

THE

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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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OUR SCHOLARS IN AFTER LIFE. ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

THE formation of a fund for the purpose of placing in situations the pupils who leave our Schools, or otherwise advancing them in life, has for many years past been a subject that has exercised the attention of the Craft. Proposals have been made from time to time with a view of starting the desired fund; among the most prominent Masons who have advocated the claims of the pupils being the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, who forcibly impressed on the Craft the desirability and real need of something being done; Bro. Jabez Hogg, who suggested that some part of the amount voted by Grand Lodge to commemorate the return of the Grand Master from India should be applied to some such purpose; and Bro. Clabon, who has on more than one occasion mooted the question in Grand Lodge, in connection with the accumulated funds of the Lodge of Benevolence. Up till recently, however, no decided steps had been taken towards its actual foundation, if we may except the discussions which have been made at various times in Grand Lodge. On one of these occasions—June 1868—on the subject being brought forward by Bro. Clabon, there seemed to be a fair prospect of success, for the matter was then referred to a Special Committee appointed to report on the subject to Grand Lodge. As the report of the Committee, as well as the proposition of Bro. Clabon may be unknown to, or forgotten by, very many of the present generation of Freemasons, and as the arguments then used are therein fully set forth, we reproduce the Report in extenso. The proposition of Bro. Clabon, which called for the appointment of the Special Committee was brought before Grand Lodge in the following form:—

BRO. CLABON'S SCHEME.

Considering The large amount of the Reserve Fund of Benevolence, and the annually increasing surplus of that Fund (as shewn by a table of the actual figures from 1840 to 1867).

Considering That no reason exists for continuing this accumulation, and that, without diminishing the principal of the Reserved Fund, the annual surplus may be applied with advantage for the benefit of this generation.

Considering That there is no existing provision for apprenticing the children of Freemasons on their leaving the Masonic Schools, or in otherwise assisting them to commence life.

MOVE TO RESOLVE—

That one-third of the annual surplus of the Fund of Benevolence be appropriated for the Boys' School, and another third for the Girls' School, in forming funds for such apprenticeship and assistance.

That such one-third parts respectively be invested, and the Dividends paid to the House Committee of either School.

That the House Committees for the time being of each School do apply the Dividends of the fund respectively appropriated to the School in their discretion for the benefit of children who have been at the School—

In apprenticing them to any business or profession;

In making annual payments for a limited period to those proceeding to any of the Public Schools, Colleges, or Universities;

In aiding them to establish themselves in any business or profession;

With power to appropriate the surplus of one year in like manner in future years; and rendering to the Grand Lodge an annual account of their receipts and expenditure on account of the said funds.

The Committee first proceeded to consider the general question of the appropriation of the Fund of Benevolence, and the mode of dealing therewith, making various sug-

gestions, which they considered necessary, and then presented the following report to Grand Lodge on Bro. Clabon's Scheme:—

Your Committee have carefully considered the Scheme, and the reasons prefixed to it.

They learn from the Grand Secretary that the Table given in the Scheme is correct.

The investments of the Fund of Benevolence at the end of 1868 were £9748 Three per Cent. Consols, and £19,000 lent on mortgage of the property of Grand Lodge, at Four per Cent. interest. The interest received in 1867 was £1053 15s 1d, but this was rather more than a year's interest, which, on the present fund, will be about £1025. The accumulated fund in 1860 was £19,000 Three per Cent. Consols. The subsequent increase has arisen from the investment of the annual surplus of the fund.

The fund pays £800 a year to the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and their Widows (£500 to the male fund and £300 to the widows' fund), and your Committee notice that even if the £19,000 secured on mortgage were paid off, and invested in Three per Cent. Consols, the dividends of the whole fund would more than suffice to pay this £800 a year.

The Committee observe that the surplus of the Fund of Benevolence diminished from £888 in 1860 to £179 in 1862, since which time it has steadily increased, having been £587 in 1863, £915 in 1864, £1843 in 1865, £1989 in 1866, and £2372 in 1867.

The Scheme only proposes to deal with two-thirds of the Surplus of each year, thus leaving it in the power of the Lodge of Benevolence, of the Grand Master on its recommendation, and of Grand Lodge, to apply the whole income of the Fund of Benevolence for distressed Masons or their families.

And it leaves one-third of any surplus of each year to be dealt with, as is at present the case with the whole surplus, by accumulation.

Your Committee, after full consideration, are of opinion that the time has arrived when it is not desirable to continue the accumulation of the whole of the surplus, and that a portion of it may be applied with advantage in making provision for apprenticing the children of Freemasons on their leaving the Masonic Schools, or in otherwise assisting them to commence life.

Until the recent change in the Rules of the two Schools, there was no fund existing for such apprenticeship or assistance. The amended Rules of each School now provide that upon a child leaving the School, if found deserving, and the General Committee shall be satisfied that there is a fair prospect of the child's obtaining by such aid the means of permanent provision, such Committee may appropriate for his or her benefit, in such manner as may seem best, a sum not exceeding £15. But the Committees have no special funds for this purpose; any aid to be given must come out of the general revenues of their School, if sufficient.

Your Committee have ascertained that about twelve girls leave school every year, of whom half at least require help, to the extent, on an average, of £25 each; and that, on an average, from fifteen to twenty boys leave school each year, full one-half of whom require assistance to start them in life, to the extent of from £30 to £50.

The boys leave at the age of 15 and the girls at 16. They could not be kept longer in the Schools, without a serious limit to the numbers admitted. It is clear that, at this age, there ought to be some apprenticeship, or period of qualifying themselves to earn their own living. Another two years, with proper help, would finish the education of the girls, and qualify them to be governesses; or it would enable them to learn a trade. Another but longer period, with like help, would enable the more clever boys to continue their studies, in the hope of their rising to eminence, and enable the others to learn a trade, or otherwise aid them to become bread-winners. It is this help which the Scheme proposes to furnish to those children whose parents or friends cannot afford to give it.

The Committee having very carefully considered the Scheme, passed the first paragraph of it, which contains the principle of the Scheme, unanimously, adding words to recognise the power of Grand Lodge to stop the appropriation at any time.

They have made various alterations in the remainder of the Scheme, the most important being that, instead of leaving it to the House Committee of either School to give the aid, they place this duty on the General Committee, on the recommendation of the House Committee, and that no aid is to be given by the General Committee beyond £25, except it be confirmed by a Quarterly Court.

The following is the Scheme, as amended and adopted by your Committee:—

(a) "Until Grand Lodge shall otherwise direct, one-third of the

annual surplus of the Fund of Benevolence shall be appropriated for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and another third for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, in forming funds for apprenticing the children of Freemasons who have been in those Schools, or in otherwise assisting them to commence life.

(b.) "Such one-third parts respectively shall be invested in the names of four Trustees for each School, to be appointed by Grand Lodge, and the dividends paid to the Treasurer of each School."

(c.) "The General Committee, on the recommendation of the House Committee of each School, may apply the dividends of the funds respectively appropriated to the School for the benefit of children who have been at the School during the preceding twelve months, in apprenticing them to any business or profession, or otherwise aiding them to obtain employment, or in applying any sum granted, by annual instalments, for a limited period, for the benefit of those proceeding to any School, College, or University."

(d.) "No sum exceeding £25 shall be appropriated for the benefit of any child, without the consent of the Quarterly Court of the School, and such Court shall render to Grand Lodge an annual account of the receipts and expenditure on account of the said funds."

Your Committee recommend the adoption of this Scheme by Grand Lodge, and suggest the following motion to be made in Grand Lodge for the purpose:—

"That the Scheme, as recommended by the Committee, be, and the same is hereby adopted by Grand Lodge, and added to the Book of Constitutions under the head Fund of Benevolence, after No. 16, as Nos. 17, 18, 19, and 20."

And, in the event of the foregoing motion being carried,

"That No. 3 under the same head be amended by adding, after the word 'shall' in the second line, the words 'except as provided for by Clauses Nos. 17, 18, 19 and 20.'"

It is, of course, in the knowledge of our readers that these suggestions of Bro. Clabon and the Special Committee of Grand Lodge were never acted upon, but we think that if the matter was again brought forward, backed, as it now is, by the experience gained during the past few months, something would be contributed by Grand Lodge, either in the form of a donation or annual grant to the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, or by adopting the suggestion of the Committee of 1868-9.

The prominence that has been given to this subject during the last few months has naturally led to discussion on the merits of the proposals set forth by the founders of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, and opinions have been freely expressed on the desirability, as well as the practicability, of carrying out the scheme as laid down by them. It is generally admitted that the proposal in itself is good, and that some sort of assistance would doubtless prove of immense benefit to a person in the start of life, but opinions vary considerably as to the form the assistance shall take, and by whom it shall be rendered. Brethren object to the pupils or their friends being led to think that for all time they will be justified in making claims on the generosity of the Craft, and naturally so, but the proposals as at present put forward do not justify the belief that anything approaching such indiscriminate charity is contemplated, nor do we imagine a suggestion so demoralising would be entertained for an instant. Others point out that the amount annually spent on the education of the children in the Schools at Wood Green and Battersea is sufficient to allow of their being prepared in such a way as to suit them for any position they may be called upon to fill, and if they require that a large sum of money be expended before they are capable of accepting a situation, then their education is not carried out as it ought to be. We would refer such objectors to the report quoted above, and further point out that the first work of the Assistance Fund should be to provide situations, and later on, to offer premiums to be contested for, either by ballot or as may afterwards be determined; but that the money grants should be so limited in amount as to be in reality but prizes, just sufficient to enable a boy or girl to provide the necessaries of life during the first few months of their business career, when, as a rule, the salary given is a mere nominal amount, meant more as an encouragement than as payment for services. These grants might be renewable, under certain conditions, say up to eighteen months, or even two years; but we would make the limits so narrow as to preclude any possibility of the generosity of the Craft being put to an unworthy use. The real object being to start the pupils on their business career, we think that the Committees of the Schools are not among those best suited

to undertake such a work, their duties being already of a sufficiently onerous nature. More will be done by personal interest or individual attention than could ever be hoped for if money alone were to be the motive power. It is not necessary that a boy or girl should have a position purchased for them, as it is that they should have a friend to watch and direct their course, and this, we think, can only be secured by forming an Association distinct from the two Schools, in so far as constitution and funds are concerned, but working together in all matters likely to tend to the pupils' advantage.

In urging on our readers the fact that influence will count for more than money, we do not wish it to be understood that we imagine the project can be carried out without funds being provided, such a course would be impossible, but we are certain that when the matter is clearly explained, and its relation to the existing Charities understood, there will be no lack of support. There are Lodges at the present time who periodically vote amounts for the purposes contemplated by the Pupils' Assistance Fund, notably the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, which, since 1866, has annually given a guinea; this amount, though small, is sufficient to show that the members take some interest in the future of their *protégée*, and if the example was followed by other Lodges, a sum nearly sufficient for the carrying out of the desired objects would be forthcoming from this source alone.

The support given to the proposals as set forth in the preliminary circular of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund—as shown by the list of names published on another page—is of so satisfactory a nature as to encourage the founders in furthering the formation of the Fund, and to warrant their appealing to the Craft at large to join in supporting them. The first step should be to convene a meeting, to which every member of the Craft should have free access, in order to lay down some more definite programme than was possible at the start, and we feel certain success is then assured.

As we had the pleasure of announcing a few weeks since, a donation of twenty guineas has already been received from H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, while a like amount has been promised by H.R.H. Prince Leopold. Nine of the Provincial Grand Masters, among whom may be numbered the Deputy Grand Master of England, and thirteen Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, have expressed their approval of the scheme; so that the Craft in the provinces may fairly be reckoned as likely to be ably represented in anything that may result from the efforts already made. Nor is support from north of the Tweed wanting, two Past Grand Masters of Scotland and one Scotch Provincial Grand Master appearing on the list. We think it but just that special reference should be made to one of the two Past Grand Masters of Scotland—we need hardly say we allude to the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn—whose remarks at the Festival of the Boys' School, in June last, formed the basis on which the Fund has been established.

We hope ere long we shall have occasion to report the holding of a meeting, and that the support then given will amply justify the further advance of the work.

THE ROYAL ARCH AT YORK.

IN turning over the collection of books and papers belonging to the York Lodge, No. 236, a few days since, with Bro. J. Todd P.M., for the purpose of making a catalogue, I opened an old M.S. minute book, which, at the first glance, I suspected was hitherto undescribed. Further inquiry and examination has convinced me that this is the case, and I have great pleasure in announcing that the York Lodge reckons amongst its relics a minute book of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of All England, dating from 1762, which is, I take it, sixteen years earlier than any previous minute of that body known to be in existence. Our learned Bro. Vaughan, in his "Sketches and Reprints," tells us that "the earliest allusion to Royal Arch Masonry is the Treasurer's Book of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, commencing April 29th, 1768, which says:—'A most sublime Royal Arch Chapter was opened 8th February, 1778, &c.'" This is one of the M.S. books which formerly were in the possession of the Grand Lodge of England, and presented by that body to the York Lodge No. 236, a few years ago. It begins with the date 8th Feby. 1778, and ends Sept. 10th, 1781. The minute book, which now lies before me, opens with the date 7th Feby. 1762, and ends 6th Jany. 1776, thus completing the chain of history of this Grand Chapter from 1762.

There are several peculiarities in connection with this Grand Chapter worthy of notice, and to make them more intelligible it will be

necessary to refer briefly to the history of Masonry in York about the period the minutes commence.

From the Second Edition of "Mahabore, or the Grand Lodge Door Open'd," published in 1766, I find in the "List of Lodges" appended thereto, that a warrant was granted dated 12th Jan'y. 1761, for a Lodge to meet at the Punch Bowl Inn, Stonegate, York, on the first and third Mondays of each month. The number of the Warrant was 259. From the minute book of this Lodge, also in the possession of the York Lodge 236, I find that its first meeting was held on the 2nd Feby. 1761, "at Mrs. Chaddock's, at the Punch Bowl, in Stonegate." It would seem as if this event had stirred up the energies of the surviving members of the dormant Grand Lodge at York, for it was in the following month (March 17th, 1761), that they met and revived that body "at the House of Mr. Henry Howard in Lendall, York," as Masonic students well know, from Bro. Hughan's valuable History of Freemasonry in York. In the following year then it was, on the 7th Feby. 1762 (Sunday) that "A most Sublime or Royal Arch Lodge open'd at the sign of the Punch Bowl in Stonegate, York."

The first Master of the Lodge No. 259 was Bro. Bridge Frodsham, who was in his day a Mason of prominence. The first S.W. was Bro. Oram, who was the manager of the York Theatre, in those days a playhouse of great renown. The Grand Lodge of All England must have been on excellent terms with the Lodge hailing from London at this time, for in the minute of the revival meeting, held on 17th March 1761, I find amongst the names of the visitors present a number who appear on the minutes of Lodge 259 to have been made Masons under its warrant, whilst in the very first minute of Lodge 259, on the other hand, appears the name of Bro. Coates, who was a Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of All England. These interchanges of visits appear through the minutes, and prove that at this period there was no animosity between the York and London bodies. Bro. Beckwith, who was elected a member of the Grand Lodge at its revival meeting, had only been made a Mason in Lodge 259 on Feby. 16th, 1761, just a month previously, and in May, 1761, Bros. Agar, Palmes, Bewley, and Howard, of the Grand Lodge, were all elected joining members of Lodge 259. In a future notice I hope to say something more about the minute book of this Lodge, but having briefly noticed the condition of Masonry in York, in 1761, I will at once go to the subject immediately in hand, the Royal Arch Minute Book.

It is a small quarto volume, and has, neatly written on its title page—"Minute Book belonging to the Most Sublime Degree or Order of Royal Arch, appertaining to the Grand Lodge of All England, held at the City of York, 1762." The first minute is as follows: "A most Sublime or Royal Arch Lodge open'd at the Sign of the Punch Bowl, in Stonegate, York, on Sunday, the 7th of Feby 1762. Present—

*Frodsham P.H.
Oram . . Z.L.
Granger . J.A.
Owen.

} in the Chairs.

At this Lodge Brothers Burton, Palmes, Tasker, and Dodgson, petition'd to be raised to the 4th Degree of Masonry, commonly call'd the Most Sublime or Royal Arch, were accepted, and accordingly made."

Then comes the cash account of the Chapter for the evening, by which it appears that the fee "for advancement to the 4th Degree" was 11s 6d, and then—

"This Lodge was closed till the 14th inst. by the Master's Directions." I have already mentioned that Bro. Frodsham was the first Master of the Lodge 259, and that Bro. Oram was his S.W. From the Lodge minutes it also appears that Bro. Granger was its first Secretary, and Bro. Owen had joined that Lodge on the 16th Jan'y. 1762. The "Grand" Chapter would seem therefore to have been really formed, at this date, of brethren of the Lodge at the Punch Bowl.

The next meeting of the Chapter was held on the 21st of the same month, when the chairs were filled by Frodsham, Palmes and Tasker, and Bro. Beckwith was chosen Secretary. The meetings were always held on Sunday at this period, and several members were the same year (1762) "excluded" for neglecting to pay their quarterages, and apparently there was a general laxity of interest, for, on the 16th May 1762, the "Lodge was closed till the most convenient opportunity, by order of the Masters in the chairs." No meeting was held until Jan'y. 16th, 1763, and on Feby. 6th, at a Lodge of Emergency, Bros. Palmes, Agar and Tasker were elected to the chairs. Again, on the 3rd April of that year, the Lodge was closed "to a convenient opportunity," and no meeting was held until 22nd Jan'y. 1764, when it was resolved, "that this Lodge should be continued by subscription for four nights." Meetings were held on March 4th, April 1st, May 6th of 1764, and then there is a gap until 16th Feby. 1766, and then an adjournment *sine die*. These few last named meetings were very thinly attended, and there were no candidates. It was about this time, probably, that the Lodge 259 ceased to exist. I have shown that on that year it appears on a list of Lodges, though in Dec. 1767 the Grand Lodge at York informed the Grand Lodge in London that the Lodge 259 had been "for some years discontinued."

The next meeting of the Royal Arch Masons was held on the 29th April 1768, and it is noteworthy that this is the first minute in which the body is entitled a "Chapter," previously it having been always denominated a Lodge. The same principals occupied the chairs as on the last occasion, and six "brethren petitioned to become Sublime or Royal Arch Masons; they were admitted and accordingly made." Three new principals were also appointed, and a new Secretary. The fee for the raising was at this time 6s. At a Chapter held on May 1st, 1768, a Sword Bearer (Janitor) was appointed, and it was agreed "that the regular meetings should be held on the 1st Sunday in every calendar month." It was also agreed that every member should pay a quarterage of two shillings, and "he shall be allow'd to have every

regular Chapter sixpenny-worth of any sort of Liquor he chouses." The fees were also fixed at 5s, and 1s to the Sword Bearer for each member admitted of the Grand Lodge in York, and half-a-guinea and 1s to the Sword Bearer for every other candidate. Every visitor was also to pay a shilling each time he attended, but was to be allow'd to have sixpenny worth of "any sort of Liquor he chouses."

At this time candidates were proposed, ballotted for, and made on the same evening, and on the 5th June 1768, a Bro. Burnand was refused, on the ballot, and a Bro. Thorp, "of the Lodge at Hall," was made a Royal Arch Mason. On the 17th August, at an Emergency Meeting, the day of meeting was altered from Sunday to the first Wednesday in each month. On the 2nd Nov. of that year, Bro. Bussey, afterwards Grand Secretary at York, was admitted, and we find Bro. Lakeland's name also prominent at the meetings. Nothing specially remarkable occurs thence until 18th Oct. 1769, when Bros. Meek and Atkinson, of Ripon, were made R.A. Masons, and at an Emergency Meeting, on the 28th Dec., Bros. King and Campey, of Ripon, were also made. "At this Chapter Bros. Atkinson, King, and Campey, of Ripon, petitioned to have a Constitution granted to hold a R.A. Chapter at Ripon, the consideration of which is Refer'd to the next Lodge Night, and Notice thereof is to be given in the summons."

On the 7th Feby. 1770, "Bro. R. Consitt petitioned for to have a constitution granted to open a Royal Arch Chapter at Ripon for the use of the Bretheren, the which was ballotted for and pas'd N.C."

Bro. Atkinson to be P.H.
King . . . Z.L.
Campey . . J.A.

and at the March meeting. "The constitution for opening and holding a R.A. Chapter at Ripon was granted and sined in ample form; it was agreed to make them a present of it, only they paying the Secretary his fee." At the same Chapter Bro. Kedar, of Knaresborough, was made a R.A. Mason, and at the April meeting Bros. Bateson, Ackroyd and Taylor, from Knaresborough, were made, and "the Brethren from Knaresborough petitioned to have a Constitution granted, to be opened and held at the sign of the Crown in Knaresborough, which was agreed to:—

Bro. Bateson to be P.H.
Cowling Ackroyd Z.L.
Hen. Taylor J.A."

At the next meeting, in June, 1770, this Knaresborough Constitution was "seal'd and sign'd." In October 1770, I find the following visiting brethren were present:—Bros. Proudfoot, O'Brien, Cannon, and Burke. These brethren probably belonged to the regiment then lying in York Barracks, for it was "agreed to grant a Constitution for the opening and holding a most Sublime Royal Arch Chapter in the Inniskilling Regiment of Dragoons at all seasonable times, and when duly congregated to make Royal Arch Masons. On the 1st March 1771, the days of meeting were again altered, to the "first Wednesday after Lady Day, Midsummer, Michaelmas, and Christmas, Old Stile." A candidate from Leeds was made in April 1771, and the same year Bro. Kitson, a very prominent member of the Grand Lodge was received.

On the 3rd June 1772, the titles of the presiding Officers are altered, and instead of P.H., Z.L., and J.A., I find S., H.T., and H.A., and after this minute occur a number of blank pages, as if rough minutes of meetings had been made and not entered up, and then comes an entry made 6th January 1773, of the holding of a Chapter on that day, when three candidates were "raised." This is the last minute in the book, and I find nothing between that and the entry alluded to by Bro. Hughan, of the 8th February 1778, when Sunday was again adopted as the day of meeting, at the Grub Tavern, York. In this last named minute book the titles of the chairs remain S., H.T., and H.A. throughout, until the last entry on 10th Sept. 1871.

Not the least interesting of the contents of this valuable old relic are the "Rules and Orders of the Grand Chapter of All England," which are inserted at the end of the book in the neat handwriting of Bro. Lakeland, who seems to have acted as Secretary about 1776. They chiefly refer to fees, times of meeting, &c., and provide that in all cases the ballot must be unanimous. The last of the rules is as follows:—

"The fees charged on any Constitution granted by this Grand Chapter are usually paid on delivery of the Warrant, and are in future to be always so paid."

And then come "The Principia to be observed by all Regular Constituted Chapters of the Degree of Royal Arch." These provide for Annual Returns to be made to the Grand Chapter at York, for bylaws to be subject to approval of Grand Chapter, for the Jewels and Ornaments, and then the following, which I think worth giving in full:—

"That they make no innovation in the Business of the Chapter, and if any Doubts should arise they must always be referr'd to the Grand Chapter for decision.

"That they shall contribute annually to the Grand Chapter at York so much as they reasonably can towards the fund, to be employed to benevolent and advantageous purposes.

"That no man of bad or immoral character be admitted a Companion* nor any one until he hath passed the several probationary Degrees of Craft Masonry, and thereby obtained the necessary Passport as a reward for his services. And no man may be admitted for an unworthy consideration.

"That they take every Method to forward the true Purpose of our Order, to promote all the useful arts and Sciences, and create universal Peace and Harmony, and that every Companion do consider it as his

* The interpretation of the initial letters of the chairs I imagine to have been Propheta Haggai, Zerubbabel Legislator, and Jeshua Armiger (or Armifer).

* This is the first occasion on which members of the Order are so designated in these records.

Duty to lay before the Chapter whatever may tend to such Salutary Purposes.

"That any new Discovery or other Matter thought worthy of observation be communicated to the Grand Chapter at York, who will always be ready to support and forward whatever may be found useful to the Fraternity in general, or that Chapter in particular, not repugnant to the common Welfare."

On some future occasion I may ask for space to notice some of the later minutes of this august body.

T. B. WHYTEHEAD.

OLD LODGE MINUTES,

No. 246. A.D. 1756-69.

[The Minutes commence with the petition for a Warrant of Constitution, which was granted August 24, 1759, in the following words:—]

I do Grant the Prayer of the above Petition, and allow the Brethren to meet and make Masons, until I constitute them into a regular Lodge.

JOHN REVIS, D.G.M.

August 24th 1759.

A TRUE COPY.

[No date] these Night Brother

Jacob moses

Lasers Levy

Edward merley

Solomon Levy

Jacob Aran ware made masons and Past felo Crafts and pad thrare yousell Feas and became Bambers [Members?] of the Lodge.

Sep : the 19th 1759.

July 18, 1760. Proposed and approved that every Vizitor pay 18/d. Admitt:

[Minutes commonly headed

The Lebeck's Head Lodge in the Strand.]

Dec. 19th, 1760. Mr. Jacob Atkinson was made a Mason, & went thro the degrees of Apprentice & fellow Craft, & paid his fee £1 1 0 accordingly, & became a member.

[The election of officers, semi-annual, June & December.]

August 20th, 1761. Br Sam'l Bromfield was proposed to be Remade a Mason, being formerly made by the Antients, & carried N.C.

Oct. 16th, 1761. Resolved that any Br who can work himself in may be admitted, & in case any doubts arise to take the obligation, a Member of the Regular Lodges to pay 1 6 for Viziting, & a Member of St. John's 2s.

Nov. 20th, 1761. The Tyler was Reproved because the Song book was missing.

Oct. 15th, 1762. Evald Ribe, M.D., Member of St. Edward's Lodge at Stockholm, took the obligation, & was proposed to become a member, & carried N.C.

March 18th, 1763. Br Secretary having applied for and Gott a dispensation for Mr. Joachim Dreyer, he was made a Mason, Apprentice, & Fellowcraft, & Raised Master, & paid his fees for Making and Raising £1 6 0.

Sept. 16th, 1763. The Lodge this Night agreed to give Notice to all Brs in Arrear that Unless they pay or Signify their Reasons for Nonpayment of them, on or before Next Lodge Night, that they Will be Summoned to the Court of Cons [Conscience] for the Same.

Nov. 18th, 1763. The Tyler having Left the List at home, intended for the Court of Conscience, it was agreed to defer it till Next Lodge Night.

May 18th, 1764. Bror John Duckett, Master of this Lodge, sent a letter, bearing date this day, thereby desiring to be withdrawn from this Lodge. [Br Duckett had been Master since the Constitution of the Lodge. The appointment of other officers seems to have been a prerogative of the R.W.M.]

Sept. 20th, 1765. Viseters—Br Dickey ju. W.[M.] of No. 14, Ancient [and others].

Jan. 17th, 1766. Visiters—B. Taylor R.W.M. of the Horn, West minister, [also members of] the Lodge Frederick, at Hanover, and the White Horse, No. 217.

March 21st, 1766. B. Lowne Proposed Mr. Willm Dickey, Junior, to Be made a modern mason of, was Firsted and Seconded, and was admited, and was made a mason In this Lodge, and went through the Regular Degrees of the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft, and Raisd to the sublime degree of Master Mason. At the same time, Mr. James Bunn to Be made a Modern Mason of In this Lodge was Firsted and Seconded, and went through the three Regular degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and was Raisd to the sublime degree of Master Mason, and Pay'd their Admision Fees accordingly. [These brothers did not become members. Br Wm Dickey succeeded Br Laurence Dermott as Grand Secretary, "Ancients," 6 March 1771.]

July 21, 1766. [Present Br Dickey, Junior].

Aug. 15, 1766. A Lecture From our Pasmaster in the First Branch.

Nov. 27th 1766. It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed

That for the future no Person calling himself a Mason, but not having been initiated under the English Constitution, shall be made a Mason in this Lodge for less than one Guinea, conformable to the Constitutions and to the good order of the Royal Craft. And that such sum shall defray all Expenses attending his passing the three Degrees.

Jan. 16th, 1767. B. Durban proposed Mr Willm Brown, Gentn to be made a mason of In this Lodge, was Regularly proposed and duly Balloted for, and was Justly made an Entered Apprentice, and was Crafted, and went through the two Degrees of masonry, and Became an Honorary Member of this Lodge.

[Amongst the By-laws of the Lodge is the following :—]

Art. 6. Any Vizitor being a Member of a Regular Lodge to pay 2 [shillings] for admittance, & if a member of St. John's [i.e. a brother belonging to no Lodge] to pay two shillings & sixpence.

The Minute Book is inscribed—

"246. Lodge—Lebeck's Head"

"In the Strand 1768."

From the foregoing extracts we may infer:—

1. That Lodges occasionally worked for some while, under dispensations from the D.G.M., prior to the issue of regular warrants from Grand Lodge. [See ante, pp 290, 297. It was a common practice for new Lodges to be constituted by the Deputy Grand Master in person, a record of the circumstance forming the first entry in the Minute Book, and being duly attested by the signatures of the Grand or *acting* Grand Officers.]

2. That the first two degrees were usually conferred on the same evening, the addition of the third degree requiring a dispensation.

3. That the election of office bearers was semi-annual. [In some Lodges there was a quarterly election.]

4. That brethren holding under the "Ancients" were re-made by the "Modems" if they wished it, but allowed to visit freely, e.g. Bro. Dickey, afterwards Grand Secretary "Ancients," visited the Lodge several times, prior to being again passed through the various degrees.

5. The title "Pasmaster" [Aug. 15, 1766] suggests that a recognised "Initiator" may have been known in the Lodge [vide F. M. Mag., Aug. 4, 1866, p 90].

R. F. GOULD.

MASONIC CEREMONY AT READING.

THE thriving town of Reading may be congratulated upon the auspicious circumstances under which two most important undertakings, largely affecting the future of the Borough, have been inaugurated with Masonic rites. A few years ago the Heir Apparent, in his capacity as Grand Master, laid the principal stone of Reading School, on which occasion his Royal Highness was accompanied by the Princess of Wales, and the town of bisenits, seeds, and sance, presented a gay and festive scene. On Monday, a still more costly work—the erection of a new Town Hall, Public Library, Museum, School of Art, &c., to cost £45,000, was commenced under Masonic auspices by the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro Grand Master, in the presence of a gathering of the brethren, more numerous, we believe, than any known in the annals of the Craft in the Province of Berks and Bucks. The ceremony was to have been performed last month, but it was postponed in consequence of Lord Carnarvon being attacked with gout, from which the noble earl was still suffering on Monday to such an extent as to prevent his lordship attending the Provincial Grand Lodge, and joining in the procession, as had been proposed. It was an unfortunate circumstance, also, that the R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., and the V.W. the D.P.G.M. Archdeacon Cust were both prevented being present through illness. In Sir Daniel's absence, the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, Bart. (for some years D.P.G.M.), presided over the special Provincial Grand Lodge held in the Corn Exchange, and after the Lodge had been opened a procession was formed by Bro. Biggs P.P.G.Sec., who acted throughout the day as Director of Ceremonies.

His lordship, with the Countess of Carnarvon, arrived at the Town Hall shortly before twelve, when they were escorted by the Mayor (Mr. H. B. Blandy) and Mrs. Blandy to the Council Chamber. Here, in the presence of a select company of guests, Lord and Lady Carnarvon were presented with a joint address from the Corporation of the borough and the members of the Building Committee, in the following terms:—

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, D.C.L., P.C., &c.—On the arrival of your lordship in this ancient Borough, for the purpose of laying the memorial stone to commemorate the erection of a new Town Hall, and other public buildings, comprising a Free Library, Reading Rooms and Museum, and Schools for Science and Art, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough unite with the Committee who have been entrusted with this important undertaking in offering a hearty welcome to your lordship and to the Countess of Carnarvon. The Committee were induced to invite your lordship to honour them and the town of Reading by laying the memorial stone of the proposed buildings, not only as a near neighbour, but from the recognition also of your lordship's distinguished character and attainments, and of the great interest which your lordship has always shown in undertakings having for their object the social and moral good of the people. We cordially thank your lordship for your ready response to the invitation of the Committee, and for the kindly interest taken by your lordship in their work, which owes its successful progress to its present stage to the great liberality of numerous subscribers, and the active labours of those who have freely devoted their

time and energies to it. We believe that the undertaking which your lordship will to-day help forward by your presence and co-operation will supply wants which have long been felt, and we venture to hope that the buildings which will be provided, and the institutions which will be established in them, will be of wide spread public advantage, not only to the population of Reading and its immediate suburbs, but also to the inhabitants generally of the county of Berks and of the adjacent counties. We desire to offer our special thanks to the Countess of Carnarvon for the honour which is conferred upon the borough by her presence on this occasion. We beg your lordship and your Countess to accept the expression of our sincere desire that you may both be blessed with many years of health and happiness, and long continue to adorn the high station to which Divine Providence has called you. Given under the common seal of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burghesses of the Borough of Reading, at a meeting of the Council, and under the hands of the members of the Committee, this 3rd day of November 1879.

The Earl of Carnarvon rose to reply, but was requested by the Mayor to resume his seat, as his lordship was still suffering from his recent attack of gout. His lordship said : Mr. Mayor—I very gratefully take advantage of your kind permission to allow me this indulgence. I am suffering, as every one must see, from an enemy that is so remorseless and so unsparing that he must be humoured—otherwise it would be extremely difficult to resist him. I beg to express, first of all, the sincere thanks of Lady Carnarvon for the kind words in which you have been pleased to couch this address as regards her. She will long remember her visit to Reading, and appreciates the high honour done her. And next I have to express my own most sincere and grateful thanks for the honour which you have done me in asking me, as a friend and neighbour, to undertake the important duty of laying the foundation stone of this group of public buildings. I, too, shall long remember it, and I find it difficult to express my appreciation of the honour which has been conferred upon me. In public life there are undoubtedly many honours which are coveted, and many also which are gained. There are many distinctions, many rewards. There is much public approval, and sometimes much disapproval. All of us, I suppose, in our own way, know what this is. But of one thing I am quite certain, that nothing is more precious than for a man to feel that he has the goodwill, and still more the public mark of goodwill and confidence, expressed by a great town, near which he has so long lived, and in which he hopes he has so many, not only good neighbours but warm friends. I need not tell you how sensible I am of the importance of this great borough which you, sir, as chief magistrate, represent. It is an ancient borougn, with great traditions in the past, and with a long roll of distinguished names, amongst those who have either been born here, or who have lived here, or who have done public service here. I feel it particularly gratifying to be allowed, in some small way, to identify myself to-day with one of the greatest modern public works that Reading has undertaken. I know this is not the time for making long speeches. That has been wisely postponed to a later period of the day. But I think I should be wrong if I refrained from saying one word as to a paragraph in the address which has just been read. I appreciate, as every one must do, the great liberality—I might say more than liberality, the munificence—of so many who have rendered it possible that this work should be undertaken. In earlier times and in other countries it was frequently the custom of the State to lay burdens of expense or of labour upon her most eminent citizens. Sometimes those services were compulsory, sometimes voluntary. In this case they are voluntary; free as the very air, and they will not, in consequence, be the less appreciated by the citizens of Reading. Though no doubt the fancy may change, yet the spirit remains—the same spirit of liberality, of munificence, of public service and duty; and so long as these qualities remain, either in Reading or in England, we may be quite sure that the State will be well and worthily served. I have only once more to express, on behalf of Lady Carnarvon and myself, our grateful thanks for the high honour you have done us, and, though we are only just at the beginning of our work to-day, to add our warm and hearty wishes for the completion and final success of the work.

The Earl of Carnarvon then proceeded to the Masonic Lodge, whence, after some time, the brethren emerged in procession, and, joined by a procession of the members of the Corporation, they, in all the pomp of mace and sword and Masonic regalia, escorted his Lordship to the site of the memorial stone, where Lady Carnarvon was waiting, and where a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen had gathered. When the head of the procession arrived at the Buildings the brethren formed an avenue for the P.G. Officers to pass through. The brethren bearing the vessels containing the corn, wine, and oil, together with the mallet, having deposited the same on a pedestal placed for that purpose, silence was proclaimed by the Provincial G. Director of Ceremonies, and the Mayor presented the trowel to the M.W. the Pro G.M., on behalf of the Building Committee, asking him to set the stone.

Lord Carnarvon said : Ladies and gentlemen—I have to thank the Mayor for this most handsome trowel, which he has been pleased to give me. I shall long retain it—I trust not only I, but my family—as an heirloom in memory of the work with which you have been good enough to entrust me to-day, and which I deeply appreciate. Next, I desire to thank my Masonic brethren for being present here to-day, and to assure you how much they feel it also an honour and a privilege to take part in this work of great public usefulness to the town of Reading. Let me offer you my hearty good wishes for the group of public buildings of which we to-day lay the memorial stone. May the School of Science and of Art spread far and wide in this town and its neighbourhood, and be a useful means of education! May the Museum, already enriched by a precious gift, receive many more bequests and gifts, and have a crowd of students to study the books of nature which these specimens within its walls may reveal! May the Library be a source of instruction and of happiness to young and old, to rich and poor alike! And may the Town Hall carry out the best and highest traditions of English civic and public life, the

traditions of self-government—the traditions of free speech—the traditions of law and of liberty! I thank you deeply for having allowed me this important privilege to-day.

In due course the architect presented to the Pro Grand Master the plans. The Prov. G.Chaplain (Bro. R. C. Honey) offered a prayer. The Prov. G.Sec. (Bro. R. Bradley) read the inscription on the stone. The Prov. G.Treas. (Bro. C. Stephens) deposited the vessel containing the coins, and also the records. An entered apprentice (Bro. Cundell) then presented the cement to set the stone. A hymn was sung by the choir, under the direction of Bro. W. H. Strickland P.P.G.O., during which the stone was lowered, with three distinct stops. The Pro Grand Master having proved, by the mallet, square, level, and plumb, that the stone was well laid, then received the cornucopia and strewed corn thereon; the G. Wardens presented the ewers containing the wine and oil, which was poured out conformably to ancient custom. The Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes then offered a prayer and pronounced the benediction. Among the Masons whom we noticed present were—Bros. the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, Bart., acting as Prov. Grand Master; E. J. Trendell P.P.S.G.W., acting as D.P.G.M.; J. Blandy Jenkins S.G.W., J. McGubbin J.G.W., Revs. C. R. Honey, N. T. Garry, E. De Ewer Grand Chaplains, C. Stephens Grand Treasurer, R. Bradley Grand Secretary, Jabez Adams S.G.D., R. Roberts J.G.D., Edward Baker G.S.W., R. Ravenor G.D.C., Joseph Elmes A.G.D.C., James Rutland Grand Organist, W. G. Flanagan Grand Pursuivant, C. Nowell A.G.P., C. W. Cox, C. A. Vardy, Ephraim Davey, E. J. Shrewsbury, Dick Radclyffe Grand Stewards, and forty-one Past Grand Officers; also Bros. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Reginald Bird P.G.D., Deputy Prov. Grand Master Oxon, T. H. Chandler P.P.S.G.W. Wilts, W. B. Farr P.S.G.W. Bengal, W. R. Wood P.G. Steward Eng., P.P.G.S.W. Sussex, — Lainson P.P.G.S.W. Sussex, John M. Reid P.P.G.S.W. Sussex, Darrell W. H. Horlock P.P.G.S.W. Cornwall, S. G. Kirchhoffer P.G.S.W. Camb., E. G. Bruton P.P.S.G.W. Oxon, J. M. Dormer S.W., J. W. Terry P.G. Reg. Herts, W. Wear P.P.G.D. Leicester, H. Sadler Gr. Tyler, J. M. Studwell P.G.S., Jos. Tomlinson P.P.G.S.D. Norfolk, Christopher Park P.P.G.R. Oxon, Wm. Park P.P.G.S.D. Oxon, John Dew P.P.G. Reg. Hants, Geo. Lear P.P.G.D. Hants, Wm. Wells P.P.G.D. Surrey, Jno. Bond P.G.P. Surrey, H. M. Powell P.G.O. Hants, Fredk. Binckes P.G. Steward, W. F. Freeman P.G. Sec. Sussex, A. Portsmouth P.P.G.D.C. Hants, and about two hundred members of Lodges in the Province, and Visitors. On returning to the Exchange, the Lodge was closed in due form. Sir John Hayes expressed the deep regret of the brethren that illness had caused the absence of the P.G.M. and D.P.G.M. The Rev. Bro. thanked Bro. Biggs for his admirable management of the procession; and Bro. Bradley, the P.G. Sec., for his excellent arrangements.

The ceremony was followed by a public luncheon in the Town Hall, in which upwards of three hundred ladies and gent'lemen participated. The Mayor presided, and amongst the invited guests were—The Earl and Countess of Carnarvon, Mrs. H. B. Blandy, the Ven. Archdeacon Purey-Cust Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Berks and Bucks, and Lady Purey-Cust, the Bishop of Oxford, the Right Hon. Sir R. J. Phillimore and Lady Phillimore, Sir Julian Goldsmid Bart. M.P. and Lady Goldsmid, Mr. Walter M.P. and Mrs. Walter, Mr. G. Shaw Lefevre M.P., Mr. G. Palmer M.P. and Mrs. Palmer, Sir Peter and Lady Spokes, the Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray M.P. and Mrs. Mowbray, Mr. W. W. B. Beach M.P. Prov. G. Master Hants and Isle of Wight, High Sheriff of Berkshire, the Recorder of the Borough, Mr. Henry Day (Town Clerk), Mrs. Day, Mr. W. I. Palmer, and many members of the Corporation. Sir D. Gooch, Bart., M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Berks and Bucks, was absent by medical advice. The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray M.P. proposed “The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese and other Ministers of Religion.” He said the effect of religion was to bind man to man, and it gave sound principles to legislation. It was the main security for local order, and the sole foundation of good government. The Bishop of Oxford, in reply, said, when he became bishop ten years ago, Reading was the second town in the diocese for population, but now it was the first, having surpassed the cathedral city of Oxford. The increase of the town was not of temporal advantage to the clergy, as they had to pay stipends for assistance; but they took delight in doing their duty. Mr. W. W. B. Beach M.P. then gave “The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces.” In the course of his remarks, he said if there was anything that marred the usefulness of the British Army, it was the extreme youth of many of the men; but this was a fault which time would remedy; for, although young, the English soldiers were not destitute of courage. Colonel Jordan, C.B., acknowledged the compliment. The Mayor proposed “The Health of the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon.” The toast was warmly honoured. The Earl of Carnarvon, on rising to reply, was received with loud cheers. His lordship said : Mr. Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—It needed no apology from you, sir, either for the form of words or for the hospitality of which we have been partakers to-day. Your words were most graceful; your hospitality has been overflowing. Allow me to express in Lady Carnarvon’s name and mine, our heartfelt thanks for the honour which you have done us this day, and for the great privilege of being allowed to share in this great work of the town of Reading. My noble friend Lord Derby the other day made a very able speech—such as he is accustomed to make—on those public men who, in their own towns, rendered great public service, and discharge great acts of local patriotism and statesmanship. I might say much in the same strain here to-day. I might speak of the liberality, the princely munificence, which has rendered possible this great public work in Reading—but I have already alluded to that to-day. Time I know is pressing, and I will remit my remarks to a somewhat different side of the question. Mr. Mayor, I know nothing more remarkable than the extraordinary growth of our great English towns during the last quarter of a century. To-day Reading is doing that which other great municipalities have been during that time. These public buildings, and the men who created them and occupy them,

go, as it were, together. Both are equally important. But, perhaps, some may ask what the meaning of this is. I believe it means a much truer sense of beauty, in the first place, growing up among our people than has existed for many generations past. I believe it is also connected with a nobler and, shall I say, a freer, idea of public life. It is a feeling by which great cities have grown famous. It is a feeling with which I, for one, most heartily and entirely sympathise; and more than that, it is a feeling which is very nearly akin to a form of public education, first of all in art and taste, and then in the highest form of political life, the highest because the greatest. I know there are some who tell us that these things, such as the creation of schools of science and art, free libraries and museums, add nothing to the happiness of the people; that they create tastes which the condition of the circumstances of those people never allow to be realised; that the savage or a semi-civilised savage is probably a happier man than the man of education, of mind, and of formed tastes. Cultivation, the more it is developed, the more also it becomes fastidious of all surroundings, and in the greatest of philosophical romances, written many years ago, the author says perchance such a man of cultivation will be unhappy, but he says, what of that? If inevitable, the penalty of learning and of education must be abided by. Sir, intelligence, apart from mere happiness, I do believe is a good in itself. It satisfies a man. It fulfils the conditions of the age in which we live. We have more to gain, I believe, from light than we have from darkness; and I am satisfied that, term it as you will, the opposite doctrine leads to a sort of obscuritanism, in the end involving much greater unhappiness than in the other case. I spoke of philosophical romances. I remember one some three hundred years old, written by the great Sir Thomas More—his well-known "Utopia." In that you may remember how he describes the wide streets and spacious houses, and the health and comfort in his imaginary city. At that time the Italian cities were rising and building their stately edifices; and by inspiration gained from Italy, Sir Thomas More so contributed to the revival of that learning, which from this day never ceases to grow. The doctrine is applicable in our day. I look round upon the work of to-day, and in the remarkable group of public buildings of which it has been my high privilege to lay the foundation stone, in that remarkable group I see as it were a picture of the best form of English civilisation. I see a school of art and science, a museum and a free library, forming part, so to speak, of a special education, all culminating in and crowned by that Town Hall, which to me symbolises the freedom of the life of English self-government. The growth of modern liberty is a very interesting story for many centuries. But there was a time, before our day, when a free people, as free as ourselves in many ways, existed; and to that free people one of the greatest orators—the greatest orator of his time, perhaps—in a speech which has come down to us through all the chances and changes of fortune, he praised the popular Government of his time. He praised it for its union of public and private politics. He praised it for its noble use and worth. He praised it for the absence of jealousy and suspicion, for its courage in war, and its refinement and arts in time of peace. That noble encomy, spoken more than 2,000 years ago, which has furnished thoughts and aspirations to hundreds and thousands who have lived since then, was pronounced for ever. At a time under different conditions these words, spoken in the midst of stately buildings, to a people whose like intellectually has never been seen upon the face of the globe, these words have a full sense for us. We cannot rival the matchless architecture that adorned that State; we cannot even achieve some of the mental triumphs which they achieved; but I venture to think that the buildings of to-day, in our own plain, homely fashion, preach pretty much the same sermon—teach us the value of self-government. They speak of the happiness and cultivation of thousands, and they adorn a town of which its citizens have every reason to be proud.

Mr. Walter M.P., in replying to the toast of "The County Members," referred to the progress the town had made. In the construction of this new group of buildings he said the Shaksperian maxim,

How oft the sight of means to do ill deeds
Makes ill deeds done,

was just reversed in this instance; for the good example set by other municipalities had been followed at Reading. A toast, "In Memoriam Sir J. H. Goldsmidt, Bart., M.P.", was acknowledged by Sir J. Goldsmid, Bart., M.P. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, in responding for the health of the borough members, dwelt upon the importance of free libraries, and said that in towns where such libraries existed the average daily attendance of readers was 500, while at Walsall, a place only a little larger than Reading, the number was 1,200 daily. He believed that the existence of a free library in that borough would be amply justified by the use that would be made of it. Mr. Palmer M.P. also spoke in reply to the toast. The Earl of Carnarvon proposed "The Mayor and the Building Committee." The Mayor and Mr. W. J. Palmer responded. The last toast set down on the list was that of "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. J. B. Monck, and with which the name of the Right Hon. Sir R. J. Phillimore was associated. Lord and Lady Carnarvon, on quitting the Town Hall, received an ovation of cheers.

Most of the Masons subsequently partook of luncheon together, at the Foresters' Hall,—there not being sufficient accommodation at the Town Hall,—under the presidency of Bro. W. W. Moxbay P.P.G.S.W. The usual toasts were proposed, and a good selection of music was rendered under the direction of Bro. Strickland P.G. Organist.

The corn used in the ceremony was presented by Bro. T. Deller of Southsea, and forwarded through Bro. Coombes, of Newbury, to the Provincial Grand Secretary. It is a sample of the "Royal Masonic Pedigree Wheat," and possesses a history of some interest. Bro. Deller attended the laying of the stone of the Reading Grammar School, performed some years since with Masonic rites, by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the Order, and a

grain of wheat which fell during the ceremony, being picked up by Bro. Deller, was planted by him, and in three years the produce amounted to $7\frac{1}{2}$ gallons. The Prince accepted the wheat, which was grown on the Sandringham Estate, and in two years it produced 500 bushels. In October 1877, his Royal Highness sent eight bushels to Bro. Deller, who grew it two years, and he has now in his possession the yield of 50 acres, grown from the eight bushels. The wheat is of fine quality and yields well, and it is certainly an interesting circumstance that the wheat used at the ceremony by the Pro Grand Master should have descended from a grain of that used by the Royal Head of the Craft on the last occasion when an important work in this town was inaugurated under Masonic auspices.

NEW MASONIC HALL AND CLUB AT KIDDERMINSTER.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Kidderminster to supply what has long been felt to be a most pressing want; viz., a club-house where gentlemen may enjoy the numerous comforts and conveniences for which such places are celebrated. The scheme is fast approaching maturity, and we believe it will not be long before the inhabitants of the town will possess a club, modelled upon the well-known pattern of the principal metropolitan ones; the only difference being that instead of its being reserved exclusively for any particular "set," it will embrace as wide a range as possible, consistent with the character and position of the institution. The great object will be to make it as cosmopolitan as possible, and although the new club will take its title from the Masonic body, by which it has been promoted, the members of the Craft will claim no privileges or rights over any other members of the club. We hail with pleasure the wise determination of the members to throw open the benefits of club membership and shareholding to others, as well as to the Freemasons. We have been shown the premises acquired by the company, and explanations have been given us as to all it is intended to do and to provide, and we were struck with the thoroughness with which the Masonic body, in their ideas and intentions, sink all that could savour of self-interest or advantages in arranging for the wants and conveniences of the general body of club members. Indeed, there is nothing which all the members may not enjoy and share on the premises. The happy blending of accommodation is favoured very much by the peculiar formation of the premises, which are situate in Mill-street, and which allow of the Masonic Hall and ante-rooms being entirely detached from the club.

On either side of the front entrance hall, on the ground floor, is situated a commodious well-lighted apartment, each of which it is intended to let for an office. Besides the front entrance, there is also a side entrance, from the carriage drive, so that these offices will be entirely separate from the rest of the building, although the members of the club will have the right of going through the front entrance. In a small closet near the back kitchen it is intended to place a hoist and speaking tubes, communicating with the ante-rooms of the Hall at the back. Masonic dinners will be given in the Hall, so as not to interfere with the apartments which are open to those who are not Masons. Between the front and back kitchens is a still room, and the front kitchen is supplied with a very fine cooking range, and all the most modern appliances for the practice of the culinary art. There is an entrance to the cellars from this apartment, and in a small recess near will be placed another hoist and set of speaking tubes, the former to convey dinners into the dining rooms, and the latter for the convenience of giving and receiving orders, &c. The same hoist and speaking tubes will also communicate with the billiard room on the third floor. A very handsome room on the ground floor, 22ft. 6in. by 17ft. 6in., will be appropriated as the morning and evening room, for the reading of newspapers, smoking, &c. At one end of the room is a large bay window opening on to a small lawn, where those who prefer to do so may sit on summer evenings. On the first floor is the dining room for the use of the members, which is a commodious and cheerful apartment; and on the same floor, having a window facing the front street, is the card room, with a small room adjoining, lavatory, &c. Another room on the same floor will be appropriated to the committee, and another to the secretary. On the second floor are rooms for the servants and managers of the club. The greater portion of the third storey is taken up by the billiard room, which is 32 feet long by 17 feet wide, with a lantern roof. Lavatories and other conveniences will also be placed upon this floor. The Masonic Hall is completely separate from the rest of the building, and Masons can gain access to it without going through the front buildings. A broad staircase leads up into the robing room, and other offices. Underneath the hall are large premises, which it is intended to let for store rooms. The Masonic Hall itself will be, when finished, a splendid room, 56ft. long 22ft. wide, and 20ft. high. Adjoining will be a room for the purpose of storing the furniture of the Lodges. The whole of the premises will be well-lighted, ventilated, and warmed. It would have been impossible to find premises more suitable for the peculiar requirements for which they are needed, and the shareholders are to be congratulated on having, for the comparatively low figure of £1,100, obtained so central and eligible a property. The alterations, which will cost about £100—and which comprise the transformation of the warehouse into the hall, with necessary lighting and heating apparatus, suitable ante-rooms and other conveniences, the taking down of intermediate walls and lighting from roof to form billiard room, the construction of hoists, speaking tubes, &c.—are in full operation. The builder bids fair to complete his work well within the limit of the time allowed, which will permit of the building being opened about the middle of December. While contracts for furnishing, &c., are in a forward state, and in accord with the general promise of affairs in connection with the undertaking. We understand that 3-4ths of the share capital has already been

taken up by about sixty of the principal residents in the town and neighbourhood, and no doubt as soon as the scheme is properly understood, and all its features realised, the remaining shares will be quickly appropriated. Bro. George Taylor P.M. and Treas. 377, P.S.G.D. Worcestershire, the Secretary, is exerting his utmost energies to make the affair a complete success, and having a considerable knowledge of the amount of energy that very able and indefatigable gentleman throws into any work he undertakes, we cannot but entertain the brightest anguries of the future of this institution.—*Sun.*

KNIGHTS TEMPLARS AND THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY.

FROM THE FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY FOR AUGUST.

IN a late number of the *Repository* we referred to the action taken by the Grand Priory of Canada, requiring all visiting Knights from the United States to affirm their belief in the doctrine of the Trinity, as a condition of being allowed to visit any of the Templar organizations in Canada, and expressed our opinion that the establishment of such a test was both unwise and inexpedient. In the June number of the *Canadian Craftsman* our article is responded to by the Grand Prior of Canada; and this reply to our brief comments appears in the present issue of the *Repository*.

It seems that we were mistaken in assuming that the action noticed was taken on the recommendation of the Grand Prior. The official announcement of the test decided upon stated that it was "recommended by the Grand Council," and we naturally inferred that the Grand Prior concurred in the recommendation. But this was not the fact. On the contrary, the Grand Prior believes that the legislation on this point was too hasty and requires revision. He says, substantially, that if the Templar organization in the United States is to be recognized by the British Order, it follows that those who are in good standing in the Order at home should be recognized and fellowshipped when abroad, without being required to submit to any special test unknown to the organization in which they hold membership. But, although the Grand Prior expresses an opinion that the requisitions imposed by the Grand Priory can hardly be defended as either courteous or just, he puts forward other statements bearing upon the matter which open a much wider field of discussion. Indeed, if we correctly interpret his words, the Grand Prior favors more stringent legislation on this point so that there shall be no recognition of the Templar Order in the United States. He says: "What might have been done by the Grand Priory was to declare that the Order in the United States is not a Templar Order with which we can maintain communication, having discarded its most essential characteristic." Reading these strong words we could but recall those occasions when the Grand Prior and other distinguished Knights from Canada have been attendants upon the sessions of the Grand Encampment of the United States, formally commissioned to be the bearers of fraternal greetings from the Grand Priory of Canada to the governing Templar organization of the United States. At Baltimore in 1871, at Cleveland in 1877, did our Canadian friends realize that they were recognizing a Templar organization which had "discarded its most essential characteristic!"

In the article copied from the *Craftsman* the Grand Prior leaves us in no doubt as to the importance he attaches to the doctrine of the Trinity. He says: "It is as necessary for a Templar to believe in the Trinity as it is for a Craft Mason to believe in God;" and then, to be consistent in his conclusion, he goes on to affirm that the Templar Order always has been a "Trinitarian Association," and that it ceases to be a Templar Order, although it may continue to bear the name, just as soon as it admits members who do not subscribe to the doctrine in question.

We join issue with both of these statements. Admit the necessity of a belief in the Trinity—admit that the dogma is of necessity a part of the system of modern Templarism—we still deny that it holds an equal rank with faith in God, without which faith we know there can be no true Masonic law or life. It may be desirable, even essential, to believe in three persons in the God-head, but to reject such a doctrine, still holding fast to faith in a personal God, and in a Divine Lord the Saviour of men, surely is not quite as bad as atheism itself. Doctrines and beliefs are of relative value, and however great stress may be laid upon the dogma of the Trinity it is not the one underlying and vital principle of religion that belief in God is. Let it be granted that the doctrine ought to have place in the Templar system, or that it has been improperly eliminated therefrom, we should still hold that there was solid Christian ground for the system to rest upon; and that it was not wounded to death by questioning the validity of this dogma as Masonry must be whenever and wherever it comes to atheistical denials.

But what proof is there that the Templar Order is and always has been a "Trinitarian Association?" It is well known that the Institution of Christian Knighthood as it exists to-day is connected with the times of the Crusades and the Soldiers of the Temple by only legendary ties and associations. There is no historic continuity. The present Order is of comparatively modern origin; and it was not intended by those who fashioned the system and breathed into it the breath of life that it should partake of all the features which belonged to the ancient monastic and chivalric Orders. Some of the aims and characteristics, and more of the spirit, we trust, of those olden organizations have found their way into the Templarism of our time. But many changes and modifications have been made—departures from the original ritual and ceremony—and there is little use of citing the beliefs of the middle ages as the absolute law of faith that now exists. In the article we are reviewing the doctrine of the Trinity is designated as the principal *landmark* of Templarism, whereas, if we use the term in that technical sense which makes it the synonym of truths and principles that always have been known and accepted among Masons, there are no landmarks in Templar Order.

There are first principles and original foundations, of course, but

these do not take on the character of landmarks; and if they did, we should still venture to doubt whether the doctrine of the Trinity is included in the list of clearly expressed fundamentals. The dogma in question may have been indicated by the ritualistic teaching of the Templar societies instituted in Europe during the middle or latter part of the last century, and yet never have attained the dignity of a *landmark*. It is exceedingly problematical what the Templar system was as formulated by Ramsey or by Baron Von Hund; and altogether too much obscurity gathers about the early history of the present Templar Order to admit the showing that any special dogma originally held a pre-eminent place.

About the beginning of the present century Templarism received fresh impetus both in Europe and America. In this country, at the hands of Webb and others, it took form, shape, character, and entered upon a vigorous life. Then was formulated a ritual which in substance has been adhered to for nearly three quarters of a century. That system of Masonic Templarism rests upon the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues. As every Mason must believe in God, so every Knight Templar must believe in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Immanuel is the one great watchword of the Order, and the cross is the sign that sets forth all so significantly the nature of that faith and the works of truth and Christian love to which every Knight Templar is most sacredly pledged. But he is not bound to accept the dogma of the Trinity. It is enough that he accepts the Divine authority of Christ—that he seek to walk in the footsteps of the crucified and risen One, showing forth the Christ spirit in word and deed. This would seem to give him standing as a "true Templar" and entitle him to recognition as such, the opinion of the Canadian Brother to the contrary notwithstanding. But he cannot understand why the United States Templar Body is not distinctively and avowedly Trinitarian. He says the whole ritual tends that way, while the crucifixion and ascension scenes, together with the anthem sung, inculcate the doctrine. Well, we accept the ritual—we join with devout thought and quickened spiritual feelings in all the solemn ceremonies of the Order; and, if this is all that is required, we think that the Unitarian and the Trinitarian Christian may kneel side by side in the asylum, and before the empty sepulchre, as we have often seen them thus kneel, and together prosecute the work of Masonic Templarism. Filled and led by the spirit of their common Lord we can but think that each of these Brethren will accord to the other the name of a true Templar, and that thus being faithful they may both hope to merit at last the glad welcome, "well done, good and faithful servants."

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHWARK.

A Musical and Elocutionary Entertainment took place at the Parochial Schools, Holland-street, B'ackfriars, on Monday evening, 3rd November. The Entertainment was given in aid of the New Vestries' Fund, and was ably conducted by Bro. Usher Back. The most successful pieces of the evening were "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," and "The Election of a Beadle," by Mr. W. T. Cope; and "Nothing to Wear," and "I remember," by Bro. C. Greenwood jun. Bro. W. W. Morgan gave one of his Popular Selections, and Mr. A. C. Wade gave a careful rendering of "The Execution of Montrose." The Vocalists were represented by Miss Parker, Miss Battie, Miss T. Battie; Messrs. F. Custon, H. E. Vickers, Crow, and Bro. Alfred Green. Miss T. Battie was very happy in Balfe's ever popular "I dreamt I dwelt in Marble Halls;" Miss Parker, who has a rich and powerful voice, sang "The Storm," and "Looking Back," much to the satisfaction of the audience. The duet "Starboard Watch," was effectively given by Messrs. Vickers and Crow, the latter gentleman was also applauded for "Sweethearts." Bro. Alfred Green contributed "Hybrids, the Cretan." Altogether, the Entertainment was most satisfactory.

The installation meeting of the Trinity College Lodge, No. 1765, was held on Thursday at the Trinity College, Weymouth-street, W. The brethren afterwards dined together at the Criterion. Bro. Rev. J. Robbins D.D. P.M. 1635 P.G. Chap. Middx., is the new W.M. A full report will appear in our next.

The installation meeting of the Metropolitan Chapter, No. 1507, was held on Thursday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Comp. J. R. Stacey was installed M.E.Z., Comp. W. J. Ferguson H., and W. M. Stiles J. A report of the meeting will appear next week.

Bro. Dr. J. J. Pope will, on the 14th inst., give his celebrated and popular Lecture on Sanitary Science, entitled "Number One—His Very Good Health," by special request of Lord Northbrook, at Micheldever, in Hampshire.

Bro. Stanton (Sydney).—Your letter of August was lost in the post, only the outside wrapper reached us.

The current number of Messrs. Groombridge and Sons "Greenhouse favourites" is devoted to particulars of the Erica. As usual the number contains two coloured illustrations, the one representing the geranium, the other the clematis. In each the artistic execution is well up to the standard of the plates which have preceded these.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Old Sores, Wounds, and Ulcers.—The readiness with which Holloway's unguent removes all obstructions in the circulation of the vessels and lymphatics, explains their irresistible influence in healing old sores, bad wounds, and indolent ulcers. To insure the desired effect the skin surrounding the diseased part should be fomented, dried, and immediately well rubbed with the Ointment. This will give purity to the foul blood, and strength to the weakened nerves, the only conditions necessary for the cure of all those ulcerations which render life almost intolerable. No sooner is this Ointment's protective powers exerted, than the destructive process ceases, and the constructive business begins—new healthy growth appears to fill up the lately painful excavated pit.

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VITRUVIAN LODGE, No. 87.

BRO. ISAAC, who has for some time past provided for the requirements of this Lodge, begs to announce that he has obtained permission for the removal of his license to the Belvedere-re-read, and that he is about to erect commodious premises there. These will comprise

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Will take place at

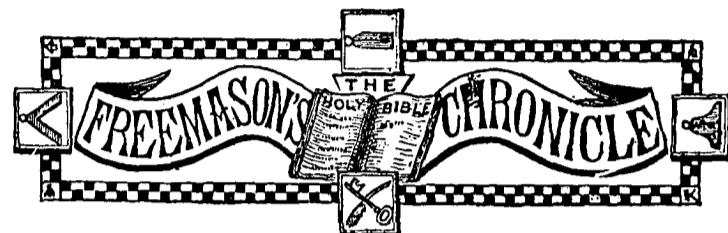
Reading, on Thursday, 27th of November 1879,

When the attendance of all regularly registered Mark Master Masons is invited.

Further particulars will appear in due course.

THOS. J. PULLEY, P.M. 54, 75, 235, 247,

Acting Prov. Grand Secretary.

Jesse Terrace, Reading,
4th November 1879.

67 BARBICAN, E.C.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

THE Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, London. Comp. S. Rawson occupied the chair of M.E.Z., Comp. Captain Platt the chair of H., and Comp. Captain N. G. Philips the chair of J.; Comp. Colonel Creton Treasurer, Comp. Ernest Emil Wendt as S.N., Comp. H. G. Buss as Scribe E., Comp. J. Lewis Thomas Sword Bearer, Comp. S. Mullens D.C.; besides, a large number of Past Grand Officers and Principals and Past Principals of Chapters were also present. Comp. Buss announced that Comp. Hervey was too ill to be present, and that he had commissioned him (Comp. Bass) to express his regret to the M.E.Z. that he was unable to attend. Comp. Rawson observed that all the Comps. regretted as much as he did that Comp. Hervey continued to be so seriously indisposed. On the motion of Comp. Colonel Creton, seconded by Comp. R. Gray, the report of the Committee was adopted, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes. The first four petitions which the Committee had received (particulars of which were given in our last) were then granted, on the motion of Comp. Colonel Creton. Comp. Colonel Creton also moved, and Comp. Robert Gray seconded, the granting of the petition for a Chapter to be attached to the Aldershot Camp Lodge, No. 1331. Comp. H. Hacker P.Z. 723 inquired whether since this had been recommended Grand Chapter had received any communication from the Provincial Grand Superintendent of Ilants and the Isle of Wight. Comp. Buss said there had been a letter received from Comp. W. Beach, in which he asked for a postponement of this petition until he had time to make inquiries, which he proposed to do by going to Aldershot. Comp. Hacker thereupon thought the petition should be postponed. Comp. Rawson agreed. A petition for a new Chapter could not be granted without a recommendation, and this recommendation was now in abeyance. Comp. John Fenn, one of the petitioners, objected. It had been recommended, and the recommendation had been passed by the Committee, who had recommended Grand Chapter to grant the Warrant. Comp. Rawson did not think it was now in the power of Grand Chapter to grant the petition. Comp. Barron said the motion now before Grand Chapter was that the petition be granted. It might, however, be convenient to postpone it. Comp. Rev. C. W. Arnold said there was a definite question before the Grand Chapter—was this petition to be granted or not? He did not see how the letter from the Grand Superintendent could overrule the agenda paper. Comp. Rawson said he had no legal adviser present to assist him, but his opinion was that this discussion should not be continued, and that the consideration of the prayer of this petition should be postponed in consequence of the withdrawal of the recommendation of the Grand Superintendent. Colonel Creton felt bound to say that when the Committee received a petition duly signed and recommended by a Grand Superintendent, they had no alternative but to bring it before this Grand Chapter. He thought it a great pity that the Grand Superintendent, and those other Comps. who signed the petition, did not enquire before sending it. It would be thought playing fast and loose with the Committee. Comp. Joshua Nunn said that the Grand Superintendent having recommended the petition, and the Committee having brought it before Grand Chapter, the Comps. were at liberty to discuss it. They ought now to decide upon it. Any letter not before the Committee could have no weight. Comp. Rawson thought that the Grand Superintendent having withdrawn his recommendation, Grand Chapter could not consider that he had granted his recommendation. His own personal feeling was that they should decide at once that this petition should not be entertained that evening, but postponed till next meeting. Where a Superintendent had acted in error, he should be allowed to correct that error. Several other Comps. having spoken, Comp. Rev. C. W. Arnold proposed, and Comp. Robert Gray seconded, the adjournment of the petition till next meeting. This was carried. Comp. Colonel Creton then drew attention to the concluding paragraphs of the Committee's Report, and Grand Chapter was closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

THE annual meeting of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons within the Province of Durham was held on Tuesday, 21st ult., at Gateshead. The Provincial Grand Lodge, which was held under the banners of Lodges Industry 48, and Borough 424, was opened in form by Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart. D.P.G.M., in the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, of Bro. John Fawcett R.W.P.G.M., at the Town Hall. The acting P.G.M. was supported by Bro. C. J. F. Fawcett P.P.S.G.W., acting D.P.G.M., and the following Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge:—Bros. Thos. Robinson Mayor of Newcastle P.S.G.W., R. J. Dent P.J.G.W., Rev. J. M. Shepherd P.G.C., G. M. Watson P.G.R., Rev. John Cundill P.G.T., Wm. H. Crookes P.G. Sec., Frederick Maddison P.S.G.D., W. J. Watson P.J.G.D., John Tillman P.G.S. of W., Robert Hudson P.G.D. of C., George Greenwell P.A.G.D. of C., G. Johnson P.G.S.B., H. E. O. Muller P.G.O., H. J. Turnbull P.G.P., and the following Provincial Grand Stewards:—Bros. E. Sutherland Phoenix 94, F. W. Poad Borough 424, H. W. Emerson Fawcett 661, G. Lazonby Philanthropy 940, G. B. Hall Williamson 947, John Smith St. Bede's 1119. In addition to the present Provincial Grand Officers there were upon the dais the following brethren:—Bros. L. M. Cockcroft D.P.G.M. of Northumberland, E. D. Davis P.P.S.G.W. Durham, and P.G.D. of C. Northumberland, F. Binckes Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the Rev. J. Bulman P.P.G.C., Smailes P.P.S.G.W. Northumberland, Joseph Cook P.P.J.G.W. Northumberland, J. E. Robson P.P.G.S.B., Rev. J. Bewsher P.P.G.C., Anthony Clapham P.P.S.G.W. Northumberland, Dr. Cook P.P.S.G.D., Addison Potter P.P.J.G.W. Northumberland, J. G. Youll P.M. 685 P.G.S.B. Northumberland, P. P. Ord P.P.G.S.B. Northumberland, Bailes P.P.J.G.W., Rev. Canon Tristram P.P.S.G.W., B. Probert P.P.G.P., J. S. Denham P.P.S.G.D., J. Roddam P.P.G.P., George Lawson P.P.G.S.B. Amongst the other brethren present were Bros. R. Whitfield W.M. 48, J. Marchant W.M. 424, T. Potter P.M. 240, T. Coulson I.P.M. 240, J. Ponder P.M. 1119, Montgomery P.M. 991, W. M. Bell P.M. 1557 Hexham, G. Hardy W.M. 1643, McCulloch I.P.M. 1643, T. Wraith P.M. 1643, J. A. Wilson W.M. 1119, James Mitchell S.W. 1643, W. Eckford J.W. 1643, Rev. W. Hedley Chaplain 1643, J. Smith S.W. 1119, M. H. Dodd J.W. 1119, A. McDougal S.D. 1119, Hugh Golder J.D. 1119, Chadwick Sec. 1643, A. Brodie S.D. 1643, J. J. Athey W.M. 240, J. H. Morton S.W. 240, T. Richardson J.W. 240, G. S. Shotton Sec. 240, J. J. Wilson S.D. 240, and J. H. Thompson J.D. 240. Bro. Rev. J. Cundill was re-elected P.G. Treasurer for the ensuing year. The Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed and invested as follows:—Bros. Sir H. Williamson, Bart., D.P.G.M., Sir Henry Pottinger 375 P.S.G.W., Bulman 1384 P.J.G.W., Rev. J. M. Shepherd 1650 P.G.C., Meek 1379 P.G.R., Rev. John Cundill P.G. Treas., W. H. Crookes P.G. Sec., Corbett 48 P.S.G.D., Lane 764 P.J.G.D., Lear 111 P.G.S. of W., R. Hudson P.G.D. of C., Geo. Greenwell P.A.G.D. of C., Jesse Marchant 424 P.G.S.B., H. E. O. Muller 1379 P.G.O., Donkin 124 P.G.P., and John Thompson P.G. Tyler. The following were the P.G. Stewards:—Bros. W. Hawdon 80, J. T. Wilson 240, M. Graham 531, John Stouchouse 764, Henry Noel 111, and F. Baines 1379. The Provincial Grand Lodge was subsequently closed in form. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Grey Horse Tavern, High-street, Bro. J. Tait's, where an excellent banquet was served up in first-class style, the chair being occupied by Bro. Sir H. Williamson, acting R.W.P.G.M. A most harmonious evening was spent, the enjoyment of the brethren being considerably heightened by the singing of Bros. Whitehead, Nutton, Walker, and Leatham of Durham Cathedral.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE Annual Meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge took place on the 29th ult., in the Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, under the banner of the St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481. There was an unusual large gathering of brethren from all parts of the Province. P.G. Lodge was opened at three o'clock, in ample form, by the Right Hon. the Earl Percy, M.P., R.W.P.G.M., and he was supported by Bro. L. M. Cockcroft D.P.G.M., Bro. Adam Robertson W.M. 1167 P.S.G.W., and Bro. W. J. Ward P.P.J.G.W. acting as P.J.G.W. in the absence through illness of Bro. J. Ridsdale P.J.G.W.; the other Provincial Officers present being—Bros. G. Robinson 636 P.G.C., T. Anderson 1712 P.G.T., G. Cockburn 24 P.G.R., B. J. Thompson 1427 P.G. Sec., J. Bolam 24 P.G.S.D., John Harcus 431 P.G.J.D., J. A. Forbes 393 P.G.S. of W., E. D. Davis 541 P.G.D. of C., George I. Dean 541 P.G.A.D. of C., J. G. Youll 685 P.G.S.B., Bertram P. Ord 1427 P.G.O., Robert Lamb Armstrong 406 P.G.P., John T. Taylor 1676 P.G.A.P., Joshua Curry 48 P.G.Tyler, and Brothers John Usher 481, George Blandford 541, R. C. Symonds 1626, Henry Wilson 1661, H. Robson 1676, R. T. Bell 1712, P.G. Stewards. Upon the dais were a great many Past Provincial Officers, amongst whom were Bro. Thomas Robinson (Mayor of Newcastle) P.P.S.G.W. Durham, Bro. Addison Potter P.P.S.G.W., Bro. the Rev. P. H. Phelps P.P.G.C., Bro. the Rev. G. S. Thomson P.P.G.C., Bro. the Rev. E. L. Marrett P.P.G.C., Bro. the Rev. W. B. East P.P.G.C., Bro. the Rev. W. L. J. Cooley P.P.G.C., Bro. Joseph Cook P.P.J.G.W., Bro. W. Twizell P.P.S.G.W., Bro. J. G. Tulloch P.P.G.S.W., Bro. Thomas Jackson P.P.G.S. of W., Bro. Thomas Haswell P.P.G.O., Bro. J. C. Mowbray P.P.G.S. of W., Bro. H. H. Blair P.P.G.S.B., Bro. R. F. Cook P.P.S.G.D. Durham, Bro. W. E. Franklin P.P.S.G.D. Durham P.P.G.S.B., Bro. Thos. Blenkinsop P.P.S.G.D., Bro. R. Eynon P.P.G.A.D. of C. The usual routine business being got through, reports from the Lodges in the provinces were read by the various W.M.'s, upon which the Prov. G.M. congratulated the Brethren on the state of the Craft in the county, as shown by the reports, the

result of which evidenced an increase of 29 members as compared with last year. The following amounts were then voted to the Masonic Charities, R.M.I.B. £21, R.M.I.G. £21, and R.M.B.I. £10 10s; £70 10s was also voted to the various Local Charities. Bro. Thomas Anderson was subsequently unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bros. H. Rotham and Anthony Clapham were also unanimously re-elected auditors. The Officers for the ensuing year were afterwards appointed and invested by the R.W.P.G.M. as follows:—Bros. Richard Eynon P.M. 481 P.S.G.W., W. S. Hughes W.M. 406 P.J.G.W., Rev. John Walker 1427 P.G.C., Thomas Anderson P.G. Treas., George Cockburn 24 P.G.R., B. J. Thompson P.G.Sec., James Oswald W.M. 393 P.S.G.D., Ralph Carr W.M. 24 P.J.G.D., R. I. Armstrong 406 P.G.S. of W., E. D. Davis P.G.D. of C., W. M. Bell W.M. 1557 P.G.A.D. of C., John Page W.M. 406 P.G.S.B., E. J. Gibbon W.M. 541 P.G.O., John Usher W.M. 481 P.G. Pursuivant, Wm. Cooper 1312 P.G.A.P., Joshua Curry P.G.Tyler. The R.W.P.G.M. announced that the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge would be held at North Shields, under the banner of St. George's Lodge, No. 431. The Lodge was afterwards closed in due form, and the brethren, to the number of nearly 400, adjourned to the large ball room at the Assembly Rooms, Westgate, where they dined together. The chair at the dinner was occupied by the Right Hon. the Earl of Percy, M.P., R.W.P.G.M., and the vice-chairs by Bros. R. Eynon P.S.G.W., W. S. Hughes P.J.G.W., Adam Robertson P.P.S.G.W., and W. J. Ward P.P.J.G.W. Grace having been said, the R.W.P.G.M. gave the usual Loyal toast, which was followed by that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W. Grand Master of England, followed by that of the Pro Grand Master and other Officers of Grand Lodge. Bro. L. M. Cockcroft D.P.G.M. then, in a few well chosen remarks, submitted the toast of the Provincial Grand Master, Earl Percy, which was received with much enthusiasm. Earl Percy having thanked the brethren for the reception accorded him, and expressed the pleasure it gave him that his Officers for the past year had taken on themselves the duty of visiting the various Lodges in the Province; he hoped the Officers appointed that day would follow their example. He was likewise very gratified to find from the several statements made that day that Freemasonry was flourishing throughout the Province. He concluded by submitting the name of the D.P.G.M., who, having responded to the toast, the past and present Provincial Grand Officers received the compliment due to them. The next toast on the list was that of the W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481, which was replied to by the W.M. Brother Usher, and "the Masonic Charities" lost nothing in the hands of Bro. E. D. Davis, who made a forcible appeal on their behalf. The remaining toasts were those of the Visitors, replied to by Bro. Robinson P.P.G.S.W. Durham, Mayor of Newcastle, and the Tyler's toast. Some capital harmony rendered the evening very enjoyable. During the meeting in the Town Hall, Bro. C. H. Shepherd P.P.G.O. very ably presided at the great organ. Great praise is due to the W.M. of St. Peter's Lodge and his Board of Stewards for their untiring energy to secure the comfort of so large a gathering of brethren, and if unfortunately dissatisfaction was felt at the dinner no blame can be attached to them.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys met last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall. There were present Bros. S. Rosenthal (in the chair), D. M. Dewar, Rev. Richard Morris (Head Master), R. B. Webster, A. J. Duff Filer, J. W. Dosey, W. H. Perryman, Arthur E. Gladwell, S. Rawson, H. Massey, John Constable, J. J. Berry, F. Adlard, W. Maple, Herbert Dicketts, W. F. C. Moutrie, Charles Horsley, H. Venn, Thomas Meggy, E. C. Mather, and F. Binckes Secretary. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the Report of the Audit Committee was read and adopted, and in accordance with a recommendation of the Committee, the brethren resolved to invest £1500, selecting Three per Cents. Reduced. Seven candidates for admission to the School were placed on the list for the April election. A grant (deferred from last meeting, for further information) of £20 to apprentice an ex-pupil was made; four outfits were granted to former pupils of the Institution, and the request of another ex-pupil for a similar outfit was deferred, after which the Committee dispersed.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

Will be worked as under:

At the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55, Bedford Hotel, Southampton Buildings, W.C., on Tuesday, 25th November 1879. Bros. Abell W.M. 1599 W.M., Grush I.G. 1541 S.W., Brown 862 J.W. FIRST LECTURE—Bros. Lee, Liddall, Sanders, H. C. Soper, Hallam, Brown, Tate. SECOND LECTURE—Bros. Linscott, Dickins, Bingemann, Marston, Tate. THIRD LECTURE—Bros. Dodson, John Soper, Gates. At six o'clock precisely.

Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement.—The weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the 4th November, at the Jamaica Tavern, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill. Comps. F. Brown Z., W. H. Lee H., S. R. Catterson J., G. L. Walker N., J. C. Goldsmith P.S., and the following Companions were present:—H. Thompson, J. T. Briggs, H. J. Lardner, J. Wyer, C. H. Webb, G. P. Gillard, T. Mason. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Webb being the candidate, and the Convocation was adjourned until Tuesday evening, 11th November, at half-past six o'clock.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c., as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

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SATURDAY, 8th NOVEMBER.

- 193—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 126—The Great City, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 182—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 167—Mizpah, Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street
 R. A. 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green.
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 1584—Loyalty and Charity, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 1536—Addiscombe, Surrey Club, West Croydon
 1637—Unity, Abercorn Hotel, Great Stanmore

MONDAY, 10th NOVEMBER.

- 45—Strong Man, New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, at 8 (Instruction)
 90—St. John, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 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, Carter-lane, Doctors-commons, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 193—Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 648—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
 1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8 (Instruction)
 1366—Highgate, Gate House Hotel, Highgate
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road (Inst.)
 40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth
 104—St. John, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport
 151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
 240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields
 262—Salopian, Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury
 292—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 297—Witham, New Masonic Hall, Lincoln
 411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham
 491—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 502—Rectitude, Town Hall, Rugby
 587—Howe, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 589—Druids of Love and Liberality, Masonic Hall, Redruth
 665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis
 721—Independence, Masonic Chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 797—Hanley Hall, Dartmouth
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 893—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall
 1021—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Barrow-in-Furness
 1069—United Brothers, Castle Hotel, Southsea
 1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 1233—Travellers, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1366—Sandgate, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
 1419—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1474—Israel, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
 1592—Abbey, Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds
 1611—Eboracum, Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, York
 1618—Handyside, Zetland Hotel, Saltburn-by-Sea
 1656—Wolsey, White Hart Hotel, Hampton Wick
 R. A. 148—Elias Aslumole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington
 R. A. 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 M. M.—Egerton, Bedford Hou-e, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
 R. C.—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

TUESDAY, 11th NOVEMBER.

- 46—Old Union, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-blgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8 (Inst.)
 177—Dominic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 108—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 211—St. Michael, Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 228—United Strength, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City
 651—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)
 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
 1446—Mount Edgcumbe, 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, Moorgate Station Restaurant, Moorgate-st., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (Inst.)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddleton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (Inst.)
 1604—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1614—Covent Garden, Ashley's Hotel, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden
 1635—Canterbury, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
 93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich
 117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro
 194—United Chatham of Benevolence, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Kent
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 272—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Main Ridge, Boston
 281—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, High-street, Warwick
 406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne (Instr.)
 473—Faithful, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone
 603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton
 626—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham
 650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich
 696—St. Bartholomew, Anchor Hotel, Wednesbury
 726—Staffordshire Knot, North Western Hotel, Stafford
 892—Royal Edward, Royal Oak Hotel, Leominster
 903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport
 1120—St. Mithurga, Tontine Hotel, Ironbridge
 1250—Gilbert (Greenhill, Masonic Room), Sankey-street, Warrington
 1314—Acacia, Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent
 1325—Stanley, 214 Great Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8 (Inst.)
 1347—Lorne, Greyhound Hotel, Sutton, Surrey
 1414—Knole, Masonic Hall, Sevenoaks
 1465—Ockenden, Talbot Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex

- 1509—Madoc, Queen's Hotel, Portmadoc
 1522—Olcana, Crescent Hotel, Ilkley
 1545—Buildon, Masonic Room, Northgate, Buildon
 1593—Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
 1678—Tonbridge, New Public Hall, Tonbridge
 1713—Wilbraham, Walton Institute, Walton, Liverpool
 R. A. 265—Juden, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley
 R. A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 R. A. 537—Zion, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead
 M. M. 6—Adarus, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness
 M. M. 152—Dover and Cinque Ports, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover

WEDNESDAY, 12th NOVEMBER.

- Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
 3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 9—Albion, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, W.
 15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
 147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
 193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
 201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crown-street, Camden-town, 8 (In.)
 538—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E.
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 862—Whittington Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Compts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8 (Instruction)
 1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-street, Wapping
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell
 R. A. 177—Dominic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 R. A. 1260—John Hervey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R. A. 1305—St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood
 M. M.—Old Kent, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham-street, Rochdale
 146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 225—St. Luke's, Conch and Horses Hotel, Ipswich
 231—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 238—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
 429—Royal Navy, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
 483—Sympathy, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 567—Unity, Globe Hotel, Warwick
 606—Benevolence, Private Rooms, Prince Town, Dartmoor
 758—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond
 851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
 852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, New Bailey-street, Salford.
 854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
 972—St. Augustine, Canterbury (Installation)
 1019—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 1031—Fletcher, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
 1060—Marion, Masonic Rooms, Church-street, Tamworth.
 1064—Borough, Bull Hotel, Burnley.
 1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading
 1209—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate.
 1244—Denison, Grand Hotel, Scarborough.
 1261—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
 1342—Walker, Hope and Anchor Inn, Byker, Newcastle.
 1356—De Grey & Ripon, 110 North Hill St., Toxteth Park, Liverpool
 1398—Baldwin, Dalton Castle, Dalton-in-Furness
 1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham.
 1314—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham.
 1503—Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull, at 7. (Instruction.)
 1520—Early Shrewsbury, Public Rooms, Caunock, Stafford.
 1547—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1582—Llanilloes, Trewythen Arms, Llanilloes, North Wales
 1613—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne.
 R. A. 20—Royal Kent of Anti-Brutus, Sun Hotel, Cuthbert
 R. A. 24—De Swinburne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 R. A. 254—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 M. M. 192—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, The Parade, Berwick.

THURSDAY, 13th NOVEMBER.

- 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 19—Royal Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 211—St. Michael, George, Australian Avenue, Barbican, E.C., at 8 (Inst.)
 263—Bank of England, Albany Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 751—High Cross, Conch and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 1076—Capper, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1321—Emblematic, Tulse-hill Hotel, Tulse-hill
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-nd, Paddington
 1426—The Great City, Masons Hall, Masons Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1538—Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1599—Skelmersdale, Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street, E.C.
 1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James-street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (In.)
 1642—Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Ladbrooke Grove Road, W. (Inst.) at 5
 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.)
 35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes.
 97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Toward-road, Sunderland.
 112—St. George, Masonic Hall, Fore-street Hill, Exeter
 139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surroy-street, Shoffield.
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Inst.)
 33—Royal Preston, Castle Hotel, Preston.
 339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith, Cumberland.
 469—Hundred of Ellow, Masonic Rooms, London Road, Spalding.
 477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
 546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Longton, Stafford.
 732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
 739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
 781—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
 786—Croxsteth United Service, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, Berks
 991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay, Northumberland
 1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
 1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Cheetham, Lancashire.
 1093—St. George, Private Room, Temperance Hotel, Tredegar, Mon.
 1144—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
 1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
 1147—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1192—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1294—Royal, Imperial Hotel, Malvern, Worcestershire.
 1273—St. Michael, Free Church School-rooms, Sittingbourne.
 1369—Bala, Plasgoch Hotel, Bala.
 1416—Falcon, Masonic Hall, Castle Yard, Thirsk.

1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
1467—Bagshaw, Princes Hall, Princes-road, Buckhurst Hill
1583—Corbet, Corbet Arms, Towyn.
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1697—Hospitality, Royal Hotel, Waferton, near Manchester.
1732—Machen, Swan Hotel, Colleshill.
R.A. 51—Patriotic, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester
R.A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield
R.A. 613—Bridson, Masonic Hall, Southport.
R.A. 1214—Scarborough, Scarborough Hall, Caledonian-road, Batley
R.A. 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
K.T.—Salamanca, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax

FRIDAY, 14th NOVEMBER.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7
25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
177—Domestic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
597—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
768—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
834—Kanelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-road (Instruction)
902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8 (Instruction)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Islington-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1298—Royal Standard, Alvynne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8 (In.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulburne-rd. N. Kensington, at 8.0 (Inst.)
London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C., at 8
R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 1471—North London, Crown and Woolpack, St. John-st.-rd., at 8 (Inst.)
R.C.—Mount Calvary, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.
458—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goole.
528—Honour, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.
662—Dartmouth, Dartmouth Hotel, West Bromwich.
697—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
790—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
815—Blair, Town Hall, Stratford-road, Hulme.
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harrogate.
1087—Beauchamp, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard, Beds.
1239—Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
R.A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
R.A. 993—Alexandra, Medway Hotel, Levenshulme
K.T.—Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield

SATURDAY, 14th NOVEMBER.

193—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, at 8 (Instruction)
1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1732—Kings Cross, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8
R.A. 308—Affability, Station House Hotel, Bottoms, Stansfield

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—At Bro. Butt's, the New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, on Monday, the 3rd instant. Present—Bros. Symons W.M., Halle S.W., Cordingley J.W., Tolmie Preceptor, Fenner Sec., A. W. S. Humphries S.D., Dean J.D., Balls I.G.; also Bros. Wing, Kerswell, Pelikan, Fox, Rushton, &c. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Kerswell acting as candidate. The same brother answered the questions leading to the second degree, but, being an E.A., was not entrusted. Bro. Fenner worked the first, Bro. Fox the second section of the lecture. Lodge advanced a degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Pelikan being the candidate. Lodge was resumed, and Bros. Cordingley, Dean, and Kerswell, all of the Mother Lodge, were elected members of the Lodge of Instruction. A vote of thanks was awarded those brethren who had so kindly vacated their offices in favour of the members of the Mother Lodge, after which Lodge was closed.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—A meeting was held on Tuesday evening, 4th November, at Bro. Bond's, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-buildings, W.C. Present—Bros. Powneby W.M., Linscott S.W., Liddall J.W., Lee S.D., Luker J.D., Snodin I.G., John Bingemann Preceptor, John Soper Hon. Sec., and several other brethren. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. P.M. Gilruth being the candidate. Bro. Abell worked the first, second, and third sections of the First Lecture. Bro. Linscott was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was closed and adjourned to Tuesday, 12th November.

London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, No. 58.—A meeting was held on Friday, 31st October, at the London Masonic Club, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C. Bros. Wells W.M., Chapman S.W., Joseph Langton J.W., Hogg Treas., J. D. Langton Sec. as S.D., Barnett J.D., Garland I.G., J. S. Fraser Preceptor, and Bro. Williams. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. J. D. Langton as candidate. Lodge was opened in the second degree, when the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of the S.W. Bro. Williams, being a candidate for the third degree, answered the usual questions, and was raised. Bro. Wallis Mackay 1319 was elected a member. Bro. Barnett was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. Lodge was then closed.

Manchester Lodge of Instruction, No. 179.—Saturday, 1st November, was quite a gala night for the old Lodge held at the Yorkshire Grey, Fitzroy-square; the Fifteen Sections being ably worked by the undermentioned brethren, under the direction of Bros. Koester P.M. 435 W.M., Kew P.M. 179 S.W., Baker P.M. 179 J.W., Frost P.M. 228 P.Z. I.P.M. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the various sections were worked as follows:—First Lecture: Bros.

Marx, J. C. Smith, P. Recknell, J. J. Harvey Sec., Paul, Frost P.M., Baker P.M. Second Lecture: Bros. Paul, Ash P.M., W. C. Smith, Kew P.M., Sedgwick P.M. Third Lecture: Bros. Belfrage W.M. 179, Paul Koester P.M. On the proposition of Bro. J. C. Smith, seconded by Bro. Baker, Bro. Ramsden 1744 was unanimously elected a member; and on the proposition of Bro. Sedgwick, seconded by Bro. Baker, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, to Bro. Koester P.M. Preceptor, as a recognition of the ability displayed by him in the chair, and for his cheerfully rendered services as Preceptor of the Lodge. Bro. Koester tendered his thanks to the brethren, and remarked that it always afforded him the greatest pleasure to impart Masonic knowledge to those who wanted it. He thanked his old friends the Masters and Past Masters who came to support him on that occasion. Among the brethren assembled were Bros. W. S. Luck, Lovett, Sibley, Wood, Gittens, Pratt, Stumm, Davis, Recknoll, Ramsden, &c. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

Industry Lodge, No. 186.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 28th October, at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. W. H. Hook W.M., Powell S.W., Allison P.M. J.W., H. G. Lake Treasurer, W. Mann Sec., Philip S.D., Johnson J.D., Taffs I.G., J. G. Horsey W.S.; Past Masters D. Robinson, Noehmer, Seex, and Black. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Leonard was raised to the third degree (by the courtesy of the W.M.) by Bro. D. Robinson I.P.M.; Bros. Marcus and Alexander were passed to the second degree by the W.M. There were three initiates on the agenda paper, and Mr. W. H. Watts, being present, was balloted for and duly initiated into the Order by Bro. Noehmer P.M. All the ceremonies were excellently rendered by the W.M. and P.M.'s. The resignation of Bro. Mortlock P.M. was tendered, owing to ill health, but was not accepted; for valuable and long services he was unanimously elected honorary member of the Lodge. The W.M. and every brother present expressed a hope that he would at future meetings be present among them in renewed health. It was arranged that a Ball in connection with the Lodge should be held in December next. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down, in the Crown Room, to a very sumptuous and *recherché* banquet and dessert, provided by Bro. A. Best, and superintended by Bro. Dawkins, the tables being beautifully decorated. The W.M., after grace had been said, proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. The National Anthem was then sung. Bro. D. J. Robinson I.P.M., in a very eloquent speech, proposed the health of the W.M. Bro. Hook, which was enthusiastically received. The W.M., in reply, said they had witnessed his working, and he had proved to the brethren, by his regular attention to the duties of his office, and his successful efforts to administer to their comforts and harmony at the festive board, that he had their interests at heart. He was sure he was never so happy as when promoting some new idea to give them pleasure, and promoting that social intercourse which is at all times so agreeable. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the newly-initiated Brother, said he was proud to have one among them who would be sure to prove an ornament to Freemasonry. The toast having been very ably responded to, Bro. Philip sang the E.A. song. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Visitors, in enumerating them he said how pleased he was to see so many old and distinguished brethren. By the way the toast was received, they would see how their presence was appreciated. Bro. James Terry P.G.W. Herts, and the W.M.'s of the various Lodges were called upon to respond. Bro. Chubb gave an excellent song, Miss May Woodville accompanying him on the piano. Bros. Brooke W.M. 1839 and James Terry returned thanks in very able speeches, both those brethren thanked the W.M. for their hospitality, and the musical entertainment he had given them, with such artistic taste. The W.M. stated he would be pleased to represent the Lodge on the next Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and he hoped the brethren would liberally support him on behalf of that noble charity. The W.M. said he would now ask them to drink a joint toast, the health of the Past Masters, the Treasurer, and Secretary, those who had witnessed their working knew their worth; he would call on Bro. W. Mann P.M. and Sec., a host in himself, to respond to the toast. That Brother, with his usual ability, responded; he regretted the absence of the Treasurer Bro. H. G. Lake, whose professional avocations in a gigantic undertaking prevented him being present. The toasts of the Officers and the Tyler were given. The W.M. provided an excellent musical entertainment. Miss May Woodville, Miss Elliott, and Bro. Philip being the artistes. The W.M., Bros. Chubb and Earl sang some capital songs. The Visitors were—W. Skelton P.M. 1056, Brewster 514, A. Thompson 1601, J. G. Rush 1201, T. Hunt 224, J. W. Brooke W.M. 1839, Newnham 1624, J. Freeman 1426, Carter W.M. 192, Coleman 1604, W. S. Marshall 1549, J. Terry P.G.W. Herts, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 3rd inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, City. Bros. M. Spiegel W.M., H. Hyams S.W., J. S. Lyon J.W., E. P. Albert P.G.P. Sec., R. Baker S.D., I. M. Myers J.D., Bean as I.G., N. Baum and J. Davis Stewards, Woodstock Tyler; Past Masters L. Alexander, H. M. Levy, A. G. Dodson; and Bros. Bean, Martin Botibol, Hart, B. Weigel, A. Verdun, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Adolph Goodman, of the Cape of Good Hope, was, by the courtesy of the W.M., passed to the second degree perfectly and impressively. The resignation of Bro. J. T. Miller P.M. was accepted with regret. A petition to the Grand Lodge of Benevolence, on behalf of a distressed Brother of the Lodge, was received, and three brethren were relieved from the funds. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to light refreshment, which the brethren enjoyed, perfect harmony and con-

viviality being paramount. The W.M. proposed the toasts, both Loyal and Masonic. Bro. E. P. Albert P.G.P., in one of his characteristic speeches, eloquently replied on behalf of those distinguished brethren—the Grand Officers. The toast of the Benevolent Fund was responded to by Bro. Lenzberg, the newly qualified V.P., in a very excellent speech. Bro. H. M. Levy proposed the health of the W.M., whom he stated had not had so good an opportunity of showing his Masonic abilities as might have been wished, but he was thoroughly proficient in his Masonic working. Bro. Levy hoped, before he left the chair, Bro. Spiegel would have an opportunity of displaying his knowledge. The W.M., in a very excellent speech, returned thanks. The toast of the Visitors was given, and the Worshipful Master expressed the pleasure he felt in proposing that of Bro. Goodman, from the Cape of Good Hope. He gave them a hearty welcome, in the name of the Lodge. Bro. Batchelor very ably responded. The W.M. proposed the toast of the P.M.'s, to which Bros. H. M. Levy, A. G. Dodson, and E. P. Albert responded. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Wardens, said the Lodge might be congratulated on having so good a working Mason as the Senior Warden; he hoped to see him in due course occupy the chair of the Lodge. Bros. Hyman and R. Baker having responded, the W.M. proposed the toast of the newly elected Treasurer, Bro. J. L. Lyon—one who was able in every respect to carry out the duties of that important office. He is a thorough business man, and the W.M. was sure he would render valuable service to the Lodge. These remarks applied also to their respected and valued Secretary. The W.M. hoped to have those two brethren among them for many years. Bros. Albert and J. S. Lyon returned thanks for the toast. The Tyler's toast was then given. During the evening Bros. Dodson, Hart, Baum, and Harris contributed to the harmony. The Visitors were Bros. Adolph Goodman Cape of Good Hope, Parker 1474, Batchelor 153 Gibraltar, Sedausky 48 Gateshead, H. J. Hames 507.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 29th October, at Railway-place, Fenchurch-street. Present:—Bros. A. F. Lay W.M., D. Moss S.W., Fells J.W., J. K. Pitt Sec., A. J. Baxter J.D., Walker Preceptor, D. Posener I.G., &c. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Walker as candidate. The brethren unanimously elected Bro. D. Moss as W.M. for the next meeting.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—Held at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, on Saturday, the 1st. inst. Present—Bros. Giller W.M., McMillan S.W., Carr J.W., Pearcey Preceptor, Fenner Sec., C. Lorkin S.D., Valentine J.D., W. Williams I.G.; also Bros. D. Moss, J. Lorkin, W. Burtle, J. Millington, Richardson, Webb, Peach, Brasted, Fysh, Yates, McDowell, H. Hall, Halford Treas., &c. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed in a very creditable manner, Bro. Peach being the candidate. Bros. Pearcey worked the first, D. Moss the second and third, C. H. Webb the fourth sections of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. McMillan was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded the W.M. for the very able manner he had presided—this being his maiden attempt to discharge the duties of the chair. Lodge was closed.

York Lodge, No. 236.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday evening, the W.M. Bro. A. Buckle presiding, there being also present Bros. Sir James Meek P.M., Geo. Balmford P.M., W. Lawton P.M., J. Todd P.M., T. B. Whytehead P.M., the officers, and many brethren and visitors. The business consisted in the initiation of Mr. A. Neill, of Leeds. Ballots were also taken for two life memberships in the Masonic Charities. A candidate was proposed, and the Lodge was closed at nine p.m.

Zetland Chapter, No. 236.—The regular meeting of this Chapter was held at York on Wednesday, when the following Companions, amongst others, were present—Sir James Meek M.E.Z., Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett H., G. Balmford J., J. G. Turner S.E., J. M. Meek S.N., A. Buckle P.S., R. Davison P.Z., J. Todd P.Z. and Treas., T. Smurthwaite P.Z., T. Cambridge Organist, T. B. Whytehead, T. J. Wilkinson, Cattell, T. M. Richey, Kirby, Rooke, &c. Amongst the Visitors were Comps. W. Watson Z. 734, J. Hanly (4th Dragoon Guards), Dixon 543, &c. The business consisted in the exaltation of Bros. Hanson, Draper and Border of the York Lodge, the ceremony being performed by M.E. Comp. Sir James Meek, in a deeply impressive manner. The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Steward's list of Comp. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, who had given notice that he proposed representing the Chapter at the next Benevolent Festival. After the close of the Chapter the Companions met at supper, and a pleasant evening was passed, in the course of which Comp. Whytehead read an interesting paper on some early minutes of the Grand Chapter of All England at York, extending as far back as the year 1762.

Eton Lodge, Congleton, Cheshire, No. 533.—The annual meeting of this flourishing Lodge took place on the 29th ult., at the Masonic Hall, and was of more than usual interest, inasmuch as it was the day fixed on which the W.M. Bro. John Bradbury P.M. was to be installed in the chair. The brethren began to assemble at 2 p.m., and at 2.30 the acting W.M. Bro. Furnivall, took the chair, and opened the Lodge with the usual solemnities. There was a large number of the brethren present, including the following Visitors:—Bros. Vernon 456 P.P.G.S.B. Staffordshire, Stanhope Bull 321 P.G.S.W., McKinley 424, Moore 295, Maydew 295, Dodd 1558; Bros. Wood, Gaskell, Jackson and Astle, all P.M.'s 267, Macclesfield;

Bros. Cokayne W.M. 267, Dr. Cranswick P.M. 999, Wood S.W. 726, Jackson 418, Leech S.W. 295, Broad S.W. 460, &c. Bro. John Bradbury P.M. was duly installed into the chair by Bro. Cokayne P.M. and P.P.G.S.B., assisted by the P.M.'s present, in his usual correct and highly impressive manner, the other Officers adding to its beauty by the perfect style in which each performed his part. The newly installed Master at once appointed the following Officers:—Bros. Daniel S.W., Cotterill J.W., the Rev. J. E. Colyer Chaplain, Dr. Beales P.M. Treasurer, W. Blackshaw P.M. Secretary, Garside S.D., Wingate J.D., S. Blackshaw P.M. Director of Ceremonies, G. Barlow Organist, Orrey I.G., Dr. Beales P.M. and John Broadhurst Stewards. Such an excellent staff of Officers is the best assurance that the high reputation so justly and deservedly earned by this Lodge will be fully maintained during the ensuing year. Superior music was introduced during the ceremony by Bro. G. Barlow P.P.G.O., who presided at the harmonium, which, if possible, added to its beauty, and certainly promoted and enhanced its effectiveness. The business of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form at five p.m. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting hall, where the installation banquet was served in becoming style by Mrs. Hopkins. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. A warm eulogy was passed on the Treasurer Bro. Dr. Beales, for the efficient manner in which he had performed his duties. Dr. Beales responded, in a very happy and appropriate speech. The Rev. Dr. Cranswick, in replying to the toast of the Chaplain of the Lodge, in most eloquent terms urged the brethren to practise out of the Lodge those excellent principles they were taught in it. Song followed song, and harmony prevailed until the “time for trains and carriages” arrived, when the brethren separated, well satisfied with their successful and harmonious meeting.

Chapter of Rectitude, No. 581.—The last regular meeting of this Chapter was held at the Corporation Hotel, Tipping-street, Ardwick, Manchester, on Thursday evening week, when the following Companions were present: Julius Arensberge Z. P.G.S.B. E.L., John Hayes H., Henry Darbyshire J., Joseph Wilkinson Treasurer and Acting E., Thomas Tyers P.Z., Taylor Topham A.S., Henry Booth, James Burton, John Brown, P. H. Nicholls J., and Visiting Companions James Hall P.Z. P.P.G.P.S. E.L., John Gallagher Z. No. 325. The minutes of the last regular Chapter having been read and confirmed, E.Z. said he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present to Comp. James Hall P.Z. a very handsome gold jewel and collar, which had been contributed for by the members of the Rectitude Chapter as a token of esteem for Comp. James Hall, and in recognition of the very many services rendered to the Chapter by this highly esteemed Companion. It was confidently hoped that he might be long spared to wear the jewel, and that he would continue to honour the Chapter with his visits. Furthermore, it afforded him very great pleasure to say that the Comps. of the Chapter had unanimously decided to make Comp. Hall an honorary member of the Chapter, and he hoped by the help of the Most High he would long be spared to enjoy that honorary membership, and concluded by adorning his neck and breast with the collar and jewel. Comp. Hall (who was very heartily applauded), in receiving the jewel, said:—Companions, I am very thankful for your kind expressions, and also for the very handsome jewel and collar which, as your E.Z. says, has been so unanimously given to me by the Companions generally. I do assure you that I have always taken a deep interest in Royal Arch Masonry, and anything I may have done for you in the past I will readily and most willingly do in the future, if my health will permit. I esteem most highly the great honour you have conferred on me by honorary membership, and I assure you that, from this fact alone, I shall feel more than ever that I am one of you, and will more than ever try by example and precept to stimulate the Officers and Companions to efficiency, so that when the Chapter is visited, as it will no doubt be, by P.G. Officers, those Officers will go away pleased, and be able to say that the Officers and Companions of the Rectitude Chapter are well up to their work and have plenty of it to do. Companions, from my heart I sincerely thank you. The election of Officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, when the following Companions were duly elected:—The first, second, and third principals were appointed to again serve in their several chairs for another year, owing to the fact that amongst the Companions there did not happen to be a Companion eligible. Comp. John Brown was selected to the office of Scribe E., Comp. Wilkinson as Treasurer; Comp. Emanuel Nelson as P.S. Comp. Thomas Tyers P.Z., seeing that an efficient N. was wanted, very generously offered to take that office, which was most readily given to him, with hearty expressions of gratitude, by the E.Z., and loud acclamations by the Companions. Comp. Nicholls was re-appointed Janitor. On the motion of Comp. Julius Arensberg E.Z., seconded by Comp. Burton, Comps. Thomas Tyers P.Z. and Henry Darbyshire J. were appointed Auditors. The Chapter was then closed in due form and with solemn prayer, at 8.30 p.m. Comp. Julius Arensberg E.Z., having given the visitors his usual hearty invitation, the Companions sat down at the festive board to a grand supper, which was put upon the table by the comely hostess, Mrs. Langford, in her usual neat style and pleasing manner. Supper over, the usual Loyal and Royal Arch toasts were duly honoured, and the proceedings closed at 10.45 p.m.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on Tuesday. Bros. Carr W.M., J. King S.W., Polak J.W., Baker S.D., Wardell J.D., Williams I.G., J. Lorkin Sec., Smyth Treas., C. Lorkin Acting Preceptor; also Bros. Dallas, Allen, Hand, Moss, C. Lorkin, Clark, Woodding. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hand candidate. Lodge advanced, and Bro. Christian was raised. Bro. Hubbert of Lodge 1625 was elected a member. Bro. J. King was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week, and nominated his Officers in rotation. Nothing further offering, the Lodge was closed.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—On Thursday, 6th November, at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, 119 Leadenhall-street, E.C. Present:—Bros. J. Da Silva W.M., Gimingham S.W., Bedell J.W., L. Norden Sec., Valentine S.D., Webb J.D., C. H. Webb Preceptor; Bros. Moss, Bingemann, &c. After preliminaries, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Moss candidate. The W.M. worked the first, second, third and fourth sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Gimingham was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, after which Lodge was closed in due form.

St. Michael's Lodge of Instruction, No. 211.—A meeting was held on Thursday evening, at the George Hotel, Australian-avenue, Barbican. Present—Bros. A. Withers W.M., Radcliffe S.W., H. Forss J.W., Back S.D., Young J.D., G. H. Stephens as Sec., Hentsch I.G., Peirce, &c. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting received confirmation. Bro. G. H. Stephens offered to be candidate, and the ceremony of initiation was ably rendered by Bro. Withers. Bro. Peirce was tested and entrusted; Lodge was opened up, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Peirce candidate. Bro. H. Forss, Yarborough Lodge 554, was admitted a member.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—Held at the King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., on Thursday, 6th October. Present—Bros. Gieseke W.M., Westfield S.W., Legg J.W., Fenner Preceptor, Wallbrecht Sec., D. Moss S.D., Hine I.G.; also Bros. Patrick, Hansbach, Pearcey, and others. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Patrick acting as candidate. The second and third sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Fenner, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Westfield was appointed to preside at the next meeting.

Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction.—At the regular meeting, at Bro. Smith's, Salmon and Ball, on the 29th ult., the Fifteen Sections were worked under the able presidency of Bro. W. Musto P.M. and Preceptor. He was supported by Bro. C. H. Webb P.M. 1607 as S.W., and Bro. Christian J.W. We regret that so few members of the Lodge of Instruction were present to hear the excellent rendering of the sections. Although anxious to excuse them, on the plea of bad weather, or the many similar meetings just being held, we cannot but regret so few were there to do honour to the Visitors. The sections were rendered by the following brethren:—First Lecture—Bros. Clarke, Woodding, Chitson, Christian, McDonald, Webb, T. Barnes. Second Lecture—Bros. Veal, Moss, Ellis, Cundick, Stephens. Third Lecture—Bros. I. P. Cohen, J. Taylor, West. The compliment of a vote of thanks, also the honorary membership of the Lodge, was accorded to Bro. Musto. Votes of thanks were also passed to the S.W. Bro. Webb and the working brethren. Lodge was duly closed.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, Tuesday, 4th November. Bros. Pavitt W.M., Power S.W., Smith J.W., P.M. Myers S.D., Johnson J.D., Legg I.G., Worsley Secretary, P.M. Musto Preceptor; also Bros. Fyfe, Spencer, Sanderson, Coper, Sadler, White, Barker, &c. The Lodge was formally opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Worsley acting as candidate. Bro. Pavitt worked the first section of the Lecture, Bro. Worsley the second, third, and fourth, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Sanderson 919 and Cope 898 were elected members. Bro. Power was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. This Lodge commences precisely at 7.30, and closes at 9.30, so that visitors from town can reach home by ten. We can recommend Craftsmen to look in at this ably conducted Lodge of Instruction. The brethren who manage affairs pay every attention to those who visit them, and the instruction imparted is of a sound and practical nature.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426.—On Thursday, 30th October, at Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C. Present—Bros. Poore P.M. W.M., Tolmie P.M. S.W., Hamer J.W., Bisset S.D., Kibble J.D., Lewis I.G., Harper Secretary, Saul Preceptor, and a goodly muster of the brethren. Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes of previous meeting were confirmed. The Fifteen Sections were then worked by the following brethren:—First Lecture—Bros. E. A. Barber P.M. 452, Perceval W.M. 1607, Harper J.D. 1216, Moss J.W. 1201, Jas. Stevens P.M. 1426, &c., Tolmie P.M. 861, Ockenden S.W. 1512. Second Lecture—Bros. Paddle 1201, Goodman, E. A. Barber P.M. 452, Marvin 1768, Saul W.M. 1201. Third Lecture—Bros. Bisset 405 S.C., Blackie W.M. 1426, E. A. Taylor P.M. 1201. The Lodge was closed to first degree. Votes of thanks were passed to Bro. Poore and the working brethren. Lodge was afterwards closed in due form.

Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1489.—At the Pembarry Tavern, Amhurst-road, on Monday, 3rd November Bros. Grist W.M., Goddard S.W., Garrod J.W., J. Lorkin Secretary, P.M. Stephens Treasurer, McMillan S.D., Cox J.D., High I.G., Bro. C. Lorkin Preceptor, Bros. R. Olley, Aspinall, Coubro, Blunt, McPherson, and others. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Coubro candidate. Bro. J. Lorkin worked the 1st and 2nd sections of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Aspinall candidate. Bro. Goddard was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his Officers in rotation. The Lodge was then closed.

Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693.—Held its regular meeting on Tuesday last, the 4th instant, at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road. Present—Bro. H. P. Isaac W.M., Hawkins S.W., A. W. Fenner J.W., Crosbie Treas., C. K. Killick sen. P.M. Secretary, H. Hall S.D., W. Burle J.D., Western I.G., Steedman Tyler; also P.M.'s C. K. Killick jun. and A. H. Trewinnard. Visitors—Bros. Gibbs Perfect Ashlar 1178, and R. Clark of the Cripplegate Lodge 1613; a strong muster of the members of the Lodge were also in attendance. The Lodge was opened in ancient form, and the minutes of last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Richard Defriez, which proved unanimous, and that gentleman was duly initiated into the mysteries of our ancient rite, in a very impressive manner by the W.M., who was ably supported by his Officers. There being no other business on the rota, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a light repast, to which ample justice was done. After the Loyal and patriotic toasts had been disposed of, the W.M. proposed the health of the P.M.'s, dwelling largely on the valuable assistance the W.M. received from them. To his remarks they severally responded in short but effective speeches. The W.M.'s health was proposed, and received with the usual honours; in replying Bro. Isaac assured the brethren that he would strive to perform his duties with the utmost assiduity; he felt proud of his position, more particularly as he was supported by such an efficient staff of Officers, and he trusted that his year might be as great a success as that of his predecessor. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Visitors' toasts were next on the list, and were duly honoured, as was also that of the Officers. The Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close. The evening's amusement was considerably augmented by the vocal abilities displayed by several brethren; a capital recitation was also given by a member of the Lodge.

Ancient Carthage Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1717 E.C., at Tunis.—The first meeting of the winter season was held on Saturday, 25th October. Present—E. Comps. A. M. Broadley D.D.G.M. Malta Z., Dr. Mugnaini H., Baron James Castellnuovo J.; Comps. J. H. Stevens E., G. Pentecost N., Dr. Perini P.S., Cassar 1st A.S., Barsotti 2nd A.S., Professor V. C. Clement Registrar, Professor Soniller Interpreter, and others. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Comp. T. F. Reade, H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul General, P.D.D.G.M. Egypt, &c., was unanimously elected a member of the Chapter. On the proposition of the M.E.Z., a vote of thanks was passed in favour of the 2nd and 3rd Principals for their invaluable services to the Chapter during their term of office. The three Principals having expressed their desire to retire from office, a ballot was taken for their successors, which resulted as follows:—Comps. T. F. Reade P.M. 1068 Z., Dr. Perini W.M. 1717 H., J. E. L. Barker, C.E., W.M. 1835 J. After routine business being transacted, the Chapter was closed in peace and harmony according to ancient form.

Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744.—A meeting of this Lodge took place at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, 28th ult., Bro. J. Willing W.M. in the chair. Also present, Bros. J. Douglass S.W., Jones as J.W., W. M. Styles Secretary, Hyland J.D., Cook I.G., Holt W.S., Deller, Jaques, Dovey, Smith, Sillis, Lloyd, Bennett, Cole, and about 60 other Brethren. Visitors—Bros. Mursell J. W. Medina 35, Kauffmann D.C. Kings Cross 1732, and Meacock Crystal Palace 742. The minutes of the previous regular meeting, and that of the Emergency having been read and confirmed, Bros. Dickey and Ramsden were raised to the degree of M.M.; Bros. Harton, Blundell, Thorn, and Holland were passed to the degree of F.C.; after which Messrs. H. Dickey, H. Hoare, and J. T. Woods were properly introduced and impressively initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was proceeded with, when Bro. John Douglass (Standard Theatre), P.M. of the Metropolitan Lodge 1507, was unanimously elected. The outgoing W.M. was unanimously elected Treasurer, and Bro. Nolan Tyler. Bros. Sillis, Maby, Bennett, Johnson and Lieut. Cole were elected auditors. The Secretary Bro. Stiles (W.M. King's Cross Lodge 1732) proposed that a P.M.'s jewel of the value of £10 10s be voted to Bro. Willing W.M.'s for his successful and able working during his year of office as Founder and first W.M. of the Royal Savoy Lodge. This was seconded and carried unanimously. The names of several candidates were given in to be balloted for and initiated at ensuing meeting (installation), and after accepting Bro. Treadwell's resignation. The brethren adjourned to banquet, at half-past seven. During the evening the W.M. most earnestly thanked the Officers and brethren for their able working and hearty co-operation from the formation of the Lodge, some fifteen months ago; he felt certain the same goodwill and assistance would be rendered to his successor. The number of the Brethren in the Lodge now amounted to about seventy, and the earnest attention paid by the members to the duties of Freemasonry, and cordial reception accorded to visitors at all times, augured well for the prosperity of the Lodge and the happiness of the brethren. Several songs were excellently rendered and the meeting broke up about 10 in the evening. The installation meeting will take place the fourth Tuesday in November.

Saint Leonard Lodge, No. 1766.—The November meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the Town hall, Shoreditch, on Wednesday last. Bro. Louis Stean W.M. presided, and was supported by Bros. G. T. Barr S.W., C. F. Barham J.W., Rev. H. G. Henderson Chaplain, C. Stevens Treasurer, J. Cox Hon. Sec., E. Benjamin S.D., J. A. Jones J.D., A. A. Clement I.G., C. T. Speight Tyler, J. Fanston, W. Beasley, W. Snellgrove, T. Lawrence, J. Staff, J. Tidball, F. Matthews, E. Walker, Dr. W. Holt, R. Drysdale, H. J. Thrower, G. Plummer, W. H. Brand, W. Prevost, R. S. Mendey. The Lodge was opened according to ancient custom, and Bro. J. Staff was passed, the ceremony being ably worked. Bro. G. T. Barr was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. C. Stevens was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. C. T. Speight Tyler. Routine business was transacted, and the Lodge was closed.

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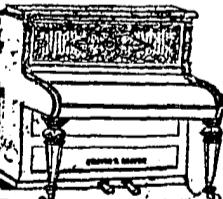
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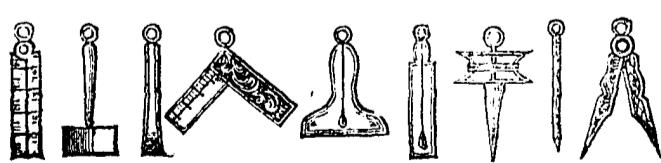
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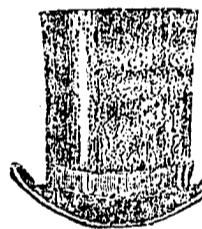
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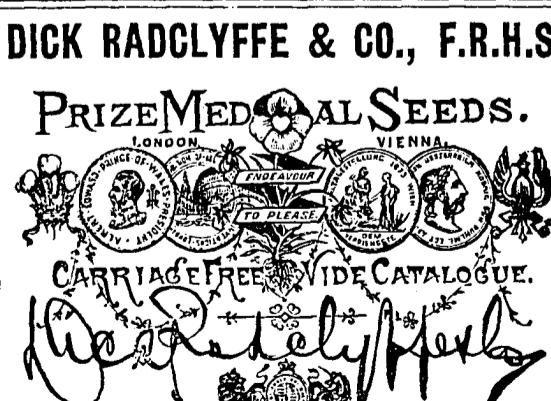
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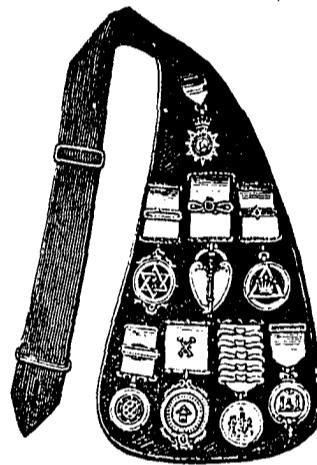
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