

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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THE APPROACHING ELECTIONS.

ON Saturday next, will be held the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School, and three vacancies will be filled up from an approved list of twenty-nine candidates. The Monday following, namely, the 14th instant, will be held the Quarterly Court of the Boys' School, and eleven vacancies will be filled from an approved list of sixty-seven candidates. Let us, as is our custom on these occasions, furnish a few particulars as to the candidature of the different applicants. And firstly, as to those who are about to compete for the three vacancies in the Girls' School. We have said there are twenty-nine candidates, all but five of whom are applicants for the first time. One of them has made five previous but unsuccessful attempts, to enter the School, and has 508 to the good towards this election. Numbers 2 and 3 have been candidates at three previous elections, and have 723 and 724 votes respectively to the good, this being also the last chance in No. 2's case. Nos. 4 and 5 were candidates at the April election, and then polled 622 and 577 votes respectively. Thus all the old candidates have a fair number of votes standing to their credit,—an advantage of great moment at an election where the proportion of applicants to vacancies is only a little short of ten to one. Of the new candidates No. 16 has this only chance of success. She will be eleven in January next, and ineligible on that account, under Law 52. Five candidates have both parents living—the father of one, however, being insane; three have lost both, while one has a step-mother only, and the other twenty are fatherless. In the case of six of the Girls the father was subscriber or Steward to one or more of the Charities. The father of No. 15, who is still alive, has been a subscribing member to his Lodge for 32½ years, the father of No. 1 died while the second year of his subscription was still unexpired. These are the maximum and minimum periods respectively of subscription, all the other twenty-seven ranging between them. Eight of the candidates hail from London, twenty-one from the Provinces or Districts abroad. Of these twenty-one, W. Yorkshire sends up no less than three, and Monmouthshire two, while Bristol, Hants and I. of W., Essex, Somerset, Cambridgeshire, Calcutta, Durham, Wilts, Warwickshire, Kent, Gloucestershire, South Wales, West Lancashire, Devonshire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire North and East send up one each. Four of the candidates have each a sister in the Institution already, and one of these a brother in the Boys' School as well, two have each a sister in the School already, and two have each a brother in the Boys' School.

For the Boys' School there are eleven vacancies and sixty-seven approved candidates, or rather more than six of the latter for each one of the former. Of the forty who have stood previously, Nos. 1 and 2 have tried at six previous elections, and if they fail this time they will have their names removed in accordance with the requirements of Law 52. They have 564 and 634 votes respectively to the good. No. 3 has been a candidate five times already, and has 27 votes to his credit. Nos. 4 to 8 both inclusive have tried four times, and this will be the last chance of No. 5. The votes to their respective credits range from 689 in the case of No. 6, to 10 in the case of No. 4. The next four in order have been applicants thrice already, and No. 11 has this single chance of success remaining to him. Their several votes range from 278 recorded for No. 12, to 10 recorded for No. 9. The seven next in order have tried twice before, and No. 18 must win this time or his chance is gone for ever. The votes already cast range

from 323 to the credit of No. 16, to 3 for No. 15. The remaining twenty-one of the forty were candidates last April, and in the case of Nos. 24, 32 and 38, this is their only remaining chance. No. 36 has 849 votes to his credit, No. 27 has 783, No. 33 687, No. 28 602 votes, No. 23 330 votes, and No. 32 489 votes, while five had no votes whatever recorded for them. Of the twenty-seven new candidates, No. 50 has this one and only chance of getting in, so that nine of the whole sixty-seven will have their names erased from the list if they are unsuccessful on this occasion. Three of the boys have had each a brother in the School, two have each a brother in it now, two have each a sister in the Girls' School, and one has two sisters there. Nos. 6, 8, 9, 19, 23, 46 and 58 have both parents alive, but in the case of No. 8, he is paralysed; the mother of No. 9 has been deserted by her husband since 1871, and the fathers of Nos. 46 and 58 are both lunatics. Four have lost both parents, fifty-four are fatherless, one is motherless, and of one no particulars are given under this head, though it is shown that the father died in 1869. In seven cases the father was a supporter of, or had filled the office of Steward for, one or other of our Institutions. The maximum and minimum periods for which the fathers had been subscribing members to one or more Lodges are 25 years in the case of No. 51, and a little over one year in the case of No. 14 respectively. Fourteen candidates hail from London, and one owes a divided allegiance between London and Essex, the other fifty-two coming from the Provinces or districts abroad, namely:—seven from E. Lancashire, five from Lincolnshire, three each from Devonshire, Hants and Isle of Wight, N. Wales and Salop, and West Yorkshire, two each from Essex, Bristol, Warwickshire, Suffolk, Durham, and South Wales West Div., and one each from N. and E. Yorkshire, West Indies, Norfolk, Somersetshire, Monmouthshire, Bengal, Cheshire, South Wales East Div., Northamptonshire and Hunts, Worcestershire, Surrey, Dorsetshire, Nova Scotia, Northumberland, Derbyshire, and Singapore. Such are the leading details respecting the number, distribution, and distinguishing characteristics of the candidates for the approaching elections to our Schools, and the one hope we limit ourselves to expressing is, very naturally, that the most deserving ones may win. It is well likewise to add one remark, namely, the two lists together contain the names of *ninety-six* girls and boys, which the authorities of the two Schools between them have approved as cases deserving of the relief they can afford, and only fourteen, or barely one out of every seven, can receive them. This alone shows how necessary it is the Craft should come forward and liberally support these noble Schools. Let our readers bear in mind that close on *six* out of every seven of these ninety-six must either be wholly disappointed of obtaining the benefits of one or other School, or have their claims postponed till next April.

THE MASONIC DISPUTE IN SCOTLAND.

IT is greatly to be regretted that Masonic differences of any kind should find their way into the columns of a non-Masonic journal, and become the subject of comment or correspondence. The half-dozen letters we published last week from the *Scotsman* will not tend to raise the Craft north of the Tweed in public estimation. Many will quote the well known text to the effect that it is a blessed

thing when brethren dwell together in unity, and will smile the smile of sarcasm when they read these evidences of what must certainly be described as something else than unity. Even a Mason may be pardoned the exhibition of unusual warmth when stoutly defending some cardinal principle of Freemasonry, when, for instance, he is engaged in upholding the ancient landmarks of the Order, or when he is resenting the unwarranted, because unjust, attacks on them which are occasionally made by the bigot or the scoffer. In such case a defence couched in stronger terms than are ordinarily employed in argument is excusable; nay, we should not think much of him who did not so indulge himself, as the lack of warmth might be considered as betokening a state of indifference to the fair fame of the Craft. But for brethren of position to have been betrayed into a most unseemly squabble over a matter of comparative unimportance is pitiful indeed, and, as we have said, will not tend to enhance the reputation of Freemasons in the opinion of the general public. We claim, and by the outside world are assumed, to be a body of men united together by the most fraternal feelings. One of our watchwords is "Charity," which we use, not simply in the sense of almsgiving, but in that infinitely wider and more extended sense in which it is used by one of the sacred writers of the earliest Christian era; yet a simple statement, which, whether it were right or wrong, was of little moment, has sufficed to set the whole body of Scottish Freemasons by the ears. What makes it worse still is that the Grand Master Mason of Scotland is himself in great measure responsible for this unseemly discussion having taken place. Having seen a statement in the *Scotsman* to the effect that Bro. Inglis of Torsonce, Depute Grand Master, had declined to be put in nomination, on the ground that the present Grand Master, (Sir M. R. Shaw Stewart) had expressed a wish to retain office for another year, thereupon the Grand Master writes to say that he had not been consulted by Bro. Inglis or his friends, and that he had not expressed any desire for re-election. Still he had latterly been made aware of a very strong wish on the part of a large number of Freemasons, including the most influential in the Craft, that he should retain his office for the present, and for reasons which he believed were as well known to Bro. Inglis as to himself. Now, whether the Grand Master had expressed a wish to be re-elected, or whether a large and influential section of the Craft had memorialised him to retain office for the present, was a matter so entirely immaterial to the outside public, that it was matter for surprise Sir M. Shaw Stewart should have for a single moment entertained the idea of writing to non-Masonic journals about it. It is true the statement he was anxious to rectify appeared in the columns of such a journal; but, in our humble opinion, the proper place for the correction of so trivial a misunderstanding was Grand Lodge itself, when a few words of conversation between the Grand Master and the Depute Grand Master would have set the whole thing at rest. Nor was there any reason in pointing out that Bro. Inglis or his friends had not consulted him (the Grand Master), because there was no absolute reason why he or they should have done so. Bro. Inglis had acted with the greatest courtesy towards his chief, declining to be nominated to the Grand Mastership when he heard—erroneously as it turned out, however—that the latter was desirous of retaining office another year. A brief explanatory statement to Bro. Inglis to this effect, that he (Sir M. Stewart) had not expressed any such desire, would have answered every purpose till the next Communication of Grand Lodge, when further personal explanations would have set the whole matter at rest. But the Grand Master having initiated the discussion in the columns of the *Scotsman*, the Depute Grand Master followed the example of his chief, and wrote a letter to the effect that he was not acquainted with the reasons which had induced a section of the Craft to request the Grand Master to retain office for a further term, that he had declined "the requisition of nearly five hundred members of the Craft from all quarters of Scotland to be put in nomination for the chair solely from a desire to avoid unpleasant and unseemly discussion in Grand Lodge;" but that if the Grand Master was under the impression that his re-election was desired by "those most influential in the Craft," he (Bro. Inglis), was quite willing to abide the result of a scrutiny of their respective requisitions. The challenge in the last clause we have referred to, is not, we regret to say, in accordance with Bro. Inglis's previous and invariable courtesy. It

means simply: Let us try this issue, which of us is the more popular with the Craft, you whose re-election is desired by "those most influential in the Craft," or I who have received a requisition signed by nearly 500 members to be nominated for the chair. Moreover, in italicising the words which are in italics, Bro. Inglis would appear to have cast some doubt on Sir M. Shaw Stewart's statement. In short, the Grand Master made a serious mistake when he sent his letter for publication, and the Depute Grand Master assuredly did not mend matters by replying. Had the matter stopped here, much as we might have regretted the unseemliness of the controversy, we should have contented ourselves with feeling, instead of expressing, our regret, but with one exception, the following letters have made matters still worse. Let the reader note carefully their contents, and he cannot do otherwise than arrive at the conclusion that, while the language in which they are couched may be unobjectionable, the tone which characterises all but that signed "R.W. MASTER" is most decidedly to be deprecated. "R.W. MASTER" thinks with us that there existed other ways and means whereby the Grand Master Mason of Scotland might have made known "to the Craft (who alone have an interest) his sentiments on all subjects relating to its affairs." But even he thinks it worth while to express his opinion that "a change in the occupancy of the Masonic throne would be desirable," thus at once constituting himself an opponent of the Grand Master, if not a partisan of the Depute Grand Master. We regret the publication of controversial letters on a purely Masonic subject in a non-Masonic journal; in the first place, because it is uncalled for, the internal administration of the Craft being a matter of no interest to non-Masons: and in the next, because those who take part in the controversy appear to lay aside those sentiments of charity by which Brethren of the Mystic Tie—presumably living together in unity—are supposed to be animated towards one another.

MEETING OF LANCASHIRE FREE-MASONS.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Western Division of Lancashire was held at the Philharmonic Hall on Wednesday. The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Worshipful Master of England, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the Western Division of Lancashire (the second most extensive province in the United Kingdom) presided, and he was assisted by a large number of past and present Provincial Grand Lodge Officers. Altogether there were over 1,000 brethren present, each wearing full Masonic dress, with his insignia or jewels of office. Bro. Spence W.M. Lodge 32 officiated as W.M. in opening the Craft Lodge in accordance with the ancient rules and customs; Bros. W. J. Chapman I.P.M. 1,609 as P.M., W. W. Iolton 113 as S.W., Jowett 281 as J.W., and R. H. Evans 292 as J.D. The Prov. Grand Lodge having been announced, a procession was formed, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form. The Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. H. S. Alpass) then read the roll of Lodges in the Province, when the responses showed that the whole of the 79, with the exception of two, were represented. The absent Lodges were the Ellesmere, No 730, Chorley, and the Arthur John Brogden, No. 1,715, Grange-Over-Sands. The Provincial Grand Secretary also read the minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge meeting, held at Southport, which were confirmed.

It appeared from the report of the Provincial Grand Treasurer, which was taken as read, that the balances from last year were:—Charity Fund, £308 11s 6d; Prov. Grand Lodge Fund, £369 2s 11d; Fund of Benevolence, £1,637 3s 9d—total, £2,314 18s 2d. The income during the year with these balances amounted to the following sums:—Charity Fund, £472 5s 9d; Prov. Grand Lodge Fund, £719 0s 2d; Fund of Benevolence, £1,962 19s 10d—total £3,154 5s 9d. The disbursements included votes of £200 for the Indian Famine Fund, £100 to the Royal Masonic Educational Benevolent Institution, and £105 to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. The report also showed that up to the last report the sum of £1,829 5s had been paid to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. There had been £1,000 invested in a bond in the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board; £773 8s 1d in the Savings' Bank; and £757 10s 5d in the National Bank of Liverpool. The balances at the end of the financial year were:—Charity Fund, £472 5s 9d; Prov. Grand Lodge Fund, £719 0s 2d; Fund of Benevolence, £1,962 19s 10d—total, £3,154 5s 9d.

On the motion of Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, Bro. J. T. Callow P.M. 673 and 1505—a most assiduous Mason—was unanimously appointed to the office of Provincial Grand Treasurer. Bro. Callow returned thanks. The P.G.M. then proceeded to invest his Officers for the ensuing year: Bros. W. J. A. Baldwin (Balton-in-Farness) P.G.O.W., H. R. Robertson (Liverpool) P.G.J.W., Rev. J. Rees Jenkins 216 P.G. Chaplain, Ralph Robinson 1502 P.G. Reg., F. W. Sergeant 203 P.G.S.D., W. Archer 1086 P.G.J.D., J. E. Jackson 667 P.G.S. of W., J. Welis 580 P.G.D.C., J. Wainwright 613 P.G.A.D.C., E. C. Cooper

484 P.G.S.B., J. Skeaf 216 P.G.O. (reappointed), E. Simpson 281 P.G.P.; J. Bell 1609, Capt. J. Newman 786, R. H. Evans 1393, H. Williams 1262, J. Hayes 249, and Finnie P.G. Stewards.

The Provincial Grand Lodge proceeded to take into consideration a number of applications for relief from the relations of deceased members of the Order of Free and Accepted Masons, the sum of £60 being voted to meet them.

The P.G. Secretary (Bro. Alpass) then said: In making the customary annual report of the Province it affords me much pleasure to state that Masonry continues to make very satisfactory progress, both as regards the number of Lodges and subscribing members. Since our last meeting, Warrants of Constitution have been granted for the Wilbraham Lodge, No. 1713, Walton; the Urmston Lodge, No. 1730, Urmston; the Kirkdale Lodge, No. 1756, Kirkdale; and the Ashton Lodge, No. 1140, has been removed from Cheadle, in the Province of Cheshire, to Withington, near Manchester, in this Province. It is gratifying to report that the Lodges generally are in good working order, and, with one exception, brotherly love and harmony prevail amongst them. At the last election of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the widow of a brother, a Past Provincial Grand Officer, was elected to the benefits of the Fund. There are three children of widows of Freemasons whose mothers are desirous of obtaining their admission into the Masonic Schools in London; but it will be very difficult to ensure their election, in consequence of the few votes held in the Province for these Charities. Brethren should recollect that where a widow is left with a large family dependent upon her, something more than paying for the education of her children should be done for her. She should at least be relieved of the clothing, maintenance, and education of one child, by its being elected into the Schools above referred to. According to the last report of the boys' school, which has reached me, only twenty-seven Lodges in this Province possess votes for the School. And I am reminded by the consideration of this fact that it has become an annual custom with some of the Liverpool Lodges to expend so large a portion of their funds on a pic-nic that they are unable to support the Charities with the liberality we have a right to expect from them, and which, from the great number of their subscribing members, they ought to be able to evince. All the Lodges in the Province have sent in their annual returns and paid the fees due from them. During the past year fifteen dispensations have been issued. At the commencement of this year the Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Westminster-road, Liverpool, was completed. The Prince of Wales and the Watson Lodges meet there; and the Kirkdale Lodge, when consecrated, will be held there. The erection of this convenient building is due to the zeal of the brethren of the North-end of this town, and will add to the prosperity of the Lodges meeting there, and the comfort and convenience of their members; and it has pleased the R.W.P.G.M. to acknowledge the service thus rendered to the Order by appointing Bro. W. Archer, who has been one of the most active in the cause, P.G.J.D. for the ensuing year.

The Provincial Grand Master said he hoped in another year to see a marked improvement in the direction of larger amounts voted for the Masonic Charities, and also that less money was spent in pic-nics by several Lodges. (Applause). He considered it to be a disgrace to the Province—the second largest in the Kingdom—that they should be so poorly represented on the list of the London charities; and he hoped these few words would be taken to heart by the brethren, and that there would be a marked improvement. He hoped that each individual brother would do something on his own behalf, as far as he could, to further these excellent institutions. In conclusion, he intimated that in future he intended to carry out the plan adopted in several other Provinces—namely, that when a brother served the office of two stewardships in connection with the London Charities, he should be entitled to wear a charity jewel. (Applause).

Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.D.C., moved, and Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., seconded, that the sum of 100 guineas be voted from the Charity Fund to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in the name of the R.W.P.G.M. A similar sum was voted to the West Lancashire Masonic Institution.—On the motion of Bro. Wylie, seconded by Bro. C. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., it was also resolved that the sum of £25 be voted from the Provincial Grand Lodge Fund to promote the election of the daughter of the late Bro. Mott on the foundation of the Girl's Institution. On the motion of Bro. J. R. Jenkins, P.G.C., seconded by Bro. J. T. Callow, P.G. Treas., a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Major Turner for his services as P.G. Treas. Bro. R. Wylie, Secretary to the Hamer Benevolent Fund, reported that one case had been relieved, and he appealed for increased support in the future. The officers and committee having been re-appointed, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master.

The Annual Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was afterwards held. Lord Skelmersdale presided. The business before the meeting was the consideration of the general committee and the transaction of the general business of the Institution. Brother Richard Brown, P.M. 211, submitted the twenty-eighth annual report, of which the following is an extract:—No better estimate of the progress of Masonic charity in the province of West Lancashire can be found than in the printed records of this Institution during the past quarter of a century. These records are ample and lasting evidence of the deep interest the brethren take in the welfare of this important Institution; and it must be a source of the greatest encouragement to all concerned that their generous efforts are, through the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe, attended with such continued and increasing success. A glance at the honorary treasurer's accounts will show that this prosperity is not alone satisfactory as regards the funds of the institution, but it will be seen that the usefulness of the charity has also been extended. During the year eighty-eight children have enjoyed the lasting and valuable benefits of a good education, the sum paid for this purpose being £580 17s 3d. Notwithstanding this exceptionally large payment, the invested capital has been increased, the total amount being the handsome sum of £13,886 12s 7d, the interest

arising from this sum being applicable to the increasing requirements of the Institution. This satisfactory financial position, and the fact in the extended working of the Institution some changes seem desirable, has induced the court of Governors to appoint a sub-committee to consider such changes in the bye-laws and regulations as will tend to enlarge the sphere of usefulness of the charity. A report of the proceeding of this committee will be brought before a special court for consideration and approval at an early date. As the objects of this sub-committee are to widen the field of operation, the continued exertions and help of the brethren are desirable. The interest felt in this noble charity in the past—the fact that it has proved in every way more successful than the most sanguine expectations of its generous promoters and supporters could have hoped for, give cheering hope for a continuance of that zeal and earnestness which has characterised the efforts of all.

Sixteen children were afterwards elected on the foundation of the Institution grants, and grants were made to three children for their advancement in life, and a vote was taken for the education of eighty-one children for the ensuing year. There are now 115 children receiving the benefits of education at this establishment. Bro. G. Broadbridge was appointed joint Secretary with Bro. Brown. The other Officers having been appointed, the proceedings were closed with the usual ceremony.

The banquet was held in the evening at Eberle's Restaurant, Eberle-street; there were about 300 brethren present. Lord Skelmersdale presided; he was supported by P.G.L. officers and the leading representatives of the Lodges throughout the Province. The banquet was served in good style. After proposing the toast of "The Queen," Lord Skelmersdale gave the health of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family." His lordship said it was the intention and aim of the Prince of Wales to carry out the main objects and principles of Freemasonry, and his recent enthusiastic reception in Grand Lodge was an evidence of the appreciation in which he was held by the brethren. Speaking of his Royal Highness's efforts in connection with the Paris Exhibition, his lordship said he might safely say that if it had not been for the great zeal and energy shown by the Prince the exposition would not have had half the success which it had enjoyed. His lordship, in conclusion, spoke of the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold as being both enthusiastic and devoted Masons. The P.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, next gave "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., and the other Officers of the Grand Lodge," and in doing so spoke in high terms of the position which the G.L. had taken up with respect to the Grand Orient of France. The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Beresford, Past G.S.D. Bro. Alpass next proposed "The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.W.D.G.M. and R.W.P.G.M. West Lancashire," which was received with applause, continued for a considerable time. Bro. Alpass spoke of the great amount of time and attention which his lordship devoted to his Masonic duties; there were many good and faithful P.G.M.'s throughout the country, but none who took so much interest in a Province as his lordship. Lord Skelmersdale, in acknowledging the toast, referred to the pleasure which it had given him to be present that day. Although Masonry took up a large amount of his time, he looked upon the day spent in connection with that Prov. G. Lodge as one of the most pleasant of the year. His Lordship again expressed a hope that at the end of the year there would be a great improvement in the Province as to the support of the London Charities. Bro. Dr. Smith, P.P.G.R., gave "The Right Hon. Colonel Frederick Stanley, W.D.P.G.M., and the P.G. Wardens," which was responded to by Bro. Baldwin P.G.S.W. Lord Skelmersdale stated that Bro. Colonel Stanton would have been present that day but for the fact that he had received an urgent summons to London to attend certain imperial business, with the importance of which every one was conversant. The P.G.M., in giving "The Provincial Grand Masters of the Adjoining Provinces," coupled the toast with the name of Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain of England, and Deputy Grand Master of Suffolk, of whom he spoke in the highest terms, as a man, Mason, and minister. Bro. Martyn, in response, thanked the brethren for the hearty reception which as a stranger they had given him that day, and he felt bound to say, as an old Mason, that he had never witnessed so enormous a gathering of Masons as the present. It had been to him a special source of pleasure to see the working of the Lodge, and he would carry with him into his distant Province pleasant recollections of his visit to West Lancashire. Bro. Spence, W.M. 32, gave "The P.G. Officers, Past and Present," which was responded to by Bro. R. Robinson, P.G. Reg. The P.G. Sec. proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Masters of the Lodges in the Province," and spoke in high terms of the excellent working which prevailed in every section of this Masonic division. Bro. Spence, W.M. 32, and Bro. Goodacre, W.M. 1730 (Urmston), responded to the toast, the latter stating that as the result of the remarks made by Lord Skelmersdale that day, he had pleasure in stating that his Lodge had determined to vote the sum of 50 guineas to one of the London Charities. Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D. gave "The Charities of the Province," which was responded to by Bro. R. Brown, the honorary Secretary of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. Bro. Robertson, P.G.J.W., gave "The Ladies," which was responded to by Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C. A capital musical programme was supplied by Bros. Child, Muir, J. Hill, and T. J. Hughes, Messrs. Kirkburn, Anstin, Kitwood, Robinson, Shimmin, and Lewis. Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., most efficiently presided at the piano.

The enemies of Freemasonry usually owe their enmity to ignorance of its principles, or chagrin at having been denied entrance into the Fraternity. Almost invariably, honest enquiries are happily disappointed and much instructed, on finding that the fundamental principles of morality and religion are so clearly and strongly enforced by Freemasonry.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE FOUR OLD LODGES.

BY BRO. R. F. GOULD.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I feel some delicacy in writing respecting this valuable series of papers now current in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, as it may be thought I am intruding myself on the notice of your readers, in connection with a subject which Bro. Gould is treating specifically, and which, until he has completed his task, he has a right to consider his own. However, my present contribution lies outside the pale of his inquiries, and I hope, therefore, he will pardon the intrusion.

After giving Pine's List for 1740 and the additions thereto in 1744-5, Bro. Gould states that only thirty-eight of the 196 Lodges contained therein are now on the roll of our Grand Lodge. The majority of the remaining 158 Lodges have ceased to be, but some few still exist in foreign countries under the jurisdiction of what are now independent Grand Lodges. Thus:—

No. 110 of Pine (1740)—No. 126 of Pine (1734)—is St. John's, Boston, Massachusetts, the premier Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of that State. This is the Lodge founded by Henry Price, by virtue of the patent, as G. M. of North America, granted him by Lord Montagu on 30th April 1733. At least, 1733 is the date assigned by our Massachusetts brethren to No. 1 St. John's Lodge, Boston, on the roll of their Grand Lodge. Or, it may be identical with the Grand Lodge itself.

No. 192 Pine (1744-5) "Union of Angels, Francfort in Germany, June 17, 1742," is the same with "Lodge zur Einigkeit"—Lodge of Union—Frankfort-on-the-Maine, "1 Mar. 1742" in Van Dalen's *Kalender für Freimaurer* for 1876.

No. 196 Pine (1744-5) "St. George, Emperor's Court at Hamburg, Sept. 25, 1743," will be found in Van Dalen's *Kalender* bearing same name and date. It is the second senior Lodge, in respect of age, holding under the Grand Lodge of Hamburg—the oldest Grand Lodge in Germany.

The Lodge No. 108 of Pine (1740)—No. 124 of Pine, 1734—held in the city of "Hamburg, Lower Saxony," and constituted 1733, is no doubt the one of which we read in Preston, that Lord Strathmore granted a deputation to eleven German Masons to open a Lodge in that city. Findel says we possess no further information respecting this, and that it was "not till 1737 that a Lodge without a name first came into active operation" in Hamburg. In 1741 it assumed the name of "Absalom," and in Van Dalen's *Kalender* will be found one bearing the same name, with 6th December 1737 as its date of constitution. On turning to Cole's List for 1763, I find a Lodge without a name meeting in "Decker Street, Hamburg," but constituted "Oct. 23 1740." This is probably the Provincial Grand Lodge for which, according to Preston, Lord Kintore, G. M. of England 1740-1, granted a deputation. The proceedings of the P. G. Lodge of Hamburg were opened in 1741, and it was then that the Lodge without a name, of which there is no record in Pine's and Cole's Lists referred to, assumed the title it still enjoys of "Absalom."

Fraternally yours,

"Q."

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Some time since you entrusted me with the duty of reviewing Bro. Hughan's Reprint of Pine's List of Lodges for 1734, and in the fulfilment of that task I found it necessary to question the accuracy of his judgment in stating that our present Strong Man Lodge, No. 45, should be traced to No. 128 of Pine's List, described as meeting at the "Duke of Marlborough, Petticoate Lane, White Chapel," on the "Third Fryday," the date of its constitution being "Novem. ye 5th, 1734." I suggested that present No. 45 was traceable rather to Pine's No. 110, described at the "Ship Coffee House, Near the Hermitage Bridge," on the "1st and 3rd Tuesday," the date of constitution being "2nd Feb., 1732-3." Bro. Hughan maintained his point, and argued that if it were No. 110, "then it ceased to exist, by the list of 1776, long before the 'Union of 1813.'" He further urged that for many years it had been the only Lodge in connection with 1734, and even in 1776 the only London Lodge of 1734, and he added that, "in the Constitutions of 1738 occurs a London Lodge of 5th November 1734." I still held to my opinion, however, that it was No. 110 of Pine's List for 1734, the reason I gave for doing so—see FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE for 20th January 1877—being that the late Dr. Oliver, in his *Revelations of a Square*, was very minute in his details respecting the Strong Man Lodge, and traced it numerically through a series of lists. I also pointed out that already there was much confusion as to the date of Constitution, the text of, and the note appended to, the passage in Oliver giving no less than three dates, namely, in the note "2nd February 1734," and the text "2nd February 1733," or "17th February 1734," so that Bro. Hughan's "No. 128," constituted "5th November 1734," only complicated matters still further. In his reply to my argument, Bro. Hughan said (see FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 27th January

1877), "'Strong Man' Lodge is still an open question, and there I leave it *pro tem.*" I felt at the time that it was somewhat of a bold venture to adhere to my views in opposition to Bro. Hughan, and was not a little gratified that he so far recognised my prudence in doing so as to consent to the subject remaining an open question. It is all the more gratifying to me to learn, from Bro. Gould's papers, that his opinion, on certain matters in connection with these old Lists, is in my favour—to this extent, at least: "No. 110" of Pine 1734 is described similarly in Pine for 1736 (see FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 27th July 1878); and last week I find that this No. 110 became in Pine 1740 No. 98, which agrees with Oliver's note already referred to, except that "2 February 1732-3" has become "Feb. 2 1734," which also accords with Oliver's statement. Bro. Gould remarks on this change of date, to "1734 from 1733," that, "The present positions of the last-mentioned Lodges, Nos. 98 and 99, afford a good illustration of the inconveniences that have ensued; No. 98, the senior of the two, being placed after the fair date of its Warrant as No. 45 (Strong Man), and No. 99, the junior, being placed higher than its proper seniority, as No. 35 (Medina)," which had been altered to "1732 from 1733." In Cole's List of Lodges for 1763, contributed to the *Masonic Magazine* for December 1877, the day of Constitution is altered to "Feb. 17," but the description of the Lodge, which by the closing up of numbers had become "No. 68,"—this also agrees with Oliver—identifies it as being one and the same with No. 98 of 1740. Cole's description locates it at the "Sampson and Lion, E. Smithfield, late the Ship at ye Hermitage—the italics are mine. This No. 68, according to Oliver, became No. 57 in 1770, No. 44 in 1781, and No. 41 in 1792, as which it remained up to the Union, after which, according to Hughan, it became No. 61, then 1832 No. 53, and in 1863 No. 45, as now. Thus Bro. Gould's account, supplemented by Cole's account of 1763, apparently justifies my views.

One other point is worth noting. Bro. Hughan, in his reprint of Pine 1734, says of the present "Medina" Lodge, No. 35, Cowes, that "it was warranted in 1731, but the foregoing list" (Pine 1734) "contains no such reference, so that it is likely the Lodge has been removed since its constitution." Bro. Gould bears out this suggestion by Bro. Hughan. "Present No. 35 (Medina)," says the former, "was a London Lodge up to 1761, but, in 1762, was removed, or its warrant, transferred to West Cowes, Isle of Wight." It is the No. 111 of Pine 1734 and 1736, described as meeting at the "Theatre Tavern, Goodman's Fields," and constituted 17th February 1723. In 1740 it became No. 99, meeting at the "Fleece, Goodman's Fields," but date of constitution was described as "Feb. 17, 1732." In Cole's List for 1763 we have it as "No. 57," meeting at "West Cowes, Isle of Wight," and dated "Feb. 17, 1732." Thus the trace which Bro. Hughan was unable to find is supplied by Bro. Gould, and "Present No. 35" is, apparently, the "No. 111, Theatre Tavern, Goodman's Fields, 2nd and 4th Monday, 17 Feb., 1732-3," of Pine 1734, only it has since been promoted to "1731" according to Grand Lodge Calendar.

When I discussed this question before, I suggested that some member of the Strong Man might throw light on the subject. Surely there must be among them one sufficiently interested in the fortunes of their Lodge to say something on this matter! And it would cost so little trouble!! So with the brethren of the Medina, they might help Bros. Hughan and Gould at the expenditure of a very little time and trouble! But wisdom cries aloud in the streets—or at least in the columns of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and the Craft heed her not.

Fraternally yours,

YOUR REVIEWER OF HUGHAN'S REPRINT OF PINE'S LIST OF LODGES 1734.

THE GOOSE AND GRIDIRON.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In my communication, "Masonic Mysteries," printed 31st August, pp 150-1, I called attention to two rival geese and gridirons, and made a hap-hazard guess, that the smaller goose was somehow connected with the idea of music; and it seems that, for once at least, I was literally "sound on the goose," as the following extract from Brewer's "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable" will show.

"Goose and Gridiron.—A public house sign, properly a music house, like Evans'. When it ceased to be a music house, some facetious landlord, to turn its former use into contempt, chose for his sign a 'Goose striking the bars of a gridiron with its foot,' and wrote below, 'The Swan and Harp.'—*The Tatler*, with notes, Vol. iv. p 206."

I failed to find in the *Tatler* any reference to the goose, &c. Mr. Brewer must, therefore, have found the above notice in the notes appended to some edition of the *Tatler*. The above, if true, settles the question, that the Goose and Gridiron engraved on Pine's Lodge list in 1725, answering the above description, is the Goose of 1717. But whether the said public house was known as the "Goose and Gridiron" before 24th June 1717? Whether the Goose on the top of the chimney pot, was the sign of the old music house? Whether the last described Goose was hung up as a sign after 1725? or whether it was the work of a Masonic wag to pass it off as a joke upon some Masonic editor, remains yet to be discovered.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JACOB NORTON.

Boston, U.S., 20th Sept. 1878.

CHARITY STEWARDS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—ALPHA's letter, which appeared last week, is a fair specimen of hypercriticism. The question, as originally

propounded, related to the expediency or non-expediency of having a banquet at the Annual Festivals in aid of our several Masonic Charities. I said that we Masons, in electing to have a banquet, merely followed a system which is almost universal in this country. I believe this is correct, and ALPHA admits "it may be so in certain respects." I further pointed out, that, as regards our Charities, the aggregate of the sums subscribed in each case, found its way into the coffers of the Institution—a not unnatural inference from which is, that while the system may be almost universal, the manner in which it is practised is not necessarily so. But even supposing that our Charities bore the cost of the banquet, &c., it would still be a most profitable outlay. Non-stewards and ladies, having no claim whatever to dine at the expense of the Charity, would still have to pay for their tickets, so that the amount of the expense borne by the Institution would form a very small proportion of the amount subscribed. Let us take Bro. Binckes's last Festival, which yielded in round figures some £10,400. The £400 would certainly have more than covered the cost of the Stewards' dinners and what I will describe as the official outlay, in the shape of badges, advertising, music, &c., or somewhere about four per cent. on the net produce.

As to Bro. Binckes's arguments being, as I suggested, "well nigh, if not quite unanswerable," that is merely the expression of my individual opinion, which must be taken for what it is worth and nothing more. ALPHA's suggestion, however, that Bro. Binckes does not himself appear to think so, and the reason for this suggestion, namely, that Bro. Binckes is writing "with a view of doing good to our Institutions," are, with all due deference to ALPHA, about as milk-and-watery a suggestion and reason as it is possible for any correspondent to propound. I presume Bro. Binckes has faith in the arguments he has the courage to express, and I dare say, with my knowledge of "OUR HERCULES'S" powers as a dialectician, he is quite prepared to maintain them against all comers. At the same time his native modesty would forbid his suggesting their unanswerableness, while it is open to me and others, who read his letters, to conceive they are unanswerable or nearly so. It is most unlikely that Bro. Binckes or any one else who may write "with a view of doing good to our Institutions," would advance any arguments in the virtue of which he had not entire faith. I think no one can have read his letters on "(a) the necessity for Anniversary Festival dinners," and "(b) the expenditure of both time and money by those who undertake the duties of Stewards," without arriving at the conclusion that he believes fully in the virtue of the present system, and I should imagine he is prepared to uphold his reasons for so thinking. He cannot say my opinions are "well nigh, if not quite unanswerable," but in communicating them to you, Sir, with a view to insertion in your valuable journal, he does, in fact, challenge the opinion of the Masonic public as to their merits. Lord Skelmersdale at the Mark Benevolent Fund dinner put it, as we are told, suggestively—but without condemning the present system—"Could we not raise the necessary funds for our Institutions without incurring the expense of a dinner?" Bro. Binckes had risen, and in reply, said, "I think not, my lord, with my sixteen or seventeen years' experience as Secretary of one of them, and there are many reasons for my so thinking." Those reasons are, in my humble judgment, such as I have described them. Let ALPHA, instead of criticising poor unfortunate me, for venturing to have an opinion, and others answer them if they can, and suggest a better plan for raising the needful. I will wager Bro. Binckes will be the first to accept any system which it can be shown will surpass the present one in accumulating funds for our Institutions. He has to bear the brunt of the labour entailed by the present system, not the least considerable or responsible portion of which is the ordering all the necessary arrangements for the dinner. I dare say he will be only too glad to find this labour reduced.

Fraternally and faithfully yours,

"P. T."

DISPOSAL OF LODGE FUNDS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am much obliged to you for having given space to my letter last week, and in accordance with my proposal therein, I send you a second balance sheet, which I am pleased to say is of a much more *Masonic* character.

I may add that this has not been selected with a view of showing extremes, but is the second one which I came across. This Lodge was not established until two years after that which I noticed last week. The difference in the mode of managing these two Lodges must be considerable if we may judge from the state of the funds.

BALANCE SHEET OF LODGE ——. ONE YEAR—1877-8:—

RECEIPTS.			
Balances (including £150 invested)	...	...	£336 3 2
Interest on invested funds	...	...	6 9 9
Other receipts	...	...	259 11 0
			£602 3 11
EXPENDITURE.			
Tavern bills for Lodge meetings; the summer Festival and Committee on same	...	...	£238 19 6
Grand Lodge certificates and dues	...	...	25 6 0
Grant to Masonic charity	...	...	20 0 0
P.M.'s jewel	...	...	7 7 0
Tyler	...	...	2 10 0
Printing, postages, &c.	...	...	6 7 1
Balances (including £244 12s 6d invested)	...	...	301 14 4
			£602 3 11

It will thus be seen that the members of this Lodge are able to considerably augment their funds by investing the unemployed portion of their capital. The amount likely to be added, in the way of interest, during the current year being over ten guineas.

The experience gained in the case of this and the two Lodges referred to by Bro. Barnes, in his letter last week, shew that you, in your article, under-estimated the amount which can be earned by putting money out at interest. You therein state that three per cent. can be realised. These examples shew that, as far as large balances are concerned, 4 and even 4½ per cent. is attainable.

Yours fraternally,

UNION JACK.

DEDICATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT SHIPLEY.

ADDRESS BY EARL CARNARVON, PRO GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND.

ON Tuesday afternoon, an interesting ceremony in connection with the Airedale Lodge of Freemasons, took place at their new Masonic Hall, viz., the dedication of the Lodge Room to the purposes of Freemasonry. The brethren of the Lodge assembled in good force but owing to the limited accommodation of the building (although sufficiently large for the purposes of their own meetings), they were unable to make the occasion so general as it otherwise would have been. Their invitations included the acting members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, and they had succeeded in securing the honour of the company of the Most Worshipful Brother the Earl of Carnarvon Pro Grand Master.

The Lodge having been opened by the W.M. and Officers of the Airedale Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge entered, and was presided over by the Right Worshipful Bro. Lieut. Colonel Sir H. Edwards, Bart., Prov. G.M., assisted by the Worshipful Bro. T. W. Tew D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire. After the customary salutations of these two dignitaries, a procession was formed, and escorted the M.W. Pro Grand Master Earl Carnarvon into the Lodge.

Sir Henry Edwards, Prov. Grand Master, replying to his salute, said he begged to return his hearty thanks to the assembly for their very cordial reception of him. We are gathered here to-day, he said, to perform an important ceremony. It is to dedicate this new Masonic Hall to the purposes of Freemasonry for ever; and to encourage and exhort the brethren in this town and Province to learn and practise more and more the beautiful principles of our ancient Fraternity. We are honoured to-day by the presence of the Pro Grand Master of England, the Earl of Carnarvon. This compliment to West Yorkshire is warmly felt and appreciated by the whole Craft in this Province, over which I have the honour to preside. I need not dilate on the admirable way in which the Pro Grand Master performs his Masonic responsibilities, or the immense interest he takes in the affairs of Grand Lodge. He always does everything he undertakes for the benefit of the Craft in the same admirable manner, and I repeat, we owe him a debt of gratitude for being amongst us to-day. The address of the Pro Grand Master to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on his installation as Grand Master, on the 28th April 1875, which I had the honour to listen to, will be long remembered. We welcome the Pro Grand Master to West Yorkshire, a Province of sixty-five Lodges and 3000 Loyal Masonic subjects, who read with the deepest interest of his dignified conduct whilst occupying the throne of Freemasonry in Grand Lodge. (Applause.) After referring to the promptness with which the Province of West Yorkshire is worked, Sir Henry said,—It is a well-known circumstance that wherever you find prosperous Lodges, they are certain to be most loyal and punctual observers of the regulations and landmarks of Grand Lodge and the bye-laws of the Craft. (Hear, hear.) Again thanking the Pro Grand Master for his presence amongst them, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master called upon the brethren to salute his lordship with the honour due to his exalted rank; a call most heartily responded to.

The Secretary, Bro. Riley P.M. then read an address of welcome to Earl Carnarvon, which he afterwards presented to his lordship.

The Right Hon. Earl Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, in responding, said, Right Worshipful Sir, and Brethren,—It did not need so hearty a demonstration of feeling to assure him of meeting in Yorkshire, and, indeed, in every part where Freemasonry prevails, a truly fraternal and sympathetic welcome. He rejoiced greatly to have the opportunity of coming amongst them that day. He rejoiced to hear from their R.W. Prov. Grand Master of the progress of Freemasonry in West Yorkshire. He rejoiced to take part in meeting the W.M. and brethren of the Airedale Lodge, a Lodge old in Masonic history, well known in the Craft, and holding an honourable position in this Province, in their new home; and he cordially tendered them his hearty good wishes. It would be the beginning of a fresh chapter in the history of the Lodge, and he hoped it would also be the beginning of fresh honours for Masonic success. (Applause.) It had been truly said in that address which had been read over to him (Earl Carnarvon) that Masonry had a world-wide name and character. He would only add a few words to that assertion, that when we reflect on the truthfulness of that fact, it is more patent to us that we each have a great duty to perform. Our aim, by our own conduct, whether we act in the Lodge, or in the Province, or in our individual capacity outside the Lodge, should be to uphold and maintain the fair fame of the name and character of Freemasonry; that we may not only hand it down to the next generation unscathed, but send it on with additional lustre. (Applause.) All who study Freemasonry know the high standpoint its principles profess; and all who come to its ranks ought to live to those principles. (Hear, hear.) Every Lodge, he said, ought to possess a home of its own nothing so much as a migratory residence tended to damage the

prestige of a Lodge. A settled home was a source of continually gathering new history, and he hoped the new home of the Airedale Lodge would be the means of additional attractions to its members. (Loud applause.)

The ceremony of dedication was then proceeded with, according to ancient Masonic style, by the W.D.Prov. Grand Master Bro. Tew in an able manner, after which the Pro Grand Master declared the Lodge duly and properly dedicated to God and His glory, and to Masonry.

After the business of the Lodge had been brought to a close, a sumptuous luncheon, under the superintendence of Bro. R. Brewer, of the Belle Vue Hotel, Bradford, was served in the banqueting-room, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured.

In response to the toast of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, which was most enthusiastically received with loud and continuous cheering,

His Lordship said it was no common feeling of satisfaction to find himself there to-day; it was also a satisfaction to meet with so hearty a welcome. He thanked the Airedale Lodge for their invitation, and also the representatives of other Lodges who had joined in his reception. His knowledge of Yorkshire was small, yet it was such as to teach him that there were no plainer, franker speaking people than the Yorkshire people, and none who could give so hearty a welcome. (Applause.) The county possessed some of the best temporal gifts which God could send. (Hear, hear.) He could not lay claim to an extended age in Masonry, yet he had taken considerable interest in its welfare. He could truly say he had never known the Craft so prosperous. They were wealthy, powerful, and free from strife; and that was a condition that all who were in authority ought to be proud of. Yet here he would give one word of counsel. Our strength lies not in the numbers, or the wealth of the Craft, but in maintaining intact, collectively and individually, the great principles of our Order, in being steadfast to its great and good landmarks. His time with them was now short, but he trusted at no distant day to renew his acquaintance—(loud cheers)—and speaking, not as a half stranger, but as an old friend. One reason for his leaving them so hurriedly was that he was going to pay a visit to an old and dear friend of his, their tried and honoured late Prov. Grand Master—Lord Ripon. (Cheers.) It would be some satisfaction to him to know that though his Masonic brethren disagreed with the action he took in seceding from them, he had not forfeited their esteem. (Loud cheers.)

His Lordship then briefly proposed Success to the New Hall, which was duly received.

MISS FLORENCE SMART'S EVENING CONCERT.

On Tuesday, the 1st instant, at the Athenæum, Camden-road, Miss Florence Smart gave her first Evening Concert, in the presence of a numerous and fashionable audience. The first item in the programme had to be postponed for the arrival of Mr. Pettit, and the Concert opened, somewhat late, with the duet "I would that my love," by Mendelssohn, executed by Miss Mary Davies and Miss Emily Dones. Mr. Coates followed, with Arthur Sullivan's "Stars in the Summer Night," which he was called upon to repeat, and subsequently followed with song by the same author, "The distant shore." The excellent manner in which this gentleman rendered his songs, caused us to regret extremely that he was not permitted to complete the programme, with "Oft in the Stilly Night." Madame Antoinette Sterling is so well known, and likewise appreciated, that we need merely mention her singing of "Thou art weary" and "Caller Herri,"—with encores, "The better Land" and "The Old Sailor's Wife;" and say these songs were charmingly rendered, as may well be imagined. Mr. Victor Buzian's solo on the violin, "Cavatina" by J. Raff, was listened to with breathless attention, and was, of the instrumental portion, the *pièce de resistance* of the evening. Miss Mary Davies followed, with Eaton Farring's song, "When the Gorse is in blossom," which was encored, and when we say this lady is a rising artiste we mean no idle compliment. Miss Emily Dones gave "The Green Trees Whispered," by Balfe, and Hullah's "Storm," both of which we have heard this lady execute more effectively on other occasions; however, we must not omit to state that she was suffering from hoarseness. The second part opened with Beethoven's Trio in G, for pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, by Miss Smart, Mr. Victor Buzian, and Mr. Walter Pettit. This was a severe test on the powers of the executants, and the time it occupied, 25 minutes, proved too great a strain on the attention of the audience. If we may be permitted to be facetious, we would suggest that the first of Madame Stirling's songs, "Thou art weary," might have been appropriately sung at the close of the Trio, such lengthy *moreaux*, however skilfully executed, are too much for most audiences, and the words might have been truthfully addressed to not a few of the listeners. Mr. Walter Pettit played with much skill a Solo for violoncello, "Caprice Hongrois," by Euile Dankler, but in truth it must be told that the audience, though so appreciative of the songs, had no special liking for instrumental music after Mr. Buzian's performance; a buzz of relief could be heard throughout the room at the conclusion of the piece. Miss Florence Smart presided at the piano with great ability, and the Solo "La Regatta," by Liszt, was thoroughly appreciated. Altogether the Concert was a success, and we wish the promoter may secure pupils and increased prosperity; we know her to be a talented lady, and thoroughly deserving of public support.

We understand that this Concert is to be repeated on the 5th Nov., at the Athenæum, Camden-road, and we hope the lady's friends may not on this occasion engage themselves for domestic pyrotechnic displays.

THE MASONIC FUNERAL SERVICE.

FROM THE "VOICE OF MASONRY."

THE ceremonies performed by Master Masons when they commit the body of a deceased brother to the grave do not constitute a religious service, in the proper meaning of the term. When, therefore, a church, as is sometimes the case, opposes the performance of these services by a Masonic Lodge, on the ground that it is an interference with a sacred function that should be administered only by a priest or a clergyman, it commits a very serious error, which could be easily corrected by a knowledge of the true character of the Masonic rite.

The whole system of Freemasonry being founded on the science of symbolism, every rite and ceremony that it practises is of a symbolic character. The funeral service which it performs over its deceased members is, therefore, a symbolic service. It has nothing to do with a religious rite. It does not offer itself as a substitute for the Church Service. It does not propose to substitute its own rites as a necessary supplement to any form of "Christian burial." What the Church does is altogether of a religious character. The death and burial of a Christian affords to his surviving brethren an opportunity of enforcing, by this instance of mortality, the religious lessons that refer to the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death, and serves as the occasion for reminding the irreligious and the unconverted of the necessity of coming into that sacred communion where, alone, it is taught that the grave is robbed of its victory and the sting is taken from death.

Now, to none of this does the Masonic funeral ceremony over a deceased Mason make any pretence. It is not the most superstitious and ignorant, alone, who are impressed with the opinion that funeral rites are necessary, if not to the future welfare of the dead at least, to the consolation of the living. Christianity, of course, does not maintain the old pagan belief that the unburned dead hover for a hundred years on the banks of the Styx, before they are permitted to enter the boat of Charon and be transported to the Elysian fields. And yet there is no one, even in this enlightened day, who does not look with repugnance on the thought that the loved one should be consigned in almost the contempt of silence to the last resting place of all. "Christian burial" is, therefore, something that almost every Christian looks to as a fitting termination of life. "To be buried out of Christian burial," as Goodman Delver has it—that is, to be consigned to the grave without the sanction of the Church's forms and ceremonies—has been considered as being, in a way, dishonouring and ignominious.

Then, as the greater portion of the Masonic Fraternity is composed of Christians, imbued with Christian views, and affected by Christian prejudices, it is preposterous to suppose that any such Mason would desire, by the rites of his Order, to supplant or supersede the burial services of the Church. And no clergyman nor professor of the Christian faith would ever entertain such a supposition if he knew what was the real meaning of the Masonic service.

Speculative Masonry is, I have already said, a symbolic institution, and its whole system is founded on the science of symbolism. It is the only secret institution of the present day that pretends to such a character. All its initiations are symbolic; all its rights and ceremonies are symbolic; everything that it does inside or outside of the Lodge is symbolic. If it dedicates a hall, or lays the corner-stone of some public edifice, or celebrates, in procession, the festival of a patron saint, the clothing of the members, the implements, and decorations and banners which are borne, are all grounded on the symbolic idea and have a symbolic meaning. And when it joins in consigning a brother to his narrow home, and gives to his mortal remains a last farewell, of all the acts of symbolism which are peculiar to the institution this burial service is not the least symbolic. And how do we sustain this proposition, which to what Masons call the profane world must be very novel?

Prominent among the symbols of Masonry, perhaps we should rightly say most prominent, is the symbolic death of the Third degree. To every Mason, however imperfectly instructed he may be on other points, the symbolism of the Third degree is very familiar. He knows that it teaches the resurrection of the dead, one of the two dogmas which constitute the orthodox Masonic creed, the other being the existence of a personal God. As we stand around the remains of our brother as they are about to be consigned to the dust, we only commiserate this symbolism of death which was begun in the Lodge when he was initiated into the sublime mysteries of a Master Mason.

"Every Master Mason," says Hutchinson, "represents a man saved from the grave of iniquity and raised to the faith of salvation."

Around every Master Mason other brethren have gathered at one time to witness with solemn awe the simulated death and resurrection, which, by this affecting symbol, inspired them with the conviction of a future life. And when this symbolic death and resurrection, so mystically represented in the Lodge, are to be replaced by the real death and resurrection to a higher life, Masons again assemble around the spot where lies the senseless body of their beloved one, and prepare to perfect the symbolic idea which had been first presented in the Third degree. The Masonic funeral service is, then, not a religious, but a strictly symbolic rite. And thus received we are enabled to understand many things connected with its administration, which would be otherwise inexplicable.

In the first place, none but Master Masons have a right to Masonic burial. "Fellow Crafts or Apprentices," says Pre-ton, to whom we are indebted for the first formula of the service, "are not entitled to funeral obsequies." Why is this a regulation? Simply because to the Apprentice, or to the Fellow Craft, there is, in his initiation, no symbolism of death which is awaiting for its perfection the time and place of the real death and the real grave. To those who have received only the initiation of the First and Second degrees, the symbolism of the mystical death, which is implicitly preserved in the ceremony of burying a Master Mason, would be wholly unintelligible. As the ceremony is a symbolic one we must obey, in its administ

tion, the laws of symbolism. No Mason, no matter how many degrees he may have received, no matter how high he may have climbed on the Masonic ladder, can be Masonically buried, except as a Master Mason. In some jurisdictions (I know of one at least) Grand Chapters have adopted a funeral service for Royal Arch Masons, and the Knights Templars have, not very long ago, taken the same step. But the funeral service of the Templars (and what is said of them might just as well be said of the Royal Arch Masons) is either religious or symbolical, or it is neither. It cannot be a religious service, because modern Templarism does not profess to be a religion, and although teaching Christian doctrines, it does not claim to be a Christian sect. And even the old Templars who sprang out of the Crusades, although they called their institution a religious Order, never thought, as Knights, of performing any religious rites, but left the discharge of all such duties to their Chaplains who were regularly ordained to the work by ecclesiastical authority.

The Mediaeval Guilds paid much attention to the funerals of their members. All the expenses were paid by the company, and the members walked to the church in solemn procession. But the services were always performed by a "mortuary priest" who was engaged for that purpose by the Guild. Neither is the Templar funeral service a symbolical service, for there is, in no part of the Templar system of initiation a rite or ceremony which develops the symbolism of death as in the Master's degree. If it be, then, neither religious nor symbolical, the funeral service of a Templar, however beautiful may be the language in which it is framed, must be unmeaning and useless, for it is not sustained by religious authority nor recommended by Masonic symbolism.

The same thing may be said of the Chapter funeral services, in those jurisdictions where such a service exists. There is, in none of the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, any symbolism of death upon which a Masonic symbolic funeral service could be based.

At the hour of death, however high he may have reached in his Masonic researches, the Mason comes back, instinctively, to that solemn degree in which alone he has learned the great lessons of life and death.

And as we stand around the grave of our brother, all of us, from the highest dignitaries in Commandery or Chapter, to the humblest Mason who is recorded on our roll, are Master Masons carrying out, in open day and in the face of the world, the symbolism which we were taught in our nocturnal assemblies in the recesses of our Lodges.

It was a beautiful and an expressive thought of the Greeks when they made the same word signify "to die," and "to be initiated." With them death was the initiation into life eternal. Every Mason knows how, in like manner, death and initiation are closely related in the Master's degree. Hence, of all the degrees in Masonry, the Third, alone, is appropriately supplied with a funeral service. The simulated death is succeeded by the actual one, and thus the lesson of life and immortality is perfected. The real grave is but a supplement of the figurative one, and the symbolization of death and the resurrection are continued from the Lodge to the cemetery.

If it is unmeaning for Royal Arch Masons, or Templar Masons, to have a funeral service, because it is not religious and cannot be symbolical, since there is no symbolism of death in the Capitular or Chivalric degrees on which to rationally found such a service, how much more unmeaning must funeral ceremonies be in a secret society where there is no symbolism of any kind. Such societies, however they may obtain our approval for their charitable deeds as benevolent associations, while paying by the attendance of their members all honor to the memory of a deceased associate, should certainly be satisfied with the services of the Church. Having had no symbolic service when he was admitted into their society, he can have none when he leaves it. But if these societies claim that their service is not symbolical but religious, then they come into collision with the Church, because they thus imply that the Church service is incomplete and requires another to make it perfect. But this is a question between the Church and these societies into which we have no wish and no right to enter. To borrow a slang phrase, the only excuse for using it being its exceeding appropriateness, "it is not our funeral."

Having thus shown that the Masonic funeral service is altogether symbolical and belongs exclusively to Master Masons and to the Master's degree, the other regulations on this subject claim our attention.

Preston, to whom we are indebted for the law of Masonic burials, lays down the regulation that except in the case of foreigners and sojourners, "no Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order, unless it be at his own special request communicated to the Master of the lodge of which he died a member." (*Preston, Illustr. Oliver ed., p 89.*)

This provision is in accordance with the general spirit of the Institution. Freemasonry is a voluntary, not a compulsory Order. When a candidate is admitted to receive its mysteries, he must, previous to his initiation, declare that he has come "of his own free will and accord." If, after having advanced one step in his novitiate, he should declare his unwillingness to go further, no Lodge or member would seek by promises or threats to induce him to proceed. Every symbol must be communicated to willing recipients only.

Now, as the funeral service at the grave of a deceased brother is but a continuation and necessary sequence of the funeral service in the Lodge, and as this former part of the symbolism was imparted only at the request of the candidate, it follows as a rule of consistency that the latter part of the same symbolism should also be illustrated only at his request. One portion of the symbolism cannot be of a voluntary character and the other portion compulsory. It is to be presumed that if a Mason wishes the service to be performed he will say so before he dies. If he does not express the wish, it is equally to be presumed that he declines the symbolism. And as the Lodge could bestow nothing upon him while he lived, without his consent, neither can it bestow anything upon him after his death, which before dying he had explicitly or implicitly declined to receive. This is the reason of the law that a Master Mason cannot be buried Masonically unless it be at his request. The law, in more recent times, has been stretched, in a spirit of liberality, so as to recognize the request of his immediate

relatives as if it were his own, because they are naturally supposed to represent what were his sentiments.

The next regulation of Masonic burials is, that no Mason can be buried, "foreigners and sojourners excepted," unless he has been a man of good character and exemplary conduct. Preston, it is true, does not enunciate this law in express words. But it is implied from the fact that he is required to have been at the time of his death a member of a Lodge. The request for his burial must have been, says Preston, "communicated to the Master of the Lodge of which he died a member."

Now, as it is a well settled maxim of law that everything that is done by competent authority is presumed to be rightly done, and as the Lodge had neither suspended nor expelled the deceased, since at the time of his death he was a member, it follows that he could have done nothing that would have rendered him liable to suspension or expulsion. Therefore, being a member "in good standing" at the time of his death, it is to be taken for granted that his life had been a virtuous one. Now, why is it that none but good Masons can be buried with the formalities of the Order? It is because the symbolic death of the Third degree was that of a virtuous man. And at the time when that symbolism of death is imparted to the aspirant he is told to "be true and faithful, and imitate the example of that celebrated artist whom he has once represented." Throughout the remainder of his life the unswerving integrity of that "celebrated artist" is ever an example to him. His death and resurrection are a hope and a consolation. When we stand around the grave of our brother, we are reminded of that death and burial which had been symbolized to us, as of one who had sacrificed his life to preserve his integrity. Recalling all the details of the legend of the Third degree, it is evident that to appropriate the funeral services founded on that legend to an unworthy man and Mason would be to debase and to misapply its symbolism. Hence, none but Master Masons "in good standing" in their Lodge, that is, of irreproachable conduct, are entitled to Masonic burial.

From what has been here said the following principles may be assumed as the results of the enquiry:

1. The Masonic funeral service, is not a religious service. Therefore it does not come into collision with the service of the Church, being intended neither as an addition to or a substitute for it.
2. It is a symbolic service carrying out, at the grave, the symbolic idea which had previously been taught in the Lodge.
3. Its symbolism is founded on the symbolism of death and burial as presented in the Master's degree. Therefore any service performed by Masons of a higher degree or by any non-religious society must be unmeaning and inexpressive, because there is no such symbolism from which the service can derive any application or significance.
4. Being a part of the symbolism of the Third degree it can be performed over Master Masons only.
5. For the same reason and because Masonry is a voluntary institution, which requires the "free will and accord" of every one who would share its mysteries, the service can be performed only on the request of the deceased brother expressed before his death, or what is supposed to be the same thing, on the request of his immediate relatives.
6. As the symbolism in a Masonic funeral refers to the death and burial of one who was distinguished in the annals of Masonry for his virtues, the service can only be performed over one who is his representative, that is, a worthy Master Mason "in good standing." Otherwise the symbolism would be inconsistent and contradictory in its interpretation.
7. Lastly, as none but worthy Masons can, for the reason above stated, be interred with this funeral service, and as the only evidence of such worth recognized by Masonic law is "good standing," unaffiliated Masons, not being in "good standing," are not entitled to Masonic burial. An unaffiliated Mason may, perchance, be a good man, but he cannot be esteemed a good Mason.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

A meeting of the Grand Committee of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on Tuesday afternoon—the Grand Master Mason, Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, in the chair—when nominations were made of the brethren to be recommended by the committee for election by Grand Lodge at its meeting in November as the office-bearers for next year. The following were, we understand, unanimously agreed upon:—Sir Michael Shaw Stewart again to be the Grand Master; the Earl of Mar and Kellie to be Deputy Grand Master, in room of Bro. Henry Inglis of Torsoyce; Colonel Campbell of Blythswood again to be Substitute Grand Master; Lord Laverurie, presently Junior Grand Warden, to be Senior Grand Warden, in place of Bro. Barrow; Bro. R. F. Shaw Stewart, Senior Grand Deacon, to be Junior Grand Warden; the Rev. Dr. G. S. Burns, Glasgow, to be joint Grand Chaplain, in room of Bro. the Rev. Dr. Gray; the Earl of Haddington to be Senior Grand Deacon; Bro. J. Caldwell, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire, to be Junior Grand Warden, in place of Sir George Douglas Clerk; Bro. Francis L. Law to be Grand Jeweller, in room of Bro. Alexander Hay; and the other office-bearers of Grand Lodge to be re-elected.—*Edinburgh Courant.*

NOTICE.—BACK NUMBERS.

Brethren who desire to complete their sets of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, should make early application for Back Numbers. At present all are in print, but of some we have only a few copies left. Cases for binding the several volumes can be had at the Office, 67 Barbican,

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

ST. JOHN'S HILL, S.W.

PATRONS:

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c. M.W.G.M., President.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held in the Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, on Saturday, 12th day of October 1878, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the general business of the Institution, to consider notices of motion as follow, and to elect Three Girls into the School by ballot from a list of Twenty-nine approved Candidates. The Election will commence at One o'clock (or after the usual business is over), and close at Three o'clock precisely.

By Bro. Colonel Creaton, Treasurer and Trustee.

"That a Sub-Committee, consisting of Five Members of the General Committee, be appointed to take into consideration the desirability of revising the Laws, and report thereon to the Quarterly Court in January next."

Also

"That Four Girls be elected at the October Quarterly Court, instead of Three, thereby filling up a vacancy caused by death."

Also, upon the recommendation of the House Committee,

"That the amount paid as an Honorarium to the Chaplain be increased from £20 to £25 per annum; also, that to the Parochial Charities from £5 to £10 per annum.

By Bro. Henry Browse, P.G.D., Vice-Pres.

"That the premiums on the Secretary's guarantee be paid by the Institution."

By Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Vice Pres.

Upon recommendation of the House Committee,

"An exceptional case having arisen by the untimely death of Bro. Charles Jardine (a member of the Audit Committee of this Institution), through the late fatal collision on the Thames, whereby a widow and nine children are left unprovided for.

It is resolved

"That the laws regulating the admission of candidates to this Institution be suspended for the purpose of admitting Cecily Sara Jardine, aged 8 years, one of the said orphans from that catastrophe, without election."

Also

"That the Sub Committee for the consideration of the revision of the Bye Laws be increased to at least nine members."

Upon the recommendation of the General Committee

"A Gratuity of £20 to G. S. Peachey, for attention and assistance, as extra services during the late Secretary's illness."

By Bro. H. Hacker.

That the name of Edith Brown, No. 21 on the list of candidates for election, be struck out as ineligible.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

Office:—5 Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, W.C.

THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

The admirable and unrivalled accommodation provided at this Establishment for

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Is too well known to need comment. The entire management has been changed, and the Establishment in all its branches thoroughly re-organised.

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WINES PERFECT IN CONDITION AND QUALITY.

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LONDON MASONIC CLUB, 101 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.

Bro. ALDERMAN HADLEY Chairman.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.—The Subscription from 31st July 1878 to 31st July 1879 is now payable.

It is intended to admit a few more members without Entrance Fee at the present rate of Subscription, viz. £5 5s for Town Members, and £3 3s for Country Members. The Club premises are being improved so as to increase the accommodation already afforded to members and to Masonic Lodges.

Full particulars can be obtained of the Honorary Secretary at the Club.

THE MASONIC QUARTETTE.

BROS. BURGESS PERRY, ARTHUR THOMAS, EDWIN MOSS,
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2S EACH, including entrées, Poultry, Joints, Cheese, and Salad,
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THE MASONIC SEASON.

TO WORSHIPFUL MASTERS and SECRETARIES of LODGES.
Bro. George Smith (from Anderton's) will be pleased to supply TARIFF OF CHARGES for INSTALLATION BANQUETS, VESTRY DINNERS, &c., &c. for large or small parties.

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DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1524,
HAVELOCK TAVERN, ALBION ROAD, DALSTON.

THE ANNUAL SUPPER will take place on Wednesday, 9th of October, at Eight o'clock precisely. The chair will be taken by Bro. B. Meyer, W.M. of the Mother Lodge. Tickets, 4s each, can be had of Bro. E. Dietrich, Hon. Sec., 106 Forest Road, Dalston.

THE LAST CHANCE.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

SEVENTH APPLICATION, OCTOBER 1878.

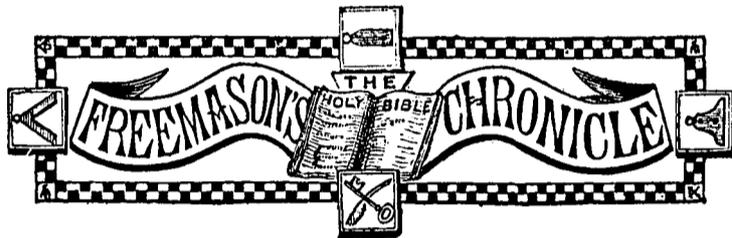
The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of

ARTHUR H. DAY, Aged Ten Years,

SON of the late Bro. JOHN DAY, of Tendring, in the County of Essex, Farmer and Brewer. The Deceased was for eight years, and up to a short time of his death, a Subscribing Member of the Lodge of Hope, No. 433, Brightlingsea. During the last years of his life he became much reduced in circumstances, in consequence of a long affliction—Paralysis. At his decease, which took place on the 20th of December 1871, barely sufficient funds were realised to pay his debts, and the Widow was consequently obliged to give up the business, and is mainly dependent on her friends for support. She has two children (out of a family of five) entirely dependent. The Applicant is a quick, promising Boy, greatly needing your sympathy.

The Case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren:—R. W. Bros. W. W. B. BRACH M.P. P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; * Sir. J. H. JOHNSON, Shakespeare Lodge, No. 99, the Priory, St. Osyth, Essex; * E. JOHNSON, V.P. Farringdon House, Exeter; C. H. WATERS P.M. Grand Stewards Lodge, Buckingham Palace Road, London; BLYTH, New Concord Lodg. No. 813, 63 Red Lion Street, Holborn; S. HARMAN, Headings House, Palmers Green, Southgate; E. W. DAVIS P.M. 95 and 172 P.Z. 554, 318 High Holborn W.C.; * R. T. TUBBS Marylebone Lodge 1,305, 21 Wellington Road, St. John's Wood; * G. GARDYER P.P.G.S. of W. Essex, P.M. Angel Lodge No. 51, Bank Buildings, Colchester; FRED A. COLE P.P.G. Registrar P.M. Angel Lodge No. 51, St. Botolph's, Colchester; W. GRIGGS P.M. Lodge of Hope No. 433, Brightlingsea; W. BRAGG P.M. Lodge of Hope No. 433, Brightlingsea; W. BALLS Lodge of Hope No. 433, Tendring, Colchester; * J. E. WISEMAN P.P.G.A.D.C. P.M. and Secretary No. 433, Brightlingsea; THOS. J. RALLING I.P.M. Angel Lodge No. 51, P.G. Sec. Essex, Essex Standard Office Colchester.

Proxies will be thankfully received by the Brethren opposite whose names a * is placed, or they may be sent to Mrs. DAY, Great Clacton Green, Colchester.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

ON Sunday, Her Majesty the Queen paid a visit to the Princess of Wales at Abergeldie Castle, and has, together with the Princess, paid visits to the Hon. Lady Biddulph since the death of her husband. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Princesses Louise, Victoria and Maud, reached Abergeldie Castle on Thursday, and on Friday and Monday visited Her Majesty the Queen at Balmoral. H.R.H. Prince Frederick William of Prussia left Balmoral on Friday.

By the death of General Sir Thomas M. Biddulph, K.C.B., Keeper of the Privy Purse, Her Majesty has lost a most faithful servant. The deceased, who had suffered from a severe attack of bronchitis and inflammation of the lungs, expired on Saturday at Abergeldie.

Mr. Justice Keogh, one of the Irish judges, died on Tuesday, at Bingen, aged fifty-nine years. The deceased acted as Attorney General for Ireland during the time of Lord Aberdeen's Government.

On Saturday Mr. George Burt and Mr. Thomas Bevan were, with customary ceremony, installed as Sheriffs for London and Middlesex for the coming year. Later in the day, the various City Companies and others entitled assembled for the purpose of electing the Lord Mayor, the choice resulting in favour of Alderman Sir Charles Whetham.

On Friday the pilot in charge of the Bywell Castle at the time of the collision on the Thames was further examined, and at the conclusion of his examination expressed his great regret at the accident and his sympathy with the sufferers. The first mate was the next person brought forward, and other evidence having been given, the Court adjourned until Tuesday, on which day further witnesses appeared. The Coroner stated, that in consequence of strong representations having been made to him as to the unseaworthiness of the Princess Alice, he had determined to apply for the nomination of an expert to examine her timbers. On Thursday, which was the next day devoted to the inquiry, the Coroner stated that he had appointed four persons to examine the wreck, and would question them on oath as to the condition thereof, at the proper time. The witnesses on that day included the mate, an engineer, and a seaman on board the Bywell Castle. Several statements having been made as to the condition of the water of the Thames at the point where the collision occurred, in consequence of the sewer outfall there,

the Metropolitan Board of Works have referred the matter to the Works and General Purposes Committee, and discussions have occurred in various other assemblies on the same subject. The fund at the Mansion House raised in aid of the sufferers, now amounts to £33,000. Of this sum about £10,000 has been distributed by the committee among various applicants.

Pumping operations are still in progress at the Abercarn Colliery. Until the water is cleared from the mine it is of course impossible for any survey thereof to take place. The relatives of those in the pit are naturally anxious that the work should proceed as speedily as possible, especially as fears are entertained that many of the bodies will be buried in the falls which will certainly occur from the force of the explosion and the action taken since. Great distress prevails in the district in consequence of the calamity, the whole of the men lately engaged at the colliery being out of employment by reason of the stoppage of the works.

The inquest on the late fatal fire at Birmingham has resulted in the verdict "That the fire was designedly caused, but by whom there was no evidence to show." The jury added to their finding a severe censure upon the local police, together with a strong condemnation of the defective arrangements of the Fire Brigade.

The state of affairs on the north-west frontier of our Indian empire is causing considerable anxiety both in that country and here. The Indian Government, who wish to give the Ameer of Afghanistan every opportunity of making amends for the insult offered to our Envoy, are making active preparations for a campaign, but it is expected that very little can be done until the spring, beyond subduing those of the hill tribes who are opposed to us, and enlisting the support of the others. The popular belief in India is, that the Ameer will take no notice of our preparations, although the Government seem to think that the display will bring him to terms without fighting. General Crawford Chamberlain, brother of Sir Neville, will, it is stated, be entrusted with the chief command. Various rumours come from St. Petersburg on the question, among others is one that in case of any attack by England, Russia could hardly leave the Ameer undefended, and in that case Afghanistan would play a part similar to that of Servia during the late campaign. Among a certain class there, it is thought an Anglo-Russian war in Asia is unavoidable. On the Continent, the course of events is anxiously watched, the general opinion being that war must ensue.

A ministerial crisis has occurred in Hungary in consequence of some difference of opinion as to the means of defraying the cost of the Bosnian occupation, and, as a consequence, Herr Szell, the Minister of Finance, tendered his resignation. This was followed, on Monday, by the whole of his colleagues taking a similar step. The Emperor has accepted that of the former, but will take time to consider those of the latter. It is stated that the next vote of credit on this account will be for eight and a half millions sterling. Numerous bodies of the insurgents are crossing the frontier into Servia, it being estimated that upwards of ten thousand have either taken that step or are on their way. The principal inhabitants of Zwornik having met the Austrian troops, and made the submission of that town, some thousands of Turkish soldiers, with two pachas, also crossed into Servia, where they were at once disarmed. The Austrians having thought the fortress of Klobuk might be used as a basis of future risings, have completely destroyed it, and have disarmed the Mahometan inhabitants thereof. Generally, throughout Bosnia, the insurgents as well as the Turkish troops seem to have abandoned all idea of further resistance, they not thinking it likely any additional assistance will be accorded them by the Porte. The total losses of the Austrians in killed and wounded, and those who have died from sickness during the campaign, is stated at 4000 men. The effective strength of the French army for next year is fixed at nearly 500,000 men; the expense of maintaining it being estimated at twenty-two millions sterling. Great anxiety is felt at the Vatican in consequence of its being expected that the negotiations with Germany will be broken off. In consequence of the recent reduction of pay, and the partiality with which rewards are bestowed, a mutiny occurred in Japan during the latter part of last month; 300 men belonging to the Imperial Guard and the Artillery rebelled, and killed three of their officers. The disturbance was quickly put down. From Morocco a severe famine is reported, and

deaths from starvation are of daily occurrence. The yellow fever epidemic still rages in the Southern States of America, and in some of the country districts and suburbs of large towns the death rate is increasing.

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Northumberland, will take place on Tuesday next, at the Corn Exchange, Alnwick. The Right. Hon. Earl Percy, Prov. G. Master, will preside, and on this occasion, the Prov. G. Master invites the brethren to dine with him, with the permission of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, at Alnwick Castle. Prov. G. Lodge will be opened at two o'clock precisely. Ample arrangements have been made for a large attendance of the brethren of the Province, and it is expected that the gathering will be one of the most important ever held in the district in connection with Freemasonry.

The season is at hand when people who are given to floriculture will be thinking of laying in their stock of hyacinths, tulips, and other bulbous plants. Consequently, the florists generally are busy issuing their autumn catalogues with a view to attracting intending purchasers. We have received copy of Messrs. Dick Radclyffe & Co.'s Catalogue, and having carefully noted its contents we are satisfied that those of our readers who may favour this well-known firm with their custom will obtain what they require at moderate charges and of excellent quality. The collections of bulbs, either for the open ground or for indoor decoration in pots and glasses are remarkably cheap, considering the number and variety of the sorts included. Two guineas for a collection comprising 300 crocus, 100 snowdrops, 75 Duc Van Thol tulips (various), 50 narcissus, two dozen hyacinths, besides daffodils, iris, jonquils, lilies, ranunculus, scillas, &c., &c., is by no means excessive, or if the collection is too numerous, one-half of it may be had for one guinea, in either case carriage to any railway station in England and Wales, and packing being covered by the charge. Smaller collections, carriage not paid, may be had for either open ground or indoors for half a guinea. The lists of different roots separately is very numerous and contains all the best known varieties, ranged under their different colours. The prices range from twelve to eighteen shillings per dozen, and from forty-eight to one hundred and thirty-six shillings if bought in collections, or from 2s to 6d per bulb for the different varieties. The same may be said of the tulips and other roots, which are marked at so much per root, per dozen, or per hundred, according to circumstances. These occupy the larger half of the Catalogue, the rest containing fruit trees, roses, miscellaneous, roots, gardening necessaries, manures, &c., &c., the quality in all cases being guaranteed. We have also been favoured with copy of Catalogue of hyacinths, &c., &c., issued by the well known firm of W. Cutbush & Son, of the Highgate Nurseries, and Barnet, Herts. Here too, after careful examination of its contents we can, with confidence, recommend to our readers who have not made up their minds whom to carry their custom to, to visit the Nurseries of this firm. They will find a large and varied assortment of every description of bulb, and may indulge their taste for expensive varieties or for those of a more modest price. Here, too, the prices per root, per dozen, and per hundred are given, or may be, in the last case, obtained on application.

At this busy season of the Masonic year, when Lodges are speculating as to where they shall hold their installation meetings, so as to find the requisite accommodation for large parties, we direct attention to Bro. Smith's advertisement, which appears in another column. Bro. Smith is favourably known to many of our readers, and his ability as a caterer has been acknowledged again and again.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—In all outward complaints a desperate effort should be made to at once remove these annoying infirmities, and of establishing a cure. The remarkable remedies discovered by Professor Holloway will satisfactorily accomplish this desirable result, without any of those dangers or drawbacks which attended the old method of treating ulcerative inflammations, scrofulous affections, and scorbutic annoyances. The most timid invalids may use both the Ointment and Pills with the utmost safety with certain success, provided a moderate attention be bestowed on their accompanying "Directions." Both the preparations soothe, heal, and purify. The one assists the other most materially in effecting cures and renewing strength by helping exhausted nature just when she needs such succour.

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.

—:o:—

SATURDAY, 5th OCTOBER.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1426—The Great City Cannon-street Hotel, at 3 o'clock. (Emergency.)
1572—Carnarvon, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
1622—Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell.
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1223—Ainherst Kings Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
1458—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester.

MONDAY, 7th OCTOBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, 12 Old-st., near Goswell-rd., at 8.0. (In.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
186—Industry, Bell Tavern, Carter-lane, Doctor's-commons, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction.)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.) Supper.
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30. (In.)
1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road.
1669—Royal Leopold, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors.
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire.
395—Guy, Crown Hotel, Leamington Priors.
431—St. George, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, N. Shields.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth, Staffordshire.
622—St. Cuthberga, Masonic Hall, Wimborne.
651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon.
694—Oakley, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.
823—Evertton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Rooms, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.
1009—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.
1050—Gundulph, Kings' Head Hotel, Rochester.
1051—Rowley, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
1054—Southam, Railway Hotel, Wilmslow, Cheshire.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire.
1096—Lord Warden, Royal Hotel, Deal, at 7. (Instruction.) Annual Supper.
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstey Arms Hotel, Oswestry.
1180—Forward, Masonic Rooms, New Hall-street, Birmingham.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8 p.m. (Instruction.)
1573—Caradoc, Masonic Hall, Caer-street, Swansea.
1578—Merlin, New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, South Wales.
R. A. 262—Salopian, Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury.
M. M. 37—Wyndham, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.

TUESDAY, 8th OCTOBER.

55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7. (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
141—Faith, 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
167—St. John, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
198—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
211—St. Michael, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
228—United Strength, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
933—Doric, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
1158—Southern Star, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1471—Islington, Three Bucks, 23 Gresham-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1638—St. Martin's-le-Grand, The London, Fleet-street, E.C.
1692—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-street-rd. at 8. (In.)
1694—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1614—Covent Garden, Ashley's Covent Garden Hotel, Henrietta-street.
1668—Samson, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
117—Wynnstey, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro.
194—United Chatham of Benevolence, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Kent.
272—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Main Ridge, Boston.
284—Shakespeare, Masonic Room, High-street, Warwick.
373—Socrates, George Hotel, High-street, Huntingdon.
626—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
892—Royal Edward, Royal Oak, Leominster.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport.
1250—Gilbert Greenhall, Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington.
1325—Lanley, 214 St. Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
1447—Lorne, Greyhound Hotel, Sutton, Surrey.
1465—Ockenden, T. Boat Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex.
1493—Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
R. A. 452—Frederick of Unity, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon.

WEDNESDAY, 9th OCTOBER.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
9—Albion, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, W.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7. (Instruction.)
201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, at 8. (In.)
538—La Tolerance, Horse and Grain, Winsley-street, W., at 7.45. (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E.
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. at 8. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, F. Philip's-court, Fleet-street, 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.)
1280—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

1278—Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8.30. (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1305—St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms Tavern, St. John's Wood.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-street, Wapping.
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.) Annual Supper.
1558—Duke of Connaught, Faunce Arms, Kennington Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell.
1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton, at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st. at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 857—St. Mark, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
225—St. Luke, Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich.
281—Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
666—Benevolence, Private Room, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
795—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading.
1209—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate.
1248—Denison, Grand Hotel, Scarborough.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
1342—Walker, Hope and Anchor Inn, Byker, Newcastle.
1398—Baldwin, The Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham.
1434—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
1503—Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7. (Instruction.)
1520—Earl Shrewsbury, Public Rooms, Cannon, Staffs.
1582—Llanidloes, Trewythen Hotel, Llanidloes, North Wales.
1643—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

THURSDAY, 10th OCTOBER.

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., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8. (Instruction.)
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
720—Panmure Gen. L. of Inst., Antelope Tavern, Lorn-road, Brixton, at 8.
860—Dalhousie, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington.
1523—St. Mary Magdalen, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
1558—Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Toward-road, Sunderland.
112—St. George, Masonic Hall, Fore-street-hill, Exeter.
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
333—Royal Preston, Castle Hotel, Preston.
339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith, Cumberland.
469—Hundred of Elloe, Masonic Rooms, London Road, Spalding.
477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Longton, Stafford.
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
744—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, Berks.
991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Willington Quay, Northumberland.
1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Cheetam, Lancashire.
1098—St. George, Private Room, Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Mon.
1125—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Tiverton, Devon.
1141—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Aston-under-Lyne.
1204—Royd, Imperial Hotel, Malvern, Worcestershire.
1416—Falcon, Masonic Hall, Castle Yard, Thrusk.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
1457—Bagshaw, Bald Faced Stag, Buckhurst-hill.
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

FRIDAY, 11th OCTOBER.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
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, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction.)
1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1209—Hervey, Punch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park Master Masons' Lodge of Inst. Finsbury Park Tavern, at 8.
1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1422—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (Inst.)
K. T. —Mount Calvary, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
64—Fortitude, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
404—Watford, Freemasons' Hall, Watford.
697—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30 (Instruction.)
1087—Beaudebert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1289—Rock, Bedford House, Bedford-road, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
1636—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.

SATURDAY, 12th OCTOBER.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12. (Election, &c.)
93—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
126—The Great City, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
657—Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill.
621—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
671—Mizpah, Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.

615—St. John and St. Paul, Pier Hotel, Erith, Kent.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
891—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
1415—Campbell, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.
1612—West Middlesex, Institute, Ealing.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—ZITELLA, given by Mr. SEYMOUR SMITH.—PEKIN and A VISIT TO ICHANG.—THE PARIS EXHIBITION, illustrated.—SCIENTIFIC VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, with Philosophical and Optical Experiments.—THE MICROPHONE, TELEPHONE AND PHONOGRAPH, &c.—CYCLES, its history and characteristics.—Admission, 1s; Open 12 till 5 and 7 till 10, Carriages at 5 and 10.

CONSECRATION OF THE MID SURREY CHAPTER, No. 1044.

SOME members of the Wandsworth Lodge, No. 1044, seeing the need of forming a Chapter in connection therewith, determined to petition Grand Chapter for that purpose. The necessary preliminaries having been duly observed, a Warrant was granted to form the Mid Surrey Chapter, the promoters preferring this designation to that of the name of the Mother Lodge. On 27th September, in accordance with ancient rites and ceremonies, the Chapter was Consecrated by Comp. H. E. Frances P.P.D.C. for the Grand Chapter of Surrey. The Chapter was opened by him, he having for H. Comp. J. M. Klenck Z. 1339, and for J. E. Crouch H. 857. The Comps. were admitted in proper order, and marshalled by Comp. Stevens, who efficiently acted as Director of Ceremonies. There were present Comps. C. W. Gray M.E.Z. designate, H. R. Jones H. designate, and G. Pythyan J. designate, J. R. Jones acting S.E. Also Comps. Bridges P.G.S.B. Grand Chapter of Middlesex, F. Keily, J. F. Storr, Godfrey, W. J. Huntley, with several others. Comp. Frances addressed them on the nature of the meeting. The petition and warrant having been read, and the members of the new Chapter duly presented, Comp. Frances gave an oration on the principles of Royal Arch Masonry, a composition from his own pen, which met with marked attention and approval. The fine anthems, which are indispensable to this important ceremony, were exquisitely rendered by Comp. Lawler, assisted by Comps. Baxter, Carter, and Jekyll, and gave great delight. The entire ceremony was most impressively given by Comp. Frances, who afterwards duly installed Comps. Gray, Jones and Pythyan into their respective chairs. On the readmission of the Comps., after the installation, it was unanimously agreed that Comp. Frances be made an honorary member, and that votes of thanks be inscribed to Comps. Klenck and Crouch for their valuable assistance. Several propositions for exaltation and joining were then made, and the Comps. adjourned to the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, to partake of banquet, where the Masonic toasts were duly given and honoured, the evening's pleasure being much enhanced by the musical performance of Comp. Lawler and his party.

A new Lodge of Freemasons, styled the Pimlico Lodge, No. 1772, was consecrated on Thursday, at the Morpeth Arms, Millbank, by Bro. John Boyd, Past Grand Pursuivant, who was assisted by Bros. J. A. Rucker, Peter de Lande Long, H. G. Buss, and several other Grand Officers. Bro. John Palmer, a Past Master of the Egyptian and Kilburn Lodges, was installed as the first Worshipful Master of the Lodge.—*Standard*.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—Held at the Old Rodney's Head, 12 Old-street, Goswell-road, on Monday 30th ult. Present—Bros. Hallam sen. W.M., Percy S.W., Kidder J.W., W. Rowley S.D., W. Cook J.D., Jeapes I.G., Stock acting Preceptor; also Bros. Halford, Weeden, Guyer, Hyland, Isaac, &c. All preliminaries being observed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Weeden acting as candidate. Bro. Hyland proving his efficiency, was entrusted. Lodge advanced, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Bro. Percy worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. On Lodge being resumed, Bros. Guyer of the Finsbury Lodge, No. 861, and Jeapes of United Chatham Lodge of Benevolence, No. 184, Province of Kent, were elected members. Bro. Percy was elected to preside at the next meeting; after which Lodge was closed, and adjourned.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—The Annual Banquet of the brethren of this Lodge of Instruction was held at the Bedford Hotel, Southampton-buildings, Holborn, on Tuesday, 1st October. Bro. S. Pownceby S.W. 55 presided. After an excellent repast, served by Bro. Bond, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured. Among those present were Bros. Bingemann, J. H. Dodson, T. B. Dodson, Abell, Cooper, Dickins, Linscott, Soper, Sanders, Cornu, Bramham, Tate, Brown, Jackson, Todd, Scott, &c.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—On Saturday, at the Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, Islington, N. Bros. C. K. Killick W.M., R. H. Halford S.W., Byng J.W., R. Read I.G. After the Lodge had been formally opened, the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, after which Bro. Byng worked the ceremony of initiation, and several sections of the first lecture. Bro. Brasted was appointed W.M. for next meeting.

Philanthropic Lodge, No. 304.—A meeting was held on 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Great Georges-street, Leeds. Present—Bros. T. C. Taylor W.M., T. L. Oates P.M. S.W., T. W. Gaines J.W., W. F. Tomlinson Sec., T. W. Bailey S.D., George Hill as J.D., James Yates I.G., Robt. Oates Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Crair, Bedford, and about a dozen other brethren. Visitors—Bros. of the W.M. of Goderich Lodge, No. 1311, Winn P.M., Beck Lodge of Fidelity No. 289. Business comprised the raising of Bro. T. P. Humble; the passing of Dr. Geo. S. Taylor; and the initiation of Mr. Thomas Myers, of Leeds.

Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693.—This Lodge, which was consecrated in August 1877, has now completed its first year's existence, and the results achieved by the brethren may be considered highly satisfactory. The founders have been careful in their selection of brethren who have joined the Lodge, and the character of those who have been proposed as candidates for initiation has been well looked into. The Lodge moreover has fairly exerted itself on behalf of the Charities. The brethren met for the installation gathering on Tuesday last, the 1st October, at the Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, when, at 4 o'clock, the Lodge was opened by Bro. Charles Kingston Killick, supported by his Officers, a good attendance of members, and the following amongst other Visitors:—H. R. Hallam J.W. 1349, Wm. Webb A.D.C. 1530, H. Hallam 218, J. T. Rowe W.M. 193, A. Ravnor 1201, H. Cox W.M. elect 1530, W. B. Kidder P.M. 12, R. H. Halford W.M. 228, W. Cook 1530, R. Percy J.W. 228, W. H. Main P.M. 813, John A. Powell J.W. 186, H. Hollis P.M. 167, C. H. Drury 85, S. E. Moss P.M. 185, W. Rowley 917, J. Stock W.M. elect 1178, W. W. Morgan 211, C. Reepe 228. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the Auditors' report was received and adopted. Bro. Charles Hall was then raised to the sublime degree, the W.M. conducting the ceremony most effectively. The W.M. elect, Bro. A. H. Trewinnard, was then introduced, duly obligated, and installed as second W.M. of the Kingsland Lodge, the retiring Master undertaking the duties, and executing his work most ably. The appointment of Officers resulted as follows:—Bros. Isaac S.W., Hawkins J.W., Crosbie Treas., C. K. Killick P.M. Sec., A. W. Fenner S.D., Henry Hall J.D., Bartle I.G., N. L. Western D.C., J. Thompson A.D.C., Opperman W.S., Steedman P.M. Tyler. During the proceedings Bro. J. L. Mather acted as Director of Ceremonies, while Bros. Edgar Bowyer and H. Cox filled respectively the chairs of Senior and Junior Warden. After Bro. Killick had made a statement as to the result of his Stewardship at the last Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and the transaction of routine business, Lodge was closed. Banquet was served by Bro. Fysh, who was ably assisted by Bro. Allardyce, and on the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proceeded with the toasts. That of Her Majesty and the Craft having been loyally responded to, the W.M. gave the health of the Grand Master, and "God Bless the Prince of Wales" was sung. Bro. Killick felt it a great pleasure that it devolved on him to propose the health of the W.M. The present W.M. had ably filled, during the past year, the office of Senior Warden, and he felt assured the brethren had selected a competent Master. After a song, Bro. Trewinnard replied. He had always made this particular branch of Freemasonry his most especial study, and he was much pleased to stand before them in his present position. He trusted the affairs of the Lodge would prosper under his rule, and that the members would never regret having placed him in the chair. The next toast on the list was the health of the Installing, and First Master of the Kingsland Lodge, who had that night given them an admirable taste of his quality. The W.M. would now call upon them to drink Bro. Killick's health; before doing so, however, he would place on his breast the jewel that had been voted at the last meeting of the Lodge, and in doing so, he would express a hope that their esteemed I.P.M. might live long to wear it among them. Bro. Hallam jun. here sang "Meet me once again." Bro. Killick thanked the members for the spontaneous generosity they had exhibited in responding to his toast, so kindly proposed by the W.M. It was to him a gratifying recollection, that of having had the pleasure of introducing their present W.M. into Freemasonry. He was especially thankful that he had that day been privileged to instal him into the chair. For the handsome jewel they had presented him with, he was much indebted to them, and he trusted he might wear it for many, many years to come, and also that he might continue to see their kind faces around him. The next toast was Prosperity to the Masonic Institutions, coupled with the name of Bro. Terry, who, in a most exhaustive speech, acknowledged the compliment, and recounted what was being done by the three great Institutions supported by the Craft. The remaining toasts were taken in due course, and some able replies were made. The W.M., in response to an appeal from Bro. Terry, expressed his readiness to serve as Steward at the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution. Some capital songs were given during the evening, Bros. Hallam, Oppenheim, Killick and others favouring the company, while Bros. Isaac and Hawkins gave excellent recitations.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1529.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. R. Olley W.M., G. Ferrar S.W., J. Lorkin J.W., E. Dietrich Secretary and Treasurer, McMillan S.D., Williams J.D., C. Olley I.G., W. Fieldwick Preceptor; also Bros. B. Meyer W.M. of the Mother Lodge, W. Ferrar, H. Meyer J.W. 1524, Batchelor, O. Dietrich, &c. Business—After the regular routine of opening, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. B. Meyer being candidate. Bro. J. Lorkin, assisted by the brethren, worked the first four sections of the lecture. Bro. G. Ferrar was appointed W.M. for Wednesday, 16th inst. The supper of this Lodge of Instruction will take place on Wednesday evening next.

Abercorn Lodge, No. 1549.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 2nd October, at the Abercorn Hotel, Stauimore. Present—Bros. G. Tidcombe W.M., J. Ebbes S.W., W. S. Marshall J.W., C. Veal P.M. Sec., W. A. Rogers Treasurer, R. Roy S.D., C. Long J.D., Helsdon P.M. D.C., J. Middleton Tyler. Past Masters, Bros. Helsdon and J. W. Garrod. Visitors—Bros. F. Honeywell P.M. 889, J. Welford J.W. 733, H. Hall 31. Lodge opened at 4 p.m.; minutes of last meeting were confirmed. Bro. R. B. Paton was examined and passed. Bros. Tyrrell and Schmidt were then examined and duly raised; the ceremonies were ably performed by the W.M. Lodge closed in peace and harmony at 6 p.m.

Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 780.—The installation meetings of this Lodge are invariably well attended; when we say this, we do not wish our readers to assume that our remark is to apply to the installation meetings alone; indeed, we scarcely know any Lodge where better attendances are to be found. Since the improvements made at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, and the erection of the commodious banqueting hall by Bro. Stanbury, every facility for comfort, and for the enjoyment of the good things of this life is at the command of the Lodges and Chapters who make this establishment their head quarters. The present W.M., Bro. Charles Frederick May, is the son of the late Samuel May, a brother for whom the most universal respect was ever entertained, both by those who knew him in his Masonic capacity, and by those whose business relations brought him more immediately into association. Ten years back Bro. Samuel May filled the chair of the Royal Alfred Lodge, and up till the time of his death, which occurred in 1876, was ever watchful for the interests and welfare of the members. We believe it was during the Mastership of Bro. William Hilton that Bro. Charles May was invested with his first collar, that of Inner Guard, and as the Masters of this Lodge believe in the wholesome rule of aspirants rising steadily, step by step, and are opposed to the system—adopted, we regret to say, in too many Lodges—of “pitchforking” their members into office, we find that Bro. C. May has gradually risen, till on our entering the Lodge on Friday last we found him in the chair of Senior Warden. Bro. W. Goss, who is the soul of punctuality, opened the Lodge at the hour appointed, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The report of the Auditors was then read, and adopted. It shewed there was a balance due to the Lodge of over £61. The candidate for raising—Bro. John Edward Sharp—who was present, was examined, and duly advanced to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. There were six candidates on the paper for the second degree—Bros. Alfred T. Secker, John Snook, Edwin Eydmann, John Henry Jarvis, Richard Wood, and Robert Gifford; and each took his second step in Freemasonry. The next business was the election of a Treasurer to the Lodge. This office had become vacant in consequence of the unpleasant disclosures which have occurred since the last meeting of the members. The choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. Walter Goss, and this announcement was greeted with applause by all assembled. Bro. Goss, who throughout his year of office has carried out most carefully every duty, now took his place as Installing Master, and Bro. May was formally obligated, and the ceremony completed in its entirety. The Officers were then appointed and invested:—Bros. W. Gomm S.W., B. Blasby J.V., Walter Goss I.P.M. Treasurer, William Hilton P.M. Secretary, Costelow S.D., Franckel J.D., Gunner I.G., Tarling W.S., Gilbert Tyler. After the discussion of several matters in reference to the future conduct of the Lodge, and the usual routine business, Lodge was closed. We must not omit to mention here, however, that Bro. Past Master Gardiner, during the proceedings, intimated his intention to act as Steward at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and that the Lodge voted him the sum of £10 10s to place his list; this amount was most liberally supplemented by the members, and later on in the evening, when Brother Gardiner handed over his list for our inspection, we were pleased to note it totalled up to £49 7s 6d. As Bro. Gardiner is one who does not let the grass grow under his feet, we expect this amount will be considerably augmented ere the Festival is held. After a short interval the brethren were summoned to the banqueting hall, where a most *vécheré* repast was awaiting them. This was partaken of with extreme satisfaction, and on the removal of the cloth Bro. May proceeded with the toasts. The brethren having most loyally responded to the health of Her Majesty, that of H.R.H. the Grand Master was given. It is well known he takes a great interest in all Masonic matters, and by the way he exerts himself to further the best interest of Freemasonry he has won the respect of every member of the Craft. With the next toast—the Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers—was associated the name of Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, who replied. He would at once acknowledge his obligations to the W.M. for the kind way in which he had proposed, and to the brethren for the way in which they had received the toast. Both the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy were ever mindful of the heavy responsibilities of their position. This was evidenced most especially by the way the Pro Grand Master had conducted the recent proceedings in Grand Lodge. Lord Skelmersdale was perhaps better known in his own Province, that of West Lancashire; but all might be assured no Deputy Grand Master had ever been more popular. He was always ready to expend his time, and bring his great experience to bear. And now a few words for himself. Personally he felt a great pleasure in being present; for fourteen or fifteen years he had had the honour of being Secretary of this Lodge, and it was gratifying to him to see so many old faces around him. So long as the Lodge had officers who were as capable of doing their duty as those he saw at their posts that evening every prosperity must attend them. Bro. Walter Goss now rose to propose the health of the W.M., which duty he performed in most felicitous terms. Bro. May on rising was most heartily greeted; he thanked Bro. Goss for the kind way in which he had introduced the toast; and for the hearty way in which he had made reference to his father. If at the end of the twelvemonths he should stand there and be considered worthy of their regard, he should feel amply repaid for any trouble he might have to undergo. The next toast was that of the Past Masters, to whom was due so much of the success which had attended the working of the Lodge in the past, and to their continued exertions would be due any future prosperity that might ensue. Their Immediate Past Master, Bro. Goss, had that evening most successfully completed his labours by the way in which he had performed the ceremony of Installation, and in his new post of Treasurer he (the W.M.) trusted he might for many, many years, attend their gatherings, and give the Lodge the benefit of his experience. After an amusing song from Bro. Gunner, Bro. Goss acknowledged the compliment. He would strive to make his future services of value to the Lodge, and felt it a great compliment they had paid him in electing

him Treasurer. The handsome jewel they had presented him with should ever be prized by him, and he trusted his children might look upon it with gratification for many years. Bro. Hilton remarked that he had had the pleasure of initiating the W.M. some seven years back, and he was much gratified at finding him that day in his exalted position. Bro. Beasley and others having offered a few words, the W.M. called on the members to drink the health of the Visitors. The list was a long one, and comprised, amongst others, the following:—Bros. Thos. J. Barnes P.M. 554, John Soper 55, H. C. Soper P.M. 704, J. Tickle P.M. 1196, R. Clarke P.M. 1158, John Bingham P.M. 55, T. J. Maidwell W.M. 27, C. D. Hume W.M. 742, Seymour Lucas, G. Phillips, O. Sarvent 22, W. C. A. Bradle 87, H. Craven 834, J. W. Sanders 1293, George Penn W.M. 1642, George Joueffe, Euphrates, W. W. Morgan 211. Bro. May expressed the gratification it afforded the members of the Royal Alfred to meet and entertain brethren of other Lodges, and felt pleased to hear that they were enjoying themselves. To Bro. Barnes was entrusted the duty of replying, but several other brethren spoke a few words, all in eulogy of the day's proceedings. The remaining toasts were speedily disposed of, and the brethren separated. The following is a list of the P.M.'s of the Lodge who were present:—Bros. J. Chambers Roe, T. Brown, A. H. Longhurst, A. Beasley, H. Patten, G. A. Littlewood, G. F. Fry.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held its weekly meeting on Tuesday evening last, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Bros. Polak W.M., Brasted S.W., Wardoll J.W., Weige S.D., J. Lorkin J.D., Dignam I.G., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas., P.M. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Christian, Bolton, Collins, &c. Lodge was opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Collins as candidate. Bro. Dallas worked the 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Bolton of Lodge 1056 was elected a member. A vote of thanks was passed to the W.M. for his able working in the chair, this being the first time. Bro. Brasted will preside at the next meeting.

Whittington Lodge of Instruction, No. 862.—At the weekly meeting of this Lodge, held Wednesday, 2nd October, at Bro. Hyde's, Poppin-court, Fleet-street. Bro. Vizzard W.M., Brown S.W., Hallam jun. J.W., Thompson S.D., Kidder J.D., Hallam sen. I.G., Long Preceptor, and many others. The Lodge was opened and minutes confirmed. Bro. Welsford having offered himself as a candidate, the ceremony of initiation was ably performed by the W.M. The lecture was taken up at the end of the ceremony, and continued to the end of the sixth section. Bro. Jeapes was elected a member, and Bro. Brown W.M. for the ensuing week, when the ceremony of passing will be rehearsed. A vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M., this being the first time he had occupied the chair in any Lodge.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1056.—On Friday, 27th September, at Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bros. Cowan W.M., Creak S.W., Stanway J.W., Snelling Sec., Abell S.D., Gush J.D., Squirrel I.G., Christopher Tyler; P.M. and Preceptor Bro. J. R. Stacey. The Lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to work the ceremony of installation; appointing and investing his Officers, and giving the usual addresses to the W.M. elect, Wardens, and Brethren, the whole of the ceremony being given in a clear and impressive manner, and greatly to the satisfaction of the brethren present. A vote of thanks was afterwards passed, thanking Bro. Cowan, who was subsequently made an honorary member of the Lodge, in recognition of his services.

Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178.—The installation meeting took place on Thursday evening, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. The Lodge was opened at four o'clock by Bro. Frederick Garbett, who was supported by his Officers and the following P.M.'s of the Lodge:—J. A. Smith, W. T. Lover, J. H. Harmsworth, John Dixon, G. J. Grace, F. Garbett, Ebsworth, and Deacon. The visitors comprised Bros. W. Cook P.G.S. Herts, W. T. Buck 1196, W. Murria 554, H. L. Holloway 1622, E. Bax Royal Oak, T. J. Hyland J.D. 1744, Geo. Page 879, D. Sinclair, T. Vincent 1076, John Stroud 1227, R. H. Halford W.M. 228, G. S. Elliott 1623, J. Hamson 73, John A. Powell J.W. 186, D. D. Mercer 1329, R. Pearcy J.W. 228, E. Bruin W.M. 1571, W. W. Morgan 211, G. B. Yarman 73, and W. D. Bayley Junior Warden 185. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the candidate for the third degree, Bro. J. W. Walker, passed his examination, and the ceremony was worked most satisfactorily by the W.M. The W.M. elect, Bro. Joseph Stock, was then introduced, and duly obligated, Bro. Garbett efficiently discharging the duties of Installing Master. On compliance of the request that those brethren who were not entitled to wear the levels should retire, a Board of Installed Masters was opened, and the ceremony completed. The brethren were then admitted, and saluted the new W.M. who appointed and invested his Officers:—Bros. Simpson S.W., Bell J.W., Ebsworth P.M. Treas., Challoner Sec., Quincey S.D., G. H. Forder J.D., Bridges I.G., Smith P.M. D. of C., Gibbs A.D.C., Lovel P.M. W.S., W. Y. Laing Tyler. The ballot was then brought into requisition for some candidates for our mysteries. Mr. Joseph J. Lamborne successfully underwent the ordeal, and he, being present, was introduced and initiated into the privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The new W.M. has been a most painstaking and constant attendant at the several metropolitan Lodges of Instruction, and the advantage he has derived from his visits was now apparent by the excellent way in which he performed the ceremony. A notice of motion on the paper, it was arranged should stand over till next meeting, but the proposition in reference to the late Secretary

Bro. F. Walters P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M. 73, that—"in consideration of the services rendered by him to the Lodge, as Secretary for the past eleven years, he be elected an Honorary Member of the Lodge"—was brought forward, seconded, and received unanimous confirmation. After the customary greetings from the Visitors, Lodge was closed. Banquet was then served in capital style by Bro. Spencer, and on the completion of the repast, which was thoroughly appreciated by the assembled guests, the W.M. proceeded with the toast list. The three first were received with every demonstration of loyalty; the eulogistic remarks of the W.M. in connection with our Masonic Rulers being cordially endorsed by the members. On proposing the health of the Initiate, Bro. Stock said the brethren of the Lodge of Perfect Ashlar were always pleased to receive into their ranks gentlemen who came with good recommendations. He had pleasure in proposing the health of their new member, Bro. Lambourne. This brother in reply said, He was not a good hand at making a speech, but felt a great honour had been conferred upon him, that of his being admitted into the ranks of Freemasonry. He felt greatly indebted to his friend, P.M. Lover, who had kindly introduced him to their Society. He trusted he might become an ornament to the Craft. Bro. Garbett felt a great pleasure in proposing the next toast, the health of the Worshipful Master. They had been fellow initiates, and it had afforded him infinite pleasure to instal him into the chair. He had been a most earnest worker, and he (Bro. Garbett) regretted he had not been able to perfect himself so admirably as Bro. Stock had done in the ritual of the Craft. After a capital song by Bro. Royal, Bro. Stock rose to reply. He assured the brethren that as long as it lay in his power he would exert himself for the welfare of the Lodge, and he sincerely trusted they might never regret the choice they had made in appointing him. He thanked them heartily for the way they had received the toast. The health of the Installing Master was the next offered. The W.M. undertook this pleasant duty with intense satisfaction, as he and Bro. Garbett were old friends. He would place on their brother I.P.M.'s breast the jewel which had been presented by the Lodge. After a song—"On Balaclava's Heights"—from Bro. Killick, Bro. Garbett rose. It afforded him great pleasure to respond to the toast. He was grateful to the members for the kind assistance they had rendered him during the year. To the P.M.'s he was specially indebted; they had never failed in helping him when their aid was required. He trusted he might long be associated with them, and that he might see the Perfect Ashlar continue its career of prosperity. The W.M. then gave the health of the Visitors. He named them seriatim, and expressed the satisfaction the members felt in having so many distinguished Masons present. The reply for the Visitors was entrusted to Bro. C. K. Killick P.M. 1693, and Bros. Halford, Trewinnard, and Morgan added a few observations. Then the W.M. most earnestly besought the sympathies of the brethren on behalf of the Masonic Charities, and called on Bro. James Terry to address them. After a recitation by Bro. Morgan, Bro. Terry gave an exhaustive account of what was being done by the three great central Charities, and strenuously urged on the brethren the need of increased exertion. The elections for the Boys' and Girls' School would shortly be held, and many of the most deserving cases would necessarily have to be rejected, through inadequate means at the disposal of the governing bodies. He thanked the members for the support they had always rendered to the Charities, and hoped that prosperity and happiness might attend all their future undertakings. The health of the P.M.'s was ably replied to by Bro. Ebsworth, and the several Officers each gave expression to their sentiments. The W.M. then summoned the Tyler, who concluded the evening's proceedings. The brethren were agreeably entertained during the evening by some capital songs; in addition to those already enumerated, we must not omit to mention the efforts of P.M.'s Smith and Deacon, who exerted themselves most successfully. Before closing our report, we—on behalf of several of the visitors—tender our thanks to the energetic D. of C., Bro. P.M. Lover, who was most assiduous in his exertions to minister to the comfort of the guests.

Finsbury Park Master Masons Lodge of Instruction, No. 1288.—Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway, Friday, 27th September. Bros. Walker P.M. W.M., Press S.W., Frampton J.W., Dunn S.D., Cox J.D., Part I.G., H. B. D. Dunn Sec., Rogers P.M. Preceptor, Pigot and Hawkins. After preliminaries the 1st and 2nd ceremonies were rehearsed, Bro. Hawkins candidate. Bro. Press was elected W.M. for ensuing week.

Finsbury Park Lodge, No. 1288.—Held at Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway, Wednesday, 25th ult. Bros. Thompson W.M., Thos. Goode S.W., Dunn J.W., Press S.D., A. Goode J.D., Tremere I.G., P.M. Eldridge acting Preceptor, H. B. D. Dunn Secretary. Lodge opened and minutes were read and confirmed, and initiation ceremony rehearsed, Bro. Samuel Goode candidate. Bro. Walker candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. Lodge opened up, and that ceremony was rehearsed. Bro. P.M. Wright 1298 worked the first and second sections of the first lecture. Bro. Thos. Goode was elected W.M. for ensuing week. Bro. Rev. T. R. Smithson, of Marine Lodge, Mauritius was elected a member. Lodge closed in ancient form.

St. John of Wapping Lodge of Instruction, No. 1306.—Held at Bro. Mortlock's, Gun Hotel, High-street, Wapping, will resume its weekly meetings on Monday next, 7th October. A plain supper will be provided at eight o'clock precisely.

St. Eleth Lodge, No. 1488.—The regular monthly meeting of this prosperous and well worked Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the Castle Hotel, Amlwch, when the following brethren

were present:—Bros. H. Lloyd W.M., B. Roose I.P.M., J. Treweek S.W., C. S. Dyer J.W., T. Pritchard Sec., Rev. J. Smith Chaplain, Owen Rowland S.D., J. Hughes as I.G., O. Roberts Tyler. The Lodge was opened at 3.30 p.m., when the minutes of the previous meeting were read, found correctly recorded and ratified. This being the meeting for election of Worshipful Master, the ballot was taken, and resulted in the unanimous appointment of Bro. Treweek to that exalted post. The election of Treasurer followed, and then the appointment of Tyler. The labours of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed in harmony, at an early hour, as a number of the brethren of the Lodge live a considerable distance from the town.

Ancient Carthage Lodge, No. 1717, at Tunis in North Africa.—An emergent meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Tunis, at 8 p.m. on Monday, 23rd September. The European date corresponds with the eve of the 27th day of the Ramadan fast, and is always the occasion of festivities and rejoicing throughout the Moorish city, which is brilliantly illuminated during the whole night. The W.M. Bro. A. M. Broadlev, Barrister-at-Law, presided, assisted by the following Officers:—W. Bros. Dr. Mugnaini 32° P.M., J. H. Stevens S.W., Pentecost J.W., Soniller Interpreter and Secretary, Blanch Treasurer, Lumbroso S.D., Finzi J.D., V. C. Clement D of C., Dr. Cassanello and Bourepaux Stewards, and Bro. P.M. Paleologo I.G. More than thirty other members and visitors were present. On an alarm being given the General Muhammed el Arbi ben Si Reschid was introduced and initiated by the W.M., in the Italian language, into the secrets and mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry. The candidate, who was deeply impressed by the ceremony, is a cousin of the present occupant of the throne of Tunis, and a nephew of the much lamented sovereign H. H. Si Ahmed Bey. He is a gentleman of considerable acquirements and enlightened opinions, speaking fluently both the Italian and French languages. General Si Mahammed is the forty-fourth candidate initiated in this Lodge since its consecration twelve months since. The W.M. announced that the installation meeting would take place on the 5th October. The Lodge was closed at 9.30 p.m. There was no banquet, as by the Bye-laws of this Lodge no part of its funds can be appropriated to refreshment, and the entertainments are restricted to the Installation Festival and that of St. John the Baptist.

Marquess of Granby Lodge, No. 124.—A meeting was held on 1st October, at the Masonic Hall, Old Elvet, Durham. Present—Bros. Samuel Penny W.M., Samuel Holdsworth S.W., Thos. Bell J.W., William Coxon Secretary, Charles Dawson S.D., Samuel Bousfield J.D., John Carr and William Robertson Stewards, Andrew Carr I.G., John Carter Tyler. Past Masters Bros. John Sewell, George Johnston, Henry Lawrence; and thirty-five of the brethren. Visitors—Bros. Sanderson, W. Gray, E. Dodds, of the Norman Lodge, No. 1334, Geo. Holdsworth, St. Marnock Lodge, No. 109. Business—The minutes of the last General Lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. George W. Richardson, as a joining member from the Perseverance Lodge, Hebburn-on-Tyne, and he was duly approved of. The Lodge was advanced to the third degree, when Bro. William Crawford was duly raised to the Master Masons degree by Bros. Henry Lawrence P.M. and Samuel Penny W.M. The W.M. stated that the next Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at Durham, on the 22nd day of October, at two o'clock in the afternoon, under the banners of the Marquess of Granby and Norman Lodges. The Lodge was then closed in due form.

Rothsay Lodge, No. 1687.—The installation meeting was held on Wednesday, at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields. Present—Bros. Louis Beck W.M., Frank Kirk S.W., John Hancock J.W., W. C. Parsons P.M. Sec., B. H. Swallow P.M. Treas., J. B. Docker S.D., J. Crossland J.D., H. E. Forscutt D.C., E. Duret Steward, J. H. Outhwaite I.G., Potter P.M. Tyler. Among the visitors were Col. Francis Burdett Prov. G.M. Middlesex, Henry Cawty P.P.G.W. Hants and Isle of Wight, James Terry Secretary R.M.B.I., F. R. W. Hedges Secretary R.M.I.G., T. E. Gibbs 34, R. Farquharson 99, C. Wentworth 101, W. H. Dean W.M. 417, Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer Dorset, A. Barfield Past Master 511, J. Tee 511, H. Massey P.M. 619, W. Heather 858, F. H. Cozens 907, J. Randall 913, A. F. Rowley P.M. 917, C. Goodyear 1029, J. E. Danks 1101, R. Prickett 1101, R. C. Mount W.M. 1328, George Wood 1328, R. Coad, 1328, R. F. Giles 1328, John Quincey 1349, Warner Sleigh 1381, F. Trotman 1381, W. W. Morgan jun. 1385, E. Crickmay 1426, A. M. Thomas P.M. 1446, H. Gloster 1531, T. Gramant 1559, J. Inge 1563, A. B. Weston 1585, S. Rowley 1602, H. Honeyball 1681, W. White, W. E. Duncan, &c. The usual preliminaries having been observed, the Lodge was advanced to the second degree, and Bros. Lloyd and White examined as to their proficiency. The Lodge having been opened up, these two brethren were raised to the degree of M.M. The W.M. elect, Bro. Frank Kirk, was now introduced by Bro. P.M. Swallow for the purpose of being installed into the chair of the Lodge. With the usual form this ceremony was completed, and the newly elected W.M. proceeded to invest his Officers as follow:—Bros. Hancock S.W., Docker J.W., Louis Beck P.M. Treas., Parsons Sec., Crossland S.D., Outhwaite J.D., Forscutt I.G., Duret and Jones Directors of Ceremonies, Swallow and Livermore Stewards, P.M. Holden Chaplain, Berrow Organist, Potter Tyler. One proposition for joining, and two for initiation were handed in. The balance sheet was read and unanimously adopted, and £10 10s voted to the funds of the Boys' School, to be placed on the list of the Worshipful Master, who will act as Steward at the next Festival of that Institution. After this Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where the W.M. presided in a genial manner. After grace the health of Her Majesty the Queen was given, and the National Anthem sung. The W.M. next gave that of the M.W. Grand Master the Duke of Rothsay. The members of the Rothsay Lodge, which was named

after his Royal Highness, could but accord the heartiest welcome to this toast. The W.M. considered it was due to the patronage of His Royal Highness that Freemasonry was just now in so prosperous a state. The toast was enthusiastically honoured, and "God Bless the Prince of Wales" sung. The next toast on the list—the Grand Officers—was given by the W.M. They were that night honoured in having two representatives of Grand Lodge among them. He regretted that the Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex had been obliged to leave them so early in the evening, but was sure they had, in Bro. Buss, as able a representative of Grand Lodge as could be found. That Brother, on rising to respond, stated that he was quite unprepared, as he had throughout the evening looked upon it as certain that Bro. Burdett would reply to the toast. The way in which the toast is everywhere received can but be gratifying to the Grand Officers, especially to those noblemen who head the present list. Personally, he thanked the members for the way in which he had been received, and congratulated them on the successful termination of their first year's labours. He thought it very gratifying to see the first Master retiring with such honour. Bro. Beck rose, it being the first time that a Past Master of the Rothesay Lodge had been entrusted with the gavel, he thought it desirable to briefly explain to the new members the special duty entailed thereby. Every one present must be gratified at receiving so distinguished a brother to preside over them. He hoped they would unite in heartily drinking to his good health, and the prosperity of the Lodge under his guidance. The toast having been honoured, the W.M. in reply tendered his sincere thanks for the honour conferred on him in placing him in the position of W.M. It would be his endeavour to make his year as successful as possible. He considered he had a very arduous task before him, having to follow so energetic and painstaking a brother as their late Master, Bro. Beck. To excel him would be impossible, but he would endeavour to merit the approval of the members of his Lodge. His next duty was to propose an eminently Masonic toast. Hospitality, he considered, was one of the most important characteristics of Freemasonry, and to practise it was the most pleasing office of any Master. He felt sure he was expressing the sentiments of every member of his Lodge when he said that they were heartily pleased to have so many Visitors; they were one and all welcome. He hoped their present visit had been a pleasant one, and that they would take an opportunity of again witnessing the work of the Rothesay Lodge. With the toast he coupled the names of Bros. Thomas and Mount. The first of these brethren after having tendered the thanks of himself and fellow visitors, said: He did not know whether the fact of a man becoming a Freemason worked a complete change in his nature, but he felt sure that in some respects it did, and that in a most marked way. He was never received at any gathering with such genuine good feeling and hospitality as at a Masonic Lodge. There a man met with thorough cordiality, and was truly received on one of the five points of fellowship, there, there was no half-hearted reception accorded, no just touching the tips of your fingers and saying a mere how-do-you-do; it was real genuine welcome, and such as could but make any one completely at home and ready to appreciate the pleasures of a meeting. He believed it was by such interchange of visits that Freemasonry maintained its exalted position. Such evenings as the present were like bright spots in our course, and induced one to look forward to them with great pleasure. He concluded by tendering the congratulations of the visitors on the successful condition of the Lodge, and its great prosperity during the first year of its existence. Bro. Mount assured the members that no one could have more at heart the welfare of the Lodge than himself. As Master of the Granite Lodge, he felt especially pleased in having an opportunity of responding, for it was that Lodge which had recommended the petition of the Rothesay. He had long known their present Master in connection with Freemasonry, having had the pleasure of escorting him round the Lodge at the time of his initiation. He could also boast another Masonic connection, having been initiated into the Craft by the father of their W.M. The W.M. now rose to propose what he considered was the toast of the evening—that of Past Master Bro. Louis Beck. All present knew something of the way in which that brother could carry out the work of a Lodge, but only those who, like himself, had been connected with him as Officers, knew how he had laboured throughout the year in their Lodge, and before that, had exerted himself in connection with its formation. But fifteen months ago the Rothesay Lodge existed but in the imagination of Bro. Beck, and now they could look round and see the Lodge in thorough working order, with a goodly array of members, and no small amount of credit attached to it by brethren and neighbouring Lodges; in fact they were, thanks to Bro. Beck's management, in a state of great prosperity. He had been entrusted by the members of the Lodge with the task of placing on the breast of Bro. Beck a P.M.'s jewel, he considered it thoroughly deserved, and hoped Bro. Beck would accept it as a slight reward for his labours. The founders had, some time back decided to present Bro. Beck with a bust of himself, and he (the W.M.) was pleased that he was now able to present that also. Bro. Beck found himself incapable of expressing his feelings of gratification. He took a great pride in forming the Lodge, and from the first had worked to make it a success. If he might judge from the eulogistic remarks of the W.M. he had succeeded. No one could be more gratified at the result than himself. He considered throughout he had but done his duty, and was therefore truly pleased at the hearty reception given to the toast. Although he was no longer Master of the Lodge he should take a continued interest in its welfare, not only as a P.M., but also from the fact of his being the Father of the Lodge. The health of the Treasurer and Secretary was next proposed. As Bro. Beck had already had an opportunity of responding, the W.M. would confine his remarks to their Secretary, whom he considered was the most perfect representative of the class to be found in England. Bro. Parsons in reply thanked the Master for his good opinion. Although he felt that the remarks were too eulogistic, he was gratified that his labours met with approval. He was always desirous to do his duty to the

best of his ability. He trusted that the future might not entirely upset the encomiums passed on him. There was a matter he would like to say a few words about; one he considered it the duty of every Secretary to refer to. Having enjoyed themselves during the evening, they ought to remember those of their brethren who, from one cause or another, were in distressed circumstances, and also the orphans of others who had claims on their benevolence. They should bear in mind that such brethren joined the ranks of Freemasonry when in good positions and with no prospect before them of misfortune, therefore it behoved them to reflect, for it was impossible to say who might be the next to meet with misfortune, either from illness or other causes. He thought it would be much better for the Lodges to forego one night's banquet and devote the sum to one or other of the Charities. This had been done with the greatest success by The Great City Lodge, who were able to send £50 as the surplus of a bread and cheese supper. He did not wish the brethren to do anything contrary to their desires, but he felt sure that after such an evening, showing such a truly Masonic result, the brethren would go away highly satisfied with themselves. Bro. Beck here stated that he had forgotten one matter which he wished to mention. For some years past he had been in the habit of giving a ball, the proceeds of which had on each occasion more than provided for the expenses. He now proposed to continue these gatherings as the Rothesay Lodge Benevolent Fund Ball, and hoped that much larger profits than he had received would accrue. He felt that success was certain if the officers would undertake the duty of Stewards, and the members generally exert themselves in the cause. The next toast was that of the Masonic Charities, to which Bros. Hedges and Terry replied. The latter brother referred to the remarks of the Secretary, he felt certain that if the Lodges had no banquets, the Craft would have no Charities. The members of Lodges where banquets are unknown are generally as cold-hearted as the Lodge itself. He referred to one Lodge which started as a non-dining Lodge. For many years it "lived" and that was all—as to charity it was unknown there. One night the Master elect stated it was his intention to have a banquet, after his installation, and on that occasion introduced the toast of the Charities, announcing it was his intention to act as Steward for one of them, and sending his list round for the names of supporters. When it came back there was between £70 and £80 recorded thereon, and this, in the opinion of Bro. Terry, was mainly attributed to the fact of a banquet having brought the members into jovial intercourse. The present S.W. of the Rothesay had already given his name as Steward for the Benevolent Institution for 1880, and Bro. Terry hoped that the charitable spirit already evinced by the Lodge would continue. The Officers of the Lodge were next toasted, and each replied in brief speeches. The Tyler being now summoned, gave the finishing touch to a most successful gathering. During the banquet, the band of the London Scottish Rifles performed a choice selection of music, and between the toasts several of the members of the Lodge displayed their vocal and instrumental abilities, greatly adding to the enjoyment of the evening.

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MASONIC PORTRAITS.

REPRINTED FROM "THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE."

LIST OF THE PORTRAITS.

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| 1. OUR LITERARY BROTHER
Bro. H. M. Levy. | 17. THE CHRISTIAN MINISTER
Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn. |
| 2. A DISTINGUISHED MASON
Bro. J. B. Monckton. | 18. THE MYSTIC
Bro. R. Wentworth Little. |
| 3. THE MAN OF ENERGY
Bro. John Constable. | 19. A MODEL MASON
Bro. L. F. Little. |
| 4. FATHER TIME
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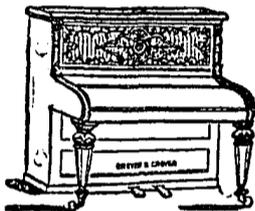
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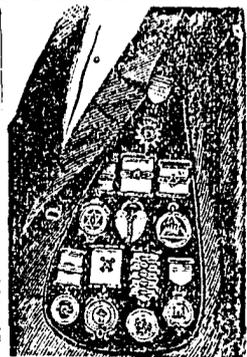
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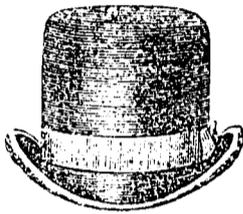
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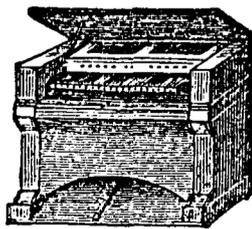


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