

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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ONE OR TWO HOME TRUTHS.

WE are proud, very much proud, as some affected people say, of the fraternal spirit which animates the Society of Freemasons. In so far as we are men, we have, of course, our failings, our little weaknesses. We are occasionally envious, not to say spiteful. Occasionally we not only think, but speak ill of our neighbours. We are not remarkably blind to other people's faults, however much we may be disposed to overlook our own. Envy, hatred, and even uncharitableness are among our besetting frailties. In so far, we repeat, as we are men, we not unfrequently yield to these common infirmities of human nature; but inasmuch as we are brothers, knit together in one Society by a desire to do as we would be done by, we are, of course, above all those weaknesses to which ordinary men are unfortunately subject. And yet—how funny it is that nearly every attribute we claim to possess must have its attendant qualification—and yet there are those among us who are sometimes oblivious of their Masonic duties, who are not always observant of the obligations they have undertaken to fulfil. We do occasionally hear of those who are brothers as well as men speaking in disrespectful terms of their fellows. We do find some who are prompted by ill-feeling of one kind or other to asperse the character of others. In short, there are too many members of our Society who allow the vices of humanity to prevail over the virtues of Freemasonry, who are members in name only, and yield themselves up with the greatest unction to those ill feelings and evil doings by which what we call the profane world is distinguished. It is not given to every one to attain distinction as a virtuous man, but all may try to become such. Unfortunately there are those in our Lodges who make a practice of eschewing good that evil may come. On some slight pretence or other, either because they have been annoyed or fancy they have been annoyed, they pour out the vials of their wrath on all they come in contact with. Some time ago—we should say a good twelvemonths has elapsed—a high Provincial dignitary administered in open Provincial Grand Lodge one of those stern rebukes which ought to have made the blood run cold in the veins of the offender. One prominent case which he cited of a deadly offence against the laws of Freemasonry was, if we remember rightly, that of an old Past Master, who took every opportunity of declaring, with a torrent of oaths and blasphemy, that he would black-ball every one who was proposed as a candidate for admission into the Lodge of which he was a member. Had this individual been only a man, his reviling and his ill-nature would have passed unheeded, except, perhaps, among his own associates, but as he was a man and a brother, he was publicly, though not by name, rebuked by one who was high in office, and had the right to do so. Subsequently, a case was brought before the judge of one of our County Courts, in which a newly initiated brother had refused to pay his fees. The case broke down, owing to certain informalities in the procedure adopted, but while we must fain acknowledge that Freemasonry covers a multitude of sins, we must also point out that the sin of not paying one's dues is not one of that multitude. A man may fall into bad circumstances after a time, and find himself unable to pay his subscriptions; but at the very outset, when he is seeking admission into our ranks, he knows, or ought to know, that the entrance or initiation fees are not simply due by him, but payable likewise. He knows they will be demanded of

him, and if he is not prepared to pay, he should not seek admission. Freemasonry is not conducted like many a West End business, on the long credit system as regards initiation fees, but, very properly, the terms are cash only. More recently still we have heard of a case of libel, which has or, we should say rather, which would have been tried in one of our law courts. The *vis et origo mali* in this instance was a Lodge squabble in which certain members resolved on black-balling all candidates proposed by certain other members. This, of course, may be taken as another illustration of that truly fraternal feeling which seizes on all men the moment they become Freemasons. There are not a few among us who "do good by stealth and blush to find it fame!" but not so, the blaspheming P.M.'s and rabid black-ballers. Their deeds are noble and they have no notion of blushing when they find themselves notorious. They have no idea of hiding their ill-favoured light under a bushel; on the contrary they are resolved it shall be placed where it will be visible to the greatest number. We have never seen a code of morals in which blaspheming was written down as a virtue. We have read that in one of our numerous wars our British soldiers "swore terribly in Flanders;" but though we have every reason to believe their offence was condoned by the country, in consideration of the magnificent valour they exhibited, we cannot accept the round oaths of brave men as in any wise justifying the conduct of those narrow-minded, currish, ill-conditioned Masons who curse, not their enemies, but their brethren. As to black-balling, it is necessary there should be available in all societies a means for preventing the admission of unworthy persons into our Lodges, but the ballot-box was never intended to subserve the purposes of malice. It was never contemplated that worthy people should suffer by this mode of secret voting. It was considered that the ballot box offered the best means for concealing adverse votes, so that whether a candidate were elected or rejected, he might remain in blissful ignorance of those who had opposed him. But this secrecy is destroyed, and the intent and purpose of the institution defied by brethren who deliberately announce in public their intention of black-balling all candidates indiscriminately. There are some people who are said to love darkness, because of the darkness of their deeds; but the black-ballers, who thus defy the unwritten laws of Masonry, do so ostentatiously, as though there were something to boast of in these public demonstrations of envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness. Another evil which it is the duty of all Freemasons to resist is, the system of trading on Masonry, which, unfortunately, is far too commonly practised. We do not see why people who are engaged in business should mix business and Freemasonry up together. It is disgusting to have a card thrust into your hand, with the address and nature of Bro. —'s occupation inscribed upon it. A man, be he a Mason or not, is perfectly justified in touting for customers whenever and wherever he can; but he must do so in a legitimate fashion. If we are desirous of buying goods of a certain man who is a member of our Fraternity, we shall do so because he sells what we want, and his goods are of excellent quality: or because we believe him to be a worthy and enterprising tradesman, and we are anxious to do him a good turn; but we should never dream of buying his shirts, or his butter and cheese, or his groceries, or whatever he may have to sell, because he happens to be a Mason. It is a prostitution of Masonry to emblazon one's business premises with the signs and symbols of our mystic brotherhood. The glass of ale is not fresher or clearer, the Ban-

bury cake or biscuit are not less ancient, because they are sold where the sign of the square and compasses is described all over the house, both inside and out. We detest this system of advertising one's business, and if we ever feel hungry or athirst when out for a stroll, we cautiously avoid all those houses where the Mason's symbols are displayed. Let us keep our Freemasonry apart. Let us obey its injunctions, as well and as cheerfully as we can, but let us have no trading upon it. We should like to believe that all Masons are right worthy fellows. Unfortunately, we are wholly unable to lay the flattering unction to our soul that we are anything like as good as we seem. At all events, there are those among us who are determined that their vices shall be proclaimed to all the world.

MASONIC PORTRAITS. (No. 46.)

A MASTER OF CEREMONIAL.

"Say, ye who best can tell, ye happy few,
Who see him in the softest lights of life,
All unwithheld, indulging to his friends
The vast unborrowed treasures of his mind,
Oh, speak the wondrous man! how mild, how calm,
How greatly humble
How firmly established on eternal truth;
Fervent in doing well, with every nerve
Still pressing on, forgetful of the past,
And panting for perfection."

THERE is an old saying to the effect that what is worth doing at all, is worth doing well. Many people are apt to think lightly of this maxim. They fancy, if the end is achieved, the means adopted is comparatively immaterial. It does not occur to them that a slovenly, perfunctory kind of treatment is likely to bring about slovenly and imperfect results. If a man is methodical in his business, carefully arranging the various details in their proper order of sequence, if he makes a point of providing all the requisite appliances, so that when needed they may be at hand for immediate use, he is certain to accomplish his undertaking speedily and completely. On the other hand, if he is careless in his arrangements, neglectful in making the necessary preparations, and, generally speaking, indifferent how he gets through his work, provided he does accomplish it at length, he falls in the esteem of his fellows. If of two men engaged in the same business it is impossible for one to take too much pains, while the other gets through his task in a slipshod, anyhow-nohow fashion, the services of the former will be accepted in preference to those of the latter. People may smile at the methodist—we do not mean the member of the religious sect so-called, but the man who works systematically—at his exact apportionment of the duties assigned to him, and the minute care he bestows on all he undertakes, but while they smile they prefer him to the careless and indifferent workman. They know the value of having a thing well done when it must be done. And the maxim we started with is generally applicable. Let a man be engaged in official duties and he must be exact in all he does, and scrupulously mindful of every detail. If he is engaged in commerce or in manufactures, the neglect of the merest trifle may cause him trouble, derange the whole order of duty, and even involve a serious loss.

The brother whose career we are about to sketch is one who has earned for himself a great reputation for his strict attention to detail. We do not say he is one of those painfully exact people who are entirely absorbed in the minutiae of business, giving to each in turn their strict and undivided attention, and approaching the completion of a simple task when every one else has long since accomplished it. On the contrary, we know him to be one who can take a broad and comprehensive view of his work, who can regulate and apportion its several divisions and subdivisions, who infuses a part of his own energy into others, and is prompt as he is careful and methodical in all his labours. He is known in private life for his firmness, as well as for his kindness; in business for the resolute and exact fulfilment of his duties, as well as for the skill and ability with which he directs or executes them. He is connected with one of those large firms whose existence is necessary to the manufactures of his native county. The wealth and enterprise of Lancashire are household words, not in England only, but throughout the world; but much

as it is indebted to its manufacture of cotton, its cities and towns would be able to produce much less, and would exercise therefore a far inferior influence in the concerns of this kingdom, were it not for those magnificent workshops in which the machinery necessary to the productions of these manufactures is constructed. It may be the natural bent of his mind has inclined him to study the mysteries of mechanical art, or that the nature of his calling has induced a machine-like regularity and perfection in the operations of his mind. Be this as it may, there is obviously a consistency between the mind and the occupation of our distinguished brother.

His Masonic career has been a long and brilliant one. He was initiated into Freemasonry in the month of January 1856, in the St. John's Lodge, Bolton. The year following he was rewarded by the Master for his regularity and the strict attention he paid to his duties by being appointed to the office of Junior Warden. He was promoted to be Senior Warden in 1858, and in 1859 the Lodge conferred upon him the highest honour in its power to bestow, and our Master of Ceremonial became W.M. On retiring from this exalted position, a Past Master's jewel was presented to him in token of his highly-valued services, and subsequently he had the honour of receiving at the hands of the then Provincial Grand Master the appointment of Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works for East Lancashire. As regards Capitular Masonry, we find he was exalted in 1857 in the Royal Arch Chapter connected with his Mother Lodge, and served the various offices up to that of Z. inclusive. In 1872 he joined the Chapter of Concord, No. 37, and is likewise a Past Provincial Grand Scribe N. He was advanced to the degree of Mark Master in 1856, under the old regulations, and was nominated Senior Warden the year following, in the St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Scotch Constitutions. In 1858 he was chosen Master. On the erection of Lancashire into a Province, under the Grand Chapter of Scotland, our worthy brother received his patent as P.G.M., and served the office most assiduously and to the entire satisfaction of the brethren, till the union of the rival Mark Provincial Grand Lodges, when he retired in favour of the late Bro. W. Romaine Callender M.P., who thus became the first Grand Master of the United Provincial Grand Lodge. In recognition of his services in the chair, he had conceded to him by the then Grand Mark Master Mason, Bro. the Rev. G. Raymond Portal, the rank of a Past Provincial Grand Master in the Mark Grand Lodge of England and Wales. Very early in his career he joined the A. and A. Rite, being perfected in the Palatine Chapter of Rose Croix 18°, then held periodically at Bolton. He was subsequently one of the founders, and second M.W.S. of the St. Peter's Chapter; and on completing his term of office was presented with a jewel. He is accepted for the 30°. He is a member of the Order of St. Lawrence, and a Past N. of the Mount Ararat Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners. In the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, he is one of the founders of St. George's Conclave, No. 42, and a P.S. He is a Past Grand Junior Warden of Lancashire and Cheshire in the Royal Order of Scotland, and one of the founders and Deputy Master Nominate of St. John's Council of Royal and Select Masters. In the Rosicrucian Society he ranks as VIII°, and is now Chief Adept of the Lancashire College, in succession to Bro. C. F. Matier IX°, while to conclude the list of his present honours, he is Preceptor of the St. James of Jerusalem Preceptory, No. 33, of the United, Religious, and Military Orders of the Temple, and St. John of Jerusalem, &c., &c. During the whole of his connexion with our Society, and the different bodies which have sprung from it, it has been the chief care of our brother, not only to carry out most strictly the several rituals and ceremonies belonging to them, but likewise to enforce on others the same strict observance of and adherence to them. Thus he has justly earned for himself the right to be looked up to, not only as a most rigid disciplinarian, but likewise as a perfectly safe guide in all that relates to the forms and ceremonies of Freemasonry. This alone would entitle him to the respect of his brethren, but his labours have not been confined to this sphere of usefulness only. He is a Life Governor of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He has served five Stewardships at different Festivals, and the Charity jewel he wears in commemoration of these services was presented to him by his Lodge.

Such a record as the above is worthy of the highest com-

mentation. It is an evidence that men who are so minded, who have energy and resolution to back them up, are capable of doing successfully, not one, but many things. He whose days are fully occupied in the laborious pursuits of business, who has many and serious demands upon his leisure time for his Masonic duties, and yet is not unmindful of the claims of family and friends upon him, is one who must know full well the value of time. He must methodise his duties, so that these do not clash with those, or this engagement be confounded with that. He must be a master of details or he would not be able to dovetail them so as to fit exactly one with the other. There is here no waste of superfluous energy, for the simple reason there is none to waste. There is an appointed hour for everything—for business, for Masonic pursuits, and for pleasure. It is for this reason that our respected Brother is always calm and collected. His movements are never flurried as are those of men whose duties are fulfilled at odd times. There is, if we may be permitted to say so, a solidity and determination about the man which commands success. May he, in the maturity of life, continue to enjoy the same degree of prosperity which has befallen him hitherto! That he will ever command the respect and friendship of all who know him; that he will exercise the same genial influence in his domestic circle; that he will continue, so long as he has health and strength, to render the same valuable assistance in the Lodge and Chapter, Conclave and Preceptory, in the future as in the past—that he will do all this, we are fully justified in believing. We judge men by their antecedents; and when we know that a man has earned for himself a worthy reputation, by a long course of zeal and energy, by a uniform display of ability in whatever he has undertaken, we anticipate that his future career will be as productive of well-merited distinction as his past. We say to him, in the words of our grandest poet, "Know of me then (for now I speak to some purpose,) that I know you are a gentleman of good conceit; I speak not this, that you should bear a good opinion of my knowledge, inasmuch, I say, I know you are; neither do I labour for a greater esteem than may in some little measure draw a belief from you, to do yourself good and not to grieve me;" and we ask our worthy Master of Ceremonial to accept our assurance that we respect him too highly to fling at him this or any other empty compliment. Those who know him most intimately know and appreciate the grand simplicity and sterling worth of the man. They are aware that, while he is ambitious of distinction, while he will allow no opportunity of doing good service to pass unprofitably away, he has an innate dislike for mere verbal compliments. We, too, know full well that the worst service one can do for his neighbour is to besmear him with empty praise. Whatever, therefore, may be the merit or demerit of our picture from an artistic point of view, whatever errors of omission or commission we may have been guilty of as regards the facts, there is one thing we have not even dreamt of, much less done; we have said nothing of our respected brother which we do not feel, nor have we uttered a word by way of praise to which, in our judgment, he is not honestly and honorably entitled.

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

(FROM THE PORTSMOUTH TIMES AND NAVAL GAZETTE.)

THE annual Grand Lodge of this Province was held at St. John's Rooms, Winchester, on Tuesday, when, despite the unfavourable state of the weather, there was a numerous attendance of brethren. The Lodge was opened shortly after two o'clock by the Prov. G.M., the Right Worshipful Bro. W. W. Beach M.P., who was supported by Bro. Major General Brownrigg, C.B., P.G.M. of Surrey, and the following officers of P.G. Lodge:—Bros. W. Hickman D.P.G.M., H. Abraham S.G.W., F. Pineo J.G.W., Revs. E. W. Watts and F. W. Thoyts Grand Chaplains, E. G. Holbrook Grand Registrar, M. E. Frost Grand Treasurer, J. E. Le Feuvre Grand Secretary, and many other past and present officers, Bro. E. Groves G.A.D.C. officiating as Director of Ceremonies. Among the visitors were:—Bros. F. Binckes Secretary of the Boys' School, F. Davison P.P.G.W. Middlesex, J. Mason 309 P.S.G.D. Middlesex. The Past Provincial Officers present included Bros. Captain Best, R. Eve, H. Ford, J. N. Palmer, G. Wyatt, E. Booth, G. S. Lancaster, J. Naish, J. Wallingford, J. W. Lamb P.P.G. Wardens, Captain J. C. Moore, F. F. Hare, J. Dew, J. R. Weston P.P.G. Registrars, J. T. Craven, J. Lemon, G. Rake, T. Stopher, and T. Weeks P.P.G. Supt. Works, E. Sheppard 76, J. Parkes, A. Richardson, H. Hacker, W. Lowdon P.P.G. Deacons, and many other Past Grand Officers.

Among others who attended from the locality were:—Bros. J. Maltby P.P.G.S.B., G. F. Sherman Past Grand Steward, G. Bond W.M. 487, J. Clay W.M. 804, S. Ellis P.M. 342, F. Court W.M. 257, T. Francis P.M. 804, J. Lintott P.M. 804 Havant, J. Cole P.M. 928 Petersfield, Edgeler P.M. 928, C. B. Whitcomb P.M. 903, G. F. Lancaster P.M. 903, H. W. Townsend W.M. 1428, R. J. Turney P.M. 342, J. R. Johnson P.P.G. Steward, A. L. Emanuel P.M. 1069, R. Osborne J.W. 487 P.P.G. Organist, R. Barber 342 P.P.G.S.B., Rev. G. N. Godwin Chap. 257 and 1428, Valentine Brown J.W. 903, W. Payne S.W. 342, R. W. Mitchell Sec. 903, Wilmott S.D. 342, Arnold J.W. 342, T. P. Palsgrave I.G. 487, C. H. Liddell J.W. 804, J. R. Hayman Sec. 257, F. White, Outridge, W. E. Atkins, C. Daniels, J. H. Bridle, G. Dean, all of 487 Portsmouth, H. Kimber I.G. 804, W. D. Parkhouse 342, R. W. Downing 903, Rev. T. W. Johnston 804, &c. The Economy Lodge, No. 76, Winchester, was represented by the W.M., Bro. E. D. Godwin, P.M.'s Bros. J. C. Moore, T. Stopher, E. Snelling, J. Harris, Salter, S. R. Everitt, Col. A. R. Naghten, M.P. for the city, and several other members. The transaction of the business of the Province occupied nearly three hours. The Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts exhibited a very gratifying state of affairs, showing a balance in hand of £258 17s, after investing £210 in New Zealand bonds during the past year. The accounts were received and adopted, also the report of the committee for auditing them. The invested capital of the Province now amounts to £600. Of the balance in hand, propositions to subscribe 100 guineas to the Royal Masonic Boys' School (at the recent annual Festival of which Bro. Beach presided), and additional votes to the other Charities, as well as various other sums, were unanimously agreed to. On the motion of Bro. G. Rake, Portsmouth, seconded by Bro. E. Booth, Southampton, Bro. M. E. Frost was re-elected Treasurer. After the transaction of the remaining business on the agenda paper, the P.G.M. appointed the following brethren officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Harris 76 S.G. Warden, G. Rake 487 J.G. Warden, E. W. Watts 151 and S. Scott 394 Grand Chaplains, W. B. Rogers 195 Grand Registrar, M. E. Frost 1069 Grand Treasurer, J. E. LeFeuvre 130 Grand Secretary, Allée 151 G.S. Deacon, Turner 698 G.J. Deacon, Lintott 804 Grand Supt. of Works, M. Miles G. Director of Ceremonies, S. R. Ellis 342 Assist. G. Director of Ceremonies, Petley 551 G. Sword Bearer, Capt. Dyer 132 Grand Pursuivant, E. Wyatt 35, J. Druitt 195, R. J. Turney 342, Passenger 394, J. Coles 928, and J. Smith 1331 Grand Stewards, Biggs 130 and Exell 487 Grand Tylers. Before the P.G. Lodge closed Bro. Binckes tendered the best thanks of the executive of the Boys' School to Bro. Beach, and their high estimation of the services cheerfully rendered by him on the occasion of the recent Festival of that institution, the most successful ever held in connection with any of the Masonic charities, the sum of £13,570 having been received. Bro. Binckes added that it had been decided to invest another £3,000, and that the committee were authorised to provide for 32 additional sons of Freemasons being admitted. (Applause.) In conclusion he thanked the Deputy P.G.M. and the Province generally for their liberal support of the Schools. Subsequently a banquet took place at the Guildhall, the P.G.M. presiding. About 100 brethren attended, and at the close a few toasts were given. "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master," and "The Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, and Officers of Grand Lodge," were proposed from the chair and enthusiastically received by the company. With the latter Bro. Beach coupled the name of a brother who had served the office of Grand Warden in former years, but who had since been selected, for the great merit he had displayed, to preside over a most important province—of that brother who had done them the honour to be present at the meeting that day—General Brownrigg. (Much cheering.) They greeted his presence with the utmost enthusiasm. They had never had the pleasure of seeing him in the province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight before, but he trusted that his visit would enhance the good understanding which had previously existed and would be comented that day between the Freemasons of Surrey and those of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. General Brownrigg responded, remarking that it was more than 21 years since he had had the honour of being the Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, and Masonry had become so popular in the present day that a small man like himself could hardly expect to attain those very high ranks which existed in the Craft; when they saw the Wardens' chair filled by princes of the blood royal, it was very flattering to the Craft, but exceedingly difficult for others to attain to such high honours (Hear, hear). The principles which had guided their Provincial Grand Master had always been so just and excellent that he had no doubt, in the distribution of the purple, he always took care to give it to those who were worthy of that honour (Applause). He trusted that they would permit him to propose a toast before he sat down—the toast of the evening—that of "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P." (Great cheering.) He had been extremely pleased that day with the visit he had paid them, and he should very much regret if in the future he could not be able to attend the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and he hoped when his convenience would permit to see the Provincial Grand Master of Hants at the Surrey meetings. The Chairman acknowledged the toast. He was happy to say that during the time he had had the pleasure of presiding over them, he had met with nothing but encouragement on all sides, and he was induced by that to think that the Craft had not suffered in any way during that period. (Applause.) They had, in various parts of the province, seen of late new Lodges spring into existence, and they had also seen that Lodges which became dissatisfied with the buildings in which they had previously met had secured new buildings for themselves which did honour to the Craft and their enterprise. (Hear, hear). He should be failing in his duty if he did not offer to the brethren of his Province his most cordial thanks for the way in which they came forward and supported him when called upon to preside over the proceedings in connection with

the Boys' School—a subject which had been already alluded to by Bro. Binckes during the former part of the day's proceedings. He (the Chairman) knew that the brethren had been previously called upon to make great exertions in that cause, and it was hardly to be expected that when they were appealed to by him to support him during the proceedings for the charity, they would again make the sacrifices they did, but when the donations were announced at the festival they elicited the warmest recognition. (Hear, hear). The Right Worshipful brother intimated that the Provincial Lodge would be held next year at Southampton. (Hear, hear). It was nine years since the Provincial Grand Lodge had been held in that town, and not since the year he had the honour of being installed as Provincial Grand Master. He assured the brethren it was his earnest wish, in the distribution of the honours of the Prov. G. Lodge, to reward merit and ability, but it was extremely difficult always to meet the case. He could, however, assure those brethren who had exerted themselves in the cause of Freemasonry that though they appeared to be passed by at the present moment, such would not be the case eventually, for their merits would not be lost sight of, and he trusted that all would endeavour to promote the prosperity of the Craft by all means in their power. (Great cheering). Bro. Stopher (Winchester), submitted the next toast, the D.P.G.M. of the Province, Bro. W. Hickman P.A.G.D.C. of England, and Bro. Hickman suitably replied. Bro. Eve (Aldershot) gave the Visitors, which was acknowledged by Bro. Davison (Province of Middlesex). The Chairman proposed the toast of the Wardens and Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, coupling with it the name of Bro. James Harris, who had rendered great services during the past few years. (Applause.) Bro. Harris, in acknowledging the toast, said it was just fourteen years since he was initiated, and it was also just fourteen years since the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Winchester. Bro. Hickman then gave the Worshipful Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Lodges in the Province, and said that of the twenty-eight Lodges of which the province was composed, twenty-seven were in full working order. Bro. Godwin (Winchester), replied to the toast, and expressed his opinion that much good was done in the province and throughout the world by an interchange of visits between the members of different Lodges. The Masonic Charities was the last toast on the list. It was proposed by the Chairman, who dwelt on the eminent services of Bro. Binckes on behalf of the Charities.

ANNUAL EXCURSION OF LODGE OF SAINT JOHN'S, No. 221, BOLTON.

THE third annual picnic of the members of this Lodge, who on this occasion numbered about 40, with the requisite accompaniment of ladies, took place on Wednesday, the 1st inst. The weather was all that could be desired, the company happily assorted, and the arrangements complete; it only remains to be added that the place of pilgrimage selected was that charming residence, Eaton Hall. The journey by rail to Chester accomplished, a few spare minutes were occupied by "ye ladies" in "ye rows," and by "ye lords" in "ye kite-ten." Luncheon having been served, in Messrs. Bolland's well known style, tracks were made to "the Groves" on "ancient Deva's banks," where a commodious barge, with rowers and a band, were waiting to convey the party a joyous four miles to the palatial hall of the Duke of Westminster. This excursion, so well known to many of our readers, by its time-worn associations, as also by its exceeding beauty and peacefulness, demands no more from us on this occasion than an acknowledgment of the thorough enjoyment, and the remark that the return journey to the City was marked by general sighs of regret. The ancient Church and Priory of St. John, the celebrated walls, and the venerable pile of St. Werburgh were only cursorily examined, from lack of time, which had been so delightfully spent elsewhere. Tea was heartily partaken of, and the party, accommodated with the largest London and North Western saloon carriage, was speeding on its return journey, pleased, delighted, and unitedly disposed to accord to Bros. Stanley W.M., J. W. Taylor D.C. P. Prov. Grand Organist, and J. M. Rutter a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks for their trouble and care in organising and conducting so happy an excursion, which was begun, continued, and completed without a hitch or contretemps.

THE GOD OF MASONRY AND THE GODS OF MYTHOLOGY.

THE first great light in Masonry informs us, that "He that built all things is God." It is from this, and similar passages in the same great light, that we derive our ideas of God as the one great Master Builder, the Grand Architect of the Universe, the Supreme Grand Master—whose works are matchless, whose power is limitless, and from whose decree there is no appeal. To Freemasons God is a unit. He reigns alone, in majesty and glory. He made all things, and governs all things. He has no equal, and no competitor. How different was the current belief ages ago; and yet the Freemasonry of to-day, and the Ancient Mysteries of Greece and other countries, which were the Freemasonry of their day, combatted the vulgar belief, and taught then, as now, the existence and unity of God. We would now consider the man puerile who should profess a belief in a mob of gods—who were indeed only quasi omnipotent men, with much of their weakness and all of their vices; yet such was once the popular faith of not a few nations. Mythology pictures to us this faith, and the early imaginative writers have wrought it into their poems. We propose to consider some of its ludicrous features, once generally credited, but which were always combatted by Masonic teachings.

The traditional home of the Gods was on Mount Olympus, in

Thessaly, a part of ancient Greece, but now in Turkey. At its foot was the famous Vale of Tempe, the most delightful spot on earth, filled with verdant walks, cooling shades, vocal with the warbling of birds, and which the gods often honoured with their presence. Mount Olympus itself was reputed to touch Heaven—in fact, it is less than two miles in height, being 9,700 feet. This mountain, snow-capped, and piercing the clouds, was the reputed home of the family of gods, of whom Jupiter or Jove (as he was termed by the Romans), or Zeus (as named by the Greeks) was chief. Their palace was upon the summit, which was shut out from human view by the clouds that veiled it from the earth; or, according to the belief of others, the gods dwelt in the heavens above Olympus. In the legend of the war of the giants upon the gods, the former are said to have piled the neighbouring mountain of Pelion on Ossa, and both on Olympus, in their ineffectual attempt to scale Heaven.

This inaccessible abode, the ethereal palace of the Grecian gods, did not want for snow with which to cool the nectar that the deities were reputed to drink at their banquets; and when the gods and goddesses grew weary of the icy air, or the Pemblechookian department of the court of Olympian Jove, we are told they descended into the charming and secluded vale of Tempe, near by, and there passed sunny hours with mortal men and maidens.

Homer enthrones Jupiter upon the loftiest pinnacle of many-peaked Olympus, and thus pictures his power among the gods:

"As he spake, the son of Saturn gave
The nod of his dark brows, the ambrosial curls
Upon the Sovereign One's immortal head
Were shaken, and with them the mighty mount
Olympus trembled. Then parted Thetis,
Plunging from bright Olympus to the deep,
And Jove returning to his palace home;
Where all the gods, uprising from their thrones
At sight of the Great Father, waited not
For his approach, but met him as he came."

(BRYANT'S *Iliad*, Book I.)

This reads very pretty, but the family of gods were not always, nor often so happy or so submissive. Jupiter, Neptune and Pluto were all three the potent sons of Saturn, and Jupiter, as the eldest, was reputed chief; but they frequently took different sides in the Trojan war, and even mingled with the warriors in disguise in the fight. Neptune bearded Jupiter on Olympus, and called him the "tyrant of the sky." Pope's *Iliad* tells it thus:

"My court beneath the hoary waves I keep,
And hush the roarings of the sacred deep;
Olympus and this earth in common lie;
What claim has here the tyrant of the sky?
Far in the distant clouds let him control,
And awe the younger brothers of the pole;
There to his children his commands be given;
The trembling, servile second race of heaven."

Pretty sharp language this, for one god to use to another, and not at all fraternal, yet Neptune and Jupiter were brothers.

And not only did these mythological deities often play at cross-purposes, and even openly war with each other by taking opposite sides in the battles of men, even to Juno, the spouse of Jupiter, and Queen of Heaven, but sometimes the chief of them, Jupiter, would be asleep, when prayed to, and would not awake; and at other times he would be absent from Olympus. Thus we learn that once the king of the gods had gone out to dinner, or rather to a grand succession of banquets, covering twelve days, to which he had been invited by the "blameless Ethiopians" (the author of "Daniel Deronda" suggests, that the reason why they were "blameless" was that they lived so far away that they had no neighbours to find fault with them).

The supremacy of Jupiter, Thunderer that he was, was more nominal than real, and he had often to fight for it by a war of words, if not deeds. And the pleasures of the entire company of gods were no higher than those of men—consisting of the feast, the wine cup, music, song, dissipation and intrigue. Jupiter and his queen, Juno, wrangled as might the most unequally matched earthly couple, and he was eminently unfaithful to her. Epithets of quarrel and abuse were household words with them. Jupiter even looked calmly on when the members of his court and family were contending, the one against the other, in the conflicts of the Greeks and Trojans:—

"Jove, as his sport, the dreadful scene describes,
And views contending gods with careless eyes."

It is fortunate for mankind that the worship of Jupiter has ceased from the earth, for there could scarcely be a more corrupting one. He who had numerous mistresses and more numerous children, who was the father of a countless throng, including the Fates, the Muses and the Graces, was not fit to be a nation's god. He assumed protean shapes to gratify his passions, and yet his worship was at one time almost universal. He was the Ammon of the Africans, the Belus of Babylon, the Osiris of Egypt, the Zeus of Greece, and the Jupiter of Rome. Yet he was but the nominal head of a crowd of gods, no one of whom was a real deity. The poet has stated the truth pointedly and prettily in these lines:

"In Pæstum's ancient fanes I trod,
And mused on those strange men of old,
Whose dark religion could infold,
So many gods, and yet no God!"

The faith of Freemasonry in the existence and unity of God cannot but win the approbation even of its enemies. Its God is, in the language of the Bible, "He that built all things." Its Great Light is the Book of the Law, which God has given to man for his instructor and guide. It looks forward hopefully to the great hereafter, when its cardinal doctrine of the immortality of the soul shall be practically demonstrated to be the truth of God. Such is Freemasonry. Such is the false mythology that it has supplanted. Who would not be proud of the ancient brotherhood?—*Keystone*.

REVIEWS.

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

—:o:—

Tales, Poems, and Masonic Papers. By Emra Holmes. With a Biographical Sketch of the author, by George Markham Tweddell, Fellow of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, Copenhagen; Corresponding Member of the Royal Historical Society, London, &c. Stokesley: Tweddell and Sons. J. Gould, Printer, Middlesborough. 1877.

It may be our misfortune or our fault—this is a point we must ask our readers to determine for themselves—but we confess we have never, till we received this volume, had an opportunity of reading any of Bro. Holmes's contributions to the London or Provincial press. It is very possible the papers of which Bro. Tweddell speaks so highly have escaped our notice, but we certainly had no knowledge of his qualifications as a writer. We know him by repute as a brother, we had heard of his occasionally lecturing in the Provinces, and we had reason to believe that he was employed in the Civil Service of the Crown; but this was the limit of our knowledge. Now that we have read Bro. Tweddell's biographical sketch of the author of these Tales, Poems, and Papers, this defect of ours has been made good, and we feel ourselves in a position to judge of the reality of Bro. Holmes's claims to rank among the *literati* of the day. However, before entering on this portion of our task, we shall briefly consider the manner in which Bro. Tweddell has fulfilled his duty as a biographer. This duty was far from being an easy one, and must have severely taxed the ingenuity of Bro. Tweddell. The materials at his disposal were of the scantiest. George Holmes, the grandfather, was born in Ireland, but owing to the health of his wife, and the unsettled state of the country, he migrated to England, and lived, in the first instance, at Bristol, and afterwards, on his wife's death, in London. He published a volume of *Sketches in some of the Southern Counties of Ireland, collected during a Tour in the Autumn 1797, in a series of Letters, which was illustrated from his own pencil.* In 1803, Marcus H. Holmes, the father, was born, and having received his education at the Bristol Grammar School, became in time a student of the Royal Academy, under Fuseli, and carried off the Silver Medal for Still Life. In 1833 he married one of the daughters of a clergyman named Emra. This lady, who was the mother of the subject of Bro. Tweddell's sketch, had literary tastes, and contributed to some of the magazines of the day, many of her papers being published in book form. Bro. E. Holmes was born in 1839, and, some time after his mother's death, he obtained a presentation to Christ's Hospital. On completing the usual course of study at Hertford and London, he was sent for a further period of two or three years to the Grammar School at Shepton Mallet. In 1857, he obtained a Clerkship in the Customs at Liverpool, and is now a Collector at Fowey in Cornwall. His leisure hours he seems to devote to literary pursuits and lecturing. We are further told that he is an amateur comic singer and a mimic. He was initiated into Freemasonry in 1861, but Bro. Tweddell proposes to reserve the details of his Masonic career for that Second Series of Tales and Sketches which it is promised shall make their appearance at some future time. These, then, are the leading points which Bro. Tweddell has knit together in his Biographical Sketch, extending over some twelve or thirteen pages. We think he has fulfilled his duty in a highly praiseworthy manner. It is certainly not his fault that the materials at his disposal were so scanty. Indeed, we can conceive of no more trying task than to write at length of one who has done little, if anything, to merit distinction as a writer. We are confident that Bro. Holmes is highly and deservedly respected and admired within the immediate circle of his friends, but, as the tenour of our further remarks will show, we do not consider he has the slightest claim to be regarded as a literary man. Pass we now to the "Tales, Poems, and Masonic Papers" themselves.

The tales are five in number, some of them being love stories, of the class we are accustomed to look for in the inferior penny weekly publications—the kind of story of which it is difficult to say whether the incidents are more ridiculous or the burlesque on real life the more offensive—while in others, mesmeric influences and *clairvoyance* are introduced. The first is entitled the Lady Muriel, and is supposed to be told by a Mr. Beverley, who, when visiting Paris, meets with a Mr. Falconbridge, a gentleman staying at the same hotel. They are thrown pretty much together, and, on the strength of a three weeks' acquaintance thus formed, and an invitation from Falconbridge, Beverley pays the latter a visit at Ipswich. He has hardly been under his host's roof more than a few hours before his curiosity is aroused, and he begins, with a snobbishness which it is scarcely possible to realise, to question his entertainer as to his early career, and the cause of his melancholy, simply because he thinks that he "might do him some good," that he "could better enter into his feelings and sympathise with him," and that he "could be more companionable if he were told his history." We presume, there are persons in the world—retired military officers and others—who are ready, at a minute's provocation, to pour out their griefs to any casual acquaintance they may have met at a Parisian hotel. We presume there are snobs like this fellow Beverley, for Bro. Holmes has introduced them into this tale, and Bro. Holmes, we are given to understand, is the writer of many promising contributions to the provincial and London press. But with all due respect to our worthy Brother, we cannot think this kind of people are met with in decent society, and the people who figure in this story are presumably of that class. This is bad enough, but in Falconbridge's story of his earlier life the violence to common sense is still more remarkable. We are calmly invited to witness the attempted abduction of a young lady from the home of her father, who is dean of the cathedral in a Hampshire city, by an officer of the regiment quartered there. The officer, who is drunk, has two confederates, of whom one is a cabman. The attempt is, of

course, frustrated by the instrumentality of Falconbridge, but to introduce any such incident as this, as having happened in Hampshire in the year 1850, is a crime against decency without a single palliatory circumstance to excuse it. It is as clumsily described as it is improbable, for even a drunken Irish officer would hardly find two men to aid him in carrying off a dean's daughter, at midnight, in a common fly. However, the upshot of this adventure is, that the Lady Muriel jilts Falconbridge and marries Mandeville, the officer who had thought of carrying her off, and had broken his arm in attempting to do so, and who dies a few years after succeeding to the earldom of Kilpatrick, leaving his widow soon about to become a mother. As the child, when born, proves to be a girl, the title and estates pass to a distant cousin of her late husband's, and Falconbridge appears once more on the scene, provides the Countess with funds enough to support her comfortably, and on her death, a few years later, establishes himself as the guardian of the young child, the little Lady Muriel.

The second tale, "Gerard Montagu," is a sequel to the first. The Lady Muriel has grown to be a girl of sixteen. Gerard Montagu, a corn dealer in the north, travels south, and makes her acquaintance, falling in love with her at first sight. However, their marriage is not to be. The Lady Muriel, whose existence had been ignored by her proud and distant relatives, the Earl and Countess of Kilpatrick, is invited to visit the latter, and in the result she becomes engaged to marry the Earl's eldest son and heir, Lord Chelmondiston. This is the best written of the five. In the next two are introduced mesmerism and clairvoyance. In order to show the extent to which Bro. Holmes taxes the patience of his readers, we may mention that the incident on which is based the first of these two tales takes place in the night mail from Edinburgh. Ernest Blake is the hero whose name furnishes the title to the story, and he is journeying from the Scottish capital to London in order to spend Christmas with his sisters. His fellow-passengers quit the train at Newcastle, and he is anticipating the pleasure of being alone for the rest of the journey, when a gentleman and a lady enter the compartment. The former, we are told, turns out to be a barrister, and he is described as "tall and commanding in figure, with hair and beard like Hamlet's father, 'a sable silvered,' and with a *tout ensemble* that bespoke high breeding." The young lady is named Annie, and proves to be his daughter. She has "sweet blue eyes and lovely Grecian features, dainty hands and charming figure," but "there was a certain pallor on her cheeks that made me sigh for her, and at times a haggard expression about the face, which spoke of frequent pain, and sometimes agony." As Mr. Ernest Blake is one of those keen-sighted, imperitantly curious persons whom it is a nuisance to travel with, we are not surprised he should say, "I noticed all this in a glance, and it was quite sufficient to interest me in the young lady and her father, and I think we all improved upon acquaintance." At York, Miss Vernon—for the enquiring Blake had already learned the name of his fellow-travellers from the labels on their luggage—complains of neuralgia, and this nuisance of what we must call a hero asks permission to throw her into a magnetic sleep. Mr. Vernon and the daughter consent, and Mr. Blake commences operations, remarking, *en passant*, "it was wonderful how friendly we had become within the last hour or two; but, then, you see, we had been talking all the way down from Newcastle, and had become quite intimate already." As he sits "gazing earnestly and fixedly into Annie's sweet blue eyes"—pretty well for a two hours' acquaintance!—and produces the promised effects, it then occurs to him that Miss Vernon is a fair subject for further experiments, and he succeeds in illustrating her powers of clairvoyance. She proclaims her father Lord Vernon, and declares that the documents necessary to establish his claim to that title are lying at the family solicitors. He then practises a little further, for his own benefit, and learns a little about the future relations between himself and a certain young lady, and having done this permits Miss Vernon to pass the rest of the journey in undisturbed repose. In the sequel Mr. Vernon makes good his title to be Lord Vernon of Wye, while Mr. Blake's suit for the hand of Miss De Courcy, the lady about whom he had consulted the fair clairvoyante, is summarily cut short by her engagement to Captain Vesey. In the fourth tale, which is told on Christmas Day, by Uncle Archdale, the first important incident introduces to us Uncle Archdale, at the time a young lad of eighteen, proposing to a Miss Millicent in a stage coach, the young lady's aunt being seated by her side. The refusal disgusts him, so that he determines on breaking the journey at Reading. But a certain *prévoyance* of evil induces him to take a light trap, for the coachman is drunk and the road dangerous. He arrives in time to prevent a catastrophe, but Milly breaks her arm, and he takes her and her aunt back to the inn at Reading. Here, while the ladies are waiting to be conveyed home, he spends the happiest days of his life, and he finds himself more in love than ever, but Milly is only grateful. Young Archdale in time reaches London and walks the hospitals, residing at a Mrs. Wingrove's in Bloomsbury. Miss Kate Wingrove is held to be a good subject for mesmeric experiments, and the way in which she is made to subserve the purposes of the medical student is most inhuman. Moreover, we are asked to believe that a poor young clairvoyante can be made to haunt, literally to the death, a clergyman in a remote part of the country, who is engaged to be married to Millicent, and whom the vulgar experimenter has never seen. Millicent too dies, and her wraith appears to Archdale at the very moment of her death. To ask people who are sane to imagine it possible that the exercise of a mesmerist's will on the subject of his experiment will drive a third and unknown person into his grave is too atrocious. The last tale, entitled "Hopelessly," is inexpressively vulgar in its tone. Thus, Frank Ashburn calls at his friend Madge Raymond's rooms, but is told by the servant that he is out. "Pretty looking sort of piece of goods, if she were only washed," Frank thinks, as he surveys the servant, who is housemaid, cook, and boots, and scullery maid all in one." But Madge (who is a man, not a woman) is having a most uncomfortable ride of fifty miles on the top of a railway carriage, the result of which is an attack of fever, so it is not

surprising that his friend should not have found him in. This Madge, albeit the nephew of the wealthy town clerk of Morton, is a cad, as the following ejaculations during his unlooked for journey will show. He has nearly slipped in his attempt to reach the top of the carriage—

"By Jove, I was nearly done for, that time. I wonder if I ever shall get home again. Here's a pretty go" our hero ejaculated . . .

"Hollo, here's a tunnel. I suppose I must duck," and down he bends . . .

"Not a tunnel after all, only a viaduct. I needn't have ducked for that, unless to learn the *via*. That's a pun, by the way." . . .

Further on, in passing through a tunnel, he "ducks," but his stick is smashed, and we read—

"Confound it," the young gentleman says, as he observes this, 'got smashed because I stuck it upright in that pepper castor. Let's see what the height of the thing would be beside me. By Jove, only half an inch difference between us. So! I suppose if I had not seen the tunnel, and bobbed down in time, my head would have been smashed. Hang it all, I am getting tired of this lark. I wonder how long it's going to last, and where the dickens I am going to. I'll try what a cigar will do. What a fool I was not to think of that before. Its confoundedly cold.'"

The class of people to which this precious specimen of an Englishman belongs would have been in a state of the most abject terror at their position, instead of uttering all this vulgar bravado. One more excerpt, and we have done with this tale, which is rightly named "Hopelessly," seeing that it is *hopelessly*, irremediably bad. Mr. Madge goes to Killarney to recover his health after the fever consequent on his mad ride. A party of Irish gentlefolk take up their quarters at the same hotel, and Madge writes to his friend Ashburn, *inter alia*, "the Irish ladies are very nice, and May Edwards is the most fascinating little piece of goods I ever met. So much for her. The old fellow"—an Irish baronet of Charles I.'s creation—was very jolly and agreeable." Bro. Holmes must have borrowed his ideas of English and Irish gentlefolk from the loafers who hang about the Customs' wharves. There is but one portion of the tale the truth of which we recognise, and that is where Madge remarks, "I'm no great catch, and our family never were anybody," and a little further on, "We are nobody, you know. I doubt if I ever had a grandfather." Bro. Holmes ought not to have made a hero of a nobody who is so intensely caddish. We have now brought our remarks on the *Tales* to a close, and we shall content ourselves with adding that, if the author's claims to literary distinction rest on such writings as these, he will do well to abandon all further connection with literature, except with periodicals such as "Reynold's Miscellany" and the "Illustrated Police News." It is only necessary he should introduce some blood and thunder, a due proportion of cursing and all kinds of blasphemy, with other equally unsavoury ingredients, and we cannot picture to ourselves a class of writing that would be more acceptable to that class of journal. "Hopelessly, irremediably vulgar" is the verdict we have arrived at as to these stories.

The Poems are harmless in sentiment, and in this respect they have the advantage over the *Tales*, which, as we have shown, are not calculated to promote sentiment. But it is a misnomer to call them Poems. They are, we admit, arranged in verses—the ordinary four line, alternately rhyming, sing-song stanza so familiar to students of Sternhold and Hopkins, and Dr. Watts. They can only be regarded as very ordinary prose in the garb of poetry. Let us quote a stanza or two at random, from "Only a Christmas Rose."

"This little minist'ring angel who trod the path
Of life and of duty in so pure a way,
Shamed me out myself, and thoughts of the aftermath
Came to me, and shall stay by me always."

A little further on, and there occurs the following:—

"Well now she has promised some day that is far away,
If I will wait for her, she will be mine;
But father is old, and him she must still obey,
Till the death angel comes in his own time."

And again—

"Good bye, come and see me once more ere you leave us,
Father will gladly your friendship accept;
And when you come again, oh, do not grieve us':—
My poor little maiden said no more, but wept."

We have no manner of doubt there be some who will regard the poetic effusions in this volume with a certain amount of admiration; but, for all this, we do not think that Tennyson, Swinburne, Morris, and the other poets of the day need have any fear that their laurels will be snatched from them by Bro. Holmes. His half-dozen specimens of versification are unworthy of ranking with an inferior set of school verses. The "Masonic Papers" are still more disappointing. Finding nothing of merit in the "Tales" and "Poems," we naturally looked forward to something worth reading in the Masonic portion of the volume. Surely, thought we, one who has been a Craftsman for sixteen years, and ranks as a 30° man, will know how to deal with a simple Masonic paper or two. But no! The three papers are merely sundry notes on the old Minute Books of British Union Lodge, No. 114, Ipswich, A.D. 1762, but the notes are written so carelessly, there are so many needless digressions, so many repetitions—in short, the papers are written in a style so slovenly, that the interest aroused in us by the events which are noted is lost in the overwhelming sense of regret, that a man who is so utterly ignorant of the duties of a literary analyst should have ventured on such a task. The composition is disjointed, and the comments feeble; in short, even in so simple a matter as describing the contents of certain Minute Books, Bro. Holmes is found wanting. Had he transcribed the contents and said nothing, he would have done better. Then we could have formed a judgment of our own. Now the original notes and the comments are so hopelessly jumbled together that we can make nothing whatever of them.

It pains us to write, as we have written, of one who is, no doubt, a most excellent member of the circle in which he moves; but, as critics, resolved to fulfil our duty honestly, we have no option but to pronounce the Papers and Poems contained in this volume as beneath contempt. We have read the whole, in the hope we might find something we could justly bestow a word of praise upon, but we have found nothing. As the profits of the book are to be devoted to a charitable purpose, we earnestly advise our readers to remit the price of the book—which is only half-a-crown—to the publishers, but we implore them under no circumstance to be silly enough to waste their time in reading it.

The Moonraker. A Story of Australian Life. By Richard Dumble-dore. London: Remington and Co., 5, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. 1877.

WE are not favourably impressed with Mr. Dumble-dore's story. It is faulty in construction. The several chapters during the first portion of the volume have but little to connect them together. The scene lies at Uphill, Baconshire, and the freaks of a young boy, who would have behaved better had he occasionally been punished, form the chief incidents of the story. In due time, he and a well conducted boy named Edward Ford are fitted out for Australia, being consigned to a former inhabitant of the village, a Mr. Cameron, who is living and doing well in the bush. The sequel may well be imagined. Young Ford makes his way in the world, and returns home to soothe the declining years of his mother, while Jemmy Johnson, the unruly boy, falls a victim to his propensity for ill-treating animals, is thrown from his horse against a tree, and killed instantaneously. The pith of the story might have been contained in an eight-page tract, or even the half of one. As it is, it is about the dreariest reading imaginable. As for the connection between the title and the story, we see none whatever. It might have been called Moonshine, or Sunshine, or by another name quite as appropriately. We do not know the cost of the "Moonraker," but we should be sorry to lay out sixpence in purchasing it. Mr. Dumble-dore's attempt at writing must be set down as a signal and complete failure; his book is words, and nothing more.

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.

THE BALLOT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I presume that different Lodges have different modes of procedure in balloting for candidates; but I know of no law, written or unwritten, which could compel a W.M. to exhibit the result of the ballot to the Lodge, for the authority of the Master is absolute. I find, however, in Oliver's *Masonic Jurisprudence* a statement to the effect that a clause was formerly introduced in the bye-laws of Lodges which provided that "when any brother is proposed to become a member, or any person to be made a Mason, if it appear, upon casting up the ballot, that he is rejected, *no member or visiting Brother shall discover, by any means whatever, who those persons were that opposed his election, under the penalty of being forever expelled the Lodge, if a member, and if a visiting Brother, of his being never more admitted as a visitor, or becoming a member; and immediately after a negative passes on any person's being proposed, the Master shall cause this law to be read, that no Brother present may plead ignorance.*" Now it is self-evident that a man cannot divulge what he does not know. As I understand this law, it would be known among those present in the Lodge, at the time of the ballot, who had opposed the election of the candidate, and in such case it would be impossible for the Master to declare the exact reverse of the truth, as in the instances mentioned by "A CONSTANT READER." As to the circumstances stated by your correspondent, and assuming that he has been rightly informed, it is impossible to condemn too strongly the conduct of the W.M. in affirming a *lie*. I think it would be only a matter of strict justice, or rather I consider it is the duty of some member of the Lodge referred to, to bring so flagrant a case of dishonest conduct before the Board of General Purposes. I know nothing, have heard nothing of the matter, except from your correspondent's letter.

I am, dear sir and brother,

Yours fraternally,

STUDENT.

WHICH IS CORRECT?

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Now that we have fairly entered on the dull season, when there is an absolute dearth of Masonic news, and editors of every class of journal are at their wits' end to supply the usual quantum of matter, would it not be as well if the admirable discussions, "Which is Correct?" so well inaugurated some months since by "P.M., P.Z.," were renewed? It is well known that many learned Masonic doctors differ as to the meaning and intent of certain passages in our lectures, and provided the argument is conducted in

such a manner as to veil sufficiently what should remain a mystery to the outer world, it seems to me there is no more suitable medium for the interchange of rival opinions and interpretations than the columns of the CHRONICLE. I shall be happy to take my part in any such discussion, but I do not feel myself strong enough or old enough as a Mason to lead the way. This I leave to some such eminent authority as "P.M., P.Z.," and I hope he will be able to act on the suggestion I am now making. But if his engagements are likely to prevent him just now engaging in such friendly passages of argument, perhaps some other skilled member of our Society will kindly initiate a friendly controversy which will educe opinions from our most learned authorities, and at the same time prove interesting to the general body of your readers. I subscribe myself,

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

BETA.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have no doubt many of my subscribers and intending purchasers are losing patience at the delay in the publication of the Installation Engraving. Permit me the use of your columns to inform them not an hour has been lost in putting in the effects of light and shade, &c., on the plate, on which the engraver has been working incessantly ever since the notice of the last proof appeared in your columns in May last. I have this day received a letter from the engraver, asking me to go to Paris to inspect the last and final proof, preparatory to his handing me over the finished plate. If I find no alteration or retouchings are required, the plate will be in the hands of Messrs. McQueen, the printers, of Tottenham-court-road, by the first week in September, when we shall commence issuing proofs.

I am, dear sir and brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

213 Regent-street,
16th August 1877.

EDWD. J. HARTY.

A RARE FIND.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It may interest Masonic collectors to know that I have by chance got hold of another copy of the very scarce engraving entitled "Procession of the Scald Miserable Masons, 1742." It is a good impression, but has two slight stains on the margin. This print was fully described in your issue No. 5, Vol. I.

Yours faithfully,

W. SPENCER.

23a Great Queen-street,
14th August 1877.

A slight mistake has been unintentionally committed by our contemporary, the *Keystone*. The review of the new edition of "Masonic Minstrelsy," recently published by Messrs. Spencer and Co., appeared in these columns, and not in those of the journal to which it is attributed in the issue of our Philadelphian friend on the 4th instant.

We learn from the same source that the Palestine Commandery, No. 18, of New York City, accompanied by the band of the 71st Regiment, made a pilgrimage to Newport, Rhode Island, on the 24th ult., where they found the fratres of the Washington Commandery, No. 4, of the latter city, awaiting their arrival. Having marched to the residence of the Hon. William Beach Lawrence, they were addressed in eloquent terms by Sir Knight Isaac Lawrence. Governor Von Zandt, who was then introduced to the visitors, acknowledged the compliment paid him in very felicitous terms, and Commander Sir Henry V. Myers, of the Palestine Commandery, also delivered a speech. This part of the programme being concluded, the brethren sat down to a splendid collation, furnished by Mr. Lawrence, Governor Van Zandt occupying one end of the table, and Sir Knight Myers the other. Sir Knight David Stevens was in his place at the head of the Washington Commandery, and there was also present the M.W. Bro. C. R. Cutler, Grand Master of Masons in Rhode Island.

The *Hebrew Leader* announces that the rival branches of the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine held a meeting at Rochester, New York, on the 20th ult., when a Sovereign Grand Imperial Council was united and organised, C. F. Knapp, of Pennsylvania being chosen Sovereign Grand Master, and General Alfred Creigh, also of Pennsylvania, Grand Registrar. The same journal states that it is the practice of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana to issue, on the first of every month, a circular

addressed to all its subordinate Lodges, and furnishing information as to all who have been suspended, expelled, dropped, rejected, or reinstated during the preceding month, by the several Lodges within the jurisdiction.

We note with pleasure that steps are being taken by the Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Gateshead, with a view to forming an "Industry Masonic Hall Company, Limited," so that the Lodge may have its own premises, and be independent of taverns and hotels, when engaged in their Masonic duties. It seems that the Hall, which was the property of the "Gateshead Masonic Hall Company, Limited," has lately been sold to such advantage that it is believed the whole of the original capital will be returned to the shareholders, and that there will also be a considerable surplus to divide among them as interest. A number of the shareholders in the old company have already agreed to transfer the original amount of their shares to the company now in course of formation, while others, who have not felt at liberty to aid the new venture to the full extent of their shares in the old company, have expressed themselves as willing to subscribe for a number of £1 shares. Negotiations are in progress for the purpose of obtaining an eligible site, and upwards of 600 £1 shares are already taken. An influential committee has been temporarily formed, consisting of Bros. D. Sinclair W.M., M. Corbitt and R. Whitfield Senior and Junior Wardens respectively, and several Past Masters and members of the Lodge of Industry, and they express a hope that when the project becomes known, other zealous and influential brethren will allow their names to be added to the committee. We are only too pleased to have an opportunity of giving publicity to so admirable a scheme. It is, of course, out of the question that every Lodge should have its Hall; but where a Lodge feels itself strong enough to incur the expense, it is desirable that one should be erected or purchased, and devoted solely to the purposes of Freemasonry. Our brethren of the Lodge of Industry have our heartiest good wishes for their success.

Now that we are in the height of the Excursion Season, and the Railway Companies have made their usual arrangements for the convenience of the public, we would call attention to one provision of the London and North Western Company, by which people will be enabled to make a nine days' trip to Edinburgh and Glasgow, extending over nine days, commencing from the 21st, and terminating on the 29th inst., both days inclusive. The tariff of fares is very modest, the charge from Euston being fixed at 60s first class, and 30s third class, with an additional sixpence in each case from Broad Street, Dalston, Victoria, Clapham Junction, Battersea, Chelsea, and West Brompton. An opportunity like this for visiting the capital and chief manufacturing and commercial city of Scotland is not often presented, and any who have not made arrangements for a holiday trip will do well to avail themselves of this opportunity.

The report of the Directors of the Freemasons' Hall Company, which was unanimously adopted at the thirteenth annual general meeting, stated that the expectations of the directors, which were expressed at the last meeting, had been fully realised. The able management of Bro. E. Dawkins had resulted, not only in the extension of the business of the Tavern, but had also given unqualified satisfaction to its numerous patrons. There was to the credit of the Company a profit of £640, showing a net increase over the previous year's working of £2,000. The balance was carried over to the profit and loss account of former years. The death of their esteemed colleague, Bro. J. C. Daniel, was announced. He had been connected with the Company since its formation. Mr. C. E. Amos was elected in his stead. Bros. Dumas and C. Lawley C.C. retiring directors offered themselves, and were re-elected. Messrs. H. Chatteris and B. Baker were re-elected auditors.

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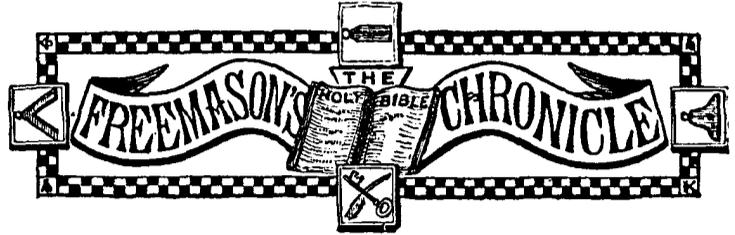
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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

TUESDAY witnessed the close of a Session which will long be memorable in Parliamentary annals, not for the number and quality of the measures passed, not for the magnificent displays of oratory such as have occurred at various times, but for vexatious waste of time caused by two or three obstructive Irish members. Formerly, when men were elected members of Parliament, they considered it their duty to observe the rules and regulations of the assembly to which they belonged. There have been occasions on which the passage of sundry measures has been delayed, but these were in times of great public excitement, and the delays were caused by an Opposition respectable in numbers, and representing the opinions of a large and influential section of the community. For instance, in the old Reform Bill days, party feeling ran high, and the Opposition, which represented a considerable minority, was persistent. The House of Commons sat late, and there were innumerable divisions, the non-Reformers fighting over every clause with dogged obstinacy. But the opposition that has been offered by the Obstructives of this Session is of the most wanton character. It is indisputable that the half-dozen members who constitute this factious clique represent only themselves. They have been sternly rebuked by the leader of the Irish Nationalist party. They have no policy. The measures they have resisted are admittedly measures of great public utility, which ninety-nine hundredths of the nation recognise as being both wise and necessary; yet this miserable clique has been able to almost throw our whole Parliamentary system out of gear, and the country which has always boasted of the excellence of its constitutional government has lately been the laughing-stock of the world. It is this which will make the Session of 1877 memorable in our Parliamentary annals, and we wish it were in our power to say that it is a fact worthy of being commemorated. But to note the events of the few last days of the Session. On Thursday the Lords had a pretty long sitting. The amendments of the Commons to the South Africa Bill were considered and agreed to. The Lords' amendments to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Bill were not insisted upon. The Marquis of Salisbury then moved the second reading of the East India Loan Bill, which will enable the Government to raise a loan of five millions, with the object of meeting certain expenditure principally connected with the famine in that part of our Empire. The second reading was agreed to, and the Bill was afterwards passed through Committee. The Prisons (Scotland) Bill and the Colonial Stock Bill were also read a second time. Lord Beaconsfield having offered a few remarks, showing the policy which the Government have resolved to follow during the Russo-Turkish War, the House adjourned. On Friday, the Commons' amendments to the Metropolitan Street Improvements Bill were agreed to, after some remarks from Viscount Hardinge and two or three other peers. The Fisheries (Dynamite) Bill was read a second time, shortly after which the House rose, and met again on Saturday, at two o'clock, and furthered the progress of different measures. On Monday, the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill was read a second time, and the standing orders being suspended, was passed through its remaining stages. Various subjects, among them the Control of the Metropolitan Police and the efficiency of that body, were discussed. The House met on Tuesday, at two o'clock, when the fourth Session of the present Parliament was brought to a close by Royal Commission, the Lord Commissioners being the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Harrowby, and Lord Skelmersdale. The Commons, headed by the Speaker, having appeared at the Bar of the House in obedience to the summons of Black Rod, the Lord Chancellor read the Queen's Speech, which was much shorter

than usual. Her Majesty having indicated the policy she intends to observe towards Russia and Turkey, and having thanked the Commons for their liberal supplies, briefly noted the principal measures which have become law during the Session, and then bade them farewell for a season, Parliament being formally prorogued till the 30th October.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday, one of the new Rules of the House was enforced for the first time, the offending member being Mr. Whalley. The honourable gentleman having refused to obey the ruling of the chair, the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that he be not heard, and the motion was agreed to unanimously. The Expiring Laws Continuance Bill was read a second time, and so was the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, a long debate on the policy of the country in Central Asia being raised on the latter motion. Mr. Duffy, Lord George Hamilton, the Marquis of Hartington, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, were the principal speakers. The Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill passed through Committee, though opposition was offered and several divisions took place on sundry of the clauses. The Colorado Beetle Bill was brought in and read a first time. On Friday, a letter of apology was read from Sir James Elphinstone, withdrawing an expression he had used with reference to the Irish Obstructives, and expressing regret for having used it. Mr. Monk, having put a question as to whether the temporary occupation of Constantinople by Russian troops would cause a rupture in the friendly relations between this country and Russia, the Chancellor of the Exchequer declined to answer it. Subsequently, on the motion for going into Committee on the Appropriation Bill, after Mr. Callan had called attention to the condition of the agricultural labourers in Ireland, Mr. Monk again rose and re-submitted his question in a more formal manner. Sir D. Wolff and Mr. Forster having interposed with a few remarks, the Chancellor again, and still more emphatically, declined to answer. The Appropriation Bill then passed through Committee, and so did other measures. The Colorado Beetle Bill was read a second time, some time after which the house was counted out. At the sitting on Saturday, on the motion for the third reading of the Appropriation Bill, the action between the Peruvian ironclad, the *Huascar*, and our *Shah* and *Amethyst*, was discussed at some length, Sir W. Harcourt and the Attorney-General being the principal speakers. An unsuccessful attempt was made by Mr. Fawcett to fetter the free action of the Government in the Eastern crisis, after which the remaining business of the Session was despatched. On Monday, there was no meeting, and on Tuesday, after a few questions had been asked and answered, the House was summoned to the Lords' House to hear the Queen's Speech. On returning to the House, the Speaker re-read the Speech, and then, amid general hand-shaking, the members dispersed for the Session. On Monday two new members were returned—namely, Lord Burghley, by a large majority, in place of the late Mr. Ward Hunt, and Sir Bryan O'Loughlen in succession to his late brother, Sir Colman O'Loughlen.

On Friday, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz visited the Queen at Osborne. On Saturday, Her Majesty inspected the ironclad *Thunderer*, being conducted over it by Captain Wilson. On Monday, she held a Council, at which the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Lord Chamberlain, the Right Hon. R. A. Cross, and the Right Hon. G. Selater-Booth were present. The Earl of Coventry, and Mr. W. H. Smith, the new First Lord of the Admiralty, who has been returned again for Westminster without opposition, were sworn in as members of the Privy Council. Subsequently, Mr. Holmes, our Consul at Bosnia, and three officers of the navy were introduced and had the honour of knighthood conferred upon them. On Tuesday, the Queen held a private investiture of the Orders of the Bath and Star of India, when several Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commander of the former, and certain Knights Commander of the latter, received the insignia at the hands of their Sovereign. After the ceremony was over, luncheon was served in a tent upon the lawn, the band of the 19th Regiment playing at intervals during the repast.

On Monday, the Prince of Wales went on board the *Thunderer*, and thoroughly inspected the ship. The guns were fired, and indeed the Prince himself fired a double broadside, the concussion not seriously affecting the monster. The same day the King of Denmark arrived at the Charing-cross Station on a visit to the Princess of Wales

at Marlborough House. Her Royal Highness was in waiting at the station, and was most affectionately greeted by her father on alighting. On Saturday, the Prince and Princess Christian presided at a Forester's *fête* in Windsor Park, and at the end the Princess gave away the prizes to the winners.

The usual Ministerial Whitebait dinner was not held this year, out of respect to the memory of the late lamented Mr. Ward Hunt. For a season, the Cabinet will enjoy a term of repose; but the Premier and Foreign Secretary will not, for the present, leave town, while the other Ministers, though dispersed to various parts of the country, hold themselves in readiness to assemble at short notice. The Hon. Mr. Stanley has succeeded Mr. Smith, as financial Secretary of the Treasury, while the choice of the latter gentleman as successor to Mr. Hunt has been very generally approved. Mr. Smith's knowledge of naval matters may be infinitesimally small, but he is known to be a good man of business. He is not much of a speaker, but he is a capital worker, and no doubt he will preside very effectively over the Navy. It is satisfactory, at all events, to know that we have a good man of business filling so important an office at this critical juncture.

The Commission of Inquiry to whom the Home Secretary delegated the task of overhauling the administration of Christ's Hospital have delivered their report. It reads somewhat tamely, perhaps; nevertheless it is eminently satisfactory in so far as it shows, on the clearest evidence, that the unfortunate boy Gibbs, who committed suicide, was not driven to take that step by the harshness of the authorities or the ill-treatment of his monitor. It is also proved that every change in the government of the school has tended in the direction of mildness, not severity. The system may, in former days, have erred on the side of harshness, but it certainly does not do so now. The average number of boys flogged by the masters is about four or five per annum, and the average flogged by order of the warden, who has charge of the discipline out of school—between six and seven. All floggings are carefully registered, and all canings ought likewise to be so. The Commission recommend that greater powers should be vested in the Head Master. They consider the monitorial system is indispensable under existing circumstances, but in the event of the school being moved into the country, then they think the Masters should look after the discipline as well as the education.

This month will see the close of the Cricket season proper, and the few remaining first class matches are being rapidly disposed of. Surrey has beaten Sussex in one innings, with ninety-two runs to spare, and Gloucestershire has treated Notts similarly, with forty-five runs. This latter match proves that though Mr. W. H. Grace has not done much this season in the way of sensational scoring, he has proved himself an even greater adept than he was before with the ball. In the first innings of Notts he took nine out of the ten wickets, and in the second eight out of the nine that were bowled. In the latter innings he took seven wickets in ten overs and a ball, nine of them being maidens, and one run only being made. Altogether Mr. Grace bowled 76.1 overs, 36 maidens, 89 runs, and seventeen wickets—a feat which is very rarely accomplished against such a team as that of Notts.

The news, both from the Danube and Asia, shows that there has been some sharp fighting, but yet no considerable battle. Suleiman Pasha is slowly, but surely, making his way through the Balkans, in the direction of Tirnova. He is said to have inflicted two defeats on the Russians and their Bulgarian sympathisers, in one case as many as 500 men being killed, to say nothing of the wounded and missing. Rustchuk has been bombarded by the Russians, and Guirgevo by the Turks. Kustendjie has been abandoned by the Russians and re-occupied by the Turks, but, generally speaking, the position may be regarded as one of expectancy. The Grand Duke Nicholas is anxiously awaiting the arrival of reinforcements. It is rumoured that he has only about 130,000 troops south of the Danube available for operations, and that no serious movement will be made till another 100,000 have reached him. These are being rapidly pushed forward, at the rate of a few thousand daily, among the reinforcements being the Imperial Guard, some 40,000 strong. The Turks are blamed by many for not attacking the enemy, and so following up the previous advantages they have gained. If Osman Pasha has over 60,000 men, and Mehemet Ali over 80,000, while Suleiman musters some 30,000, the numerical superiority certainly

rests with the Turks, but we presume the Turkish generals know their own business best. They are not strong in officers, and they certainly fight better when on the defensive. All the notions which prevailed at the commencement of the campaign, to the effect that Russia would carry all before her, have proved erroneous. The Danube is crossed, but the Grand Duke seems to be in a quandary. His troops have been thrice most seriously repulsed at Plevna, and the Russophiles may say what they will, but an army of over 200,000 men, as the Russians are said to have been some time since, is not disorganised by the loss of some 8,000 or 10,000. We are inclined to believe that the earlier estimates of the Russian losses in the second battle of Plevna are more correct than the Grand Duke would care to admit. It may be speedily, or there may be a long delay, but some terrible fighting will take place on the Danube sooner or later, and it is by no means certain that victory will fall to the lot of the Russians. As regards Asia, Moukhtar Pasha continues to hold his advanced position, but a Russian force is said to be advancing towards Kars, so that we shall probably hear of more slaughter in this direction likewise. What further fighting is done this year, however, must be done speedily, as campaigning in Armenia when the snow is on the ground is out of the question. The political aspect of the war remains almost unchanged. There are many rumours as to the conduct of Servia, as to whether she will be mad enough to rush into war again or stay her hand, and do her best to recover from her defeat of last year. Doubts exist as to what Austria may do in the event of Russia marching her troops into Servia, or of this little principality arming; while this country is quietly strengthening its Mediterranean fleet in the event of any difficulties happening. The Agincourt is probably by this time in Besika Bay, and other big monsters are being fitted out, so that we can await the future with calmness. We have had our interests defined, and we do not mean to abandon them, if occasion should arise for asserting them against any power or powers in the world.

The General Committee of the Grand Lodge will meet at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday next, the 22nd inst., at six o'clock. The Lodge of Benevolence will also assemble.

The next Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge will be holden at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 5th of September.

The members of the Grand Officers Mess will dine together at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 5th day of September, at five o'clock punctually.

A Warrant has been granted by the M.W. the Grand Master for a new Lodge to be entitled the "Evening Star." It is intended that the members of this Lodge shall be Directors, Secretaries, Engineers or Managers of Gas Works, and all who join must be directly or indirectly connected with Gas Companies. The meetings will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, and from the names of those who are associated as the founders we anticipate a course of prosperity for the new Lodge. The consecration, we believe, is fixed for the 28th inst.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon will be held at the Guildhall, Devonport, on Wednesday next, the 22nd inst.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex will be held on the 18th of September, at the Royal Pavilion, under the presidency of Bro. Sir W. Burrell. The newly installed R.W. Provincial G.M. will be assisted by the D.P.G.M., Bro. J. Scott, and Bro. Freeman P.G. Secretary.

Bro. J. Edward Curteis P.M. 189, Provincial Senior Grand Warden, Devon, has been elected Clerk to the East Stonehouse Local Board of Health.

The members of the Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction will in future meet at the Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. The time for opening Lodge, as heretofore, will be 7 p.m. each Tuesday evening. Bro. Wallington will continue to act as Preceptor, and Bro. Worsley as Secretary.

Old Warrants.

—:o:—

WE must again appeal to our brethren to help forward the publication of OLD WARRANTS.

We are deeply indebted to those who have kindly complied with our former requests, and trust that those who have not had the time or opportunity to oblige us, will do so at their earliest convenience. In such case, they will have the satisfaction of knowing they are assisting in the completion of a most important task—a task which, if we are happily able to complete it, will do more than anything that has been done of late years to perfect the History of Freemasonry; so far, at least, as the ANCIENTS are concerned.

This portion of our annals has been sadly neglected by Masonic historians, and our humble purpose is to supply, as far as lies in our power, what they have omitted.

Members of what were once *Ancient* Lodges will kindly bear in mind, that though their Warrants may be well worn, and in parts illegible, even the DATES of the original grant and confirmation, as well as of their registration in the books of the *Ancient Grand Lodge*, will suffice for our purpose, if transcripts of the whole be out of the question; inasmuch as in all Warrants the body of the narrative, so to speak, does not vary to any appreciable extent.

In fine, we feel assured that if our brethren will only give the matter a thought, they will recognise the importance of the work we have undertaken; they will not be divulging any secrets, any at least which the world may not be safely entrusted with.

We have already alluded to the importance of obtaining authentic transcripts of these Warrants. We are, therefore, anxious to impress upon the brethren how desirable it is they should assist us; nor can we furnish a better illustration of what we say than by pointing out that when copies of all *Ancient* Warrants still in force have been supplied, we shall be in a position to furnish Grand Lodge authorities with the dates of Constitution of those Lodges now omitted from the last issue of Grand Lodge Calendar, published by Bro. Walter Spencer.

JOHN CONSTABLE.

13 Sise-lane, August 1877.

No. 82.

No. 303, "Ancients;" No. 386 A.D. 1814, No. 268 A.D. 1832, and No. 221 from A.D. 1863.

ATHOLL, GRAND MASTER.

WILLIAM DICKEY, D.G.M.

JOSEPH BROWNE, S.G.W.

GEORGE BOWEN, J.G.W.

To all whom it may concern.

WE, the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince EDWIN, of York, Anno Domini Nine hundred twenty and six, and in the Year of Masonry Four thousand Nine hundred twenty and six), in ample form assembled, viz., The Right Worshipful The Most Honourable Puissant Prince John, Duke, Marquis and Earl of Atholl, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathray and Strathardle, Viscount Ballquidder, Glenalmond and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belveny and Gask, Heritable Constable of the Castle of Kinclaven, Lord of Man and the Isles, and Earl Strange and Baron Murray of Stanley, in the County of Gloucester, &c., &c., GRAND MASTER OF MASONS, The Right Worshipful William Dickey, Esq., Deputy Grand Master, The Right Worshipful Joseph Browne, Esq., Senior Grand Warden, and the Right Worshipful George Bowen, Esq., Junior Grand Warden (with the approbation and consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster), do hereby authorise and empower our Trusty and Well-beloved Brethren, viz., The Worshipful John O'Neal one of our Master Masons, The Worshipful Daniel Cain his Senior Warden, and the Worshipful Hugh Hammons his Junior Warden, to form and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons aforesaid, at the Hand and Banner, Deansgate, Bolton, upon the . . . in every Calendar Month, and No. 303 on all reasonable times and lawful occasions, and in the said Lodge (when duly congregated) to admit and make Freemasons according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known world. And we do hereby further authorise and empower our Trusty and Well-beloved Brethren, John O'Neal, Daniel Cain, and Hugh Hammons (with the consent of the Members of their Lodge) to nominate, chuse, and install their Successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, and invest them with their powers and dignities as Freemasons, &c. And such Successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse, and install their Successors, &c., &c., &c. Such installations to be upon (or near) every St. JOHN'S DAY, during the continuance of

this Lodge, for ever. Providing the above named Brethren, and all their Successors, always pay due respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force nor Virtue.

Given under our Hands and the Seal of our Grand Lodge in London, this 15th day of March, in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred Ninety and Seven, and in the Year of Masonry Four thousand Seven hundred Ninety and Seven.

[SEAL OF THE DUKE OF ATHOLL.] [SEAL OF THE GRAND LODGE.]

ROBERT LESLIE,
Grand Secretary.

NOTE.—This Warrant is Registered }
in the Grand Lodge, Vol. 10, }
Letter K.

The present title, No., &c. are, The St. John's Lodge, No. 221, Bolton.

NOTE.—We have been able to supply much of the text of the foregoing Warrant, which was rendered illegible by damp, and thus have succeeded in presenting to our readers a complete transcript, doubtless as much to the satisfaction of the members of the Lodge as to ourselves.

JOHN CONSTABLE.

No. 83.

No. 147, "Ancients;" No. 179 A.D. 1814, No. 130 A.D. 1832, and No. 113 from A.D. 1863.

AUGUSTUS FREDERICK, G.M.

To all and every our Right Worshipful, Worshipful and Loving Brethren.

Seal.

WE,

PRINCE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK OF BRUNSWICK LUNENBURGH,
(DUKE OF SUSSEX).

Earl of Inverness, Baron of Arklow, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, &c., &c., &c.

GRAND MASTER

Of the most Antient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England.

SEND GREETING.

WHEREAS it appears, by the Records of our Grand Lodge, that a Warrant, bearing date the 17th day of July 1767, was given under the Seal of Masonry, authorising certain Brethren therein named to open and hold a Lodge of Free Masons, at Bridgnorth, in the County of Salop, and which was then No. 147. And whereas, on the 13th of March 1812, the said Warrant was transferred to the Brethren of the Third Regiment of Royal Lancashire Militia, to be held as a Military Lodge in the said Regiment. And whereas, by "the Union" of the said Fraternity of Masons on the 27th of December 1813, the said Lodge became No. 179. And whereas the Brethren composing the said Lodge have, by their memorial, represented to us that they are now residing in, or near, the town of Preston, in the County of Lancaster, and that it would tend to the advantage of the said Lodge, and to the convenience of its individual members, if the said Military Warrant was exchanged for a Civil Warrant, and they have accordingly surrendered up the said Military Warrant. Now Know ye that we, having taken the subject into our serious consideration, and being satisfied with the reasonableness of the request, and from the confidence reposed in the Brethren, do hereby grant this, our Warrant of Confirmation and Consolidation, unto our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Brethren, James Crompton, William Branson, William Grundy, Thomas Pollard, John Isherwood-Aspinall, Thomas Barnes, authorising and empowering them, and their Successors, to assemble and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, at the Old Legs of Man Inn, in the town of Preston aforesaid, under the title and denomination of

No. 179 THE LODGE OF UNANIMITY,

on the first Monday in each month, and at such other times as the said Brethren may appoint and appear necessary, and there, when duly congregated, to initiate, pass, and raise Free Masons, according to the Antient Custom of the Craft in all ages and nations throughout the world. And further, on the petition of the said Brethren, we do appoint the said James Crompton to be the Master, the said William Branson to be the Senior Warden, and the said William Grundy to be the Junior Warden, and who are to continue in office until such time only as another Master be duly elected and installed, and other Wardens duly appointed, in conformity with the Laws of the Grand Lodge, that he may thereby be fully invested with the dignities and powers of his office. The said Lodge to be upon the General Register of Grand Lodge No. 179. And we do require you the said James Crompton, and your Successors, to take especial care that all and every the said brethren are, and 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 said 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, and 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 books to be kept for that purpose, and you are in no wise to omit to send us, or our Successors, Grand Masters, or to our Deputy Grand Master, or to the 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, and Brethren who shall have joined the same, together with the Fees and Monies payable thereon, it being our will and intention that this, our Warrant of Constitution, shall be in force so long only as you shall conform to the Laws and Regulations of our said Grand Lodge, and you, the said James Crompton, are further 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 Hand and Seal of the Grand Lodge at London, the 20th day of August, A.L. 5823, A.D. 1823.

By Command of the M.W.G.M.

J. DOYLE, D.G.M.

William Hy. White } G.S.
Edw^{ds}. Harper }

The present title, No., &c. are, The Lodge of Unanimity, No. 113, Preston.

THE ORDER OF ST. LAWRENCE.

ONE of the most enjoyable gatherings of Freemasons was held on Saturday last, when the members of the London Branch of the Order of St. Lawrence assembled at their quarters, 2 Red Lion-square, and Bro. Walter Spencer was installed W.M. of the Lodge for the ensuing year. Bro. W. Hyde Pullen W.M. presided. There was a very full attendance of officers and members, including, among others, Bros. C. F. Matier P.M., S. Rosenthal J.W., Captain Philips S.D., Dr. Hamilton, John Constable, W. Roebuck, J. L. Thomas, D. M. Dewar, J. W. Macartney, M.P., and Major Shadwell Clerke. The Lodge having been opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, Bros. Colonel Burney, W. A. Barrett, and S. Rawson Past District Grand Master of China, were initiated into the mysteries of the degree. The ceremony of installation was then performed, and Bro. Spencer having been inducted into the chair, appointed the following as his officers for the year, namely, Bros. S. Rosenthal S.W., Captain Philips J.W., Major G. Barlow S.D., Stephen C. Dibden J.D., F. Binckes P.M. Secretary, W. Roebuck P.M. Treas., D. M. Dewar I.G., and J. Constable Steward. Bro. Pullen was then presented with a Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted by the Lodge in token of the eminent services he had rendered during his year of office. Bro. Frederick Davison having been elected a joining member, and Bro. C. F. Matier having delivered an address in exposition of the mysteries of the degree, and the other business of the meeting having been concluded, the Lodge was closed. We regret to say that Bro. Spencer's presence was unavoidably shortened, and that he had to leave the chair as soon as possible after his installation, owing to the very serious illness of his wife, and both in the Lodge and at the banquet, which followed, the expressions of regret were as intense as they were unanimous. The business of the day being thus ended, several of the members set off for King's Cross Station, and took train for the Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, where it had been arranged that the installation banquet should be held. Arrived there, they were joined by a party of ladies, consisting of Mrs. Matier and the four Misses Binckes. In the absence of the Master, the chair was taken by Bro. Hyde Pullen, while Bro. Binckes P.M. supported by Bro. Matier P.M. occupied the Vice-chair. On the removal of the cloth, a select list of toasts was proposed and suitably honoured, those of the Queen and the Prince of Wales, with the other members of the Royal Family, necessarily taking precedence. In proposing the health of the new Master, Bro. Pullen reiterated the regrets which had previously been uttered in the Lodge, at Bro. Spencer's enforced absence, and the circumstances which had caused it. He spoke in the warmest terms of his fitness for the office to which he had that day been appointed, and of the qualities by which during the whole of his long and varied career abroad and at home he had been distinguished. The toast having been duly honoured, that of Bro. Pullen was proposed by Bro. Binckes, and, in doing so, the latter expressed the pleasure it gave him to know that Bro. Pullen's services to the Lodge had been suitably acknowledged that day by the presentation of a Past Master's Jewel. Bro. Pullen expressed his thanks for the terms in which his health had been proposed and the cordial manner in which it had been received, and concluded an effective speech by proposing the health of Bro. Binckes, who had presided as the first W.M. of the Lodge. The other toasts included those of Bro. C. F. Matier and the ladies, the honour of submitting the latter to the notice of the guests being assigned to Bro. Macartney, who discharged the office most admirably. The pleasure of the evening was materially enhanced by a selection of music, three of Bro. Binckes's daughters very kindly tendering their services for the purpose. The several pieces were rendered with exquisite taste and feeling, and the applause with which they were severally greeted showed how highly the efforts of these young ladies were appreciated. After witnessing the grand firework competition between M. Ruggieri and Mr. Henry Brock, the party returned to town delighted with their entertainment,

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, 18th AUGUST.

Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.

MONDAY, 20th AUGUST.

Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.

- 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.)
 1499—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amlhurst-road, Hackney, 7. (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
 331—Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro.
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
 424—Borough, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead.
 588—St. Botolph, Corn-exchange, Sleaford.
 703—Clifton, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.
 1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
 1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
 1168—Benevolence, Town Hall, Sherborne.
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
 1238—Gooch, Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall.
 1449—Royal Military, Guildhall Hotel, Canterbury, at 8 p.m. (Instruction.)
 1486—Duncombe, King's Arms Hotel, Kingsbridge, Devon.
 1502—Israel, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
 1564—St. John's, Prince of Wales Tavern, Knaphill, Surrey.
 1575—Clive, Corbet Arms, Market Drayton.
 R. A. 1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.

TUESDAY, 21st AUGUST.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

- 55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)
 860—Dalhousie, Sisters Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 7. (Instruction.)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Rise, S.W.
 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.)
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
 452—Frederick of Unity, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon.
 1006—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd AUGUST.

General Committee Grand Lodge, and of Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.

- 103—Confidence, Whittington Tavern, Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7. (Instruction.)
 212—Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street, E.C.
 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—Pinsbury Park, Pinsbury 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.)
 681—Scarsdale, Masonic Hall, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
 1039—St. John's, George Hotel, Lichfield.
 1119—St. Bede, Mechanic's Institute, Jarrow.
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.

THURSDAY, 23rd AUGUST.

House Committee, Girls' School, at 4.

- 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.)
 1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
 1489—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.)
 214—Hope and Unity, White Hart Hotel, Romford.
 636—De Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth.
 659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth.
 1343—St. John's, King's Arms Hotel, Grays, Essex.
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
 R. A. 431—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields.

FRIDAY, 24th AUGUST.

House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.

- 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 Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

SATURDAY, 25th AUGUST.

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

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

308—Prince George, Station House, Bottoms, Eastwood.

MONDAY.

- 61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
 264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, New-road, Batley.
 802—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.

- 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
 408—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.
 R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Sarrey-street, Sheffield.
 R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury, Yorks.

TUESDAY.

1214—Scarborough, Wilton Arms Hotel, Batley.

WEDNESDAY.

- 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds.
 387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
 910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.
 1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slaithwaite.

THURSDAY.

- 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield.
 337—Candour, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.

FRIDAY.

- 401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaithburn.
 652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
 1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.
 1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield.
 K. T.—De Farnival, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

SATURDAY.

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

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—44—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.

TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.
405—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.

WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.

THURSDAY—392—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Croydon Mark Lodge, No. 198.—This Lodge held an Emergency meeting on Friday, the 10th inst., at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. Present—Bros. George Yaxley P.G.S. and P.Prov. G.M.O. W.M., the V.W. Thomas Meggy P.G.M.O. acting P.M., John Close S.W., T. Poore acting J.W., Legg Prov. G. Std. Bearer M.O., Nichols S.O., Brown J.O., H. A. Pocock Prov. G.I.G. Sec., J. P. Dickens Treas., James Stevens P.G.J.O. acting S.D., S. W. Lambert as J.D., Haynes I.G., Ridge Org. and other members. The regular meeting in July having been adjourned for the purpose of enabling the members to attend the late Provincial Grand Lodge, the business of this evening was made emergent, in the expectation of the attendance of several candidates, but although several are nominated for the ballot, business and country engagements kept all but one away. Bro. Dr. T. R. Adams, of St. Mary's Lodge, was, however, in attendance, and the ballot in his favour being clear, he was advanced with full working ceremony. Nothing further offering, the Lodge was closed, and refreshment followed labour. A most enjoyable evening, enlivened by toast and song, and the performance of duty in aid of charity, passed all too soon, and was brought to a conclusion amidst the clangour of the railway bell, compelling separation until November next.

Royal York Lodge, No. 315.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 7th inst., at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. Bros. S. J. Foat W.M., A. J. Hawkes S.W., C. W. Hudson J.W., Ade Sec., Stride S.D., G. Nash J.D., Chandler I.G., and P.M.'s W. T. Neil I.P.M., C. Sandeman, Eberall, and Stride; Bros. Willard, Gates, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. The business consisted of passing Bro. Anderson. The Lodge was then closed until the 1st Tuesday in September.

William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Friday the 10th of August, at the Feathers Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road, W. Present—Bros. Evans W.M., G. West S.W., J. C. Hayes J.W., Brown Sec., Rudderforth Preceptor, Parsons S.D., Hall J.D., Thompson I.G.; Bros. F. G. Baker P.M., Tribbel, Kennard, Passingham, &c. The Lodge was opened in the 1st degree. The minutes were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, for the first time, with considerable ability and earnestness, Bro. Passingham being the candidate. The Preceptor Bro. Rudderforth worked the first section of the lecture assisted by the brethren, also the second section. Bro. P. M. Baker then worked the third section. Bro. Rudderforth proposed and Bro. Brown seconded, and it was unanimously carried, that Bro. Baker P.M. and P.Z. become an honorary member of this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. J. Passingham was elected a member. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Evans, to be recorded on the minutes, for the able manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the chair. Bro. West was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—Held its usual meeting on Friday, the 10th inst., at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. Present—Bros. Beasley P.M. W.M. and Sec., Kyezor S.W., Gardiner P.M. J.W., Tucker Treasurer, Seward S.D., Costello J.D., Gomm, Newman, and others. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form at 7.50 p.m., after the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, the Lodge was opened to third degree, and resumed in the first, when Bro. Costello was initiated, and Bro. Seward passed to the second degree, with great care and ability, by Bro. Beasley, the W.M., whose immense progress in the duties of the Craft is evidence

of what can be accomplished by unremitting care and application. A vote of thanks was proposed and passed unanimously by the brethren present to Bro. Beasley for the instruction he had afforded them. It was also unanimously agreed that this Lodge of Instruction subscribe to the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, it being recognised as an element of great importance in forwarding the interests of Freemasonry.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—The members of the above Lodge met at the Royal Edward, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at 7 p.m., and thence proceeded to the Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. The party consisted of the Preceptor, Bros. Wallington P.M., Ashburner P.M., Dallas, Allen, Barker, Webster, Johnson, Smith, Defriez, and Weige. It was then resolved to meet in future at the last-named house. The first gathering will take place on Tuesday, 21st inst., at 7 p.m. precisely; Bro. Terry will be invited to work the consecration ceremony, and Bro. Wallington will act as Installing Master; we hope there will be a good attendance. The Lodge room is a very convenient one, and we feel glad that the brethren have found such comfortable quarters. They were compelled to leave their old place of meeting at very short notice, in consequence of the new proprietors requiring the room. Members of the Lodge will please notice the alteration of address.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—Held at Bro. Bolton's, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, on Friday, 10th inst., at 8 p.m. Present—Bros. A. W. Fenner W.M., Cave jun. S.W., Towns- end J.W., Simmonds S.D., Cleverley J.D., Lane I.G., Crouch, Bolton, Campbell, &c. Lodge was opened in due form. Bro. Campbell answered the questions leading to the 2nd degree, and was entrusted. Lodge opened in the 2nd degree, when the ceremony of passing was rehearsed by the W.M., in his usual correct manner. Lodge was resumed to 1st degree, when the W.M. worked the 1st section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Cave was unanimously appointed W.M. for the ensuing meeting. All business being ended, Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned until Friday the 17th inst. at 8 p.m.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, at the Queen's Hotel, York, when there was a large muster of the brethren. The business consisted of an initiation, after which the W.M. appointed Bro. T. Humphries to the office of assistant Secretary. The previous Tuesday having been the anniversary of the Consecration of the Lodge, the previous year, by the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire, the Earl of Zetland, the occasion was celebrated by a supper, at which about twenty-five brethren sat down. The repast, an excellent one, was provided by Bro. H. Churchill, and the W.M. presided. After supper, and the usual Loyal Masonic toasts given, the W.M., in proposing prosperity to the Lodge, alluded to the success which had attended its formation and existence; this had far surpassed the utmost hopes of its projectors, and proved the necessity existing for a second Lodge in York. In giving the health of the newly initiated candidate, Bro. M. Varvile junior, the J.W. said that Bro. Varvill had been ordered to take a voyage to Australia, for the benefit of his health, and he felt sure that the step he had taken that night was a right one, and would be a great social benefit to him during his visit to the Antipodes. Bro. Varvill would convey to the Lodges of our noble colonies the fraternal good wishes of Eboracum 1611, and would find a hearty grip of friendship in every place he visited. The evening was much enlivened by the singing of Bros. J. S. Cumberland, A. T. B. Turner, and T. Humphries; Bro. Banks acted as pianoforte accompanist.

York Mark Lodge (Time Immemorial).—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, at York, when in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. G. Balmford, the chair was ably filled by Bro. Thos. Cooper P.M., the remaining chairs being filled as follows:—Bros. T. B. Whythead S.W., Geo. Simpson as J.W., G. Garbutt Sec., M. Cooper M.O., J. Ward as S.O., A. T. B. Turner as J.O., J. Hollins S.D., J. S. Cumberland J.D., J. Ayre I.G., J. Redfare Tyler. Bro. Bland, Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, balloted for at the last meeting, was duly advanced to the honourable degree of M.M., after which the Senior Warden brought forward two resolutions of which he had given notice. The first was "that a Committee, consisting of the W.M., subscribing Part Masters, and Officers of the Lodge, be appointed to draw up a code of Bye Laws, and report at the next regular meeting;" and the second was "that the number of regular meetings of the Lodge to be held during the year be six instead of four as at present." Both these resolutions were carried. The next business was the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, and the unanimous vote of the Lodge fell upon the S.W., Bro. T. B. Whythead. Bro. Thos. Cooper P.M. was re-elected Treas., and two auditors were appointed; after which the Lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

The Earl of Carnarvon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1642.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Friday, the 10th August, at the Mitre, Golbourn-road, Notting-hill. Present—Bros. M. Spiegel W.M., Poulter S.W., Adkins J.W., Smout jun. Secretary, Penn Treasurer, Smout sen. S.D., Murlis P.M. J.D., Penn I.G., Bro. Savage P.M. Preceptor. Amongst those present were Bros. Lichtwitz, Kelly, Newland, &c. Business—This Lodge of Instruction meets every Friday evening, at 8 o'clock, and is generally well attended, the members of the mother Lodge feel a special pride in being present to instruct their younger brethren, for which purpose Bro. Savage P.M., a very able Preceptor, attends at every meeting. On the present occasion Bro. Spiegel acted as W.M., and rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Kelly being candidate. After opening to the 2nd degree, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, with Bro. Newland as candidate. Bro. Poulter was appointed W.M. for the next meeting.

NELSON, NEW ZEALAND.

MASONIC BALL.

A MASONIC BALL on St. John's Day having evidently become a fixed institution in Nelson, and looked forward to as such, the "Southern Star Lodge," 735 E.C., celebrated that occasion on Thursday night, the spacious Provincial Hall of the "peaceful city" being well filled, with a brilliant and cheerful company of dancers. The rooms were tastefully decorated with Masonic banners and emblems, the music inspiring, and the *coup d'état* of "Regalia," blue and silver, harmonising with the blue and silver uniforms of the officers and members of the Volunteer Artillery Company, who were guests, and the handsome dresses of the ladies, in which also blue was ominently prominent, was exceedingly effective and pleasing. The viands, which adorned the long tables in the Grand Jury Room, were, as usual, of the best, and nothing was wanting to render all pleasant—happy as a Masonic party should be. Bro. Dr. Boor W.M. acted as master of ceremonies, assisted by Bro. W. M. Stanton and Bro. Hooke as stewards,

"And all went merry as a marriage bell," until the light of returning morn closed the gay scene, when the dancers parted, in harmony.

The following, scribbled upon the back of a programme, was picked up in the Provincial Hall the following morning, by one who trod the deserted ball room:—

To—

"Dearest girl of my heart,
This morning we part
To meet in the whirl of the waltz never more;
For this reason, I'm thinking
The new-fangled rinking
In less than three months will have ruined the floor.
"AUTOLYCUS,"
In the Nelson Daily Times.

THE DIGNITY OF LABOUR.

BRO. STANLEY MATTHEWS thus delivered himself in 1850, before an immense audience of Masons; the occasion is probably forgotten by him at the present time, but we hope not:—

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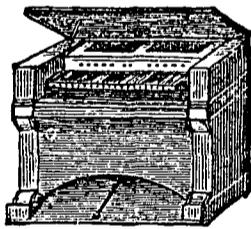
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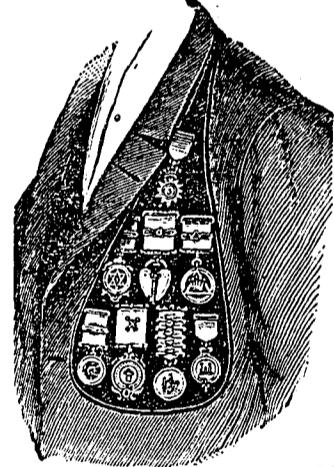
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