

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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THE APPROACHING SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

THE balloting papers for the April election of the Schools will show plainly the inadequacy of the executive of the two Institutions to open the doors to all who are deemed worthy of the benefits of these Institutions. Our regret at such a state of affairs is well known, and we need scarcely refer to it to-day. We will therefore proceed to set forth the claims of the several candidates, and in doing so it must be understood our remarks are based solely on the information contained in the balloting papers. Without doubt, there are special considerations in many of the cases which render the candidate worthy of exceptional support, but of such it is not our province to take notice. We leave these considerations to be set forth by the friends of the respective candidates, feeling assured that they will receive proper attention.

First in order we take the list of the Girls' School, the next election for which is fixed for Saturday, the 12th April. The number of the vacancies to be filled on that occasion is officially stated as eighteen. For these there are 47 applicants, sixteen of whom are described as London candidates, thirty Provincial, and one Foreign (Calcutta). Of the Provinces, Hampshire sends four candidates; Devon and West Yorkshire three each; West Lancashire, Monmouth, Warwick and Wilts two each, and Cambridge, Cheshire, Durham, Essex, Gloucester, Kent, East Lancashire, Somerset, Stafford, Sussex, South Wales (Western Division), and East Yorkshire one each. Of the total, twenty-five have applied before, and in each case—except in that of Ellen Senior, No. 9 on the list—votes are brought forward, ranging from 1,086 in the case of No. 20, Elizabeth Alice Harbord, and 1,018 in that of No. 18, Florence E. M. Palmer, to 22 in that of No. 4, Elizabeth Minnie Parker. In only three of these cases has more than one previous application been made, the exceptions being, Gertrude Alice Jay, who now appears for the seventh and last time, and Edith Mary Garnet and Mabel Jane Sampson, each of whom have stood two previous elections; the votes brought forward in these three cases being 575, 836 and 613 respectively. One matter in connection with the first of the above-named three applicants deserves notice, and, whatever may be the result of this election, it will doubtless be the last at which such a question can arise. Gertrude Alice Jay has already two sisters in the Institution, and from the number of votes brought forward from previous elections she also stands a chance of being successful. If she be elected her mother certainly has reason to look upon Freemasonry—with which her late husband was connected but two years—as a most charitable institution. We hope she feels justified in claiming so much assistance from a body to which, one would think, her husband had hardly time to make himself known. These remarks also apply to Ethel F. W. Allison, No. 12 on the list, with 158 votes brought forward; she also has two sisters in the School, and Helen Mary Busher, No. 15, 865 votes forward, who has a brother in the Boys' School and a sister in the Girls' School, save that in these cases the fathers have subscribed, the one 13½ and the other 14½ years. Should either of these be successful, we think they are to be congratulated on the support their friends can command. There are nine other instances where members of the same family are being cared for in our Schools—eight candidates with each a sister in the Girls, and one a brother in the Boys—this shows that the law limiting the

benefits of our Educational Charities to one in each family is really a necessity. The case of Edith Corral Williams, No. 24 on the list, appears to merit special attention, this being the last chance she has of election, and both her parents are dead. The number of votes standing in her favour at the present time is 83; these we need scarcely point out to the brethren of Monmouth will not tend materially to lessen their labour if they are determined to carry this case. The only other candidate who will be debarred in consequence of the age limit, if unsuccessful at this election, is Katherine Annie Peele, No. 7 (Durham), who enters the lists with 344 votes already secured; her mother is living, and this child is the only one dependent on her for support. Mabel Jane Sampson, No. 3, with 613 votes from her two previous applications, is one of ten children; both parents are living, but of their means we are unable to form any opinion. No. 11, Beatrice Mary Clark, is one of ten children, all of whom are dependent on their mother, the father having died nearly four years since. Her case is in the hands of the Warwickshire brethren, and comes forward with 532 recorded votes, so that if the Province has decided to secure the election of this candidate before starting with the other one brought forward by its members, we may look for her name among the list of those successful. The other case from this Province is that of Minnie Howle, No. 43, one of four children, who have lost their father, and her success may be considered as merely a matter of time. No. 17, Edith Brown, is a Devonshire lass, and is the only one of the candidates from that Province who has taken part in a previous election, the number of votes recorded in her favour being 28. Both her parents are living, but they have to provide for eight children, so that we hope the True Love and Unity Lodge, of which the father is a Past Master, will use every effort to enlist as much of the sympathy of the Province as the case fairly merits. The other candidates which require the special attention of our Devonshire brethren are No. 35, Mildred Evens, and No. 39, Edith Hicks. The father of the former died last year, leaving a widow, who has five children entirely, and one partly dependent on her for their living, while the other has both parents alive, and is one of three depending on them for support. We may safely leave these cases to the care of the Province, knowing that it will not be from want of energy if the candidates are not eventually successful. One of the West Lancashire applicants, No. 15, Helen Mary Busher, has already been referred to as having a brother and sister in the Schools; still, even now there are seven children to be provided for by the parents. Considering the number of votes brought forward (865), the Province would be entitled to some sympathy if it were to be decided that the new rules should debar the case from being received. The surplus votes of the Province will doubtless be expended in advancing the interests of its other candidate. Annie Sarah Parker, No. 28, who is one of seven children—two of whom, however, are partly provided for—both parents are living. A family of six children, in a double sense orphans, claims the sympathy of the Gloucestershire Craftsmen, whose efforts at the last election, on behalf of Thurza Ann Veal, No. 13, when 686 votes were recorded, is evidence of their determination to assist in the care of these children. Hampshire has hard work planned out, even for its zealous workers—four candidates requiring attention. Of these the first on the list is No. 30, Emily S. H. Hill, whose mother is called upon to provide wholly for five children, and partially for one other. The other

cases are Nos. 38, 42, and 44 respectively. No. 44, Emily Beatrice King, is one of five children, whose parents are still living, but we presume are in a condition which renders them unable to provide for their offspring, or the candidate would not have been passed by the committee. Annie Gover, No. 38, has only her mother to look to for a maintenance, but as the widow has two other children needing her attention, we should like to be in a position to record the daughter had succeeded to the benefits of our School. The other candidate from this Province is Annie Elizabeth Hill, but as her friends have already been successful in securing the admission of her sister to the School, we fear little further help will be accorded the widow from this quarter. The western division of South Wales has already 745 votes recorded for the benefit of their candidate, Mary Eliza Mott, No. 14, which number may in itself be sufficient to ensure success, but will doubtless be augmented in such a manner as to leave no possibility of failure. We look upon the success of this candidate as all but secured, but even if that desired end be attained, the mother has still four children to maintain. East Yorkshire and Cheshire stand even better with their candidates, Florence May Jones, No. 23, and Elizabeth Alice Harbord. For the former 884 votes have been polled, and for the latter 1086. In each case the mother is left with five children; she must be looking forward to the day of election with great anxiety. Cambridgeshire brings its candidate forward for the second time, with but 22 votes in her favour. Unless this Province has extraordinary powers of borrowing, or outside aid is secured, the mother of Elizabeth Minnie Parker, with five children to provide for, is doomed to disappointment. Kent, which showed so strongly at the last election, may safely be left in charge of Fanny Elizabeth Wain (No. 32), who is selected as a candidate from the five orphans of a late member of the Province. We have already disposed of one of the Monmouthshire cases, the other is Rosamond E. A. Laybourne, No. 22, who is one of four children, left fatherless as long back as 1872. She starts on this occasion with 346 votes to her credit, but must not rely too much on the aid of the Province, which has the claims of another candidate before it. West Yorkshire has already 685 votes to the credit of No. 5, Blanch Adelaide Mitton, and 163 to No. 8, Kate Hebblethwaite, whilst its third candidate is the one appearing for the second time with no votes brought forward. This Province may be enabled to secure two of the vacancies on this occasion, in such case the above order is likely to be that in which the support will be accorded. Wiltshire has one candidate from last election, with 43 votes brought forward, and one other appearing now for the first time. The latter, No. 37, Ellen Mary Good, is one of five children, having both parents living, but the father is insane. The other, No. 10, Ada Mary Cook, has only a mother, who now has to provide for four children. Each of these cases, therefore, merit more support than the voting resources of the Province can give. Neither of the parents of the Staffordshire candidate, No. 46, Mabel Harrison Tipper, are living, and, as there are still three children to provide for, we should be pleased to hear that something further had been done for them, but the fact of one sister being already on the funds of the Institution will act as an obstruction to substantial progress. The East Lancashire candidate, Margaret Ethel Lang, No. 41, has also a sister in the school. Essex should secure the election of Edith Mary Garnett, having polled 836 votes for her on two previous occasions. Sussex closes the Provincial list, with one candidate, Catherine Frances Hide, No. 27, who, together with one other child, is at present supported by her widowed mother. The only foreign candidate on the present occasion is Harriott Geraldine Keighley, who hails from Calcutta. Her mother has seven children to support, and starts with 248 votes recorded in favour of this child. We trust that the result of this election will prove that distance only adds to the number of a brother's true friends.

Of the sixteen London candidates, nine are first applications, six second, and one has appeared at six previous contests; this latter case we have already referred to, as also to No. 12, Ethel Frances W. Allison, who has two sisters in the School. Five more cases may be disposed of in a few words, as one or other of our Schools are already providing for members of their respective families. These are Nos. 16, 19, 21, 26 and 40. Florence E. M. Palmer, No. 18, goes to the poll with 1,018 votes already recorded,

and, doubtless, her election will be secured. No. 25, Emma Eliza Williams, is the only other girl who has votes to the good, her total number brought forward being 305. Both her parents are living, but the father is insane, he thus proves an additional burden on the mother, who has two children, besides the candidate in question, needing support. The Lewis Lodge, No. 1,185, of which the father was a member, should be able to bring sufficient influence to bear to secure the return of this candidate, and we trust the members will on this occasion show they can support their *protégé* as surely as we are taught their sponsor does the stone. Of first application cases, it is very difficult to decide which is the most deserving, as no less than three of the candidates comprise members of families of four deprived of both their parents, while another is one of six children dependent on a widowed mother. Oh! that we could relieve such cases as these without the vicissitudes of elections, ending too often in ultimate disappointment; but, unfortunately, such cannot be; we, therefore, can only leave the question to be decided by the support obtained by the various friends who are working for the applicants. The three candidates who have neither parents living are Nos. 31, 33 and 47. No. 31, Ellen Amy Wadham, hails from the far-famed Yarborough Lodge, No. 554. After what has been said of the ability of its members to carry their cases, we are assured they will use every exertion to make this no exception to the rule; we offer our good wishes to the candidate who relies on these efforts. No. 33, Alice Mary Dawson, claims the support of the Londesborough Lodge, her father having been one of its earliest initiates. No. 47, Mary Ann A. Wyatt, the last on the list, has staunch friends to assist her. Her father at his death was Junior Warden of the Loyalty Lodge, No. 1607, which, as is well known, is largely composed of members of Sincerity, No. 174. As this latter Lodge has no case on the present list, we hope they will exert their strength to secure the election of their daughter Lodge's child. At all events the case will not occupy the same position after the ballot that it does now. Florence Lizzie Duckett, No. 34, one of six children dependent on the mother, emanates from the United Strength Lodge, No. 228. Her father was well known to many Masons, both London and Provincial, and numerous are the evenings we have spent in his company, when, in his official capacity of newspaper reporter, he has been present at Masonic meetings. We should be especially gratified to see one of his orphans cared for by the Craft he ever adorned, and was always ready to serve. No. 36, Charlotte Amelia Fellows, is one of four children relying on their mother for aid, and should secure a good position, her father being at the time of his death Senior Warden of the Lion and Lamb, and Worshipful Master of the Henry Muggeridge Lodge, No. 1679. For the sake of the staunch old Mason after whom the Lodge is named, we trust an extra effort will be made. "Old Mug;" himself is a tower of strength, and he will doubtless use all his powers on behalf of the child of one who must have been intimately known to him. Clara Pratt, No. 45, has both parents living, who have four children dependent on them. The father is a Past Master of the Neptune Lodge, and has been a subscribing member for 21½ years (the longest on the list). In days gone by he ably worked for the Charities; we hope our brethren will now show appreciation of his labours. No. 29, Laura Sophia Cheek, brings this portion of our task to an end. Her father, a member of the Domestic Lodge, No. 177, died in 1873, and his widow now has two orphan children to provide for. The Lodge has a reputation; this we leave to its members to uphold on the present occasion.

It has been announced that at the regular meeting of the Albert Victor Lodge, No. 1773, which was fixed for the 21st inst., at the Town Hall, Pendleton, the W.M. Bro. S. Statham P.P.G.T. was to deliver a lecture on "the Duties and Responsibilities of the W.M. in the Government of his Lodge;" after which, the charity box would be passed round in aid of the funds of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. We hope the Master had a large audience, and that the cause of charity was freely supported by those present.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FESTIVAL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am sorry your correspondent, "A BLUE MASON ONLY," should consider my remarks "unjust," as we never, for one moment, inferred that the members of the Masonic Organisation referred to had not done their duty in previous years in assisting the cause of Masonic Charity, and it was well known that one very genial brother, Junior Deacon of the year, had given practical proof of his zeal by very handsome personal donations in his own name, and also by other members of his family; but what I did object to was, that on this very occasion of all others, when we, as a Province, were putting forth our best efforts, these brethren, and many other leading officials and dignitaries, were "conspicuous by their absence."

Now, on the occasion of these Festivals, whoever is Chairman, one likes to see him supported by the Officers for the year at least, and more especially when those in London can attend the banquet at so small a cost, and surely it is not too much for those who travel hundreds of miles to be present to expect to be favoured with the presence of our leading dignitaries, and an opportunity given to our younger members to "see and know" who they are.

I am glad to learn from a Brother who appears so well posted in statistics as to the labours of our Grand Officers, that no slight was intended to the Prov. G.M. by the absence of the brethren alluded to, and as he appears to convey their views very clearly, I cannot be otherwise than satisfied, and am glad to have an erroneous impression erased from my mind. I wish to state, in dismissing this subject, that Major Starkie is now a member of the Haute Grades, having been perfected in the Palatine Chapter at Manchester on the 5th instant.

I quite concur with "A BLUE MASON ONLY," whose colour, by the way, I think is "ultramarine" (and occasionally "white and gold"), that the Provincial Grand Masters were hardly up to the mark in not supporting one of their own body, and the presence of Sir Henry Edwards is accounted for by the fact that he is the personal friend of our Prov. G.M., who installed him into his office of Prov. G.M. of Yorkshire, and could scarcely have deserted him on an occasion like this.

I felt grieved, and for a time annoyed, at what I considered a want of attention on the part of these leading characters, and when I arrived home, believed it right to ventilate my grievance; having been courteously replied to, I am content, and hope in the future, when any "big wig" attends London on an occasion like this, he may have the countenance of as many London "stars" as possible, for our wish on this last occasion was not so much to enlist them to canvass for subscriptions, but give us the honour and pleasure of their presence and sympathy.

Yours fraternally,

HAUTE GRADE.

15th March 1879.

THINGS ONE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Two approved candidates are waiting for initiation. The Tyler, in error, prepares and asks for admittance for the one last proposed. Is it right to proceed with the initiation of this one, and thus give him seniority over the one whose name was brought forward first?

A Lodge has a place of meeting (in a village), ample in space for all ordinary gatherings, but insufficient for the accommodation of visitors, &c., on the occasion of an installation; and, therefore, would like to remove to its county town, where there is a Masonic Hall, for the occasion of its Installation meeting. Can this be done without a dispensation?

To what rank is the address "Right Worshipful" due, and is it right for a W.M. to be addressed Worshipful Sir? I know a "Right Worshipful Steward," and a "very Right Worshipful Prov. G.S.W."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

ONE SEEKING MORE LIGHT.

FREEMASONRY AND ITS CHARITIES.

HOW THEY ARE CONDUCTED, AND HOW THEY SHOULD BE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am sorry that I did not make my meaning sufficiently clear with regard to the elections. I was far from trying to put myself forward as a magician, and do the impossible; that is, to make the greater number go into the lesser, or place 71 candidates in 16 vacancies, or any other absurdity; but what I tried to convey was this, that if all the candidates with their last applications were received, with as many of those who had but one

more chance as there were vacancies for, then, eventually, or as it is in my former letter, sooner or later, every application would be successfully entertained in its fair and legitimate order. As it happens, there are no last cases at the Girls' Election, save two—"Alison" and "Jay"—who have already two sisters each in the School, and as I take it the Schools were meant for Masons generally, and not for whole families, to the exclusion of any non-recipients, I do not deem their case worthy of a moment's consideration; there is no danger whatever of any of the candidates being eventually excluded if my scheme, or one somewhat similar, be devised. In the forthcoming Boys' Election, I believe there are 16 vacancies, and only nine or ten last applications in the whole list of 71. By my plan the election of those nine or ten would be secured, besides five or six with their penultimate applications, leaving only four or five last applications for the October election as the official list. Trusting that Bro. L.G. will be able to understand my proposition, and will assist me in attaining that object.

I remain, yours faithfully and fraternally,

CHARLES JOHN PERCEVAL.

8 Tharloe-place, 17th March 1879.

NEW ZEALAND.

From our Auckland Correspondent we have received the following items of news:—

Mark Masonry.—The installation of the W.M. of the Union Lodge of Mark Masons, No. 154 E.C., and investiture of Officers for the ensuing twelve months, took place on 17th January, in the Lodge Room, Princes-street. Bro. P.M. Niccol was the Installing Master. The following brethren were installed and invested:—Bros. W. J. Rees W.M., A. Brock I.P.M., Dr. Dawson S.W., Rev. C. M. Nelson J.W., J. Carlaw M. Overseer, W. P. Moat S.W., H. Chapman J. Overseer, H. G. Wade P.M. Treasurer, J. Herbert Burns P.M. Registrar, Capt. W. P. Hargreaves S.D., G. Coleman J.D., B. Holmes J.G., C. Porter Tyler.

Ara Lodge (I.C.)—The annual installation of Officers of Lodge Ara (I.C.), was held at the Masonic Hall, Princes-street, on 6th January, and was conducted with unusual éclat. The attendance was very large, every Lodge in the city being represented, as well as several other Lodges, and the following dignitaries of the Order were present:—Belonging to Lodge Ara were Bros. Levy W.M., Heather P.M., the Rev. Dr. Kidd Chaplain, S. E. Hughes P.M., W. R. Robinson P.M. The chief Visitors were Bros. G. P. Pierce R.W.P.G.M. I.C., the Rev. C. M. Nelson D.G. Chaplain E.C., Ruston W.M. 1710 E.C., W. H. Skinner P.M. 1338 E.C., J. Goodacre W.M. Lodge United Service I.C., T. M. Hewson R.W.M. St. Andrew's S.C., F. Roycroft P.M. United Service I.C., T. Cole I.P.M. Lodge Waitemata, W. Loddar D.G.S.W. E.C., J. Hatswell W.M. Waitemata, H. Burns P.M. United Service I.C., F. W. Dawson W.M. Lodge Prince of Wales E.C., Leers D.G. Supt. of Works E.C., and numerous others. Bro. M. M. Levy installed the newly-elected W.M., Bro. E. W. Page, in a very impressive manner, after which the following Officers were invested by the newly-installed Master:—Bros. M. Levy I.P.M., T. E. Durance S.W., I. B. Crothers J.W., W. J. Rees P.M. Treasurer, W. J. Mitchell P.M. Secretary, Rev. Dr. Kidd P.M. Chaplain, Armstrong S.D., Western J.D., Heather P.M. Director of Ceremonies, Kammer and Montague Stewards, P.M. Rees Organist, L. Philips I.G., Porter Tyler. The Lodge and Officers received the congratulations of the various Lodges represented, and the Lodge was then closed formally. An adjournment then took place to the banquet. A very choice spread was prepared by Bro. Hood, host of the Masonic Hotel, to which Visitors and Brethren received a cordial invitation, and most of those present remained.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland.—A meeting was held on 30th January, at the Masonic Hotel, for the purpose of electing Officers for the ensuing year, and other business. Bro. F. Whitaker P.G.M. presided. After the transaction of some routine business, the election of Officers for the ensuing year took place, as follows:—Bros. F. Whitaker Prov. G.M., Dr. Johnston P.D.G.M., Anderson S.M., Brodie S.W., Dewar J.W., Harvey Chaplain, Tyler Sec., T. L. Murray Treas., Powles S.D., Ellison J.D., Ewington Arch., Whitson B.B., Col. Fraser D.C., Hendry S.B., Brett D.M., Hitchings P.S.; Bros. Doyle and Wilkinson Marshals, Slater I.G., Rawdon Tyler. Bro. Tyler, the P.G. Sec., paid a high eulogium to the ability and disinterested services of Bro. Rawdon, as P.G. Tyler, which was echoed by all the members of the Lodge. A letter was read by the Secretary, Bro. Tyler, received from the Westland Lodge of Freemasons, asking the assistance of the P.G. Lodge towards relieving the present necessities of Bro. Lazar, as well as to make some provision for him during the remainder of his days, he now being 76 years of age, blind, and incapable of providing for himself and family. After lengthened discussion and expression of sympathy, it was decided that the matter of relief to Bro. Lazar be referred to the P.G. Committee, with power to act.

JAMAICA.

The Right Worshipful Hon. Dr. Hamilton, Provincial G. Master for Jamaica, will shortly form a Grand Mark Lodge.

M. Excellent Comp. G. C. H. Lewis, has been appointed Grand Scribe E. to G. Royal Arch Chapter for Jamaica. The other Officers will shortly be named.

Through the exertions of several of the old members, the "Union and Concordia Lodge," will shortly be reopened.

MARK MASONRY.

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CONSTITUTION OF A PROV. GRAND LODGE
OF M.M.M.'s FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

WE are not of those supposed to be initiated into the hidden mysteries of the Masonic art, nor are the majority of our readers; we are but for the nonce giving prolation to the idiosyncrasy of a body of our fellow men who promulgate that Freemasonry is "a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," and who, when you ask them to draw aside the curtain and show what there is to be revealed, suddenly tilt the door of the Lodge, and with serious mien, almost catching, bated breath, and pre-occupation of thought, which whets curiosity, will whisper of three great pillars which support the Order, denominated "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty," whose chapters are lost in the clouds, and absorbed in a spiritual temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

We are instructed that Freemasonry is congenial to the Jewish mind, the building of King Solomon's Temple being the gist of the story woven in its ceremonies; that it has a universality of credence, one of its ancient charges enjoining: "Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believe in the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, and practises the sacred duties of morality;" and that it has a large Christian following is palpable, on the ground that the Apostle to the Gentiles taught that all profession was vain without the gift of Charity, and that the exercise of this virtue is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, of all Masonic inculcation.

But Freemasons candidly admit that their institution is, after all, but human; that whilst it has its inner circle, there is an outer circle which, but for the collar and badge and apron, like Carlyle's "World in clothes," depicted in his *Sartor Resartus*, would not be known at all. That there are brethren and brethren.

It is alleged "that kings and princes in every age have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen on account of their peaceableness and loyalty." It has been so in England, and, imitating his ancestors, the Prince of Wales is now the head of the Order. Germany does well to encourage the Craft, as an antidote to the Socialist element in that country. Freemasonry is proscribed by law in Russia, than which there could not be a more fatal mistake. In France it is a mere toy, where it is dressed and played with as a doll, and to second childhood is added infidelity, forgetful of the charge, "A Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understood the art, he will never be a stupid atheist nor an irreligious libertine." The Pope has good grounds for complaining of Freemasonry in Italy, and some other of the continental countries, where it has degenerated into secret clubs, having political objects in view, in contravention of Masonic law. But why does Rome anathematize? Why not become the patron of the Order amongst Catholic populations, enforcing a leading Masonic tenet, "never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation?"

The Grand Lodge of England of Craft Freemasonry recognises three degrees, namely, those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. With these degrees a Mason's education may be considered as complete. But in the year 1772 the Royal Arch degree received the recognition of the Grand Lodge. It is sanctioned and permissible, but it is entirely optional with Freemasons to take it or not. There are other degrees which we do not now stay to notice, beyond that of Mark Master.

Before the Act of Union which settled the differences between the Grand Lodge of all England, which had its seat at York, and that of the Grand Lodge of England, which held its court in London, the degree of Mark Master was the fourth in the York rite, one of the articles of Declaration agreed to at such Union being "Pure and Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, including the Royal Arch;" but in Scotland and Ireland the Mark degree has ever been retained. The United Grand Lodge of England, although not officially recognising the Mark Master's degree, has not forbidden it as a graceful appendage, and completion of the Fellow Craft degree.

Mark Masters in England, who until the year 1866 had their warrant of constitution under Scottish rule, are now under the authority of the "Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown," which has its centre, like the Grand Lodge of Craft Masonry, in London. That there is no antagonism between these Grand Lodges may be inferred when we say that Lord Skelmersdale is the present Grand Master of Mark Masons, and that it numbers amongst its Past Grand Masters the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Limerick, the Earl Percy, Lord Leigh, Viscount Holmesdale, and other great lights in the firmament of Craft Masonry. If a Mark Master be asked to deliver himself of the faith that is in him, he will reply that Masonic tradition teaches that at the building of King Solomon's Temple every mason was provided with a peculiar mark, which he placed upon his work to distinguish it from that of his fellows; that a similar usage has always existed amongst operative masons; and that such marks are to be found at the present day in all parts of the world, and are to be seen even at the Cathedral of this city, where Professor Willis, in one of his admirable lectures before the Royal Academy, expressed his belief "there existed in olden times a school of Masons," and of which we suggest the old man with an ample bifurcated beard at the foot of the bracket of the Mason's Square over the door leading to the Crypt was once its Worshipful Master or the Master Overacer of the work.

In the past twenty years Mark Masonry has made rapid strides, and Provincial Grand Lodges have been established in various parts of England, and on Saturday, 7th inst., Gloucester completed the list of provinces in our immediate vicinity by the constitution of its Provincial Grand Lodge, entirely separate and distinct from the

Craft Provincial Grand Lodge, over which the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne presides. The inauguration took place at the Masonic Hall, Cheltenham, the ceremony being performed by Brother Frederick Binckes P.G.S.W. and Grand Secretary. Of the distinguished Masons present were Brothers Colonel Henry Basevi, P.P.G.M.M. Bengal; Captain Homfray, P.G. Master Monmouth; J. Brook-Smith, M.A., Cheltenham College; General Doherty, Bath; W. Watkins, P.G.S. Monmouth; W. Munro; W. M. Canyne, Somerset; E. T. Inskip, Grand Junior Deacon; T. R. Monks, J. Balcomb, J. Stevens, W. R. Felton, J. Jewitt, Thomas Parker, George Norman, George Peters, Arthur Jack, N. Gregg, W. R. Porcher, and others. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at 2.30, and the authority of the Earl of Skelmersdale having been read, the Provincial Grand Master Designate, the Rev. Charles Raikes Davy, J.P., of Tracy Park, Bath, Past Grand Chaplain of England, was installed by Brother Binckes, with due ceremony and the usual salutations, and an impressive lecture was delivered, which secured the marked approbation of the brethren assembled. Brother John Walker, M.A., of Westborne House, Cheltenham, was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master; and Bro. W. L. Bain, of Cheltenham College, was unanimously elected as Treasurer. The following are the other Officers:—Bros. J. Robertson S.W., Rennie Powell J.W., W. Forth M.O. Henry Jeffs S.O., Baron de Ferrieres J.O., Colonel Basevi R. of M., James P. Curtis Sec., J. Brook-Smith, M.A., Cheltenham College, S.D., W.M. Lowich J.D., Dr. Maier D. of C., E. T. Bryant A.D. of C., Francis J. Vizard S.B., G. F. Robert I.G., Algernon Sudlow and Tinsley Stewards, Wiggins Tyler. The Provincial Grand Master, after investing his Officers with their collars and jewels of office, gave an address to the brethren, thanking them for the honour conferred upon him by his appointment to the chair, his remarks eliciting warm approval. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent and capitally-served banquet, which was presided over by the Provincial Grand Master. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and received with enthusiasm, and several brethren responded, the speeches of Bros. Binckes and E. T. Inskip being particularly applauded. The subject of the latter was as usual the Masonic Charities, in which he is always happily at home. Not only in the county of Gloucester, but in the districts adjacent, the constitution of this Provincial Grand Lodge had been looked forward to. Bro. the Rev. C. R. Davy, by his zeal and devotion to the interests of the Order, and the high position he has gained in Grand Lodge, and his frequency of attendance there, has not only secured metropolitan Masonic fame, but as won popularity far and near in the provinces; and the Masonic body generally will hail with the greatest satisfaction his installation as Provincial Grand Master of Mark Masons of this county. —*Gloucestershire Chronicle*.

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE OF M.M. MASONS,
No. 34.

THE regular meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on Thursday, the 27th ult. Present:—Bros. E. C. Milligan R.W.M., T. R. Peel S.W., Arthur Middleton J.W., H. R. G. Bayley S.O., H. C. Millar J.O., J. T. Richardson Treas. and Sec., W. D. Waddell S.D., W. H. Hopkins P.M.M. Reg., J. B. Kirk Tyler, and Past M. Masters Bros. J. Aronsberg, H. T. Robbards, C. F. Matier, W. Rome, and Bros. J. Howarth Clark, J. R. Lever, J. G. Jones, W. Nicholl, W. Glendinning, Murray Thompson, &c. Visitors:—G. R. Goepel P.G.S.O., J. R. Beard 32, C. S. Lane 36, C. F. Woodall, W. Gaffrey, T. Hooper, W. T. Parkinson, J. Senior Union Lodge, S. M. Davies FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, &c. Lodge was opened and, usual preliminaries observed, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. This being the meeting for the installation of officers, at the appointed time the Installing M. Master Bro. C. F. Matier was announced as seeking admission into the Lodge. He was accompanied by three Grand Mark Lodge Officers, viz., Bros. Goepel, Rome, and Smith, who on entering were received with the honours due their exalted rank. Bro. Matier signified his readiness to proceed with the ceremony, and Bro. Rome introduced Bro. Middleton, the W.M.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. The special warrant from G.L.M.M., appointing Bro. Middleton to hold the office was read, and this became the authority for procedure; whereupon Bro. Middleton was solemnly obligated, invested, and installed the R.W.M. of the St. Andrew's Lodge of M.M. Masons for the ensuing twelve months, and, as such, received the salutations of the brethren. Bro. Middleton, with the assistance of Bro. Matier, proceeded to invest his Officers as follow:—Edwd. C. Milligan P.G.M.O. I.P.M., Thos. Robert Peel S.W., Joseph T. Richardson J.W., Edwin Simpson M.O., Heber Chase Miller S.O., Wm. Douglas Waddell J.O., William Nicholl Secretary, Murray Thomson Treasurer, H. Robbards P.P.G.O. D.C., Jno. Roger Lover Organist, Philip Haines Chaplain, Thos. Hy. Glendinning S.D., Jno. Cavanagh J.D., Mark Vickers I.G., J. B. Kirk Tyler. It is pleasing to record that Bro. Matier performed the ceremony throughout in that masterly style which at all times characterises his efforts. The labours of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed and the brethren proceeded to banquet. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen and the Royal Family, which was duly honoured, the brethren singing the National Anthem. The next toast was peculiarly interesting, as it related to a nobleman who, as the head of Mark Masonry in England and Wales, had proved himself worthy of the confidence and esteem of Masons in every degree. It was unnecessary for him (the W.M.) to say more than ask the brethren to drink the health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of M.M.M. Lord Skelmersdale. The toast was heartily drunk. The health of the Earl of Donoughmore was proposed in like genial strains; the rest of Grand Lodge Officers were united with the toast, and with it was coupled the name of Bro. Smith. Bro. Middleton, in submitting this toast, assured the brethren that the Officers of Grand Lodge did their work well and

faithfully; indeed, nothing was left undone to further the best interests of Mark Masonry. Bro. Smith, in responding to the last toast, wished the task had been placed in better hands; he was, however, proud of being a Grand Lodge Officer, and he could bear testimony to the ability and zeal with which all were animated to do their utmost for the good of Freemasonry in general, and Mark Masonry as far as their capacity allowed. He had been delighted to see the magnificent working of Bro. Matier. The highest authorities would have been delighted to witness it. He sincerely thanked the brethren for their marks of esteem and fraternal hospitality. In coming home to the Province of West Lancashire, it would be superfluous for the W.M. to say anything in favour of the respected chief of Mark Masonry, especially after the great fame he had attained at the recent Festival in London. The Officers of the Province were as well known to all present as to himself; he would merely ask them to drink to the health of Col. Le Gendre Starkie and the rest of Prov. Grand Lodge Officers, uniting with the toast the name of Bro. Milligan. The I.P.M., in responding, said he regretted that the duty of acknowledging the honour was not put into abler hands. However, there was no need to say much for Bro. Col. Starkie, he had given proof of his deep attachment to all branches of the fraternity; how well he was appreciated was manifested at the recent Festival. The honour conferred upon him (Bro. Milligan), as Overseer of the Province, he took as a compliment to the Lodge, which he was happy to represent in Prov. G. Lodge. Bro. Matier now sounded the gavel, and informed the brethren that he had the honour to propose what might be justly called the toast of the evening. He had that day had the pleasure of installing a brother he had long known, and known but to esteem. When one with the abilities possessed by Bro. Middleton had filled the various offices to the satisfaction of all, he deserved the esteem of his friends. The last time the worthy and deeply-lamented Bro. Callender visited this Lodge—which, by the way, was the last he entered—Bro. Middleton was advanced to this honourable degree; since then he has passed from the office of I.G. to the exalted post he holds to-night. In Lodges of Instruction the W.M. has been very active, and has done work on such occasions worthy of a G.L. Officer. He was sure his acceptance of this post will add additional lustre to his name, and tend to the prosperity and happiness of the Lodge. He hoped when he leaves the chair, the opinions he gave expression to would be verified. He (Bro. Matier) would now ask them to charge their glasses and drink to the W.M.'s very good health. The W.M., on rising to respond, intimated that the rush of business was peculiarly striking. Bro. Matier, as his Preceptor, had taught him to prepare for brilliant exploits, and the masterly manner in which he was placed in the chair he had the honour to fill increased his admiration. Without Bro. Matier's kind and patient instruction he should be nothing, and any compliment bestowed on him, he hoped they would take with the customary grain of salt. He felt sure they would give him credit for doing his best during his year of office to discharge his important trust to the satisfaction of the brethren and the best interests of the Lodge. The W.M. next rose to propose what he deemed a most popular toast, the Health of the I.P.M.; in doing so, he alluded to the many trials Bro. Milligan had to encounter in carrying out the duties of his office. The brethren, with a deep sense of his zeal and fidelity to his post, had wished to commemorate his year of office by presenting him with a splendid P.M.M. Mason's jewel. This the W.M. placed on the breast of the worthy I.P.M., remarking the brethren of the Lodge demonstrated outwardly what they felt inwardly; he hoped Bro. Milligan would live long to wear it. This done, the W.M. called upon the brethren to do honour to the toast according to M.M.M. custom. At this stage of the proceedings, Bro. Senior favoured the company with a song; he was accompanied on the piano by Bro. Robbards. The I.P.M. then returned thanks for the great kindness always shown him in the past, and for the tangible mark of esteem just received. He felt he did not deserve their praise, or the emblem of merit bestowed. He regretted he had not done more for the advancement of the Lodge; he hoped those who heard him say so might be stimulated to more activity, lest they be placed in the same predicament. He hoped in the future to make up for the deficiencies of the past. He tendered the members his thanks for the favour shown him. Bro. Robbard now kindly volunteered a song, after which the W.M. rose to propose what he emphatically termed the toast of the evening—the health of the Installing Master. At an earlier stage he had stated that Bro. Matier was his father in Freemasonry, and he held Bro. Matier to a certain extent responsible for his Masonic career. Bro. Matier is so well posted in every degree, and gives such force and distinction to all he undertakes, that everything assumes a new and agreeable shape. He is a thorough Mason, as well as a thorough Master of Ceremonies; this is apparent from what we have seen to-night; under his guidance he felt safe, and not only individually did he speak, but with reference to the Lodge and members in general. The popularity and prosperity of the St. Andrew's Lodge depended greatly upon Bro. Matier, who was its leading light. He had done his duty, in and out of season; his helping hand is with us at all times, therefore the W.M. called upon the brethren to do full honour to the toast of the Installing Master. After Bro. Richardson had favoured with a song, Bro. Matier rose to acknowledge the honour done him from the chair and by the company; with regard to his own good deeds he would be modest, if not dumb. He wished he were capable of doing to his satisfaction what had been ascribed to him. As a M.M.M., he was ever ready to do all in his power; he held himself a Mason first, and as a local agent next. He preferred looking at the universal aspect of the beloved Craft, by which means he fully appreciated his own Lodge, whose prosperity was the foundation of his ambition. He regretted he was the only one left of the founders able to meet them on these happy occasions. The tender love he had for the Lodge would ever endear it to him, and the ties of friendship which bound M.M.M. to each other was a sure pledge of brotherhood. He had often been greeted as 'the father,' and had acted as Installing Master; he always did so with great pleasure, and hoped the time was far

distant when he should be called upon to relinquish the pleasurable task in which he took so much delight. Although life is short and uncertain, he hoped to be spared to see the Mark Degree in a better state than he first found it; and when the time arrives when his mortal coil must be shaken off, he hoped it might be said, "That the perfume of Freemasonry lingered over him still." After a song from Bro. Peel, Bro. Rome was entrusted with the gavel, to propose the health of the Visitors; this he did very ably. In the name of the Lodge he extended a cordial welcome to each and every one; he was glad to see Bros. Gospel, Smith, Davies, Hooper, and others whose names he could not recall, not only on this, but at all the meetings of the Lodge, there was a hearty welcome extended to every visitor who would favour St. Andrew's with his presence. He called upon the brethren to receive the toast with the customary enthusiasm. Bro. Smith returned thanks; as an old associate, and one time a member of the Lodge, he expressed himself at some considerable length; he bestowed great praise on the efficiency of the working of No. 34, and trusted the kindly feeling ever subsisting between the Union Lodge and the St. Andrew's would continue. Bro. Lane P.P.G.S.D. of Durham and Cumberland, thought it was unnecessary to unite his name with the toast, as the warrant of the Lodge bore his signature, yet duty called on him to respond; on his own behalf he was very pleased to be there that night; he was happy to meet the true Masonic face in the north or south, and in any Lodge; he wished for unity in all branches of the Craft, and complimented the Lodge on its prosperity. Other brethren followed to the same effect, and then Bro. Matier proposed the Charities; in his impressive manner he urged every brother to give what he could, however small; the many small contributions made huge sums. With the toast was associated the name of the I.P.M. The toast was duly honoured, and Bro. Glendinning sang. The I.P.M. responded for the Charities; he made an effort to secure funds to enable him to take up to London a good sum as Steward to the Mark Festival. The appeal for funds for this Charity was supported by the W.M., who solicited the aid of every brother. Bro. S.W. proposed the health of the Past Masters in as brief a manner as possible, and gave his opinion that from that Lodge the purple was given to those who had deserved it. The toast was drunk heartily. Bro. Rome, on behalf of the Past Masters returned thanks; he stated that all were animated by one feeling, that is to carry on the good and welfare of the Lodge; he hoped this feeling would ever continue. The W.M. next honoured the Officers by proposing their health, and in doing so said he had appointed his Officers after grave consideration, and according to merit. He knew they would do their duty, and aid in the good government of the Lodge. With the toast was united the name of Bro. Glendinning. The toast was cordially drunk, and Bro. Glendinning, as a newly appointed Officer in a Lodge he had felt he was ever one of, although it was but recently he had identified himself with it, took his post with pleasure; he appreciated the tone of the Lodge, and he would do all in his power to extend its influence, as he felt it was a great honour to belong to it. It was a junior office to that he had previously filled in the Union Lodge, yet he esteemed the honour conferred. The W.M. rose now to propose a toast, which he stated was not often heard in a M.M.M. Lodge, yet we give our need of praise to those who kindly come among us to make known our progress, and to further the interests of the Craft, in the north, south, east and west. There is present a brother who represents the Masonic Press; a brother whom all were glad to see; it is to be hoped that the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE may have a long era of prosperity. He would give them the toast of the Masonic Press, united with the name of Bro. Davies. This was drunk with honours, and Bro. Davies returned thanks. A few more songs and a pleasant chat ushered in the time for the Tyler's toast, when the brethren adjourned, after having spent a most enjoyable evening.

CROYDON LODGE OF MARK MASTERS, No. 198.

THE installation meeting of this young and prosperous Lodge was held at Croydon, on Friday, 14th instant. Heretofore the Lodge has been held at the Greyhound Hotel, but following the example of many other brethren, who prefer a private house or a Masonic hall specially devoted to the purpose, the members of this Lodge have made arrangements with Bro. Rhodes for the use of his spacious suite of rooms in High-street, where the brethren found every convenience. The Lodge and ante-rooms are well appointed, and there is a fine three manual organ, with nearly 40 stops, worked by hydraulic pressure. This welcome addition to the resources of the Lodge-room gave the greatest satisfaction to those present. The Lodge was opened at six p.m. by Bro. J. Close W.M., J. K. Pitt S.W., Dibdin as J.W., W. J. Nichols M.O., R. W. Brown S.O., S. N. Griffiths J.O., H. A. Pocock Sec., Stampa Lambert Treas., Ridge S.D., Alfred Pocock J.D. There were also present the V.W. Bros. George Yaxley I.P.M., James Stevens P.G.J.O., William Poore, S. C. Dibdin P.G.J.O., &c. After Bro. Rhodes had been ballotted for and advanced to the honourable degree of M.M.M., with full ceremonial, by Bro. Stevens P.M. and Bro. Poore P.M., the chief point of interest in the proceedings was reached, and the Board of Installing Masters having been formed, Bro. J. K. Pitt was led from the chair of S.W. to the chair of W.M., and presented the dispensation from G.L., authorising him to be installed. The brethren below the chair having retired, Bro. Pitt was inducted into the mystic seat of Adoniram with all the ancient ceremonies by Bro. Poore; and on the readmission of the brethren, was saluted in due form. The new Worshipful Master then proceeded to appoint and invest his Officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Close I.P.M., Nichols S.W., Brown J.W., Griffith M.O., Ridge S.O., Lambert J.O. and Treasurer, H. A. Pocock R.M. and Secretary, A. Pocock S.D., Rhodes Org., Haynes I.G. A cordial vote of thanks was awarded to the retiring W.M., Bro. Close, and ordered to be entered

on the minutes. Bro. Rhodes rendered the musical portion of the ceremony with splendid effect on the organ, and by his skill contributed much to the harmony. With a grim sense of humour, and no doubt with the special object in view of increasing the Lodge funds, the W.M. offered the collar of D.C. to a very eminent P.M. (and honorary member of the Lodge), who, in all innocence, at once took the bait, and accepted the office, little thinking that by so doing he gave the Lodge to understand he was willing to forfeit the privileges of honorary membership and become a subscribing member, it being a well-known Masonic law that an honorary member of a Lodge is not eligible to hold office in it. The business having been completed, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren then adjourned to banquet, which was served in first rate style by Bro. Mash. The usual toasts were given and received with great warmth of feeling, and the speeches were wisely tempered with brevity; so that all the brethren who had to return by the train were enabled to remain to the last, when the Tyler's toast brought to an end a very happy meeting. Now that the Lodge has entered into the third year of its existence, it is time that the members should get out of the "leading strings," and show that the teachings of the Preceptors have at length enabled all the present Officers to master the duties of their respective positions, without depending on their honorary members, who have hitherto so kindly given them aid and assistance. The fact of the new W.M. hailing from the Macdonald Mark Lodge ought of itself to be a tower of strength, and now that the Lodge is so fortunate as to possess a Lodge-room, with such an accessory as a first-class organ, we hope it will increase in efficiency as well as in numbers.

York Mark Lodge, Time Immemorial.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, at York, the W.M. Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett presiding, supported by Bros. T. Cooper P.M., T. B. Whytehead P.M. and Sec., Rev. W. Valentine S.W., J. Hollins J.W., J. S. Cumberland M.O., C. G. Padel S.O., G. Garbutt J.O., and other Officers and brethren. Several candidates were balloted for and accepted, and Bro. Ware was advanced to the degree. Several motions on the paper were disposed of, and the Lodge was closed, the brethren afterwards supping together, excellent provision having been made, under the direction of Bro. T. Humphries Steward of the Lodge.

DEATH.

ON 11th March instant, after an illness (acute bronchitis) of three days, in the 68th year of her age, and in the 34th of her widowhood, peacefully and sweetly fell asleep, in perfect hope, **MARY**, the loving and beloved mother of Bro. J. J. Gunner (her only child), I.G. of 780, and Hon. Sec. of 780 Lodge of Instruction.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

ROYAL UNION LODGE, No. 382.

THE fine weather we have experienced during the past few days has brought to our minds the memory of pleasant Lodge meetings, held at Provincial towns, where the dust and turmoil of our Great City cannot even reach, and has caused us to look forward anxiously to those gatherings, which combine, as a part of the programme, a pleasant hour or two amid the green fields. Another thing that strikes us on these occasions is the apparent disregard of all such evils as time-tables and cabs. Generally the members live in close proximity to the place of meeting, and can afford to look with contempt on the slave who has to rush away in the middle of a pleasant evening to catch his train; but unfortunately this is not always the case. There are some Lodges, suburban so far as locality is concerned, but metropolitan in regard to members. When such are held in places which, for some reason or other, appear to be under the ban of railway companies, and as a consequence are supplied with trains that suit no one, the matter which first demands consideration is how to get home. Of course the remedy is to commence early, and have only so much work before the meeting as can be disposed of in a reasonable time; but who would think of attending such a Lodge on an installation night without there being two or three ceremonies to work? the members generally appear to be as anxious to have a full business paper on such occasions as do our London ones to have a clear one, and so it is we hear of struggles for trains, indigestion next morning, and a cold for days afterwards. We hope these latter ailments were not experienced by the members who visited Uxbridge on Monday, but we certainly could not admire the appearance of our brethren in the High-street during their return journey. Even Provincial clothing is cumbersome, and weighs heavily after a good dinner; to say nothing of the damage done by one's not having time to get it fairly "stowed." On this occasion Lodge was summoned for half-past two, and the usual formalities having been disposed of, it was advanced, and Bro. Stamm was passed. On being resumed, Mr. Richard Nation, a candidate who had been approved of at a previous meeting, was admitted, and received the benefit of Masonic light. Lodge was again advanced, the W.M. Elect obligated, a Board of Installed Masters formed, and the ceremony of Installation completed. Bro. Webb, the incoming Master, being installed by the Treasurer, Bro. P.M. Coulton. In due course he filled the various offices of the Lodge, disposing of the collars to the following brethren:—Bros. Cook S.W., Ross J.W., Coombes P.M. P. Prov. G.S.B. Sec., Brown Assist. Sec., Davis P.M. Treas., Lonsdale S.D., Cobley J.D.,

Rawles I.G., Cooper D. of C., Nicholson A.D.C., Lucy Org., Garard and Meade Stewards. The election of Tyler followed, and resulting in favour of Bro. Longstaff, that brother was duly invested. The ballot having proved favourable for the admission of Messrs. H. Toogood and Wm. Wittenbury, the former of those gentlemen was duly initiated by the new Master, who shewed by his conduct of the ceremony that he is ably qualified for his post. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring Master, Bro. S. Holliday, who acknowledged the gift and thanked the members for their co-operation during his term of office. A letter from the Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Burdett, regretting his inability to attend the meeting was read. Several matters were discussed, among others that of recognising, in some substantial form, the services of Bro. P.M. Coulton, who had faithfully filled the office of Treasurer some years. It was announced that the report of the Auditors would be presented at the next meeting: The Lodge was now closed, and the brethren repaired to the Chequers Hotel, where, after banquet, the usual toasts were run through. Brother Albert replied on behalf of the Grand Officers, and Bro. Swallow on behalf of the Past Masters. Among the Visitors were—Bros. E. P. Albert P.G.P., W. Clarke I.G. 148, L. Norden J.W. 205, W. W. Morgan Sec., and F. J. Hentsch 211, T. F. Baker S.D. 720, E. Collins P.M. 733, Festa 831, G. W. Dixon P.M. 860, R. Bruce P.M. 869, John Syer 1017, T. G. Simmonds J.W. 1107, James Stevens P.M. 1426, &c., J. Irlin 1507, J. Hancock S.W. and F. V. Green 1687.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 1387.

THE regular monthly meeting and Festival of St. John was held at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, on Wednesday, the 12th inst. This meeting was convened to celebrate a double event, viz., the installation of the W.M. elect, and the opening of the new Masonic Hall, where the meetings in future will be held. The erection of this spacious and handsome building reflects the greatest credit upon the members of 1387, who alone subscribed the two thousand pounds needed for its construction. The building is replete with every convenience, with club-room and billiard-room attached. We cannot but congratulate any Lodge on attaining possession of such a desirable property, and it may truly be said that the St. John's Lodge has now "a local habitation and a name." The gathering of members and Visitors commenced at an early hour, and the Lodge was opened in due and ancient form by Bro. Dr. John Rains W.M., assisted by Bros. Jas. G. Batty S.W., Robert Davies J.W., E. Brundrett Sec., J. Dewhurst S.D., A. D. Edwards J.D., H. Marshall Treas., J. Addey, A. Lone, R. Fowler and D. Williams Stewards, W. E. Norbury Organist, and W. Cheshire Tyler. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, after which the Lodge was advanced to the second degree, when the Installing Master signified his readiness to proceed with the important ceremony of Installation. For this purpose, Bro. J. G. Batty W.M. elect was formally introduced to the Installing Master, to receive at his hands the benefit of that high honour. The usual questions having been put and satisfactorily answered, Bro. Batty was solemnly obligated, and the Lodge was raised to the M.M. degree, and eventually to that of a Board of Installed Masters, when Bro. J. G. Batty was invested and installed. On the re-admission of the brethren, he was proclaimed W.M. of the St. John's Lodge, No. 1387, for the ensuing twelve months, and as such received the salutations of the brethren. The ceremony was proceeded with, Bros. Schofield P.M. and Crompton P.M. taking part, and the latter brother assisted the Worshipful Master to invest his Officers for the ensuing year as follow:—Bro. Dr. J. Rains I.P.M., R. Davis S.W., E. Brandrett J.W., D. Williams Sec., J. Dewhurst S.D., A. D. Edwards J.D., H. Marshall (re-elected) Treas., Rev. H. B. Jones, M.A., P.P.G. Chap. Chaplain, J. J. Lambert I.G.; and J. Addy, A. Love, R. Fowler, W. Acton, Stewards, W. Cheshire Tyler. The Brethren, in order to evince their appreciation of the valuable services of Bro. Dr. Rains, presented him with a Past Master's jewel. It was a matter of great satisfaction to the W.M. to announce the fact to the worthy recipient, who appropriately acknowledged this tangible mark of esteem. The Brethren of St. John's Lodge, and the Companions of the Chapter, testified their regard and gratitude to Bro. R. Davies for the many marks of his favour, by presenting him with a very handsome silver salver, which was suitably acknowledged by him. The labours of the evening being ended, the W.M. closed the Lodge with solemn prayer, and by his courtesy the Brethren adjourned to banquet to the Lloyd Hotel, where about fifty Brethren sat down, and thoroughly enjoyed a menu of the most *recherché* character, admirably catered and served up. The worthy hostess, Mrs. Crabtree, had displayed great taste in the decoration of the banquetting-hall, which met with the cordial approbation of the assemblage. The musical arrangements were carried out under the direction of Bro. Norbury, and added greatly to the pleasures of the evening. On the removal of the cloth, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, and cordially received by the Brethren. The feature of the evening, however, was the admirable address given by the newly-installed W.M. upon Freemasonry, in which he successfully combatted the objections usually raised by outsiders against the Craft. He urged, too, upon all present, and more especially upon the members of the St. John's Lodge, which had now taken a more prominent position than heretofore in the district, the paramount importance of acting up to their obligations, by which they would set an example for good to those around them, thereby tending to raise Freemasonry to that eminence, both socially and morally, which its teachings so justly entitle it. Among the Visitors present were G. Freeman P.M. Derby Lodge, — Hunter W.M. Staleybridge Lodge, — Laidlaw P.M. Architect Lodge, Didsbury, J. H. Sillitoe P.M., P.G.D. of C. East Lancashire, J. Davies St. Paul's, Birmingham.

SIR WATKIN LODGE, No. 1477.

THE regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Mold, on the 3rd inst. Bros. Algernon Potts P.M. W.M., A. J. Brereton S.W., J. D. Rowlands J.W., James Rose Sec., W. Roberts S.D., R. C. Griffiths J.D., R. W. Lewis Treas., J. S. Swift Steward, G. H. Adams I.G., Edward Parry Tyler; Past Masters James Salmon P.P.S.G.W., John Corbett P.G. Steward, and several brethren and Visitors. The Hall, which, by the way, is one of the prettiest and complete in its appointments a Mason can ever enter, was well filled on this occasion. Lodge was opened and advanced to the second degree, when Bros. Salmon and Corbett introduced Bro. A. J. Brereton, the W.M. Elect; he was obligated, installed, and saluted. With the assistance of the Installing Master, he invested the following as his Officers: Algernon Potts I.P.M., J. D. Rowlands S.W., W. Roberts J.W., R. W. Lewis (re-appointed) Treas., J. Rose (re-appointed) Sec., R. C. Griffiths S.D., G. H. Adams J.D., T. S. Swift I.G.; T. Ollis and T. A. Lambert Stewards, Edward Parry Tyler. It is a pleasing duty to record the efficiency with which Bro. Potts performed the whole of the ceremony, including the rendering of the Charges, and to congratulate the Sir Watkin Lodge on possessing such true and indefatigable members as are its Past Masters. The labours of the evening being ended, Bro. Brereton received the hearty good wishes of the Visitors, and the Lodge was closed with solemn prayer. The brethren adjourned to banquet, which was provided by Bro. Swift, of the Black Lion Hotel. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the usual toasts. Master Smith favoured the brethren with a solo on the violin, accompanied by Bro. Humphreys on the piano, much to the enjoyment of all. The W.M. said he would save time by placing toasts Nos. 4 and 5 in one. Every brother knew how dearly their Prov. G.M. Sir Watkin W. Wynne loved the Craft, and the great interest he took in the welfare of the Province, he knew that the brethren of North Wales and Shropshire revered him in return for his many noble virtues. The Deputy Prov. G.M. Bro. W. Bulkeley Hughes was also justly esteemed for the many proofs he had given of his love to Freemasonry. He regretted that his ill health prevented him from participating more in the affairs of the Province. The Prov. G.O. past and present had, and do discharge their duties to the utmost of their abilities. They had two in the Sir Watkin Lodge. Bro. Lewis sang a solo, dedicated to the Provincial Chief. Bro. Salmon, on behalf of the Province, thanked the Worshipful Master for the kindness evinced towards the Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge. He was happy to say the Province of North Wales was beginning to be looked upon as one of the foremost Provinces under the Grand Lodge of England, its future prosperity was sure if not striking. Bro. Corbett also returned thanks, and as a young fledgling Prov. Officer, he promised to do his utmost. Bro. Salmon proposed the toast of the evening. Years ago Bro. Brereton acted very generously in allowing Bro. H. Lloyd to work up to the Chair which he was entitled to occupy. On a later occasion the W.M. had the privilege of attaining the position he now fills, but again he gave way. He was pleased to see him now occupy the chair he has so many claims to, and should be happy to aid him to the utmost. The W.M. in reply said,—Brethren, I need not to tell you that I feel very grateful for the high compliment paid me by Bro. Salmon, and I am very thankful for the marks of approbation which the toast has received from you all. Your reception of the toast just proposed gives me strength to go on and endeavour to discharge the duties devolving upon me in this exalted office, which it has pleased you to honour me with. I find already that the duties of Master are more difficult to discharge than we may be led to anticipate, but I rely on your kind support and co-operation, by which means I shall acquit myself to the satisfaction of the Lodge. Bros. Adams and Lewis gave an amusing duet, after which the W.M. proposed the health of the Installing Master. He considered it no easy matter to carry out the ceremony, but to discharge it as it had been done that day reflected the highest credit on the Installing Master. It clearly indicated the deep interest he took in the Order. He coupled with the toast the health of the Past Masters of the Lodge. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Bro. Petty followed with a song, which amused the company greatly. Bro. Potts, in reply, said: Worshipful Master and Brethren, I thank you sincerely for the kindness shown me on this, as well as on all occasions when my name has been brought before you. I have acted the part of Installing Master to-day, not under the most favourable state of health, yet it is always a source of pleasure for me to do a duty when it has to be attended to in the affairs of the Lodge. I did not think the office I have performed to-day would devolve on me so successively, but I have the gratifying approval of the brethren for my efforts. The task is not so difficult as many may think; all that is required is application and attention, and any brother may do it. On behalf of the P.M.'s I may say they are always ready to do all they can to further the best interests of the Lodge. The W.M. next honoured the Visitors with a hearty reception, and expressed his deepfelt thanks for their kind regard to him and the Lodge by their presence. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Smith W.M. Square and Compass Lodge, Bro. Pye Cestrian, and Bro. Edwards I.P.M. 721. Bro. F. Smith and his Son favoured the brethren with a selection on "Bonos and Banjo." Bro. Smith, on behalf of the Visitors, assured the W.M. of the great pleasure it gave the brethren of the Square and Compass Lodge to be present, it was a pledge of the great regard in which they held the brethren of the Sir Watkin Lodge, that induced them to be there, and he hoped that the same good feeling would ever exist between them. He complimented the Lodge on the musical talent displayed, which tended to the impressiveness of any ceremony in the Lodge and the enjoyment of all round the festive board. Bro. Pye thanked the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast, he enjoyed being present. He had the honour of representing the Cestrian Lodge, and as such reciprocated the fraternal greetings which prompted them to honour him as a guest. Bro. Edwards was well

pleased with the ceremony of installation, appreciated the bounty of their hospitality, and bore testimony to the completeness of the whole programme. Other brethren followed to the same purport, after which the W.M. proposed the health of the Officers, without whom he could do little. Bro. Smith kindly favoured with a song. Bro. S.W. returned thanks, and was followed by the J.W. Bro. Potts was entrusted with the gavel to propose the Charities. Our Masonic Charities were the root of the Craft. He was a Life Governor, and, if wealthy enough, would gladly be so over and over again. He exhorted the brethren to do all in their power for these noble Institutions. The toast was responded to by Bro. Corbett, who felt proud of being a Life Governor of the Boys and Girls. He also urged the brethren to do their best for the Charities. He then proposed the health of the Ladies, and united with the toast the name of Bro. Owen, who very genially responded. There was a call for Bro. Rose, the re-elected Secretary, and that worthy brother expressed his thanks for the signal of regard which prompted the brethren to ask him to say a few words. He had again accepted the office assigned to him with pleasure, and as his attention to his duty had given them satisfaction in the past year—which he hoped would be surpassed in prosperity during the next year—he would follow in the same good path. The Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated at a seasonable hour. We regret that pressure on our space has prevented the earlier insertion of this report.

TRINITY LODGE, No. 1784.

THE first anniversary of this young but flourishing Lodge took place at the Lodge Room, Rayleigh, on Tuesday, the 11th inst. The all-important event of the evening, the installation of Bro. John Allen P.M. 160 P.P.G.S.B. Essex, as W.M. for the ensuing year, was performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. W. Pissey P.M. No. 160 P.P.J.G.W. Essex, in his usual faultless manner. The new W.M. appointed and invested his Officers as follows:—Bros. Wm. Pissey I.P.M., Edward Judd P.M. No. 160 P.P.G.R. Essex S.W., Frederick Wiseman P.M. No. 160 J.W., Wm. I. Belcham Sen. (re-elected) Treas., Wm. Pissey Sec., Francis R. Bernard S.D., Rev. A. F. Heaton J.D., James Syer D.C., Wm. I. Belcham Jun. I.G., Chas. T. Witham Tyler. After all business was over, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet, provided by Mr. James Devenish, which reflected the greatest credit on him, all being very pleased with it. The following were also present:—Bros. D. B. Grant P.M. No. 160 P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Thos. Dennis, Joseph Webster, Wm. V. Willson, John Belcham P.P.G.P. Essex, H. Harper, W. G. Sheppard, T. W. Offin, and others; Visitors—Bros. J. C. Johnstone W.M. No. 1000, J. A. Wardell P.M. No. 160 and 1000, M.E.Z. No. 1000 P.P.G.D. Essex, Secretary No. 1000, Albert Lucking P.M. No. 160 and 1000, P.Z. No. 1000, Prov. G.D.C. Essex, F. D. Grayson I.G. No. 1000. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the evening was enlivened with songs from Bros. Allen, F. Wiseman, J. Syer, T. Dennis, Joseph Webster, W. G. Sheppard, T. W. Offin, W. V. Willson, and others. During the evening, Bro. Wm. Pissey, on his retiring from the chair, was presented with a valuable P.M.'s jewel by the Lodge, he being a Founder and the first W.M.

CHAPTER OF ELIAS ASHMOLE, No. 148.

THE Annual Convocation of this Chapter was held at the Chapter Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington, on the 10th instant, at four o'clock in the afternoon. The Chapter was opened in due form by Ex Comps. R. Brierley Z., John Bowes H., T. Tunstall J., P. J. Edelsten P.Z., and D. W. Finney P.Z., when the rest of the Companions were admitted, and among them we noticed Comps. J. Armstrong S.E., Galloway Treas., J. R. Young, Potter, T. Hutchinson, Robert Heaton, Dr. Hall, W. Richardson, J. Hannah, Reid, C. E. Hindley, Pollitt, Hawkins P.Z., and Domville Janitor. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the M.E.Z. invited Ex. Comp. P. J. Edelsten to take the chair as installing Principal, when Comps. John Bowes P.Z. P.P.G.S.N. Cumberland and Westmorland, T. Tunstall J., and James Jackson J. elect were respectively presented and installed as Z., H., and J. for the ensuing year, according to ancient custom. The M.E.Z. then invested the following Comps. as Officers, viz.:—Comps. P. J. Edelsten P.Z. P.S., Finney P.Z. Treas., Galloway S.E., T. Sutton S.N. Comp. Edelsten nominated Comps. Pickthall and Hindley as his assistants. The Auditors presented their report, which showed a good balance in favour of the Chapter. It was reported that Dr. Evans had two candidates to propose, but professional duties prevented his attendance. After the transaction of some routine business, the Chapter was closed, and the Companions adjourned to the Patten Arms Hotel, where an excellent tea was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Chew. After tea the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair. The M.E.Z., in response to the toast of his health, said he did not wish to disguise from them the fact that he felt proud of the position they had again elected him to. He was one of the founders of the Chapter, the first H., and at the present time the senior member. He hoped that the honour and credit of the Chapter would be advanced, even to a higher position than it now enjoyed during his year of office, and that when the time arrived he should instal his Masonic offspring as his successor to rule over a flourishing and efficient Chapter. All the Officers were good "workers," and he hoped to see them rise by regular gradations to the position he then had the honour to fill. In proposing the P.Z.'s, he spoke very highly of Ex. Comps. Brierley and Finney, whom he said had the good of Royal Arch Masonry at heart. In response to his health, Ex. Comp. Edelsten, installing Principal, figured well for the Chapter under the enlightened rule of the M.E.Z. Other toasts followed, interspersed by excellent songs from Comps. Tunstall, Richardson, Dr. Hall, Brierley, &c., and a pleasant evening was brought to a close at nine o'clock.

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FIRST ANNUAL FESTIVAL,

On TUESDAY, 1st of APRIL 1879.

The Lodge will be Opened at 6 p.m. precisely.

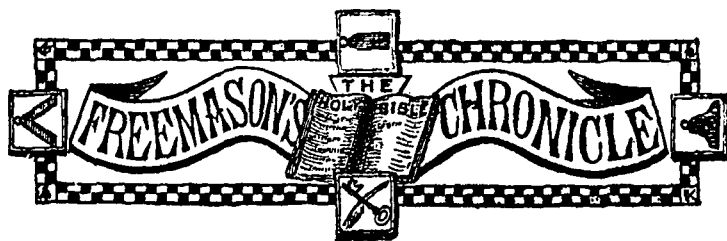
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LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

THE Lodge of Benevolence met on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. There were present, Bros. Joshua Nunn as President, James Brett as Senior Vice-President, E. P. Albert as Junior Vice-President, S. Rawson, H. Bartlett, J. Coutts, G. S. Elliott, S. Rosenthal, J. Hervey, H. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, H. Garrod, L. Alexander, W. Richards, C. Atkins, G. P. Britten, J. Yeomans, J. T. Rowe, G. Bolton, R. Harman, J. H. Sillitoe, A. Withers, C. Dobit, F. W. Smith, Jno. Coe, C. G. Diller, A. J. Ireton, H. S. Friend, J. Weaver, Jno. Elliott, J. Newton, G. Read, Jno. Holden, J. Mason, F. Squirrel, C. Davis, H. A. Bennett, E. A. H. Lechmere and W. H. Perryman. After confirming grants to the amount of £300, made at last meeting, the brethren granted £667 to twenty-six out of twenty-nine new cases, the amounts ranging from £75 to £2 a case, the intermediate amounts being £75, £50, £40, £30, £25, £20, £15, £10 and £5.

COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.

THE regular meeting of the Corinthian Lodge, No. 1208, was held at the Royal Hotel, Dover, on the 17th inst. The occasion was observed as a solemn one, the Lodge furniture being draped with black cloth. Only the necessary routine business was transacted, the other matters announced in the agenda (initiation and raising) being postponed. The W.M. Bro. E. Fenn, M.R.C.S., made a feeling address to the brethren upon the melancholy circumstances under which the meeting took place. Not only had they to lament the loss of their respected Bro. Quartor-Master Bloomfield, of the 2nd Batt. 24th Regiment, who, in the discharge of his duty, fell with so many of his comrades in arms at the disaster at Isendula, but they had also to deplore the untimely death of two members of the Lodge, by the sad calamity of Dungeness, on Thursday night. Bros. H. P. Popkiss and J. V. W. Smith were both among the original founders of the Lodge, and in the person of Bro. Popkiss they had to mourn the loss of one of its most valued and esteemed members. Only one short month ago they had re-elected him their Treasurer, an office he had held from the consecration of the Lodge in 1868 up to the present time, excepting the three years during which he filled the offices of J.W., S.W. and W.M., his promotion in Masonry being marked by his advancement in the esteem and affection of his brethren. His knowledge of Freemasonry, together with his constant attendance at the parent Lodge, and Lodge of Instruction, and his unremitting attention to his Masonic duties had rendered him most valuable as a Mason, while his genial disposition and unvarying kindness of heart had endeared him to all who knew him. The W.M. concluded by moving the following vote of condolence, and proposed that a copy of the same be forwarded to Mrs. Popkiss:—

"The Brethren of the Corinthian Lodge of Freemasons having heard with very great grief of the sad calamity by which their Treasurer, Bro P.M. Henry Paul Popkiss has lost his life, beg to tender their most sincere and heartfelt sympathy to his widow and children, and to assure them of the very high esteem and regard in which he was held by the members of the Lodge. They also pray that the Almighty may sustain and comfort them under the heavy affliction He has seen fit in His wisdom to lay upon them."

Bro. H. C. Fulm P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C. seconded the proposition.

Bro. Smeeth P.M. and Sec. asked to be allowed to say how heartily he concurred in the touching and well-merited eulogy the W.M. had passed upon their lost friend and Brother. Bro. Smeeth's position had brought him into such constant communication with their late lamented Treasurer that no member of the Lodge could more highly estimate his worth, nor more fully realise the loss which the Lodge had sustained by the sad and untimely death of one to whose truly Masonic zeal and spirit the welfare, harmony, and good working of the Corinthian Lodge were mainly due. He was glad to remember, at this solemn moment, that the appreciation which the brethren entertained of their deceased Brother's services had been testified to him on several occasions. The proposition was unanimously adopted, and the Lodge was then closed.

Bro. Popkiss, who was only in his 47th year, was initiated in the Union Lodge, Margate, No. 127, in 1859; joined the Corinthian Lodge No. 1208, Dover in 1868, and was W.M. in 1871, and appointed P.G. Steward Kent 1875, and P.G.A.D.C. 1876.

MASONIC FUNERAL.

About fifty Brethren, representing the four Lodges of Stockport, assembled under the banner of Lodge of Unanimity, No. 287, at the Dog and Partridge Inn, Churchgate, Stockport, on Saturday, for the purpose of accompanying the remains of their late Bro. Geo. Turner P.M. 287 P.P.G.P. Cheshire, and many years Tyler, to their last resting place, the Borough Cemetery, where he was interred with Masonic honours. Bro. Henry Carrington P.M. 287, acting as Master, read the ceremony in a very impressive and solemn manner. Bro. John Leigh J.W. 287, acting as Director of Ceremonies; after the funeral the brethren returned in procession to the Lodge, when it was closed in a solemn prayer. Amongst the Visitors present we noticed Bros. John H. Carrington W.M. 322, John Clark Cheetham P.M. 322 P.P.G.P. Cheshire, Lynch Bradbury 322, John Green 323, John Roberts 104, Woolley 104, Winterbottom 322, and several others.

We have before us the last half-yearly report of the Directors of the Crystal Palace District Gas Company, and learn from it that the working during the half-year has been satisfactory. The balance at credit of profit and loss account amounts to £11,621 18s 6d, out of which sum it is proposed to pay dividends, which will absorb £10,452 12s 1d. We are pleased to hear of this favourable state of affairs; many of the staff of the Company are well known to us and to our readers, as officers and members of the Frederick of Unity and other Lodges. We also notice that the services of Bro. Magnus Ohren, the Secretary of the Company, have given so much satisfaction to the Directors as to warrant their proposing a substantial addition to his salary. Let us hope our worthy brother may long enjoy health to exert himself in the performance of his duties, and that we may again and again have to record his services have received recognition.

CHARTERHOUSE CLUB OF INSTRUCTION.

THIS deservedly appreciated Club, formed some years since, for the purpose of working ceremonial alone, to the entire exclusion of the sections, thereby enabling brethren appointed to office in Lodges to have immediate opportunity for perfecting themselves in their duties, has now, after a period of unfortunate changes of places of meeting, settled down in most comfortable quarters in West Smithfield. The removal of the Club to the excellent hostelry of Bro. T. Butt, the New Market Hotel, King-street, Snow-hill, E.C., took place a few weeks ago, and the meetings since then have shewn evidence of a new vitality which bids fair to ensure a great success for the Club. On the 4th inst. it was resolved to inaugurate the change of quarters by holding a first annual Festival on Tuesday, 1st April, in the large assembly room recently built by Bro. Butt. This Festival promises to be of a noteworthy character. Bro. Wm. Butt P.M. of Lodges 917 and 1677 will officiate as President, Bro. James Stevens P.M. 720, 1216 and 1426 as Senior Vice-President, and Bro. William Webb W.M., of the Royal Union Lodge, 382, at Uxbridge, as Junior Vice-President. The Director of the Ceremonies on this occasion will be Bro. John Syer, of the Panmure 720, and Montefiore 1017. A Lodge will be opened at 6 p.m., and will be followed by banquet. At the Club meeting on Tuesday, the 18th inst., there was a goodly gathering of members, Bros. James Stevens as W.M., Simmons S.W., Humphrey J.W., W. James Preceptor, when the ceremonies of the first and second degrees were worked, and the detail of arrangements for the Festival discussed. We wish the Club every success, and that the approaching entertainment may result in advantage to the Craft generally, and the thorough enjoyment of its members.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.

ON Tuesday afternoon, 18th instant, the annual general meeting of the friends and supporters of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, London. His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Privy Seal, President of the Institution, occupied the chair on the occasion. The meeting was influentially and numerously attended. There were present, amongst others, Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., Admiral of the Fleet, Sir George Sartorius, K.C.B., the Right Hon. the Earl Percy, M.P., Col. Fitzroy Clayton, the Marquis of Hertford, W. H. Harton, Esq., V.P., the Hon. T. C. Agar Robartes, the Earl of Courtown, the Marquis of Headfort, the Right Hon. Stephen Cave, M.P., Eugene F. Noel, Esq., Admiral McHardy, Sir William Clayton, Bart., and Lady Clayton, Capt. the Hon. F. Maude, R.N., Capt. De St. Croix, J. Griffith, Esq., Capt. L. T. Cave, the Right Hon. the Earl Waldegrave, W. Scarth, Esq., Col. Moncrieff, Capt. Martin, R.N., F. D. Mocatta, Esq., Admiral Ward, Chas. H. Cooke, Esq., F.S.A., W. Mannock, Esq., Rev. E. Hewlett, M.A., and Geo. Palmer, Esq.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that he should have very few words to say, for however eventful the past year had been with regard to the extraordinary severity of the weather, and in other respects, yet as far as the action of the life-boats had been concerned, it had not produced any more than usual startling cases of danger or distress. There was no institution, he believed, that had taken so deep a root in the feelings of English hearts as the National Life-boat Institution. The interest which had been shown at the commencement of the Institution had not in the slightest degree flagged or diminished. As an instance of this he might say that he had been informed of the gift of a new life-boat for Cornwall, contributed by the employees of the Great Western Railway at Swindon, in memory of Mr. Armstrong, late Superintendent of the locomotive department of that company. He (the Chairman) hoped that this by no means solitary example would be followed by many more. Richard Lewis, Esq., Barrister and Secretary of the Institution, then read the annual report, which stated that since the last meeting ten new life-boats had been placed, there now being 268 life-boats under the management of the society. During the year 1878 the life-boats of the Institution had saved four hundred and seventy-one persons from wrecked or endangered vessels, nearly the whole of them under peculiar circumstances, when ordinary boats could not have been employed without great risk of life to those on board them. In addition, the life-boats had helped last year to rescue seventeen vessels from destruction. For those services, and for saving 145 lives by fishing-boats and other means, 11 silver medals and votes of thanks inscribed on vellum, and £2,750 had been granted by the Institution. The number of lives saved since the establishment of the Institution, either by its life-boats or by special exertions, for which it had granted rewards, was 26,051. For these services it had voted 94 gold and 312 silver medals, besides pecuniary rewards to the amount of £1,100. The committee cordially acknowledged the continued co-operation of the Local Branch Committees and their honorary secretaries, and the coast guard, boatmen, and fishermen. The total amount of donations, subscriptions, and dividends received during the year had been £34,438, of which sum £1,000 were specially granted to pay the cost of eight life-boats. The expenditure had amounted to £31,439.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS FOR CONSUMPTION.—Influenza, Coughs, and Colds.—In diseases of the throat and chest, so prevalent in our changeable climate, nothing so speedily relieves, or so certainly cures, as these inestimable remedies. These disorders are too often neglected at their commencement, or are in addition treated, resulting in either case in disastrous consequences. Whatever the condition of the patient, Holloway's remedies will restore, if recovery be possible; they retard the alarming symptoms till the blood is purified and nature consummates the cure, gradually restoring strength and vital nervous power. By persevering in the use of Holloway's preparations, one is conferred on the stomach and frame generally. Thousands of persons have testified that by the use of these remedies alone they have been restored to health, after every other means had failed.

Bro. Dick Radclyffe, whose exertions on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution resulted in the purchase money for twelve Life Governorships being raised, by means of balloting tickets, sold at 1s and 2s 6d each, is continuing his labours on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. We hope to be able to record that he is able to hand over a much larger amount to that Institution when the day of its Festival comes. He informs us that many of the tickets sent out by him have neither been acknowledged or accounted for. If any of our readers are among those who have neglected this request of Bro. Radclyffe's, we hope they will now exert themselves to dispose of the tickets on hand, which will serve for the Boy's School ballot, or else immediately return them, in order that they may be sent to others interested in the scheme. Bro. Radclyffe urges his brethren to help him, if only by selling one book, and he has much pleasure in announcing that the scheme is supported by, and is under the patronage of, many Grand Officers and distinguished members of the Craft. Among others he mentions :—

- Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., Past J.G.W., Prov. G.M. Oxon.
- " Sir Daniel Gooch, Bt. M.P., Prov. G.M. Berks and Bucks.
- " His Grace the Duke of Athole, K.T., Past Grand Master Scotland.
- " Right Hon. Lord Henniker S.G.W., S.G.W.M.M., P. Prov. G.W. Suffolk.
- " Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., S.G.D., Vice-patron.
- " R. Bradley Prov. G. Secretary Berks and Bucks.
- " W. Biggs P. Prov. G. Secretary Berks and Bucks.
- " James Terry Secretary R.M.B.I., P.G.J.W. Herts.
- " J. Constable P.M. Vice-patron.
- " Colonel Frederick Brine, R.E., P.M., 30s.
- " Baron Fielder P.M., P.G.S.W. Berks and Bucks.

Bro. Emma Holmes, whose new book, "Amabel Vaughan," is dedicated by express permission to H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., President of the Royal Society of Literature, and P.J.G.W. of England, has received a very gratifying letter from the Prince's private secretary, Bro. R. H. Collius, to the following effect :—

"His Royal Highness Prince Leopold desires me to thank you for the two copies of your work which you have sent to him, and to inform you that he will lay the second copy before the Queen for Her Majesty's acceptance."

The ceremonies of Consecration and Initiation will be rehearsed at the Crusaders Lodge of Instruction, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, on Thursday, 3rd April, by Bro. J. Terry P.M. 228, &c. &c. Prov. J.G.W. Herts. Lodge will be opened at 7 p.m. Brethren to appear in Craft clothing.

From the report of the Standing Committee of the Evening Star Lodge, No. 1719, published with the summons for the next meeting, which takes place on the 25th inst., we learn that the Treasurer's accounts have been audited and approved. They show a balance in hand of £59 18s 10d, which amount, together with £25 4s 0d Fees due, constitutes the assets. The liabilities are about £22. The Lodge has thus a credit balance of £63 2s 10d; a very creditable position for so young a Lodge. The Committee report that the furniture, which has been presented by various members of the Lodge, is perfect, with the exception of three candlesticks; they consider the question of purchasing these may be deferred for the present.

The regular meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Middlesex and Surrey will be held on Monday next, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Prov. G. Lodge will be opened at six o'clock, and after the transaction of the business of the day, the brethren will dine together at seven. Tickets for the banquet, including wine, are one guinea each, and may be had of the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. W. G. Brighton, 4 Bishopsgate-street-within, E.C.

We are pleased in announcing that the efforts of the employes of Messrs. J. and C. Boyd and Co., on behalf of the Asylum for Idiots, on Thursday, the 13th inst., resulted most successfully. No less than £75 will be handed over to the Committee of this deserving charity.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE, 1642.

THE regular meeting was held on 13th inst. at the Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill. Bros. S. H. Parkhouse W.M., E. M. Lander S.W., S. Smout J.W., W. J. Murlis P.M. Sec., G. Penn P.M. Treas., Rev. D. Reade S.D., S. Smout jun. J.D., J. Bartle D.C., Woodmason and Hook Stewards, Rogers I.G., Delevante Organist; P.M. Bro. W. Stephens, several members, and the following visitors :—Bros. C. Davey W.M., J. Driscoll P.M., and T. E. Davey W.S. No. 30, G. Davis J.W. 167, M. Spiegel W.M. 188, J. Flood P.P.G.D.C. Berks and Bucks, G. W. Dixon P.M. 209, J. Lee 231, S. J. Humphreys and E. Arrowsmith 733, A. B. Baker W.M., L. Brett P.M. 831, E. Kelly 851, A. E. Taylor, J. P. Maud, W. Austin 1201, W. Weaver I.G. 1238, E. C. Daines W.M. 1366, W. W. Morgau jun. 1385, J. Johnson J.W. 1423, J. H. Pearson S.W. 1567, A. Marchant 1604, W. Nixon 1744, and H. Stevens. Lodge having been opened with the usual formalities, was advanced, and Bro. Dr. G. F. Rule was raised to the sublime degree. The next business on the paper was the passing of Bro. M. R. Lochner, but that brother not being in attendance, the W.M. ordered the bye-laws of the Lodge to be read, which done, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Joseph Robson, Charles Dewdney Cowland, and William Henry Rusdell. The result being declared as in their favour, those three gentlemen, together with Mr. Arthur Heywood, who was elected at the previous meeting, were duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. This completed the ceremonial business. The letter sent by the Secretary to the Earl of Carnarvon on his recent marriage, and his reply to the same (as published in our columns last week), were ordered to be recorded on the minutes. The sympathy of the Lodge with the family of a late member was ordered to be communicated to the widow. A letter was ordered to be sent to Her Majesty the Queen, as recorded by us last week. Brother Murlis announced that since their last meeting the Annual Ball in connection with the Lodge had taken place. It proved a great success, and although it had not realised as much profit as he had anticipated, it had produced more than the last one. The W.M. proposed that the thanks of the Lodge be given to Bro. Murlis, for the trouble he took in the matter; this was seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously. Bro. Murlis briefly acknowledged the compliment. He was not in the habit of doing things by halves, so that if it had not been a success, it would not have been through any neglect on his part. Nothing further offering, Lodge was closed, and the brethren repaired to banquet, which was well served by Bro. Linscott, and ably presided over by the W.M. In introducing the customary loyal toasts, the W.M. referred specially to their connection by name with the Pro Grand Master. Bro. Penn the I.P.M. gave the toast of the W.M. The way in which Bro. Parkhouse performed his task, which was no small one, was a credit to him and the Lodge. He had always taken a great interest in the Lodge, and Brother Penn hoped he would continue to do so. The W.M. in replying, expressed his delight in seeing the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge in so flourishing a condition. He believed the members were a most united band, whose main object was to be happy and promote happiness. He now considered the toast of the Initiates the chief one of the evening; without such it would be impossible for a Lodge to go on. Hitherto their initiates had proved a credit to the Craft, and he had no doubt those admitted at the present meeting would prove no exception. Bro. Robson promised to use every effort to promote the interests of the Craft. Bro. Cowland tendered his thanks for the kindness shown him in receiving him into the Lodge. Bro. Smith would be happy to do anything in his power either for the Craft or the Lodge. Bro. Rusdell also thanked the brethren. The Past Masters were next toasted. Brother Penn had done good service for the Lodge during his year of office, and since that time had taken, if possible, greater interest in its welfare. The labours of Bro. Murlis were too well known to need recounting; he had performed the hard work entailed by a first Master to the utmost satisfaction, and since that time had assisted them in no small degree. They also looked upon Bro. Stephens as one of their Past Masters; he certainly was ever ready at hand to render aid. They had Past Masters among their members, notably Bros. Pearson and Woodward, the latter an old champion of Freemasonry, and one who endeavoured to carry out its truest principles. Each of the Past Masters having replied, the health of the Visitors was drunk; Bros. Bryett, Taylor, Weaver and others replying. The Treasurer and Secretary received due praise. Bro. Penn now referred to his Stewardship for the R.M.B.I. He had made up his mind to get a list of 300 guineas; how he had succeeded they well knew. Bro. Murlis replied as Secretary, in as short a speech as we should think him capable of making, his large heartedness generally requiring a full complement of words for the expression of his feelings. The Officers were duly honoured, and several replied. The thanks of the members were given to Bro. Davis, who has now undertaken the duties of Preceptor to the Lodge of Instruction working under sanction of 1642, and he tendered his acknowledgments. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a termination. During the evening several brethren contributed to the harmony, in all cases being ably supported in their endeavours by the efficient Organist of the Lodge, Bro. Delevante.

The Tynce Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was re-opened on the 15th, under the management of Bro. Charles Harrington. The house has been re-decorated, and many improvements introduced. Bro. Harrington has engaged a strong and talented company, and there is little doubt he will gain the support of the public. We wish him every success.

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.

SATURDAY, 22nd MARCH.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Piccadilly, at 7. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
1664—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithc.
1531—Chislehurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chislehurst.
1777—Royal Hanover, Town Hall, Hounslow.
R. A. 308—Affability, Station House Hotel, Bottoms, Stansfield.

MONDAY, 24th MARCH.

- 4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
45—Strong Man, Sportsman, City-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
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-common, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction.)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Buckney, at 7.30. (In.)
1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
1635—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
1632—Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell.
48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead.
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 25th MARCH.

- 14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
65—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7. (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
92—Moir, Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
141—Faith, Auderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel.
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. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, E.C.
1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1411—Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
1446—Mount Edgecumbe, 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.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8. (In.)
1719—Evening Star, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1744—Royal Savoy, Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden.
24—Newcastle on Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle, 7.30. (In.)
117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
263—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford.
310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle.
673—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1016—Elkington, Masonic Rooms, New-street, Birmingham.
1368—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton.
1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1675—Ancient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
R. A. 721—Grosvenor, Eastgate-row-north, Chester.
R. A. 1091—Temple Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
K. T.—Plains of Tubor, Swan Hotel, Colne, Lancashire.

WEDNESDAY, 26th MARCH.

- 193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7. (Instruction.)
201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
212—Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street, E.C.
228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8. (In.)
507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
538—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, Maddox-street, W., at 7.45. (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. at 8. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8. (Instruction.)
1044—Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth. (Instruction.)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, The Three Bucks, Gresham-street, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Courts, Salsdon and Bull, Bethnal Green-road, at 8. (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8. (Instruction.)
1553—Duke of Connaught, Faunce Arms, Kennington Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton, at 8. (Instruction.)
1768—Progress, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, A. r-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. U.—St. Andrew, Cafe Royal, Regent-street, W.
32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire.
304—Panthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley.
443—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough. (Instruction.)
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction.)
993—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk.
1049—St. John, George Hotel, Lichfield.
1053—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester.
1119—St. Bede, Mechanic's Institute, Barrow.
1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
1243—Ryburn, Private Rooms, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge.
1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire.
1611—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7. (Instruction.)
1696—Ellington, Bell Hotel, Maidenhed.
1933—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1723—St. George, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton.
R. A. 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Liddleborough.
R. A. 605—De Tabley, Seatonby Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire.
R. A. 1503—Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham.
M.M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maile-st., Newcastle.

THURSDAY, 27th MARCH.

- General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8. (Instruction.)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8. (Instruction.)
99—Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
211—St. Michael, George, Australian Avenue, Barbican, E.C., at 8. (Inst.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8. (Instruction.)
766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1319—Friars, Chechire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1424—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C., at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston.
1614—Covent Garden, Ashley's Hotel, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, 8. (Inst.)
1658—Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 9. (In.)
R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
R. A. 1615—Bayard, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square.
78—Imperial George, Aesheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington.
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 9. (Instruction.)
296—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
345—St. John, Bulls Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton.
504—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham.
935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford.
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, St. Ford.
1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire.
1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester.
1595—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
R. A. 51—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham-street, Rochdale.
R. A.—292 Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
R. A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
M.M. 32—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
K. T.—Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley.

FRIDAY, 28th MARCH.

- 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.)
569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road, E.C.
786—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8. (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.)
1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8. (Instruction.)
1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1612—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd. N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)
London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 191 Queen Victoria-street, E.C. at 6.
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (In-t.)
R.A. 1471—North London, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8. (Inst.)
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Carter, Kew Bridge.
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion, Barnet.
1393—Hammer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bognor.
1712—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7.
R. A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
R. A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
R. A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster.
K. T. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.

SATURDAY, 29th MARCH.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Piccadilly, at 7. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
1462—Wharfedale, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Spurgin's, the Sportsman, City-road, on Monday, the 17th instant. There were present Bros. Wing W.M., T. Fox S.W., J. W. Smith J.W., Tolmie Preceptor, Fenner Sec., Spurgin S.D., Gyer J.D., Sillis I.G.; also Bros. Byott, Isaac, Frewinnard, Cutnbertson, Willson, Halam sen., Halle, J. Milington, Ross, Lane, Gieseko, Hine, Gibbs, W. Rowley, Callow, Symons, R. Percy, Crawley and Greene. After Lodge was opened and formalities observed, Bro. Isaac proved himself an efficient F.C., and was trusted. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of raising Bro. Isaac candidate. The candidate's history was given, and the entire ceremony performed in a careful manner by Bro. Wing, W.M. of the mother Lodge. Bro. Percy worked the first, Bro. Isaac the second section of the Lodge, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Tolmie worked the third, assisted by Bro. Fenner. Lodge resumed, and Bros. Callow, of Strong Man, 45, Cutnbertson, of Egyptian, 27, and Hine, of Unity, 1587, were elected members. Bro. Fox was appointed to preside at next meeting, when Bro. Tolmie will rehearse the ceremony of installation. It is hoped a numerous attendance will reward his efforts. Lodge was then closed.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—On Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the White Hart Tavern, Beverdere-road, Lambeth. The W.M. Bro. Ross opened the Lodge, and, after reading the minutes of the previous meeting, the W.M. vacated the chair, which Bro. John Node took, for the purpose of installing Bro. Timothy, the S.W., as W.M. The ceremony was very ably performed. The W.M., on being installed, appointed his Officers, and then initiated Messrs. Arthur Parr and Lovelock, the brethren thus had an opportunity of ad.

minging the excellent working of the new W.M. The report of the audit meeting was read and accepted. The Lodge was closed in perfect harmony; the brethren, numbering 80, then adjourned to the banquetting hall, which had been tastefully decorated, under the guidance of Bro. John Satchell, who was generally complimented for his taste, and a vote of thanks was unanimously recorded to him. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. Visitors:—Bros. E. Davies P.M. Secretary of 223, Wyman 188, and Newnham 1624. Each responded to the toast proposed in their honour. The banquet was most creditably served, and the brethren left at a late hour, having spent a most comfortable Masonic evening.

Domestic Lodge of Instruction, No. 177.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 18th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, S.E. Bros. T. E. Walker W.M., Boyes S.W., Bryant J.W., Smith S.D., Thorpe J.D., Hicks I.G., Larham Preceptor and Treasurer, Smith Secretary *pro tem*, and other brethren. The questions for raising were answered. The Lodge was opened in the third degree and the ceremony of raising was duly rehearsed, Bro. Maidment being the candidate. The Lodge was closed down to the first degree. The S.W. was elected W.M. for ensuing week, and the Lodge was closed.

Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185.—There could scarcely have been devised a more appropriate programme than that by which the proceedings were regulated at the meeting of the above Lodge, which took place at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, on Monday, the 17th instant. The recent death of the sincerely beloved Bro. John Peartree P.M., who had been connected with the Lodge for upwards of a quarter of a century, and held the post of Hon. Treas. for the last eighteen years, caused the brethren to appear with the usual tokens of Masonic mourning, and also to dispense with the gay and glittering regalia usually seen upon the breasts of many of the Past Masters. Happily, there was no ceremonial work, else a newly-initiated might have carried away a somewhat sombre impression of the entrance to his Masonic career. Bro. George S. Pate W.M., having opened the Lodge, caused the minutes to be read, which were confirmed. From these it appeared that the sum of £100 had again been added to the Benevolent Fund. Bro. S. Solomon P.M. next proposed a vote of condolence to the widow and family of the late Treasurer, and in a speech full of genuine feeling dilated upon the excellent qualities which distinguished the departed Brother; his disinterested kindness and urbanity, his benevolent instincts, and the unwearied solicitude for the prosperity of the Lodge which characterised his conduct. The vote was, of course, unanimously agreed to, and the Secretary ordered to communicate the same to the widow. The Lodge was then closed and adjourned. A really frugal, yet ample supper, was served, such as even the balance sheet brigade would scarcely object to, and with which it must be stated every one present was thoroughly satisfied, because the simplicity of the repast precluded the anticipation of broken rest, disordered stomachs, next morning's headache, and consequent general seediness, which follows in a greater or lesser degree the partaking of a sumptuous and luxurious banquet. Wines were entirely dispensed with, and, like staid and sober citizens, the brethren smoked and chatted over a glass of ale or grog. The toasts were confined to but to two—the first, "Loyalty to throne, and Prosperity to the Craft," which is supposed to include the Loyal and Masonic toasts; the second was that of the Visitors, of whom but five were present, namely, Bros. Henry De Solla, John Culver, James and John Rexworthy, and John Piggott. The next proceedings might with propriety be termed a vocal and musical entertainment, from which nearly everything likely to cause hilarity was neatly and spontaneously excluded. Without the least desire or intention to depreciate the musical taste and talent of any one whose exertions contributed in any measure to chase away the gloom of the former portion of the evening, Bro. De Solla's performances take the first rank. His pathetic and quaint songs were highly appreciated, and a pianoforte solo ("Trovatore") was vociferously applauded. Bro. J. Rexworthy received his fair share of praise, and indeed the vocal efforts of Bros. Child, John H. Ross, John Constable, Bailey, Staley, and Culver gave universal satisfaction. Special mention must deservedly be made of Bro. J. D. Barnett, whose versatile capabilities gave him full employment throughout the evening. Except Bro. De Solla, who does not require it; and Bro. Child, who objected to it for reasons of his own, the rest of the vocalists had brought their music, and in nearly all instances Bro. Barnett was called upon to play the accompaniment to each, and also to accede to the request to oblige with some choice songs from his repertoire. Although, no doubt inadvertently, public recognition of his services was not rendered, he received hearty thanks privately from many who had the opportunity of doing so. Altogether we never remember any Masonic gathering, during our experience of nearly twenty years, in which so much ability was displayed (unprofessional) by members of any Lodge. Great praise is also due to the W.M. for the fitness and suitability of the whole arrangement, as it was consistent with a due sense of respect to the memory of one whose loss the Lodge has every reason so deeply to deplore. Besides numerous brethren and visitors, there were present—Bros. Bailey S.W., Croaker J.W., P. Levy Sec., Bush S.D., Staley I.G.; Past Masters J. Constable, J. Ross, S. Solomon, S. Moss, Bloomfield, Gluckstein, and E. Gottheil.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—On Wednesday, at the Railway Tavern, Feuchurch-street. Bros. T. W. Bou W.M., G. L. Walker S.W., T. B. Biddle J.W., Wm. Sayer S.D., J. A. Fells J.D., D. Moss I.G., Thos. W. C. Rush Treas., E. Gottheil P.M., J. K. Pitt Sec. Bro. Alfred Valentine 1275 Visitor, who afterwards joined the Lodge of Instruction. The ceremony of raising was worked by Bro. Candlish. Bro. Moss worked the first three sections, assisted by the brethren. Notice of motion was given by P.M.

Gottheil, that one guinea be placed upon the list of Bro. Treasurer Bush, for the Masonic Boys' School. He was pleased to say the list up to present time amounted to over one hundred pounds. Bro. S.W. was elected W.M. for next Wednesday.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, on Saturday, the 15th inst. Present—Bros. Brasted W.M., J. Lorkin S.W., Byott J.W., Percy Preceptor, Fenner Secretary, Braud S.D., Forss J.D., Lewis I.G.; also Bros. Byng, Phillips, Mullord, P. Woodman, Ross, J. Millington, Gilham, Garrod, Calderwood, Seidel, Mackey, Hallam sen., Peace and Burtle. Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Garrod proved his efficiency, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed in a very effective manner by the W.M., Bro. Garrod as candidate. Bro. Percy worked the first section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren; and the third by Bro. Fenner. Lodge being resumed, Bro. R. A. Peace, of Manchester Lodge 179, was elected a member, and Bro. J. Lorkin was appointed to fill the chair at next meeting, after which Lodge was closed and adjourned.

Israel Lodge of Instruction, No. 205.—The annual banquet was held on the 13th inst., at Bro. Yetton's, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, E. Bro. I. P. Cohen P.M. 205 occupied the chair, ably supported by Bros. W. Musto P.M. and J. Taylor, and a numerous attendance of brethren of this and neighbouring Lodges of Instruction. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Craft toasts in brief and appropriate terms; they were most cordially received. The other toasts given were, the Worshipful Master's, proposed by Bro. T. J. Barnes P.M., in a very flattering manner, and duly acknowledged in a graceful speech. The W.M. then proposed the Lodge of Instruction, naming Bros. Wm. Musto P.M. Preceptor and G. H. Stephens Sec. Bro. Musto replied. The Masonic Charities followed, coupled with the name of Bro. Barnes, who was well qualified to speak of them. Bro. Barnes having given some account of the good work to be done, and pointed out that they required further assistance from the brethren, the Masonic Press was given, associated with the name of Bro. Stephens, who having replied, the compliment was paid to the Host, for which he expressed his appreciation. Several other toasts were given, they being all enlivened with songs and recitations by the professional brethren present, until the Tyler's toast brought a very happy reunion to a close.

Lodge of Harmony, No. 298, Rochdale.—The regular monthly meeting of this exceedingly well-worked Lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, on the 5th inst. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. R. R. Gray, assisted by his Wardens and Officers; an unusual number of members and several visiting P.M.'s, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and declared to be correctly recorded. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Robinson claimed preferment, and having sustained his claim was entrusted, and he retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, when the W.M. invited Bro. Bowes P.M. P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmorland, to take the chair, which he did, and raised Bro. Robinson in ample form. The Lodge was lowered, the further business transacted, and finally closed in harmony.

Lodge of Union, No. 414.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 18th of March, at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present:—Bros. Charles Oades W.M., L. Bradley S.W., C. Stephens J.W., M. J. Withers Sec., F. Blackwell acting S.D., F. J. Ferguson J.D., A. W. Parry D.C., C. G. Butler Steward, S. Wheeler I.G., Wm. Hemmings Tyler; Past Masters Bros. Baker, Pocock, Yetts, Bradley, Slathwood, Long; Members—Bros. Moffatt, Webb, Higgs, Armstrong, Martin, Sydenham, G. W. Webb, C. G. Hawkes, Donaldson, Hart; Visitors—Bros. Col. Lewis Jones J.W. Himalayan Brotherhood 459 (formerly 673), E. J. Blackwell S.D. 1101. The Lodge was opened in the first degree. The minutes of the last regular Lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Hayward as an Initiate, who was declared to be elected. Bros. Davis and Field having proved their efficiency, were entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bros. Davis and Field were passed to the degree of F.C. The Lodge was resumed in the first degree, when the election of a Treasurer, to succeed the late Bro. Botly, took place. Bro. John Alexander Strachan was unanimously elected. The sum of ten guineas was voted to the R.M.B.I. A letter was read from Mrs. Botly, thanking the brethren for their kindness and sympathy in attending the funeral of her late husband. It was resolved that the Chaplain be requested to write a letter of condolence to Mrs. Botly. The labours of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed according to ancient form.

Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487.—The installation of Br. Robert Osborne as W.M. for the ensuing year took place on Thursday, the 13th instant, at the Lodge-room, Masonic Hall, Portsmouth. There were about seventy brethren present, and the Board of Installed Masters included 23 P.M.'s of the Province. The ceremony of installation was most impressively performed by Bro. J. E. Le Fenetre, Provincial Grand Secretary, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Hickman, Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. J. W. Pillow P.P.G.O., who was supported by an efficient choir, consisting of Bros. Dyson P.P.G.S. of W., G. Felton Lancaster P.G.D., J. W. Strond, Batchelor P.G.O., Pearman, Downing, and Grant. The anthems, "Thine, O Lord," "Behold how good and joyful," and "I will lift up mine eyes," were most effectively rendered. At the conclusion of the ceremony the new W.M. appointed and duly installed the following

Officers:—Bros. H. Threadingham I.P.M., Horace E. Loader S.W., Thomas P. Palgrave J.W., G. S. Lancaster P.M. P.P.G.W. Treas., M. E. Frost P.M. P.G. Treas. and J. Astridge P.P.G. Pars. Secs., E. Groves P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C. D. of C., H. T. Cecil S.D., W. M. Outridge J.D., George F. Bell I.G., H. P. Holley and F. H. De Rheims Stewards; Exell and Smith Tylers. A banquet was subsequently provided by Bro. George Bond, grace before and after meat being sung by the choir. Amongst the brethren present, in addition to those whose names have been mentioned, were Bros. E. Goble W.M. 309, J. W. Willmott W.M. 342, C. B. Whitcomb W.M. 903, Valentine Brown W.M. 1705, R. J. Murrell W.M. 1776, H. W. Townsend P.M. 111, J. Fare P.P.G. Reg., J. Douglas P.P.G.W., R. H. C. Ulsdell P.P.G.A.D.C., E. Bunting P.M., T. Moore P.M., Clay P.M., &c.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held its weekly meeting on Tuesday, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Bros. Polak W.M., Smyth S.W., Lovelock J.W., J. Lorkin S.D., Clark J.D., Christian I.G., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas. P.M. Wallington Preceptor; Bros. R. Williams, H. Williams, Carr, Weige, Webb, Bown, Goodman, and others. The Lodge was opened to the second degree. Bro. Bown answered the necessary questions, and the Lodge was advanced. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Bown candidate. The Preceptor gave the traditional history; the Lodge was called off, and afterwards resumed its Masonic duties. Lodge was closed down. Bro. Webb worked the third and fourth sections of the first lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Bown P.M. of Lodge 1237, and Bro. Goodman of Lodge 1346, were elected members. Bro. Smyth was elected W.M. for Tuesday, 1st April. The annual supper will take place next Tuesday evening, at eight punctual.

Whittington Lodge of Instruction, No. 862.—On Wednesday, 19th, at Bro. Hyde's, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street. Bros. Abell W.M., Brown S.W., Knill Abell J.W., Parslee S.D., Drury J.D., Balls I.G., Long Preceptor, and many others. After the confirmation of the minutes the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Nance having offered himself as a candidate for the third, was examined and entrusted. The Lodge was then opened up, and the ceremony effectively rendered by the W.M. The whole of the Lecture was gone through with the assistance of Bros. Tate and Brown. The Lodge was closed down to the first. A ballot having taken place at the last meeting, in which Bro. Tate was successful, the sum of £5 5s was voted from the funds of the Lodge in his name to such of the Masonic Charities as he should select. Bro. Marston having been previously appointed to preside and perform the ceremony of installation on Wednesday, 26th March, Bro. Brown S.W. was elected W.M. for the following week. The Lodge was then closed.

Wandsworth Lodge, No. 1044.—A meeting was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth, on Wednesday, 19th inst. There was very little Lodge business, and to this, possibly, may be attributed the rather scanty attendance. The following brethren were present:—Bros. W. A. Morgan W.M., H. R. Jones I.P.M., A. N. Newens S.W., J. B. Walker J.W., J. J. Holland J.D., F. W. Ward-rop I.G., J. Frost Sec., H. Wilson Treas., J. G. Carter, F. H. Newens, E. H. Boddy, H. C. Francis P.M.'s; S. C. Landon, J. Sanders, W. T. Bell, T. Arnison, A. J. Duck, W. A. Blackmore (Visitor, Industry Lodge 1485), P. V. Denham and A. A. Denham. Minutes having been read and confirmed, Lodge was opened in the second, when Bros. Arnison and Bell were ably passed to degree of F.C. by the W.M. At the conclusion of the supper—which was by subscription, and not provided by encroachment on Lodge funds—several capital songs were given by Bros. Morgan, Duck, A. N. Newens, J. G. Carter, and J. Frost, an inimitable comic. As a parting word of advice, the W.M. exhorted the brethren to attend in good force at the next meeting. A letter was read from Bro. W. J. Huntley S.D., who was prevented from attending by illness.

Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158.—A meeting was held on 11th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. Present—Bros. W. Allen W.M., Smith S.W., Harris J.W., A. Wright P.M. Treas., T. H. Palsford P.M. Sec., Stuart S.D., Fortune J.D., Wilks Steward, Holloway I.G., Stead Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. J. Wright, Macdonald, Walters, Wise, and several Visitors. Lodge being duly opened, the ballot was taken for Messrs. James Wright, H. T. Purkis and Job Pack. The two latter gentlemen being in attendance, were initiated. Lodge being advanced, Bros. Firmin and Whybro were raised. The election for Worshipful Master for the ensuing year resulted in the unanimous choice of Bro. Smith the present S.W. The Treasurer, Secretary and Tyler were each re-elected to their respective stations for another term. A notice of motion, given by Bro. Wise at the last meeting, to remove the Lodge to Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, was brought forward, and unanimously carried. Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, spending the remainder of the evening in social enjoyment.

St. George's Lodge, No. 1170.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on Monday the 17th inst. Present—Bros. C. P. Bell W.M., J. H. Bell S.W., F. Higgins P.M. as J.W., John Duffield P.M. Sec. and Treas., W. Cook I.G., Jas. Sly Tyler, and S. M. Davies Visitor. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, by which it was apparent that ten guineas was voted to the R.M.B.I. from the funds of the Lodge. So far so good. But where are the St. George's men? It must be mortifying and discouraging for any brother to be W.M. of this once brilliant Lodge, and month after

month to open Lodge with so few attendants; common respect to the chair, the sense of duty to the Lodge, for the welfare of which every individual brother is directly responsible, and the obligation which every brother owes to the Craft, should impel the members of No. 1170 to attend to their duties. There being no further business the Lodge was closed, and the small circle sat down to refreshment, and had a pleasant edifying chat.

Earl Spencer Lodge, No. 1420.—A meeting was held at the Swan Hotel, Batterssea, on Tuesday evening, the 18th instant, when there were present:—Bros. Dr. J. J. Joseph W.M., J. Hiscox jun. S.W., J. T. Pilditch J.W., J. Sinclair S.D., W. W. Young J.D., J. W. Hiscox Sec., F. Spooner P.M. Treas., J. C. Radford I.G., and Bros. Dr. J. Oakman, Dr. W. H. Kempster, A. Southam, T. Harrap, Gosden, A. A. Corsellis, H. Hill, Cooch, Kendall, Kenneby, Wilkinson, Harford, and P. V. Denham, visitor from the Wandsworth Lodge, No. 1044. Bro. A. A. Corsellis was ably passed to the second degree by the W.M., who afterwards complimented Bro. Corsellis on the proficiency he had attained for so young a Mason. Bro. J. W. Hiscox P.M. delivered the charge in a way which called forth the admiration of the brethren. It was unanimously resolved that the sum of ten guineas be paid from the Lodge funds to the Girls' School, and also a like amount to the Boys' School. At the conclusion of the Lodge business, refreshment was provided in the form of a capital supper. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair. For that of the Visitors Bro. P. V. Denham replied, and thanked the brethren for the kindly welcome he had received from the Earl Spencer Lodge. A very pleasant evening was spent.

The Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—The annual election meeting of this Lodge was held at Cannon-street Hotel, on Saturday, 8th inst. Bro. Freeman the W.M. being at the time on the Continent, the duties of the chair devolved on Bro. P.M. Headon, who had the assistance of the various Officers. Lodge was advanced to the second, and then third degree, and Bros. Lawes and Robson were raised. On resumption to the first degree, Bros. Mogridge and King were questioned, and each was advanced to the rank of Fellow Craft. After the reading of the Bye-Laws, which, by the way, are the most perfect and comprehensive we have ever had the privilege of listening to, the election of Worshipful Master for the next Masonic year required attention from the brethren. The acting W.M. announced that there was but one dissentient to the promotion of the S.W. Bro. Blackie, and upon enquiry as to who could have cast the stone, it was remarked that Bro. Blackie, as a prominent Officer of the Lodge, was naturally modest, and had on this occasion given practical proof of his powers of self-denial. Bro. Headon remarked that under the circumstances he felt justified in recording the election as unanimous. Bro. P.M. J. Stevens proposed, and Bro. P.M. H. Thompson seconded, that Bro. Headon be re-elected as Treasurer of the Lodge; the vote, on being put to the members, was carried. Bro. Steedman was also re-elected to fulfil the duties of Tyler. Brothers Green, Vowles and Hannaford were appointed to audit the accounts of the Lodge, their report to be presented in due course. The most pleasing part of the day's proceedings now followed. Bro. J. Stevens, on behalf of the members of the Lodge, handed to the custody of Bro. Headon a handsome salver, with tea and coffee service, which had been subscribed for as a testimonial to the W.M., Bro. Freeman, in recognition of the good wishes of the members on his recent marriage. Bro. Stevens requested Bro. Headon to express to Bro. Freeman the hearty good wishes of his friends, and trusted he and his wife would enjoy every happiness this world could afford. The salver bore the following inscription:—

Presented, together with a Tea and Coffee Service,
To Brother JAMES FREEMAN,
Worshipful Master of The Great City Lodge,
No. 1426,

With the hearty good wishes of the Members, on the occasion of his marriage, 6th March 1879.

Bro. Headon expressed his willingness and pleasure in being entrusted with the presentation of the articles to Bro. Freeman. Reference having been made to the position of two candidates for the Boys' School, whose age will debar them if they are not successful at the next election, Lodge was closed, the brethren adjourning to what is facetiously termed a "Great City bread and cheese" repast. At the conclusion of the supper, the W.M. gave the usual Loyal toasts. Bro. Stevens proposed long life and happiness to their absent W.M. and his wife, and followed it with a few words on behalf of the acting Master Bro. Headon. This toast was most heartily received and briefly acknowledged. Brothers Stevens and Seex replied to the toast of the Past Masters, and then the acting Master tendered a hearty welcome to the guests of the evening, several of whom replied. Bro. Moody, the energetic Secretary, had double duty to perform on this occasion, having to acknowledge the kind sentiments of the brethren on behalf of the Treasurer as well as for himself. Bro. Blackie briefly acknowledged the kind way in which mention of his name was received in conjunction with the toast of W.M. elect. To the toast of the Officers, several speeches complimentary and to the point, were given, and eventually the Tyler was summoned to give the final toast. Visitors were Bros. J. Lawrence 1326, W. W. Fairer 1329, Mills Parker 340, Fred. Dolley W.M. 1515, George Black 859, A. Leon 780, H. T. Tiddeman 813, Garland 1538, J. Groom 145, W. Ashwell W.M. 22, W. W. Morgan Sec. 211, John Morgan 1611, J. C. Mason P.M. 1540, Thos. Harper 1216, C. E. Soppet I.P.M. 1627, Martin jun. 188, J. H. Hastie P.M. 1669, Tom Eastgate 1563, R. N. Field P.M. 902, F. J. Swearing 1257, J. Hooper 1515, T. Owen J.D. 1287, J. B. Lambe 145, J. Chapman 194, W. L. Permeanean 1329, P. B. Harris 177.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—Star and Garter, Kew-bridge, on 7th inst. Bros. Franckel W.M., Blasby S.W., Skinner J.W., Gunner (Hon. Sec.) S.D., Botley J.D., Becket I.G., Roe P.M. Preceptor, Goss I.P.M., Hogg P.M. 13-19, Tucker Treas., Kyezor, Talbot, &c. Initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hogg candidate. Bro. Hogg worked the first three sections of the lecture. Votes of thanks were accorded to Bro. Franckel for the impressive manner in which he had worked the ceremony of initiation, and to Bro. Hogg for working the sections. Bro. Blasby was elected W.M. for next meeting, and Lodge was closed.

On the 14th inst., Bros. Blasby W.M., Tucker S.W., Goss J.W., Roe S.D. Preceptor, Talbot J.D., Pearson I.G. Lodge opened up in first, second and third degrees, and closed down. Bro. Roe read a letter from Bro. Gunner Hon. Sec., expressing his regret at being absent, owing to domestic affliction. Bro. Roe Preceptor was requested to write to Bro. Gunner, informing him that the Lodge of instruction do pass a vote of sympathy with him on his recent bereavement. Bro. Tucker proposed, and Bro. Goss seconded, a vote, wishing health and happiness to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Past S.G.W. Bro. Blasby was re-elected W.M. for Friday, 14th April, next Friday being Officers' night, and the following Friday the meeting of the mother Lodge.

Royal Military Lodge of Instruction, No. 1449.—A meeting was held on 17th March, at Canterbury. Present—Bros. Howarth W.M., Vantier S.W., Whiskin J.W., E. Beer Treas., W. Carter Sec., W. Price S.D., Blamires J.D., Naylor P.M. D.C., Jeffreys Steward, Tyler I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Greenwood and Turner. Bros. Evison, Cattelle, Hammond, Coates, Paterson, Richards, Menagh. Visitor—Hammond 218 I.C. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, the working tools explained by Bro. Vantier, and the questions leading from first to second degree put by Bro. Howarth. The first lecture, first section, was given by Bro. Miskin. Lodge was called off for refreshment, and resumed labour, when Lodge was closed in due form.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1811.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday evening, its principal object being the initiation of a candidate who is about to leave England for Australia. Accordingly, there was a good muster, all Officers being in their places, and the W.M. Bro. J. S. Cumberland presiding and working the ceremonies. Some suggestions were thrown out as to making a systematic arrangement of the books in the possession of the Lodge, so as to render them more available for the use of the members. Bro. T. B. Whytehead P.M. gave a copy to the library of Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry.

Ebor Lodge of St. Lawrence.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, at York, Bro. Geo. Simpson W.M. in the chair, supported by Bros. T. B. Whytehead I.P.M., J. S. Cumberland S.W., T. Cooper J.W., Rev. W. C. Lukis Chaplain, A. T. B. Turner Recorder, T. Humphries I.G., W. P. Husband K. of G., J. Hanley (4th Dragoon Guards), &c. Two candidates received the degree, and Bro. P. Pearson was elected Tyler. Instructions were given to the Tyler to communicate with the London brethren who were reported to be forming a Grand Lodge of the Order, but of which the Ebor Lodge had received no official intimation.

Ancient Carthago Lodge, No. 1717.—An emergency meeting was held on 8th March, at the Masonic Hall, Tunis, North Africa. Present—Bros. A. M. Broadley D.G.S.W. Malta W.M., Dr. Perini S.W., O. Pontecost J.W., V. C. Clement Sec., V. De Pas as Treas., V. Finzi S.D., J. B. Bourrepaux J.D., S. Arieti D.C., G. Barsotti and C. Fogetta Stewards, M. Le Gallia I.G., G. Eymon Tyler, thirty members and one visitor. The business before the meeting was the initiation of four candidates, duly elected at the last regular meeting of the Lodge. The Lodge being opened in ancient form, the following gentlemen were initiated into the secrets and mysteries of the Order, viz.:—Dr. Pace-Williams, and Messrs. Balzan, Babiazz and Boccara. The charge was delivered in French, and the proceedings ended with the usual charitable collection.

Eleanor Cross Lodge, No. 1764.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, 18th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Northampton. Present—Bros. M. A. Boeme P.M. 360 W.M., Butler Wilkins D.P.G.M. as P.M., Rev. S. J. W. Sanders S.W., H. J. Atkins J.W., Hamilton J. Parker Treas., H. Brown Sec., H. Hill S.D. and Organist, H. Spoor J.D., G. Ellard D.C., E. Morris I.G., Kirby and Dean Tylers; Bros. Rev. T. C. Beasley, Brooke, Sampson J. Manning, S. Campion, T. Emery, R. Taylor, R. J. Johnston. Visitor—Bro. Jeffrey Pomfret 360. Ballot was taken for the admission of three gentlemen; all were approved, and they will be initiated at next regular Lodge. Lodge was advanced, and Bros. Campion, Emery and Taylor were raised. On the Lodge being resumed to the first degree, the Secretary proposed, and the S.W. seconded, that a cordial vote of thanks be given to Bro. Parker, who at the recent anniversary of the R.M.B.I. acted as Steward for the Lodge, and presented a list amounting to £53. This was carried unanimously, and Bro. Parker, in acknowledgment, explained that he had so divided the sum as to endow each of the three chairs. Two gentlemen were proposed for ballot, and the Lodge was closed. A very harmonious evening was spent under the presidency of the W.M.

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATION, CHRISTMAS 1878.

THE class lists showing the results of this Examination are now published. The results as affecting our Boys' School are as follow:—Honours: Nine 1st class; three 2nd class; one 3rd class. One passed in 4th division. Total number sent up for examination 14. No failures. Between forty and fifty Schools sent up candidates to the London Main Centre. There were only at the Centre fifteen in the 1st class, distributed over six schools; the Royal Masonic Boys gained nine out of this number, leaving only six to be shared by the other five Schools.

APRIL ELECTION.

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*John Poulter, Esq., 95 Cannon Street Road.
*W. Wallford, Esq., M.R.C.S., 159 Aldergate Street.
*These Gentlemen will thankfully receive Proxies, which may also be sent to the Secretary, and to Mrs. Duckett, 1 Kemerton Road, Herve Hill Road, S.W.

THE THEATRES, &c.

GLOBE.—At 7.15, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.5, LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.
HAYMARKET.—At 7.45, THE HENWITCHERS. At 8.20, DAVID GARRICK, and DUST IN THE EYES.
STRAND.—At 7, THE LOTTERY TICKET. At 7.45, THE SNOWBALL. At 9.15, THE BABY.
GAIETY.—At 8.45, EVASIVE REPLY. At 7.30, THE SERIOUS FAMILY. At 9.30, THE BOHEMIAN CYGURL.
VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, ONCE AGAIN. At 8.0, OUR BOYS, and A HIGHLAND FLING.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, CASTLE.
ADELPHI.—At 7.45, THE HUNCHBACK.
PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, FAMILY JARS. At 7.45, IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.
LYCEUM.—At 7.30, HAMLET.
COURT.—At 7.45, COUSIN DICK.—At 8.30, THE LADIES' BATTLE, &c.
OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.45, CUPS AND SAUCERS. At 8.30 H.M.S. PINAFORE, &c.
STANDARD.—At 7.15, PROOF, and THE SECRET.
CRITERION.—At 8.0, THE WALL OF CHINA. At 8.30, ORANGE BLOSSOMS. At 9.0, TRUTH.
ALHAMBRA.—At 7.30, FARGE. At 8.0, LA POULE AUX ŒUFS D'OR.
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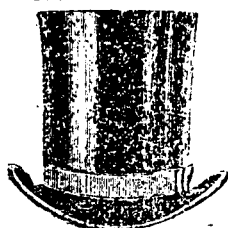
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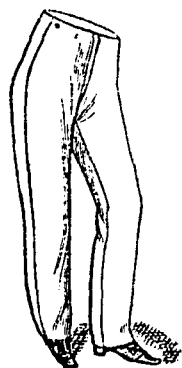
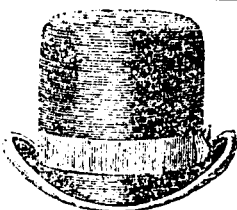
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THE Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark
 Master Masons of the Province of Middlesex
 and Surrey will be holden at the Bridge House Hotel,
 London Bridge, on Monday, 24th March 1879, when
 all Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, to-
 gether with the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters,
 and Acting Wardens of Lodges in the Province, are
 hereby summoned to attend, and all Mark Master
 Masons are invited to be present.

The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at
 Six o'clock.

By command of the
R.W.P.G.M.M.,
Wm. G. BRIGHTON, P.M., &c.,
 Provincial Grand Secretary.

4 Bishopsgate-street-without, E.C.
 4th March 1879.

BUSINESS.

To read and (if approved) confirm the Minutes of
 the previous Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting,
 held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on 29th
 June 1878.

To call over the Roll of Lodges and Report thereon.

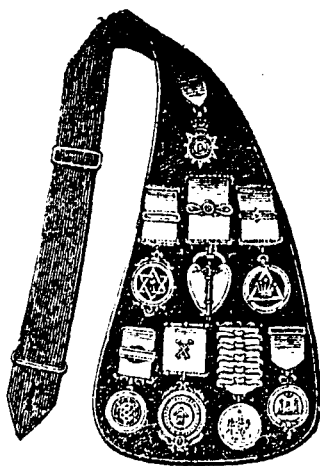
To read and pass new Byo-Laws as recommended by
 the Committee of general purposes.

To receive Propositions, and consider any other
 Business.

Banquet at Seven o'clock. Tickets One Guinea
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Brethren intending to be present should notify
 their intention to the Prov. Grand Secretary on or
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 Saturday, 22nd March 1879.