that these matters are unfit for the common understanding, and should not be read except by the light of those who are supposed to possess the capacity to explain them, is one which I believe was abolished at the time of the Reformation, and is scarcely consistent with the freedom of thought which should prevail in all truly civilised communities. In his former paper my friend indulged in wholesale condemnation. He contented himself by simply enumerating what he conceived to constitute dark and ugly blemishes in the system of Masonic Instruction. Fault finding is, however, a mighty easy task; and I have heard it said that to some the occupation affords the most unalloyed gratification and pleasure, and is often preferred to any other mode of recreation. But experience teaches us that the adverse critic is rarely the one capable of suggesting a way by which the imperfections complained of might be removed or amended. I never for a moment entertained the idea that the Doctor's strictures were objectless. Being sure that he is not one who would carelessly lay bare the wounds of a patient without having a definite purpose in view, I felt some curiosity as to the remedy he was likely to propose in order to relieve Masonry of its complicated disease and shocking disfigurement, especially as I conceived that no one knew better than himself that to obtain a radical cure an exact knowledge of the disease is indispensable. His diagnosis of some time since was sufficiently alarming, and calculated to dishearten the timid, and drive them to despair. But his latest bulletin is much more reassuring. To judge by the proposed treatment, the disease after all cannot be of a very virulent or malignant type. Revision is to be the panacea. From this it may be concluded that there is no immediate risk of dissolution; indeed, we may confidently dismiss the idea of imminent danger. The learned doctor has not as yet thought proper to enlighten us as to how the remedy is to be applied. It will, therefore, behove the friends of the patient to be particularly vigilant lest it prove worse than the disease, and to be prepared against any fatal consequences that might possibly ensue from its application. I must once more refer to the distinction between the originator of this controversy and my esteemed Brother Bedolfe. The Doctor advocates allopathic treatment. Doctor James Stevens wisely, to my thinking, prefers the homoeopathic. Doctor Bedolfe stands, scalpel in hand, ready to amputate or excise, as the exigencies of the case may require. Doctor Stevens, on the other hand, likes to pursue the somewhat slow but sure, and at the same time less dangerous, although probably in this instance much more efficacious, process of pilules and infinitesimal doses. We shall certainly have to make our choice between the two. My friend makes known his "pain and mortification" at the recital of the exploits of a freebooter, the slaughter of forty thousand Ephraimites, and the plunder of Ammonitish cities. But why should the histories of battles, because recorded in the Sacred Book, be considered more revolting than those of the wars of our own time, with their attendant inhumanities and brutalities, the reports of which are placidly read from day to day by millions all over the world? The fact is, war, the irresistible engine of destruction and desolation, and the evil genius whose sinister influences turn mankind into the semblance of wild beasts uncontrolled and uncontrollable, has always been full of horrors. And until Utopia is established, or the Millennium has arrived, individuals and nations will continue to quarrel and fight, and sympathetic sentimentalism must be resigned to suffer "pain and mortification." For His own unfathomable purposes the Most High suffered these things in the days of old; we can only suppose they are deemed necessary now, and must bow in humble submission to His allwise decrees. The Doctors differ and agree. They are at one as to the necessity of rectifying all matters incongruous and obsolete, to round off the slightest excrescence which might have a tendency to mar the beauty and symmetry, and to polish away the least speck likely to degrade the brilliancy and lustre of our cherished institution. They join issue as to the method in which the onerous, but at the same time pleasant, task is to be accomplished. May this discussion result in discovering the best way to bring about the much-needed and greatly-to-be-desired consummation.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

THE TWO DOCTORS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DR. W. VINER BEDOLFE, M.D.,
1876.

DR. G. OLIVER, D.D.,
1846.

"ARE we children to be taught to repeat that, as historical fact, a Lodge of Masons existed

"IN the time of Euclid the river Nile overflowed so far that many of the dwellings of the people of

at Alexandria, and that a Euclid was Master? Is it possible a Preceptor can be found with gravity to teach such absurdity, or does he, with a wink, acknowledge that it is only a puerile lie? It is idle pretensions like these, not one of which will for a moment bear the test of criticism, that has brought Masonic history into such deserved contempt."

"Now if a Preceptor tells the brethren that a *Lodge of Freemasons* existed at Alexandria in Egypt, over which Euclid presided as *Grand Master*, he would tell his pupils what he ought to know is entirely without foundation, and hence imply that Masonic teachings and truth are not identical."

bo unnecessary to add that geometry was fully understood before the time of Euclid, although he improved and polished the science by his superior genius, and reduced it into such a systematic form as to render it more accessible to those who came after him. He was an expert Mason, and applied his geometry to the improvement of several other sciences."

"Thus our ancient Brother Euclid, in addition to the architectural triumphs for which he was celebrated, employed his great talents in the accomplishment of that advantageous measure which the lectures of Masonry ascribe to him. He was induced by Ptolemy Soter to take up his residence in Egypt, where he formed a school or Lodge of Masonry. He is said by our traditions to have been Senior Grand Warden to Grand Master Ptolemy Soter, and during the course of his valuable life, digested geometry into so perfect a form, that little improvement has been made upon it to the present day."

"Why is that beautiful and ancient Roman emblem, which St. Paul so well knew how to appropriate in one of his most sublime addresses, to be degraded by its connection with a narration disgusting to listen to, humiliating to repeat?"

Here is the beginning, Lecture II. Section 3:—

"At that time there lived a man of note, whose name was Gilead, who had many sons, and one in particular he had by a concubine, whom he called Jephtha."

"Gilead dying, and his sons growing up, they expelled Jephtha from his father's house, saying, 'thinkest thou, the son of a bondwoman, to inherit with us who are freeborn?'"

"Jephtha being thus unworthily treated in his native country, and being of a bold and daring spirit, resolved to try his fortune in a foreign one, he therefore repaired to the land of Tob, whence he made incursions into the neighbouring Gentile nations, often returning laden with rich spoil." After a life of freebooting and slaughter, he finally terminates his career by "the plunder of twenty Ammonitish cities."

"I must again call attention to the *symbol* which is pretended to be illustrated by the tale of Jephtha. They have, and can have, no connection whatever, and as to any tradition upon the subject, it is simply absurd. Talk of allegory indeed! I know the pain and mortification it has often subjected me to, in feeling compelled to listen to such an outrage upon common sense."

at enmity. How far this was lawful, I do not now enquire. * * It is sufficient for my purpose to show that the business itself was highly honourable."

"Much injury may arise from the smallest deviation in the ceremony of initiation, or in the lectures of instruction. We read in the book of Judges, that the transposition of a single point over the *Sheen*, in consequence of a national defect among

Egypt were destroyed. Euclid instructed them in the art of making mighty walls and ditches, to stop the progress of the water; and by geometry measured out the land, and divided it into partitions, so that each man might ascertain his own property."

"The Tyrians, by their intercourse with the Greeks, had greatly improved their system of astronomy and geometry, and were therefore well qualified to perform any service within the range of those noble sciences. A very few years after the Babylonish captivity, Tyro produced an able brother, whose name has descended to our times with so much honour that many have ascribed to him the absolute invention of geometry. I refer to Euclid, whose fame has been transmitted in the authorised lectures of Masonry."

"It will be unnecessary to add that geometry was fully understood before the time of Euclid, although he improved and polished the science by his superior genius, and reduced it into such a systematic form as to render it more accessible to those who came after him. He was an expert Mason, and applied his geometry to the improvement of several other sciences."

"Another expressive symbol dates its origin from a period anterior to the building of the temple. It is an ear of corn placed on the banks of the running stream. This emblem conveys a valuable lesson on the dispensation of Providence in supplying the necessary *plenty* of food for the sustenance of his creatures; thus displaying the Great Architect of the Universe in the exercise of Mercy; 'doing good,' as the great apostle of the Gentiles beautifully expresses it, 'giving us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons; filling our hearts with food and gladness.' This emblem adds grace and dignity to the Masonic system, whether it be referred to the Divine beneficence, or the occurrence in the history of Jephtha."

"This famous warrior was the natural son of Gilead; and having been ejected from his father's house by his legitimate brothers, he took up his residence in the land of Tob. When the brethren of Jephtha refused him his portion of the inheritance, he became the captain of a band of robbers, which was so far from dishonouring him, that the people of Gilead unanimously chose him for their prince; and we find him hesitating whether he should do his country the favour of accepting that office, or still abide by his former profession. Before his time, Abimelech, a son of Gideon, the judge, had made his fortune in the same manner, heading the men of Siceon in their depredations. In like manner, when David fled before Saul, a number of unfortunate persons joined him; and they lived by committing depredations on those with whom the Israelites were

the Ephraimites, designated the cowans, and led to the slaughter of 40,000 men."

Which is Correct?

Yours fraternally

JAMES STEVENS,

P.M., P.Z.

Clapham, 23rd October 1876.

A MISSING CASE AND JEWELS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

301 Strand, W.C., 1st Nov. 1876.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At installation meeting of Chancer Lodge last Wednesday, at Bro. Spence's, Bridge House Hotel, my case, with my name and Lodge (Domatic, No. 177) written thereon, and containing two collars, one with silver jewel of S.W., with "Domatic, 177," engraved thereon, was taken by a brother, in mistake. If said brother will return same to me at Domatic Lodge, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, or at my office as above, he will greatly oblige.

Yours fraternally,

JAS. WILLING JUN., P.M. 1507, S.W. 177.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

A MOVEABLE Grand Lodge of M.M.M. of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Wednesday, the 25th ult., at the New Town Hall, Leicester, under the auspices of Fowke Lodge, No. 19. The M.W.G.M.M., the Right Honourable the Earl of Limerick, presided, and there were present M.W. Bro. Rev. G. R. Portal P.G.M., Bros. Lieut-Gen. J. S. Brownrigg G.J.W. as G.S.W., and Fred. Davison G.T. as G.J.W., Rev. J. S. Brownrigg G. Chaplain and Rev. W. Langley P.G. Ghaplain, J. M. Cunningham Prov. G.M. Sussex, as G.M.O., John Chadwick P.G.S.O. as G.S.O., John Wordsworth D.P.G.M. W. Yorkshire as G.J.O., F. Binckes P.G.W. G. Secretary, J. J. Fast G.I.G., H. W. Binckes Assistant G. Secretary and Chas Pulman, Clement Strotton, and George Yaxley G. Stewards, with the following G. Officers of the Province, namely, Bros. W. Kelly Prov. G.M., N. James P.G.J.W., R. Broughton-Smith P.G.S.O., Rev. C. Henton Wood P.G. Chaplain, J. M. McAlister P.G. Secretary W. J. Rowlett P.G.I.G., John Hunt, W. Vical, Meadows Prov. G. Stewards, and a strong muster of brethren of Fowke Lodge, No. 19, Knights of Malta, No. 30, Aldershot Military, No. 54, Bedford, No. 115, Mansel, No. 116, St. Peter and St. Paul, No. 163, Simon de Montfort, No. 194. The Grand Lodge having been opened, and several letters of apology for non-attendance having been read, the routine business was transacted and the Lodge closed. The ceremony of consecrating the new Lodge, Simon de Montfort, was then proceeded with, after which Bro. Barfoot, Mayor of Leicester, W.M. Designate, was duly installed by the M.W.G.M.M., who fulfilled his task most impressively. The newly-appointed officers of the Lodge were then severally addressed as to the importance of their respective offices, both in respect of the Lodge and the Province. Votes of thanks were then passed with acclamation to the M.W.G.M.M., for his kindness in attending and conducting the important ceremonies of the day, and to Bro. Barfoot, for his great kindness in placing the Council Chamber of the New Town Hall at the disposal of the brethren. These votes having been briefly but appropriately acknowledged, Simon de Montfort Lodge was closed with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned to the Freemasons' Hall, where an excellent banquet had been prepared. The Earl of Limerick presided. On the removal of the cloth, the following toasts were proposed, namely, The Queen and Mark Masonry; H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family, with Prince Leopold W.M. elect of University Lodge, No. 55; the M.W.G.M.M.M. the Earl of Limerick, the M.W.G.M.M.M. Lord Leigh, the Earl of Carnarvon, Viscount Holmesdale, W. W. Beach, Rev. G. Raymond Portal, and Earl Percy; the D.G.M.M.M. Lord Skelmersdale and the Grand Officers present and past; the P.G.M.M. Bro. Kelly; the D.G.P.M.M. Rev. Bro. Langley P.G.C. and the P.G. Officers present and past; the W.M. of the Simon de Montfort Lodge, No. 194, and success to the Lodge; the W.M. of the Fowke Lodge, No. 19; the Masonic Institutions and the Mark Benevolent Fund; the Visitors; the Tylers' toast. It is unnecessary to add that each and every of the above were very cordially received. In the interval a number of songs were very effectively given. In fine, the whole of the proceedings throughout the day passed off most successfully, and thanks are due to all who took part in them, but especially to the Grand Master and his Officers, the Prov. Grand Officers, the Master and Brethren of Fowke Lodge, and last but not least, to the W.M. of the new Lodge, Bro. Barfoot, the highly esteemed Mayor of Leicester.

From the Cape we learn that the South African International Exhibition building will be erected in the gardens of the Masonic Lodge Goede Hoop, adjoining the House of Assembly. The land has been freely placed at the disposal of the Committee by the ancient and wealthy Lodge to which it belongs.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 14d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bezique, Ecarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

HISTORIES OF OUR LODGES.

UNITED INDUSTRIOUS LODGE, No. 31.

WE thank Bro. John R. Hall for his kindness in allowing us the opportunity of inspecting the notes in MS. which he has been at the pains of compiling. We think great credit is due to Bro. Hall. These notes of his, though no doubt intended originally for his own private information, enable us to place before our readers a short sketch of the latter part of the career of the second oldest Lodge in the Province of Kent, and we feel certain that, however imperfect it may be, it will be read with pleasure.

Originally this Lodge was borne as No. 24 on the Grand Roll of the Ancients, having been warranted on the 7th April 1755. Its first home was at the Great Western Port of Bristol. Under what circumstances it migrated to the archiepiscopal City of Canterbury is a mystery we shall not attempt to explain. Suffice it to say that, though there is still extant a book containing the Treasurer's accounts from 1785, the first recorded minutes refer to the existence of a Lodge, No. 24, "under the ancient and honourable Constitutions of England," which was held at the Marquis of Granby, in Lamb-lane, Canterbury. The earliest particulars bear date the 21st April 1806, the original warrant having been confirmed on the preceding 4th March, and describe an occasional Lodge at which the following brethren were installed in ancient and due form as officers of the Lodge, namely, Bro. Aaron Paris W.M., Bro. Thomas Powell S.W., and Bro. Duke Buckingham J.W. From a minute dated 19th September of the same year it would appear that the landlord of the Marquis of Granby died, and it is further stated that sundry brethren of Lodge 400, Irish Constitution, formed a funeral procession, and accompanied the body of Bro. George Taylor from his residence, the Marquis of Granby, to St. Dunstan's Churchyard. In October 1806, it was unanimously agreed to hold the Lodge at the Eight Bells, King-street, and these are the quarters assigned to it in the list of Lodges appended to Ahiman Rezon, seventh edition, published in 1807. The first meeting at this hostelry was held on the eighteenth of the month, and on this occasion a Bro. John Baker presented to the Lodge a dozen goblets engraved with Masonic emblems, in return for which his health was drunk with the usual ceremony. These goblets, be it added, still remain in the possession of the Lodge, a worthy memento of a worthy member long since gathered to his fathers. At this time the members increased rapidly in number, many of the King's German Legion quartered in this city, and of His Majesty's army being made Masons, and being mentioned as among the Lodge visitors. Subsequently, though the exact date is not stated, the Lodge moved to the "Ordnance Arms." Later still, on the 15th October 1812, we find a resolution adopted, to migrate to other quarters, the "Saracen's Head" being given as the place of meeting in June 1813. In July 1816, the W.M., Bro. Cook, who is described as a "most excellent and worthy man and Mason," proposed that a letter be addressed to Lodge 326/416 with a view to effecting a union of the two Lodges. The letter proposed, in the first place, that "a day in Union" should be spent by the officers and members of the two Lodges; and then, having regard to "the decline of Masonry in this city," and with a view "to strengthen the Craft," that the two Lodges should be formed into one. It concludes with a promise to use every endeavour to establish so desirable a union, and is signed "Thos. Cook W.M.," and—in pencil only—"J. King S.W." and "J. Hart J.W." "Saracen's Head, Canterbury, Aug. 19, 1816." In reply a letter was received from Lodge $\frac{2}{11}$, thanking Lodge $\frac{2}{11}$ for its good wishes, as well as for the proposal to form a union of the two, and it suggests that a deputation of its members should attend the next meeting of the latter with a view to concerting the necessary measures. The idea is at once acted upon, but owing to the paucity of members present the Lodge could not be opened in order to receive the deputation of the Industrious Lodge. However, a friendly conversation took place, and it was finally agreed to send a letter to the Prov. G.M., asking his sanction for the union, and likewise the necessary instructions how to carry it out. On this occasion there were present four members of $\frac{2}{11}$ Lodge, five of "Industrious Lodge ($\frac{2}{11}$)," and one visitor. A hitch, however, occurred, and the scheme temporarily fell through. The W.M. of Industrious having meanwhile returned from London, a letter is written, announcing, under date, "Guildhall Tavern, November 28, 1816," that "after mature deliberation we are unanimous in our attachment to our Constitution, and cannot agree to relinquish it." Thanks are conveyed for the friendly proposal, and the writer—Bro. Chas. Lepine Sec—adds that we "should be very glad to receive you in our Lodge in any manner agreeable to your inclinations." In the return to Grand Lodge dated 19th Jan. 1817, only ten names appear, and in forwarding the Prov. G. Lodge returns in February of the same year, Bro. Cook "deplores the fewness of the members," but "trusts that time will increase their numbers," and expresses his "wish that the Craft may not long be neglected." The wish, however, was some time in being realised. A minute of 8th Jan. 1821 states that owing to the smallness of the attendance it had been impossible to transact any business till that evening, and, after all, none appears to have been transacted even then; for though ten, including visitors, sat down to dinner, it was at so late an hour that the opening of the Lodge had to be postponed till the second Thursday in February, and when the eventful Thursday came, only four, including the Tyler, made their appearance, "owing to their business." The return to Grand Lodge for this year shows only seven members and the Tyler, and henceforth, till 21st Jan. 1819, when the return showed one member less, no meeting was held. However, it was stated in a letter to Grand Lodge that Nos. $\frac{2}{11}$ and Industrious Lodges had established a friendly understanding between themselves, and that they had transmitted their plans to the Provincial G.M. On the last mentioned day the members of the two Lodges, finding themselves so few in number, met in friendly conclave in Lodge Room No. 37, and number of propositions were submitted and agreed to *nem con.*

The first of these, proposed by Bro. Stacey, and seconded by Bros. Pillow and Lawrence, was to the effect that the Warrant of Industrious Lodge No. 416 should be returned to Grand Lodge, the members uniting in forming one Lodge with No. 37; the Regalia to be removed to Lodge 37, such as may be wanted to be retained, and the rest to be sold, and proceeds placed in the Charity Box. It was next proposed that Bro. Cook should take the chair as W.M. of the United Lodge. A third motion was, that a ballot should be taken to settle the meeting-place of the Lodge, when it was decided, by a large majority, to remain at the Saracen's Head. It was further determined that each Lodge should discharge its own debts, if any, and further that a letter should be written to the Prov. G.M., asking his and the G.M.'s approval of the union, and inquiring as to the steps that must be taken to effect it. It was finally agreed that if a favourable answer were received, the steps taken that evening should be deemed conclusive as to the union, the new name being only left undetermined. Those present at this important meeting were six of Lodge 37, and five of Lodge 416. A letter was accordingly written the day following, giving the substance of the foregoing resolutions, and signed by Jacob Hart W.M. 37 and Robert Lawrence W.M. 416. To this an answer was received from Bro. Rd. Thompson, D.P.G.M. Kent, dated Rochester, 24th January 1819, to the effect that he saw no reason why the union should not take place; but that, as the case was a novel one, he had placed himself in communication with Grand Lodge. On the 5th of the month following he again writes, telling them how to proceed, and expressing a hope that the United Lodge may go on prospering. On the 11th February it is finally settled that the Lodge shall be returned to Grand Lodge as the "United Industrious Lodge, No. 37." It was further ordered that the Regalia of No. 416 be removed, by Bro. Lawrence, to Lodge Room No. 37. Nine, including the Tyler, were present. On 8th April 1819, the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. Jacob Hart vacated the chair as W.M. in favour of Bro. Cook, as arranged on the 21st January, who thus became the first W.M. of the United Industrious Lodge, and appointed as his officers Bros. John King S.W., Charles Delamotte J.W., Thomas Ellis S.D., John Morgan J.D., Alex. William Stacey Treas., G. Birch Sec., and Thomas Blair Tyler. It was at the same time arranged that, as the W.M. was non-resident in the city, Bro. Stacey should, in the case of his unavoidable absence, act as his deputy. The Warrant also was ordered to be returned. In May, the number returned as members of the Lodge was eighteen, the oldest being a Bro. Edward Pillow, Hayman, Canterbury, made in 1787, and this had increased by the month of December to twenty-two. In 1820, Bro. Cook was re-elected to fill the chair. In March 1821, the Lodge numbered twenty-eight members, as per return to Grand Lodge. Early this year a Mr. George Steel was proposed, but rejected in the ballot. In July, however, he was again proposed and elected, being initiated in the month of September. In 1822, the number returned to Grand Lodge is twenty-four, and we miss the names of the two oldest members, Bros. Pillow 1787, and Charles Lepine 1792. In the month of July a letter of resignation is tendered by Bro. Stacey, but Bro. C. C. Cottrell is directed to write on behalf of the Lodge, expressing its regret at Bro. Stacey's contemplated retirement, and requesting him to withdraw it. Whether this request was acceded to, or not, we have no means of ascertaining. In August, the register includes the name of Alderman Friend, and on 15th October it is resolved to hold a Lodge of Instruction at Bro. Lawrence's house, every Sunday evening, at 8 p.m. In June 1823, the number returned to Grand Lodge is twenty-eight. At a Lodge of Emergency held on 26th June 1825, it is announced that the Mayor of Canterbury (Geo. Friend) and the Committee of the Philosophical Society had forwarded to the Lodge an invitation to assist in laying the foundation stone of the new Philosophical Institution, and that the D.P.G.M., Bro. Dr. Thompson, had granted the necessary dispensation for that purpose. Accordingly, on the 28th of the month, a Lodge of Emergency was held, and, in the unavoidable absence of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Tapley, of Lodge 20, Chatham, presided, and most efficiently performed the ceremony, the arrangements by Bro. Suttie, W.M. of No. 37, who acted *pro tem* as S.W., and Bro. Cook P.M., G.S. of Wks. being admirable. Bro. Tapley received the thanks of the Mayor and Corporation of the City, as well as of the Committee of the Philosophical Society, and was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Lodge. In December of this year it was arranged that the W.M., who had hitherto been chosen by a show of hands, should be elected by ballot, as being more in accordance with the laws of Masonry, and more likely to give general satisfaction; and the 15th December was appointed for the election. From 1826 to 1833 Freemasonry in this city appears to have greatly declined. In 1834, during the Mastership of Bro. Geo. Steel, the Lodge was moved to the King's Head Hotel, and new rules and regulations were adopted, among them being one to the effect that any Brother, being elected a joining member, should produce his G.L. certificate, or that from the Lodge in which he was made. It was also resolved that each brother holding office in the Lodge should attend with the badge of his office attached to his clothing. The officers at this time were Bros. G. Steel W.M., W. M. Smithson S.W., R. Walker J.W., R. Friend P.M., John Jennings S.D., Wm. Beer J.D., C. C. Cottrell I.G., and Thomas Blair Tyler. On 6th March Bro. Cottrell delivered a very able lecture on the real and intrinsic merits of Freemasonry. This year, too, Bro. Robert Chisholm M.D. was elected a joining member. The number, likewise, by the closing up of Lodges, became No. 34. On May 1st Bro. Cottrell presented a handsome sword, to be worn by the Tyler. But from this year to 1848 Masonic proceedings appear to have been at a stand-still, and but for the excellent conduct of Bro. Steel, who kept the warrant going by paying the necessary dues to G.L. Benevolent Fund, the Lodge would have ceased to exist. In 1848, however, some six or seven citizens, of whom one or two chanced to be Masons, met together, and in the course of conversation Freemasonry happened to be referred to. The non-Masons expressed a sincere desire to join the Brotherhood, and in May of that year their wish was realised, and they were initiated. Since then the Lodge has gone on

prosperously. Two of the then members are still alive and active, and in the performance of their duties are, indeed, rarely absent from the Lodge.

The Lodge is now numbered 31 on Grand Roll, and second on the Provincial Roll of Kent, Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, No. 20, Chatham, being its one and only senior on the latter. Among its members will be found the names of several present and ex-M.P.'s, of representatives of the army and navy, of professional men—clerical, medical, and legal—and of many of the most respectable tradesmen in the city. Its membership is nearly fifty. In 1857 it had the honour of entertaining Prov. G. Lodge, Bro. Chas. Holtum being W.M. at the time. Bro. Hall adds, on information received from Bro. Pout,* that on the decease of Bro. Steel, the widow sent up certain books, which are still preserved; many others, however, which doubtless Mrs. Steel considered of no value, being set aside and lost. Appended is a partial list of W.M.'s from 1819, the year of the Union, there being many years anterior to 1848 left vacant. From 1848 till now the list is in regular sequence. We notice a slight discrepancy between this list and the body of the narrative. Bro. W. M. Smithson is entered as W.M. in 1834, whereas it will be seen from the text, as quoted above, Bro. Steel was W.M., W. M. Smithson being the Senior Warden. This is an error which may easily be rectified, and is, moreover, noticeable as being the one discrepancy we have noted in the whole course of the sketch.

Bro. Hall is certainly entitled to the thanks of his Lodge for the pains he has taken in compiling this little history, and for enabling us to make it widely known, through the medium of these columns. If some member of the Lodge, who may have time and opportunity, would, with the sanction of the W.M., furnish particulars from the Treasurer's accounts from 1785, it would help to make the narrative more complete, and we shall have great pleasure in dealing with said accounts in the manner we have treated this sketch of Bro. Hall's. Whether it may be possible to obtain particulars of the thirty years between the grant of the first Warrant in April 1755, and 1785, the date when the accounts are said to commence, we know not. It may be that some of our Kentish brethren, or Bro. Hughan, may be in a position to render this service, and thus complete the history of the Lodge. We trust it may be so, in the interests of Freemasonry generally, and of this Lodge in particular.

Old Warrants.

No. 37.

No. 355, "Ancients;" No. 457 at the Union, No. 306 A.D. 1832, and No. 245 from A.D. 1863.

ATHOLL, Grand Master.
TH' HARPER, D.G.M.

ARCHIBALD HERRON, S.G.W. JEREMIAH GRANFIELD, J.G.W.
To all whom it may concern

WE The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the Old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince EDWIN, at York, Anno Domini Nine hundred twenty and six) in ample Form assembled, viz.:

The Right Worshipful The Most Noble Prince John Duke Marquis and Earl of Atholl, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine Earl of Strath-tay and Strathardle Viscount of Balquider Glenalmond and Glenlyon Lord Murray Balveny and Gask, Constable of the Castle of Kinclaven Lord of Man and the Isles and Earl Strange and Baron Murray of Stanley in the County of Gloucester &c. &c. &c. Grand Master of Masons, The Right Worshipful Thomas Harper, Esq. Deputy Grand Master, The Right Worshipful Archibald Herron, Esq. Senior Grand Warden and The Right Worshipful Jeremiah Cranfield, Esq. Junior Grand Warden (with the Approbation and Consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster) Do hereby authorise and empower our Trusty and Well beloved Brethren, viz.: The Worshipful Bro. Amice Nerman one of Our Master Masons, the Worshipful William Hincliffe his Senior Warden and the Worshipful Joseph Hincliffe his Junior Warden, to Form and Hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, at the Island of Jersey, in some convenient house therein, upon the second and fourth Wednesday in every month on all seasonable times and lawful Occasions. And in the said Lodge (when duly congregated) to admit and make Free Masons according to the Most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known World. And We do hereby further authorise and empower our said Trusty and Well beloved Brethren Amice Norman, William Hincliffe and Joseph Hincliffe (with the Consent of the Members of the Lodge) to nominate, chuse and install their Successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, and invest them with their Powers and Dignities as Free Masons &c. &c. &c. And such Successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse and install their Successors &c. &c. &c. Such Installation to be upon (or near) every ST. JOHN'S DAY during the Continuance of this Lodge for ever. Providing the above named Brethren and all their Successors

No. 355 always pay due Respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise the Warrant to be of no Force nor Virtue.

Given under our Hands and the Seal of our Grand Lodge in London this twenty-ninth day of April in the year of Our Lord 1813.

ROBT. LESLIE, Grand Secretary.

NOTE.—This Warrant is registered in the Grand Lodge, Vol. XI, Letter L, page 29. Ent'd. Edward Harper, D.G.S. 29th April 1813.

The present title, No., &c. are, The Mechanics Lodge, No. 245, Freemasons' Hall, Jersey.

* Bro. Pout died in February 1875.

No. 38.

No. 24, "Ancients," No. 37 A.D. 1814, No. 34 A.D. 1832, and No. 31 from A.D. 1863.

ATHOLL (Seal), Grand Master.

B. PLUMMER S.G.W. THOS. HARPER D.G.M. JOHN B. ROACH J.G.W.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

WE the Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince Edwin at York, Anno Domini Nine Hundred and twenty six, and in the year of Masonry Four thousand Nine hundred and twenty six) in ample Form assembled, viz., The Right Worshipful The Most Noble Prince John Duke Marquis and Earl of ATHOLL, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine Earl of Strath-tay and Strathardle Viscount Balquider Glenalmond and Glenlyon Lord Murray Balveny and Gask Heritable Constable of the Castle of Kinclaven Lord of Man and the Isles Earl Strange and Baron Murray of Stanley in the county of Gloucester &c. &c. &c., Grand Master of Masons, The Right Worshipful Thomas Harper Esq. Deputy Grand Master, The Right Worshipful Benjamin Plummer Esq. Senior Grand Warden, and the Right Worshipful John Bryant Roach Esq. Junior Grand Warden (with the approbation and consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster) Do hereby authorize and empower our Trusty and Well Beloved Brethren viz. The Worshipful Bartholomew O'Brien, one of our Master Masons, The Worshipful Thomas Powell his Senior Warden, and the Worshipful Duke Buckingham his Junior Warden, to Form and Hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at the Marquis of Granby, Canterbury or elsewhere in the County of Kent, in virtue of our Warrant, No. 24, (heretofore granted under date the seventh day of April 1755, and held at Bristol), the names and places of abode of all and every the members of the said Lodge being first duly Registered with the Clerk of the Peace of the said County, pursuant to the Statute in that case made and provided. The said Lodge to be now held upon the first and third Thursday in every month, and on all seasonable Times and lawful occasions, and in the said Lodge (when duly congregated) to admit and make Free Masons according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known world. And we do hereby further authorise and empower the said Trusty and Well Beloved Brethren Bartholomew O'Brien, Thomas Powell and Duke Buckingham (with the Consent of the Members of their Lodge) to nominate, chuse, and install their successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, and invest them with their Powers and Dignities as Free Masons, &c. And such Successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse, and install their successors, &c., &c., &c. Such Installations to be upon (or near) every ST. JOHN'S DAY during the continuance of this Lodge for ever. Providing the above named Brethren and all their successors always pay due respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force nor Virtue.

Given under our hands and the Seal of our Grand Lodge in London this twenty-fourth day of March in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and six and in the year of Masonry Five thousand Eight hundred and six.

ROBT. LESLIE Grand Secretary.

(Seal.) No. 24. 7th April 1755.

NOTE.—This Warrant is registered in the Grand Lodge Vol. II., Letter B, Page 94.

The Honble. Edmund Vaughan G.M.

The present title, No., &c. are, United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury.

THE DRAMA.

"Bounce" at the Opera Comique.

THE OPERA COMIQUE THEATRE, which, in its short career, has seen a variety of changes and vicissitudes, has just passed under the management of Mr. John Hollingshead, who has opened the house with a novel and interesting programme. A three-act comedy farce, entitled *Bounce*, is its principal feature, and Mr. Charles Collette, an intelligent and rising comedian, the chief actor. The comedy, we presume, has been written for Mr. Collette, for certainly Mr. Collette shows a marvellous aptitude in fulfilling its numerous requirements. The plot hangs, like Lord Lytton's *Money*, upon an eccentric will. A young lady, with a fortune of £10,000, is left to the care of five guardians, whose different tastes and dispositions render it impossible that they should agree on any subject; and the testator being strongly averse to matrimony has made it a *sine qua non* of her marriage that she should obtain the consent of all her guardians. Tom Bounce, upon whom the lady has bestowed her affections, is, however, equal to the occasion. Adopting various disguises, and appearing in turn before each one of the guardians, he so plays upon their respective weaknesses and predilections, that he obtains a written consent from them all. Mr. Collette, who, of course, enacts the part of Bounce, thus appears before the audience in a variety of characters, impersonating at one time a hot-headed Irish patriot with a rich Tipperary brogue, at another a French musician, and again an old stable-keeper, a German musical amateur, and other characters. In all of these his success is simply marvellous. The rapid changes, the glib *patois*, the entire performance, indeed, are beyond praise. Our readers who desire to be amused and interested can hardly do better than pay this theatre a visit.

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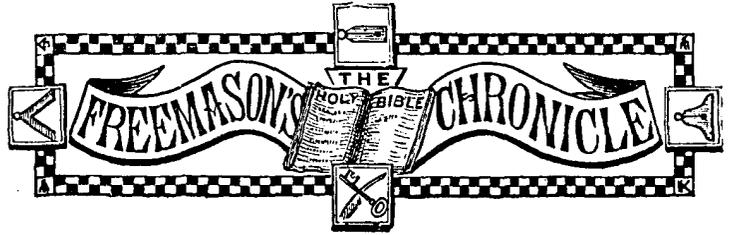
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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

ON Saturday, the Prince of Wales, who had been on a visit to the Duke of Grafton, at Euston, Suffolk, returned to town. On Monday, accompanied by Prince Louis of Hesse and Prince John of Glucksburg, His Royal Highness visited Windsor, and having had a morning's shooting in the Great Park, lunched with the Prince and Princess Christian, at Cumberland Lodge, and then returned to town. The visit was repeated on Wednesday. The Prince and Princess will be at Sandringham perhaps ere these lines reach the eyes of our readers, and will be there joined by the Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, on a short visit. H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge will hold a levee at the Horse Guards on Wednesday next, the number of officers being limited to one hundred and fifty. Preparations are being made by our Norwich brethren for the approaching installation by His Royal Highness the Grand Master of Bro. Lord Suffield, the successor of the late Bro. Walpole in the Provincial Grand Mastership of Norfolk, a Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency having been held on Saturday for that purpose. A number of distinguished brethren are expected to be present on the occasion.

Hardly a day passes without one or more meetings being held in connection with the Eastern question. On Saturday a great demonstration was made at Manchester, when it is estimated over 30,000 persons were present. Mr. Hugh Birley, Conservative member for that city, presided, and among those on the platform were several members of Parliament and local influential persons. Resolutions in support of the Government were passed, amidst the greatest demonstrations of enthusiasm. So numerous, indeed, was the attendance, that a second meeting had to be held. On Tuesday an address was presented, at Edinburgh, to Lord John Manners, H.M. Postmaster-General. His Lordship, in acknowledging it, made a long speech, defending the policy which the Government had pursued, and strongly condemning the attacks to which it had been subjected. The speech was very heartily applauded.

Preparations are being made for the formal installation into office of the new Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Thomas White, on Thursday. No less than seven military bands will take part in the procession, which will include this year the men in armour, attended by their esquires, and likewise, it is said, a number of elephants, as commemorating the Prince of Wales's visit to India. All the ministers, we believe, have accepted the invitation to be present at the banquet at Guildhall, except the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, who is the minister in attendance on Her Majesty at Balmoral. People are looking forward with more than the usual interest to hear what the Prime Minister will say. The Lord Mayor elect was presented to the Lord Chancellor on Thursday, when the latter signified to Alderman White Her Majesty's approval of him as Chief Magistrate Elect of the City.

A most unlooked for event occurred on Friday last, being neither more nor less than the return of the Alert, Captain Nares, which reached Valentia, Ireland, shortly after 1 p.m. that day. The Alert parted company with her companion, the Discovery, in the Atlantic, on the 19th ult. The latter vessel reached Queenstown on Sunday morning, and later the same day was joined by the Alert, the two vessels having since arrived at Spithead. The Admiralty have granted the crews three weeks' leave of

absence, after which they will rejoin, and the ships will be paid off. Thus ends the latest Arctic Expedition, which returns safe and sound, having lost only four of its hands after an absence of close on eighteen months. This early return has taken every one by surprise, as no one expected the ships would arrive before the summer of 1877. We are thankful, however, they have got back, weather beaten, of course, but safe and sound, and with so little loss of life. The main purpose of the expedition, namely, the discovery of the North Pole, remains unaccomplished, but a sledge party made a higher latitude (83.20 N.) than has ever before been reached, the Alert having wintered off an exposed coast in 82.27, while the Discovery lay in a well-sheltered harbour, north of Lady Franklin Sound in 81.44 N. It is said that greater results have been obtained from this than from any previous expedition. Officers and men appear to have done their duty nobly, after the manner of true British seamen. The labour was terribly severe, sledging over the ice being carried on at the rate of only a mile or a mile and a quarter per day. Further progress under these circumstances was found to be impracticable, as over 400 miles had still to be traversed ere the Pole was reached. An immense sea of ice, varying in thickness from 150 to 200 feet, barred all further progress northward, and the roughness of its surface made further sledging impossible. Captain Nares, therefore, wisely determined upon returning this year, and was fortunately able to escape from the ice in time to fulfil his purpose. The men suffered greatly from frost-bite, which caused the four deaths already mentioned, while prolonged abstinence from fresh meat had induced a severe outbreak of scurvy. All the men and officers speak in the highest terms of their commanding officer, who appears to have done all in his power to make them happy and comfortable. The sun was absent for a period of 142 days, and for a fortnight the mean temperature was 59 degrees below zero—the lowest temperature recorded being 72 degrees below that point, or 104 degrees below freezing point. For forty-seven days during the winter the mercury was frozen. It is impossible for us who live at home, comparatively at ease, to imagine anything in the way of cold like this. Of course when it was known that the Arctic Expedition had arrived in Queenstown Harbour, the greatest excitement prevailed among the worthy people of Cork and Queenstown, and as the day advanced the vessels were thronged with visitors. On reaching Valentia, Captain Nares, with three of his officers, set off for London immediately.

Commander Cameron has been visiting Oxford and Cambridge, in each of which he gave a lecture, descriptive of his journey across Africa. The attendance of University men was very great at each lecture, and the reception accorded the geographer very enthusiastic.

The performances of our 81-ton Woolwich infant appears to have been surpassed by the 100-ton of Sir William Armstrong at Spezzia. Four of these latter, as our readers are aware, were recently made for the Italian Government, and the first series has been productive of the most astonishing results, the shot striking the target with a force exceeding 30,000 foot tons. The Italian Government already have two ironclads afloat, ready to be armed with these enormous guns, so the one thing, it seems, our Government must now set about doing is to construct still more formidable guns. It will certainly not do for the greatest naval country in the world to be behind a second-rate power like Italy, either in the strength of her ironclads or the force of her guns. What an English engineer can make to order for Italy he can doubtless exceed for his own country. The question to be considered, however, is where will this rivalry end? We may draw this consolation, however, from our naval experiences of former wars. We gained all our greatest victories with ships inferior in number, carrying fewer men, and armed with guns of less calibre than those of our enemy. Superior pluck, not superiority in men, guns or ships, won the day. The next maritime war it is our misfortune to be engaged in, we fancy we shall have to look chiefly to this same pluck to carry us through victoriously.

It is but seldom we have news to record from Holland, once our most formidable naval and commercial rival. On Wednesday, however, the good city of Amsterdam was all excitement, for the new canal which has been cut across the isthmus of North Holland was inaugurated at Velsen, in the presence of the King, his Ministers, the diplomatic body, the naval and military authorities, and a vast con-

course of people. The ceremony was very imposing, and, after a long speech, describing the difficulties of the undertaking, and how they had been successfully overcome, the President of the Canal Company asked the King's consent to name the new harbour "The Port of Ymuiden." His Majesty, accompanied by a number of notabilities, then made a short excursion on board a steamer up the canal, after which he returned to Amsterdam, and set out for his palace at Loo. In the evening the city was illuminated, a grand banquet was held at the Palace of Industry, and the whole proceedings terminated with a display of fireworks.

Though we think few Englishmen sympathise with the Government of Servia, we must all deplore the terrible sufferings of its inhabitants, who, left to themselves, would never have dreamt of attacking the Turks. Nor, indeed, do we think the Government would have ventured upon so foolhardy a step, had it not been for the intrigues of Russian societies or Russian Government. Be this as it may, Servia has been terribly punished. The first act of the war closed with the repulse from Turkish soil of the Servian invader. The second act closes with what appears to be little short of the annihilation of her armies. Fighting commenced in earnest last week. The Turks, taking the offensive, and carrying redoubt after redoubt. Djunis, described as the key of the Servian position, was at length carried, and it is said Deligrad has been evacuated. Alexinat, too, has fallen, and till a few days since there was nothing to prevent the capture of Belgrade. Prince Milan, however, when he found himself hopelessly defeated, even his large contingent of Russian auxiliaries having failed to turn the tide of battle, abjectly besought the intervention of the Czar. Thereupon General Ignatieff was ordered to present an *ultimatum*, demanding of the Turkish Government a six weeks' armistice, with only forty-eight hours allowed for deliberation. In the event of refusal, the General, with the whole *personnel* of the Embassy, to leave Constantinople. At the moment of writing it is understood that the Turks have agreed to the armistice, and, if so, we presume the negotiations for peace will be commenced forthwith. But a settled peace is by no means assured to us. Russia is a power which is incapable of acting honestly and honourably, and she may only contemplate playing at making peace till her preparations for attacking Turkey are completed. We hope this conjecture may prove groundless, but Russia's contempt for treaty rights, or, for the matter of that, for any kind of right at all, is not calculated to impress us very favourably with her present pacific intentions.

Bro. Mortlock, Preceptor to the Temple Lodge of Instruction of Mark Master Masons, has removed to the Gun Tavern, Wapping, where a Lodge of Instruction will be held fortnightly, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Next meeting will be held 9th Nov., when the Lodge will be glad to see any member of the Mark degree. Trains run from Liverpool-street frequently, and the distance is but a few minutes' journey from town.

The consecration of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642, will take place this day (Saturday), at Ladbroke Hall, near to Notting-hill Station. Bros. W. M. J. Murlis P.M. 1489 W.M. Designate, G. Penn S.W. Designate, S. H. Parkhouse J.W. Designate, and J. Pushman Sec. *pro tem*. The ceremony will be performed by the V.W. Bro. John Hervey G.S.

The theatrical world is always especially active at this season of the year, and we note with pleasure that the King of Dramatists is receiving more respect than is ordinarily accorded to him in London. We have at this present time no less than two Shakspearian performances running concurrently. *Richard the Third*, with Mr. Barry Sullivan in the leading part, is being played at Old Drury, while Mr. Coleman has had the courage, many will call it the foolhardiness, to offer a carefully-revised edition of *Henry V.* at the Queen's. The latter, as having been first presented to the public, claims priority of notice on this occasion. To say that Mr. Coleman has succeeded admirably in what is vulgarly described as the "upholstery" part of his business, is only to repeat what dramatic critics have already said very effectively. But this is far from being the limit of Mr. Coleman's achievements. Not only has he

placed *Henry V.* on the stage magnificently, as regards the appointments and scenery; he has also brought together a company of actors and actresses which, in general ability, are certainly above the average of London companies, while, in the case of more than one of its members, the like are not to be found elsewhere. Mr. Phelps, for instance, as an interpreter of Shakspearian character is unsurpassed; we may almost venture to add in these days of respectable mediocrity, unsurpassable. To him is assigned the rôle of *King Henry IV.*, in the closing scene of the second part of that play, which serves as a prologue to Mr. Coleman's edition. It is hardly necessary to point out how skilfully the veteran interprets the grand conceptions of the poet. Mr. Ryder plays the part of the Lord Chief Justice, and likewise that of the soldier Bates in the night scene round the camp fire. Mr. Ryder is a man of commanding presence, and the solemn dignity of his utterances, which never, by the way, verges in the slightest degree on pomposity, makes him perhaps the best exponent of that "majesty and power of law and justice" which Shakspeare presents to us. Miss Leighton was admirable as the Chorus, and to Miss Fowler was assigned the task of personating the French King's daughter, the Princess Katharine, a task she fulfilled successfully. Mr. T. Mead's conception of Pistol was evidently the result of the most careful study, Mr. Coleman himself played *Henry V.* His performance was very unequal. In the scene where the King joins the guard round one of the camp fires, Mr. Coleman was perfect, but in the more exacting scenes he lacked the vigour and energy which Shakspeare has infused into the part. Mr. James was most admirably made up as the old Knight William, the Sire de Willoughby, but Mr. J. Denis Coyne was singularly feeble in his delineation of the Dauphin. To note each member in succession would occupy too much space. Suffice it, then, if we say, that while as a rule the most important characters were very ably filled, the importance of having the minor parts carefully presented was not overlooked. We were sensibly reminded, indeed, of that general care and quality of acting which marked the course of Shakspearian presentations at the Wells during the many years of Mr. Phelps's management. If our readers are desirous of seeing one of the finest of Shakspeare's historical plays, well presented as to all the stage accessories, and fairly well acted, let them go to the *Queen's*, and we feel sure they will have every reason to be pleased with their visit.

SECRET SOCIETIES IN CHINA.

SECRET societies have been very active of late in China. From all parts of the Empire rumours are rife about the doings of the Hung Brethren, the members of the Society of the Queen of Heaven, the followers of the White Lily sect, and of a host of other leagues. At towns on the Yang-tze-Keang the members of some restless brotherhood have been creating quite a panic by cutting off the queues of unsuspecting citizens; and in the province of Keang-soo the Roman Catholic missionaries report the appearance of a secret sect in the rites of which they consider there are to be traced remnants of a debased Christianity. Of these last-named people, who describe themselves as "Fasters," little is known beyond the information supplied by one of their members to Père Rizzi on the subject of the rites attending the "Feast of Tapers." On that occasion ten tables are placed so as to represent the human form, and around them are arranged twenty-five tapers, of an aggregate weight of a thousand ounces. The president and twenty-four "Fasters," each bearing a cross tipped with wax, then take their places at the tables, and having struck a light with a steel and flint, the president lights the extremities of his own cross, and with that, lights the twenty-five tapers, and the crosses of the brethren. That done, rice cakes, rice, and tea, which have been previously prepared, are blessed by the president with the sign of the cross, and are then divided among the associates. According to Père Rizzi, the founder of the "Fasters" was Tamo. "Must not this be St. Thomas?" adds the missionary. But the probability is that the sect is not of any foreign origin, and, that it, as well as most other political societies throughout the Empire, is only a branch of the Hung League. In the same way the quasi-Christian rites, which are said to be used, might very readily be remnants of the religious ceremonies practised at Nanking by Hung Sew-tseuen, the leader of the Tai-ping rebels, who was a prominent leader of the league, and who professed Christianity.

The members of the Hung League, like the Freemasons, contend that their society has existed through all time, but history throws no light on any earlier formation of their body than towards the close of the Han dynasty (A.D. 185), when the three patriots, Lew Pei, Chang Fei, and Kwan Yu, having associated themselves together by a solemn oath, successfully defended the throne against the "Yellow-cap" rebels. From that time until the establishment of the present Tartar dynasty the League showed few signs of vitality. But at the beginning of the eighteenth century the empire was seriously threatened

by an invasion of the Eleuths; and, like the three worthies who supported the Han ruler, a hundred and twenty-eight priests of the Shaoulin Monastery, deeming themselves to be "sufficiently versed in the military art and magics to destroy the Eleuthian soldiers," took the field against the invaders. By the order of their prior they separately attacked the Eleuths on all sides; and when the battle was at its height so furious a storm of wind and sand arose, in answer to their prayer, that the air was darkened, and the Eleuths, terrified at this display of supernatural power, turned and ran, crushing and maiming each other in their headlong flight. Having thus satisfied their patriotic desire, the monks, loaded with honours, returned to their monastery.

But their success raised a number of enemies against them, and shortly afterwards their monastery was attacked and burned, and five monks only escaped with their lives. After various vicissitudes, these survivors found themselves on the banks of a stream in the neighbourhood of Kaon-ke; and as one of their number went down to drink, he found a white porcelain jar, on the bottom of which was inscribed the sentence, "Overthrow the Tsings (the present Tartar dynasty) and restore the Mings" (the dispossessed Chinese dynasty), this was accepted by the monks as a command from heaven; and, having added to their number five horse dealers, a dismissed minister, and a priest, they bound themselves by a solemn oath, which they ratified by mixing blood from the arm of each in a chalice of wine and drinking it in common, to do all which in them lay to overthrow the House of Tsing. They all adopted the surname of Hung, and took "Patriotism" as their watchword. This done, they betook themselves to different parts of the empire to enlist recruits; and, in order to avoid the appearance of belonging to one and the same society, they gave different titles to the branches which they established. Thus there were soon spread over the empire brotherhoods known as the "Triad Society," the "White Lily League," the "Blue Lotus Hall," the "Golden Orchid District," and others, all of which, however, constituted the great Hung League. It was not long before the society thus formed attracted the attention of the Government, and sternly repressive measures were applied to it, which were also shared in by the Roman Catholics, whose organization was considered by the mandarins to resemble that of the Hungs. Yielding to the storm, the League abstained from all public manifestation, and little was heard of it until the crack-brained leader of the Taiping rebellion brought its machinery to bear to further his insurrectionary movement. With his defeat and death it again subsided into obscurity, and it has only been quite of late that renewed activity has been observable in the ranks of the brethren.

A short time since M. Schlegel, Chinese interpreter to the Government of Netherlands-India at Batavia, became possessed of some documents relating to the formation and the organization of the League. These he translated and published in a volume entitled "Thian ti Hwiu—The Hung League," and it is from this and other works that the above and following particulars are gathered. The Hung lodges are built in a square, and are surrounded by walls, which are pierced at the four cardinal points by as many gates. The faces of the walls are adorned by the mysterious symbol of "union," the triangle, and with the old symbol for "a State" a hollow square—a combination which is intended to imply that the League is a united State enjoying universal peace. Within the enclosure is the hall of fidelity and loyalty, where the oaths of membership are taken, and in which is kept the genealogical table of the founders of the League. Here, also, stand the altar and the sacred tablets, before which the brethren worship, and from the centre rises the "precious nine-storied padoga," in which the images of the five founders are enshrined. Of course the lodges appear in their legitimate splendour only in out-of-the-way districts, where they are safe from the observation of the mandarins; but in towns and populous neighbourhoods, the lodge is dispensed with altogether, and the meetings are held at the house of the president. The instruments of the lodge are numerous. First in importance is the diploma, consisting of a large square seal, having two square margins, while the inner margins are octagonal. In the outer rim are the names of the eight genii, and the rest of the seal is covered with symbolical stanzas and signs. The official flags are numerous, and emblemize the warlike character of the League; and in each lodge is a "bushel," which contains among other articles the "red staff" with which justice is done to offenders against the laws of the society, the scissors with which the hair of the neophytes is cut off, a jade foot measure, a balance, an abacus, an inkstone, a pencil, and a host of flags and other symbols.

The supreme Government of the League is vested in the Grand Masters of the five principal lodges in the provinces of Fuh-keen, Kwang-tung, Yunnan, Hoo-nau, and Che-keang; and the affairs of each lodge are administered by a president, two vice-presidents, one master, two introducers, one fiscal, thirteen councillors, several agents, who are otherwise known as "grass shoes," "iron planks," or "night brethren," and some minor officials, who, as indicative of their rank, wear flowers in their hair.

In peaceful times the ranks of the society are recruited by volunteers, but when the League is preparing to take the field threats and violence are often used to secure members. At such crises a man returning home finds a slip of paper bearing the seal of the League awaiting him, which calls upon him at a given hour to betake himself to a certain spot, and warns him that the murder of himself and his family will be the penalty of disobedience to the command. Sometimes it is said, also, that one of the brotherhood insults a stranger on the road, and, pretending to fly from the just consequences of his act, leads the unsuspecting wayfarer to some lonely spot, where he is seized upon by a number of brothers, and is carried away to the place where the lodge is held. On the appointed evening the recruits present themselves at the "City of Willows," as the lodges are called, where they are met by the "vanguard," who carefully enters their names and places of residence in a book kept for the purpose. The vanguard then gives orders to form the "bridge of swords," whereupon the brethren place themselves in a double row, and drawing their swords cross them in the air in the form of a bridge or arch,

Under this arch the new members are led, and at the same time are mulcted of an entrance-fee of twenty-one cash. After this they are taken to the Hung-gate, where stand two generals, who introduce the "new horses," to the Hall of Fidelity and Loyalty. Here the neophytes are instructed in the objects of the society; and, finally, they are conducted into the presence of the assembled council in the "Lodge of Universal Peace." As a preliminary to the administration of the oaths, the master examines the vanguard in the 333 questions of the catechism of the society, and then orders them to bring forward those neophytes who are willing to take the oath, and to cut off the heads of those who refuse to do so. As the vanguard is supposed not to bear the sword in vain, few decline to the oath, and the ceremony of affiliation is proceeded with by cutting off the queues of the recruits (though this operation is dispensed with if the members are living amongst Chinese who are faithful to the Tartar rule) by washing their faces, and exchanging their clothes for long white dresses, as tokens of purity and the commencement of a new life. Straw shoes, signs of mourning, are also put on their feet, to signify the death of their old nature; and thus attired they are led up to the altar. Here some questions with reference to the immediate objects of the League are put to the vanguard, and then each member offers up nine blades of grass and an incense stick, while an appropriate stanza is repeated between each offering. A red candle is now lighted, and the brethren worship heaven and earth by pledging three cups of wine. This done, the seven-starred lamp, the precious imperial lamp, and the Hung lamp are lighted, and prayer is made to the gods, beseeching them to look down upon the members and to accept the incense burned in their honor. The oath binding them to observe obedience to the League, and to display a spirit of fraternity, devotion, and righteousness towards the brethren, is then read aloud, and is followed by each member drawing some blood from his middle finger and letting it drop into a chalice partly filled with wine. Each neophyte then having drunk of the mixture, and repeated the appointed stanzas, strikes off the head of a white cock, as a sign that so shall all unfaithful and disloyal brothers perish. And now the ceremony of affiliation is over, and it remains but for the president to give to each recruit a diploma, the book containing the oath, law, secret signs, &c., a pair of poniards, and three Hung coins. With these emblems of their obligations the new members return to their homes at break of day.

The laws of the society bind the members to observe a cheap kind of morality, and to protect their brethren as far as in them lies, even to the extent of concealing such as are criminals from justice, and of rescuing any who may have fallen into the hands of the police. Naturally enough, the society protects itself by holding out fearful threats to any who may be inclined to reveal the secrets of the League or in any way to endanger it. But apart from those clauses which refer to the main object of the League—the destruction of the Tsing dynasty—the laws enjoin peace, and brotherly kindness, justice and truth. The secret signs are numerous, and by means of them a brother can make himself known by the way in which he enters a house, puts down his umbrella, arranges his shoes, holds his hat, ties his handkerchief, takes a cup of tea, uses his chopsticks, and performs a number of other actions. The signals by word of mouth are equally numerous, and it is almost impossible to imagine any condition of time or place of meeting for which there are not appropriate questions and answers.

It has been said there exists a strong likeness between some of the rites of the Leagues and those of Freemasons, and no doubt a certain similarity can be traced between the formularies of the two associations, but the principal interest which attaches to the League lies in its political importance. The number of its members and the discipline which is maintained in its ranks render it a formidable political weapon, but fortunately for the peace of the country there is in the Chinese character a want of that enthusiasm which makes rebellion successful. At any time the Hung League might turn the day by throwing in its weight on the side of one of two equally matched combatants, but it is as an instrument, and not as a principle, that its action will be felt.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

LITERATURE.

Bye-laws and Regulations of the Victoria Masonic Lodge, No. 4, Dublin. As approved by the brethren of the Lodge, 19th July 1859. Dublin: Printed by Brother John Chambers, 1 Capel Street.

It may seem strange to notice a code of Bye-laws, seeing that one code is so very much like another. In this case, however, there is attached to the Bye-laws a highly interesting "Supplementary Record," and further, the Bye-laws themselves are more comprehensive than we usually find them in the case of our English Lodge Regulations. We purpose, therefore, noticing sundry of their most important features as well as the nature of the interesting record appended.

Bye-law 2 fixes not only the day on which the monthly meetings shall be held, but regulates likewise the hour of meeting for labour and of adjourning for refreshment in the case of eight Lodges, the others, in June, August, September and December, being held "for labour only."

Bye-law 5 provides that "at the first stroke of the Master's mull strict silence shall be observed." If a brother fail to observe this rule "he may be reprimanded by the Master, and if he persist in neglecting it, he shall be ordered to leave the Lodge room, and shall not be re-admitted until due submission shall have been made."

No. 8 enacts that, in balloting for a candidate, "one black bean" shall "exclude."

No. 10, that military and naval brethren (except officers on the staff in Dublin being on full pay) may be eligible to become members, subject, of course, to the ballot, on payment of one guinea entrance fee, the fee of an initiate being £6, and of a joining member £3, as by the preceding law. A fourteen days' notice only is required

in the case of military brethren instead of the usual month's, nor are they to be reckoned among the fifty members, to which, by law, the Lodge is limited.

No. 11 provides for the admission of honorary members.

No. 13 fixes the payments at 11s per quarter.

No. 14 arranges the amount of the dinner cheque, and that the members who absent themselves from dinner without giving two clear days' notice will be charged the same.

No. 15 provides that the Master, Wardens, and Deacons shall pay respectively £5, £1, and 10s apiece to the Lodge funds.

No. 16 is to the effect that "the Master's expenses in attending the Committee of Charity and Inspection shall be defrayed out of the Lodge funds;" but all fines for non-attendance of officers at Grand Lodge to be defrayed by the delinquent officer.

No. 17. Members on the country list to pay £1 annually as dues, but not to vote or join in any discussion.

No. 18. A member may rejoin, but as a new member, on paying a readmission fee of £1.

No. 19. Leave of absence for a period not exceeding twelve months may be voted by the Lodge, all dues, fines, &c., having previously been paid over by the applicant to the Treasurer.

No. 20. Grand Lodge Certificate not to be issued till all fees, &c. have been discharged.

No. 22. Officers to be elected at the April and October meetings, and installed at the meeting succeeding St. John's day in each half year.

No. 23. The Master to be elected from among those who have served the office of Master or Senior Warden; the Wardens, Deacons, and Inner Guard from Master Masons. Officers elect to pledge their word of honour they have "neither directly nor indirectly" applied for the vote of any brother.

Nos. 24 and 25. The Secretary and Treasurer to be elected annually in the month of April from among the Past Masters of the Lodge.

No. 26. The Director of Ceremonies, from among the P.M.'s, to be elected annually in April, and to "wear a blue collar of office, bearing the crown and number of the Lodge."

No. 27 provides a "Standing Dinner Committee," to consist of the W.M., J.W., Sec. and D.C. The Lodge not accountable for refreshments ordered by individual members.

No. 28 regulates the appointment of an Auditor and audit committee, and the time and mode of audit.

No. 29. The Treasurer's accounts to be submitted half-yearly, in January and July.

No. 30. Touching visitors and the amount chargeable to them as dinner cheques.

No. 31. The W.M. privileged to invite the W.M. or a P.M. of any Dublin Lodge free of expense; the Secretary and Treasurer to enjoy the same privilege alternately.

No. 33. Costume to be evening dress and Lodge apron, subject to a fine of one shilling, to go to the Female Orphan School Collection. It further provides that "Any member of the Lodge who purports dining, and may desire to attend in the Masonic costume of a higher degree than the blue, must appear in the dress of the degree he represents, or the same penalty to the Female Orphan School.

No. 34 provides an interval of one month at least before advancement from 1st to 2nd degree, and of not less than two months from the 2nd to the 3rd degree.

No. 35. The Treasurer to pay away no Lodge money except for current expenses, without a vote given by a Lodge expressly summoned for that purpose.

No. 36. Collections at refreshment to be paid to the Female Orphan School.

The Lodge apron to be the usual M.M.'s apron with the Roman numerals IV. between the inferior rosettes.

The Supplementary Record contains interesting particulars of how, in the year 1836, the Lodge resolved to ask for, and did at once obtain, permission to style itself "The Victoria Lodge," in honour of H.R.H. the Princess Victoria, then heiress presumptive to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland; as well as of the two addresses it presented to Her Majesty, firstly, in 1837, when she ascended the throne, and secondly, on the occasion of the Royal visit to Ireland in the year 1849. The addresses are highly creditable evidence, and the official acknowledgment of their reception are equally satisfactory proof of the loyal attachment to the throne of the Members of Victoria Lodge, No. 4, Dublin. We wish our brethren a long career of prosperity under the beneficent rule of Victoria and her descendants.

Newton's Seamanship Examiner. Being the Seamanship required of Candidates for Masters' and Mates' Certificates of Competency, at the Board of Trade Examinations, at the Various Ports. Containing plates of the Commercial Code of Signals; also of the Distance Boat, and Semaphore Signals; and a New "Rule of the Road" Diagram. By John Newton, F.R.A.S., Navigation School, Sailors' Home, Dock-street, E. Tenth Edition. London: Published by John Newton, Sailors' Home, Dock-street.

We thank Bro. Newton for his courtesy in forwarding us a copy of his most useful little publication. The greatest care has been taken to meet every possible requirement of the examiners. Both questions and answers are clearly and concisely given. The plates, exhibiting the different codes of signals, are clearly drawn, while the "Rule of the Road" Diagram will prove invaluable to seamen.

It is hardly necessary for us to speak in further terms of praise of our worthy Bro. Newton's "Seamanship Examiner." Conclusive proof of its excellence lies in the fact of its having already attained the honour of a tenth edition. It is as well, however, we should call attention to its merits, for some of our readers may at some time stand in need of its services, if not for themselves, at all events for some of their friends or belongings. We strongly advise any who may stand in need of such an examiner, to invest their shilling in the purchase of this pamphlet of Bro. Newton's. The investment is sure to be a most profitable one.

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, 4th NOVEMBER.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1567—Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham, Middlesex, at 3 o'clock (Installation.)
1642—Earl of Carnarvon, Ludbrook Hall, Netting-hill. (Consecration.)
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W.

MONDAY, 6th NOVEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem, St. John's-sq., Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
188—Joppa, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors.
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
478—Churchill, Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, Oxford.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.
1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1073—Greta, Court-buildings, Keswick, Cumberland.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 7th NOVEMBER.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
55—Constitutional, Whentsical, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1261—Golden Rule, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Piccadilly.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michaels' Alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.
120—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
158—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness-on-Sea.
209—Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor.
493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester.
558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
702—Sherborne, Subscription Rooms, Stroud, Gloucester.
734—Londesborough, Victoria Hotel, Bridlington Quay.
847—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, High-street, Honiton, Devon.
948—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linsdale, Leighton Buzzard.
1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cockermouth.
1034—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford.
1322—Waverley, Calcedonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1336—Square and Compass, Wynnstay Arms, High-street, Wrexham.
1384—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Wylnes.
M.M.—Prov. Grand Lodge of Cornwall, at Masonic Hall, Truro.

WEDNESDAY, 8th NOVEMBER.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
9—Abion, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, W.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, at 7.0. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Black Bull, Holborn, at 8. (Instruction.)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters' rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Cornwall, Baylock, Abbe-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
261—Unanimity and Sincerity, Cheke's Hotel, Tamton.
291—Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
615—St. John and St. Paul's, Pier Head, Edin., Ross.
666—Benevolence, Private Room, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Stevie Hotel, Worthing.
1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chesham.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 350—Meribah, Grapes Inn, Stonechurch.
R.A.—683—St. Woolos, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.

THURSDAY, 9th NOVEMBER.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1426—Great City, 111 Cheap-side, E.C., at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1459—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1612—West Middlesex, Railway Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
M. M. Temple, Gun Tavern, Wapping. (Instruction.)
35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Cumberland.
546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Canolme-street, Fringeton, Stafford.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
945—Abbey, Abbey Cornhill Chamber, Abingdon, Berks.
1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Chesham, Bucks.
1098—St. George's, Private Room, Temperance Hall, Tredgar, Mon.
1204—Royal's, Imperial Hotel, Victoria, Weymouth.
1321—Emblematic, Tulce-hill Hotel, Tulse-hill.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
1457—Bagshaw, Bald Faced Stag, Bagshaw, York.
R. A. 51—Patriotic, Three Cups Hotel, Gloucester.
R. A. 551—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Weymouth.

FRIDAY, 10th NOVEMBER.

633—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, N. B. B. Road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, N. B. B. Road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1275—Burdett Courts, Air-street, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 7.30. (Instruction.)
36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arden, 2, New-street, Cardiff.
1097—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
1087—Beaufort, Assembly Rooms, Crown Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1289—Rock, Bedford House, Bedford-road, Rock-terry, Cheshire.
1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
R. A. 355—Wiltshire, Swindon, Wilts.

SATURDAY, 11th NOVEMBER.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1426—Great City, City Terminus Hotel, E.C.
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
1556—Addiscombe, Alant Tavern, Addiscombe.

SCOTLAND.

MONDAY—20—St. John, Masonic Hall, Lesmahagow.
TUESDAY—41—St. Cuthbert Kilwinning, Kirkcudbright, N.B.

IRELAND.

FRIDAY—178—St. John's, Castle-street, Lisburn, County Antrim.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

MONDAY.

151—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zealand-street, Wakefield.
302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, York.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax.
1512—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford.
R. A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.

TUESDAY.

265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley.
448—St. James's, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R. A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

WEDNESDAY.

750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemason's Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
R. A. 357—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.

THURSDAY.

139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield.
R. A. 1214—Scarborough, Wilton Arms Hotel, Batley.

FRIDAY.

459—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goole.
1001—Harrogate and Clare, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harrogate.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

MONDAY.

431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields.

TUESDAY.

124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham.
393—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, the Parade, Berwick-on-Tweed.
655—Northumberland, Assembly Rooms, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
R. A. 111—Vigilance, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington.

WEDNESDAY.

661—Fawcett, Masonic Hall, North-road, Seaham Harbour.

THURSDAY.

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, Sunderland.
991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington-quay.
M. M. 122—Percy, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road Stockton-on-Tees.

FRIDAY.

1121—Wear Valley, King's Arms Hotel, Bishop Auckland.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—129—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. & C.), 86 Constitution-street.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-street.
R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—8—Journymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate Kilwinning, St. John-street.

GLASGOW AND THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

MONDAY—332—Union, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
R. A. 119—Rosslyn, 25 Robertson-street, Glasgow.
TUESDAY—3 bis.—St. John's, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
4—Kilwinning, 162 Kent-road, Glasgow.
73—Thistle and Rose, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
87—Thistle, Freemasons' Hall, Cathedral-street, Glasgow.
437—Goyandale, Parliand Hall, Goyandale-road, Glasgow.
WEDNESDAY—178—Scala, 12 Trongate, Glasgow.
233—St. George, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
R. A. 113—Partick, School-room, Douglas-street, Partick.
THURSDAY—570—Kilmuir, Freemasons' Hall, Springbourne, Glasgow.
R. A. 50—Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
FRIDAY—18—Kilwinning, Mission Hall, Dunderton.
153—Royal Arch, Freemasons' Hall, Cogan-st., Pollockshaw.
176—Laven St. John, Black Bull Inn, Reinton.
SATURDAY—2—St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Gout.—These purifying and soothing remedies demand the earnest attention of all persons liable to gout, sciatica, or other painful affections of the muscles, nerves, or joints. The Ointment should be applied after the affected parts have been patiently bathed with warm water, when the ointment should be diligently rubbed upon the affected skin, unless the friction should cause pain. Holloway's Pills should be simultaneously taken to reduce inflammation and to purify the blood. This treatment obviates the violence, and lessens the frequency of gout, rheumatism, and all spasmodic diseases which spring from hereditary predisposition, or from any accidental weakness of constitution. This Ointment checks the local malady. The Pills restore the vital powers.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Royal Ark Mariners' Lodge.—This Lodge held a meeting under sanction of the charter of Chapter No. 69, on Tuesday, the 31st October, at 25 Robertson-street, Comps. T. M. Campbell Z 69 presiding as F.N., G. Wheeler Z. 73 as S., J. O. Park I.P.Z. 122 as J., J. Fash as Pilot, J. McInnis as Guard. The Ark was duly unmoored, and it having been reported that there were four distressed W.M.'s in attendance, the Lodge agreed to render them assistance and receive them on board, when Comps. W. E. McMillan, W. Pascoe, J. Green, and Thomas Crumb were received, and duly instructed in their duties as Royal Ark Mariners. There being no further business on hand, the Ark was again safely moored until the waters shall again arise.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Monday, the 30th of October, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, St. John's-square, E.C. There were present:—Bros. G. E. Cook W.M., Rowley S.W., H. P. Isaac J.W., Killick Secretary, J. Powell S.D., Millward J.D., R. W. Pearcey I.G., Christopher Tyler, and a large muster of members and visitors. Business:—The Lodge was opened in the usual manner. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. The ceremonies of initiation and passing rehearsed, Bros. Knight and S. Jones acting as candidates. Several sections of the first lecture were worked. Bros. H. W. Curry and H. W. Alford, of the United Strength Lodge 228, were elected members. The Fifteen Sections will be worked on Monday next, when Bro. Beckett will preside, and the following brethren will assist:—First lecture: Bros. Hill, Trewinnard, Powell, Killick, Tolmie, Pilbeam, Ockenden. Second lecture: Bros. Kidder, Pearcey, Saul, Sadler, Halford. Third lecture: Bros. Crawley, Morrison, Stock.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Thursday, 26th October, at 213 Buchanan-street. The Lodge was opened by Bro. J. Bannerman Deputy Master, who stated that the meeting had been called to initiate three gentlemen, one of whom was a Spaniard, who did not thoroughly understand our language, but the ceremony would be interpreted to him by a competent brother. The R.W.M. then entered, and requested Bro. Wm. Bell, I.P.M. of St. John's 3 bis, to initiate the three candidates, which he did in a most careful manner, the more particular and difficult passages being at once interpreted into Spanish for the benefit of the gentleman who did not understand all the peculiarities of our language, the other Spanish brother speaking our language fluently. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, when Bro. G. W. Wheeler passed five brethren to the Fellow craft degree. The Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree, and the R.W.M., Bro. Macdonald, raised to the sublime degree five Fellow crafts. This concluded the lengthened session, all the degrees having been ably worked.

Thetis Chapter, No. 122.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Monday, the 30th October, at 35 St. James-street. Comps. J. De Neif Z., M. McAlister H., R. Love J., D. Quigley S.E., J. O. Park P.Z. 1st S., J. S. Scott 2nd S., D. Gunn 3rd S. Visitors—Comps. G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 and J. McInnis 1st S. 69. At the request of the 1st Principal, the ceremony was most excellently worked by Comp. G. W. Wheeler Z. 73, who also afterwards exalted into the Royal Arch degree Bro. W. Simpson S.W. of the Neptune Lodge 419, for which the thanks of the Chapter were accorded to him. The 1st Principal presented to the Chapter a new altar and some smaller articles, of furniture, for which he received the thanks of the Body.

Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, No. 157.—At the Jamaica Coffee House, on Tuesday, the 31st ult., the following were present:—Comps. J. Constable M.E.Z., G. Newman H., J. C. Cox J., John Boyd Treasurer, E. S. Norris Ass. Scribe E., J. Wyer Scribe N., J. W. Berrie P.S. After the minutes of the previous convocation had been confirmed, the M.E.Z. rehearsed the ceremony of exaltation, Comp. A. L. Annett acting as candidate. The first clause of the lecture was worked by Comp. Boyd, assisted by the companions. The election of officers for the ensuing fortnight resulted as follows:—Comps. G. Newman Z., Dr. W. Viner Bedolfe H., J. C. Cox J., J. Wyer N., J. W. Berrie P.S. Comp. G. W. Watson of St. Nicholas Chapter, 155, Scotch Constitution, was elected a member. There were also present H. Darcy, J. Soex, &c.

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, No. 174.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Monday, the 30th October, at Bro. Scaton's, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C. Present—Bros. P.M. Verry W.M., Horsley S.W., P.M. Appleby J.W., Ellis Secretary, F. Brown S.D., Fraser J.D., Webb I.G. Visitors—Bros. Hogarth, Maidwell, Hilliard, Baxter, &c. The following brethren assisted the W.M. in working the sections:—1st LECTURE—Bros. A. H. Brown, Ellis, Appleby, Ashburner, F. Brown, Horsley, Rudderforth. 2nd LECTURE—Bros. J. Fraser, Rudderforth, Hulet, Webb, Ellis. 3rd LECTURE—Bros. P. Cohen, Wallington, Verry. From the well known capabilities of the above named brethren, we need merely add that the work was done in excellent style, and all present expressed their satisfaction at the way the evening had been spent.

Caveac Chapter, No. 176.—The regular Convocation of this Chapter was held on Saturday, 28th October, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Present—Comps. W. S. Wyman Z., G. H. Leeman H., J. B. Sorrell J., C. T. Dorey P.Z., the Father of the

Chapter, Comp. F. Walters P.G., 1st Asst. Middlesex P.Z. Treasurer, and several others. The Chapter was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Dr. Charles Beeson P.M.D.C. 176 was exalted into R.A. Masonry in a faultless manner. The sum of five guineas was voted from the funds for the purpose of presenting Comp. Wyman with a P.Z. jewel on his retiring from the chair, as a slight recognition of the services rendered by him during his year of office. The Chapter was then closed. Among those present were Comps. S. Pownceby, R. P. Tebb, J. B. Sorrell, &c.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 1st November, at Mason's Hall, Basinghall-street, E.C. Present—Bros. Staley W.M., Hollands S.W., Fenner J.W., Constable Treasurer, Cohen S.D., Bone J.D., Sayer I.G., Christopher Tyler, Turquand P.M. Preceptor, and Bros. Rudderforth, Pitt, &c. Business—The 1st section of the first Lecture was worked by Bros. Turquand and Walker, and the 2nd and 3rd sections by Bro. Turquand and the brethren. Bros. B. P. Jesse 1556, Gillard 761, and Abell jun. were elected members. A vote of thanks was recorded in favour of Bro. Staley, who, since his initiation into the Order, which event took place so lately as March of the present year, has been a most careful and persevering student in Masonry, and the fact that he has by his industry thus rendered himself competent to fulfil the duties of the chair in so satisfactory a manner, was evidenced by the cordial way in which the proposition was received. The S.W., Bro. Hollands, was elected to fill the chair at the next meeting.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on Saturday, the 28th of October, at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmer's, Southgate-road, Islington. Present—Bros. Tolmie W.M., Sadler S.W., Pearcey J.W., Killick Secretary, Halford Treasurer, Trowinnard I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Beckett, Moss, Musto, and several others. Visitors—Bros. F. W. Wilkins W.M. 1445, Hanes P.M. 917, Legge W.M. 861, Saunders 177, W. Dance 754, Casworth 813, F. S. Holness 1471, Diggons 534, and Haselden 534. Business—Lodge opened and minutes of previous meeting confirmed. The Fifteen Sections were worked by Bros. F. W. Wilkins, I. P. Cohen, Trowinnard, Ockenden, Beckett, Moss, and Legge; those of the 2nd Lecture by Bros. Stock, Musto, Pearcey, Sadler, and Burr; and the 3rd Lecture by Bros. Cohen, Legge, and Stock. Votes of thanks were unanimously accorded the W.M. and those brethren who had assisted. Bros. Hanes 917, Legge 861, Dance 754, Holness 1471, Casworth 813, Diggons 534, and Haselden 534 were elected joining members. This was a very successful meeting, there being nearly fifty brethren present, and the manner in which the sections were worked is deserving of the highest praise. Next Saturday the ceremony of installation will be rehearsed, by Bro. J. L. Mather P.M.

Zetland Lodge, No. 511.—The installation meeting took place on Wednesday, at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bros. W. J. Russell W.M., H. Whittick S.W., S. Elborn J.W., Barfield P.M. Treasurer, G. Read P.M. Secretary, J. Avo S.D., R. Ward I.G. P.M.'s H. S. Cooper, Pardoe, Birch, J. Hurstead, Barfield, Game, Schofield, &c. The Lodge was opened with the customary preliminaries. Bro. Little No. 312 was elected a joining member. Bros. Pridham and Laxton were passed to the 2nd degree, and Messrs. J. Gawith, S. J. Gordon, and J. Metcalf were initiated. A Board of Installed Masters was formed. Bro. Whittick S.W. and W.M. elect was then duly installed into the chair by Bro. G. Read P.M. in a perfect and impressive manner, Bro. Cooper ably giving the addresses. The newly installed W.M. then invested his officers, W. J. Russell I.P.M., Elborn S.W., Avery J.W., A. Barfield P.M. Treasurer, G. Read P.M. Secretary, Wellem S.D., Ward J.D., Williams I.G., Schofield P.M. D.C., Cooper P.M. Assist. D.C., Cole W.S., Blum Assist. W.S., Radford Tyler. These appointments gave great satisfaction. The report of the audit committee was read and adopted. It was recommended that on account of the increase of members it was prudent to raise the initiation fee from 10 to 12 guineas; and the joining fee to six guineas. That the sum of £10 be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, 10 guineas to the Girls' School, and 10 guineas to the Boys' School, which will constitute the Lodge Vice-President to each of these Charities. It was then asked if any Brother would consent to act as Steward for either of the Institutions, if so the amount named should be placed on his list. The balance in favour of the Lodge was returned as £82 14s 3d, and the Benevolent Fund had a balance of £38 4s 7d. The W.M. then presented Bro. Rupell I.P.M. with a very elegant P.M.'s jewel. This having been suitably acknowledged, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to one of those banquets for which Bro. Clomow is celebrated, and which, under the superintendence of Bro. W. Smith, was all that could be desired. The W.M., after grace had been said, proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. In speaking to that of the initiates, he said every Lodge was proud to have them. Bro. Cooper P.M. then sang the E.A. Song. This toast having been responded to, the W.M. gave that of the Visitors. Bro. Worthington P.M. returned thanks. Bro. Russell I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. They had seen how ably he had performed the duties of the evening. The W.M. returned thanks, and proposed the toast of the "Past Masters," characterising them not only as good working Masons, but as a credit to the Lodge. Bro. Russell replied. He was followed by Bro. Bayfield, who spoke of what the Lodge had accomplished. Bro. Cooper, the founder of the Lodge, said his aim was always the good of the brethren. He was proud of his Lodge, and he hoped in his declining years, to see it prosper (cheers). Bro. Read, in speaking of the Benevolent Fund, said he was its promoter, and the report read to-night showed they had the interest of the charities at heart. If ever they had to curtail expenses, it would be better to give up a banquet than let the Charities suffer. The toast of "The Officers" was followed by that of "The Tylor," and the brethren separated.

Among the Visitors were Bros. J. S. Seiven 419, Millis P.M. 157, Upton 62, W. O. Parsons P.M., 180, Markland 144, Hemet 291, Gumpel 1251, J. Willing Jan. P.M. 1507, Buscall 177, T. Pinn 860, G. Ward 144, Burlaton 860, Gompertz 172, H. J. Easey 1507, Moss 212, Worthington P.M. Ranelagh, H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Ranelagh Lodge of Instruction, No. 834.—The annual banquet of the above took place at Bro. Millis's, Bell and Anchor Hotel, Hammersmith-road, on Friday, 27th October. Bro. G. Reed P.M. 511 in the chair, supported by some eminent brethren, amongst whom we noticed P.M.'s Worthington, Bryett, Thompson, &c. After full justice had been done to an excellent banquet, the chairman gave the usual loyal toasts. In proposing success to the Ranelagh Lodge of Instruction, he said that its prosperity was mainly due to the labours of their hard working and zealous Secretary. To him it was a pleasure to promote the interest of the Lodge and its members. The Secretary, Bro. Alais P.M. 834, said that, as the Lodge had been removed to new quarters, he had no doubt the change would be beneficial, as they had more accommodation to hold their meetings. The health of the Preceptor, Treasurer, and the P.M.'s, was enthusiastically drunk. Some excellent songs and music were rendered by the Organist of the Parent Lodge, Bro. Oliver, and Bros. Smith and Stiles, and the brethren separated, well satisfied with their new premises and the good things so amply provided.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—The weekly meeting of this Lodge took place at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday, 31st Oct. Present—Bros. Hogarth W.M., Weige S.W., Johnson, J.W., J. W. Smith S.D., Davies J.D., Worsley Sec. and P. M. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Dallas, Turquand, Watkins, Cambridge, Hewlett, Gilchrist, Wright, Defries, Bilbee, Baber, &c. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Defries acting as candidate. Bro. Hewlett worked the first and second sections of the lecture, and Bro. Turquand the third and fourth, assisted by the brethren. Two new members were added to the list—viz.: Bro. Bilbee of 395, and Baber of 1426. This was the first time Bro. Hogarth ever took the chair in a Lodge; it was pleasing to hear him do the ceremony so admirably, and a unanimous vote of thanks was ordered to be placed on the minutes. Bro. Weige was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and adjourned till Tuesday, 6th November.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—The weekly meeting of this rising Lodge was held at Bro. Bolton's, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, on Friday evening last, at 8 o'clock. Bros. A. W. Fenner W.M., Hirsch S.W., Keyes J.W., Cleverley S.D., Pearcey J.D., Lane I.G., Townshend Secretary, Gross Preceptor. The following were also present:—Bros. Bolton, Barnett, Hobson, Oldroyd, &c. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremonies of initiation and passing, Bro. Oldroyd and Barnett being candidates, after which the Lodge was closed down in due form. We have seldom seen the ceremonies more correctly performed by so young a Mason as the W.M. This reflects credit on the teaching of Bro. Gross, Preceptor of this Lodge.

Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction.—A very strong muster of the brethren of this Lodge of Instruction took place at the Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, on Friday, the 27th ult., to assist in working the fifteen sections, Bros. Barnes S.W., Berry J.W., and Verry Preceptor, bringing up their friends in full force. The sections were admirably worked by the brethren who assisted the W.M., and scarcely any dictation was required during the entire evening. On the motion of Bro. P. M. Mortlock, a vote of thanks was unanimously carried, to be recorded on the minutes, to Bros. Barnes, Berry, Verry, and those who had assisted during the evening. The Lodge was closed early for such an occasion, and after spending a very instructive evening, the meeting was adjourned. The Lodge of Instruction meets every Friday evening, at eight o'clock, under the Preceptorship of Bro. W. Verry, with whom all the East-end brethren are well acquainted. Any brother wishing to study the ceremony and Lectures cannot do better than attend here.

Salisbury Lodge of Instruction.—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street W., on Thursday the 2nd inst. Present—Bros. F. J. Wray W.M., Stewart S.W., G. Davis J.W., T. O. Davis, Docker, Bentley, Mander Preceptor, T. Cull Secretary, Taylor, Farwig, Blundell, Belfrage, Collins, and Neighbour. The Lodge was opened, minutes confirmed, and ceremony of initiation rehearsed, Bro. Taylor acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th sections were then worked by the brethren. Bro. Taylor 902 was elected a joining member. Bro. A. Stewart S.W. chosen W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the W.M. for carrying out the duties of the chair so efficiently, for the first time in this Lodge. It was unanimously resolved that the Fifteen Sections be worked by Bros. Dutton, Wray, Swallow, Davis, Belfrage, Bentley, Farwig, Harrison, Watts, Saul, Stewart, Bohr, Taylor, Neighbour, and Collins, on Thursday, 30th November, and that the Secretary, Bro. T. Cull J.D. 1446 preside on that occasion.

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

CONSECRATION OF THE UNITY LODGE, NO. 1637.

OUR brethren met on Saturday the 28th ult., at the De Burgh Hotel, West Drayton, Bro. Jas. Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts, being the officer appointed to perform the ceremony. Precisely at the hour named he took the chair. The Wardens *pro tem* being Bros. T. A. Adams P.G.P. and S. Foxall A.G.P., while Bro. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. acted as D.C. The ceremony was performed with Bro. Terry's customary ability. A Board of Installed Masters, which numbered 20, was then formed, and Bro. E. C. Woodward, P.M. 382, W.M. Designate, was installed into the chair. He invested his officers: Bros. F. H. Varley 33 S.W., A. Hendricks 1238 J.W., W. Coombes P.M. 382, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Secretary, W. Stephens P.M. 1365 S.D., C. J. Davis W.M. 382 J.D., T. W. Cooper 538 I.G., W. Smith 33 P.G.S., D. C. Grist Assist. D.C., S. A. Cooper 382 Steward, G. Stacey P.M. 382 Organist, and Longstaff Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremonies Bro. Terry was warmly and deservedly congratulated by all present, and a vote of thanks and honorary membership unanimously accorded him. Several propositions for joining were handed in. Votes of thanks and honorary membership were passed to Bros. Adams, Foxall, and Cottebrune for their services. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. G. Hine.

The W.M. announced that he had just received a telegram from the R.W. Prov. G.M. Col. Burdett, from Dieppe, regretting his absence, and that he drank the health of the W.M. and officers. This announcement was received with enthusiasm, and the brethren drank their P.G.M.'s health with three cheers, wishing him health and long life. The W.M. also sent the following telegram:—"Message received. The brethren reciprocate your good wishes, and drink your health." The first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," was given, and the national anthem sung. The Most Worshipful Grand Master's health was drunk. Song, by Bro. Thomas, "England Yet." Bros. Cottebrune, Foxall, and Adams, responded for the Grand Officers. Bros. Thomas and Musgrave then sang "The Army and Navy." Bro. Coombes, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, returned thanks for the toast of "The Prov. G.M. and the Officers of the Province." Bro. Jas. Terry then proposed "The Health of the W.M." He spoke of his excellent Masonic qualifications. The W.M. had zealously identified himself with the Charities for four consecutive years, and the brethren might congratulate themselves on their selection; he was an offshoot of a successful Lodge in the Province, and he was sure the Prov. G.M. would be proud of the Unity Lodge and the election of Bro. Woodward as the first Master. (Cheers.) Bros. Delevante and Hambleton played a duet on the violin and pianoforte. The W.M. thanked Bro. Terry for his kind expressions. It was a great pleasure to him to preside at the first banquet. He informed the brethren the Lodge furniture was paid for, and they were free from debt. (Cheers.) They were deeply indebted to Bro. Terry, the indefatigable Secretary of one of our noble Institutions. He then said he would qualify himself as a Life Governor, and would represent the Lodge as Steward. He was sure the brethren would liberally support him, and before his year of office had expired he hoped to become a Vice-Patron. (Cheers.)

The W.M. next proposed the toast of "The Consecrating Officer," to which Bro. Terry responded. Bro. Musgrave sang "Hearts of Oak." The toast of "The Masters and Wardens of the Recommending Lodge," was given and responded to by Bros. C. J. Davis W.M. 382, and W. Smith P.G.S. Bros. Delevante and Hambleton sang "The Moon has raised her lamp on high." The Wardens, Officers, and Tyler's toasts concluded a very agreeable meeting. The elegant consecrating vessels were lent for the occasion by Bro. Sir Albert Woods G.D.C., (Garter), and were in charge of Bro. C. B. Payne G.T. The musical arrangements were all that could be desired.

THIRSK FALCON LODGE, ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION, No. 1416.

By special invitation the members, on Saturday last, visited the ancient mansion of New Building, the property of Bro. Charles Elsley, Esq., J.P., who received the party most hospitably, and showed its many points of interest. It was formerly styled Kirby Knowle Castle, and is supposed to have been built by Sir Roger de Lascelles, who died in 1297. It afterwards passed into possession successively of the families of Constable, Danby, Rokeby, Buxton, and Smyth, names many of them associated with our county history. In 1827 it was sold to Colonel Elsley, of Mount St. John, whence it came eventually into the hands of the late Recorder of York and Richmond, whose son succeeded to it. The greater part of the castle was destroyed by fire in 1568, and of the four towers of which it previously consisted, only one remained entire. In 1653, then being in a ruinous condition, it was purchased by James Danby, of York, who repaired and partially rebuilt it, giving it the name of New Building, which it has since retained. Much of the old mansion had fallen into neglect and dilapidation, but the whole has recently been renovated and extensive alterations made.

Some of the remnants of the old mansion are very interesting, especially a small secret room in the eastern wall, narrow ways which fulfilled their purpose in the old castle, and the extensive vaults, arched with stone, whence a subterraneous passage leads, tradition says, so far as Upsall. Elevated on a lofty eminence, the mansion or castle commands a magnificent prospect over the whole vale of Mowbray, bounded by the hills of Craven and Wensleydale, and extending from Darlington to York, the towers of whose Minster on a clear day are distinctly visible.

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ADELPHI.—At 7, THREE PAIRS OF LOVERS. At 7.45, ARRAH-NAPOGUE. At 10.30, FORTUNE'S FROLICS.
LYCEUM.—CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.
HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, THE BALANCE OF COMFORT, and DAN'L DRUCE.
STRAND.—At 7.0, LIVING AT EASE. At 8.45, PRINCESS TOTO.
PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0 MR. AND MRS. WHITE. At 7.45, JANE SHORE, and THE MAGIC FLUTE.
OLYMPIC.—At 7, KEEP YOUR EYE ON HER. At 7.45, CLANCARTY, and GRAZED.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, PERIL.
GAIETY.—At 7.10, SOLD AGAIN. At 7.45, NOT SUCH A FOOL AS HE LOOKS. At 9.30, LITTLE DON CÉSAR DE BAZAN.
GLOBE.—At 7.30, SLATE PENCILINGS, and JO.
VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG. At 8.0, OUR BOYS, and a FEARFUL FOG.
QUEEN'S.—At 7.0, HENRY V.
ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, FORTY AND FIFTY, and THREE MILLIONS OF MONEY.
CRITERION.—At 7.30, MOTHER CAREY'S CHICKENS. THE GREAT DIVORCE CASE.
ROYALTY.—FRENCH PLAYS.
FOLLY.—At 7.30, MAN IS NOT PERFECT, and BLUE BEARD.
ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, FARCE. At 8.0, DON QUIXOTE.
OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, BOUNCE. At 10.15, CRYPTOCONCHOID-SYPHONOSTOMATA.
COURT.—BROTHERS.
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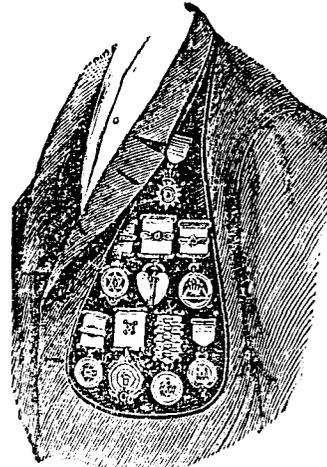
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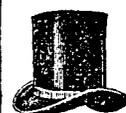
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