

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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THE PROJECTED EXTENSION OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

AS may be gathered from our correspondence column, the question of the purchase of Lyndcombe House and grounds by the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls is not likely to pass unchallenged. So far as we are concerned, we have no feeling in matters of this description beyond that which should actuate us all—to do as much good as possible with the funds annually subscribed by the Craft for the purposes of charity, whether they be dispensed by Grand Lodge, or one or other of the Institutions connected with the Order. We are almost tired of explaining this fact in connection with our remarks, but it seems necessary to again refer to it, for we hear it is asserted that we are acting in opposition to the true spirit of Masonic charity. We do not know whether those who make this statement do so from ignorance or stupidity. If from the former, we hope we have now enlightened them; if from the latter we once for all decline to discuss the matter; we can only hope that the future will clearly prove the disinterestedness of our comments. We have given expression to our ideas on this particular matter in rather stronger terms than is our wont, from the fact that we consider the grant a most unwarrantable diversion of the funds of the Institution from their proper course, and in the hope that we may arouse the general body of subscribers to take action for themselves, rather than leave the matter in the hands of the few who were present when the vote was passed. We are strongly of opinion that a notice should be sent to every subscriber of the Charity when such a proposition as the one under question is to be brought forward, and if nothing else results, we hope the present discussion will be the means of causing an alteration in this respect to be made in the laws of the Institution. Considering that an event of so much importance can hardly occur more than once a year the outlay is not worth mentioning—a matter of £15 being ample for the purpose—and then it would be impossible to say that the whole matter had been rushed through, without all interested having been made acquainted with the proposal. Under present arrangements it cannot be said that notice has been given, for there are very many brethren in the more distant Provinces who do not even see a London daily paper from one year's end to another, much less notice any particular advertisement out of the thousands therein inserted; neither can it be expected that the Provincial Grand Secretaries can make it known throughout their respective districts in time to be of any service. It is not our wish to urge the brethren to upset the matter on mere questions of rendering of laws, although we believe the whole of the proceedings could be nullified on that ground alone; we rather advocate a full and free discussion of the arguments for and against the proposed expenditure, and hope that in the end the result will prove for the benefit of the School. We think that whatever is done there can be no necessity to make a personal question of the matter; those who approve of the proposed outlay are as much entitled to respect as those who object to it, and as far as we are concerned no expression of opinion will be excluded from our pages. Hitherto we have been opposed to the expenditure, and unless we can be convinced we are wrong, we shall use every honourable argument in our power to support our view of the case, and that without offering insult to any who may differ with us on the sub-

ject. In our issue last week we predicted that any one who undertook the task of leading an opposition must be prepared for abuse; the words were not published before they were verified, for a contemporary, which was issued the same day as ourselves, opened the attack on the objectors with as much abuse as was in its power to express in the few lines devoted to the subject. We will not question the policy or taste of the course adopted, except by pointing out that it virtually defeats the end in view, for no one who has the slightest self-respect would care to lay himself open to such insult as is offered by the editorial in question. Our contemporary understands that the purchase is being violently attacked by privately circulated statements, circulars, and petitions. We do not profess to know all that is going on in the Craft, but we presume we are cognisant of a great deal of what is being done, and so far as we know the purchase is attacked neither violently nor privately. Those who object to the outlay naturally feel that the question must be made public, or else the whole matter will be settled without what they deem the desirable object being attained. So far as we know they support our idea that a circular announcing the proposal should be sent to every one entitled to a vote at the meeting, and surely if they desire to serve all alike they can hardly be accused of acting privately. As regards petitions, the only paper anything like a petition we have seen is headed as follows:—

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Proposal to spend SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS in the purchase of a House and three-quarters of an acre of Land!!!

The undersigned Governors and Subscribers to the R.M.I. Girls respectfully invite co-operation in opposing this suggested misapplication of the funds of the Institution.

December 1879.

What, we ask, is there in this to warrant the charge of violence? If our contemporary has been told that there is any secrecy maintained in circulating this form, we can only say, so far as our knowledge goes, that he is misinformed. We have one at our office, ready for the signatures of any wise care to sign, and could name many brethren who like who have copies if there were any need for such a course—but we hold there is not. It is legitimate, as well as customary, on such questions as the one at issue, for an opinion to be asked for without any hint being given as to who are actually leading; every one who signs may naturally be supposed to have signified his intention of working, and no obstacle would be placed in the way of a brother who felt any desire to obtain a complete list of the signatures. Our contemporary further states that it "says nothing of the ingratitude involved in such proceedings towards that distinguished brother whose labours for the welfare of the Girls' School are beyond all praise; neither of the unworthy clap-trap displayed and the 'bad form' manifested in such underhand proceedings, but desires to protest openly, as before the Craft, against a system of procedure which is unworthy of us as Freemasons and gentlemen, and which evidences lowness of mind as well as an utter forgetfulness of all Masonic teaching, alike in the motives it seeks to suggest, and the end it is apparently anxious to achieve." It is first necessary to point out to the writer of this paragraph that the question at issue concerns no individual in particular, and that it is no more a Masonic matter than is the purchase of a plot of ground in an obscure part of the world by an individual who has never even heard of the existence of Freemasonry. It is a public question, and one that concerns not only the

subscribers of to-day, but also those who are to continue in the future the work that is now being carried on. We imagine that Lieut.-Col. Creton is too much a man of the world to countenance for a moment the idea that the rejection of his proposition would be meant as a personal offence; he might regret that his views did not meet with the approval of the majority, but he certainly cannot wish the general body of subscribers to look upon him as incapable of forming a wrong opinion. We very much doubt whether he will thank our enthusiastic contemporary for suggesting that this shall be the means of gauging the gratitude the subscribers owe him for what he has done in the past. The writer appears to have formed his own idea of the motives attributed by the opponents to those who support the proposition, and we presume they are not complimentary; as he describes them as evidencing an utter forgetfulness of all Masonic teaching. It is a pity the writer does not openly express his suppositions when he is ignorant of his subject, for then it would be possible to answer him; as it is, we must simply pass over his remarks as we find them. His concluding advice is good—"let us avoid mischief makers and agitators of every degree"—if it was not so woefully out of place in speaking of Freemasons. We trust both those who favour and those who oppose this grant will prove themselves to be gentlemen.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE EVILL HOUSE SCHEME.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your prediction that those who oppose this ill-advised project must be prepared for abuse, has been speedily verified by the publication in a contemporary of a tirade of falsehoods and vulgar aspersions, which would certainly have been refused insertion by the lowest scandal paper of the period. You will possibly agree with me that this ungrammatical splutter of an ill-natured pen is too far beneath contempt to be noticed in your columns, except (1) to express surprise that the respected proprietor of the journal in which it appeared should have permitted his paper to be the medium of circulating such vile trash; and (2) to accept the evidence thrust upon us, that the scheme needs the support of falsehood and scandal, and must consequently be bad indeed. The brief evidently is, "a bad case; no defence; abuse Plaintiff's attorneys."

May I beg space, however, to reply briefly to a few of the subscribers who have favoured me with inquiries. One Brother says, "Why was not attention called to the extravagant idea before the meeting was held?" The answer is, there was not time. The meeting was a special one, quite unexpected, called by advertisement only—without summonses to subscribers—a week before the date of holding the Court; and any reference, to it in your pages could only have appeared on the day of meeting, too late for the majority, even of London subscribers, to attend Freemasons' Hall at midday.

I have several requests for "copies of the report of the discussion before the General Committee." The question does not appear to have been submitted to the General Committee. The Special Court was convened upon the requisition of the Treasurer only, and I am not aware that the General Committee has been invited to discuss the matter or to express any opinion upon it. Governors will decide for themselves whether this was courteous or frank. I am further asked if I can tell "whether there is a building fund available for this proposal." Certainly not. Had there been any funds specially subscribed for bricks and land, no objection could fairly have been raised by those who subscribe to the education and maintenance fund. It is the attempt to appropriate the children's money that is objected to. We desire to feed, clothe, and educate the children; if others prefer land speculations, they should at least provide their own capital for their own special object.

From two quarters I have received a suggestion, that it might appear ungracious now to oppose a vote passed at a meeting which we neglected to attend. In ordinary cases, as for instance the Quarterly General Courts, the dates of which we are supposed to know, I admit that this might have some weight; but the fact of a Special Court, for the unusual purpose of voting away £6,500, being called at seven days' notice, without any other intimation than a newspaper advertisement, is an entirely different matter. The opinions of the Governors have not been invited, a snatch vote has been taken without the intervention of the General Committee, and the subscribers will endorse your recommendation that the wasteful vote may be rescinded, and the funds applied to the legitimate purposes of the Charity.

I am, &c.

17th December 1879.

H.

PROJECTED EXTENSION OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Whilst yielding to no man in my desire to see the advancement of the Girls' School, I must yet enter my protest against the proposed expenditure of £6,500 in additional land and buildings, believing, as I do, that the interest on that sum would be more beneficially employed in making grants, of say £20 per annum each, for the education, &c., of children in the vicinity of their own homes. This £6,500 at 4 per cent would thus provide for thirteen of such cases, and if this system were adopted in the majority of instances, both in the Girls' and Boys' Schools, it would have the effect of clearing the long lists of candidates seeking election—some of them year after year without success; and would in my opinion do far more good than the present system, by extending the benefits to a much larger number of children.

I need only point to the West Lancashire Institution, which adopts this home system of Education, to the relief of a large number of children every year; also to the East Lancashire Institution, which, though of more recent formation is carrying on a great and good work on somewhat similar lines. Without wishing to disparage the good accomplished by the Girls' and Boys' Schools under the present system, I think it cannot be denied that some such supplementary scheme as I have thrown out will ere long of necessity have to be adopted, in order to meet the constantly increasing number of applications, and if adopted, will, I have no doubt, be hailed with satisfaction by the Craft generally.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

J. N.

East Lancashire, 15th December 1879.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At the last Festival of the Girls' School I paid ten guineas to constitute myself a Life Governor, and I most strongly protest against more than one-half of my money—that is, I believe, the proportion as compared with the year's income—being spent in acquiring the plot of ground and house, as proposed by Bro. Creton. It makes one almost regret giving when such wholesale waste is contemplated.

Yours fraternally,

DISGUSTED.

THE LATE MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—After twice reading the letter of "Bro. WHILE," and referring to your Report of Grand Lodge proceedings to which he alludes, I must confess myself unable to see the point of his protest. If our Brother's remark as to "the indiscretion of perhaps an amateur reporter" is intended as a depreciatory comment upon the *résumé* of an unusually long meeting, as given in the CHRONICLE of the 6th instant, I think that on a re-perusal he will be bound to admit that, if it is the work of an amateur, many professionals engaged on our daily journals might take a few lessons from that amateur with advantage. If his objection refers to the facts as reported, I cannot discover any inconsistency. "Bro. WHILE" may have said all he wished to say, but, as a matter of fact, he was certainly inaudible to the majority in Grand Lodge, after the perpetration of what he himself terms his "clumsy jest" on Bro. Stevens' motive. What then is the point of his objection to your report?

Yours fraternally,

17th December 1879.

P.M.

UNIFORMITY OF MASONIC WORKING AND OBSERVANCE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am pleased to see from your impression of last Saturday that Bro. Stevens has consented to print for private circulation his speech in Grand Lodge on the 3rd instant. It will be of great interest to many Provincial brethren who, like myself, were precluded by distance from hearing the details of his arguments, which must have been most effective to secure the success which has attended his motion on the subject of "Uniformity."

I have read the report of the discussion in the *Freemason*. Anything more feeble in the way of opposition than Bro. Woodford's speech I never read. I could have spoken nearly every word of it in seconding or supporting Bro. Stevens' motion. It appears to me to be simply this:—Previous to 1813 there were many and varying Rituals in use among the Craft, but at that date it seemed good to Grand Lodge to order that henceforth there should be only one use Ritual. Therefore, urges Bro. Woodford, it is desirable that any Lodge should be at liberty to adopt any fanciful variation it may choose, and any attempt to reproduce uniformity is undesirable, and must be abortive in its results. Oh, Bro. Woodford, where is your logic? Nay, where is your common sense? Because Grand Lodge in 1813 gathered into one the various uses, each having its own concurrent authority, therefore in 1880 the one authorised use is to be tampered with by all sorts of unauthorised variations.

Pat the same line of thought as applicable to the ecclesiastical

controversies of the present day. Before the reign of Elizabeth there had been many recognised uses of public worship in the Church of England—Sarum, York, Durham, &c. The evil of this was so apparent that it was determined to reduce the services to one use, and the Act of Uniformity was passed to enforce the decision. Good! Therefore, according to Bro. Woodford, in 1880 the clergy ought to have full liberty to introduce into their churches any variations in the one authorised use they like; they need not confine themselves to York, or Sarum, or Durham, but may pick and choose and intrude on the public worship of the Church any rite or form that takes their fancy. The very idea would drive the wildest Ritualist (*I am tainted that way myself*) stark staring mad! Yet this is the argument which the obstructives put forward, and are simple enough to suppose will weigh with thoughtful men.

Put it in the form of a syllogism:—

Grand Lodge declared that there should be only one authorised Ritual throughout the Craft.

Many Lodges have introduced unauthorised rituals of their own.

*** Therefore these Lodges are in the strict line of obedience to Grand Lodge!!!

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

T. R., P.M. &c. Cornwall.

15th December 1879.

ROYAL ARCH.

ROYAL JUBILEE CHAPTER, No. 72.

A REGULAR convocation of this old Chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Thursday, the 11th inst., under somewhat melancholy circumstances, the M.E.Z. having died very suddenly three days after the last convocation, and the Companions in consequence appearing in mourning. Ex-Comp. Foxall I.P.Z. occupied the chair of M.E.Z., supported by Ex-Comp. Nunn II., Ex-Comp. Lovett J., Ex-Comp. Webb P.Z. Treasurer; Comps. Dunn S.N., H. Lovegrove P.S., Salter 1st Assist. S., Potter Janitor; Laskey P.Z., Dodson P.Z., Lean, Cox, Amis, Walker, and others; the only Visitor being Ex-Comp. Thompson P.Z. 507. After ballot, Bro. Reid was introduced, and duly exalted, the lectures being given by Comps. Foxall and Nunn in a very creditable manner. The installation of Principals was proceeded with by Ex. Comp. Foxall, the following being the complete list of Officers:—Comps. Nunn M.E.Z., Lovett II., Dunn J., Webb Treas., Foxall Scribe E., H. Lovegrove Scribe N., Salter P.S., and Potter Janitor. Comp. Salter invested Comps. Amis and Walker as 1st and 2nd Assistant Sojourners. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of Comp. Durkin, the late respected M.E.Z. After the transaction of some routine business, the Chapter was closed, and the Companions adjourned to the banquet, over which the M.E.Z. Comp. Nunn presided.

PRUDENT BRETHREN CHAPTER.

THE regular Convocation for the Installation of Principals and Investment of Officers for the next twelve months was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Present—Comps. Thiellay M.E.Z., Cox H., Venn J., States P.Z. Scribe E., Haslett N., Braine 1st Asst. Soj., Bull P.Z. Treas., Warrington P.Z., Moody P.Z.; also Comps. Verrall, Lambe, Leggott, Woods, Moon, Manby, Reid, Chinnery, J. Langton, Pringle, Clarke jun., Wagh, Masters, Banks, Elsley, Biggs, Martin, Leliva, Headon, Woodliffe, Lenty, Jermyn Boyd, and J. D. Langton. Visitors—W. F. Hingston 93, Smallpeice 21, Stanning 538, Hutchinson 188, Broadley (D.G.M. Malta) 1717, J. L. Thomas P.G.S.B. P.Z. 13, Z. 1328, Green 975, Stiles 1507, &c. Chapter was opened in due form, and the Companions were admitted. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the report of Audit Committee was received and adopted. A Board of Installed first Principals was formed, and Comp. Cox installed as Z., by Comp. Bull; Comp. Venn installed as II., by Comp. Cox; Comp. Haslett installed as J., by Comp. Cox. The Investiture of Officers next took place, Comps. Bull P.Z. Treasurer, Moody P.Z. Scribe E., Belfrage (by proxy) Scribe N., and Braine Principal Soj.; the latter appointed Comps. Headon as 1st Assistant, Leggott 2nd Assistant. Comp. Reinhardt was elected Janitor. The ballot was then taken for Bro. J. D. Langton; it proved unanimous in his favour, and he was introduced and exalted into R.A. Masonry. Two resignations were received, and accepted, with regret. The report of the Committee appointed by the Chapter to confer with the Committee of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren as to the best means of perpetuating the memory of the late Comp. Boyd was read by Comp. Kerrall, Secretary to joint Committees. The Committee recommended that the sum of fifty guineas be voted by the Chapter, to be added to a similar sum from the Lodge, in order to found a John Boyd Medal, to be presented annually for competition in the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, in which Institution our late Companion took a great interest. Bro. Bull P.Z. Treasurer gave notice that he would propose, at the next meeting, that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted. Chapter was then closed.

North London Chapter of Improvement, No. 1471

—A convocation was held at the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. on Thursday, 11th December. Present—M.E. Comps. Hobbs Z., Braine H., Cusworth J., Mather Preceptor, McMillan P.S., Halford Treasurer, Hunter S.E., Weston N.; Comps. Fysh, Lee, Griggs, Brasted and Cogan. The M.E.Z. declared the Chapter open for the

purpose of Improvement, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of Exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Brasted acting as candidate. Comps. Lee, Brasted and Cogan were elected members. The Chapter was then closed and adjourned to Thursday, 18th December, at eight o'clock, after which it will be closed for a fortnight, and resume on Thursday, 8th January 1880.

MASONIC KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

AT the meeting of the Veterans' Encampment, held at the Huyshe Masonic Temple last evening, E. Sir Kt. V. Bird presided. Sir Kt. Thomas Heath, 1st Captain and P.G.S.B., was unanimously elected as E. Commander for the year commencing March 1880; E. Sir Kt. J. Anstin as Treasurer; and, on the suggestion of E. Sir Kt. J. B. Gover, it was resolved that there be no banquet on the occasion.

It is with much pleasure we learn that Bro. Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott—at present in office as Lord Mayor of London—has been unanimously re-elected W.M. of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, which holds its meetings at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, W.C.

We have received from Messrs. Ward, Lock and Co. the first number of a new weekly magazine, entitled "The Illustrated Household Journal and Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine." It contains what has long been wanted—a cheap weekly fashion book, also useful and entertaining articles on needlework, and notes upon subjects specially interesting to ladies. It is intended that the monthly parts be enclosed in a wrapper, and contain a coloured Fashion Plate, or other suitable Supplement.

THE ROYAL PRINCES AND FREEMASONRY.—On Saturday afternoon their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold were admitted as members of the United Orders of the Temple and Malta in England and Wales. The ceremony was performed at the elegant little Masonic Hall of the Supreme Council, 33 Golden-square, which is devoted entirely to Masonic purposes, and where there is a choice library of Masonic books, and a beautiful museum of Masonic curiosities. The ceremony was performed by Colonel Shadwell II. Clarke, Great Sub-Prior, in the presence of a distinguished company, including Lord Skelmersdale Great Prior, Mr. W. Beach, M.P., Captain N. G. Philips, General Brownrigg, General Henry Clerk, Colonel Burney, M. Sandeman, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Sir Michael Costa, Mr. R. H. Giddy, Mr. S. Rawson, Mr. James Lewis Thomas, Colonel Randolph, Colonel Bardett, General Doherty, Mr. E. Letchworth, Mr. Magnus Ohren, Mr. Hyde Pallen, and Mr. J. M. P. Montagu. The Royal Princes, according to ancient custom, were introduced as Knights of the Temple, and having been properly obligated, were invested as Knights of the Temple and Malta. The ceremony which was very imposing—the whole of the knights being arrayed in gorgeous robes, and the hall bearing all the insignia of the degrees—having been completed, their Royal Highnesses signed the book of names and retired.—*Daily Chronicle.*

"Unity is strength," is a motto that is universally recognised as correct, and bearing this in mind the employes of several public bodies have of late years combined for various purposes, among other matters selected by them being that of trading. These amateur shopkeepers have, in not a few instances, been so elated by the apparent success which has attended their efforts as to imagine that they were geniuses in the line, and, perhaps from the novelty of the situation, or for want of something to occupy their leisure hours, some of them have started large establishments for the purpose of catering for themselves and families, as well also for as many of their friends as could be imbued with the notion that the acmé of shopkeeping had been discovered. The action of certain Crown servants—a branch of the community that has made itself especially conspicuous in this respect—has somewhat raised the ire of the tradesmen, whose interests appear to be affected by the operations of these amateur traders, and accordingly a wordy warfare has ensued. Of this it is not our intention to give any particulars; we sympathise with the traders, but at the same time we believe that the so-called evils of Civil Service trading will eventually prove a blessing to the community at large, who will speedily discover that ready money purchasers are respected and treated as well by private firms as by corporate bodies. It stands to reason that a man who has devoted time and money for the purpose of perfecting himself in a certain branch of business, can serve us better than he whose education has been so directed as to fit him only for the ledger or correspondence department of a large establishment, and, therefore, we have no hesitation in predicting that if the traders will only show a bold front the trouble will soon be at an end. Among the strongest opponents of this trading by Crown servants we may mention Messrs. J. E. Shand and Co., wine merchants, of Albert Mansions, S.W. Whether our esteemed friend the head of that firm has or has not formed the same opinion as ourselves, it is very certain that he now offers to compete with the Stores on fair business grounds—that is, a small profit based on the system of cash purchases, to which he can add the advantage of a long and tried experience, and a reputation for fair dealing. In business there should be no Freemasonry, but if we can deal with our brethren on the broad principle of helping one another, we think we are fulfilling a law, perhaps unwritten but none the less binding.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 104, STOCKPORT.

THE Annual Festival of St. John, in connection with the above Lodge, was celebrated on Monday, the 8th December, at its place of meeting, Ashton-house, Greek-street, Stockport, when, in addition to its own members, the Lodge was honoured by the presence of many distinguished visitors. There being a pressure of business on hand, a morning session was held, at which the report of the Charity Committee for the past year was adopted. The following extract from it speaks for itself of the good work done by the Lodge in this direction, viz.:—"Your Committee have during the year devoted £126 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, £10 10s to the Cheshire Educational Institution, £5 5s to assist an aged member of the Lodge of Concord 323 in obtaining a Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution annuity, and £23 in relief of local cases of distress; altogether a total of £164 15s. Towards this amount the Lodge Fund has been taxed to the extent of twenty-five guineas only, the remainder having been derived from the regular Charity receipts, supplemented by the voluntary donations of the brethren." The acceptance of this report was followed by the initiation of two brethren, and Bro. Major Francis Preston, C.E., was raised to the completion of his degrees. It may also be stated that a very worthy and distinguished Mason—Bro. Captain Henry Turner P.M. 62 and 654 P.P.G.S.W. Derbyshire—was duly elected as a joining member. After a short adjournment, the important event of the day—viz., the Installation of Bro. Henry Collier S.W. and W.M. elect—was then commenced, the ceremony being in the hands of Bro. Herbert Finch, a P.M. of the Lodge, P.G.D. of C. Cheshire, who appointed, for the purpose of the ceremony, Installed Masters to the several positions in the Lodge, viz.:—Bros. Captain H. Turner P.P.S.G.W. Derbyshire S.W., Alderman Hardon P.P.S.G.D. East Lancashire J.W., Dr. T. Smith P.P.J.G.D. Cheshire Chaplain, C. Pearson P.M. 104 and 1077 Secretary, W. Harrison P.S.G.D. Cheshire S.D., W. Hickton P.J.G.D. Cheshire J.D., T. Brooks P.G.A.D.C. Cheshire D. of C., Lient.-Col. Wilkinson (Mayor of Stockport) P.P.S.G.D. Cheshire Organist, C. Booth W.M. 287 I.G. The presentation of the W.M. elect was now proceeded with, and on its completion the Lodge was opened in the third degree, the M.M.'s retired from the Lodge, and a Board of Installed Masters was opened in ample form. Bro. Collier then received the full benefit of Installation, being, according to ancient custom, placed in the chair of King Solomon. The Board was then closed in as complete form as in opening. The brethren, on their re-admission, saluted their newly-installed W.M., who now named his Officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. W. Harrison P.S.G.D. Cheshire I.P.M., Councillor T. Burrows S.W., William Booth J.W., W. W. Skelmerdine Treasurer (re-elected), G. Balfe S.D., T. Bullock J.D., H. Finch P.M. P.G.D.C. Cheshire D. of C., E. Stevens Assistant D. of C., H. W. Mather I.G., J. Fox and W. Bradley Stewards, J. Meadows Tyler. The investiture was, in each case, made by the Installing Master (Bro. Finch), and accompanied with full explanation of the various jewels worn by them, Bro. Finch being himself invested as Director of Ceremonies by the W.M. The necessary addresses to the W.M., his Wardens and brethren brought to a close as grand a ceremony as it is possible to have the privilege of witnessing. Bro. Finch was undoubtedly in his best form, and was very ably supported by the Installed Masters before named. The W.M. said he had great pleasure in presenting the I.P.M., on behalf of the brethren, with a P.M.'s jewel. He had well earned the good-will of the brethren, and they hoped he might long be spared to wear it. Bro. Harrison I.P.M. acknowledged it, in appropriate terms. He should always be glad to serve the St. John's Lodge. A vote of thanks, amidst applause, was accorded to the Installing Master for his perfect rendering of this beautiful ceremony. Bro. Finch, in reply, said he was obliged for their generous expressions of feeling. Whatever was worth doing at all in Masonry was worth doing well. In endeavouring to do this he was simply discharging his duty as a Mason. The Lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren were served with a banquet, which, after the labours of the day, was not unwelcome. The usual loyal toasts were given and properly honoured. "The R.W.D.P.G.M. (Bro. W. Egerton Esq. M.P.) and the rest of the P.G. Officers, past and present" was proposed by the W.M. and responded to by Bros. Lient.-Colonel Wilkinson P.P.S.G.D. Cheshire, Dr. T. Smith P.P.J.G.D. Cheshire, and T. Brookes P.G.A.D.C. Cheshire. The toast of the P.G. Officers of the neighbouring Provinces was proposed by Bro. Burrows S.W., and responded to by Bros. Alderman E. Hardon P.P.S.G.D. East Lancashire and Captain H. Turner P.P.S.G.W. Derbyshire. That of the W.M. was proposed by the I.P.M. In reply, Bro. Collier said his best services should be given to the Lodge, and he hoped the Officers and brethren would support him as they had other W.M.'s in the past. Their continued prosperity was then certain. A very enjoyable evening was spent, a marked feature being the choice selection of glees, which were well sung by Bros. Edmondson 287, Gaskell 104, Pearson P.M. 104 and 1077, W. Alcock S.D. 322, W. Booth J.W. 104, G. Balfe S.D. 104. The effect of the Installation was greatly enhanced by the same vocalists rendering the choral service arranged for it by the Installing Master. In addition to the brethren already mentioned, there were present—Bros. Alderman J. L. Vaughan P.M. 1030 (ex-Mayor of Stockport), Major Staples W.M. 1030, J. Worsnup W.M. 322, G. Atkinson W.M. 323, T. Wilkinson P.M. 1126, R. R. Lisenden 317, J. Leigh S.W. 287 P.G. Steward, Dr. Bailey P.M. 322, W. Owen W.M. elect 993, Bowden P.M. 336, and the following members of the Lodge, viz.:—Bros. H. W. Warren, A. Gaskell, G. Atherton, W. Raynor, G. Naylor, J. Eaton, J. Bell, J. Wood, T. Taylor, W. Gleave, T. Torkington, T. Sutton, B. S. Smith, M. B. Sutton, H. Seel, J. Stafford, T. Davics, A. G. Cumming, &c.

YORK LODGE, No. 236.

THE Installation Meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York, on Monday evening, 15th inst. The W.M. (Bro. A. Buckle, B.A.) presided, and was supported by the following Officers and brethren:—Bros. Rev. W. Valentine P.P.G.C. I.P.M., Sir James Meek P.P.S.G.W. P.M., William Lawton P.P.G.Reg. P.M., Rev. J. E. M. Young P.M. P.P.G.C. Chaplain, Joseph Todd P.M. P.P.G.Registrar Treasurer, George Balmford P.M. P.P.G.O. as S.W., William Henry Gainforth J.W., George Kirby Secretary, John Tissiman S.D., Mark Rooke J.D., Thomas S. Camidge P.P.G.O. Organist, William Powell M.C., George Garbutt I.G., Thomas G. Hodgson Steward; Bros. Joseph Hollins, William Wilson, E. Houlden, William Smith, Alfred Hanson, James Redfare, Henry C. Camidge, W. T. Gowland, Thomas W. Wilson, George K. Hitchcock, Joseph Sykes Rymer, William Draper, John Ward, Thomas Hopkins, and Rev. A. B. Day. Visitors—Bros. J. Hanley W.M. St. Patrick's Lodge No. 295 (I.C.), Major Shaw Hellier I.P.M. St. Patrick's Lodge No. 295, Captain Murphy W.M. elect St. Patrick's Lodge No. 295, William Harris Secretary St. Patrick's Lodge No. 295, John B. Somerset S.D. St. Patrick's Lodge No. 295, W. P. Husband Eboracum Lodge No. 1611, Whitmore York Eboracum Lodge No. 1611, Paul Pearson Eboracum Lodge No. 1611, L. Ward St. Augustine No. 972, J. Webster Leopold Lodge No. 1760, W. Nicholson Pelham Pillar Lodge No. 792. The Lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, the W.M. addressed the brethren, thanking them for the hearty support accorded to him during the year he had presided over the Lodge, and afterwards requested Bro. Todd P.M. P.P.G. Registrar to take the chair as Installing Master. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. W. H. Gainforth J.W., the W.M. elect, was presented by the two senior Past Masters present—Bros. W. Lawton and Sir James Meek—to the Installing Master, by whom the ceremony of Installation was ably and impressively rendered. After the newly-installed W.M. had been duly proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees, he appointed and invested the following brethren as his Officers:—Bros. A. Buckle I.P.M., M. Rooke S.W., Joseph S. Rymer J.W., Rev. A. B. Day Chaplain, Joseph Todd P.M. Treasurer, George Kirby Secretary, George Garbutt S.D., William Draper J.D., Thomas Hopkins Organist, Thomas G. Hodgson M.C., William Powell I.G., John Young and William Smith Stewards, William G. Calvort Tyler. The Lodge will celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist on Wednesday, the 7th January next.

ARTHUR JOHN BROGDEN LODGE, No. 1715,
GRANGE OVER SANDS.

WE had the honour of an invitation to the Installation meeting of this prosperous Lodge, which was held on Wednesday, the 10th of December, at 2.30 p.m., in the Masonic-hall. At the time appointed we made our way to the Masonic-hall, escorted by our old friend the W.M. elect, and punctual to the minute the W.M., Bro. Thomas Ashley, opened the Lodge with solemn prayer. Minutes were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for a joining member, also for a gentleman for initiation, both being favourable. The initiation ceremony was most efficiently performed by the W.M., and we were surprised by the impressiveness he gave to the ceremony. The next business being the installation of the W.M. elect, after the obligation, and the retirement of the brethren below the rank of Installed Masters, a Lodge of Installed Masters was opened, the W.M. was presented, and the ceremony being completed, the Lodge of Installed Masters closed, the brethren were again admitted, and the several Officers invested. The following is the list of Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. John Mossop W.M., Thomas Ashley I.P.M., T. Westwood S.W., W. Postlethwaite J.W., James Askew Treasurer, T. Ashley Secretary, W. Brickell S.D., S. Affleck J.D., A. Slater I.G., J. Cleminson Org., J. W. Jopson Steward. The Installing Officer was Bro. T. Dodgson P.P.G. Pursuivant Cumberland and Westmoreland P.M. P.Z. 995, &c., assisted by Bro. Cornfield P.M. P.Z. P.P.G.P. West Lancashire. The Installation ceremony and investment of Officers was done in a most perfect manner, so much so that we were delighted to find such perfect work so far north, and it is highly creditable to the two brethren for the pains they have taken to reduce the ceremony to such perfection; we are sure the respective Provinces have done well to secure such enthusiastic brethren on the roll of Prov. G. Officers; merit and ability having gained them the honour, it would be a step in the right direction if some neighbouring Provinces would take the same course, and grant more Provincial honours to meritorious brethren, and not let subscriptions to our Charities be the only test for preferment. We were remarkably struck with the kind and genial manner which seems to pervade this Lodge, the motto being, "to be happy ourselves and promote the happiness of others," which is ably carried out. The business of the meeting being concluded, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Rigg's Grange Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided, and was fully appreciated and full justice done to it. The usual Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. Many of the visitors having to leave early by train caused the proposal and response to their toast brief, but nevertheless to the point. In conclusion, we can look back on our visit to the Arthur John Brogden Lodge with a vast amount of satisfaction and pleasure, and trust we may have the happiness to meet its members again. This being its third year,—it is comparatively young,—but we are convinced of its success, and that it will be one of the lights in the Province of West Lancashire. We sincerely trust the Province will soon acknowledge its worth. We are unable to give a full list of Visitors, but we noticed, amongst others, Bros. John Case P.M. P.Z. &c. 995, Paxton S.W. 995, T. Dodgson P.P.G.P. P.M. P.Z. 995, Installing Officer; Cornfield P.P.G.P. P.M. P.Z., from Barrow; John W. Turner P.M. 521 P.Z. 290.

LODGE CHARITY, No. 223.

THE annual meeting was held on Tuesday night, at the Masonic Rooms, Union-street, Plymouth, when Bro. Richard Blight, who had been unanimously elected, was installed as the W.M. of the Lodge. The ceremony was performed by W. Bro. W. Browning P.M. P.P.G.D.C., in the presence, and with the assistance of the following Board of Installed Masters:—Bros. John M. Hitley P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., J. B. Phillips P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., H. Miller P.M. Sec. P.P.G.D.C., J. Treeby P.M., J. R. Annis P.M., T. C. Lewarne P.M., J. W. Cornish P.M. G.T., all of 223, Rev. R. Measham P.M. 1205 P.P.G. Chaplain, V. Bird P.M. 1550 P.P.G.T., S. Jew P.M. 105 P.P.G.T., E. A. Davies P.M. 1099 P.P.G.S. Wks., J. B. Gover P.M. 70 P.P.G.A.D.C., J. B. Price P.M. 202 P.P.G.S.B., J. B. Witheridge P.M. P.P.G.P., W. Welch P.M. P.P.G.P., E. A. Lean W.M. 70, R. Pengelley P.M. 70, J. T. Browning W.M. 105, C. Cooper P.M. and S. 105, J. James P.M. 105, A. R. Lethbridge P.M. 159, G. Stentiford P.M. 159, R. Marshall P.M. 202, W. Powell P.M. 1205, J. H. Blackell P.M. 1099, J. Gould P.M. 1099, J. R. Lord P.M. 1247, T. Heath W.M. 1136, G. Darke P.M. 1136. The addresses were given by Bro. Cornish, and after this the following brethren were appointed and invested as the Officers for the ensuing year:—H. S. Hill I.P.M., J. Lavers S.W., John Moysey J.W., T. C. Cornish P.M. Treas., W. Browning P.M. &c. Sec., John Dolve S.D., John Neno J.D., Frederick Goodyear I.G., James Hoyton D.C., W. J. Hannaford A.D.C., J. Hoyton O., John Williams S.S., W. H. Frost J.S., and James Bartlett Tyler. A committee of five was appointed to arrange the day for the Annual Banquet, and the brethren retired to partake of simple refreshment in their own room, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, the newly installed W.M. being especially honoured.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE, No. 1426.

December thirteenth, eighteen seventy-nine, In London, at the Cannon Street Hotel, The Lodge "Great City" met, in numbers strong, Under the Mastership of Bro. Blackie; Whose gavel, at its potent summoning sound, Met with a prompt response, and in the West The Senior Warden Catchpole took position; Bro. T. Hamer occupied the South. Past Masters,—Moody, he who wields the pen, And Headon, keeper of the money chest, Were in the North, for minutes and for dues; Taylor and Kibble, the two Deacons, stood To order—in their places; Jenkins D.C., Fendick and Potter, able Stewards both, Keeble I.G., with Steedman Outer Guard, Made the Lodge perfect as to Officers. Stevens and Freeman, first and last of those Who'd passed the Chair, were also present; And 'mongst the many members may be named Past Master Henry Thompson, Donald Clark, Bertram and W. Metchim, Styles and Cook, J. Lindner, Robson, Mozley, Hicks and Shaw, Hartley and De Leliva, Greening, Frost, A. Bertram, Mogridge, Durrant, Kent, T. W. Headon, Postaus, Liscombe, Wood, Ginders and Lockett, Hooper, Boulton, Ward, J. W. Stephens, Bowen, Lucas, Smythe, And several others, ("see attendance book"). The Visitors were—Hawkins "Robert Burns," Simpson of the "St. Matthews," five two-nine; Lefeau of number thirty, Cook of "Penge," Robertson the "St. Lawrence," one four-four, Barnett the "Langton," sixteen seventy-three, W. H. Barber, "Royal Hanover," and Rossignol of twelve sixteen, "Macdonald," Greening "Carnarvon," Cutler "Euphrates," Richardson "Skelmersdale," Lawrence "Coborn," And W. Iliffe of "Imperial George."

The Lodge, thus formed, was, with a fervent prayer, Opened in order and solemnity; Minutes were read, approved, and certified, And ballot taken for a candidate Whose fair repute secured him acceptance. He, Mr. William Wood, was introduced, Received the Light and fit investiture. On Brother Postaus, after usual proof, The fellow-Craft's degree was next conferred. The ceremonial work was well performed, And proved the skill alike of all concerned In working pure and simple Masonry. The Lodge was closed in order regular Down to the first degree, and business then Was speedily despatched. The claims of Charity Were not forgotten. The several guests Forthwith arose "to greet his worship well"; And then, the evening's labour terminated; The Master closed his Lodge with solemn prayer; Adjournment from the South was duly made; Past Master Freeman closed the "greater light"; And brethren separated:—

Promptly to meet again Around the social board, whereon was spread Provision plenty, neither stint nor waste. The cloth was cleared, and grateful thanks returned,

And then the Master rose; Right well he spoke Of loyalty, a watchword of our Order, Calling on each and all to toast "The Queen," With whose most gracious name "the Craft" he coupled. Needless to say with what enthusiasm That toast so dear to Masons was received! Nor was less fervour shown when he the name Of our "Grand Master" introduced, in praise And thankfulness that Masonry could boast So worthy and beloved a Prince as chief. The "Pro Grand Master" next, the noble Earl Whose name's a "household word" in every Lodge, Respected for his earnestness and zeal, Received the honour due to his high rank. The "Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lodge" Were also well remembered; after which The I.P.M. enforced attention whilst The merits of the "Master" he extolled, Praising most highly his most perfect work, And management of all the Lodge affairs. Then "Pat o' Mullingar" was sung by Shaw, With brogue and pathos fitting Irish song; That done, the Master rose to make reply, And offered grateful thanks for kind support, Whilst he upheld the credit of the Lodge And kept its "prestige" bright before the world: He sought to emulate, if not excel, The work of former years, and, for his part, He would not flinch from labour, nor lack zeal To gain distinction in Masonic work, And join his predecessors worthily. Another song—and then the newly made And worthy Brother Wood was spoken of In terms of hopeful promise, and received A hearty welcome to Freemasonry; To which he made response, with modesty, Whilst yet with firm assurance he declared His will should not be wanting, to the end That he might profit by initiation. Bertram *obliged*—and then, in order due, Past years were well remembered, and to those Who, in their course, had steered the ship "Great City" Throughout its happy voyage, thanks were given; Returning which the I.P.M. expressed The pride and pleasure it afforded them To find the good ship officered and manned By able and efficient men, whose zeal Would still extend that voyage prosperously. Past Master Stevens, he of "Uniformity," Added his thanks, and, in a brief address, Referred to late events of interest To all who have at heart pure Masoury. Him, Headon followed, with "a few remarks" Pungent and full of sense as usual. Barnett, of sixteen seventy-three, then sang "The Vicar o' Bray" in manner excellent. Due honour to the "Visitors" was paid, And welcome of the heartiest accorded. Cutler, Lefeau, and Hawkins first replied, Each in his turn expressing pleasure felt At work in Lodge and social gathering. Barber, of "Royal Hanover," and one From Walsall, Brother Simpson, also spoke In terms of high appreciation. The "Treasurer and Secretary" then Received their fitting meed of gratitude. Moody replied, with vigorous address And usual exhortation as to dues. Recital—"Mason's Vows" by "Father"—then The "Officer's" and "Tyler's" toasts were given, And at an early hour, with hearts elate, Mutual good wishes for the Christmas tide, And hopes that the New Year prosperity Might bring to each and all, and re-unite The bonds of brotherhood so well enjoyed, The Brethren separated, and—"That's All!"

ST. PATRICK'S MILITARY LODGE, No. 295, I.C.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, York, on Tuesday, and was well attended by members of the Lodge, as well as by Visitors from the York and Eboracum Lodges. The W.M. elect Bro. Captain L. Murphy was installed by Bro. J. Todd P.M. 236; and the Officers were invested as follows:—Bros. J. Hanly V.S. I.P.M., Sergeant-Major Harris S.W., Quarter-master Sergeant Somerset J.W., Sergeant-Major Padley Treasurer, Major T. B. Shaw-Hellier Secretary, Sergeant-Major Flint S.D., Sergeant Lewis J.D., Sergeant Pattison I.G., Corporal Gladman Tyler. Amongst the Visitors present on the occasion were Bros. Sir James Meek P.M. 236, W. H. Gainforth W.M. 236, C. G. Padel W.M. 1611, Rev. J. E. M. Young P.M. 236, W. Lawton P.M. 236, G. Balmford P.M. 236, &c.; letters being received from Bros. T. B. Whytehead P.M. and others, regretting absence through indisposition, &c. Brother T. S. Camidge presided at the organ. The Military Brethren entertained their Visitors in the most hospitable manner at supper, after which the Loyal and Masonic toasts were observed, and there was excellent singing by Bros. Harrington 295, Murphy 295, O'Sullivan 295, Pattison 295, Lee 1611, and Turner 1611.

FALCON LODGE, No. 1416.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at Thirsk, North Yorkshire, and in spite of the severe weather there was an excellent attendance of members and Visitors. At one o'clock p.m. an emergency meeting was held for the purpose of initiating Mr. Lionel Payne Gallwey, a son of the member for the borough, the ceremonies being performed by the W.M. Bro. T. J. Wilkinson, assisted by Bro. George Ayre I.P.M. Prov. J.G.D. and Bro. the Rev. W. C. Lukis P.M. The emergency Lodge having been closed, the regular Lodge was opened at 2 p.m., and the minutes confirmed, after which the Lodge was raised to the second degree, and the chair was taken by Bro. T. B. Whythead P.M. 1611 P.P.G.D.C., and the W.M. elect Bro. W. Coltman was presented for installation. The impressive ceremonies were very ably performed, and the newly installed W.M. appointed his Officers as follows:—Bros. T. J. Wilkinson I.P.M., William Hall S.W., Charles Greensides J.W., Rev. C. E. Camidge P.M. P.P.G.C. Chaplain, Rev. W. C. Lukis P.M. P.P.G.C. Lecture Master, James Walton Secretary, T. J. Wilkinson P.M. Treasurer, Henry Smith S.D., James Johnson J.D., Robert Atkinson M.C., L. Wright Organist, Henry Longford I.G., J. S. Farmery Tyler. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the Three Tuns Hotel, where they were regaled with one of the best served banquets at which it has ever been our lot to be present, which reflected the greatest credit on the caterer, Bro. Long. The W.M. presided, and the toast list was gone through in detail. Amongst those present, in addition to the names already mentioned, were Bros. J. Richardson P.M. 1001 P.P.G.P., G. Balmford P.M. 236 P.P.G.O., A. C. Knowles P.M. 910 P.P.G.D., J. Hanton P.M. 940 P.P.G.D., P. Donaldson W.M. 837, W. H. Ganiforth W.M. elect 236, J. Walton P.M. 1337 P.P.G.S.B., C. Palliser P.M. 1337, J. Fairburn P.M. 1337, G. Kirby 236, J. S. Davies 837, R. B. Hall 123, H. C. Pickersgill 837, R. Musgrave 1416, J. Lee 1416, Reginald Bell 1416, R. Hartley 1416, A. W. Cass 1416, R. Long 1416, W. Ayre 1416, and others. The Falcon Lodge has most convenient premises of its own, and has, under the able management of its Masters, and especially of Bro. T. J. Wilkinson, attained quite a reputation in the Province, not only for hospitality, but for endeavouring to carry out the higher aims of Masonry, and encouraging a taste for Masonic and archaeological investigation. *Floreat Falco!*

SAINT LEONARD LODGE, No. 1766.

THE first anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated at the Town Hall, Shoreditch, on Wednesday, 3rd December. Bro. Louis Stean, the W.M., opened the Lodge, being supported by the regular Officers, viz.:—Bros. G. T. Barr S.W., Barham J.W., G. Stevens Treasurer, Cox Secretary, Henderson Chaplain, Benjamin S.D., Jones J.D., Gales D. of C., Clement I.G., Speight Tyler. The first business of the day, after the confirmation of the minutes, was to take the ballot on behalf of Mr. John James Moore, which proved clear. Lodge was then advanced, and Bro. John Staff was, in due form, raised to the sublime degree. On the resumption of the Lodge, Bro. George Thomas Barr, the W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. W. Clarke Prov. G.D. of C. Suffolk for the benefit of Installation, which ceremony was, in regular order, performed by Bro. Stean, who thus brought to a termination a most successful year of office. The first duty of the new W.M., after he had been saluted by the brethren, was to fill the various offices for the year. This he did by conferring the collars on the following brethren:—Bros. Barham S.W., Benjamin J.W., Henderson Chaplain, Stevens Treasurer, Cox Secretary, Jones Senior Deacon, Clement Junior Deacon, Funston I.G., Walker Director of Ceremonies, Matthews Steward, Young Organist, Speight Tyler. The addresses from West, South, and East were then given, and the newly appointed W.M. was at once called upon to perform the first ceremony, Mr. Moore being presented for admission to the benefits of Masonic light. Brother Barr is to be complimented on the way in which he performed his task, as also the manner in which he conducted the business of the evening, suffering as he did acute pain from gout. The ceremony concluded, the W.M. presented the retiring Master, on behalf of the Lodge, a Past Master's jewel, together with an illuminated address. This latter was offered as a token of the regard of the members for Bro. Stean, and as a memento of his successful year of office. It was signed by every member of the Lodge. Bro. Barr, in making the presentation said, it afforded him great pleasure to have the opportunity to convey to Bro. Stean the jewel, and also the thanks of the members. He was sure Bro. Stean would prize the inscription, conveying as it did, the unanimous sentiment of the members, far more than anything else the Lodge could give him. As first Master he had gained the respect and esteem of the brethren connected with the Lodge, and had set a splendid example for others to follow. If in years to come he should have to look down on bad boys, they certainly would not be able to excuse themselves on the plea that they had a bad example set them by the Father of the Lodge. The jewel was of neat and elegant form, and was inscribed as follows:—"Presented to Bro. Louis Stean, in recognition of his high personal worth, and of the many and great services he has rendered to the Lodge during his year of Mastership." This, the W.M. said, was also of almost priceless worth to Bro. Stean, as it was by the unanimous vote of the Lodge that it was presented. Bro. Stean, in reply, said he always bore in mind, and endeavoured to act up to the motto, "May sincerity and fair dealing ever distinguish Freemasons." He felt gratified that he had given satisfaction to the members of the Lodge during his term of office. He had striven to make the Lodge a prosperous one, and hoped he had in a measure succeeded. He felt he could not express his pleasure at receiving the jewel, which he should always prize, but what he most esteemed was the testimonial, which he should always value far above anything else. During the evening the ballot was taken for Bro. Charles Deacon as a joining member.

On the closing of the Lodge, the brethren sat down to a banquet under the presidency of Bro. Barr. As the business of the day had been heavy, it was somewhat late before the cloth was cleared, thus rendering it necessary on the part of the W.M. and others to curtail the remarks they had to make in proposing or acknowledging the respective toasts. The usual trio of Loyal toasts having been honoured, Bro. Stean rose to propose that of the W.M. For the first time in the St. Leonard Lodge he had now the pleasure of proposing the health of Bro. Barr as W.M. He had known Bro. Barr for many years, before he knew much of Freemasonry, and from this experience he was assured the Lodge would prosper under the guidance of its new Master. He had taken a great pride in perfecting himself in the respective ceremonies; his working of that evening was but an example of what he could do in either of the parts he might be called upon to enact. The W.M., in reply, heartily thanked his predecessor for the kind words he had made use of in proposing the toast. If at the close of his year of office he should prove to have deserved these many kind remarks, he should be very pleased. He felt he was so well known to most present that it was hardly necessary to say more than that he heartily thanked the members and visitors for their hearty reception. It now devolved on him to propose the health of the Past Master of the Lodge, to whom he felt deeply grateful for assistance rendered in preparing him for the duties of the chair. All hoped that Bro. Stean might be spared for many years, to be—as he had ever been—both a friend to the Craft and to those brethren who are anxious to attain position in the Craft. Bro. Stean tendered his thanks. As Father of the Lodge, he intended to see the brethren did their duty; and, while he occupied a position in the Lodge, he should keep them up to their work; but in this he felt assured he should have no difficulty. He concluded by expressing a wish that he might meet the members of the Lodge on many future occasions. The remaining toasts comprised the Initiates, the Masonic Charities (responded to by Bro. Clarke), the Visitors, the Officers, &c. Among the visitors who signed the attendance book were:—Bros. H. Howard Hodges P.M. 795, 1566, R. R. Harper W.M. 813, Robt. Nicholson J.W. 1566, C. Robson 960, R. Illsley 1566, G. H. F. Rowe 1096, T. Butt 907, Richard Jennings W.M. 907, G. J. Turner J.D. 183, T. Griffiths P.M. 907, E. M. Adams S.D. 1685, H. Lloyd P.M. 780, 1728, Geo. E. Howes 1437, C. W. Cox W.M. 1566, J. J. Mustart 171, W. Lamarque 917, W. Musto P.M. 1319, L. E. Stean J.D. 212, A. T. Leach J.D. 749, T. E. Parry P.M. 861, F. A. White P.M. 907, W. F. Green 861, W. H. Stokes P.M. 861, D. Matthews 12, S. Watkins P.M. 212, George Barford W.M. 754, James Garrod I.G. 754, G. Anderson W.M. 60 P.G.S., J. W. Long (Fitzroy), H. Stephens P.M. 754, John Dennis P.M. 907, J. T. Lacey P.M. 49, F. A. Kelly 1524, W. W. Morgan jun. 1385, H. Sarson 70, W. H. Bateman W.M. 12, T. Glass 813, G. Edwards 1816, &c.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, 16th December, at Bro. Bond's, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-buildings, W.C. Present—Bros. John Soper W.M., Paunter S.W., Snodin J.W., Pownceby S.D., Hallam J.D., Linscott I.G.; Bingemann Preceptor. After complying with the requirements of custom, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. T. B. Dodson candidate. The three sections of the lecture were worked, 1st by Bro. Hallam, 2nd by Abell, 3rd by Bingemann. Lodge regularly closed and adjourned to Tuesday, 30th December, at 7 p.m.

Burdett Coutts' Lodge of Instruction, No. 1278.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 17th December, at the Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, E. Present—Bros. R. L. Sturtevant W.M., Wooding S.W., Clarke J.W., Smith Treas., Hadley Prestage Sec., A. Valentine S.D., P.M. Toye J.D., Quay I.G.; Past Masters, Bros. Hogg Preceptor, Toye. Visitors—Bros. Stewart, Collins, Moss, Valentine, Albert Jones. After preliminaries the ceremony of passing was efficiently rehearsed. The first, second, third, and fourth sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Moss, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Valentine 1275 and Collins 860 were proposed, seconded, and unanimously elected members. It was proposed by Bro. Clarke and seconded by Bro. Hogg, that the Lodge do adjourn, in consequence of the Christmas holidays, until Wednesday week (*Brethren will please note this*). Nothing offering for the good of Freemasonry, Lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer.

Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1288.—A meeting was held at the Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, on Wednesday, 17th December. Bros. H. B. Dunn W.M., Edmunds S.W., Fenner J.W., W. Rowley S.D., Oldis J.D., Press I.G., and other brethren. The Lodge was opened in ancient form, and the minutes read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Plowman offered himself as a candidate for raising. Lodge opened in third degree, and the ceremony was rehearsed. Lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. P. Dickinson, Preceptor, worked the second section of the lecture. Upon the proposition of Bro. P.M. Dickinson, seconded by Bro. Fenner, the Lodge was adjourned until Wednesday, 31st December, at eight o'clock. Bro. G. P. Edmunds was elected W.M. for the next Lodge meeting.

Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1489.—On Monday 15th December, at the Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-road. Present—Bros. Aspinall W.M., Crane S.W., High J.W., R. Olley S.D., Fidler J.D., Garrod I.G., J. Lorkin Secretary, C. Lorkin Preceptor; also Bros. Jacob, Martin, &c. The Lodge was opened; a candidate for the third was examined and raised to the sublime

degree of Master Mason. Bro. C. Lorkin gave the traditional history. The Lodge was called from labour to refreshment, and, after resuming its duties, Bro. J. Lorkin worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree. Bro. Crane was elected W.M. for next meeting. Nothing further offering, the Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1602.—Held at Bro. C. J. G. Wood's, the Crown and Woolpack, St. John-street-road, on Tuesday, the 16th instant. Present—Bros. Fox W.M., J. Millington S.W., Field J.W., Pearcy Preceptor, Osborne Secretary, Fenner S.D., Rimell I.G.; also Bros. Halford, Cusworth, Pummell, Byng, Wood, &c. The usual ceremonies were gone through. Bro. Wood proved himself a worthy E.A., after which Lodge was advanced a degree, and Bro. Wood was duly passed in a very creditable manner by the W.M., who was ably assisted by his Officers. Bro. Pearcy worked the 2nd, Bro. Fenner the 3rd section of the lecture. Lodge was closed in the 2nd, and Bro. Byng worked the 4th section of the first lecture. Bro. Byng, of the Burgoyne Lodge No. 902, was elected a member, and Br. J. Millington was appointed to preside at the next meeting. Lodge was then closed and adjourned.

The Crusaders' Lodge, No. 1677.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, 10th December, at the New Market Hotel, West Smithfield. Bro. Thos. Goode W.M. presided, and was supported by the following Officers:—Bros. Simmons S.W., Rothschild J.W., Maples Treasurer, Defriez Secretary, Milward S.D., Caldmore J.D., Gay D.C., Rushton Org., and Piggott I.G. The Lodge having been opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, the minutes of the last Lodge were read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bros. Aynsley, Fletcher, Budden and Seward were introduced and questioned as to the progress they had made in Freemasonry. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and they were most impressively raised to the degree of M.M., the whole ceremony being most ably rendered. The next business was to pass Bro. Augustus Thomas Buckingham to the second degree, and in this instance our worthy Brother set a pattern to others who may have to pass a similar ordeal. He went through his preliminary examination without the slightest assistance, and answered every question put to him without hesitation, and it is almost needless to say that the interest he has taken from the earliest period of his entrance into the Order augurs well for his future devotion to the interests of Freemasonry. It was agreed and passed unanimously, that the sum of £10 10s be voted from the funds of the Lodge to be placed on Bro. Dr. Hunter's list, who will, as Steward, represent this Lodge at the Festival for the benefit of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and from what was stated this Lodge will not be the lowest on the list on that occasion. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. In the course of the evening Dr. Hunter, in acknowledging the toast of the Past Masters, heartily thanked the brethren for the subscriptions they had placed on his list for the next Festival, and it was also announced that five of the youngest brethren had each subscribed £5, so as to make themselves Life Subscribers to this Institution. The W.M., in proposing their health, congratulated the Lodge on having such worthy members; the handsome subscriptions they had made showed the deep interest they felt in the prosperity of Freemasonry. Several other toasts were given, and a very harmonious meeting was spent under the presidency of the esteemed W.M.

Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, of Lancaster, P.G.S.B. of England, will, on 29th inst., instal Bro. W. Warbrick S.W. as W.M. of the Lodge of Fortitude, Lancaster, No. 281; on 6th January next, he will instal Bro. E. Barber S.W. as W.M. of the Lodge of Unanimity, No. 113, Preston; and on 7th January, Bro. G. Taylor S.W. as W.M. of the Rowley Lodge, No. 1051, Lancaster.

At the regular meeting of the Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382, which was held on the 17th inst., Bro. J. Delves the W.M. announced his intention of serving as Steward at the next Festival in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and we are pleased to announce that the brethren of his Lodge so far determined to support him that they unanimously voted the sum of fifty guineas from the funds of the Lodge to be placed on his list.

BRAVERY REWARDED.—At a meeting of the Chapter of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, held last week at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, Sir Edward Perrott, Bart., presiding (in the unavoidable absence of the Duke of Manchester), it was proposed by Sir E. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., seconded by General Sir John St. George, K.C.B., and unanimously resolved, to confer the medal awarded by the Order for deeds of gallantry in saving life on land, on Mr. Arthur H. Stokes, one of her Majesty's sub-inspectors of mines, Charles Maltby, John Hancock, Thomas Davis, and John Davis, in recognition of the successful exertions made by them, at great personal danger, in July last, to rescue one Dennis Bagshaw, who was imprisoned for five days by a sudden fall of "shale" or old workings from the roof of the Black Engine mine, Eyam via Sheffield. It is understood the medals will be publicly presented.—*Daily Chronicle.*

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PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET.

THE members of St. Kew Lodge, No. 1222, Weston-super-Mare, had the honour, on Thursday, 11th inst., of receiving the members of Provincial Grand Lodge. The occasion was an eventful one in the local annals of Freemasonry, there not having been so large and distinguished a gathering in Weston of the brethren of the mystic tie since the laying of the foundation stone of the West of England Sanatorium by the R.W. the P.G.M. of Somerset the Earl of Carnarvon. The members of St. Kew, justly proud of the honour of entertaining so august a body, determined to give their brethren a truly fraternal welcome, and a reception befitting their Masonic dignity. The ordinary Lodge room being too small, the Town Hall was engaged, the Hall itself being fitted up for the Lodge, and the various offices furnished for the reception of the P.G.M. and the Provincial Grand Officers. The arrangement of the Hall for the business of the Lodge was most effective and comfortable. The Throne was situated on the platform, surmounted by a canopy curtained with crimsoned drapery with golden Masonic emblem in the centre. A flight of steps led from the floor of the Hall to the foot of the Throne, stove and greenhouse plants being effectively grouped on each side. Both steps and dais were covered with crimson carpet of fleur de li

pattern. The room was also decorated with plants, and the banners of the various Lodges added much to the general effect. Conspicuous among these latter was a very handsomely worked one belonging to St. Kew Lodge, representing the Saint in the act of imparting instruction. A portion of the lower end of the Hall was screened, and formed a reception and clothing room for the general body of the brethren. It had been confidently hoped that the Provincial Grand Master himself would have been in attendance, but this hope at the last moment was doomed to disappointment, a letter being received from the noble Earl conveying the unwelcome intelligence that he was confined to his room at Pixton Park, his Somersetshire seat, by an attack of gout. In his absence, therefore, the V.W. Bro. R. C. Else D.P.G.M. presided, and the gratification of the brethren was much increased by the presence of Bro. Colonel A. W. Adair, the most popular P.P.G.M. Among those present were:—Bros. Rev. J. J. Knox-Fletcher P.G. Chaplain, B. Cox P.M. 1222 P.G. Treasurer *pro tem*, J. C. Hunt P.G. Secretary *pro tem*, S. Toms P.G.S.D., Newington Bridges P.G.J.D., J. Tompsett W.M. 814 P.G.S.; representatives from each of the Lodges of the Province, and the following Visitors:—R. M. Worlock P.G. Secretary Bristol, J. R. Shorland 610 P.G.S.W. Bristol, H. Grath 471 P.G.S.W. Monmouth, W. Blundell 858, Gabriel Williams 686, G. Glossop P.M. 887, H. M. Tainsh 482. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened shortly after twelve o'clock, when the Grand Officers entered in procession, being received with the customary honours by the assembled brethren. The D.P.G.M. took his seat on the Throne, supported on the right by Bro. General Munbee, and on the left by Bro. Col. Adair. The D.P.G.M. expressed his regret at the absence of the P.G.M., and read a letter of apology from the noble Earl assigning illness as the cause of his absence, and sending his hearty good wishes to the brethren. The Lodge was opened in due form and with prayer by the P.G. Chaplain, Rev. J. J. Knox-Fletcher. The office of P.G. Sec. being vacant by the death of Bro. Prideaux, his place was supplied by Bro. J. C. Hunt. The P.G. Treas., Bro. E. T. Payne, was absent on account of illness, and Bro. B. Cox acted for him, submitting the accounts. These showed a total income of £240 3s 2d, including a balance from last account of £75 8s 5d; the Lodge dues amounted to £106 13s 6d. The amount subscribed for the Masonic Charities was £52 10s. The account closed with a balance in hand of £69 10s 5d. The accounts were unanimously passed, and upon the motion of Bro. Munbee, seconded by the P.G.J.W. Bro. Payne was re-elected P.G. Treasurer by acclamation. The various offices having been declared vacant, the appointment and investment of new Officers was proceeded with, collars being bestowed upon the following brethren:—Capt. Long P.M. 1199 and 1750 P.G.S.W., E. S. Blundell W.M. 1222 P.G.J.W., Revs. W. J. Mooney 285 and J. C. Lyons 291 P.G. Chaps., E. T. Payne P.G. Treas. (Bro. Cox received the collar for him), A. R. Bailey 973 P.G.R., J. C. Hunt 291 P.G. Sec., R. Brodie 291 P.G.S.D., J. E. Jeffries 1199 P.G.J.D., C. E. Daniel 1755 P.G. Supt. Works, H. C. Hopkins 379 P.G.D.C., R. J. Damon 329 P.G.A.D.C., J. Butler 285 P.G.S.B., L. H. Bonn 261 P.G.O., A. Sargent 1197 P.G.P., F. U. Wood 291 P.G.A.P., W. Woodward P.G. Tyler, A. J. Salter Bath P.G. Asst. Tyler, J. S. Boyd 976, J. Tuckey 903, H. S. Brown 41, F. T. Elworthy 261, W. E. Perrett 1222, and W. Reece 1139 P.G. Stewards. In bestowing the Senior Warden's collar upon Captain Long, who received a most cordial greeting, the D.P.G.M. informed him that it was given by the P.G.M. to mark his appreciation of the services he had rendered to the Province as the chief promoter and first Master of the Coleridge Lodge at Clevedon. The collar of J.W. was given to Bro. E. S. Blundell as W.M. of St. Kew, the receiving Lodge. Upon the motion of the D.P.G.M., a sum of £50 was unanimously voted to the widow of Bro. F. R. Prideaux, the late P.G. Secretary. Bro. J. L. Stothert, in the absence of the Treasurer, proposed that a sum of 52 guineas be paid to the Girls' School, in order to constitute the Lodge a Vice-Patron of that Institution. Bro. C. R. Davey seconded the motion, which was carried; the D.P.G.M. said the Treasurer had ascertained that £21 more would be needed, but this must be deferred. The sum of £21 was, upon the motion of Bro. Reeves, seconded by Bro. Montrie, voted to the widow of Bro. E. S. Appleby. The Past Grand Secretary read the report of the Charity Organisation Committee of the Province, which stated that the whole of the twenty-two Lodges had appointed delegates who performed their duties in the most efficient manner. The very gratifying statement was made that from the date of its inception to the present time the Committee had succeeded in carrying every case it had taken in hand. The report was received and adopted, upon the motion of Bro. Newington Bridges, seconded by Bro. Marwood. Bro. J. L. Stothert and Bro. Genl. Munbee spoke very highly of the efforts of the D.P.G.M. to promote the success of the scheme, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to him for his zealous labours. The alms collected at the Lodge, amounting to £6 0s 8d, were, upon the proposition of Bro. J. J. E. Willmott, seconded by Bro. C. R. Davey, voted to the West of England Sanatorium. At the close of the Lodge the brethren adjourned to the Old Assembly Room, Railway Hotel, where the banquet took place. The menu was that of a high class dinner, served *a la Russe*. The viands were of the choicest, the service was as efficient and satisfactory as it could well be, and the wines were of the best vintages. Great credit is due to Bro. J. R. Britton, as well as to Mrs. Britton, for the excellence of their entertainment. The D.P.G.M. presided, being supported by some of the more distinguished brethren. Due honour having been paid to the Queen and Craft, and the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, the Pro Grand Master and Officers of Grand Lodge were toasted. Bros. Col. Adair and Rev. C. R. Davy responded, the last-named expressing a hope that the much respected D. Prov. G.M. of the Province (Bro. Else) would before long be appointed a member of Grand Lodge—a hope that evoked a hearty "Hear, hear" from every one present. In proposing the health of the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M. again alluded to the cause of his absence, and stated that his lordship requested him to assure the brethren that nothing but the distinct and positive orders of his physician would have kept him away. In very warm

terms the D.P.G.M. proposed the health of the much beloved late P.G.M. (Bro. Col. Adair), who suitably responded, and proposed that of the D.P.G.M. and the rest of the P.G. Officers past and present. He traced the rise of the D.P.G.M. from the time when he accepted the collar of Assistant Secretary, and testified to his unwearying labours in the cause of Masonry; he re-echoed the wish expressed by Bro. Davy. Acknowledging the services he received from the Officers when he occupied the post of P.G.M., he mentioned that it was twenty-six years since he received the collar of P.G.J.D. The D.P.G.M., in returning thanks, assured the brethren that if any honour were conferred upon him he should consider it as bestowed upon the Province. Reviewing the past year, he congratulated the brethren of Taunton upon the dedication of the Masonic Hall, the effect of which would, he said, elevate the tone of Masonry. Nothing tended more to contradict the idea that Masons were merely "knife and fork men" than the establishment of these halls, and the promotion of the cause of charity. The other events were the Consecration of the Keynsham Lodge and the death of the P.G. Secretary, to both of which he alluded. Bros. Captain Long P.G.S.W., W. A. Scott (in the absence of the P.G.J.W.), and General Munbee also responded. Bro. Grath, of the Province of Monmouth, replied for the visiting brethren, as did also Bros. Worlock and Shorland. Bro. J. L. Stothert submitted the toast of "The Masonic Charities," referring to the success which attended their candidates at elections, and acknowledging the co-operation of the Provinces of Bristol and Monmouth. Bro. Bridges responded, and thanked the Somerset Charity Association for the assistance given to him in securing the election of a London candidate. He promised in future not only to place his votes in the hands of the D.P.G.M., but to represent the Province as Steward for the Boys' School the Festival after next. In proposing the health of the W.M., Officers and brethren of St. Kew, the D.P.G.M. said he did not remember an occasion when the arrangements were more complete, more satisfactory, or more comfortably carried out than they were in the Town Hall, and the reception at the hospitable board was most handsome. In the absence of the W.M., who was obliged to leave, the toast was responded to by the I.P.M. (Bro. Sidney Lewis), and likewise by Bros. W. M. Forty (Secretary) and Willmott S.W. of the Lodge. Bro. Villa, the I.P.M. of Taunton, in replying for the Master and brethren of other Lodges, said the hopes of the brethren at Taunton entertained in providing a Masonic Hall had been more than realised, since the tone of Masonry had been raised and the number of members increased. The experiment, he thought, should encourage the brethren in other towns to follow their example. "The Host and Hostess, with thanks for the dinner," was proposed, and the Tyler's toast completed the programme.—*Weston-super-Mare Gazette*.

MARK MASONRY.

THE TRINITY COLLEGE LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS, No. 244.

A SOMEWHAT more than ordinarily interesting meeting in the Mark Degree took place on the occasion of an Emergency Meeting of this Lodge, which was held at the Lodge-rooms, 61 Weymouth-street, Portland-place, London, on the 5th instant. The opportunity for entertaining two highly distinguished brethren—viz. Bros. Croft Morgan Dew, P. Grand Chancellor of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and A. M. Broadley, D.D.G.M. Malta, and P.G.M.M.M. Tunis and Malta, was taken by our esteemed Bro. E. Passawer LL.D. P.G. Reg. for Middlesex and Surrey, the present W.M. of the Trinity College Mark Lodge, and the result was not only creditable to the Lodge itself, but was of great importance to the Order, as it afforded the first opportunity for a personal greeting and acknowledgment of the Mark Degree by an Officer of the Supreme Royal Arch Degree of Scotland. It will be remembered by our Mark brethren that the fact of the official acknowledgment referred to was made known to them at last Grand Mark Lodge by Bro. Portal, the then acting Grand Mark Master. Bro. Passawer was enabled to give only short notice of the meeting, and consequently, though well attended, it had not the presence of several important Mark brethren, who were compelled to send apologies for absence. Amongst the many present, however, in addition to the distinguished brethren before mentioned, were—The V.W. Bros. F. Davison Dep. G.M. Middlesex and Surrey, F. Binckes P.G.W. and Grand Secretary, Donald M. Dewar P.G.M.O. and Assistant Grand Secretary, James Stevens P.G.J.O., S. Rosenthal P.G.O., H. Lovegrove Prov. G.S.W. Middlesex and Surrey, &c. Amongst the Lodge members were—Bros. P. Draige J.W., J. de Orellana Treasurer, M. A. Cuffe Secretary, Bradbury Turner S.D., J. Gordon Saunders Org., W. J. Jennings, Plant, Martin, J. Stedman, A. W. S. Hoare, and others. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Passawer, and after due ballot and preparation, Bro. Frank Ward, of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, No. 1541, was duly advanced. The ceremony was rendered with the fullest possible effect, and its grandeur and solemnity was greatly enhanced by the elaborate musical service. The excellent chamber organ, at which Bro. J. Gordon Saunders presided, and the musical abilities of several members of the Lodge materially aided the zealous efforts of the W.M. and his Officers to produce a complete ceremony, and the Grand Officers present unanimously agreed that a better exemplification of Mark Masonic work had not been within their experience. The principal vocalists were—Bros. Martin, Stedman, Turner, Hoare, and Jennings, all of Trinity College. After proposition had been made of further candidates for advancement, the V.W. Bro. Croft Morgan Dew, in his capacity as P. Grand Chancellor of the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, briefly addressed the Worshipful Master, and extended a formal personal acknowledgment of the recent connection which had been formed between

the respective degrees. This was warmly acknowledged by the W.M. equally on behalf of the Mark degree and his own Lodge, and he then, after receiving the greetings and good wishes of Grand Officers and others then present, closed the Lodge. At the banquet which followed, the usual toasts were given and responded to, that of the Grand Officers being acknowledged by Bros. F. Binckes and James Stevens. The former expressed his great pleasure in the fact of so early a personal acknowledgment of the result of earnest labours to effect a cordial understanding between the Grand Chapter of Scotland and the English Mark degree, and paid a well-deserved compliment to the W.M., for having brought about the opportunity for such acknowledgment. The latter referred to the manner in which the work of the Lodge had been performed, and the beauty and propriety of the musical service, in respect of which he said that in all his experience he had never heard anything so thorough and effective in connection with Mark Masonry. The V.W. Bro. F. Davison, Deputy G.M. Middlesex and Surrey, responded for the Provincial Grand Masters and Officers, and fully endorsed the sentiments of the previous speakers. A special toast was here introduced in honour of the P.G.M.M.M. Tunis and Malta, the R.W. Bro. A. M. Broadley, of whom the W.M. spoke in eulogistic terms in relation to his efforts to extend the usefulness of Freemasonry generally, and particularly of the Mark degree, in the extensive district over which he presided. The W.M. concluded a very telling speech by wishing his distinguished guest "God speed" on his return journey, and expressing a hope that at no distant date he might be able again to visit Trinity College Lodge. Bro. Broadley said: Worshipful Master and Brethren,—I thank you very sincerely for the welcome you have accorded to me this evening, as well as for the opportunity of seeing the excellent working of the Trinity College Lodge. The pleasing effect of the musical rendering of portions of the ceremonial will never be forgotten by me; and I trust my own Province may at no distant date reap the benefit of what I have witnessed amongst you. I greatly fear the services I am supposed to have rendered to the Mark Degree are much overvalued by my friends; but I think I may claim whatever merit belongs to the fact of my extending the jurisdiction of the Mark Grand Lodge to a country beyond the limits of British territory, and introducing the degree to foreigners of many nations in their own tongue. I honestly believe that the Province which has become the sphere of my labours has an interest for all intelligent Masons, comprising as it does a large portion of the litoral of the Mediterranean, from whence sprang nearly all that is wonderful in art and science, and which gave birth to the civilisation of Modern Europe. Both Tunis and Malta were peopled by Phœnician colonists very shortly after the time when Tyrian art embellished the temple of Jerusalem, and doubtless the same guilds of "hewers of stone and workers of brass" assisted in erecting and adorning the city of Carthage. The marks of these early builders are still visible, and their symbols—handed down from generation to generation up to the present time—are still used and venerated by the Moslem and Israelite inhabitants of the country. It is in this country that the Mark degree is now flourishing under the auspices of our Grand Mark Lodge; it is regarded by the English Masons of Tunis as almost an integral part of a Masonic education, and considered by them as a necessary adjunct and striking illustration of some of the truths of the Craft degrees. In both Tunis and Malta the Craft and the Mark flourish hand in hand, and the high appreciation of the latter by foreigners is an important evidence of the intrinsic value of the degree. I shall carry away with me a lasting recollection both of your excellent working and fraternal hospitality, especially as I have the honour of proposing the health of your W.M., who has done so much for the best interests of this Lodge and the other Mark Lodges, who have had, or will have at no distant date, the advantages of his intelligent, energetic and zealous rule. Bro. Passawer briefly responded, with thanks to the proposer for his fraternal remarks, and to the brethren for the zealous support he had received at their hands. To the toast of the Visitors, which was introduced by the W.M., with a few remarks as to the propriety of Lodges meeting in buildings appropriate to their requirements, Bro. H. Lovegrove, Prov. G.Supt. of Works, said: Worshipful Master and brethren,—It has afforded me very great pleasure to be present at a meeting of the Trinity College Lodge of Mark Masters. You will consider that I am making very prominent my esthetic tastes if I tell you that I would have all the degrees of Freemasonry carried out with perfection of ritual, in elegant and appropriate buildings, and accompanied with first-class vocal and instrumental music. This evening in this Lodge the musical portion has been rendered in such a style that few can equal, and certainly none excel. Freemasonry is not, as some would tell us, a gastronomical society; the festive board approaches nearly to our ordinary life, while the ritual of Freemasonry carries us as it were into an ideal world, and impresses the mind in a beneficial way with the contrast between it and the world around. It seems impossible that all Lodges can meet in suitable buildings, but many of you may have seen in one of the Masonic newspapers that a building devoted to our Order is about to be erected under my directions on the distant shore of Milford Haven, and knowing, as some of you do, my energy in Freemasonry, you can understand how pleased I am to be entrusted with such a work. I am pleased to know that this new Mark Lodge is progressing, under its able and energetic W.M. The Organist and Musical Brethren having been toasted, and earnestly thanked for their valuable assistance during the evening, the Officers' and Tyler's toasts brought the proceedings to a conclusion, and the brethren separated.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—There is nothing in the whole "Materia Medica" like these medicaments for the certainty of their action in lumbago, sciatica, tic douloureux, and all flying or settled pains in the nerves and muscles. Diseases of this nature originate in bad blood and depraved humours, and until these are corrected there can be no permanent cure. The ordinary remedies afford but temporary relief, and in the end always disappoint the sufferer. Holloway's Ointment penetrates the human system as salt penetrates meat, and the Pills greatly assist and accelerate its operation by clearing away all obstructions, and giving tone to the system generally. The prophylactic virtues of Holloway's ex edies stand unrivalled.

CONSECRATION OF THE DARLINGTON MARK LODGE, No. 250.

THIS event, which had been looked forward to with much interest, took place last Saturday, at Darlington, and in spite of the inclement weather, a goodly gathering of brethren from York, Durham, Newcastle, Hartlepool, &c., was present at two p.m. at Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street. A Lodge was opened by the Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason, Canon Tristram, of Durham, who was supported by a large number of Provincial Officers, and ballots having been taken, fifteen candidates were advanced to the honourable degree of M.M.M., the ceremonies being worked (at the request of the Prov. Grand Master) by Bro. T. B. Whytehead P.M. (York Mark Lodge T.I.) At the conclusion of the advancements, Provincial Grand Lodge was opened, and the Prov. Grand Master proceeded with the ceremonies of consecration, in which he was assisted by Bro. J. T. Strachan Deputy Prov. G.M., the Prov. Grand Wardens, and Bro. E. Hudson Prov. G.D.C. The Lodge then resumed, and the W.M. designate, Bro. J. M. Meek, of the York Lodge T.I. was presented for installation. This interesting ceremony was performed by the Deputy Prov. G.M., and the W.M. was afterwards saluted and greeted by the brethren in ancient form. He afterwards proceeded to appoint and invest his Officers as follows:—Bros. John Bailey S.W., S. F. Bousfield J.W., R. A. Luck M.O., C. R. Fry S.O., H. E. O. Muller J.O., F. Parr Sec. W. Lear Reg. of Works, J. C. Martin S.D., W. Hobson J.D., F. Tovey Org., J. J. Wilkes I.G. Bro. T. Garget Tyler, during the ceremonies, gave an eloquent oration, in which he traced the connection between the Mark and the R.A., and recounted the history of the early building fraternities. After the close of the Lodge, the brethren met at a capital banquet, at which the W.M. (Bro. J. M. Meek) presided, supported by the Deputy P.G.M.M.M. and a number of Provincial Officers and brethren, when a short toast list was duly gone through. The following is as complete a list as we have been able to obtain of the brethren present on the occasion, in addition to the W.M. and Officers already named:—Bros. Canon Tristram Prov. G.M.M.M., J. Y. Strachan D.P.G.M.M.M., J. Trotter P.D.P.G.M.M.M., Captain Forbes P.P.G.S.W., W. S. Hughes P.P.G.S.W., J. Jenson Prov. G.J.W., E. S. Marriott P.P.G.J.W., J. W. Cameron P.P.G.J.W., W. H. Fisher P.P.G.J.W., W. T. Tate Prov. G.J.O., G. R. Bulman Prov. G. Chaplain, T. S. Armstrong Prov. G. Sec., R. L. Armstrong Assist. Prov. G. Sec., C. P. Lane P.P.J.G.D., E. Hudson Prov. G.D.C., Luke Armstrong Prov. G. Inspector of Works, W. Brandt Prov. G.I.G., W. Atkinson Prov. G. Tyler, W. P. Husband York T.I., J. Strachan Macdonald 104, H. Baumann Eclectic 39, J. Wood, E. Marson, R. C. Symonds, H. W. Caspersen, G. S. Sims Northumberland and Berwick T.I.; J. Trenholm, H. Warwick Percy 122; J. Oates, J. Morrell, T. M. Barron, T. Ness, H. A. Massingberd, R. S. Benson, S. Wilson, R. F. Laidler Darlington 250. The brethren whose names are italicised are the founders of the Lodge.

BRIXTON LODGE, No. 234.

AN emergency meeting of this Lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Saturday last. The W.M. being absent in the country, the Lodge was opened by Bro. T. Poore P.G.I.G. as W.M., supported by Bros. H. Lovegrove (P.G.S. of W.) S.W., G. Clark J.W., H. Baldwin S.D. and Sec., C. Axford I.G., and R. Potter Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Thrupp P.G.J.O., Richardson G.J.D., Clifford, Lehman, Barrett P.G.Org., and Anderson. The ballot was taken for Bros. Clapham and Kipling, and the latter Brother being in attendance was regularly advanced to the honourable degree. The seats of the overseers were filled by the three Visiting Grand Officers, Bros. Thrupp, Richardson and Barrett, so that Bro. Poore's effective rendering of the ceremony was ably assisted. At the close of the proceedings the brethren separated.

Old Kent Mark Lodge of Instruction.—Held its usual bi-monthly meeting at the Trocadero, 6 Liverpool-street, on Monday evening, the 15th inst., at half-past six. Present—Bros. Wallington W.M., Tanner S.W., Nicholls J.W., Dewar M.O., Hobbs I.G., Turquand Preceptor, Gillingham Secretary, Badkin, Pinder, &c. The Lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, the W.M. worked the ceremony of advancement, the positions of candidate and deacon being respectively assumed by Bros. Badkin and Dewar. The former Brother, with Bro. Hobbs, having been regularly admitted as members, the Lodge was adjourned until Monday, the 5th January, at 6.30 p.m.

BRIXTON LODGE OF ROYAL ARK MARINERS.

A MEETING was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, on Saturday last, when several distinguished Masons, Bros. Thrupp, Barrett, Lehman, Richardson, Clifford, Brixton, and Kipling, were duly elevated, the ritual of this quaint and interesting degree being given in excellent style by Bros. T. Poore the W.C.N., H. Lovegrove acting as Deacon, G. Clark J., H. Baldwin S., Axford G., and Bro. Potter W. The draft bye-laws were read and approved, and the Lodge was closed in ancient form.

The brethren of the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet, Herts, contemplate holding a Masonic Ball on Thursday, the 15th January next, at the Corn Exchange, Barnet. Dancing is to commence at 8.30. The price of tickets is fixed for gentlemen at 20s, for ladies 12s 6d. We wish our brethren and their friends a pleasant evening.

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, 20th DECEMBER.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
1732—King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
Sina Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8

MONDAY, 22nd DECEMBER.

4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
45—Strong Man, New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, at 8 (Instruction)
53—London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, at 6
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.)
518—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)
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
1445—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, at 8 (Inst.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In.)
1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8 (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road (Inst.)
48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
261—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley
408—Three Graces, Private Rooms, Haworth
467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8 (Instruction.)
1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford
1575—Clive, Corbet Arms, Market Drayton
R. A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R. A. 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury

TUESDAY, 23rd DECEMBER.

14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8 (Inst.)
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
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 7 (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.)
1553—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
1692—Sir Hugh Myddleton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (In.)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
1741—Royal Savoy, Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester
117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30 (Instruction)
253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
624—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent
897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens, Lancashire
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston
1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
1214—Scarborough, Scarborough Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley
1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1675—Antient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

WEDNESDAY, 24th DECEMBER.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons Hall, W.C. at 6.
201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
212—Euphrates, Masons Hall, Basinghall-street, E.C.
228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
538—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at (Instruction) 8
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8 (Instruction)
1521—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire
220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
259—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds
580—Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
755—St. Tudno, Freemasons' Hall, Llandudno
769—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract
972—St. Augustine, Canterbury (Instruction)
1339—St. John, George Hotel, Lichfield
1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley, near Manchester
1261—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull, at 7. (Instruction.)
1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
M. M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 27th DECEMBER.

193—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, at 8 (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
Sina Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8
149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham

The London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, No. 58.—A meeting was held on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Club, 101 Queen Victoria Street, City. There was a good attendance, the following brethren filling the Offices:—Bros. Chapman W.M., J. S. Fraser S.W., Bookman J.W., Beeton J.D., J. B. King I.G., Pulsford Preceptor. The Lodge having been opened, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The initiation ceremony was rehearsed, Bro. Haynes acting as candidate. Bro. Smallpoice proposed an addition to the bye-laws, viz., "That a fee of 6d be imposed on brethren visiting the Lodge." This was seconded by Bro. Fraser, and carried unanimously. Bros. Bookman and King were unanimously elected members of this Lodge of Instruction. After the election of Bro. Fraser as W.M. for the next meeting, the Lodge was closed.

High Cross Lodge of Instruction.—At the Coach and Horses, Tottenham, on Thursday, 18th December. Present—Bros. Everdell W.M., Poore S.W., Fidler J.W., Young S.D., Leaman J.D., Dickerson I.G., Thompson Preceptor, Garrod Secretary; also Bros. Oxley, Taverner, Rooche, Tegg, Mattocks, &c. The Lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the ceremonies of initiation and raising were rehearsed. It was resolved that, in consequence of Christmas Day and New Year's Day falling on Thursdays, the Lodge be adjourned until Thursday, 8th January, on which occasion Bro. Poore will occupy the chair. The Lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, 16th Dec. Present—Bros. Clark W.M., Greenwood S.W., Williams J.W., Polak S.D., Christian J.D., Hand I.G., J. Lorkin Secretary, Smyth Treasurer, P.M. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Dallas, Pettet, Quay, C. Lorkin, Baker P.M., Coles, Brasted, Smith, Collins. The Lodge was opened in due form; the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. C. Lorkin offered himself as a candidate for the third degree, and was interrogated and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third, and Bro. C. Lorkin was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The Lodge was closed in the third degree, and called from labour to refreshment; after resuming, Bro. Clark worked the second and Bro. C. Lorkin the fourth section of the second lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Greenwood was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Smith was elected a member. Nothing further offering, Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—A meeting was held at the King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., on Thursday, 18th December. Bros. H. A. Wallbrecht W.M., Hine S.W., Patrick J.W., D. Moss S.D., Legg J.D., Fenner Preceptor, Gieseke I.G.; also Bros. Gimmingham, Lane, and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. H. A. Wallbrecht vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Fenner. Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Gimmingham answered the questions leading to the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Lodge was resumed, and Bro. Fenner worked the second and third sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Gimmingham, of the Eleanor Lodge, No. 1707, was elected a member of this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Hine was appointed to preside at the meeting. The Lodge was adjourned till the 2nd Thursday in January 1880.

St. John's Lodge, 1247.—At a meeting of this Lodge, W. Bro. G. Firks presiding, Bro. Byron Elliot was unanimously elected as Master, W. Bro. John R. Lord as Treasurer, and W. Bro. J. Rendle as Representative on the Committee of Petitions. The banquet will be held at the Farley Hotel, and ladies are to be invited to attend.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—At the Feathers Hotel, Ealing, on Thursday, 11th December. Present—Bros. H. Kasner W.M., A. J. Burr S.W., J. Green J.W., S. Dyer S.D., W. Seward J.D., Gasson I.G., Tucker Treas. and Preceptor, J. Wells Sec.; also Bros. Gardner, Bellerby, Millsom, J. J. Clarke, Rickwood, E. C. Porter, E. W. Lewis 1027, G. S. Wright, H. Stephens, A. Jones. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the two previous meetings were read, confirmed, and signed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. J. Wells candidate. Bros. Millsom and Bellerby answered the questions leading to 2nd degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. E. C. Porter candidate. The Lodge was opened in 3rd degree; Lodge was closed in 3rd degree; Lodge was closed in 2nd degree. The W.M. for the next meeting having been elected, the Lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer.

Eleanor Lodge of Instruction, No. 1707.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, 16th December, at the Trocadero, 6 Liverpool-street. Present—Bros. Tarquand W.M., Andrews S.W., Christian J.W., W. O. Lyon Treas., W. H. Gimmingham Sec., Leaman I.G. Bros. Hart, Silvestre, Mestre, Pringle, Tanner, Eilenberg, Ould, &c. Business—Lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following sections were worked:—1st lecture, 4th section by Bro. Christian, 5th by Bro. Pringle, 6th by Bro. Gimmingham, 7th by Bro. Andrews; 2nd lecture, 2nd section by Bro. Pringle, 3rd by Bro. Taylor, 4th by Bro. Gimmingham, 5th by Bro. Pringle; 3rd lecture, 2nd section by Bro. Ould, 3rd by Bro. Taylor. Bro. Eilenberg was duly elected a member. A hearty and unanimous vote of thanks to the W.M. for his services in the chair was then carried, and the Lodge adjourned until Tuesday, the 23rd inst. at 6.30 p.m.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87.—During the last few months, on more than one occasion, we have referred to the spirit of enterprise exhibited by Bro. George Isaac, who, finding the establishment he presided over unequal to the demands for accommodation made by his patrons, had resolved to erect a new building that should be capable of meeting the requirements of even a much larger body of snappers than he at the present time can boast of. Our brother's first effort was to get the sanction of the proper authorities for the removal of his licence, and we are gratified to be able to announce that in this he was successful. Consequently, the architect went to work and drew out his plans for a building that should provide for all requirements. In due course the building was completed, and on Wednesday, 10th December, we had an opportunity of judging to what extent Bro. Isaac had succeeded. The accommodation for Masonic meetings comprises a spacious and well ventilated Lodge room, 32 feet by 20, with ante-rooms, while due provision has been made for the after requirements of the brethren. The banquetting hall has a light and airy appearance, and ample space is provided for seating 120 guests. The whole of the arrangements met with the highest approval, and we feel assured that many other Lodges and Chapters will take advantage of the accommodation so liberally provided. On Wednesday the Lodge was opened by Bro. A. J. Timothy W.M., who was supported by a goodly number of Past Masters and members, while the following Officers were in their respective places:—Bros. Charles Nott S.W., John Skirving J.W., Thurkle P.M. Trea., W. Stuart P.M. Secretary, Robinson S.D., Janeway J.D., Knight I.G., Lee Tyler; Visitors—Bros. Thomas Birks 217, Rigby G. Buckle 190, H. Wright, J. G. Millbourn 13, Thomas Rowe 1641, E. Davis P.M. 228, C. J. Chambers 834, W. W. Morgan Secretary 211. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the W.M., who is a capital worker, proceeded to raise Bros. Norman and Prior. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Charles Davis, proposed by Bro. H. A. Brown, seconded by Bro. Cloves; and for Mr. William Culverhouse, proposed by Bro. J. Skirving J.W., seconded by Bro. C. Nott S.W. The result was unanimous, and the latter gentleman, with a Mr. Lamborn, who had been balloted for at a previous meeting, were introduced and regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The ballot was also taken for Mr. Charles Dane, and it is anticipated that that gentleman will be initiated at the next meeting. Several applications for assistance from distressed brethren were then considered, and the desirability of sending up a Steward for the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was urgently put forward, with the result that Bro. Janeway J.D. consented to act, and the Lodge voted him 25 guineas to head his list. Several other matters were discussed, with the object of making the comfortable quarters the brethren were assembled in still more cosy, and then the Lodge was closed. The banquet was immediately served, and the dishes were substantially and bountifully provided. The good old English custom of supplying a glass of ale for those who favoured that beverage was not overlooked, and if we may judge by the way in which it seemed to be relished, the majority appeared to endorse the opinion of an elderly brother who complacently remarked, "it beats all the wine in the world." In due time the cloth was cleared, and then the toasts were ably brought under the notice of the brethren by the W.M. Each of the Visitors acknowledged the compliment that was paid them, and all congratulated the members on the comfortable quarters they were assembled in. Reference was also made to the way in which the Charities were supported by the brethren of the Vitruvian Lodge, which takes rank as Vice-Patron of the Institution for Aged Freemasons (£100), Vice-Patron of the Institution for the Widows of Freemasons (£100), also Life Governor of the latter Institution; Vice-Patron of the Boys' School (52 10s), and Vice-Patron of the Girls' School (52 10s). On the strength of what was brought under the notice of the brethren, Bro. Janeway passed round his list, and the response he met was eminently gratifying. In reply to the other toasts some capital speeches were made, notably we may mention that of Bro. P.M. Stuart, the energetic Secretary of the Lodge. The Tyler was eventually called on for his toast, and then the brethren separated. W. Masters or Secretaries of Lodges seeking new quarters should visit the South London Masonic Hall, which is the title Bro. Isaac's new building bears.

Sincerity Lodge, No. 174.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 17th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, E.C. Bros. G. T. H. Seddon W.M., C. H. Webb S.W., G. Jones J.W., S. Rawley P.M. Treasurer, John Newton P.M. Secretary. In the course of the evening three brethren were raised, four passed, and one gentleman initiated. This being the night for the election of Officers, the ballot was first taken for that of a Worshipful Master, the result being unanimous in favour of the S.W. Bro. Webb. The Treasurer and Tyler were each re-elected. The brethren afterwards spent a few hours in social enjoyment.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—There was a good attendance on Wednesday last. Present—Bros. W. Sayer W.M., G. L. Walker S.W., Saint J.W., Ramsay I.G., Tobias D., J. K. Pitt Sec., &c. The minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Notices of motion for usual Christmas gratuities were given in, and Bro. S.W. Walker was appointed W.M. for next meeting. The Lodge was adjourned over the festivities of the season, till Wednesday, 7th January 1880.

Union Lodge No. 414.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present:—Bros. C. Oades W.M., S. Bradley S.W., C. Stephens J.W., Strachan Treasurer, Withers Secretary, Mount S.D., F. Ferguson J.D., S. Wheeler I.G.; Past Masters Bros. Pocock, Morris, Long, Baker I.P.M.; Bros. Hayward, Webb, E. Davis, Butler, Ayres,

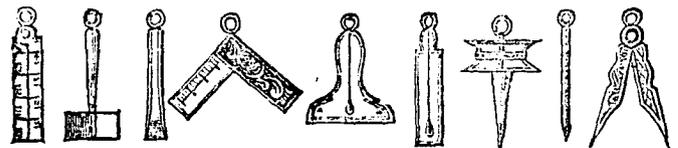
Moffat, Sydenham, Albury, Hawkes, Martin, Blackwell. Visitors—Bros. J. Early Danks W.M. 1101, Ferguson S.W. 1101, Ivey P.M. Secretary 1101, Prickett Steward 1101, Welch P.M. 1101. The Lodge was opened in the first degree. The minutes of the last regular Lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Two gentlemen were balloted for as initiates and elected. The following notice of motion was considered and carried:—"That £10 10s be voted from the Lodge funds to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and that any sum which may be received from Provincial Grand Lodge this year be appropriated to the same Charity, and be added to the list of Bro. C. Stephens." The election of W.M. took place in the usual manner; it resulted in favour of Bro. S. Bradley S.W., who, in a neat and appropriate speech, returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. The election of Treasurer next took place, Bro. Strachan P.M. having intimated to the W.M. that he could not conveniently continue in the office, Bro. S. A. Pocock P.M. was nominated, and declared to be elected, upon which he returned his thanks. Bro. Hemmings was re-elected Tyler. The W.M. opened the Lodge in the second and third degrees, and when in the latter he read a very interesting paper on "The History of Craft Masonry in Reading." We hope to give the same *in extenso* in a future number, our space this week not admitting of it. The Lodge was resumed in the second and first degree, and after the usual ceremonies, closed.

Stockwell Lodge, No. 1339.—The usual meeting of the Stockwell Lodge was held on Tuesday evening, 16th December, at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. Bro. W. G. Brighten W.M. presided. Present—Bros. Boswell S.W., Sawyer J.W., Frances Sec., Masters I.G., Klenck P.M., Pain P.M., Bassett P.M., Coe P.M., Rosefin, Moss, Salmon, M'Kay, J. Rosefin, Bowyer, and the following visitors:—Bros. H. Thompson 1426 and P.M. 177 and 1158, Meek 754, Fletcher 1567, Bartlett 1752, Boustead P.M. 548, Portwee 1555, E. Dodson P.M. 72, Smith 186, Newman 1385, Doudney 145, Freeman 1288. The Lodge having been duly opened and the minutes read, the first business was to ballot for Mr. Rosefin and Mr. Henry John Pain, who were candidates for admission into Freemasonry, the latter being the son of Bro. Pain, one of the highly respected P.M.'s of the Lodge. In both cases the ballot was unanimous, and they were introduced and ably initiated into the Order by the W.M. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. Dukes was examined as to the progress he had made in the science. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, when Bro. H. E. Frances P.M. and Secretary presided, and Bro. Dukes was impressively raised to the sublime degree. The Lodge was afterwards closed in the different degrees, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, where ample refreshments were provided. At conclusion, the usual formal toasts having been disposed of, the W.M. said the next he had to propose was the health of their brothers initiate, one of whom was the son of an esteemed Past Master, and he could assure him that he welcomed him with a great amount of cordiality, and asked him to diligently follow in the footsteps of his father, for by so doing he would make himself esteemed, not only in Freemasonry but throughout his life. He was glad that Bro. Pain had come into the Order in that Lodge, and could assure him that, if he gave his heart to it, the benefits would be returned to him a thousandfold. As to Bro. Rosefin, he was a stranger amongst them, but he was brother to one of their members, who had stood by the Lodge through good report and through evil report, and had come hundreds of miles over and over again to be with them. He trusted that as they were now Brothers two-fold they would work together for the benefit of the Lodge in particular, and for Freemasonry in general. The toast was very cordially received, and Bros. Pain and Rosefin severally returned thanks for the honour that had been conferred upon them by their admission into Freemasonry in that Lodge. Bro. Coe I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., who he said was one of the founders of the Lodge, and asked the brethren to drink it with cordiality. Bro. Dodson sang "Shells of the Ocean" in exquisite style, and afterwards the W.M. said he was very much obliged to them for the very hearty manner in which they had responded to the toast proposed by their immediate P.M. His year of office was drawing to a close, and he would to the utmost of his power endeavour to make the Stockwell Lodge a *bona fide* working Lodge, and restore it to the happy position it formerly held. Bro. Klenck P.M. then announced that they were about to draw for a Life Governorship of one of the Charities, but a small sum was required to make up the required amount, which was immediately supplied, and the lot fell to Bro. Bowyer, who was fortunate in drawing another on a former occasion. The next toast was that of the Visitors, for which Bro. Thompson responded, referring to the time when he had the privilege and pleasure of being present at the consecration of the Lodge; he had a vivid recollection of the great and hearty welcome he, in common with others, then received from Bro. Hammerton, their past W.M., and he was glad to have the opportunity of revisiting a Lodge in which he had received such kindness. He congratulated the Lodge on that night initiating the son of Bro. Pain, one of their P.M.'s, and an old friend of his; he thought that when a father proposed his son for initiation, it might be a good answer to those who are at all times ready to throw a stone at Freemasonry, and that was because they knew nothing about it. If a father was willing to introduce his son amongst them, Freemasonry could not be a very bad thing, and would fitly answer the sneers of the vulgar that were sometimes levelled against them. Two or three other Visitors also returned thanks. The W.M. then gave "The Past Masters of the Lodge," and extolled their good qualities, being always ready to render suit and service in any way in their power. Bro. Coe I.P.M., thanked the brethren for the very hearty, kind and cordial manner in which they had supported him during his year of office; he had endeavoured to carry out the duties of the Lodge to the best of his ability. Bros. Pain and Klenck also returned thanks. Some other toasts were given. A very pleasant evening was passed.

Creton Lodge, No. 1791.—This new Lodge, named after the respected Grand Treasurer, was held on Thursday, the 11th inst. at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. Lt.-Col. Creton W.M., H. J. Johnson S.W., J. Williams J.W., E. Thurkle Treasurer, J. I. Cantle P.M. Secretary, J. Nielson S.D., J. H. Buck J.D., W. Carrington I.G., J. Kift Organist, W. Williams Steward. Visitors—Bros. Æneas McIntyre, Q.C., G.R., S. Rucker P.G.D., S. Pierce P.G.S., Vincent W.M. 1624, S. Carrington 1314, W. E. Davis 606, Jas. Terry P.P.G.J.W. Herts, Finch P.M. 173, 180, H. A. Dubois P.G.W. Middlesex, Phillips P.M. 173, Peter De Lande Long P.G.D., C. Taylor 1629, T. L. Coulton P.M. 382, A. Burden 11, Walmsley 1624, Kelley 1524, T. Cross 1194, Cruse 1441, Ray 1624, R. Palowker 1512, Edgington 1321, McLeod P.M. 1624, Davis 157, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, and several others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Williams and Johnson were, by the courtesy of the W.M., raised to the third degree by Bro. J. I. Cantle P.M. and Secretary, who performed the ceremony very impressively. Ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. Long, Saull, and Hensman, and being unanimously in their favour, these gentlemen were duly initiated into the Order by the W.M. Bro. Lt.-Col. Creton, who also passed Bros. Hancock, Pink and O'Dea. Both ceremonies were perfectly and impressively rendered by the Officers, who well sustained the opinion formed as to their ability. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. H. J. Johnson S.W. was unanimously chosen to fill that important office. The W.M. stated the members were assured the duties of the chair would be ably carried out. Personally, he (Bro. Lt.-Col. Creton) congratulated the Lodge on their excellent selection. Bro. Johnson, in suitable terms, thanked the W.M. for his kind expressions, and the brethren for electing him. Bro. Thurkle P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Woodstock P.M. Tyler. Bros. Ferguson, Colvill, and Shute were elected Auditors. Bro. Cantle asked the W.M. for permission for a Lodge of Instruction to be held, under the sanction of the Lodge, at the Albert Hotel, Notting Hill. The W.M. said he would do all in his power to further that object, knowing it was for the good of the Lodge. Hearty good wishes were given from the various Visitors, and the Lodge was closed until the second Thursday in February. The brethren, sixty-two in number, adjourned to the Crown Room, where a very sumptuous and *recherché* banquet and dessert was provided by Bro. A. Best. Grace having been sung, the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen and the Craft. The National Anthem was sung, and then was offered the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. This was received most enthusiastically. Bro. Cantle P.M. sang the solo verses of "God Bless the Prince of Wales." The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers. He said—We are honoured to-night with the company of distinguished members of Grand Lodge; they are not only distinguished in Freemasonry, but hold also a very high social position. As a Lodge, we are proud to receive them. Bro. Æneas McIntyre, Q.C., G.R., responded, and in speaking of the qualifications of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creton, remarked that he was capable of performing his duties in the chair perfectly; they had witnessed that this evening. The office he held in Grand Lodge was the only one where the candidate was chosen by election; he (the speaker) had been associated with Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creton for many years. He had gained their esteem and regard by his connection with the three Charities of the Order. On behalf of the Visitors, he begged to return his sincere thanks. Bro. W. G. Reynolds gave a very excellent recital, entitled "Revenge." Bro. Cantle I.P.M. said he had, for the last time in his present capacity, to propose the toast of the W.M. All knew how they were indebted to him for taking the helm. As a Lodge they were only ten months old, and they had made it almost a rule that every year a Steward should represent the Lodge at the Charities. He (Bro. Cantle) had taken up 238 guineas for the Girls' School, and as Bro. Johnson W.M. elect is a Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, he hoped and was sure he would be well supported; he would ask the brethren to drink the health of their W.M. The W.M., who, on rising, was loudly cheered, said he felt very much flattered by the remarks of Bro. Cantle, and the hearty response of the brethren. The Lodge, since its consecration, had experienced continual sunshine. Although this was the last time he should preside over them at a banquet, his heart would always be with them. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the newly-initiated brethren. He hoped the impression they had received of the ceremony would never be effaced from their memory, and he trusted the members would give the toast the reception it merited. Bro. Saull, in a very pertinent speech, returned thanks. Bro. J. Kift sang a humorous song, and then the W.M. proposed "The Masonic Charities." He would ask them to drink the toast with the heartiness it merited. Bro. Terry was present, and he would respond. Bro. Cantle sang, splendidly, "In days of old." Bro. Terry, in returning thanks to the W.M. for proposing the toast of the Masonic Charities, remarked that no one could give more time to the cause of charity than the W.M. Many distinguished members of the House Committees of the various Institutions were present. Lieut.-Col. Creton is one who gives the Institutions all the support in

his power. He also devotes much time to their management. When this Lodge was consecrated, their W.M. was a P.G.D., and now he is Grand Treasurer. He was Chairman of the Girls' Festival during the year of his office as W.M. of the Creton Lodge. This redounded not only to his credit, but to the credit of the Lodge. Bro. Terry then spoke eloquently of the other two Charities, but he was most urgent in his advocacy of the claims of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Festival for which is fixed for February next. Bro. Johnson, the W.M. elect, would act as a Steward, and represent their Lodge. Bro. Cantle had taken up the large sum of 238 guineas for the Girls' School. Bro. Terry was sure Bro. Johnson would emulate his predecessor. Bro. Terry then recounted what was being done by the three Institutions, and thanked the brethren for the attention they had paid to his remarks. The W.M. then proposed the health of the Visitors, coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Rucker P.G.D., who, in an excellent speech, responded for the compliment. The next toast was that of the W.M. elect. The brethren had made a good selection. Bro. Johnson would carry out every duty the Lodge required of him, and he (the W.M.) would ask them to give the toast a hearty reception. Bro. Johnson returned thanks. He was pleased with every speech that had been made that evening, but he was most deeply impressed with that of Bro. James Terry; it created great confidence in him. With pride he could say he had now 130 guineas on his list. He would go to the Lodge and ask the brethren to assist him, not only to emulate Bro. Cantle's list, but also to enable him to surpass it. As a founder of the Lodge, it had been a pride to serve under the rule of the Grand Treasurer, Bro. Creton. As a Steward, he would not be satisfied without a goodly sum. He thanked the W.M. for his kind expressions, and the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they had responded to the toast. Bro. Collins sweetly sang "My sweetheart when a boy." The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Officers of the Lodge, to all of whom he was specially indebted, but to none more than to Bro. Cantle P.M.; he would ask him to respond. Bro. Cantle was pleased to hear such praise. He was sure it was earnest. It showed he had performed his duties satisfactorily. The Officers of the Lodge had formed themselves into a private Lodge of Instruction, and had qualified themselves to assist at any Lodge, but their principal object had been to give satisfaction to the members of their own Lodge. After a humorous song, the toast of the Masonic Press was given, and Bros. Kelly and H. M. Levy responded. The Tyler was then summoned, and he gave the parting toast. The Visitors were much indebted to Bro. Williams for his exertions to make them comfortable.

St. David's Lodge, No. 1147, Manchester.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street, on Thursday, the 11th inst. Present:—Bros. Ishmael Davis W.M., Thomas Elliott I.P.M., William Taylor S.W., William Hadden J.W., T. Griffin Treasurer, R. Beabow S.D., J. B. Seal J.D., T. R. Williams P.M. D.C., J. McLean I.G., A. Ehrenbach Organist, James Sly Tyler, T. R. Peel P.M., Thomas Gibson P.M., Ellis Jones P.M., M. Fairweather, William Palla, S. Naphthali, F. J. Brom, J. O. Gill, &c.; Visitors—Bros. H. T. Warren P.M. 44, D. A. Davis W.M. 625 J.W. 1793, H. S. Slatter 1219, D. Worthington 73, P. Walsh 78. The Lodge was opened at 6 p.m., and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. Edwin Roberts and George Kinloch, and having proved unanimous in their favour, those candidates were introduced and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M. and Bro. Ellis Jones P.M., in their usual excellent and impressive manner. After some other business had been despatched, hearty good wishes were expressed, and the Lodge was closed at 8 p.m. The brethren adjourned to banquet, and on the removal of the cloth, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. It is with much pleasure we visit this Lodge, as we find real brotherly love, and general goodwill existing amongst its members, while a cordial reception is given to visiting brethren.



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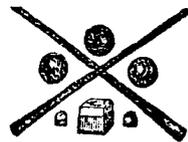
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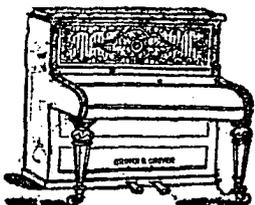
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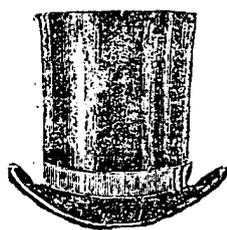
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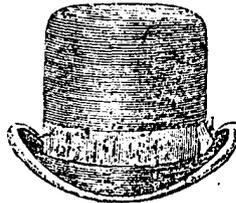
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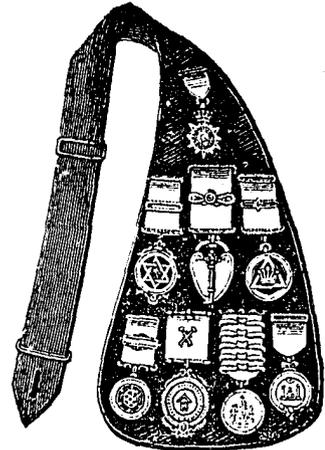
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