

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE BALLOT.

WE are somewhat loath to touch upon a subject which has been dealt with *ad nauseam*, but it occurs to us—indeed, it is beyond all question—that the majority of those differences which cause so much ill feeling in our Lodges have their origin in the abuse of the ballot-box. The secrecy of the ballot affords an ill-disposed brother a convenient opportunity for exercising his malice without risk of discovery. He has received, or thinks he has received, some injury from a fellow Craftsman, and forthwith he vents his spite, not on the man who caused him the annoyance or inflicted the injury, real or imaginary, as the case may be, but on the unlucky nominee of his opponent, a person of whom he knows no harm, and whom, in the majority of cases, he has never seen or heard of. Hardly a year since, we published in these columns the address of a well-known brother, high in office in one of our largest provinces. In the course of his remarks, he cited the case of an old Past Master, who deliberately, and with wordy violence, spitefully declared his intention to black ball every candidate, even the Grand Master himself, who might seek admission into the Lodge of which he was a member, for the sole purpose of annoying the then Master. The case which was recently brought on for trial before Mr. Justice Field, and ordered to stand over by that eminent judge, pending reference to the Grand Master, had its origin, we believe, in a determination on the part of some members to avenge their defeat at the last election for Master of the Lodge, by black balling all candidates proposed by their successful opponents. Other instances have been brought under our notice, in which the same, or a similar resolution, has been adopted by sundry discontented brethren, on the same or similar grounds, and we cannot too strongly deprecate so objectionable a mode of procedure. If it is in the order of things that dissensions should occur even in the best regulated Lodges, let these dissensions be conducted in an honest fashion. We do not care to inquire too narrowly into the motives which actuate brethren, but our readers will agree with us that no one is justified in black balling a candidate, who is known to be a reputable person, and as such admissible into the ranks of Freemasonry, merely because he unfortunately happens to be the nominee of one who, justly or unjustly, has incurred a certain amount of odium. The question which a brother about to vote for, or against, a candidate, is not—Am I, or am I not, on friendly terms with the proposer and seconder of the latter? but—Is he, or is he not, a fit and proper person to be enrolled a member of this or any other Lodge of Freemasons? We clearly see that one candidate may not be acceptable on personal grounds, although his moral character may be in the highest degree commendable. For example, he may be a cantankerous person, and as such, would certainly not be likely to promote the harmony of the Lodge. Questions of this kind are difficult to deal with. They require the most delicate treatment, and all that can be done under the circumstances is to leave them to the discretion and gentlemanly feeling of members. But this is not the kind of case we have in view at this moment. We are not concerning ourselves about ordinary, but extraordinary, cases. No one would be mad enough to condemn the ballot because certain members, in the fulness of their judgment, exercised their undoubted right and rejected, on personal or private grounds, this or that candidate. We are contemplating those cases, which occur far too frequently, in which applicants for admission are rejected, not

because they are unworthy, not because they are believed to be somewhat irritable or cantankerous, but maliciously, and because those who have proposed them are personally objectionable to certain members. It is impossible to conceive of a kind of revenge which is more contemptible, we may say, without fear of contradiction, which is more disgraceful or more dishonourable than this. Members who descend to such odious conduct are unfit to associate with reputable people. The injury they inflict falls, not on him or them they dislike—with or without reason—but on a third person, who is probably unknown to them, who is innocent of all offence towards them and others, and whose chief ambition it is to live in peace and harmony with all his fellows. We say the conduct of brethren, who black ball in order to gratify some private pique, is disgraceful, not only for the reasons we have just enumerated, but likewise because those whom they reject necessarily incur a certain amount of personal discomfort—to put it in the mildest form. It very soon becomes known in the circle in which the rejected candidate moves that he has been black balled, and his acquaintances jump hastily to the conclusion that he is not so worthy of respect as they have considered him to be. Thus, the malice of an unworthy Mason deprives Freemasonry of a reputable disciple, and tends to lower a good fellow in public estimation.

Of course it is useless to tell brethren who deliberately act in the manner we have described, that this conduct is unmasonic; they have no respect for the true principles of Freemasonry. It is useless to urge upon them that this kind of behaviour is not honourable; they are without all sense of honour. It were trifling with time and words to suggest that people who do as they have done, are not gentlemen; they are ignorant of what constitutes a gentleman. There is, indeed, no way that occurs to us by which it is possible to prevent an evil-minded brother from bringing discredit upon his Lodge, in fact, on Freemasonry. The ballot is the means provided by our laws for the election or rejection of candidates. It is impossible to set aside a negative vote, which is known to have been given maliciously, for the ballot is presumably secret, and it were *ultra vires* to question the motives of an adverse voter or voters. All that can be done is, in the first place, to exercise the most extreme caution in admitting new members, and in the next, wherever one of these discreditable cases of black balling becomes known, to stigmatise publicly the conduct of the evil-doers. We wish if possible to believe, without fear of contradiction, that all who become Masons are actuated by the feelings of gentlemen, but our readers know, as well as we do, that all are not. It is trifling with common sense and universal experience to expect that people who have no gentlemanly feeling will be forced into behaving properly. Our only alternative is to make it clear to them that discreditable conduct will recoil on themselves. We must shame them into behaving Masonically.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

THE Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, Boston, on the 13th ult. Bro. P. Lowell Everett, M.W.G.M. presided, and there was present a considerable number of Grand Officers and brethren. A report was read as to the great loss sustained by the death, at the comparatively early age of 51,

of Bro. C. Jarvis Danforth, who was appointed and invested as Junior Grand Warden at the last annual Communication. Bro. Danforth had been initiated into Freemasonry in Columbian Lodge, Boston, on 6th January 1859. He had rendered valuable service in the course of his career, and had held the office of District Deputy Grand Master of the Third District for four years. He had "held the first office in Chapter and Council," and had recently received the orders of Masonic knighthood. As an evidence of the zeal he habitually displayed, it was stated that he had compiled a most elaborate index of the complete set of Bro. Charles W. Moore's Masonic Magazine for Grand Lodge Library. Resolutions of regret at his decease, and of respect for his memory were passed, and copies thereof were directed to be sent to his widow. A successor was then elected and installed, in the person of Bro. E. Avery, and Bro. Z. L. Bicknell was appointed Grand Standard Bearer *vice* Bro. Avery. Five hundred dollars were appropriated for charitable purposes, to be administered by the Committee on Charity. A report was then submitted, suggesting that a person deemed to be a clandestine Mason who shall have received the degrees solely by the fault or mistake of the Lodge conferring the same may be healed by order of the Grand Master, without petition to Grand Lodge. A report declining to recognise a so-styled Grand Lodge of Cuba was submitted and accepted. Other reports were submitted, among them being one to the effect that the petition for healing W. E. Whitehead, whose petition to Ancient York Lodge had some four years previously been rejected, but who in 1875 and 1876 had received the degrees in the Stamford and Warrington Lodge, No. 1408, Stalybridge, England, should be referred to the Grand Master. The Committee on Bye-Laws recommended that in balloting for degrees or membership, a W.M. "may allow three ballotings, at his discretion; but when the balloting has been commenced it must be concluded, and the candidate declared accepted or rejected, without the intervention of any other business whatever." The result of a trial for un-masonic conduct, on the part of a brother of the John T. Heard Lodge, for revealing to a profane "the action taken by the Lodge upon the application for the degrees by the latter and others, was that the respondent was found not guilty. An amendment to the form of application Art. III. Sec. I. of Part IV. of the Constitutions, in which a candidate declares that he has never before applied for initiation, or that he has done so, as the case may be, in a certain Lodge, was referred to a Committee. The Past Master's Diploma of Past Grand Master the Hon. Timothy Bigelow was presented to Grand Lodge by his grandson, and an engraved portrait of Thomas Smith Webb by Bro. William Sutton, the said portrait having come into Bro. Sutton's possession under peculiar circumstances. Bro. Wilder likewise promised to present to Grand Lodge copy of an address, on the death of General Washington, delivered in 1800 by the late Bro. Bigelow, in the Old South Church, Boston. Grand Lodge was shortly afterwards closed.

MASONIC PORTRAITS. (No. 43.)

A BOLTON LUMINARY.

"The need I have of thee, thine own goodness hath made; better not to have had thee, than thus to want thee: thou, having made me businesses, which none, without thee, can sufficiently manage, must either stay to execute them thyself, or take away with thee the very services thou hast done; which if I have not enough consider'd (as too much I cannot), to be more thankful to thee shall be my study; and my profit therein, the heaping friendships."

IT is, we believe, pretty generally conceded that more people are injuriously affected by too little rather than by an excess of work. There are living at this present time, and there have lived within the memory of the present generation, large numbers of persons in the highest rank of society, as well as in the various professions and businesses which humbler men do follow, who are capable of achieving, or have achieved in their day, an amount of work which is simply incredible. Let us take, by way of illustration, the cases of such men as the late learned Lords Brougham, Lyndhurst, and Campbell, the late Sir Robert Peel and Lord Palmerston amongst Statesmen, the present Mr. Gladstone and his great rival the Earl of Beaconsfield; turn we to the domain of science, in which occur the fami-

liar names of Airey, Brodie, Tyndall, and Faraday, or to the industrial world, where we read of the Brasseys, the Salts, the Fairbairns, and others who have achieved the most magnificent successes, but only at the cost of unceasing toil. The lives of men of this stamp—and we rejoice to say the number of such is great in this country—are one endless round of work, not done perfunctorily or haphazard, but completely and successfully. Even the rest they occasionally permit themselves is no rest at all, but rather a change from one kind of labour to another. These hardy sons of toil scarcely know what relaxation is in the sense in which ordinary people understand it. It is not they who lounge about our seaside resorts in the make-belief they are enjoying themselves. It is impossible for these men to be inactive, and oftener than not, with their hands seemingly full of business, they will take upon themselves some additional task and accomplish it successfully. And what is more satisfactory still, they thrive on their numerous occupations. The greater the difficulties they encounter, the greater their energy and determination in overcoming them. They treat lightly what would daunt another man, and with all their labour they seemingly grow stronger, both bodily and mentally, every day.

The brother whose portrait we are about to present to our readers belongs to this class of energetic doers. Though not placed in the exalted class of jurists and statesmen, though he ranks not with the leaders of science and manufacture, yet, in his particular sphere, he has made his mark in the world. He is a man of many avocations, and thorough master of them all. His career has been a laborious one, and in the whole course of it he has enjoyed the esteem and respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact. At the age of twenty-five he was appointed to the official position he still holds, and may look forward to holding for many years to come. It is not generally believed that the tenant of a public office ever has his energies seriously overtaxed; but this we know to be a popular fallacy. Public officials, and especially those who are brought directly into contact with the public, are not to be envied on the score of the lightness of their duties. We happen, indeed, to know from experience that the public is far from being the least exacting of masters. They will have their strict dues, and are apt, John-Bull-like, to grumble if their wants are not satisfied on the instant. Moreover, as in this instance, there are many public officers who not only have heavy duties to fulfil, but likewise many serious responsibilities to bear. Yet they do and bear what is required of them cheerfully, and they have their reward in the almost unlimited satisfaction they give. But our esteemed brother is a very Hercules in the labours he is prepared to undertake. Most people are content to follow one calling, but not so the subject of our portrait, who, besides fulfilling satisfactorily the duties we have indicated, has a large and increasing business as an estate agent and accountant, and in the latter of these capacities it has been his duty to act as secretary to several commercial companies. In every case his labours have been crowned with success. Our readers are well aware that, in organising and working a company, very much depends on the energy and ability of the secretary. A good managing director may be able to effect much good, but he has to combat the whims and caprices of his co-directors. A secretary, whose experience and skill as an accountant stamps him at once as the right man in the right place, is far better situated. He is in contact with all the members of the directorate. He is very soon able to gauge with tolerable accuracy the extent of their business capacity, and at a very early stage he is able to exercise the chief voice in the conduct of affairs, without seeming to have any real authority. The secretary who unites with great powers of application a large amount of tact, and has discernment enough to see instantly what measures are necessary, rarely has to lament a failure. Our brother, at all events, has always enjoyed a high reputation as the possessor of those qualities we have indicated; and as we have already announced, the result, in every case, of his secretarial labours has been a great financial success.

Of course, with such an array as this of duties to perform, we should naturally expect he would pass what leisure moments might fall to his lot, in absolute and well-merited repose. But your man of energy is wretched if there is nothing to occupy his mind, and our hero's well-earned leisure has been devoted to the study of Freemasonry. Even before he had attained his majority, he was initiated in St. John's Lodge, No. 221—then No. 268—the actual day on

which the to him memorable event took place being the 15th January 1846. In 1848 he filled the office of Senior Warden, and in 1849 that of Master, while in the latter year he was appointed one of the Grand Stewards of the Province of East Lancashire, and holds the rank of Past Prov. G.S.D. He has held the important post of Secretary for no less than eleven years, and has served the office of Treasurer, which he occupies at the present time, for nearly as long. So highly indeed have the members of his Mother Lodge appreciated the immense services he has rendered, that, in 1863, they presented to him a valuable gilt time-piece, together with a diamond ring for his wife, as a slight token of the regard they felt for him. Nor is this the sum of their kindness, for in 1871, they voted him a solid gold Past Master's jewel, for the further service he had rendered. In 1870, he joined the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37, and has acted either as Treasurer or Secretary ever since. He holds, indeed, the former office now, and is momentarily fulfilling the duties of the latter. He was exalted in St. John's Chapter, No. 221, in 1847, has been twice Z., and Treasurer for about twenty years. He has since joined the Chapter of Concord, No. 37, and is now occupying, for the second time, the First Principal's chair, having likewise served the offices of Treasurer and Scribe E. These services to capitular Masonry were duly recognised in 1872-3, when our gallant companion was adjudged worthy of the appointment of Provincial Grand Treasurer. In Mark Masonry, he has achieved even higher distinction. He was advanced in 1846, and continued to work the degree at intervals till the year 1856. But, as our readers are very well aware, our Craft Grand Lodge has never recognised the Mark degree as an integral part of pure and ancient Masonry, and therefore it was resolved to apply to the Grand Chapter of Scotland for a Warrant. The application was granted, and our brother was appointed the first W.M., the Lodge over which he presided being denominated the St. John's Lodge and ranking No. 2 on the Scottish Roll. Many distinguished brethren have since been advanced in this Lodge, not the least distinguished among them being the late Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P., Deputy Prov. G. Master (Craft) of Lancashire East, and Prov. G. Master of Lancashire (Mark). From this Lodge, the date of whose charter is 4th March 1847, sprang many others, and in a short time the degree became so popular that it was resolved to establish a Provincial Grand Lodge, and our brother was appointed Provincial Senior G. Warden. When, it was determined, on the part of the Mark Lodges holding under the Scottish Grand Chapter, to effect a union between the two jurisdictions, so that all the Mark Lodges in England and Wales might be under one Grand Lodge, he received the Honorary rank of P.G.J. Warden of England, and at the same time was invested with the Charity Jewel of this Degree. In order to commemorate this auspicious conjunction of the two bodies, our worthy brother took steps to found the Rose and Thistle Lodge. He was installed its first Master, and on vacating the chair at the end of his term of office, was presented with a Past Master's jewel. It is worth while mentioning that having some years taken the degree of "Ark, Mark, and Link," he, in due time, took part in founding the Ark Mariner's Lodge, of which he was the first N. In the Royal and Select Masters he is founder and first Master nominate of the St. John's Council. He is Past Deputy Grand Master and Grand Recorder of the Order of St. Lawrence. In the Order of the Temple, in which he was installed close on twenty years since, he has been an E. Commander, for three years Prov. G. Chancellor, Lancashire, 1st Grand Captain of England, and is now Treasurer of his Preceptory. He received the 18° (Rose Croix) in 1856, in Palatine Chapter, Manchester, and has since had conferred upon him both the 30° and 31°. Moreover, he was founder of St. Peter's Chapter, Bolton, and on retirement from the office of M.W.S. was presented with a jewel in recognition of his services. He also belongs to the order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, is founder of the St. George's Conclave, No. 42, and an Intendant General unattached. In the Royal Order of Scotland he is a Past S.G.W. of the Province of Lancashire and Cheshire, and has ably discharged the duties of the office. He ranks as 7° in the Rosicrucian Society, and is celebrant of the Manchester College and Provincial Grand Secretary General. Such are some of the distinctions which our brother has earned in the different Masonic bodies. We have by no means

enumerated them all—indeed, a friend jokingly warned us that if we contemplated so formidable an undertaking, it would be necessary for us to enlarge the CHRONICLE. But worthy as are these numerous distinctions, evidence as they are of the illimitable energy and desire for knowledge of our brother, they are, in our humble opinion, a far less valuable testimony to the sterling character of the man than the services he has rendered on behalf of our Institutions. These will certainly occupy less time to describe, and their appearance is less formidable, but they are as the kernel to the shell. That so enthusiastic a Mason should practise the duties of Charity will not be wondered at, and our readers will hear with pleasure, but without any feeling of surprise, that he is a Vice President of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, and has nearly won the same rank in connection with the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He is also a Life Governor of both the West and East Lancashire Masonic Educational Institutions, and is a member of the board of management in the case of the latter. He has, further, served no less than sixteen stewardships to our principal Charities, and in his Mother Lodge has been the direct means whereby twelve Charity Jewels have been presented to as many of his fellow members. So fair a record of services in the cause of Benevolence will rarely be found throughout the whole of Masonry. Indeed, it is invidious at any time to institute comparisons in such a matter. It is sufficient that he has done his duty admirably, and more than that can be said of no one.

But the portrait is now complete. We are sensible there are many deficiencies in the work, but these have arisen from the excess rather than, as too frequently happens, from any defect of material. However, we trust our readers, as well as the hero of our story, will graciously accord us pardon for our many shortcomings. We have endeavoured to present him in his true character. We know that, as a man, and in the immediate circle of his friends, he is beloved and esteemed of all. We have shown that, in his business avocations, he is one of those giant workers whom no amount or variety of labour terrifies. On the contrary, his spirit rises with each fresh accession of toil; while, as a Craftsman, he has worked unremittingly. He has filled the highest as well as the most onerous offices in Lodge and Chapter, in Conclave and Preceptory. He has had many and well-merited distinctions conferred upon him in every branch of Masonry with which he has been connected. And, as in the past, so in the future. He will, we feel assured, be ever the same—assiduous in his duties, of what nature soever they may be, earnest in the promotion of what is good, and kind and considerate towards all men. His is no changeable nature, and we are not erring in excess of praise in putting into his mouth the words of an illustrious poet—

"No! Time, thou shalt not boast that I do change:
Thy pyramids built up with newer might
To me are nothing novel, nothing strange;
They are but dressings of a former sight.
* * * * *

"Thy registers and thee I both defy,
Not wondering at the present, nor the past;
For thy records and what we see do lie,
Made more or less by thy continual haste;
This I do vow, and this shall ever be,
I will be true, despite thy scythe and thee."

We learn from *Le Monde Maçonnique* that, according to the recently published Calendar of the Grand Orient of France for the current year, there are 307 bodies which owe allegiance to the Grand Orient, namely—258 Lodges, 33 Chapters, 14 Councils, 1 Consistory, and 1 Grand Lodge of Rites. These are distributed in manner following:—In Paris, 46 Lodges, 5 Chapters, 2 Councils, and the Grand College of Rites: in the Department of the Seine, 8 Lodges; in the other Departments, 164 Lodges, 16 Chapters, 7 Councils; in Algeria, 10 Lodges, 2 Chapters, 1 Council; in the French Colonies, 8 Lodges, 3 Chapters, 1 Council; in foreign countries, 22 Lodges, 7 Chapters, 3 Councils, and 1 Consistory. These differ but slightly from the returns issued in 1875.

We gather from the same journal that the recent lottery organised by the Lodge *La Parfaite Amitié*, and held at Albi in aid of the Lyons workmen out of employ, produced a sum of Three Thousand Francs. We are also informed that the Lodges *Les Amis de la Parfaite Union*, Orient of Perpignan, and *l'Humanité*, Orient of Nevers, have been closed by the civil authorities.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE SURREY MASONIC HALL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—On the walls of the metropolis, and in the advertising columns of our newspapers, may, at this moment, be read the following announcement, viz.:—"To be sold by Auction, by order of the Mortgagees, the well built and very important Public Building known as the 'Surrey Masonic Hall.'"

Can this be read by any of the numerous members of our Craft in the South Metropolitan district without a twinge of conscience for non-assistance to a body of men who have done their best in the interests of Freemasonry, and have worked heartily and thoroughly against adverse circumstances to carry out an undertaking which it is admitted on all sides was not only a need, but of the greatest importance in promoting the morale of the Order by disassociating the practice of its ritual from the influence of tavern accommodation? I cannot now stay to compute the number of brethren within the district, but feel assured that it is sufficiently large to warrant the assertion that a contribution averaging amongst them the value of our smallest golden coin would have sufficed to prevent so deplorable a circumstance as the offer to public competition of the handsome building the promoters have erected.

In the report of the ceremony of laying the foundation, or, as it was termed, the memorial stone, in May 1874, I find the statement that, for so long a period as ten years previously, strenuous endeavours had been made to secure such a building. The first association formed for that purpose, under the style of "The Masonic Hall Company," was registered under the Joint Stock Company's Acts 1856-7 by twenty-four brethren, the capital being stated at £5,000, in shares of £1 each, and I well remember that its early expectations were bright, although at that time the number of South Metropolitan Freemasons bore no adequate proportion to the present number, and the anticipations of the later company. The enthusiasm it evoked, however, soon died out, and subsequent attempts proved also fruitless. Not daunted, although probably disheartened, several of the "twenty-four" still kept the project afloat, and waited the better opportunity which came at last, and in 1872 the two remaining of the original promoters obtained the adhesion of other brethren, and with their assistance the present company was formed. The capital was fixed at £3,000 only, in 600 shares of £5 each; and it was, I think, not unreasonably assumed that from amongst the many members of the Order surrounding the locality chosen for the Hall, so small a share list would be speedily filled. The directors laboured assiduously to interest both Lodges and individual brethren, and their project met with universal approval and promises of support in all directions; but the failure of former attempts had great influence in causing that support to be withheld until assurance in the shape of "bricks and mortar" was given. Then there would be no hesitation. Then shares should be taken and cheerful assistance given! So by the munificent aid afforded by two or three of the Directors, the site was selected, a portion of the building erected, and the memorial stone laid by the Prov. Grand Master, on the 29th May 1874, with great éclat, and still further approval and promises. And then began a time of trial for the Directors. Having committed themselves to the building of the Hall they must needs go on, and the usual result of monetary complications ensued. Differences of opinion arose amongst the Directors as to this, that, and the other, plan of carrying out the project to completion in the face of difficulties occasioned by the non-fulfilment of the promises so apparently earnestly made. Again the liberality of individual members of the board, the architect, and the builder himself, prevented the "Surrey Masonic Hall" remaining a carcase to this day, and at last the "substantially built Public Building of handsome elevation" was completed. But where were all the promised shareholders? Where the assurance of support? It was never intended or announced that the Company should be a purely commercial speculation, or pay its shareholders more than a merely nominal dividend. It was built, more than principally, for the uses of Freemasonry, and the income from such use was to have covered cost and annual expenditure. It will be a standing disgrace to the fraternity if the Hall ever becomes anything but a Masonic Hall. "It is there!" is the consolatory reflection of many who have spent time and money in the endeavour to raise it, and now it should be for others to keep it devoted to its original purpose. It has been a hard task for those who have connected themselves with this and former attempts, and they have seen their associations gradually dissolved by death, removal, and other circumstances, until now the directory of the Company does not contain the name of any one of the originators of the building. And it is in my personal knowledge that those who now form the Company have been equally unselfish in respect of both time and money as were their predecessors. Surely the "Craft," or that portion most nearly interested in the maintenance of such useful premises, should now take their part in the work, and save the building for its original purposes. How that can be done at this critical moment, I must confess myself unable to suggest; but, nevertheless, something should be attempted, if possible, to prevent so great a scandal to our Order as would be evidenced by an inability to keep what it has cost so much to obtain. In another week, aye, even after a few days, it may be too late to do anything. In a great dilemma even little hopes give much encouragement, and a suggestion which at another time might appear ridiculous may be now worth some consideration. I venture to make one,

and although perhaps no good may come of it, who knows what it might lead to? This will be read, I hope, by many on Saturday, the 28th inst. The auction is fixed for Tuesday, the 31st. On MONDAY, the 30th, at six in the evening, let all those who think some sort of consultation might not be altogether unproductive, meet at the Hall itself and see the outcome. It is a very *impromptu* summons, but Freemasons will be there to meet Freemasons, and them only. It is but right that the general body should know how very unselfishly individuals have acted in the general interest, and although I have no present connection with them, I can "a tale unfold" so creditable to the Directors of the Company, that in common fairness it should be heard. And if they can be supported, and the building saved to the purpose for which it was dedicated, there are many Craftsmen who will rejoice equally with,

Yours very truly and fraternally,

Clapham, 23rd July 1877.

P.M., P.Z.

THE ABUSE OF HOSPITAL RELIEF.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me, *à propos* of your article on the subject of "Self-supporting Hospitals for the Working-Classes," to draw the attention of your readers to a very important article in the current number of the *Edinburgh Review* on "Metropolitan Medical Relief." The writer very strongly and very properly objects to the indiscriminate administration of medical relief now so prevalent in London and our large towns, and strenuously advocates a large increase in the number of self-supporting Hospitals and Dispensaries. In the course of his remarks he points out that, after making reasonable allowance for those who may seek relief at more than one hospital, as well as for the fact that some applicants at the same hospital may seek assistance more than once, and may therefore be reckoned over again, there are still about a million persons in London "who rely upon charitable aid in times of sickness, and who make no provision for their own medical necessities." Further on is given the result of an inquiry instituted in October 1874, "into the Social Position of the Out-Patients at the Royal Free Hospital." A fair sample of the applicants, to the number of 641, was selected, and the following is the classification of these:—(1) Number who could afford to pay a private practitioner, 12; (2) ditto, who could afford to subscribe to a provident dispensary, 231; (3) proper applicants, 169; (4) parish cases, 57; (5) numbers who gave false addresses, 103; (6) numbers about whom sufficient information was not obtained, 69. Excluding the 172 in classes five and six, we have 2½ per cent. considered as able to pay for private practitioners, and 49 per cent. for provident dispensaries, 12 per cent. for parish assistance, while only 36 per cent. are classed as "proper applicants." The case of Liverpool, with a population estimated at 521,544, is also cited, from which it appears that, exclusive of 15,882 sick paupers who were treated by the Poor-Law medical officers, there were no less than 172,594 out-patients attended at the various hospitals and dispensaries in the town in the year 1876. This, after deducting the pauper cases as given, amounts to over one-third of the whole population. This is sufficiently strong evidence of the abuse of the present medical relief system, and needs no comment whatever. Let me, however, advise your readers, who may be interested in the question, to read the article for themselves.

I will only add that I trust Bro. Jabez Hogg may succeed in his scheme.

Fraternally yours,

USE, BUT NOT ABUSE.

OF PROPOSING CANDIDATES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read, with the utmost attention, your article on this subject, and I regret to say I can fully bear out your statement that the law as to proposing candidates is systematically and continually violated, especially in London Lodges. I know, from my own experience, it is rare indeed to hear the name of a gentleman proposed for initiation in open Lodge. The proposer, a few days before the circulars calling the meeting of the Lodge should be issued, simply sends to the Secretary the name, occupation, &c. of the candidate, which is inserted in the summons, and duly forwarded to the subscribing members of the Lodge, who thus receive their first notice of the intended addition to their ranks. On the Lodge night, if the ballot be favourable, the candidate, who is, as a rule, in attendance, is initiated in due form, although most assuredly the tongue of good report has observed the Masonic virtue of silence in his favour. Here are three distinct violations of the law. In the first place, without emergency, the candidate is not proposed at one Lodge and balloted for at the next regular Lodge. Secondly, granting the emergent nature of the case, the proposition is not sent to the Master, signed by two brethren, giving full particulars, "and the circumstances which cause the emergency," thus allowing him to judge "if it be proper." I am afraid that in most cases the first intimation the W.M. has is the announcement in the Lodge summons, "To ballot for, and if elected, to initiate Mr. Blank Blank, &c., proposed by Bro. Chose P.M." Thirdly, before the ballot be taken, it is the imperative duty of the Master of the Lodge to "cause the proposition and emergency" (that I take to mean, the reason of the departure from the law, hereby permitted) "to be recorded in the minute book of the Lodge." (See pp. 83-84, Book of Constitutions). Now I do not hesitate to say, that this law is never obeyed in the London Lodges; and no record appears in their minutes to justify these violations of the Constitutions, which render them liable to pains and penalties should the Board of General Purposes take the

matter up. I remember once, in Bolton, being shown the minutes of one of the Lodges there. It was stated that Mr. "Smith" was proposed by letter to the W.M. according to the Book of Constitutions, and that previous to the ballot being taken, the W.M. ordered the Secretary to record that the emergent nature of the proposition was caused by the desire of the candidate to be present at the Festival of St. John, which was to be celebrated that night. This was accepted as a valid excuse, and the candidate duly admitted. Now, in this case, although we may look on the reason as paltry, a bad excuse is better than none, and the laws of the Craft were strictly obeyed. When we compare the West Yorkshire custom with that prevailing in London we find another departure from the letter of the law, but one in strict accordance with the spirit which strives to prevent the admission of objectionable candidates. It is usual (in Sheffield, for example) that on the regular Lodge night in (say) January, a brother having a candidate to propose, rises and says: "It is my intention at our next regular meeting to propose Mr. So-and-So as a candidate for initiation." Previous to the meeting in February, this intention, or notice of motion, is placed on every Lodge summons, and sent to the Provincial Grand Secretary, as well as to every member. The candidate, should no objection be made, is regularly proposed, and his name placed on the summonses calling the meeting in March, in the usual form. Should the ballot be favourable, the candidate, who is not awaiting the result in the ante-room, is asked to attend the regular Lodge in April, when he is admitted to our Ancient and Honourable Order, after every possible care has been taken to test and prove his eligibility. If these extraordinary precautions are necessary in Sheffield, where the Craft numbers 300 members and three Lodges, how much more careful should we be in our "great city," where the Lodges are numbered by hundreds, and the name of the brethren is Legion, that no unworthy aspirant should be admitted to our mysteries?

Should any of the London Lodges think the law as to proposing candidates a hard one, they are at liberty to endeavour to alter it by a vote of Grand Lodge. Until this is done, and I trust it never will, the law must be obeyed; it is perfectly clear and emphatic, and requires no explanation.

We should ever remember the words of our M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex,—“I exhort you, brethren, never, collectively or individually, to suffer a breach of the Constitutions of the Craft . . . ever vindicating the laws and regulations, which being made in hours of cool reflection, after long and serious deliberation, provide a remedy for the correction of every abuse.”

I am, yours faithfully and fraternally,

C. F. MATIER, P.M.

CHEVALIER RAMSAY'S APOLOGY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A copy of the *Relation Apologique*, by Chevalier Ramsay, the French Edition, 1738, described by Bro. Jacob Norton, was sold in my father's collection at Sotheby's auction in 1875, Lot 3, by whom purchased I do not know. It is extremely scarce. A notice of it appears in No. 26 of your paper.

Three of the "mysterious letters" probably signify *Maitre Franc-Maçon*. To the best of my recollection, the work throws no light on the origin of the R.A. degree.

I believe there must be a copy in the library at the Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square.

Yours faithfully,

23A Great Queen-street,
24th July 1877.

WALTER SPENCER.

REGALIA.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me, while thanking "R.S.Y.C.S." for his complimentary expressions towards myself, to point out that, in my humble judgment, he has lost sight of the real point of my letter. I argue that it is not the consistency of certain degrees with those recognised by Craft Masonry, to which the Constitutions point in the laws and regulations relating to Regalia, but the consistency of certain jewels with those degrees. The wording of the law is clear enough: "No honorary or other jewel or emblem shall be worn . . . which shall not appertain to or be consistent with those degrees. . . ." There are but three degrees, including the R.A., in Craft Masonry, and, therefore, jewels or emblems appertaining to, or consistent with, other than those degrees so defined are pointedly forbidden to be worn. The law does not go the length of condemning the "high" and "side" degrees as inconsistent with the degrees of Craft Masonry. It says nothing whatever about them, for the simple reason, as I imagine, that to do so would be, in a certain sense, to acknowledge them, and that officially. The object is to define strictly what jewels or emblems a brother may, and what he may not wear, in a Craft Lodge. The law does not say there are no other than the Craft degrees including the R.A. On the contrary, the clause is so worded as, to my mind, deliberately to sanction the inference that there are degrees which are not "recognised and acknowledged by, and are" not "under the control of the Grand Lodge, as part of pure and ancient masonry." If this argument holds good, then it follows that all jewels or emblems appertaining to, or consistent with, such other unrecognised degrees are distinctly forbidden to be worn in Craft Lodges. The very first regulation of all declares that "pure Antient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more," and then it goes on to name them. If we read the regulations as to Regalia with this clear and precise definition of "pure Antient Masonry," it is impossible to come to any other conclusion than that

all other degrees, be they consistent or inconsistent with pure and antient Masonry, have absolutely no part or parcel in it whatever. Ergo, the jewels or emblems appertaining to or consistent with these outside degrees must not be worn in Craft Lodges.

With all due respect to "R.S.Y.C.S.," I do not see how I was straining my argument, when I interpreted the law as I did, or that there is any material difference between a law which says, "No jewel shall be worn which shall not appertain to, or be consistent with, certain recognised degrees," and "No jewel appertaining to or inconsistent with any unrecognised degrees shall be worn." There may, perhaps, be a distinction without a difference, in so far as this; that, in the former case, we have it laid down, in effect, though not in words, what jewels shall be worn; while in the latter case, we have it defined what shall not be worn. It seems to me, however, these propositions are properly interchangeable, as virtually determining one and the same point. Or, possibly, I shall explain my meaning more clearly, if I say that the law, as laid down in the Constitutions, declares absolutely that only the jewels or emblems which appertain to, or are consistent with, certain recognised degrees, shall be worn in Craft Lodges, while, as I phrased it, the law declares quite as absolutely, that the jewels or emblems of unrecognised degrees shall not be worn.

In the second paragraph of my letter, I simply endeavoured to show what the effect might be if "R.S.Y.C.S.'s" objection to wearing the insignia of the Bath or Garter in a Craft Lodge were carried to its logical conclusion. If, I suggested, all but Masonic Regalia are illegal, then all but Masonic clothing must be illegal likewise; for the law is distinct as to what "clothing and insignia shall be worn by the craft," there being no mention whatever of coats, shirts, waistcoats, inexpressibles, [and the other portions of a man's apparel.

As to the word "consistent," let us take it in its every day sense, and I fancy we shall not be grievously in error.

Fraternally yours,

"Q."

THE MOTHER CITY OF AMERICAN MASONRY.

By BRO. JACOB NORTON.

I HAVE been the innocent cause of stirring up a difference of opinion between Boston and Philadelphia. A few years ago, Bro. MacCalla, of Philadelphia, asserted, in an article, that Boston was the mother of American Masonry. In my criticism thereon I called his attention to a newspaper of 1732, and to Franklin's letter of 1734. Bro. MacCalla took the hint, but he has been running since then to the other extreme, claiming Philadelphia to be the legitimate mother. I have more than once combated his notion. I have shown that no evidence exists that Pennsylvania had had a legally constituted Lodge before Dermott sent his Deputation there in 1764, establishing a Provincial Grand Lodge. Recent unearthings by Bro. Hughan furnish, however, fresh material for the controversy. I shall, therefore, state clearly, one by one, the Philadelphia evidence, and will follow each with my own remarks.

1st. An article by Franklin, in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* 1730, states, "As there are several Freemasons' Lodges in this province," &c., which proves the existence of Lodges there in 1730.

Remarks.—The article referred to was a burlesque or satire on Masonry. Franklin, therefore, could not have been a Mason in 1730, and he could not have known whether they were Masonic Lodges or secret societies of some other kind.

2nd. The *Pennsylvania Gazette*, 26th June 1732, contains an account of a Grand Lodge, held on the 24th previous, when William Allen was chosen G.M. and Benj. Franklin Junior Warden, &c.

Remarks.—There is no evidence that the said Grand Lodge was legally constituted.

3rd. Daniel Cox was appointed Provincial G.M., by the Duke of Norfolk, over New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania; the appointment was for two years, from 24th June 1730. Philadelphia then must have derived its Masonic authority from Cox's Deputation. Accordingly, at the expiration of Cox's appointment, in 1732, Bro. Allen was chosen as his successor.

Remarks.—Cox's Deputation enjoined him, or his Deputy, his successors, or their Deputies, to communicate annually to the G.M. of England, or to his Deputy, the number of Lodges constituted in the Province, with the names of the members of each Lodge, &c. But neither Cox, Allen, Franklin, or any other so-called G.M. of Pennsylvania, had ever made the required communication, nor is there a particle of evidence that Cox ever established, anywhere in America, a solitary Lodge. The Cox theory must, therefore, be pronounced not proven.

4th.—28th November 1734, B. Franklin, as Grand Master, petitioned Henry Price and the G.L. in Boston, as follows:—

"We have seen in the Boston prints an article of news from London, importing that, at a G.L. held there in August last, Mr. Price's Deputation and power was extended over all America. * * * Giving credit thereto, we think it our duty to lay before your Lodge what we apprehend needful to be done for us, in order to promote and strengthen the interest of Masonry in this Province (which seems to want the sanction of some authority from home, to give the proceedings and determinations of our Lodge their due weight), to wit, a Deputation or Charter granted by the R.W. Mr. Price, by virtue of his commission from Britain, confirming the Brethren in Pennsylvania in the privileges they now enjoy of holding annually their G.L., choosing the G.M. and Wardens," &c.

In a letter attached to the above petition, Franklin stated, "I beg to recommend to you [the petition], and to inform you that some false and rebel Brethren, who are foreigners, being about to set up a dis-

inct Lodge, in opposition to the old and true Brethren here, pretending to make Masons for a bowl of punch." The two documents were alike signed "B. Franklin G.M.," and Price granted the required Deputation to Franklin accordingly.

Remarks.—Had Franklin's Grand Lodge derived its authority in the first place from Cox's Deputation, and had Franklin obeyed the injunction to keep up an annual communication with the Grand Master of England, he would not have needed the sanction of some authority from home, or from Mr. Price, to prove the legality of his Grand Lodge. Nor did Franklin in these documents refer to Cox, or give the least hint about Cox. But, on the contrary, the whole tenour of the above petition implies a consciousness on the part of Franklin that his Grand Lodge had never received any kind of "sanction from home." And, on the other hand, Henry Price claimed that he sent a Charter for the first Lodge at Philadelphia, and that "it was the beginning of Masonry there," which certainly shows that, up to 1734, the Philadelphia organisation was *bogus*.

Had we, however, been sure of Price's claim of an extension of his authority in 1734, and of his sending a Charter to Philadelphia, &c., legal Masonry would then have dated in Philadelphia from 1734, but, unfortunately, no Grand Lodge was held in London in August 1734; Price never received such an extension of power, and he never sent a Deputation to Philadelphia; the Henry Price theory is therefore untenable.

5th. Bro. MacCalla, of the *Keystone*, furnished the names of nine Grand Masters of Pennsylvania, who succeeded each other between 1732 and 1741.

Remarks.—For three of the nine Grand Masters, Bro. MacCalla proved, from newspaper extracts, that they were so designated, but for the remaining six he furnished no proof whatever. But, supposing it was so, the question still remains: Were they *legal* Grand Masters?

Furthermore, Cox was appointed for two years, from 24th June 1730, and his deputation ordained that his successors "are hereby empowered every other year, on the Feast of the Baptist, to elect a Provincial G.M." Now, what does "every other year" in the above quotation mean? Without letting out any reason why or wherefore, I questioned the Rev. Bro. Titus, G. Secretary of Massachusetts, about its meaning, and he replied "it means *biennial* elections." Cox was to hold the office for two years, and his successors were commanded to hold their election "every other year," meaning every alternate year. If this is the true definition, which I think it is, the Philadelphians who elected their Grand Masters, from 1732 *annually*, could not have derived their authority from Cox's Deputation.

6th.—From a letter dated 17th November 1754, from Henry Bell, said to be still in existence, the following quotation was produced:—

"As you know, I was one of the originators of the 1st Masonic Lodge of Philadelphia. A party of us used to meet at the Sun Tavern, in Water-street, and sometimes opened a Lodge there. Once, in the fall of 1730, we formed a design of obtaining a charter for a regular Lodge, and made application to the Grand Lodge of England for one, but before we received it, we heard that Daniel Cox, of New Jersey, had been appointed by that Grand Lodge as Provincial G.M. for New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania; we therefore made application to him, and our request was granted."

Remarks.—Who was Henry Bell? when was the charter granted? how did that letter come to light? and where is it? The only authority for the existence of that letter is, that an orator said so. But the time has passed for Masons to give credence to American Masonic orators, editors, encyclopædists, and book makers. No one in Boston believes in the existence of such a letter, and even the well known Bro. Leon Hyneman, formerly editor of the *Mirror* and *Keystone* at Philadelphia, disbelieves in its genuineness; and, until that letter is produced, this kind of evidence cannot be taken into consideration.

7th.—Bro. Hughan, unearched, in 1875, a Dublin *Pocket Companion* of 1735, which contains a mixed-up list of Irish and English Lodges, and to what should have been numbered in the English list as 79 is annexed—that it met at the Hoop in Philadelphia; therefore, say the Philadelphians, that Lodge, No. 79, must have been chartered by the Grand Lodge of England.

Remarks.—In the *Pocket Companion*, printed in London in 1735 and in 1736, No. 79, in both editions, was left blank, implying that the Lodge was extinct. Bro. Hughan thinks that the London publication of 1735 was a reprint of the Dublin one of the same year. I think, that most likely it was the reverse. But be that as it may, the discovery must only add to the confusion of statements, thus:—Franklin's Grand Lodge, in 1732, met at the Sun Tavern, Water-street; Bell has it that his Lodge met in 1730, at the Tun Tavern; while our Dublin authority has it neither Sun nor Tun, but *Hoop*, in Water-street. Now whether the printer confounded Sun with Tun is immaterial, but what has the Hoop to do with it?

I shall soon exhibit two Lodge lists, viz., of 1733 and 1734, in which lists No. 79, and 79 *only*, is blank. Now, whether the Dublin copy of 1735 was a reprint from the London edition, or whether the Dublin editor copied his English Lodge list from some other source, I have good reason to assume that the English list from which he copied had its No. 79 blank, the same as the above named lists were. It is therefore probable that some recent returned Dublin Pennsylvanian, perhaps a sea Captain, informed the Dublin editor that he had visited a Lodge at the Hoop in Philadelphia, but knew nothing about its Number. Then a lucky thought must have struck our Hibernian brother, and I can almost imagine hearing him exclaim—"Aha! sure enough! There is a Lodge without a number, and here is a No. 79 without a Lodge. Shure! here must be there, and there must be here;" and so he put this and that together, and made it read that "79, the Hoop, in Water-street, in Philadelphia, 1st Monday," while in reality the Hoop Lodge may have been the very Lodge that set itself up in opposition to the older Lodge, and "made Masons for a bowl of punch."

Suppose, however, that the London *Pocket Companion* was a reprint of the Dublin one, it would simply imply that the London

editor saw the blunder annexed to No. 79 in the Irish edition, and consequently omitted it from his own list.

The Lodge lists unearched by Bro. Hughan are, 1st Pine's List of 1734, containing 128 Lodges, with dates of constitution, days and places of meeting attached to most of them. The last Lodge on the list is thus given, "128, Duke of Marlborough, Peticoate-lane, White Chapell, Third Fry d. Novem. ye 5th 1734." Between the last-named date, and the previous December 27th, six Lodges are inserted without dates of their Charters. No. 126 is assigned to "Boston, New England." The discovery of the Boston Lodge on a 1734 list confirmed an opinion I had formerly entertained, viz., that Price brought with him a Charter for a Lodge in 1733 to Boston, but it was not to be registered until the Grand Secretary in London received the news that the Lodge was actually constituted; the news must have reached London in July, or early in August 1734, and the Grand Secretary must have acknowledged the receipt of the Boston letter in the month of August, and I think it highly probable that the story magnified by Price in the Boston prints of having received an extension of his powers from a Grand Lodge held there (in London) in August last, was simply suggested by the receipt of the said letter.

The 2nd list I found in the *Freemasons' Magazine*, London 1855, p. 84; the finding of this list set me to work anew in investigating the subject. I, however, soon found out that Bro. Hughan was cognizant of the existence of that list. The said list was compiled by Dr. Rawlinson, LL.D. and F.R.S., in 1733. The MS. is preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. This list enumerates 116 Lodges, with places where each held its meeting, but with no dates when constituted. But as Pine's list gives the date of No. 116 between March and July 1733, it must have been compiled in 1733, and it is a curious fact that in both of the above described lists No. 79 is *blank*. Here then I have shown lists of 1733, 1734, 1735, and 1736, and all bear testimony that No. 79 was a *dead* Lodge during that period. And furthermore, in no English list whatever can a Philadelphia Lodge be found. And if Philadelphia did not have a charter from England up to 1736, where did it get one from?

In conclusion, I must confess that the Colonial Boston Provincial Grand Masters were faithless to the Grand Lodge of England, and were otherwise unreliable in their statements and proceedings. In the record they boast of having chartered about forty Lodges during the Colonial period: but up to 1768 no other Lodge was known in London but the Boston 1733 Lodge; in that year, 1768, they paid in England for four more Lodges, but for the rest they never paid a shilling. Now the truth is, they did not constitute more than about thirty to thirty-five Lodges; so about fifty guineas are yet due from the Boston Masons to the Grand Lodge of England. Nor do I believe in Bro. Price's Grand Mastership and some other things. But it cannot be denied that No. 126 was the first legally constituted Lodge in America. While, therefore, in a *limited* sense, on account of the Lodges that existed in Philadelphia in 1730 and 1731, Philadelphia may claim American Masonic Mothership, yet, as there is not a particle of proof that those Lodges were legitimate and regular, and as there is now no doubt that the 1733 Boston Lodge was legitimate, from a legal standpoint, therefore, Boston is entitled to call itself "the Mother of American Masonry."

Boston, U.S., 13th July 1877.

OPENING OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT BOURNEMOUTH.

AN interesting ceremony in connection with the Hengist Lodge, No. 195, took place at Bournemouth on Friday, 20th inst., when the handsome new Hall lately erected in St. Michael's Rise, was dedicated according to the ancient custom of the Craft. The Prov. Grand Master Bro. W. W. B. Beach M.P. had consented to perform the ceremony, and he was accompanied by the following Provincial Officers:—Bros. Captain Best P.P.G.W. as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, H. Abraham S.G.W., F. Pineo J.G.W., M. E. Frost Prov. G. Treas., J. E. Le Fenve Prov. G. Sec., E. G. Holbrook Prov. G. Reg., J. Pantis Prov. G.D.C., S. S. Pearce Prov. G.S.D., J. B. Atkinson Prov. G.J.D., C. A. Dyer P.G.S.B., G. F. Sherman and Newbery P.G. Stewards, and the following Past Provincial Officers:—Bros. G. S. Lancaster P.P.G.W., J. B. Thomas P.P.G.D., &c. There was a numerous attendance of members of the Lodge and Visitors, including Bros. John Hervey Grand Secretary of England, Rev. T. Pearse late D.P.G.M. of Dorset, C. W. Wyndham P.P.S.G.W. Dorset, Sir H. Drummond Wolff M.P., H. D. Cartwright (Grand Lodge of India), W. B. Rogers, E. W. Rebbeck, J. B. Goddard, J. McWilliam, D. Sydenham, P. Tuck, and A. Briant, P.M.'s of the Hengist Lodge, and the following Officers of the Lodge:—Bros. J. Druitt jun. W.M., W. Merson S.W., W. J. Worth J.W., J. N. Frye S.D., A. H. Jolliffe Sec., Rowland Hill Chaplain.

The Hengist Lodge, which is one of the oldest in the Province, was formerly held at Christchurch, and has seen many vicissitudes; but of late years has made very rapid progress, and it was determined by the members to have a building of their own in which to hold their meetings. Accordingly a site was selected, and in the early part of the year the foundation stone of the new Lodge was laid by the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Beach, who now attended to complete the work. The new building contains on the ground floor a hall 45ft. by 21 ft. 6 in., which will afford accommodation for more than 100 brethren. On this floor are also a retiring-room and other conveniences. In the basement are a refreshment-room and kitchen. The front of the building is faced with white brick and Bere freestone, and is after the Tuscan order of architecture. The contract for the building, amounting to £896, was carried out by Mr. J. McWilliam. The architect is Mr. T. Stevens, of Bournemouth, who, having regard

to the somewhat limited space at his disposal, has done his utmost to produce a successful structure.

The Lodge having been duly opened by the W.M., Bro. J. Druitt, the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Beach, and his officers were admitted and conducted to the dais with the usual ceremonies. An anthem, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity," was then sung. An exordium on Masonry having been delivered by Bro. the Rev. Thomas Pearse, P.P.D.G.M. of Dorset, the architect, Bro. T. Stevens, with suitable words, delivered up the instruments entrusted to his care on the laying of the foundation stone, and presented the Prov. Grand Master with the silver trowel used on that occasion. The P.G.M. having replied, an ode, composed for the occasion, was sung. Bro. Le Feuvre, the P.G.S., then informed the P.G.M. of the object of the assembly, and the ceremony of the act of dedication having been performed, the Prov. Grand Master declared the building dedicated to pure Masonry, virtue, and universal benevolence. The Rev. Rowland Hill (for the Prov. Grand Chaplain, who was unable to attend), then delivered an appropriate oration, which was followed by the anthem, "Glory to God in the highest." A congratulatory address to the Lodge was given by the R.W.P.G.M., on the completion of the building and the success of the proceedings; this was followed by a vote of thanks, which was carried by acclamation, to Bro. Hervey, the Grand Secretary of England, Bro. Beach remarking that he deserved the warmest thanks of every member of the Craft for the very excellent and courteous manner in which he performed the many and arduous duties devolving upon him in his most important office. Bro. Hervey having responded, and expressed his gratification at being present, the presidency of the Lodge was resumed by the W.M. of the Lodge. A cordial vote of thanks to the R.W.P.G.M. and his officers having been given with acclamation, the Lodge was closed. An hour later, about 100 of the brethren assembled at the High Cliffe Mansions Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served, in first-class style, by Bro. Kilner, in a marquee in the grounds of the hotel. The Prov. Grand Master presided, supported by the W.M. (Bro. Druitt), and nearly all the brethren who attended the Lodge. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given from the chair, Bro. Sir H. D. Wolff, M.P., proposed, "The Prov. Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P.," enlogising his many excellent qualities in his various spheres. The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and acknowledged by Bro. Beach. Bro. E. W. Rebbeck proposed, "The D.P.G.M. of Hants and Isle of Wight, and the Prov. Grand Officers," thanking them, on behalf of the Hengist Lodge, for their attendance that day. Bro. H. Abraham, Senior Grand Warden (the Mayor of Southampton), responded. Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre Prov. Grand Sec., Sheriff of Southampton, gave "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorset," and Bro. C. W. Wyndham responded. Various other toasts were honoured during the evening. The P.G.M. left shortly before eleven o'clock, when the chair was taken by the W.M. for a short time. The brethren from Portsmouth being unable to return the same night, accommodation at the hotel was very kindly provided for them by the host, Bro. Kilner.—*Portsmouth Times and Naval Gazette.*

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH BURMAH.

A QUARTERLY Communication was held at the Masonic Temple, Rangoon, on Tuesday, the 13th March. Bro. H. Krauss D.D.G.M. presided as D.G.M., and was numerous supported by the D.G. Officers, together with representatives of Lodges Star of Burmah, No. 619; Victoria in Burmah, No. 832; and Rangoon, No. 1268. Visitors—Bros. H. B. Davidson, and G. L. Shunker, both of No. 832. The D.G. Lodge having been opened, the proceedings of the previous Communication, which had been printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed. Letters of apology from several brethren for their absence having been read, the District Grand Secretary read the report of the proceedings of a meeting of the District Grand Lodge Committee, held at his office on the 6th March. At this meeting the District Grand Treasurer's account since the last audit had been submitted and found correct, and presented the following figures:—In respect of D.G. Lodge fund, receipts, including balance from previous quarter of over 20 rupees, and contributions of Lodges 115 rupees, amounting to between 237 and 238 rupees; expenditure 123 rupees, leaving a balance in hand of over 114 rupees. In respect of the D.G.L. Benevolent Fund, receipts, composed of balance from previous quarter of 489 rupees, and contributions from Lodges 171 rupees, and amounting to 660 rupees; expenditure, including donation to widow of a late brother of Lodge No. 832 of 200 rupees, amounting to 229 rupees, leaving a balance in hand of 431 rupees. The D.G. Secretary, having reported receipt of returns and ducs from seven out of the eight Lodges in the district, submitted that he had received two appeals of an un-Masonic character from certain brethren of the Lodge Victoria in Burmah, No. 832, against the election of Bro. the Rev. J. E. Marks as W.M. for the ensuing (now current) year, and that the D.G.M. had declared such election to be regular. The D.G. Treasurer announced that a sum of 47 rupees had been realised towards payment of the balance due for erecting a monument to the late Bro. A. G. Greenlaw, the first Grand Master of the district. The rest of this report having been read, the D.G.M. in the chair proposed, and the D.G. Purs. seconded, a motion that it be adopted, and this, after the defeat of an amendment in respect of one clause, was carried. The D.G.M. in the chair then read a letter he had received from Bro. Lieut.-Col. H. T. Duncan, District Grand Master, who some time previously had announced his resignation, to the effect that he forwarded the collar and jewel of a District G.M. and the jewel of a District Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry, with a request that he

would present the same to the D.G. Lodge for the use of the D.G.M. for the time being. As a vote of thanks to Bro. Duncan had already been passed by the D.G. Lodge, the acting D.G.M. directed that the receipt of the regalia be duly recorded. This concluded the business of the Communication, and D.G. Lodge was therefore closed in form, at 7.30 p.m.

Old Warrants.

No. 77.

No. 294, "Ancients;" No. 374 A.D. 1814 (at the Union), No. 258 A.D. 1832, and No. 213 from A.D. 1863.

CARNARVON, PRO G.M.

To all and every our Right Worshipful, Worshipful and Loving Brethren, We, His Royal Highness ALBERT EDWARD PRINCE OF WALES, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, &c., &c., &c., GRAND MASTER of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England.

SEND GREETING.

WHEREAS it appears, by the Records of the Athol Grand Lodge, or Old Institutions, that a Warrant of Constitution, bearing date the 24th day of December 1795, was granted to certain Brethren therein named, authorizing them to open and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, at The Turkey Cock, St. Simonds, in the city of Norwich, and which Lodge was then registered in the Books of the said Athol Grand Lodge, No. 294. And whereas, by the Union of the two Grand Lodges, on the 27th day of December 1813, the said Lodge became No. 374. By the general alteration of the numbers in the year 1832, it became No. 258, and by the closing up of the numbers in the year 1863, it became, and is now, registered in the Grand Lodge Books, No. 213, meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, in the city of Norwich, in the county of Norfolk, under the title or denomination of "The Lodge of Perseverance." And whereas the Brethren composing the said Lodge have, by their memorial, represented to us that their Warrant has been removed from the Lodge Room, and it is believed to have been destroyed, and they have therefore prayed us to grant them a Warrant of Confirmation. Now Know Ye that We being satisfied of the reasonableness of the said request, and from the confidence reposed in the Brethren, do hereby grant this, OUR WARRANT OF CONFIRMATION, unto our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Brethren, James Sharpen Offord, Orlando Dennis Ray, Joshua Augustus Gooch, George Walter Plumstead, John William Reynolds, Charles Fendick, John Barnard Coates, William Anthony Crisp, and the other Brethren composing the said Lodge, authorizing and empowering them and their Successors to continue to assemble and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at Norwich aforesaid, on the third Tuesday of every Month, or at such times as to the Brethren thereof may appear necessary, and be regulated by their By-Laws, in conformity with the General Laws of the Craft, under the title or denomination of

No. 213

THE LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE,

and then and there, when duly congregated, to make, pass, and raise Free Masons, according to the Ancient Custom of the Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known world. And further, at the Petition of the said Brethren, We do appoint the said James Sharpen Offord to be Master, the said Orlando Dennis Ray to be the Senior Warden, and the said George Walter Plumstead to be the Junior Warden, for continuing to hold the said Lodge, until such time as another Master shall be regularly elected and installed, strictly charging that every Member who shall be elected to preside over the said Lodge, and who must previously have duly served as Warden in a Warranted Lodge, shall be installed in Ancient Form and according to the Laws of the Grand Lodge, that he may thereby be fully invested with the dignities and powers of his office. And we do require you, the said James Sharpen Offord, to take special care that all and every the said Brethren are, or have been, regularly made Masons, and that you and they and all other the members of the said Lodge do observe, perform, and keep the Laws, Rules, and Orders contained in the Book of Constitutions, and all others which may, from time to time, be made by our Grand Lodge, or transmitted by us, or our Successors, Grand Masters, or by our Deputy Grand Master for the time being. And we do enjoin you to make such By-Laws for the government of your Lodge, as shall, to the majority of the Members, appear proper and necessary, the same not being contrary to, or inconsistent with, the General Laws and Regulations of the Craft, a copy whereof you are to transmit to us. And we do require you to cause all such By-Laws and Regulations, and also an account of the proceedings in your Lodge, to be entered in a book to be kept for that purpose. And you are in no wise to omit to send to us, or our Successors, Grand Masters, or to our Deputy Grand Master for the time being, at least once in every year, a List of the Members of your Lodge, and the names and descriptions of all Masons initiated therein, or Brethren who shall have joined the same, with the fees and monies payable thereon. It being our will and intention that this, Our Warrant of Confirmation, shall continue in force so long only as you shall conform to the Laws and Regulations of our Grand Lodge. And you the said James Sharpen Offord are required, as soon as conveniently may be, to send us an account in writing of what shall be done by virtue of these presents.

Given under our Hands and the Seal of the Grand Lodge at London, this 8th February, 3. E. 5876, 3. D. 1876.

By command of the M.W. Grand Master,

(Signed) SKELMERSDALE, J. C. M.

John Hervey, G.S.

The present title, No., &c. are, The Lodge of "Perseverance," No. 213, Norwich,

THE SURREY MASONIC HALL.

Most commandingly situate in the Camberwell New Road, close to the Railway Station, and between the District Post Office, and the Lambeth County Court.

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GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

OF
ENGLAND AND WALES,

AND THE

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

Annual Benevolent Fund Festival.

THE FESTIVAL, as above, will be held, with the sanction of Grand Lodge, and under the presidency of

R.W. BRO. RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DONOUGHMORE, GRAND S.W.

AT THE

ALEXANDRA PALACE, MUSWELL HILL,

On Wednesday, the 1st day of August 1877.

Tickets, inclusive of Wine—Ladies 13s 6d; Gentlemen 17s 6d.

Dinner on table at Five o'clock.

Brethren must appear in full Mark clothing.

FREDERICK BINCKES, Grand Secretary.

Office—2 Red Lion-square, Holborn,

London, July 1877.

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BRETHREN joining the Club before the 1st of August will be admitted, without an Entrance Fee, at the present Subscription of Five Guineas for Town, and Three Guineas for Country Members.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION APPLY TO THE SECRETARY.

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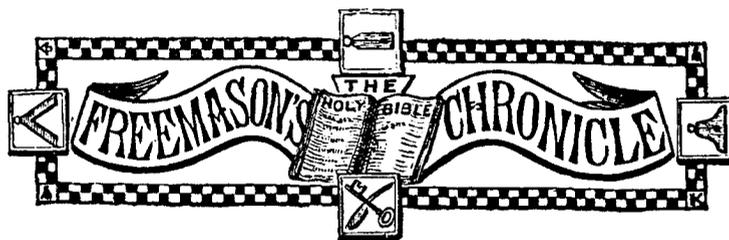
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE speech of the Earl of Beaconsfield in the House of Lords, on Thursday, in defence of his appointment of Mr. Pigott to be Controller of H.M.'s Stationery Office, was in his happiest vein. He fully explained the circumstances which had induced him to appoint that gentleman, and pointed out that the statement of its having been a political job was entirely fabulous. He did not even know Mr. Pigott by sight, and that gentleman's father, so far from having been one of the noble Earl's supporters, had left the county of Bucks some thirty years ago. He added that Mr. Pigott, immediately after the vote of the House of Commons, censuring the appointment, had placed his resignation in his (the noble Earl's) hands, but, under the circumstances, he had not thought proper to accept it. After a few remarks from Earl Granville, Lords Penzance, Northbrook, and Cardwell, bore willing testimony to the abilities of Mr. Pigott, their statements and the Premier's speech being greeted with loud cheers. After the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and the Enclosure Bills had been read a third time, and other measures advanced a stage, a debate, induced by Lord Stratheden and Campbell, on the war between Russia and Turkey, ensued. On Friday, the Kirwee Booty and Coolie Emigration were discussed. On Monday, the Earl of Derby explained the circumstances which had induced the government to strengthen our Mediterranean garrisons at this moment. On Tuesday, the Telegraphs' Money Bill was read a second time.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer explained what course ministers were prepared to pursue with reference to those measures, still undisposed of, which they had introduced, after which the House went into Committee on the Irish Judicature Bill. On Friday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer rose and moved a resolution bearing on a recent vote of the House respecting the appointment of Mr. Pigott, and the subsequent explanation of that appointment by the Prime Minister, but, at the instance of sundry members, he consented to postpone it till Monday. The House then resumed the consideration, in Committee, of the Irish Judicature Bill. At the evening sitting, Mr. O'Connor Power's motion for the release of the Fenian prisoners was discussed. The Government opposed it. Mr. Gladstone spoke favourably of it, though he declined to support it by his vote. Mr. Cross pointed out that they were merely following in the footsteps of their predecessors, and the Marquis of Hartington strenuously supported the Government on a division; the motion was defeated by 235 to 77. An attempt was then unsuccessfully made to complete the consideration of the Irish Judicature Bill, and the House adjourned at a quarter past two o'clock. There was accordingly a morning sitting on Saturday, for the purpose of disposing of the measure in Committee, but the Irish members, who have earned for themselves the title of "Obstructionists," did their best to impede the progress of the measure, and it was only after a long and most unseemly wrangle that the Bill emerged from Committee. On Monday, after the Chancellor of the Exchequer had explained the reasons of the Government in dispatching reinforcements to the Mediterranean, another long wrangle occurred over a motion of the same Minister, respecting the further conduct of public business. The motion of Sir Stafford Northcote that Government orders of the day should have precedence of all other orders of business on Tuesdays and Wednesdays during the remainder of the Session was ultimately carried, an amendment being first of all disposed of by 385 to 15, and the motion itself carried by 321 to 13. Sir W. Barttelot's resolution on Mr. Pigott's appointment was then discussed at length, and carried without a division, not a single dissentient voice being raised when the Speaker submitted the

motion. A motion of Mr. Meldon's, on the Remuneration of Irish Schoolmasters, was defeated by 110 to 73. On Tuesday, on the motion of Mr. Lowther, that the House should go into Committee on the South Africa Bill, Sir G. Campbell proposed an amendment, but was defeated by 221 to 22. In the course of the debate Mr. O'Donnell made a long and irrelevant speech of about two hours, during which several attempts were made to count-out the House, until at length the patience of the Speaker was exhausted, and he declined to count. After this, the House was again put to the trouble of dividing, on the question that the Speaker leave the chair, the numbers for and against being 229 and 5 respectively. The House then went into Committee, and progress was immediately reported. On Wednesday, the House witnessed the most disgraceful scene which has ever taken place. The whole of the afternoon was taken up in wrangling, and at length Sir Stafford Northcote, finding that nothing would induce the obstructionists to allow public business to proceed, moved a resolution that certain words spoken be taken down and reported to the Speaker. He then announced his intention of moving certain resolutions on the subject on Friday, and in the meantime proposed that the attendance of Mr. Parnell till then be dispensed with. It seemed, however, to be the opinion of the House that so important a step should not be taken too hastily, and the matter was postponed till Friday, Mr. Parnell, who had been ordered to withdraw, being therefore at liberty to return till the question was settled.

The condition of the young Prince Albert Victor of Wales is said to be steadily improving. We trust that next week we shall be in a position to report his entire convalescence. The Prince of Wales visited the ex-Empress of the French at Chislehurst, on Monday. Early on Tuesday morning the Duke of Cambridge went down to Woolwich, for the purpose of inspecting the 3rd battalion of the Rifle Brigade, which is under orders to proceed to the Mediterranean. The battalion mustered 900 strong, and was put through a variety of evolutions. The same afternoon His Royal Highness presented the prizes and commissions to the cadets of the Royal Academy, Woolwich. The first eight on the successful list were appointed to the Royal Engineers, and the remaining thirty-one to the Royal Artillery. On Wednesday, the Duke reviewed four battalions of the Guards in Hyde Park. Several hours were occupied in the manoeuvres, after which the troops returned to barracks.

The Volunteer meeting closed on Saturday, with a grand military athletic meeting, and the usual distribution of prizes by Lady Wharnccliffe. The competitions which were concluded after our last week's Budget was written, were among the most important events of the meeting. The Elcho Challenge Shield was carried off by the Irish team, with the splendid score of 1,568 out of a possible 1,800, England being second with 1,464, and Scotland last with 1,439. Thus the Elcho Shield will cross the Irish Channel for the third time, and remain in the custody of the Lord Mayor of Dublin for the current year. In the match between the Lords and Commons, the former were victorious by 29 points, the totals at the two ranges of 200 yards and 500 yards respectively being—Lords 404, Commons 375. Oxford beat Cambridge for the Chancellor's Plate by 4 points only, the numbers being Oxford 537 and Cambridge 533. In the Public Schools' Competition for the Ashburton Shield, nine contested, and after one of the closest struggles on record Cheltenham was declared winner by a single point over Eton, Harrow being third with one point less. The numbers were Cheltenham 393, Eton 392, and Harrow 391. For the Spencer Cup, which is awarded to the best champion shot of each team, the representative of Cheltenham came first by 5 points, his score being 31. The only other contest which deserves to be noticed was that for the Loyd-Lindsay Cup, for which seven mounted squads of yeomanry competed. The first prize was taken by the Warwickshire squad, the second by the Dorsetshire, thus reversing the positions of last year, and the third by the 1st Bucks squad. There was a novel display in connection with this trial. A squad of four H.A.C. infantry men obtained permission to try their powers over the course, but, of course without being allowed to enter for the prizes. The four did the distance (three quarters of a mile), giving their 5 shots each at the two ranges (200 yards and 400 yards) and vaulting the hurdles in 10m. 20 sec., scoring 71 points. This gave them the third place, and had it been permitted, would have entitled them to take the third prize.

The order for the dispatch of reinforcements to our Mediterranean garrisons has caused a large amount of excitement, not only among the public, but likewise at our naval and military ports, and at Aldershot. Two of our huge transports employed in the conveyance of troops to India were ordered early this week to be got ready, and by the time these lines are before our readers, some three thousand men will be already on their way to Malta. Other regiments have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness, and three other transports are being made ready to convey them to the same destination, in order that Great Britain may be in a better position, in the event of any necessity arising for her intervention. It is said the garrison of Malta is to be raised immediately to 10,000 men, and if events move in the direction they have been doing of late, and as rapidly, it is very possible the government may feel it to be its duty to dispatch a more considerable force still. There are rumours that we may so far depart from our present attitude of passive neutrality as to occupy the old lines of Gallipoli, which the French and English engineers threw up at the time of the last war, but which, owing to the repulse of the Russians before Silistria, it was not found necessary to hold for any length of time. As these lines run across the narrowest part of the isthmus, they can be held easily by a comparatively small force, while the position would enable the occupying army to check any serious attempt on Constantinople, especially considering the strength of our Mediterranean fleet, which is likewise being reinforced.

The Russians have been pressing forward their troops in Bulgaria and Roumelia in considerable numbers, with great rapidity, and, it may be added, with astonishing audacity. There are those, indeed, who think that the present disposition of their forces may turn out disastrously, especially as the Turks appear to be thoroughly aroused from their apathy, and are fighting with the most desperate resolution, if not in all cases with success. The most important news is the dismissal of the Turkish Generalissimo, Abdul Kerim Pacha, and the War Minister, Redif Pacha. Both these have been ordered back to Constantinople, where, it is said, they will be tried by Court-Martial. The new Commander-in-Chief is Mehemet Ali Pacha, while Suleiman Pacha has gone to the front with his troops fresh from their long course of victories in Montenegro. Osman Pacha has defeated the Russians at Plevna, after a tremendous engagement, in which the latter themselves acknowledge the loss of close on 2,000 men, while the Turkish loss is set down at 1,200. An attack is also reported to have been made by the Russian army from the Dobrudscha on some of the outlying defences of Silistria, but the Turks declare they repulsed it without difficulty. The celebrated Chipka Pass is now occupied by the Russians, and as this route is available for the passage of artillery, the Russian forces south of the Balkans will now soon be in sufficient strength to imperil the Turkish positions at Adrianople and Philippopolis, the latter being, it is said, the next object of attack. As regards the former, there was a great scare at first when it was known that the Russians were in strong force south of the Balkans, but fresh troops are being continually sent forward from Constantinople, and the immediate danger of the City of Adrianople is now supposed to be passed. But Rumour is so fond of telling fibs that the news of to-day may be directly contradicted by the news of to-morrow. As for other operations in the same quarter, Shumla, Widdin, and Rustchuk are all said to be threatened by the Russians in force, and the last has been subjected to a terrific bombardment, with what result is not yet known. In Asia there has been a certain amount of fighting, but nothing of any moment. The Turks under Moukhtar Pacha still occupy their advanced position close to the Russian frontier, and the Russians are said to be preparing for a fresh campaign. But the most terrible news of all relates to the "atrocities" said to have been committed by the Cossacks and Bulgarians on the fugitive women and children from Mahometan villages. Not a day passes but fresh massacres are reported. That horrible cruelties have been committed on the unfortunate Mussulmans is beyond all question, for there is the combined testimony to that effect of no less than twenty newspaper correspondents of different nationalities; but to what extent the Russian Generals are responsible for it remains to be seen. In the meantime, it seems as though the relations between this country and Russia were becoming more critical.

THE SURREY MASONIC HALL.

WE publish in another column a letter from our well known correspondent "P.M., P.Z.," in which he offers a few pertinent well-intentioned remarks on the fate which awaits this Hall. We trust with him that it is not too late to take some sufficient steps to prevent this building from passing to other than Masonic uses. It is little more than three years since the foundation-stone was laid. Two years and a fortnight ago, to the very day, the Hall was solemnly consecrated to the purposes of Freemasonry, by no less a personage than Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master of England. According to the Official Calendar, there are ten Lodges and two Chapters which meet there, and doubtless other Masonic bodies make it their headquarters. That Masonry is very popular in the immediate vicinity is evidenced by the one fact that seven of the ten Lodges we have mentioned have been constituted within the last four years, while others no doubt have been established which meet at other places. Thus, with the building inaugurated by one of our highest dignitaries, with a number of bodies meeting in it, whose payments for rent must together make a respectable income, and the Masonic element very strongly represented in the neighbourhood, we should naturally imagine that everything would go on prosperously, and that however matters might fare in other directions, here at least there would be no financial difficulties to contend with. Alas! that all these reasonable anticipations of good fortune should be so vain and illusory. On Tuesday next, this building will be publicly sold by auction, and it may well happen that what is now a comfortable and respectable home for the South London Freemasons to meet at, will, in a short time, pass into non-Mason hands, and be used for non-Masonic purposes. We trust the suggestion of "P.M., P.Z." will be acted upon. Albeit he has no particular plan to offer, he proposes that the brethren who live in the vicinity of the Hall, should drop in and have a quiet confabulation over the matter. Some scheme, he thinks, might suggest itself, even at the eleventh hour, and prevent the impending misfortune from actually befalling the South London Craft. "P.M., P.Z." expresses his belief that if each individual Craftsman in that particular district had contributed one of our smallest gold coins, the sum thus raised would have sufficed to prevent the disgrace which must fall upon Masonry by the public sale of one of its Temples. It is not the promoters of the scheme who are to blame, for having proposed the erection of a building where Craftsmen could find a more suitable home than in the nearest hotel or tavern. It is not the directors of the limited company, who set to work and built in the, as it happens, deluded belief that the needful amount of shares would be taken as promised; or the Masonic bodies who use the Hall, and contribute their annual rentals towards its support—it is not these who are to blame for the impending calamity. It is the South London Masonic brethren, who thoughtlessly made promises, and have not kept them; it is the Masonic public, in the same district, who can find money for banquets and jewels, but have not the heart to raise amongst them a modest sum; it is these whom we have to condemn for allowing so much odium to fall on Freemasonry. It is almost certain there are six hundred Masons in the south of London, who, any day in the year, would think nothing of expending £5, if by so doing they could wear additional tinsel; yet the purchase of a £5 share in a Masonic Hall Company, started for the express purpose of providing Freemasonry with a respectable home, is not to be thought of—it is beyond their means. It is bad enough to have the announcement of the sale of the Hall posted all over London: and the least we think that our South London brethren should do is to buy the building, and so preserve it for the purposes to which it has been devoted, and to satisfy which it was erected.

ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

WE have pleasure to record the revival in the Order of the Temple of one of the most ancient Preceptories in England, bearing the name of the "Bosbury," or as it was formerly written "Bosemburie."

"Bosberic," according to Leland's Itinerary, "is ten miles north-east from Hereford at the head of the Leadon riveret, and thereby is a place belonging to St. John's of London, called 'Upleadon.'" The remains of the old "Temple Court," are still to be seen, about half a mile distant from this curious old place, and in the old Norman church are several long tombstones, marked with Templar crosses and emblems.

The Consecration of the Bosbury Preceptory took place on Saturday, the 21st inst., at the Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square, at three o'clock. The following Knights being present:—V. H. and E. Sir Knight Major Shadwell H. Clerke acting Great Prior for England and Wales, V.E. Sir Knight General Clerk P. Prov. Prior for Kent, V.E. Sir Knight Capt. N. G. Philips Prov. Prior for Suffolk and Cambridge, E. Sir Knight Hyde Pullen Past Grand Superintendent of Works, E. Sir Knight Capt. Portlock Dadson Past Sub-Prior for Kent, E. Sir Knight Colonel Adair P. Preceptor of the Bladud, E. Sir Knight the Rev. F. K. Harford P. Preceptor of the Holy Sauc-

tuary, Sir Knight the Right Hon. Lord de Clifford, Sir Knight the Hon. and Rev. F. E. C. Byng, Sir Knight Major Charteris Wemyss.

The Warrant of formation having been read, the new Preceptory was consecrated, according to due and ancient form, by the acting Great Prior, assisted by the other Knights.

The E.P. Nominate Sir Knight the Rev. F. K. Harford was then inducted into the Preceptor's seat, and the following candidates were subsequently admitted and installed as members of the Order—Comps. Colonel Nassau Lees, Major Woodall, Charles Drummond, and Chapman Grigg M.D.

After a vote of thanks, accorded by acclamation to the acting Great Prior for his services on this occasion, the E.P. mentioned the names of some illustrious Royal Arch Companions who looked forward to joining the Preceptory, and of some of the founding members, E. Sir Knight the Rev. John Robbins D.D., Sir Knight the Hon. Major Le Poer Trench, &c., who were unable to be present at the consecration.

The following officers were then appointed:—Sir Knight Colonel Adair Constable, Sir Knight Lord de Clifford Marshal, Sir Knight the Hon. and Rev. F. E. C. Byng Chaplain, V.E. Sir Knight the Right Hon. Sir Seymour Fitzgerald G.C.S.I. Sub-Marshal, Sir Knight Colonel Nassau Lees Captain of the Guard, V.E. Sir Knight Captain Portlock Dadson Registrar, Sir Knight Major Charteris Wemyss and Sir Knight Major Woodall Standard Bearers, and Sir Knight Dr. Chapman Grigg Herald.

Sir Knight Sir W. Wyllie G.C.B. was proposed, and unanimously elected an honorary member, it being further suggested that he should be invited to hold office as Honorary Steward.

Sir Knight Charles Drummond was elected to be Treasurer for the year, and the following distinguished Knights were elected honorary members:—Sir Knight Major Shadwell Clerke Asst. Grand Prior, Sir Knight General Clerk, Sir Knight Captain Philips, Sir Knight Sir Michael Costa, and Sir Knight General J. Studholme Brownrigg.

After a few words from the E.P., who remarked that the present small number of the Preceptory was hardly to be regretted, considering how often great things sprang out of small beginnings, alms were collected, and the Preceptory duly closed.

REVIEWS.

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

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Meetings and Greetings.—The Salutations, Obeisances, and Courtesies of Nations; with Notes on Titles, Dignities, &c. Collected and Arranged by William Tegg, F.R.H.S., Editor of "The Knot Tied," "The Last Act," "Hone's Trials," "Wills of their Own," &c. London: William Tegg and Co., Pancras-lane, Cheapside. 1877.

MR. WILLIAM TEGG is most indefatigable in his compilation of interesting books. It is only a few weeks since we noticed "The Knot Tied," and another; and now we have before us a third, which, in parts, is most entertaining, while one excerpt from the diary of an old Master of Ceremonies, who flourished at the British Court over two centuries ago, is very curious, and shows how much importance was attached in those days to Court ceremonial. We are a little less formal now-a-days—we will not say this change is accompanied by any improvement in English manners and customs—but at our, and all other, Courts it is absolutely necessary that forms of some kind should be observed, and observed most rigidly. These pages include accounts of all such forms and ceremonies, or, at all events, of so many of them as will serve to convey to the reader an adequate idea of their character. In addition, are accounts of public ceremonials and receptions on certain important occasions, so that the reader will find brought together accounts of various of them which he has witnessed, or in which he may chance to have taken part. But it will, perhaps, be as well if we follow the author himself, and treat of those we consider worthy of being singled out for notice, in the order in which they occur.

Mr. Tegg introduces his subject ceremoniously, in a short preface, in which he tells us that his object has been "to describe and illustrate the SALUTATIONS, OBEISANCES, and COURTESIES of nations, countries, and people, including CEREMONIES, which latter may be divided into four classes, *i.e.*, RELIGIOUS, STATE, SOCIAL, and INTERNATIONAL." The work itself is divided into five parts, in the first of which are given the various modes of salutation, those mentioned in Scripture, Eastern, and other. In Part II. will be found descriptions of various religious rites and ceremonies, and a very full account of that most magnificent of modern State ceremonies, the Coronation of George IV., with full particulars as to the mode of presentation at the Court of St. James's, and other similar matters. It is in this part that Mr. Tegg very properly introduces the excerpt above alluded to, from the Diary of an Old Master of the Ceremonies, which is itself included in an account written by the late Isaac D'Israeli. When the latter has discussed the origin of Court etiquette, and suggests that it may come from those grave "and courtly Italians, who, in their petty pompous courts, made the whole business of these effeminate days consist in *punctilios*," he goes on, in the first place, to mention how, when the British Ambassadors went over to France in 1624, for the purpose of arranging for the marriage of Charles with the Princess Henrietta Maria, they very cleverly contrived to see Cardinal Richelieu, so that there was no danger of his offending the ambassadors of the Emperor and the King of Spain on the point of punctilio. He then mentions that the office of Master of the Ceremonies was created by our James I., the first who held it being Sir Lewis Lewknor, with Sir John Finett, who succeeded under Charles I. It is from Sir John's Diary the excerpt—or rather read of the petty difficulties and jealousies which it was his duty to excerpt, for there are several—is made, and it is most amusing to smooth over in arranging for the interviews of rival ambassadors with

the King, or in settling the terms of their precedence. Thus in one passage, partly quoted and partly analysed, we read of a privy council being hastily summoned "to inquire why the French ambassador had a 'defluxion of rheum in his teeth, besides a fit of ague,' although he hoped 'to be present at the same festival next year,' or being invited to a masque declared 'his stomach would not agree with cold meats;' 'thereby pointing' (shrewdly observes Sir John,) 'at the invitation and presence of the Spanish Ambassador, or who, at the masque the *Christmas before*, had appeared in the first place.'" On another occasion, when the Muscovite Ambassador would not yield precedence to the French nor Spanish, Sir John very adroitly managed to place him "in an obscure situation, in which the Russ imagined he was highly honoured, as there he enjoyed a full view of the King's face, though he could see nothing of the entertainment itself," and the other ambassadors were considerate enough "not to take exception." On another occasion, the same Muscovite complained that at his reception at Whitehall "only one lord was in waiting at the stairs-head, while no one had met him in the courtyard." Sir John, however, was equal to the occasion, and gravely assured the Muscovite "it was considered a greater honour to be received by one lord than two!" Very quaint are the difficulties which the worthy Master of Ceremonies encountered in his endeavours to humour the caprices of the different ambassadors. Now it is the French Ambassador, now the Spanish, now the Venetian, who stands on *punctilio*. The last of the three named must have been a most terrible fellow, but the Englishman was usually a match for them, though now and again he found himself in a difficulty. However, he was wily enough not to compromise his lord and master or himself. On one occasion—that of the marriage of Frederick the Count Palatine with James's daughter, the Princess Elizabeth—we read as follows:—

"Sir John having ushered among the countesses the lady of the French ambassador, he left her to the ranging of the Lord Chamberlain, who ordered she should be placed at the table next beneath the Countesses, and above the baronesses. But, lo! 'the Viscountess Effingham, standing to her *woman's rights*, and possessed already of her proper place (as she called it), would not remove lower, so *held the hand* of the ambassatrice, till after dinner, when the French ambassador, informed of the difference and opposition, called out for his wife's coach. With great trouble the French lady was persuaded to stay, the Countess of Kildare, and the Viscountess of Haddington, making no scruple of yielding their places."

We learn further that all this time the Viscountess Effingham forbore "both her supper and her company," and, as Mr. D'Israeli remarks, "Mortified to be seated at the side of the Frenchwoman that day, frowning and frowned on, and going supperless to bed, passed the wedding-day of the Palatine and Princess Elizabeth, like a cross girl on a form." We learn also from this account that it was usual in those days for the foreign ambassadors to be lodged and entertained at the cost of the English Monarch, and receive presents "of considerable value; from 1,000 to 5,000 ounces of gilt plate; and in more cases than one, the meanest complaints were made by the ambassadors about short allowances." They in turn made presents to the Masters of the Ceremonies, "and some so grudgingly, that Sir John Finett often vents his indignation, and commemorates the indignity."

Part III. of the work gives the different modes of salutation in force among different nations, and Part IV. an account of "Titles of Dignity and Courtesy" with such explanations as to their meaning and origin as will serve the purpose of the general reader. Part V. is devoted to "Illustrative Receptions and Interviews of Great Persons," derived from various sources, among them being particulars of the visit of our Queen to France during the days of the Second Empire, and the reception of the Shah of Persia by the Prince of Wales, of the Princess Alexandra, now Princess of Wales, in 1863, on her way to Windsor to be married, and of the Duchess of Edinburgh after her marriage at St. Petersburg. Perhaps the least ceremonious among the modes of reception is the one quoted from the late Charles Dickens's *American Notes*, in which he describes a visit he paid to the President of the United States, and the kind of people he saw waiting in one of the ante-rooms to interview that official. We quote the following portion of it:—

"There were some fifteen or twenty persons in the room. One a tall, wiry, muscular, old man from the west, sun burnt and swarthy, with a brown-white hat on his knees and a giant umbrella resting between his legs, who sat bolt upright on his chair, frowning steadily at the carpet, and twitching the hard lines about his mouth, as if he had made up his mind 'to fix' the President on what he had to say, and wouldn't bate a drain. Another, a Kentucky farmer, six feet six in height, with his hat on and his hands under his coat tails, who leaned against the wall and kicked the floor with his heel, as though he had Time's head under his shoe, and were literally 'killing' him. A third, an oval-faced, bilious-looking man, with sleek black hair cropped close, and whiskers and beard shaved down to blue dots, who sucked the head of a thick stick, and from time to time took it out of his mouth to see how it was getting on. A fourth did nothing but whistle. A fifth did nothing but spit."

We have, however, sufficiently described the character of the book. We may add that there is a Table of Contents, which comes at the end in the form of an Index, that the book is nicely printed and bound, and that we do not doubt that those of our readers who may incline towards this kind of literature will derive both instruction and pleasure from a study or even a perusal of its pages.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—No more Nervousness.—The moment impurity enters the blood health is diminished, and our nerves warn us of the disagreeable fact. "Cast the impurities out!" says common sense, and long experience testifies that Holloway's Pills accomplish this with the utmost certainty and completeness. To the dyspeptic and apathetic, they give new life and fresh energy, by the wholesome influence they exercise over the stomach, liver, and other internal organs. The most wretched indigestion fades before their corrective power, and therewith gloom of mind and indisposition for exertion disappear. Holloway's Pills purify and regulate the circulation by steadying the heart's action.

MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE AND OPERATIVE MASONRY.

LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES UNDER THE OTTOS.

THE closing year of the tenth century in Germany vindicates the claims sometimes made to at least satisfactory progress in artistic and scientific culture. It may be stated, as within the limits of careful attestation, that the whole of the liberal arts and sciences at this period were exclusively under the fostering care of monastic institutions. The Abbeys of St. Gall, Reichenau, Fulda, Hersefeld, and Corvey were especially distinguished for the assiduity with which they cultivated ancient languages, and collected manuscripts of the more celebrated historians and other writers of Rome. Although at this age the religious spirit of the monks largely induced the importation of sainted relics from Italy, for the purpose of adoration and popular worship, in one single instance an Italian by the name of Gunzo, at the instigation of Otto I., brought into Germany over one hundred splendid copies of the most illustrious of ancient classics. So eagerly, indeed, were such manuscripts sought for, that the bones of a miracle-working saint were readily exchanged for a complete copy of Cicero's Orations. The Venetians from a very early period seem to have obtained absolute control of the trade in relics, and oft-times made piratical incursions upon certain portions of the Grecian coast and in Alexandria, for the sole object of robbing a Christian church or chapel of the venerated skeletons of celebrated martyrs or saints. In the time of Charlemagne and his predecessors, the enterprising merchants of Venice regularly attended the Lombardy fairs, for the purpose of disposing of their holy plunder.

Gerbert, afterwards elevated to the pontifical throne, under the name of Sylvester II., was in the glittering galaxy of Ottonian scholars and scientists especially renowned. He has not hesitated to assert that the development of his genius was owing to the gracious influences and favouring encouragement received from these munificent patrons. Acting upon the especial invitation of Otto III., yet a youth, although enthusiastic in his ardour for learning, Gerbert, then Archbishop of Rheims, came into Saxony and to the imperial court at the Palatinate of Madgeburgh. Upon the mandate of the German Emperor, which was cheerfully obeyed, all the most illustrious scholars of the age aggregated there from the spring until the fall of the year 997. By the personal request of the imperial student the treatises and investigations of this celebrated assemblage were directed to Greek dialects, and, what is more important, in its relation to the operative Craft of builders, to the science of numbers and mathematics under the supervision of Gerbert himself, who, thirty years previous, had become profoundly versed in mathematical and arithmetical sciences among the Arabs in Spain. This learning was up to this time entirely unknown to the Christians on this side of the Pyrenees. This fact is, indeed, one of great importance in its relation to the historical progression of architectural art, which, in the next century, made such rapid advances, and so quickly culminated in the elegant structures which stood without a rival in artistic finish and wonderful mathematical proportions. Without examining into the cumbersome methods of geometric and arithmetical calculations of the age before us, it can be stated as a demonstrated truth that the science of mathematics, with its attendant problems and the entirely novel solution of its theorems, combined with the results readily obtained by the Arabic system of calculations, after the practical demonstrations of Gerbert, placed the Craft of builders in possession of a geometric key, which unlocked the total secrets of architecture. It is equally clear that through such illustrious architects and scientists as Willigis of Mayence, and Bernward of Hildsheim, and other scholars, monks and abbots, this new system of mathematical science was introduced to the operative Masons or stonecutters, who were as yet not only under the absolute domination of the Church, but actually lodged or domiciled in the monasteries and convents, under ecclesiastical discipline.—*Sunday Sun.*

Bro. Turquand will work the installation ceremony in the Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, No. 554, on Tuesday evening, the 31st inst., at the "Green Dragon," Stepney, at 8 o'clock.

We have much pleasure in stating that Bro. E. Page P.G.S., P.M. 23, and Treas. 1381, who has been suffering from a severe attack of congestion of the lungs, is gradually recovering.

A meeting of the Festival Stewards of the Mark Benevolent Fund was held at Red Lion-square, on Tuesday, 24th inst. Bro. Major Barlow was elected the Honorary President of the Board of Stewards, and took the chair. The usual routine business was transacted, and the Stewards Fee fixed at 42s. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings. Among those present, were Bros. Cooper Smith, Rosenthal, C. F. Matier, J. H. Spencer, and F. Binckes, Hon. Secretary. We may remind our readers the Festival will be held at the Alexandra Palace, on 1st August, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Donoughmore G.S.W., who, we hope, will be well supported by the Order.

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, 28th JULY.

1541—Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

MONDAY, 30th JULY.

174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1480—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-road, Hackney, 7. (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
1177—Tenby, Royal Assembly Rooms, Tenby, Pembroke.

TUESDAY, 31st JULY.

55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
551—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1471—Islington, Coopers Arms, Silver-street, Falcon-square, E.C., at 7. (Inst.)
1472—Henley, Railway Tavern, Stratford New Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle.
573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen.
1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton.

WEDNESDAY, 1st AUGUST.

Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
193—Confidence, Whittington Tavern, Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7. (Instruction.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Black Bull, Holborn, at 8. (Instruction.)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, The Three Bucks, Gresham-street, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. Tav., Seven Sisters-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
298—Harmony, Masonic Room, Ann-street, Rochdale.
326—Moir, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol.
327—Wigton St. John's, Lion and Lamb, Wigton.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester.
645—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1063—Malling Abbey, Bear Inn, West Malling, Kent.
1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1091—Erme, Erme House, Ivy Bridge, Devon.
1144—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Alnwick.
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street.
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea.
1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh, Lancashire.
1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7.0. (Instruction.)

THURSDAY, 2nd AUGUST.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 7. (Instruction.)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8. (Instruction.)
538—La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1449—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1612—West Middlesex, Railway Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
M. M.—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston. (Inst. at 8.30.)
21—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle.
123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire.
249—Mariners, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
204—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks.
295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne.
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire.
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Grimsby.
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.
1282—Ancholme, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1234—Brent, Globe Hotel, Topsham, Devonshire.
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire.
1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich.

FRIDAY, 3rd AUGUST.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up George-st., Edgware-rd. (Inst.)
834—Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-road. (Instruction.)
902—Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales-road, Kentish Town. (Inst.)
933—Doric, Lion Tavern, Carlton-square, Mile End, at 8. (Instruction.)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction.)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, Punch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1480—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond Road, N.
1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)
539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
908—Welchpool, Board Room, Railway Station, Welchpool.
1333—Atheletan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.
1337—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy.
1528—Fort, Red Lion Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall.
1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham, Northumberland.
1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
1664—Gosforth, Brandling Arms Hotel, Gosforth.

SATURDAY, 4th AUGUST.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
1223—Amherst, Kings Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
1453—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

149—St. Peter, Swan Hotel, Wolverhampton.
1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

MONDAY.

827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.
R. A. 302—Charity, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.

TUESDAY.

448—St. James's, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.

WEDNESDAY.

750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.

THURSDAY.

289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
974—Pentalpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Eiland.
1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley.
R. A. 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield.

FRIDAY.

242—St. George's, Guildhall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds.
521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.
1648—Prince of Wales, 69 Little Horton-lane, Bradford.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James' Hall, Writer's-court.

FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, E. Register-street.

GLASGOW AND THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

During the Tourist Season, for the benefit of our travelling brethren, we purpose giving all the Masonic Meetings in the West. All the Meetings are at 8.0 p.m., unless otherwise stated.

MONDAY—65—Stonehaven, Mill Inn, Stonehaven, at 7 p.m.
" 103—Union and Crown, 30 Cathedral-street, Glasgow.
" 202—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Rothesay.
" 317—Camperdown, Freemasons' Hall, Dundee.
" R. A.—122—Thetis, 35 St. James-street.

TUESDAY—No. 3, Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, 213 Buchanan-street.

WEDNESDAY—0—Mother Kilwinning, Freemasons' Hall, Kilwinning.

" 4—Kilwinning, 241 Dumbarton-road, Glasgow.
" 21—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Lunark.
" 50—St. John's, George Hotel, Inverary.
" 78—St. Davids, Royal Hotel, Dundee.
" 86—Navigation, Commercial Hotel, Troon.
" 126—St. Andrew, George Hotel, Kilmarnock.
" 128—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
" 136—St. Lawrence, Freemasons' Hall, Lawrencekirke.
" 166—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Airdrie.
" 202—St. Clement, Commercial Hotel, Kilmarnock.
" 250—Union, Chapel-street Hotel, Dunfermline.
" 354—Caledonian Railway, Cathedral-street, Glasgow.
" 518—St. Andrew's, New Pittsigo Commercial Hall.
" 562—Kildalton, Reading Room, Port Ellen, Islay.
" 571—Dramatic, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, at 3 p.m.
" R. A. 87—Shamrock and Thistle, 12 Trongate.

THURSDAY—11—St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.

" 22—St. John's, George Hotel, Kilmarnock.
" 27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
" 120—St. Peter, Crown Hotel, Montrose.
" 149—St. Andrews, Masonic Arms Hotel, Irvine.
" 157—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Main-street, Beith.
" 165—Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 176—St. Andrews, Oak Inn, Denny.
" 180—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Argyle-square, Oban.
" 290—Blair Dalry, White Hart Hotel, Dalry.
" 465—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road, Glasgow.
" 547—Stewart, Freemasons' Hall, Kilsyth.

FRIDAY—114—Royal Arch, Freemasons' Hall, Cambuslang, at 7 p.m.

" 116—Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135—St. David's, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 173—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Largs.
" 175—St. John's, Old St. John's Hall, Cathcart-street, Greenock.
" 217—Cumberland, Old Town Hall, Port Glasgow.
" 242—Houston St. Johnstone, Cross Keys, Johnstone.
" 275—Shamrock and Thistle, 22 Struthers-street, Glasgow.
" 335—Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.
" 360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408—Clyde, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
" 459—Kelburne, Cambrae Hotel, Millport.
" 512—Thorntree, School-room, Thornliebank, at 7.

SATURDAY—23—St. John's, Black Bull, Kirkintilloch, at 6.

" 458—St. John, Wilson Hall, Busby, at 6.
" 544—St. Andrews, Freemasons' Hall, Bank-street, Coatbridge.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Kent Lodge of Instruction, No. 15.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 26th inst., at the Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow. Present—Bros. J. M. Hunt W.M., F. Hallows S.W., Groome J.W., Claridge acting Sec., Pinder P.M. Preceptor, T. Upward S.D., W. G. Hallows J.D., T. Franklin I.G., also Bros. E. Brown, Varley, Moffat, Stockwell, Rubery, &c. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Varley acting as candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the second section of the lecture worked by Bro. Pinder, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge having been resumed in the first degree, the 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Pinder, assisted by the brethren. Bro. F. Hallows was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Hunt for the able manner in which he had performed the ceremony of initiation, this being the first time of his attempting the duties of the chair. As our brother was only initiated into the Order last March, he has well employed the short space in learning our beautiful ritual. The Lodge was then closed and adjourned to 2nd August.

Caledonian of Unity Chapter, No. 73.—Held its regular monthly meeting on 25th July, at St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow. A Lodge of Mark Masters was opened by the Z., Comp. G. W. Wheeler, assisted by Comps. J. Kinnaird S.W., D. Gilchrist J.W., J. Balfour Scribe E., when Comp. W. Bell, Z. of Chapter No. 50, asked Comp. Wheeler to exalt a candidate for them. This request having been acceded to, Bro. Bell introduced Bro. McLean of St. John 3 bis, who with Bro. Henry Finlayson, of No. 73, was then duly advanced as Mark Master. A Lodge of Excellent Masters was opened with the same officers, and Comp. H. McInnis as Conductor. The Chapter was then opened by G. W. Wheeler Z., J. Kinnaird H., J. Park J., J. Balfour S.E., J. Bannerman Treas., D. Gilchrist acting 1st S., W. Bisland, No. 767, as 2nd S., J. Pitt 3rd S., when these same two gentlemen were exalted. There were also present Bros. J. M. Campbell, Z. No. 69, and G. Muir, No. 87, with a number of other visitors.

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, No. 174.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Monday, the 23rd July, at Bro. Seaton's, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street. Present—Bros. Wyatt W.M., J. Fraser S.W., W. Fraser J.W., A. Ellis Sec., Lacey P.M. Treas., Kidman S.D., Large I.G., Webb acting Preceptor (in the absence of Bro. Austin). Bros. Verry, Berry, Newton, Moore and several others. Business—The W.M. worked the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Jones candidate. Bro. Ellis worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed in due form, with solemn prayer, and adjourned until next Monday evening, at 7 o'clock. The business of the City Masonic Benevolent Association for Promoting Life Governorships to the Royal Masonic Institutions, the meetings of which are held at this Lodge on the 4th Monday in each month, was then proceeded with. Two Life Governorships were drawn. The successful members were Bros. Hill and Kidman. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the chairman, Bro. Verry, and the proceedings terminated.

Belgrave Lodge, No. 749.—The first summer banquet of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 20th inst., at the Alexandra Palace, under the able presidency of the W.M. Bro. J. W. Hobbs. The following officers were present:—Bros. Greenwood S.W., Booker J.W., Ranting P.M. Treas., H. Garrod P.M. Sec., Gardner S.D., Coltart J.D., and W. Groves I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Hester, Painter, Batty, and an assemblage of brethren and visitors, numbering altogether about 60. During the day, a testimonial was presented to Bro. H. Garrod P.M. and Secretary, which had been subscribed for by the members of the Lodge. The usual attractions of the Palace, which were supplemented on this occasion by the Alexandra Palace Races, were much enjoyed by the party, who afterwards adjourned to one of the saloons, where a sumptuous banquet and dessert had been provided by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, which gave unqualified satisfaction. The table was beautifully decorated, and the attendance was all that could be desired. Grace having been sung, by Bros. Collins, Repstone, Kift, and Tremeer, the W.M. said he had great pleasure in proposing the toast of Her Majesty the Queen and the Craft. The National Anthem having been given, the W.M. proposed the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., which was enthusiastically received, and "God Bless the Prince of Wales" was sung. The health of the Pro G.M., and the D.G.M. followed, the W.M. remarking that we were all grateful to those brethren for devoting so much of their valuable time to the interests of Freemasonry. He was pleased to say they had a Grand Officer among them that day, Bro. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, one whom they all respected. Bro. H. G. Buss returned thanks; he did so with a great amount of gratification. He spoke of the interest taken by the Pro G.M. and the D.G.M. in the welfare of the Craft. It was 20 years since that he was at the consecration of this Lodge; since then he had had to regret the loss of many valued friends, but he saw some very old ones present, and he was pleased to be among them. On behalf of the Grand Officers, he begged to return his sincere thanks for the way in which the toast has been given and received. The W.M. said he had now to propose the toast of the evening, that was the health of Bro. H. Garrod P.M. Secretary. It was 19 years to-day since his appointment to office; he had well and worthily fulfilled his duties, always to their satisfaction; it was a pleasure to see how the books were kept, and while they had such a Secretary and Treasurer the Lodge must prosper. The success they had met with was due to him, and to the able way in which he had looked after their interest. It was the wish of the brethren that he should have some token of their regard and esteem; they had liberally subscribed for this purpose, and they thought that to-day was a fitting opportunity; and he in the name of the Lodge would present Bro. Garrod with a very elegant dining-room clock, and an illuminated and beautifully emblazoned testimonial, in appreciation of his great services as Secretary for the last 19 years. He trusted that in days to come he would remember the feelings with which he was regarded by every brother in the Lodge. (Loud cheers). Bro. H. Garrod, on rising to reply, was received with enthusiastic cheers. He thanked the W.M. and the brethren for the valuable present. He gave a very interesting account of the fluctuation in the fortunes of the Lodge; their various places of meeting; they were now comfortably located at Anderton's Hotel, where he hoped they would remain for many years. They had 86 members; there were only four of the nine who were the founders of the Lodge present that day, but he was glad to see them. In conclusion, he hoped he deserved some of the encomiums that had been passed on him. When he looked on the clock, it would remind him of the passing hours; and the illuminated address his children would look at with pride, as it would remind them how their father was respected in the Lodge. He could only say that any service required of him he would only be too pleased to render. The W.M. proposed the toast of the Visitors, which was responded to by Bros. Randall P.M. 194, G. Newman P.M. 192, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188. Bro. Hester P.M. had great pleasure in proposing the toast of the W.M., who, he said, had gone out of the

beaten tract. He had made one mistake; that was that he had not brought the ladies. He was, however, sure Bro. Hobbs would remedy that on a future occasion. The W.M. thanked Bro. Hester for the kind manner he had spoken of him, and also the brethren for the enthusiastic manner they had received the toast. Since he had been elected W.M., he had always looked after the interests of this Lodge. With pride he could say the Lodge was vice-president of the three Charities. They had usually sent up Stewards, and generally with good lists. He hoped he gratified them by inaugurating these summer banquets. He would now propose a toast that the Lodge was always proud of—that was the Past Masters. They were indeed a credit to the Lodge. Their excellent qualities had been spoken of, but only in a way that one and all richly deserved. Bro. Hester, in a very humorous speech, returned thanks; he was followed by Bros. Batty, Grogan and Painter. The W.M., in proposing the health of the Officers, was pleased to say they were the best working officers any Lodge could boast of; each one was qualified to fill any office he might be appointed to, and he hoped to see them eventually in the chair. Bro. Greenwood replied. The W.M. then proposed the Musical Brethren, who had so ably contributed to the harmony. After this toast had been acknowledged, tea and coffee was served, and the brethren returned to town. The visitors were H. G. Buss Assist. Grand Secretary, S. Murley 1257, J. Badkin S.W. 1365 and W.M. elect, E. W. Crearey, G. Newman P.M. 192, Randall P.M. 194, G. Soper W.M. 1365, J. S. Furlong 1602, Collins, J. B. Graham 1567, H. Lepstone 1309, T. Tremeer 1309.

Royal Albert Edward Lodge, No. 906.—This Lodge held its annual installation meeting on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the Lodge Rooms, Weston, near Bath. Present—Bros. W. H. Dill W.M., P. C. Young S.W., W. Williamson J.W., J. Dudfield Sec., T. B. Moutrie Treas., Dr. Hopkins acting as S.D., J. Hayward J.D., E. L. Hill D.C., H. Freeman and C. E. Davies Stewards, J. Stacey I.G., C. Pinkett Tyler. Past Masters Bros. H. E. Doherty C.B. I.P.M., Hy. Leaker and W. E. Sparrow. Visitors—V.W. Bros. Else D.P.G.M., Dr. H. Hopkins P.P.G.S.W. Warwickshire, G. H. Bush P.M. 1478, S. J. Robinson 41, T. E. Liddiard W.M. 355, W. H. Beggs I.P.M. 1388, D. Williams P.M. 686 and 1388, M. Bridges W.M. 1669, P.M. 772 and 1216, F. J. Brown I.P.M. 41. Business—Ballot taken for Mr. J. Banks and Mr. J. Boscombe, which proved unanimous. The V.W. Deputy Prov. G.M. then proceeded to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. William Williamson J.W., which ceremony was performed in his usual most efficient manner. The W.M. then appointed the following officers for the ensuing year:—P. C. Young S.W., L. Howes J.W., J. Dudfield Sec., T. B. Moutrie Treas., J. Hayward S.D., J. Stacey J.D., C. E. Davies I.G., Freeman and Braham Stewards, E. L. Hill D.C., J. Dingle Organist. The Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at Bro. H. Leaker's, Angel Hotel, Bath, which was served in the host's first-rate style. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and heartily received, and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony. The musical arrangements, under Bro. E. L. Hill, P.M. D.C., gave great satisfaction to the brethren. We might mention that a handsome bouquet was placed before each brother, as a compliment from the W.M.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326.—The installation meeting was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton, on Saturday, 21st July. The Lodge was opened by Bro. W. Hammond P.P.G.D. Middlesex P.M., after which the W.M., Bro. E. Gilbert, having arrived from town, he took the chair. The minutes of the regular and emergency meetings were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed. The report of the audit committee was read; it showed, with every liability fully paid up, even to the Past Master's jewel—with over £20 paid into the Masonic Charities, and extra expenses of over £21—a good sum in the hands of the Treasurer. Considering its small annual subscription this Lodge subscribed larger amounts to the Charities than any other Lodge in the Province, when subscriptions are taken into consideration and account. By the courtesy of the P.M.'s, Bro. J. W. Baldwin was allowed to work the ceremony of installation, and for it he received a vote of thanks. He installed Bro. C. W. Fox S.W. as W.M., and he appointed as his officers Bros. R. W. Williams S.W., J. Hammond P.M. J.W., S. Wickens P.M. Treas. (re-invested sixth time), F. Walters P.G.J.D. Middlesex P.M. Sec. (re-invested ninth time), J. B. Shackleton S.D., J. W. Baldwin J.D., H. Gloster I.G., G. Shott Organist, H. Potter P.M. W.S. (re-invested ninth time), T. W. Stone D.C., J. Laurence Steward, J. Gilbert P.G. Tyler Middlesex Tyler, (re-invested ninth time). Bro. E. Gilbert I.P.M. by desire initiated his friend, Mr. W. J. Williams. The W.M. Bro. C. W. Fox presented to Bro. E. Gilbert I.P.M. the P.M.'s jewel voted to him. The Stewards to represent the Lodge at forthcoming Festivals of the Charities for 1878 are, for Benevolent Bro. E. Gilbert I.P.M., Bro. C. W. Fox W.M. for Boys, Bro. D. Steinhauer for Girls. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The Lodge was closed and adjourned to August. Banquet followed. Visitors—Bros. E. Beckwith 1423, M. Clark 1423, J. Bartlett 1423, J. Hurst W.M. 1512, H. Murphy 1512, G. Cragg S.W. 1586, J. House 1206, G. Knill 1607, T. C. Walls J.W. 1381, W. Simmons J.W. 1559, T. W. Clark D.C. 1554, C. J. Hartnoll, &c. Bros. J. T. Moss P.P.G.R. Middlesex P.M., H. A. Dubois P.G.P. Middlesex P.M., and some forty other members were present.

An emergency meeting was held on Wednesday, 18th July, at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. E. Gilbert, Bro. J. W. Baldwin P.A.G.P. Middlesex P.M. opened the Lodge. He passed Bro. F. Maxwell, and initiated Mr. G. J. Whitcombe. Bro. E. Gilbert, the W.M., having arrived, took the chair, and passed Bros. W. Kay and J. Bartlett 1423. There were present during the afternoon and evening Bros. C. W. Fox S.W., F. Walters P.G.J.D. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, J. B. Shackleton J.D., J. W. Baldwin P.A.G.P. Middlesex P.M. 1423 I.G., R. R. Millington

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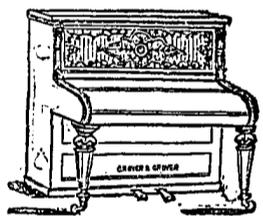
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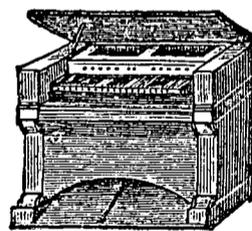
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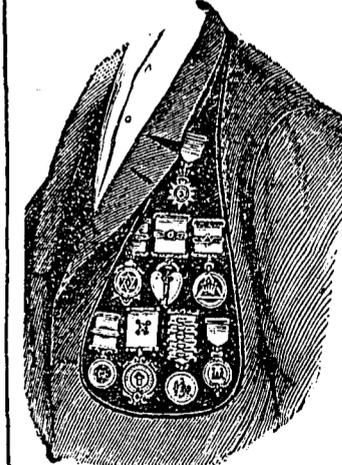
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