

THE
Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

VOL. XI.—No. 270.

SATURDAY, 28th FEBRUARY 1880.

[Issued to Subscribers only.
13s 6d per annum, post free.]

THE PROPOSED COMMITTEE OF IN-
QUIRY INTO MASONIC WORKING.

OUR readers will remember that at the December Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge it was agreed, on the motion of Bro. Past Master James Stevens, that a Committee be appointed with a view to inquire into and report upon the different systems of working in vogue among our Lodges. It will be seen, too, from the Agenda Paper for next Wednesday's Communication, that two motions respecting the appointment of this Committee will be submitted for the consideration of Grand Lodge. The first of these will be to the effect that as regards that portion of the minutes in which is recorded the acceptance of Bro. Stevens's proposal, the customary confirmation be withheld. The second is a motion by Bro. Stevens, that the Committee shall consist of certain brethren whose names will be found elsewhere in our columns. If the former of these two motions is agreed to, it will be obviously useless to submit the latter. It is on the cards it will be found that Grand Lodge is of another mind in March 1880 than it was in December 1879, and to proceed with the nomination of a Committee which has been shelved would be sheer waste of time and ridiculous. On the other hand, if the minutes are confirmed in their entirety, the nomination of the Committee will follow as of course. The question to be in that case considered will be, simply whether or not it shall consist of the brethren whom Bro. Stevens has nominated, or partly of his nominees supplemented by others, or yet again, entirely of other brethren. This, it strikes us, will be the course, according as one or other of the contingencies we have pointed to happens. Meanwhile, however, a few remarks on the subject seem desirable.

We have said already that Grand Lodge may see fit to change its mind as between December and March, and may reverse in the latter month a decision at which, after mature deliberation, it arrived in the former. Nor do we think any one will be found to question its competency to make such change. But it certainly is open to brethren to doubt the wisdom or expediency of such a course. It must be remembered that Grand Lodge is the Masonic Senate, whose duty it is to weigh well all matters of importance to our interests. Its decisions, therefore, should be arrived at deliberately, not hastily. It does not need the wisdom of a numerous and enlightened body to settle such trivial questions as a dinner hour, the dimensions of an apron, or the value of a jewel. But questions of Ritual come not within the category of trivial questions, and when it has once been admitted—as is the case with regard to this proposition of Bro. Stevens—that a Committee of Inquiry into the different systems of Masonic working is, to put it in the very mildest possible form, not undesirable, it seems to us it would be tantamount to an act of self-stultification on the part of Grand Lodge were it to reverse, on Wednesday next, the decision of last December. It will be said there is a precedent for this change. Some few years ago, a proposition having the same object in view, was submitted to, and adopted by, Grand Lodge, but nothing came of it. We think, on the contrary, that if, on this occasion, a similar course be pursued, it will detract from, instead of enhancing, the dignity of Grand Lodge. It will be in the power of any one so minded to point out that that body has twice affirmed a certain proposition, and on each occasion has allowed its decision to be of none effect. Will any one

allow, for one moment, that such a procedure is either wise or expedient, or even business-like; albeit, it may be perfectly regular, and in accordance with the Constitutions. Moreover, the mere appointment of a Committee of Inquiry does not necessarily involve any change in, or modification of, our Ritual. The Committee, having made its inquiries, may report that no alteration is necessary or desirable, or, on the other hand, it may say it is. In the latter event, it will be the duty of Grand Lodge to determine the character and extent of such alterations. If the report is to the effect that one system of working, and one only, should be in force, it will then have to settle what that system of working must be. But to refuse to nominate a Committee, the appointment of which has been agreed to, except under some imperious necessity, which certainly has not arisen in the interval since last December, would, as we have remarked, be an act of self-stultification of singular gravity, such as, with all proper deference for the opinions of those who differ with us, we cannot imagine any well-intentioned brother would care to see fulfilled.

So much for the one proposition; namely, that Bro. Stevens's motion for the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry be not confirmed. Let us now consider the scope of Bro. Stevens's proposal itself, the principle of which has already been accepted by Grand Lodge. We cannot, of course, take upon ourselves to explain positively the meaning of another person's proposition; but as far as we have been able to gather from his letters, speeches, and personal explanations, it seems to us that his motion involves four principal points, of which two may be described as positive, and two as negative in character. The former are (1) that a certain standard of Ritual should be maintained, and (2) that steps should be taken for establishing a College of Preceptors or similar body for the purpose of upholding that standard in all its native purity. The latter involve no interference whatever, (1) with the working as now practised in our Lodges, or (2) with the just prerogatives of the Board of General Purposes. Let us take these points seriatim, and discuss their meaning and value.

Firstly, there should be one uniform standard of Ritual. In suggesting this, Bro. Stevens, it seems to us, does not so much insist on uniformity of phraseology in the working of our ceremonies as on uniformity of practice. The former is comparatively of little value, the latter it cannot be denied is of the very greatest importance. A particular proposition may be variously expressed, but always in such a manner that its true and original meaning is never for one moment in doubt. The expression may be of the very simplest, or it may be so complicated that only after the most careful study is it possible for a person to understand its real purport. In short, the idea is the same, whatever the form of words in which it is clothed. But where there is no uniformity of practice, there is always room for innovation—and in a science like that of Freemasonry such a possibility is most undesirable—no harm may come, but on the other hand the contingency must not be lost sight of that it may. While therefore it is unnecessary to lay too great stress on extreme verbal uniformity, it is unquestionably of the greatest moment there should be one harmonious and unvaried, invariable system of working our different ceremonies. These are the result of careful study on the part of the founders of the science. The symbols employed are not only complete in themselves, but they also harmonise well together. It were unwise, therefore, to think of allowing them to be tampered with, as in such case, their true meaning might be either exaggerated or diminished. It will be readily understood that it is impos-

sible for us to illustrate our meaning, as we should do if we were discussing some legal or social question. Yet can there be no harm in pointing out—as regards the ceremony of initiation, for instance—that while it cannot be of serious moment that exactly the same phrases should be employed in all Lodges, it cannot be otherwise than necessary it should be carried out in its entirety in the manner prescribed by the authorities. Nothing should be added to, nothing taken from it. There must be no transposition of the several parts. This, or indeed any other one of our ceremonies may be likened to a puzzle, the several parts of which are made to fit together, so as to form a particular figure, but there is only one way, not several ways, of fitting these parts into each other. At the same time it cannot in the slightest degree affect the value of the puzzle, whether it be painted green, white, purple, orange, or any other colour. This colour is to the puzzle what the phraseology of a ceremony is to the ceremony itself. So long as the virtue of the latter is untainted, the mere language is of little moment. This, if our interpretation is correct, is Bro. Stevens's meaning, when he insists on the necessity for uniformity in Masonic ceremonial. He does not say the same language must be used everywhere and on all occasions, but he does say there should be uniformity of observance.

Then as to his second point, that there should be established a College of Preceptors or similar body, whose duty it will be to see this uniformity carried out. We are not going to discuss its constitution, which as yet only exists in the imagination of one of our brethren. It might be a part of the Board of General Purposes, or it might be a body apart. It might be entitled a Committee of Ritual or a College of Preceptors. These are matters of detail which are easy of settlement when the proper time for settling them has arrived. But once it has come to be recognised that uniformity of ceremonial observance is not only desirable but necessary, and it follows there must be somebody having the requisite authority to see that this uniformity is observed. In the Grand Lodges of the United States there are certain Officers known as Lecturers, whose duty it is to visit the Lodges in their respective jurisdictions. By this judicious arrangement the desired uniformity of working is attained. It cannot be of less importance that the working should everywhere, both in London and in the Provinces, as well as in the Districts abroad, be satisfactory, seeing that England is undoubtedly the mother country of Freemasonry as constituted in modern times. Again, severe notice is very properly taken if the several degrees are allowed to be taken at less than certain prescribed intervals of time, and the ceremonies must be gone through a second time, so that the majesty of the law may be vindicated. The offending Lodge is admonished, and, were the offence repeated, would be still more severely punished. Can it be of less importance that the ceremonies used in conferring the degrees should be carried out aright, and as nearly as possible with the same formalities everywhere throughout the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge? Rather, say we, it is of even greater importance that the ceremony should be done rightly, than that it should be done only when a certain period of time has elapsed. In the one case a Constitution is violated—and far be it from us to regard such violation with anything like levity—but that is the sum and substance of the harm that is done. In the other case, not only is the ceremonial indifferently or improperly observed, but the recipient of the degree experiences a certain loss of knowledge as the result of such indifference or incompleteness. Or, to put the matter more clearly, he does not receive that degree of enlightenment to which he is entitled. There is yet another point to be considered. It is chiefly by the intercommunication of brethren in our Lodges, and especially in our Lodges of Instruction, that a correct knowledge of the science of Freemasonry is spread throughout our ranks; but if it be found that diversities of practice exist in the working of our ceremonies, is it not inevitable that a certain amount of confusion must arise in the minds of many, not so much as to the value of certain modes of expression, but as to the ideas expressed in some cases and omitted in others? As we have before pointed out, it is impossible, for many reasons, to be explicit in treating thus publicly of what concerns our ceremonial. Suffice it to say, that it ought not to be left to individual judgment to add or omit anything without constitutional warranty: There is no more undue restraint in insisting on uniformity of practice in matters of Ritual than in pre-

scribing certain conditions as to the admission of candidates, or for their advancement to the higher degrees when they have been admitted; or, indeed, in Grand Lodge passing such ordinances as in its wisdom it may think necessary to the good government of the Craft.

As to the other two points, which we have described as being negative in their character, they may be dismissed briefly. Bro. Stevens does not propose in any way to disturb the present working in our Lodges. He considers there should be Uniformity of Ritual, but he regards it as a politic matter that time should be given for the general adoption of the standard of Ritual. Let this be first of all determined. Let Preceptors and others interested acquire the requisite knowledge of this standard, and as time progresses, its establishment will follow as a matter of course. Neither does Bro. Stevens consider it politic in any way to trench upon the powers vested in the Board of General Purposes. This Board is, indeed, an instrument ready at hand for giving effect to the recommendations, if any, of the proposed Committee of Inquiry, subject of course to the authorisation of Grand Lodge. True, Freemasonry is essentially conservative—we use the word in no political sense—in its character. Thus change for the sake of change is distasteful in its eyes. It proudly claims to be “always the same” in spirit. It will not neglect to repair an omission, or correct an error, if it is once convinced of the propriety of such reparation or correction. But to insist on Uniformity of Working, in the sense we have indicated, is in harmony with, instead of being antagonistic to, this conservative spirit. It is suggestive of a return to, instead of a deviation from, the ancient landmarks. It means a reform in things essential to the well-being of Freemasonry, but a reform involving no innovation that can possibly prove noxious. Bro. Stevens, and those who agree with him, not unreasonably urge, that while it may be fairly left open to the learned to differ among themselves as to the proper interpretation of certain recognised parts of Freemasonry, each of those parts has its due significance, and should not be omitted or curtailed at pleasure. Neither do they think it becoming that in any of our Lodges any practice which has not received the sanction of authority should in like manner be interpolated. In fine, Bro. Stevens, if we interpret him aright, is desirous of attaining the maximum improvement in Masonic working with the minimum of change. Whether we agree with him or not as to the manner in which he proposes to attain this object, we cannot but allow he is animated by a very laudable ambition.

We have now dealt with the material points of the case. We have given expression to the opinion that while Grand Lodge has a perfect right to change its opinion on this or any other matter, it will be more in harmony with its usual consistency, and certainly less injurious to its high character for wisdom, if it confirms on Wednesday the decision it arrived at last December. We have also at some length endeavoured to explain the grounds on which, in our opinion, Bro. Stevens has founded his proposition, as well as the nature and extent of the changes involved therein. It remains for us to offer a few words on the constitution of his proposed Committee. It includes the names of several well-known able, experienced, and energetic members of the Craft, whose collective and individual wisdom and discretion cannot be doubted. But there are those of many equally well-known able, and experienced Craftsmen which it does not contain. We are fully alive to the difficulty of organising the best possible Committee. Our most distinguished brethren have other and important duties which cannot be left unfulfilled, or be fulfilled only in a perfunctory manner. The likelihood of bringing together all we should like to see engaged in so important a task is most remote. We doubt not Bro. Stevens has done his best to secure the services of our ablest and most influential brethren, but his nomination decidedly needs strengthening. Far be it from us, in saying this, to suggest anything in the way of detraction from the undoubted merits of those nominated—merits we have just acknowledged unreservedly. Still, it cannot be doubted that if certain brethren, whose names we need not be at the pains of specifying, as they will naturally occur to our readers, were included, the confidence of the Masonic public would be increased. It is not necessary that all its members should be of one mind as to the propriety of the inquiry. If the minute is confirmed, the investigation must be as thorough and complete as possible, and to this end it is desirable that the assistance of all the brightest lights of

Freemasonry should be invoked. However, the Committee, whether it be constituted in the manner Bro. Stevens proposes or in any other way, will have the sanction and approval of Grand Lodge for entering on its labours, while the report it may deliver will also need the same sanction and approval before effect can be given to its recommendations. We need hardly say we await the issue of next Wednesday's Communication with more than the usual interest.

BRO. CLABON'S RESOLUTIONS.

THE Communication of Wednesday bids fair to be one of the most important that has been held for some time. We have already made one of the questions which will then be submitted for the consideration of United Grand Lodge the subject of remark in a lengthy article, and there is no doubt the resolutions which Bro. Clabon intends bringing forward are worthy of the most attentive comment, more especially as the purpose they are intended to achieve is now for the first time being largely and generously discussed outside the walls of Grand Lodge. This is very far from being, however, the first occasion on which Bro. Clabon has moved his resolutions in our Masonic Senate. What is more to the point, as far back as the year 1868 a Special Committee, at that Brother's instance, was appointed to inquire into and report upon the scheme as proposed by him. In due time the report was delivered, and proved highly favourable. The principle was accepted, but the proposal in some of its details was modified. Nothing further happened, and though Bro. Clabon has since tried to induce Grand Lodge to carry out the same or a similar scheme, the Fund of Benevolence goes on annually increasing in amount far beyond what is necessary to meet the ever-increasing demands on it for relief of the ordinary character, so that there is now a large principal floating, so to speak, between the heaven of Charity and the earth of Poverty. As recently as December last Bro. Clabon made a further essay in the same direction, and now again, nothing daunted by his then want of success, and with a courage worthy of so good a cause, he is once more to the fore with his series of resolutions. It is well nigh impossible he could have chosen a better time for bringing the subject again under the notice of Grand Lodge. For some months past a somewhat similar, yet independent, proposal has been before the Masonic public. We need hardly say we are referring to the proposed "Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund," to which already has been accorded so large a measure of support by the Grand Master, the Pro Grand Master, and Deputy Grand Master, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Leopold, a strong array of Provincial and Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, and other influential English Brethren, as well as by the Grand Master of Ireland, and the Grand and Past Grand Masters of Scotland. It may perhaps be urged by some that the very encouragement which is being given to this independent scheme is a reason for Grand Lodge declining to adopt Bro. Clabon's resolutions either as formulated by him or in any other form. With becoming deference, we submit that the fact of such a scheme being now in progress outside Grand Lodge is the reason of reasons why that body should in some way or other act upon the principle which some eleven or twelve years since its own specially appointed Committee of Inquiry reported upon so favourably. Grand Lodge is a contributor on a moderate scale to the funds of all our Institutions, of which one, the Royal Benevolent, may be described as being especially under its wing, and this quite apart from the fact that it also appropriates large sums of money in the relief of distressed brethren or the families of deceased brethren. Therefore, the proposed establishment of a Pupils' Assistance Fund should not only prove no impediment, but rather an encouragement to the passing of Bro. Clabon's resolutions. These are framed to supply a recognised want. There is an ample supply of funds, annually increasing in amount, at the disposal of Grand Lodge, and there is nothing whatever in the scheme which can be considered in the remotest degree foreign to the purposes for which the Fund of Benevolence, or Charity Fund, as it was first designated, was originally established. Under these circumstances, we do not hesitate to say they have our heartiest good wishes.

It is not necessary we should notice in detail the several proposed additions to the Book of Constitutions, Fund of Benevolence. They will be found elsewhere in our columns. They are the same as were proposed last December, and what is better still, they are the additions which the special Committee of 1868-9 recommended for acceptance by Grand Lodge. There is therefore nothing new in the principle or the details as now submitted. But while the former is unobjectionable, as are most of the latter, there are some which it is open to many to believe are capable of being improved. Thus, if we find that the proposed clauses 17 and 18 are accepted, these only concern the appropriation of certain fractional parts of the annual surplus of the Fund of Benevolence, one part to the Boys' School, and the other to the Girls' School, for assisting pupils thereof, and the investment of such funds in the names of eight trustees—four perhaps would be a better number. But clauses 19 and 20 deal with the application of this Fund, and we are not surprised to hear that Bro. Jabez Hogg, who has already shown his interest publicly in all matters relating to our Institutions, intends moving an amendment with a view to modifying the clauses as they now stand. As to Clause 19, first. Bro. Clabon's proposal is that the General Committee of each School, on the recommendation of its House Committee, may apply the dividends for the benefit of pupils requiring assistance. Bro. Hogg's amendment is to the effect that the Funds shall be administered by a Committee or Sub-Committee of the Board of Benevolence, half of whom shall be annually nominated by the Grand Master, and half elected annually by Grand Lodge, as is the case with the said Board as at present constituted. After certain details as to the meeting of this Committee or Sub-Committee, Bro. Hogg proposes that all applications for assistance shall be submitted by the General or House Committee of the Schools to this Sub-Committee of the Fund of Benevolence. Clause 20, as proposed by Bro. Clabon, vests in the General Committee the power of granting any sum not exceeding £25, but for grants beyond that amount, the consent of the Quarterly General Court of the School must be obtained. Bro. Hogg, however, proposes that his Sub-Committee of the Fund of Benevolence shall be invested with the power of granting sums not exceeding £25. Any above that amount must be submitted to Grand Lodge only as recommendations, and will need its assent or confirmation.

Such, in all essentials, is the sum of the differences between Bro. Clabon's and Bro. Hogg's recommendations. Both plans have their good points, the chief of which, perhaps, as regards the former, is that it corresponds exactly with the scheme recommended by the Committee of Inquiry before referred to, while the merit of Bro. Hogg's lies in this, that he leaves to a section of the Board of Benevolence the duty of appropriating the dividends on the funds annually granted out of the Fund of Benevolence, while he leaves it to the School General or House Committees to submit the necessary recommendations. This, we think, is the better plan of the two, partly because the School Committees have already enough to do in administering the funds at their disposal, and regulating the conduct of their respective Schools, but principally because it leaves it to the Board of Benevolence to appropriate or recommend for appropriation the interest on moneys granted out of its own Fund. But whatever the details, we trust Grand Lodge will accept and carry out the scheme of Bro. Clabon. It will not clash with the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, for the two may work hand-in-hand together. It will not check the flow of individual benevolence, the Institutions already in existence prove that. Nor will it lay Freemasonry open to the charge of overdoing its duty in the way of relief. Every year children are receiving this kind of relief, but out of the Funds of the two Schools, and we cannot suppose that the B. of B. or G. L. will be less careful in the application of the proposed Fund than the School Committees are of the moneys they administer. Let us remember what Lord Rosslyn said when presiding at the Boys' Festival last year. "It is not impossible that at the end of their schooling career some of these boys"—and the same remark applies with equal force to the Girls' School—"may leave the School homeless and in need. It may be that the good seed sown may bear fruit during their scholastic career; but it may also be that the fruit will perish for want of cultivation at a later period."

ALLEGED DISCOVERY OF MASONIC EMBLEMS.

IT would be impossible to come to any definite opinion on the subject of the Masonic emblems, which Commander Gorringe of the United States Navy is announced to have discovered in the foundation of the Obelisk which Egypt has presented to America, at least, without further opportunity of judging of their real value. Some there are who delight in connecting all mysterious symbols with Freemasonry, while others, with equal fervour, denounce all such Associations. We are not inclined to father on Freemasonry whatever is discovered of incomprehensible, simply because it is incomprehensible, nor have we any desire to resent such connection because it is well nigh impossible to explain positively the justification. We are content with knowing and saying that the exact age of what is now known as Freemasonry is a question which is difficult, if not impossible, of solution. We are believers in its antiquity for well nigh the same reasons as those given by Bro. R. Vaux Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania. We believe in a direct connection between the early mysteries of Egypt, Greece, and other countries of ancient times and the Science of Masonry as now taught in our Lodges. We do not think it desirable to connect the philosophers of old with our Order in the capacity of Grand Masters, but undoubtedly much of the philosophy they taught their disciples had the true Masonic ring about it. This philosophy was gradually spread among the nations, and has been handed down from age to age in a form which has been fairly well understood and appreciated by the repositories of this occult science, who have jealously guarded its secrets from the profane, at the same time they have expounded them lucidly to the initiated. The architects may be regarded as the connecting link between the modern Freemasons and the ancient philosophers. They stand to the arts and sciences in exactly the same relation as do the monks to literature. When in all around was visible the darkness of ignorance, they held the secrets of knowledge. These secrets they imparted to those only who were worthy to be entrusted with them, and then only gradually as the latter showed themselves more and more zealous and proficient. Their mode of teaching was the symbolic—that is, they gave to certain things in common use certain occult meanings, and these things in common use were mostly the implements which were necessary in order to properly fulfil their duties. Oftentimes this mysterious teaching was made still more so by the introduction or association of real historic personages, but in a confused way, and without any regard for the time when, the place where, or the manner in which. Supposing, therefore, it possible for us to make public through the medium of these columns what is heard in our Lodges, it is more than probable it would excite amusement among the uninitiated, just as would anything else that was incomprehensible by them. But no well informed Mason, according to the degree of enlightenment that had been vouchsafed to him, would experience any great difficulty in extracting the kernel of truth from the shell of apparently incongruous verbiage in which it was incased. At the same time, as we have said already, there are many who fancy they see a mystery in whatever is strange or unfamiliar, and one must be on one's guard against too readily accepting the alleged discovery of every new mystery. It is enough for our purpose to state that as there was a river in Macedon and a river in Monmouth, so was there a mystic cult in ancient Egypt as there is a mystic cult in England and other countries of the present day. We believe in a connection between these two, and on stronger grounds than Fluellyn did in the case of Macedon and Monmouth. When, therefore, we hear of Masonic emblems having recently been discovered in Egypt, we naturally take an interest in them, but we reserve our opinion till we are in a better position to judge of their value. Meanwhile, the following are the emblems which Commander Gorringe has discovered, namely:—

Firstly.—A Mason's square of red syenite granite, the long section being eight feet six inches long, 17 inches broad, 25 inches thick, and the short section measuring from the outer angle four feet three inches by 20. The Mason's square is near the north-easterly corner of the foundation, parallel with the easterly side of the foundations.

Secondly.—A pure white stone, representing an apron, and situated under the end of the short section.

Thirdly.—Under the apron a perfect altar of red granite.

Fourthly.—Towards the corner of the foundations opposite the

angle of the Mason's square, that is, towards the south-easterly corner of the foundations, is a red granite rough altar.

Fifthly.—Between these two altars a Mason's spoon-shaped iron trowel of ordinary size, totally oxidised; in all, five emblems, each in its proper position. They rest on a foundation of yellowish-drab limestone. Surrounding the foundation on all sides and forming part of it are three steps, all of stone.

Our transatlantic brethren will soon have an opportunity of seeing and judging for themselves of the value of the discovery. Dr. Fanton has already expressed his belief that they are Masonic emblems, and Bro. Vaux Past G.M. of Pennsylvania considers this view is a just one, though he does not hold with it entirely. So, at least, we gather from the following excerpt from a conversation that brother recently had, according to intelligence from the United States, with the correspondent of the *New York Herald*. This opinion and the exposition accompanying it, coming as they do from so prominent a member of the Craft, are worth reproducing.

Until we know exactly what they represent it is in vain to indicate our notion of what they are. Fanton and Gorringe have given their opinion that they are Masonic. I rather incline to agree with Dr. Fanton that his opinion is the correct one, although I think he has confounded what are known as the symbolic with what are known as the higher degrees. Now, in my view, Freemasonry, as we understand it to-day, is the representation of what was in ancient times occult. It is impossible to tell the profane in what this similarity consists, but the intelligent world knows that the Masonry of this age is a symbolic teaching, and that its signs are but the representation of certain indestructible, eternal truths. The subjective truth, from the creation of the world, has been taught by signs. The creation of Adam was but the presentation of the eternal subjective truth of the Trinity, for Adam was composed of three separate and distinct constitutions—the mental, the moral, and the physical. So all subjective truths have been thus taught from then until now. If you go to Egypt, and take the cult of Osiris and Isis, you will find in their teachings the same subjective truth. You find that this symbolization was taught to the initiates. They were taught in secret for reasons which can be comprehended. There is large authority for this teaching by symbols of subjective truth; Lord Bacon, Pococke, and Max Muller I will only cite just now. This Egyptian cult was taught in Egypt over 2,000 years before Christ. We know that it was brought to Greece 1,970 years before Christ. We know that 1,500 years before Christ the mysteries of Osiris, or the Egyptian Isis, were established at Eleusis in honour of Ceres. So that the Eleusinian mysteries were taught in Greece, derived from Egypt, 1,500 years before Christ. And we know the subjective truth of both these cults was life, death, and immortality. We know further that the Dionysian mysteries in honour of Bacchus, and the arts and sciences were carried on a thousand years before Christ. We know that Moses died 1,451 years before Christ, 100 years after the Eleusinian mysteries were known in Greece. We know that the Dionysian architects and the Essenian fraternity, to which Pythagoras belonged, existed 560 years before Christ. We know that Solomon dedicated the Temple 340 years after the Eleusinian mysteries were known. Now these facts history tells us. Those who read earnestly and anxiously will not be in the least astonished at the hypothesis that what was the secret mysteries taught in these schools to initiates, and which these Dionysian architects evidently were acquainted with, brings this idea of Masonry as a cult down to the range of known history.

We shall revert to the subject when we are further posted in the matter:

REVIEW.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of *The Freemason's Chronicle*, 23 Gt. Queen St., W.C.

The Atholl Lodges: their Authentic History. Being a Memorial of the Grand Lodge of England "according to the old Institutions." Compiled from official sources. By Robert Freke Gould, author of "the Four Old Lodges." London: Spencer's Masonic Depot, opposite Freemasons' Hall. 1879.

We remember once to have heard of a brother who, on being asked if the Lodge he belonged to was an "ancient" or a "modern" one, indignantly replied that it *must* be an "ancient" one, as its warrant was dated 173—. The worthy Mason was in blissful ignorance of there having been a great Secession subsequent to the date of his Lodge Warrant, and that the seceders styled themselves, or caused themselves to be styled, "Ancients," in contradistinction from the body which they seceded from, whom they scoffingly regarded as "Moderns," from, as they said, having destroyed certain landmarks and made innovations upon free and ancient Masonry. So in taking up this work of Bro. Gould's, there are doubtless brethren who, if they should be asked what are or were the "Atholl" Lodges, may suggest that they are or were Lodges named after a certain nobleman who bore the title of Atholl, though it is equally on the cards they might imagine they are or were Lodges held in a certain district in Scotland, while some may confound their members with the celebrated "Atholl Brose," the final *e* being a Masonic eccentricity in the way of spelling. To speak with becoming seriousness, however, we, who are so justly proud of our good old Craft, are very careless about her history. We are improving, it is true, but former generations of Masons were bad hands at keeping Lodge records in order. Some

fought shy of compiling any records at all, under the impression that anything in the way of archives from which a history of Freemasonry might some day be compiled, was inconsistent with the secrecy on which the Order prided itself. They did not seem to distinguish between the secrecy which in its proper place is admirable, and the secrecy which being out of place and entirely unnecessary could not be otherwise than hurtful. Thus there is no subject more interesting to the seeker after Masonic truth than the history of this great Secession which for close on three quarters of a century kept the Masonry of England arrayed in hostile camps, and summarily stopped all friendly intercourse between those who should have looked on each other as brethren. Yet neither body appears to have thought it worth while to found materials on which such a history could be based. By "materials," of course we mean such as without detriment could be made public. Preston, and those who have followed in his footsteps, have managed, in spite of this want of matter, to compile works mostly interesting, but invariably containing much that cannot be accepted as trustworthy, and which certainly would never have been made to pass current as belonging to Masonic history, had those who preceded them been more considerate of the historic interests of the Fraternity. Now, as we have said, we are becoming more enlightened; at the same time we are as tenacious as ever in keeping veiled from the inspection of the uninitiated what is just and proper; and thanks to the labours of such brethren as Hughan, Woodford, Bell, Kelly, Lyon, and the author of this work, we are gradually becoming alive to the fact that Masonry has a history of which its members may be proud, and the publication of which will do much towards raising it in the estimation of the world. The more that is known of our Craft, the more highly and the more generally will it be appreciated. Hence the welcome we accord so readily and so heartily to this second instalment of Bro. Gould's labours, which, albeit of necessity dry reading in parts, is nevertheless valuable from the simple circumstance that it is derived from authentic sources. Indeed, whenever Bro. Hughan or some equally competent brother shall venture on the task of writing of this Secession, he will find ready to hand this work of Bro. Gould's, and we make bold to say he will bless the thought which prompted Bro. Gould to undertake so laborious a task.

The Preface explains briefly who were the Atholl Masons, and how they came to be so designated. As those who take an interest in these matters are aware, they were the seceders from the Grand Lodge of England as constituted in 1717. They were the so-called "Ancients," and subsequently received the name of Atholl from the Duke of that title, who presided over them in the capacity of Grand Master. They were undoubtedly a numerous and important body. They boasted a considerable number of Lodges distributed throughout England and her colonies and dependencies, and even in foreign parts. And when, in 1813, the great schism which for so long a period had divided English Freemasons was healed, the "Ancients" met their brethren of the still more ancient body on equal terms, and the hundred and odd Lodges yet remaining on the roll of the United Grand Lodge are worthily placed, and still remain as so many admirable monuments to the energy of Atholl Masonry. But they do not seem to have been imbued with any considerable desire to hand down to future generations of Masons anything like an account of their doings, being in this respect most admirable imitators of the "Moderns," whom they affected to despise so much. Nor do they seem to have concerned themselves much about the publication of Lodge rolls. Though the schism dates from 1738 or thereabouts—there is no fixing with certainty its exact date—it was not till 1807 that a list of Lodges was published at the end of Abiman Rezon, its official profession of faith, so far as such profession could be made known to the world. Nor from the fact of the Grand Lodge Lists, as kept by successive Grand Secretaries, containing always the same numbers, is it so easy—or perhaps we should say, is it by any means less difficult—to trace out the course of individual Lodges as with the Moderns. The latter periodically closed up its numbers, so that what may have been Lodge No. 100 in 1740 or 1770, became in 1756 or 1781 (say) Lodge No. 30. The "ancient" practice appears to have been that whenever a Lodge (say) No. 20 on the list, fell into abeyance, an inferior number (say) Lodge No. 53, was allowed to have the Warrant of the former and older Lodge on making a certain payment to the Charity Fund. Thus, while those of the Modern Lodges yet existing show an uninterrupted career from the original grant of the Warrant till now—always, of course, excepting any period or periods of years during which they may have lain dormant—an ancient Lodge, though high up on the list, need not be so old as its position would seem to warrant. This will be better understood by a reference to the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar*, where Lodges founded in 1751, as in the case of Nos. 7, 9, and 11, are below No. 1 dated 1759, No. 3 dated 1784, and No. 5 dated 1752. It will be seen still more clearly on reference to (say) present No. 3 Lodge, which was No. 2 at the Union, in the notes to which we read the following:—"18th February, 1778: Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Lodge, that No. 2, and some other numbers, may be disposed of, much to the advantage of the Fund of Charity.—*G. L. Min.*, 21st February 1784 (1784). From 32, received six guineas for the Warrant by order of the Grand Lodge. *R. L.—G. S. Note in G. L. Reg.*" This excerpt will enable readers to judge of the extent of Bro. Gould's labours, and the time and patience he must have brought to bear on their fulfilment. But all he has chosen to insert is not as dry as the above passage. Thus under present No. 30—Ancient No. 23, we read that its Warrant was "cancelled 16th September 1778, sundry members having pawned the Lodge jewels (restored 1st December 1779, and again cancelled a fortnight later)." Again, in the Note under present No. 73, we read of a Master of a Lodge having been reprimanded for initiating a "cripple," and also the following dated 15th August 1804, from the minutes of the Stewards' Lodge. "That T. Sculthorpe being a person not perfect in body, but deformed, and much below the common stature of Man, was a very improper person to become, and is now unfit to continue, a member of this most ancient and honour-

able Fraternity, and consequently not entitled to the advantages or privileges of Masonry in any degree whatever." And it is added that this was "confirmed by G. L. 5th Sept. 1804."

At p 44 appears this note in connection with present No. 177, "The Domatic," formerly ancient No. 234:—

16 April, 1806: Grand Warden Plummer reported that Bros. Tuffield and Allen of 264, and Ward of 234, had lately taken upon themselves to address H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, and requested H.R.H. to adopt and take upon himself the Office of Grand Master, and which address H.R.H. had been pleased to return an answer, under the impression that the said address had been written by the order, or under the Sanction of the Grand Lodge. Ordered, that the said brothers be summoned to attend the next Stewards' Lodge to answer their most unwarrantable conduct in the premises, and that the Master and Wardens of 234 and 264 be also summoned to attend. 21 May, 1806: Ordered, that Bros. Tuffield, Allen and Ward be severely reprimanded from the chair, and that such like conduct will in no case be permitted to pass in future.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

THE MASONIC RITUAL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Bro. Jacob Norton is so fully and thoroughly capable of defending his own position and of fighting his own battles, that it would be the height of presumption for any one to take up the cudgels for him.

To Bro. Norton's care therefore will I leave any reply he may choose to make to the letter of "P.G.C. OXON" in your last issue. But there are one or two points in that communication touching upon a subject specially interesting to brethren who conscientiously decline to subscribe to the Thirty-nine Articles of the Church Militant.

I frankly confess to a feeling of a considerable amount of diffidence in venturing to oppose my humble opinions to such an authority as the P.G.C. Oxon. Nevertheless I will ask leave to make some observations upon the remarks of the reverend brother in reference to freedom of the ritual from sectarianism.

If I read Bro. Norton's communication aright, I failed to deduce from it even the remotest intention to revolutionise the Craft into a Society "which owns neither God nor Heaven," but hailed his suggestions as of the utmost practical value.

Bro. Stevens's attempt to revise the existing Ritual would be a splendid opportunity to purify from the remaining vestiges of dogmatic sectarianism what ought to bear upon every part of it the stamp of universality. Except in one instance the Craft degrees are acceptable to Jews, Deists, and Christians alike.

The point alluded to occurs in the third degree, when the candidate is exhorted to "lift his eyes to that bright morning star whose rising brings peace and salvation," &c. The allusion, intelligible enough is, however, so vague that it is scarcely worth while to take exception to it. But if the rev. brother be a Royal Arch Mason, he most assuredly cannot conscientiously assert that this ceremony is free from sectarianism, for here we have unmistakable evidence that originally Freemasonry was thoroughly imbued with the popular dogmas of sectarian Christianity, the remnants of which are not only clearly discernible, but even very distinctly defined, as for instance the reference to the triune essence of God, &c., and several others of equal importance, very thinly and even clumsily veiled. Who will dispute that that is sectarianism? and who will deny that as a matter of consistency with Masonic principle it is high time that such anomalies should be expunged?

As the matter stands at present, Jewish brethren and others labour under the necessity of so altering the sense as to suit their convictions, but that is at the same time felt to be an act of disloyalty, though enforced, and why need any one be subjected to this, in a manner, dishonourable ordeal.

With P.G.C. I wish to steer clear of the question of Uniformity of Working, and will only venture to advise Bro. Stevens to give the suggestions of Bro. Norton his best consideration, for though he might happen to fail in his pet scheme of Uniformity, he may succeed in being the means of ridding the Ritual of many strange but accountable anomalies, and thus earn the gratitude of every impartial and anti-sectarian member of the Craft.

Yours, &c.

E. GOTTHEIL.

The Queen has appointed Bro. the Ven. Arthur Perceval Purey-Cust, M.A., Archdeacon of Buckingham, Hon. Canon of Christ Church, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Berks and Bucks, to the vacant Deanery at York.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—In general debility, mental depression and nervous irritability, there is no medicine which operates so like a charm as these famous Pills. They purify the blood, soothe and strengthen the nerves and system, give tone to the stomach, elevate the spirits, and, in fact, make a patient sensible of a total and most delightful revolution in his whole system. They may be commended most unreservedly as the very best family medicine in existence. Though so powerfully efficacious, they are singularly mild in their operation, and might be given with perfect confidence to delicate women and young children. They contain not a grain of mercury, or any other noxious substance, and cannot do harm. Delicate females and all persons of sedentary habits will find these Pills a blessing.

THE HISTORY OF CRAFT MASONRY IN READING.

An Address, delivered by Bro. Chas. Oades W.M. to the Union Lodge 414, on Tuesday, 16th December 1879.

(Continued from page 119.)

In 1843, Bro. John Jackson Blandy was installed W.M., the Lodge also went into mourning for twelve months on account of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex G.M.

In 1845, the Lodge also went into mourning for six months, on account of the death of Bro. Ramsbottom R.W. Prov. G.M. of Berkshire. In December of this year Bro. J. Leaver was initiated, and in the following April was appointed Secretary, an office he held uninterruptedly until last Christmas.

In June 1847, the late Bro. Botley was initiated, and on the same evening Bro. the Rev. Arthur Roberts, the present Vicar of Barkham, and for many years the Chaplain of the Lodge, was initiated. About this period in our history of the Lodge the minute book invariably ends as follows, "and the brethren retired to the George Inn, where they partook of a banquet, and afterwards separated at an early hour."

In February 1848, there was a very large gathering of the Craft, the occasion being the Installation of the Marquis of Downshire as W.M. of the Lodge of Union, and afterwards, at a P.G. Lodge, as R.W.P.G. Master of Berks and Bucks. The same P.G.M. was re-elected the following year, but all the work appears to have been done by Bro. Gibson, who acted as D.P.G.M.

In April 1850, appears the name of Bro. F. A. Bulley as initiated, and in November Bro. Sir C. S. Paul Hunter as joining.

Bro. H. E. Jordan presided over the Lodge this year, and distinguished himself as a very energetic Mason.

In March 1851, Bro. Robt. Gibson P.M. offered 40,000 bricks as a contribution towards building a Masonic Hall; a committee was at once appointed to make inquiries as to a suitable site, and to ascertain what support the scheme was likely to meet with. In the following month the Marquis of Downshire held a P.G. Lodge in the Town Hall. In June Bro. W. H. Ferguson, the father of my energetic J.D., first saw the light of a Mason.

In March 1853, the Lodge passed a resolution to have only three banquets yearly (previously they had a banquet after every Lodge).

In 1854, Bro. the Rev. Arthur Roberts (now Vicar of Barkham), was installed the W.M., and at his first Lodge initiated that ornament of Masonry, Bro. W. W. Moxhay, our present installing Master; this is now a quarter of a century ago, but his frequent presence amongst us testifies that his interest in the Craft and the welfare of the Lodge is still undiminished. In 1855, the late Bro. Botley was W.M.; he had a heavy year's work during his Mastership; at his last Lodge three initiations, one passing, and two raisings! Bro. Moxhay was elected W.M. in 1857.

In 1859, the Lodge again migrated to the room in St. Laurence's Churchyard. The 23rd of March in this year was a red letter day for the Masons of Reading, for the offer of Bro. Robt. Gibson (previously alluded to) bore fruit; and the foundation stone of this beautiful Lodge room was laid by the Marquis of Downshire; the brethren attended St. Laurence's Church, the services being conducted by Bro. Sir J. W. Hayes, who read the prayers, and Bro. A. Roberts, who preached the sermon, which was appropriate to the occasion. The first Lodge was held in the new building on the 20th November 1860. Bro. J. B. Clacy was the Architect, and was installed as the first Master in the new building.

In February 1861, Bros. W. P. Ivey and R. C. Hurley, both prominent among the Masons of Reading, were received into the Craft, and at the following Lodge, Bro. Chas. Smith, one of our P.M.'s, who still visits the room where he first saw the Masonic light, was initiated.

In 1862, the Lodge appears to have been worked very badly, and one of the P.M.'s proposed a resolution equivalent to a vote of censure at the November Lodge; it was not carried, but the brethren appear to have marked their sense of the W.M.'s shortcomings by not voting him the usual jewel. In April 1863, the following resolution was carried:—"That no brother shall be installed into the chair unless he can open and close the Lodge in the three degrees, and be able to perform the ceremonies of initiation and passing; and that the W.M., and two P.M.'s appointed by him, shall examine the brother proposed to be elected as W.M. as to his efficiency, and decide thereon."

In June 1863, Bro. Stransom, the present Treasurer of 1101, was initiated, and in August Bro. Hounslow P.M. also came into the Craft. In this year the number of the Lodge was altered from 597 to 414.

In January 1864, Bro. Robt. Bradley, our Prov. G. Sec., was received into the Craft. The same evening Bro. Moxhay appears to have installed the W.M. for the first time. In this year the brethren, by great exertion, succeeded in getting the daughter of the late Bro. Jordan elected into the Girls' School. In May, Bro. Weightman was initiated. In March 1865, Bro. Botley presented a new Bible to the Lodge, the old one being presented to Bro. Body. In 1866, Bro. A. Sellar was W.M. In March of this year the I.P.M. Bro. Hole died, and thirty-six of the brethren attended the funeral, and in the same month the officers of 414 signed a petition for the constitution of a new Lodge in Reading, which was speedily carried into effect; and the Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101, was constituted by the Grand Registrar of England (who was then acting P.G.M. of Berks and Bucks), on the 17th May, and Bro. W. P. Ivey, the S.W. of 414, was installed as the first Master. From that time to the present, under a succession of energetic W.M.'s, the Lodge has had a continuous career of prosperity.

In November of this year, Bro. Sir Peter Spokes was initiated, and at the following Lodge Bro. Weightman presented the perfect ashlar with appurtenances, for which a vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

Bro. Chas. Smith was the W.M. for 1867, and on the first meeting

a petition for the formation of a R. A. Chapter in connection with 414 was agreed to, and the Chapter was duly formed. In March, Bro. Joseph Morris was initiated, and Bro. Weightman received the thanks of the Lodge for the broken column presented by him.

Bro. John Old was W.M. for 1868. In December of that year an official notice was received that Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart. M.P., was appointed Prov. G.M. for Berks and Bucks, which office he still holds, to the great advantage of the province.

In 1869, Bro. J. T. Blowers was W.M., and in 1870 Bro. Hounslow. This was an important year for the Masons, as the new Prov. G.M. published a fresh set of By-laws for the guidance of the Province, to which was added a History of the Province, by Bro. W. Biggs P.M. Prov. G. Sec. In 1871, Bro. Robert Bradley, our present active Prov. G. Sec., filled the chair, and in 1872 Bro. J. A. Strachan was installed. In November of this year Bro. W. Biggs was made an hon. member, in recognition of his many services, both in this province and that of Wilts.

Bro. J. Weightman was W.M. in 1873; in April of this year an effort was commenced to reduce the mortgage debt on the Lodge premises, by setting apart for that purpose the rents received from the Grey Friars Lodge and Union Chapter. In November Bro. Weightman, in addition to his many other gifts, presented a set of silver third degree working tools, for which a vote of thanks was carried by acclamation. Bro. Joseph Morris was W.M. in 1874, and initiated Bros. F. J. Ferguson, M. J. Withers, D. H. Witherington and S. Wheeler, all of whom are now Officers, and I hope will in due time occupy this chair. In 1875, Bro. Strickland was W.M., and in February initiated Bro. C. Stephens, the present J.W. of the Lodge and G. Treasurer of the Province. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was installed M.W.G.M. of England in the Albert Hall, London, a large number of P.M.'s and brethren from this Province attending. In June the brethren invited Bro. the Rev. A. P. Purey-Cast to a banquet on his leaving Reading, about sixty attended.

Bro. A. M. Yetts was installed in 1876, and during his year of office a very handsome jewel, subscribed for by the two Lodges, was presented to Bro. Moxhay, in appreciation of his services as Installing Master. Sir D. Gooch, Bart. M.P. the Prov. G. M. attending to make the presentation. In April Bro. the Rev. N. T. Garry our present Chaplain was initiated. On the completion of his year of office, Bro. Yetts presented the Lodge with a complete set of working tools, for which a vote of thanks was recorded.

Bro. S. A. Pocock was W.M. in 1877, and in this year Bro. Weightman represented the Lodge as Steward at the R.M.I.B., the Lodge voting ten guineas to his list. As the number of Trustees was considerably reduced by death, new Trustees of the building were appointed, consisting of Bros. Moxhay, R. Bradley, Weightman, Morris and Chas. Stephens; opportunity was taken to reduce the mortgage debt by the payment of £100, leaving £400 still owing.

In 1878, Bro. E. Baker was installed W.M., in which year Bro. R. Bradley P.M. Prov. G. Sec. went up as Steward to the Festival of the R.M.I.G. the Lodge voting ten guineas to his list.

In November the W.M. announced that Bro. Leaver, who had been Secretary of the Lodge for more than thirty years, was compelled by failing health to resign his office. Having to examine every page of the minute book for more than 33 years to extract the details which I have had the pleasure of submitting to the Lodge, no one better than myself can testify as to the most excellent way in which the minutes have been kept, and I trust the brethren will all put their shoulders to the wheel, and help to secure for Bro. Leaver the pension for which he is a candidate, and which he so richly deserves.

I have now traced (as far as the records will allow) the career of Craft Masonry from its commencement in Reading down to the present year, which has been principally distinguished by the recent visit of the M.W. the Pro G.M. to set the memorial stone of the new Town Hall and other buildings, which, when completed, will prove of incalculable advantage to this Town, and when in two or three years a splendid pile of buildings occupy the ground where we stood on that day, every Mason who was present will feel proud that he took a part, however humble, in its inauguration.

The J.W. Bro. C. Stephens proposed a vote of thanks to the W.M. for his very entertaining and instructive address, which was seconded and carried with enthusiastic acclamation.

Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Reading, on Wednesday 11th February. Present—Bros. Danks W.M., Flanagan I.P.M., Ferguson S.W., Blackwell J.W., Stransom Treas., Ivey P.M. Sec., Dowsett S.D., Prickett Steward acting J.D., Hawkes D.C., Nowman I.G., Hemmings Tylor; Past Masters Bros. Welch and Margrett; Bros. Vowles, Hukins, Rhind, Beeton, Bailey, C. Weatherhead, Wort, Fitcombe. Visitors—Bros. J. Williams, J. W. Creaton Lodge 1791, S. Bradley W.M. 414, Withers Sec. 414, Wheeler J.D. 414, Trill Ellington 1666, Moody P.M. The Great City 1426. Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last regular Lodge were read and confirmed. Bros. Collins, Wort, and Titcombe gave proof of their efficiency, were entrusted, and, with Bro. Weatherhead, were passed to the degree of F.C., the W.M. giving the charge. The Treasurer's accounts as audited by the Permanent Committee were passed; there was a balance of over £30 in hand. Bro. Bailey gave notice of motion "that the sum of Ten Guineas from the Funds of the Lodge be voted to the R.M.I.G., the same to be added to the list of the W.M., who will represent the Lodge at the forthcoming Festival." The labours of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed according to ancient form, and adjourned to the second Wednesday in the ensuing month.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55, at the Bedford Hotel, Southampton-buildings, on the fourth Tuesday in March.

DALHOUSIE LODGE BALL.

THE First Annual Ball in connection with the Dalhousie Lodge, No. 860, took place at the Holborn Town Hall, on Thursday, 19th instant, and proved one of the greatest successes of the season. Dancing was kept up with spirit, and was thoroughly enjoyed by most of those present. Bro. Weige, W.M. of the Lodge, presided at the supper, which was well supplied by Bro. Giscard (of Holborn Hill). Knowing the pleasures in store for the guests in the ball room, the president expressed his intention of being very brief in his remarks. The toast of the Queen having been honoured, he proposed one which he considered of almost as great importance. He only wished that its proposition had been placed in the hands of some brother better able to do it justice. When the heart was full, the words came but slowly, and for this reason the company must excuse him if he appeared to be lax in paying a tribute to the ladies. He felt delighted that the present meeting had given him an opportunity of welcoming the ladies to a participation in the pleasures of his Lodge. With the toast was coupled the name of Bro. W. W. Morgan jun., who acknowledged the compliment on behalf of the fair sex. Success to the Dalhousie Ball was now given from the chair, and was heartily acknowledged by the company assembled, as was the next—that of the health of the promoters of the Ball. Bros. Dobson, Dickins and Wallington having replied, the latter Brother heartily proposed the health of the President, which having been drunk in bumpers, was acknowledged by Bro. Weige. Dancing was resumed and kept up till a late hour in the morning.

SOC. ROSICR: *in Angliâ.*

York College.—The first meeting of this College was held at the Masonic Rooms, Queen's Hotel, York, on Tuesday, 24th inst., under the presidency of the Ch. Adept, R.W. Fratre T. B. Whytehead VIII. A successful ballot was taken for a number of aspirants, of whom the following were admitted to the M.C.:—Bros. Edward Linck, Bradford, Pentalpha 974; J. Maffey, Bradford, P.M. Sincerity 1019; T. E. Clark, Pontefract, P.M., St. Oswald's 910; Rev. James Blake, York, Harmonic 216; and Wm. H. Porritt, Bridlington, P.M. Fidelity 289. The Chief Adept made the following appointments to offices in the College:—Fratres J. S. Cumberland VII. Celebrant, Rev. W. C. Lukis VI. Suffragan, Rev. Jas. Blake V. Prov. Sec. Gen., Thomas J. Wilkinson V. Primus, Walter Rowley IV. Secundus, E. P. Peterson IV. Tertius, T. M. Richey III. Quartus, C. L. Mason IV. Conductor of N., Wm. Watson IV. G. of the T., Thomas W. Holmes III. Torch Bearer, W. P. Husband II. Medallist. Bro. J. Redfare was admitted as a serving Fratre, and appointed Acolyte. The Chief Adept then delivered the inaugural address, in which he gave an account of the early Rosicrucian Orders, and also of the modern system, its objects and aims, concluding with an appeal to the Fratres to render the York College worthy to bear the name of the ancient seat of Masonic legend and learning where they were then gathered, and that, as the College already numbered on its roll some of the best known and most intelligent Masons from all parts of the county, he hoped they would make it by their activity an example to all associations of the name. Letters were read from the following members of the College who were unable to be present:—Fratres Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett V., J. W. Woodall, Wm. Lawton, Captain Murphy, Lieut. T. M. Richey, R.A., &c. Several names of aspirants were proposed and seconded, and the College was closed. The Fratres afterwards sat down to tea at the Queen's Hotel, and a most agreeable and intelligent evening was enjoyed. Fratres W. R. Woodman IX. S.M. in Angliâ, W. J. Hughan IX., Colonel W. J. B. McLeod Moore IX., and Charles E. Meyer IX., were elected honorary members of the College.

JAMAICA.

Friendly Lodge, Kingston.—At the ordinary meeting held on 13th January, presided over by Bro. Moses Delgado W.M., and other Officers, the following Officers were duly installed:—Bros. J. Ashenheim W.M., G. De Mercado S.W., J. Lyons J.W., T. Tripe S.D., C. Girage J.D., J. C. Henriques Secretary and Treasurer, W. Muais I.G., G. Magnus Tyler, M. Delgado I.P.M. The following Past Masters were present:—Bros. J. W. Whitburn P.D.D.G.M., S. E. Pietry Sussex, Dr. Ogilvie St. John's, B. M. Dias Glenlyon, O. Delgado Phoenix, G. J. De Cordova Friendly, O. Delgado jun. Phoenix, J. J. G. and G. C. Lewis Friendly, Dr. Allen Jamaica, Nicholson Sussex, Paine St. John's, Stines Friendly, J. Thirlwall Royal, J. Maynier Collegium Fabrorum, and several brethren of sister Lodges. After the ceremony the brethren were invited to a choice banquet. This is the second time the R.W. J. Ashenheim has occupied the chair of this Lodge. The R.W. District Grand Master of East Jamaica was unable to attend.

Glenlyon Lodge.—At the ordinary meeting of the Glenlyon Lodge S.C., held on 14th January 1880, presided over by Bro. B. M. Dias as W.M. (in the absence of Bros. A. E. Burke, who has gone on a trip to Hayti), the following Officers were installed:—Bros. J. K. Spicer W.M., E. Melville S.W., W. D. Lovedmere J.W., B. M. Dias Treasurer, H. D. Mercado Secretary, A. Lyons S.D., C. M. Tomay J.D., R. C. Beecher I.G., J. Hayes Tyler. The R.W. Bro. the Hon. S. C. Burke Prov. G.M. of Scotland in Jamaica and Grey Town was present; also the following P.M.'s—Bros. Dr. Ogilvie St. John's, W. Madin Sussex, W. Nicholson Sussex, G. J. De Cordova Friendly, J. Ashenheim Friendly, B. Stines Friendly, O. Delgado Phoenix, D. Bamed Phoenix, L. C. Hollar Phoenix, G. P. Myers Phoenix, W. G. McFarlane Hamilton, J. Knox Glenlyon, G. Sergeant Royal, Mosquito from Falmouth, and several brethren of sister Lodges. After the installation ceremony the brethren

sat down to a banquet, where they enjoyed themselves until the "wee small hours of the morn."

Sussex Lodge, Kingston.—The ordinary meeting was held on 21st January, at the Lodge Hall, presided over by Bro. Mudon and other Officers. The W.M. vacated the chair, and Bro. Dr. Tompsett presided and installed Bro. J. Harris Master; he then invested the following Officers:—Bros. W. A. Paine S.W., A. H. Jones J.W., E. N. Cox Treasurer, H. Priest Secretary, Dr. D. P. Ross S.D., J. C. Ford J.D., G. G. Waldron I.G., G. Magnus Tyler. The following P.M.'s were present:—Bros. Mudon, Pietry, Tompsett, Lee, Tait, Nicholson, of the Sussex Lodge; Harrison and Ashenheim, of the Friendly; Delgado Phoenix, Dadson Jamaica, Paine and Dr. Ogilvie St. John's, Dias and Spencer Glenlyon, Jamieson and McFarlane Hamilton; also a goodly number of brethren of sister Lodges. The District Grand Master was unable to attend.

District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica will hold its annual meeting in the month of February.

We are glad to announce that we have received into the folds of Masonry the Rev. W. E. Pierce, a clergyman of the Church of England in Jamaica, who was initiated into the mysteries at the Jamaica Lodge on 13th January, by Bro. Dr. Allen. This reverend gentleman has done so much good as a clergyman that we hope the day is not far distant when we may hear that he has taken some prominent part in our noble and ancient institution.

We are pleased beyond measure to find that the Board of General Purposes consider it "as much a duty as a pleasure" to recommend that a gratuity of 150 guineas be paid to Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, for his services during the illness and absence of the Past Grand Secretary, Bro. Hervey, and from the time of the latter's resignation till the appointment of his successor. All who enjoy the privilege of knowing Bro. Buss are aware of the zeal and assiduity he displays in the performance of his official duties, as well as the uniform kindness and consideration he exhibits towards all who are brought in contact with him. This recommendation, therefore, from the Board comes most gracefully from them, who have had especial opportunities of judging of his worth. We do not doubt that Grand Lodge will adopt the Board's recommendation unanimously and with acclamation. Nor do we for our part regret in the slightest degree that so favourable an occasion has presented itself for offering our humble testimony as to the value of Bro. Buss's Masonic services as Assistant and Acting Grand Secretary, and in other capacities.

List of Lodges for which Warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

- 1853.—Caxton Lodge, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1854.—Weald of Kent Lodge, Tenterden, Kent.
- 1855.—St. Maurice Lodge, Plympton, Devon.

We would remind our readers that the fifth anniversary banquet of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507, will take place on Tuesday next, at Bro. Kent's Moorgate Station Restaurant. A large attendance is expected, and we feel sure a good reception awaits any brethren who may decide on attending. Supper is announced for 7.30. Tickets three shillings and sixpence each.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE,

A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence. Sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of England.

Price—13s 6d per annum, post free.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE will be forwarded direct from the Office, 23 Great Queen Street, W.C., (opposite Freemasons' Hall), on receipt of Post Office Order for the amount. Intending Subscribers should forward their full Addresses to prevent mistakes.

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**THE
ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND**

The First Meeting of Founders and others interested in the
Establishment of this Fund will be held at

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.
ON THURSDAY, 11th MARCH 1880, AT 3 P.M.

Under the Presidency of

H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD, K.G.

P.G.W. England, Prov. G.M. Oxfordshire.

The Vice Chair will be taken by

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ROSSLYN,
Past Grand Master of Scotland.

Brethren are fraternally invited to be present and co-operate in the foundation of the Fund. A List of promised Subscriptions will be read.

DICK RADCLYFFE,
129 High Holborn, London, W.C. } Secretaries.

W. W. MORGAN JUN.
FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE Office, 23 Gt. Queen St., W.C. }

**Royal Masonic Institution for Girls,
ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.**

Office:—5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

Patron and President:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

Patroness:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

**THE NINETY-SECOND
ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL**

WILL BE HELD AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON,
ON FRIDAY, 16th APRIL NEXT,

ON WHICH DAY

H.H.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD, K.G., P.G.W.,

R.W. Prov. G.M. for OXFORDSHIRE,

Has graciously signified his intention of presiding.

President of the Board of Stewards—

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON,
W. BRO. SIE FRANCIS WYATT TRUSCOTT, W.M. No. 1.

Acting President—

V.W. BRO. JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.D.,

President of the Board of General Purposes.

Treasurer—

W. BRO. E. LETCHWORTH, P. Prov. G.R. Middlesex.

Brethren desirous of accepting the office of Steward upon this auspicious occasion will greatly oblige by forwarding their names as early as convenient to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary to Institution,
Hon. Sec. to Board of Stewards.

SAWYER'S (LATE STATION) RESTAURANT,

5 RAILWAY PLACE, FENCHURCH STREET, E.C.

ENGLISH, FRENCH & GERMAN CUISINE.

Hot and Cold Luncheons on the Ground Floor;
This Room will accommodate 100 persons.

CHOPS, STEAKS, &c., FROM THE GRILL;
The Grill Room will seat 150 persons.

**REID'S TREBLE STOUT. WORTHINGTON'S ALES,
BERLIN TIVOLI BEER.**

TEA AND COFFEE ALWAYS READY.

CHAMPAGNES OF THE BEST BRANDS. OLD BOTTLED PORTS.
SHERRIES AND OTHER WINES OF THE BEST QUALITY.

Bro. F. J. SAWYER, Proprietor.

Late of Pimm's, and the Crystal Palace.

FISH DINNERS IN PERFECTION

2S EACH, including Soups, Entrées, Poultry, Joints, Cheese, Salad,
Served from 12 to 4 daily.—GEORGE TAVERN, Billingsgate Market.
Sole Proprietor, GEORGE SMITH, from Anderton's Hotel.

THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN,

GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

The admirable and unrivalled accommodation provided at this Establishment for

**MASONIC BANQUETS,
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DINNERS, WEDDING BREAKFASTS, BALLS, &c.**
Is too well known to need comment. The entire management has been changed, and the
Establishment in all its branches thoroughly re-organised.

The attention of the Masonic Body is directed to the many advantages offered.
**CUISINE OF THE HIGHEST CHARACTER,
WINES PERFECT IN CONDITION AND QUALITY.**

N.B.—DINNERS PROVIDED FROM 3/-.

RESTAURANT, WINE, SMOKING & RETIRING ROOMS:
The fullest measure of public confidence and support ensured.

BRO. ALFRED BEST, PROPRIETOR.

ANDERTON'S HOTEL,

F. H. CLEMOW, PROPRIETOR,

Nos. 162, 164 & 165 Fleet Street, and 7 & 11 Johnson's Court, London.

THE ACCOMMODATION OFFERED AT THIS ESTABLISHMENT FOR
MASONIC MEETINGS, BANQUETS, &c.
IS UNRIVALLED.

THE premises have lately been rebuilt, and in order to maintain the time-honored reputation of the house, as one of the centres of London Freemasonry, special attention has been paid to the furnishing of Lodge quarters, which now comprise

A SPACIOUS MASONIC HALL

Specially constructed for Masonic purposes, with preparation room adjoining,

A LARGE BANQUET HALL

Fitted with every necessary for the comfort of Visitors, &c., &c.

ROOMS FOR LARGE OR SMALL DINNER PARTIES, MEETINGS, &c.

THE CATHEDRAL HOTEL,

CORNER OF

CHEAPSIDE & ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.

F. J. SWEETING, Proprietor.

**LUNCHEON BAR ON GROUND FLOOR FOR
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.**

Soups, Fish, Chops, Steaks, Entrées, Cold Joints, &c. from Eight a.m. till
Ten p.m.

DINING ROOMS ON FIRST FLOOR.

Hot Joints, &c. from Twelve o'clock daily.
Dinners à la Carte. Teas, &c.

THE "CATHEDRAL HALF-CROWN DINNER"

(Soup, Fish, Joint)
Is served in the Saloon from Twelve till Five daily.

The Smoking Room overlooks the New Gardens
round St. Paul's Cathedral.

PRIVATE ROOMS FOR SMALL PARTIES, MASONIC AUDITS, &c.

The following Lodges have recently held their Audit Meetings at this Hotel:—GROSVENOR, STANHOPE, POLISH NATIONAL, LA TOLERANCE, &c.

**OPENING OF THE
CRITERION ANNEXE.**

SPICERS & POND respectfully beg to inform their Patrons, that to meet the increasing demands of their business at the Criterion, the premises have been greatly enlarged, by the addition of the above building. The principal features of the New Establishment are as follows:—

The Cafe, comprising—

The American Bar,
The Vienna Bier Saal,

VIANDS FROM THE NEW GRILL. SUPPERS SERVED TILL MIDNIGHT.
Oysters a Specialite.

The Victoria Hall, for Banquets, Balls, Wedding Breakfasts,
Soirées, and Entertainments.

The Prince's and Carnarvon Rooms, for Masonic Meetings,
Banquets, &c.

Private Rooms, suitable for the meetings of Public and Corporate
Bodies, Arbitrations, &c.

The Criterion Departments.

Buffet ... For Luncheons and Light Refreshments.

Restaurant ... Dinners à la Carte.

Cigar Divan ... Facing Piccadilly entrance.

Smoking Room ... Adjoining the Buffet.

Grill Room ... Entrance in Jermyn Street.

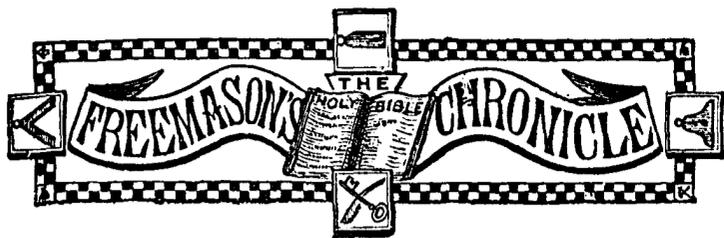
West Dining Room ... Le Diner Parisien daily from 5.30 till 9 p.m., and on
Sundays.

East Dining Room ... Dinners à la Carte.

The Grand Hall ... Table d'Hôte daily, from 5.30 till 8 p.m. (also on
Sundays at 6).

Private Rooms ... For Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, &c., &c.

DINNERS FROM THE JOINT from TWELVE to THREE o'clock,
CHOPS and STEAKS from the GRILL till FIVE o'clock.
T. MAIDWELL, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., City, E.C.



23 GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

THE following is the business to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, 3rd March 1880.

1. The regulations for the Government of Grand Lodge during the time of Public Business will be read.
2. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 3rd December 1879, and of the Especial Grand Lodge of the 17th January 1880, will be read and put for confirmation.
3. Election of a M.W. Grand Master.
4. Election of a Grand Treasurer.
5. The M.W. Grand Master will move:—

“That this Grand Lodge do contribute the sum of Five Hundred Pounds, to be paid out of the Fund of General Purposes, towards the Duchess of Marlborough's Fund, for the relief of distress in Ireland, and that the same be at once paid to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, P.G. Steward, W.M. Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, for the purposes of the said Fund.”

6. Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following Grants, viz:

The Petition of a brother of the One and All Lodge, No. 330, Bodmin, which was referred back by Grand Lodge on the 3rd 1879, was re-considered, and that brother was again recommended for a Grant of	£100 0 0
A Brother of the Lodge of Fortitude, No. 131, Truro ...	100 0 0
A Brother of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, London ...	50 0 0
A Brother of the Joppa Lodge, No. 188, London ...	50 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Neptune Lodge, No. 22, London	50 0 0
A Brother of the Royal Gloucestershire Lodge, No. 839, Gloucester	100 0 0
A Brother of the Lodge of Concord, No. 632, Trowbridge	75 0 0
A Brother of the Lodge of Felicity, No. 58, London ...	100 0 0
A Brother of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, Portsmouth ...	75 0 0
A Brother of the Cambrian Lodge of Australia, No. 656, Sydney, N.S.W.	50 0 0
A Brother of the Union Lodge, No. 310, Carlisle ...	50 0 0
The widow of a Brother of the Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002, Cockermouth	75 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, No. 265, Keighley	50 0 0
A Brother of the Lodge of The Three Graces, No. 408, Haworth	75 0 0
A Brother of the Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65, London	75 0 0

7. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes report as follows:—

(1.) It having come to the knowledge of the Board that the freehold premises Nos. 57 and 58 Great Queen Street, adjoining Freemasons' Hall, were about to be sold by auction, it was thought desirable to acquire the same at a fair price, and it was referred to the Premises Committee to take steps accordingly. In result the premises were purchased for £3,500 and £3,000 respectively, and have since been duly conveyed to the Trustees of Grand Lodge.

(2.) The Board have by their Premises Committee given very careful consideration to the requirements of the three Masonic Benevolent Institutions for farther office accommodation, and having acquired the necessary land in the rear of the present offices have obtained from the Grand Superintendent of Works plans, which they learn are acceptable to the Institutions, and estimates for carrying out the same at a cost of £2,500, which, added to the £1,550, the cost of the land, will enable the Board to provide for the three offices space and accommodation of about three times the amount now furnished, the rent for the same being re-arranged at something under that proportion. The Board will also, if Grand Lodge approves, have the opportunity of providing a spacious Muniment Room in the basement at a cost estimated by the Grand Superintendent of Works at £450, which will be available at a reasonable rental to the various Lodges meeting at Freemasons' Hall.

(3.) The Board have also obtained an estimate from the Grand Superintendent of Works for the necessary works to be done to render the Library available as an office for the Grand Secretary. The amount of this is £75.

(4.) The period having fully arrived when painting and cleaning

must be done to the whole interior of Freemasons' Hall the Board have given this their careful consideration, and by their direction the Grand Superintendent of Works has considered the subject, not only with reference to the general reparation positively necessary, but also importing into it a moderate amount of appropriate decoration, the cost of the whole of which he estimates at £3,000; although this sum may appear large, the Board feel satisfied that, looking at the extent of the premises, it would be a reasonable outlay for very necessary work.

(5.) The Board feel it as much a duty as a pleasure to draw the attention of Grand Lodge to the services rendered by Brother H. G. Buss, the Assistant Grand Secretary, during the illness and absence of the late Grand Secretary, Brother Hervey, and after his resignation until the appointment of the present Grand Secretary; and they unanimously recommend that in consideration of the assiduous manner in which these services were performed a gratuity of 150 guineas be paid to Brother Buss.

(6.) The Board have to report the Masonic misconduct of a Lodge in passing a Brother with an interval of 23 days only after his initiation. They ordered that the Brother in question be re-obligated, and the Lodge was fined £2 2s, and admonished.

(7.) The attention of the Board has been emphatically drawn to the frequent occurrence in new Lodges of Brethren (other than Petitioners) being permitted to join on the night of consecration without ballot, and of course without previous proposition as enjoined by the Constitutions; and directions have been given that an unmistakable intimation of the illegality of such a proceeding shall accompany the delivery of every new Warrant.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
President.

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.
17th February 1880.

To the Report is subjoined a Statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts, at the last Meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 13th February instant, shewing a Balance in the Bank of England of £4,087 17s 6d; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £75, and for Servants' Wages £96 15s, and £22 14s 5d in the hands of the Solicitor of the Society.

The President will move:—

1. That the report be received and entered on the minutes.
2. That the various works mentioned in the Report be carried out, and that it be referred back to the Board to execute the same in accordance with the estimates submitted.
3. That the recommendation in paragraph 5 of the Report, with reference to the Assistant Grand Secretary, be adopted.
8. Report of Bro. R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge Accounts, of Receipts and Disbursements during the year 1879.

9. Proposed Motions:—

1. By Brother John M. Clabon P.G.D., President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

That the following additions be made to the Book of Constitutions, Fund of Benevolence:—

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

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

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

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

That the Constitutions, No. 3, Fund of Benevolence, be amended by adding, after the word "shall" in the second line, the words "except as provided for by clauses 17, 18, 19, and 20."

2. By Brother George J. McKay, P.M. No. 129, Kendal.

“To move the non-confirmation of that part of the minutes of Grand Lodge held last December, so far as it relates to Brother James Stevens's motion.”

3. By Brother James Stevens, P.M. No. 720.

“To nominate the following Brethren to form the Committee of enquiry into and report upon the present systems of Masonic working, in accordance with the vote of Grand Lodge on the 3rd of December last, viz:—

Bros. The Rev. C. W. Arnold D.P.G.M. Surrey; Thomas J. Barnes P.M., East London; E. T. Budden P.M., Dorset; J. S. Camberland P.M., N. and E. Yorks; Thomas Howkins P.M., Warwickshire; F. H. Wilson D.P.G.M. Herts; Rev. C. J. Martyn D.P.G.M. Suffolk; C. L. Mason Prov. G. Treasurer West Yorks; C. F. Matier P.G.S.W. Greece; Rev. R. J. Simpson Past Grand Chaplain, London; J. Brooks Smith Prov. G. Treasurer Gloucester; James Stevens P.M., London; Butler Wilkins D.P.G.M. Norths and Hunts.”

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.

—:0:—

SATURDAY, 28th FEBRUARY.

House Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Croydon, at 3
194—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1364—Earl of Zetland, Nags Head, Mare-street, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1706—Orpheus, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
Sinni Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham.
1462—Wharnciffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
R. A. 178—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigau.

MONDAY, 1st MARCH.

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)
188—Joppa, Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, 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—Tredgar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road (Inst.)
1669—Royal Leopold, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
R.A. 1615—Bayard, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
M.M. 139—Panmure, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
M. M.—Old Kent, Trocadero, Broad Street Buildings, E.C. at 6.30 (Instruction)
37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover
236—York, Masonic Hall, York
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire
331—Harmony and Industry, Smalley's Hotel, Market-street, Over Darwen
395—Guy, Crown Hotel, Leamington Priors.
431—St. George, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, N. Shields.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge
478—Churchhill, Masonic Hall, Oxford.
482—St. James, Masonic Rooms, Handsworth, Staffordshire.
597—St. Cybi, Town Hall, Holyhead.
622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimborne.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dowsbury.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Room, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.
1009—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Cooner-street, Manchester.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.
1050—Gundulph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1051—Rowley, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire.
1108—Royal Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, Yorks.
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry
1180—Forward, Masonic Rooms, New Hall-street, Birmingham.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, White Swan Hotel, Halifax.
1380—Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Liverpool.
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
1477—Sir Watkin, Masonic Hall, Mold
1619—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors, near Accrington.
1673—Caradoc, Masonic Hall, Caer-street, Swansea.
1678—Merlin, New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, South Wales.
1674—Caradoc, Town Hall, Rhyl
1676—St. Nicholas, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle.
1798—Zion, Hulme Town Hall, Manchester.
R.A. 302—Charity, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
R.A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley
R.A. 874—Holmesdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells

TUESDAY, 2nd MARCH.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, Anniversary Banquet, Moorgate Station Restaurant, at 7.30.
7—Royal York of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. (Inst.)
172—Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
765—St. James, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1257—Grosvenor, Freemasons' Hall, Gt. Queen-street, W.C.
1261—Golden Rule, Café Royal, Regent-street, W.
1298—Royal Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-street, Islington.
1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
1381—Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval
1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1471—Islington, Three Bucks, 23 Gresham-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1658—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (In.)
1668—Samson, Freemason's Hall, W.C.
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction.)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
70—St. John, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
129—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham.
158—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness.
178—Antiquity, Royal Hotel, Wigau.
209—Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor
226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30 (Instruction)
248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley.
393—St. David, Masons' Hall, The Parade, Berwick
448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.

493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester.
510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
685—Northumberland, Assembly Rooms, Westgate-road, Newcastle.
702—Sherborne, Subscription Rooms, Stroud, Gloucestershire
734—Londesborough, Masonic Hall, Bridlington Quay.
794—Warden, Royal Hotel, Sutton Coldfield
804—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Havant.
847—Fortescue, Manor House, Honiton, Devon.
928—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Petersfield, Hampshire.
948—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard
960—Buto, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cockermouth.
1134—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
1244—Marwood, Freemasons' Hall, Redcar.
1322—Waverley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1336—Square and Compass, Corn Exchange, Wrexham.
1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6. (Instruction.)
1488—St. Eleth, Castle Hotel, Amlwch, Anglesea
R.A. 203—St. John of Jerusalem, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
R.A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R.A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
M. M. 11—Joppa, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd MARCH.

Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, at 6 for 7
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
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.
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1585—Royal Commemoration, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upp. Richmond-rd., S.W
1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton
1766—St. Leonard, Town Hall, Shoreditch
R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
298—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, Rochdale
326—Moirs, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol
327—Wigton St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester.
429—Royal Navy, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire.
594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
645—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Inst.)
678—Earl Ellesmere, Church Hotel, Kersley, Farnworth, near Bolton.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Clockheaton.
972—St. Augustine, Canterbury (Inst.)
992—St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton.
1010—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship-street, Hull.
1013—Royal Victoria, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland. (Instruction.)
1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
1091—Erme, Erme House, Ivybridge, Devon
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Clayport-street, Alnwick
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street.
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea
1335—Lindsay, 20 King-street, Wigan.
1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh, Lancashire.
1356—De Grey and Ripon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1363—Tyndal, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester
1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
1431—St. Alphege, George Hotel, Solihull
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull, at 7. (Instruction.)
1620—Marlborough, Derby Hall, Tue Brook, Liverpool
R.A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds
R.A. 387—Moravian, Masonic Hall, Shipley
R.A. 477—Fidelity, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead
M.M. 36—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Duke-street, Barrow-in-Furness.
M.M. 56—Temperance, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
M.M. 65—West Lancashire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R.C.—Palatine, Palatine Hotel, Manchester

THURSDAY, 4th MARCH.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
211—St. Michael, Moorgate Station Restaurant, Moorgate Street, at 8 (Inst.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney
754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
1426—The Great City, Masons Hall, Masons Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
1639—Surrey Masonic Hall, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James-street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (In.)
R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 1471—North London, Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
M.M.—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-rd., Dal-ton, E., at 8.30 (Inst.)
24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
31—United Industrious, Masonic Room, Canterbury
33—Union, Council Chamber, Chichester
41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath
50—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire
123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire
215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8
254—Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry
266—Naphthali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
294—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks
295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
309—Harmony, Red Lion, Fareham
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
360—Pomfret, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton.
419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.
425—Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.
446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire
463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
637—Portland, Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent.
792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Great Grimsby.
913—Pattison, Lord Raglan Tavern, Plumstead.
971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Bradford
971—Pentalpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.

1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirkby Lonsdale
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Eiland.
 1282—Ancholme, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
 1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Topsham, Devonshire.
 1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire
 1360—Royal Arthur, Village Club Lecture Hall, Wimbledon
 1367—Benminster Manor, White Hart Hotel, Beamister
 1384—Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes.
 1473—Bootle, Town Hall, Bootle, Lancashire.
 1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich.
 1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms Hotel, Paliham, near Burnley
 1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Doarn House, Lindley
 1515—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley.
 1594—Cedewain, Public Rooms, Newtown, Montgomeryshire
 1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1639—Watling-street, Cock Hotel, Stoney Stratford, Bucks
 1807—Loyal Wye, Bullth, Breconshire
 R.A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge
 R.A. 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 R.A. 337—Confidence, Commercial Inn, Uppermill
 R.A. 758—Bridgwater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 R.A. 429—Thanet, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate.
 R.A. 1214—Scarborough Hall, Scarborough, Caledonian-road, Batley
 R.A. 1339—Stockwell, Half Moon, Herno Hill.
 M.M. 53—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
 K.T.—Fearuley, Masonic Temple, Halifax Road, Dewsbury

FRIDAY, 5th MARCH.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 807—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
 834—Hanelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8 (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
 1158—Belgrave, Jormyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8 (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1627—Royal Kensington, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd. N. Kensington, at 8.0 (Inst.)
 R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)
 Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 8.30.

44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate
 210—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
 442—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
 574—Loyal Berkshire of Hope, White Hart Hotel, Nowbury
 601—St. John, Wrekin Hotel, Wollington, Salop
 651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon.
 680—Sefton, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 709—Invicta, Bank-street Hall, Ashford
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge; at 7.30 (Inst.)
 837—De Gray and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.
 839—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester.
 1006—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1333—Atholstan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1528—Fort, Red Lion Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall.
 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
 1561—Morocamba, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morocamba, Lancashire.
 1649—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 1644—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Gosforth.
 1725—Douglas, Collogo Gateway, Maidstone
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, 5.30

SATURDAY, 6th MARCH.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 142—St. Thomas, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
 109—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
 1361—Earl of Zetland, Nags Head, Mare-street, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1572—Carnarvon, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 1622—Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 R.A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

KINGS' CROSS LODGE, No. 1732.

THE Installation Meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held on Saturday, the 21st instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bros. W. M. Stiles W.M., T. J. Briggs P.M. S.W., J. J. Michael P.M. Treasurer, F. Saintsbury Secretary, H. Stiles S.D., H. Higgins J.D., L. Solomon I.G. Gorrings I.G., B. Kauff A.W.S., P.M. Knight P.P.G.D.C. Kent, and a numerous attendance of the brethren and Visitors, amongst whom we may mention Bros. H. G. Buss A.G.S., T. Cubitt P.G.P., S. Hickman P.M. 188, P. E. Van Noorden S.W. 188, S. Dicketts 193, Kelly 1524, Millis P.M. 157, Chambers 650, Edwards 1861, E. E. B. Kidder 12, G. Pike 355, E. Roberts 1623, Ormiston 1507, Little 1507, Pugupe 1107, J. H. Leggott P.M. 145, Beattie 1507, Edmonds 1507, Gillis 1744, J. Wyer 1310, Smith 1269, Gilbert 1507, John Douglass W.M. 1744 P.M. 1507, Silvester 193, J. Pope P.M. 946, James Terry P.P.G.W. Herts, Ferguson P.M. 177, Kipps P.P.G.O. Kent W.M. 1275, J. Willing P.M. 1507, Scales W.M. 1507, C. Hudson W.M. 1632, Walters 188, Chamberlin P.M. 205, 1319, Buckhurst P.M. 157, F. Binckes P.G.S., Storey G.S.W. Kent, Thomas P.M. 134, Reuter P.P.G.D.C. Kent, Reed P.M. 1511, Lovegrove W.M. 1777, Rothschild W.M. 1288, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, Edwin Moss 1288, W. W. Morgan Secretary 211. There were twenty-nine brethren present who have passed the chair. The members, in the brief space of two years, have freed themselves from all liabilities, and given a large amount to the Charities. Bro. Leon Jacobs I.G. proposed, and Bro. Kauffmann seconded, that the annual subscription be raised from £2 10s to £3 3s; this proposition was unanimously assented to. A board of Installed Masters was opened, and Bro. T. J. Briggs P.M. 157 S.W. elect was presented to the Lodge, and inducted into the chair by the retiring W.M. Bro. W. M. Stiles, who performed the ceremony in a manner that might be equalled, but could not be excelled. Bro. Stiles

on concluding was warmly congratulated by the numerous brethren and visitors. The customary salutations having been given, the W.M. appointed and invested his Officers:—Bros. W. M. Stiles I.P.M., H. Stiles S.W., Higgins P.M. J.W., J. J. Michael P.M. Treasurer, F. Saintsbury Secretary, S. Solomon S.D., L. Jacobs J.D., Gorrings I.G., Putland D.C., B. Kauffmann, Yates, and Fletcher Stewards, Daley Tyler. Bro. James Terry P.P.J.W. Herts kindly acted as D.C. The applause given on the investiture of Officers showed the W.M. had selected brethren who would assist him in carrying out the duties of the Lodge, and fully sustain the reputation it had already acquired. Bro. J. J. Michael P.M. had great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Bro. W. M. Stiles for the zeal and ability he had displayed during his year of office, and also for the admirable way in which he had just installed his successor. The W.M. supported the remarks of Bro. Michael; he fully endorsed all that had been said in praise of Bro. Stiles, and felt that all must be aware of the ability with which that brother performed any duty required of him. The vote was carried unanimously and with acclamation. The W.M. then rose to present to his predecessor the jewel which had been voted to him by the members. He felt that never was a brother more deserving of such a compliment than was Bro. Stiles, and he trusted that for many years he would be among them, and give his assistance in the working of the Lodge. Bro. Stiles said the jewel would call to his mind the many happy hours he had passed in the Kings Cross Lodge. He hoped to be ranked among its members for many years to come. Hearty good wishes having been tendered by the Visitors, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren repaired to the banquet room, where an excellent repast was provided by Bro. Clemow. After the toast of the Queen, Bro. Edwin Moss sang the solo portions of the National Anthem. The W.M. referred to the great advance made in Freemasonry since the Prince of Wales had occupied the position of Grand Master. He trusted that for many years His Royal Highness would continue his rule of the Craft. In giving the toast of the Grand Officers, the W.M. referred to the fact of Lord Skelmersdale having accepted the Chairmanship of the Boy's School, which he considered one of the best proofs of the love he had for the Order and its associations. They had that evening among them two worthy representatives of Grand Lodge in the persons of the Assistant Grand Secretary Bro. Buss, and Bro. T. Cubitt Past Grand Pursuivant. Bros. Buss and Cubitt each replied on behalf of the Officers of Grand Lodge, and then the W.M. proposed the health of the Provincial Grand Officers, as a compliment to the many representatives of that body who were present. Bro. Clark P.G.D.C. Suffolk acknowledged the toast. Bro. Stiles now rose. The present was his maiden speech as a P.M., and he was pleased that he had an opportunity of making it in honour of so worthy a Mason as Bro. Briggs. He was a W.M. whom all could and did respect, and he now felt that he echoed the sentiments of every member of the Lodge when he wished him long life, health, happiness, and a prosperous year of office. The W.M. had great pleasure in responding to the hearty compliments which had just been paid him. He felt it a great pleasure to fill the chair of the King's Cross Lodge, which during its short existence had been most prosperous. A great part of this was due to the brethren who had filled the chair; he felt it an honour to follow in the footsteps of such brethren, and only hoped he might be as successful as they had been. He then gave the toast of the P.M.'s. Bro. Stiles tendered his acknowledgments to the W.M. and brethren for the kind sentiments just expressed. The toast of the Visitors followed, to which Bro. C. Hudson P.M. responded, as also did others of the guests. All complimented the Lodge on the ability of its Masters and Officers generally. The W.M. next gave the toast of the Charities, referring to the grand support given to the Benevolent Institution at the recent Festival. He pointed out, however, that the Festivals of the Girls' and Boys' Schools had yet to come, and he hoped that the result of each would be as grand as was that of the one that had passed. Their I.P.M. had ably represented the Lodge at the Girls' School, and he (the W.M.) had himself undertaken the office of Steward for the Boys. The toast was coupled with the names of Bros. Terry and Binckes, the latter of whom responded. Notwithstanding the great depression in the outer world the Craft had to listen, at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution, to one of the grandest successes ever known in the records of the Charities. He briefly detailed the good work that was being done at Wood Green, and hoped that the Craft would always supply funds sufficient to allow of its continuation. Bro. Terry followed; he thanked the Worshipful Master and brethren for their continued exertions on behalf of the various Institutions. He was pleased to say that the J.W. had already consented to act as Steward at the Benevolent Festival of 1881. To the toast of the Treasurer and Secretary, in proposing which the W.M. justly praised the work of those two Officers, Bros. Michael and Saintsbury each replied. The toast of the Officers was duly honored and acknowledged, after which the Tyler gave the parting toast and the meeting concluded. At the latter part of the evening the W.M. received very unwelcome tidings, a telegram announcing the death of his brother reaching him. We desire to offer our sympathy to our esteemed brother in his loss.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—At the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, on 20th inst. Bros. F. Botley W.M., Maton S.W., Gomm J.W., Goss S.D., Gunner (H.S.) J.W., Franckel I.G., Roo P.M. Preceptor and Blasby. Bro. Goss offered himself as candidate, and the initiation ritual was rehearsed. Bro. Gunner then offered himself as a candidate for the second degree, answered the usual questions and was entrusted. Lodge was advanced, and Bro. Gunner was duly passed. Lodge was closed to the first degree. Bro. Maton was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and he appointed his Officers. A cordial vote of thanks was voted to Bro. F. Botley for his able working of the first two degrees. Bro. Blasby asked that the motion of which he had given notice be postponed for one week, which was granted. Lodge was then closed and adjourned..

ELEANOR CROSS LODGE, 1764, NORTHAMPTON.

THIS progressive and very prosperous Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday 17th inst.; the occasion was one of more than usual interest, as Bro. Thursby, a member of a family well known in the county of Northampton, was about to bid farewell, previously to sailing for the Cape. Bro. the Rev. S. J. W. Saunders P.G.C. presided, and was supported by the following Officers and Brethren, viz.—Bros. Butler Wilkins D.P.G.M., M. A. Boémé P.M., H. J. Atkins S.W., H. Brown J.W., S. Wathen Wigg Chaplain, Beasley Assist. Chaplain, Hill S.D., H. Spoor J.D., Franks Sec., Percival Assist. Sec., G. Ellard D.C., E. Morris I.G., J. Manning and T. Barnes Stewards, Dean and Kirby Tylers; Brook, Sampson and R. Croft Organists; also Bros. DeDenne Assist. D.C., T. Emery, R. J. Johnston, J. Franklin, G. Poutcher, A. Jones, S. J. Newman, J. Carrall, F. Thursby, Robinson 442, S. W. James 737, J. Hart 360, Stackie 1391. Opening the Lodge, reading the minutes of the last meeting and other preliminary business were disposed of, the Lodge was advanced, and Bro. Frederick Thursby was examined and entrusted. On the Lodge being opened in the third degree, Bro. Thursby was re-admitted and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the W.M. performing the ceremony for his benefit in a perfect manner, the solemnity of the occasion being greatly heightened by the able manner in which Bro. Croft performed the duties of Organist. On the conclusion of the Ceremony, the Chaplain, Bro. Wigg P.A.G.C., by command of the W.M., delivered an exposition of the words of the Royal Solomon written in chap. xii of the Book called Ecclesiastes, as follows:—

Masonry opens its ears to all wisdom, from whatsoever source it may be derived; but it becomes us to listen with a special, as well as a respectful attention, to the words of our A.G.M. the Royal Solomon, under whose fostering care and protection our ancient brethren erected that stately Temple which has since become so essential a part of speculative Masonry.

Those singularly impressive words which I have, by command of the W.M., just recited in your hearing are not, as some have supposed them to be, the wail of a disappointed old sensualist but the matured reflections of a wise man, one who had himself drained to the dregs all known sources of pleasure, the stores of intellect, science, philosophy, the delights of every variety of sensual indulgence, the interest and excitement of ambition, power, commerce, had all, in turn, ministered to his pleasure until, at last when the lust of the eye and the pride of life had failed him, in his second childhood if you will, but in a childhood which brought him into intimate contact with the highest wisdom, he draws a picture of the close of life, a graphic picture of an old man, in order forcibly to impress the great lesson which true wisdom has at length taught him, the fear of God, the G.A. and R.O.T.U. Remember, he says, thy Creator in the days of thy youth, ere those evil days of feeble old age, of the failure of bodily and mental strength, come upon thee, for all else is vanity.

Let us then, Brethren, for a few minutes examine the picture, which has been drawn so long for our instruction, and which is brought before us in what is, I may venture to say, one of the most solemn moments of our life when in s— and in d— the venerable exhortation of our A.G.M. is rehearsed in our ears.

Remember thy Creator ere the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars be darkened, and the clouds return after the rain. Under the figure of the approach of the rainy clouds of an eastern winter, the old man beholds death drawing nigh, dark clouds which will soon envelope him in their shadow, and hide from his sight the sun, the light, the moon, the stars. We know that these represent to us the M., W.'s and B. of a Lodge, and these by death will be hidden from his gaze; but they may also be explained in another manner. The Sun is that inner light which God supplies to every man to aid him in his work of self knowledge and self government—"the light that is in thee." The light is mental activity, sharp apprehension, serviceable memory. The moon is the soul of man; and the stars are those lights with which science, art and nature illumine his path. The leading thought then is, that the mind and the senses become darkened, and the winter of life, with its clouds and storms, approaches. The details which follow only serve to deepen the impression thus made.

The keepers of the house tremble, the aged man is represented as a house in a ruinous condition, the keepers are his arms which supply the house with what it needs, and keep away from it whatever threatens to do it injury. These protectors of the house have lost their early vigour, and tremble and shake. The legs, which in the fulness of youthful strength were like strong men supporting the whole fabric, are now shrunken and loose. The maidens who ground the corn in a hand-mill are compared to the teeth—the grinders rest because they have become few, they stand no longer in a row. And the women looking out of the windows can see no longer because it has become dark. The eyes of the soul, without which we could not experience what sight is, look out by means of the external eyes, which have become weak, indistinct, darkened. And the doors to the street are closed when the mill sounds low—the lips, from the absence of teeth, come close together, and only a low dull sound is heard from the laborious and feeble action of the well-nigh toothless jaws. He rises up at the voice of a bird; even the twittering of the sparrows in the caves is sufficient to disturb his light slumbers. He no longer delights in the charms of music, the "daughters of song" must timidly retire, he cannot longer bear their melody.

He is afraid of that which is high, he no longer dare ascend to giddy heights, even his feeble tottering ventures are full of terrors to him, all kinds of perils present themselves to his imagination if he but cross the street.

The almond tree is in blossom; the snow white hair crowns the head of the old man as the almond flowers cover the tree with a profusion of white blossoms before the leaves appear. The hopping and chirping of the restless grasshopper is burdensome to him, its persistence annoys him. The caperberry fails,—these berries are used to flavour and season food, but even highly spiced dishes fail to tempt his morbid appetite.

For man goeth to his everlasting habitations, and the mourners go about the streets.

Now we proceed to view the dissolution of the life of the body, by which the separation of the soul and the body, and the return of both to their original conditions is completed.

The silver cord is loosed; that mysterious means of communication which connects the brain, the golden bowl, with the body—so that what the brain wills the various organs perform—is loosed. The golden bowl itself is broken, it can no longer command, the communication lies useless, and the limbs fall helpless and motionless.

The wheel makes its last laborious revolution—it breaks; the pitcher goes rattling down the well and is shattered, the breathing ceases, the death rattle is heard, and life is extinguished.

The worn out worthless clay is committed to its parent earth, and the spirit returns to him who originally bestowed it. The dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

This then, brethren, is the picture our A.G.M. drew of the close of life; and for what purpose is it portrayed? Is it merely to awaken in our mind a morbid sentiment? Must we regard it only to cry 'vanitas vanitatum,' the wail of the sensualist and the fool? Nay, it is not so! The Royal Solomon designed to teach us the grand lesson that the fear of God and the keeping of His commandments is the highest wisdom—that is the conclusion of the whole matter. This short life of ours is indeed vanity, and passeth away, but the true wisdom teaches us the duty we owe to God and to each other, that when we pass in reality, as our brethren have figuratively done to-night, the mysterious portals of the tomb of transgression, we shall be conducted under his protection to the G.L. above, where the world's G.A. lives and reigns.

So mote it be.

After receiving report of a meeting of the permanent Committee respecting financial matters, by which it was shown that the Lodge is established on a sound basis, by the principle Founders contributing £5 each, to raise a capital of £100, on the proposition of Bro. H. Brown J.W., seconded by the W.M., a vote of thanks to Bro Wigg was passed for his eloquent exposition bearing on the third degree, the Lodge was closed after hearty good wishes from 360, 442, 737, and 1391 had been acknowledged, and the brethren adjourned to the Banquet Hall, where a thoroughly Masonic and genial evening was spent. The usual toasts were given from the chair, Bro. Wigg G.P.A.C. replying on behalf of the Prov. Grand Officers. Bro. C. H. Frank Sec. gave, in complimentary terms, the health of the W.M. Bro. Sanders said he was proud to be Master of the Eleanor Cross, and spared no pains to maintain the high character of the Lodge, and should strive to make the working perfect. Bro. Rev. T. C. Beasley proposed the health of the candidate, Bro. Thursby, whom they had that evening the pleasure of raising to the degree of M.M. Another (Bro. Donne) was to have shared this privilege with Bro. Thursby, but was prevented being present by indisposition. He should, however, venture to include him in the toast, and to wish him a speedy restoration to health. With regard to Bro. Thursby, he felt that the present occasion was particularly interesting, because he (Bro. Thursby.) was expecting very shortly to leave England for the Cape. Generally, when a brother was raised to this degree they looked forward to being able often to welcome him in Lodge; but, unfortunately, they could not indulge in this expectation in the present instance. He assured him, however, that he would not be forgotten by the members of this Lodge, short as the time was during which they had had the pleasure of being associated with him as a Mason. They all knew that one of the most beautiful of sights, and one which remained longest impressed upon the memory was the brilliant meteor which flashed across the sky and then disappeared. He prophesied that in like manner the memory of Bro. Thursby would dwell long upon their hearts, and they hoped they might one day welcome him again in 1764. He reminded them that Bro. Thursby's destination was the Cape of Good Hope, and trusted that on their behalf and in their name, he might assure him that it was also the Cape of good wishes. To this Bro. Thursby responded, expressing regret at having to leave the country of his birth, and the pleasant associations of the Eleanor Cross, and hoped that in the foreign land in which he was going to seek a resting place for the "sole of his foot," he should meet with brethren who would be ready to continue his Masonic education. Bro. Wigg submitted the "Visitors," expressing the pleasure it gave the brethren generally to welcome members of other Lodges, and on this occasion himself particularly to welcome a brother of weight from his mother Lodge. Each of the Visitors acknowledged the compliment. The Officers of the Lodge was given by Bro. Newman, and was responded to by Bro. Sampson Organist. Bros. Atkins, Hart, Beasley, Sampson, Croft, Robinson, Batcher, and Jones, contributed to the harmony, and the Tyler's Toast brought the enjoyment to a close.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—On Saturday, 21st instant, at Bro. Fysh's, the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, Bro. Byng presided, being ably assisted by the following Officers:—Bros. J. Lorkin S.W., Snare J.W., Percy Preceptor, A. W. Fenner Secretary, Spencer S.D., Western J.D., Carr I.G. There were also present Bros. C. Lorkin, D. Moss, J. Millington, R. Defriez, Gush, Garrod, Hallam sen., W. Williams jun., &c. Bro. J. Millington proved himself an efficient F.C., and was duly entrusted. Lodge was opened up, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by the W.M. in a very effective manner. Lodge was called off and on, and resumed to the second degree, when the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. J. Lorkin acting as W.M. elect, the ceremony being performed in such an excellent manner as to elicit the approbation of all present. Bro. J. Lorkin worked the first, Bro. Hallam the second sections of the first lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. H. G. Gush, of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, No. 1541, was duly elected a member. Auditors for the annual accounts were duly appointed. Bro. J. Lorkin was re-appointed W.M. for next Saturday, after which Lodge was closed and adjourned.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 221, BOLTON.

THE Installation Meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 21st January, at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton, when there were present—Bros. Thomas Whitaker W.M., James Richardson I.P.M., Henry Stead S.W., John L. Aldred J.W., G. P. Brockbank P. Prov. S.G.D. Treasurer, J. Boothroyd J.D., J. W. Taylor P. Prov. G. Org. M.C., Peter Staton Organist, Edwin Melrose Steward, James Smith I.G., T. Hyson Tyler, P.M.'s J. M. Rutter, T. Morris, Thomas Entwisle P. Prov. G.S.W.; and Bros. J. W. Roiley, Joseph Seel, John Isherwood, W. Broughton, H. Hammond, J. S. Sugden, E. Halliwell, A. Cosgrave, P. Bradbourn, W. Court, Charles Stanley. Visitors—Edward Barber W.M. 113, Preston, W. W. Cottam P.M., Preston, J. W. Dovy W.M. 146, Bolton, Richard Duxbury S.D. 146, Bolton, Nath. Nicholson W.M. 1723, St. George, Bolton, James Heywood J.W. St. George 1723, John Priestley St. George 1723. The Lodge was opened at four o'clock, and the minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 1879 were read and confirmed. Forthwith a Board of Installed Masters was constituted, under the presidency of Bro. Nathaniel Nicholson W.M. St. George's Lodge 1723, and the W.M. elect, Bro. Henry Stead, was duly presented by Bro. Brockbank, and in due form installed, proclaimed and saluted, according to ancient usage. The following brethren were appointed to the offices named, and invested with the collar and jewel of office:—Bros. J. L. Aldred S.W., J. Boothroyd J.W., G. B. Brockbank (re-elected) Treasurer, Thos. Mitchell Secretary, Jas. Smith S.D., E. Melrose J.D., J. W. Taylor M.C., P. Staton Organist, Joseph Seel I.G., John Isherwood and J. W. Roiley Stewards. Bro. Entwisle presented the report of the auditors on the state of the Lodge funds, which was accepted as very satisfactory. Hearty congratulations were given from the visiting brethren, and Lodge closed at six o'clock.

On Wednesday, 18th February, at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton. Present—Bros. Henry Stead W.M., John L. Aldred S.W., Jabez Boothroyd J.W., G. P. Brockbank P. Prov. S.G.D. Treas., John Isherwood Steward as S.D., Edwin Melrose J.D., Joseph Seel I.G., J. W. Roiley Steward, T. Higson Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. J. M. Rutter, Cosgrave, &c. Lodge opened at six p.m. After confirmation of minutes of preceding meeting, Bro. Charles Crompton passed examination as an E.A., and was passed to second degree by the W.M., the working tools being explained by the Senior Warden. Lodge closed at 7.30, and the brethren proceeded to refreshment.

Strong Man Lodge, No. 45.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 5th Feb., at Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall Street, City. Present:—Bros. Geo. G. Symons W.M., S. B. Halle S.W., C. Cordingley J.W., H. Follett Treas. A. A. Wing Sec., C. H. Horne S.D., H. J. Dean J.D., W. Ball D.C., J. Smith Steward, W. A. S. Humphries I.G., E. Stead Tyler. Past Masters Bros. F. Driver, G. H. T. Dyer, J. Vass. Visitors—Bros. Lombardi, H. A. Watson 1707, T. Vine 511, W. W. Cooper Crediton 1641, Pelikan 1602, Harvey 100, and Thos. F. Lee 862. Business:—This being the 147th Anniversary, a goodly array of the brethren were present. At 5 p.m. the Lodge was opened in due form, according to ancient custom; the minutes of last Lodge were read and confirmed, and Messrs Luck and Thomas were initiated. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd and 3rd degrees, and Bro. Allen was raised. Lodge was resumed in the 1st degree; two gentlemen were proposed and seconded, to be initiated at the next Lodge meeting. The Secretary announced the sudden death of Bro. William Sims Stewart, a worthy and respected member of this Lodge, who was at his usual place of business on the previous Monday, and expired on Wednesday, the 4th inst., leaving a widow and four children to deplore his loss, it was unanimously resolved that the Secretary should forward a letter of condolence to his bereaved wife, expressing the sympathy of the brethren. Other business was transacted, and the Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned till the first Thursday in March. The brethren then sat down to an excellent banquet prepared by the worthy host.

Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145.—The first regular meeting since the installation was held on Tuesday, 24th February, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bros. W. R. Lister W.M., Dr. Wilkinson S.W., Wood J.W., T. Bull P.M. Treas., E. H. Thiellay P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex Sec., Kerrell J.D. I.G., J. Reid D.C., Hall A.D.C., J. H. Leggott I.P.M. Bros. Detraz, Lambe, Walter, Newson, &c. Visitors:—Bros. Lloyd 1287 and H. M. Levy P.M. 188. Names of several candidates were on agenda paper, but they were unavoidably absent. The resignation of a brother was accepted, with regret. Bro. T. Bull P.M. and Treas. proposed, and Bro. Haslitt P.M. seconded, that in consideration of the I.P.M. Bro. J. H. Leggott, having rendered so many valuable services to the Lodge, and also in recognition of the large amounts he had collected in aid of the Masonic Charities, that he be presented with a Past Master's square, with a suitable inscription engraved thereon; this was carried unanimously. Bro. J. H. Leggott, in feeling terms, thanked the brethren for their appreciation of his services, which he said were always at their command. He felt it a great pride and pleasure to work for the noble Institutions connected with the Order. He had already collected over £900, he would now rest awhile, but hoped before he had finished to make up £1000. Bro. W. R. Lister the W.M., having announced that he was a Steward for the next Anniversary Festival for the Boys' School, it was hoped the brethren would liberally subscribe to his list to enable him in some measure to try and emulate his predecessor. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren separated, there being no banquet.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, City. Bros. H. Hymans W.M., W. Baker S.W., M. Alexander P.M. as J.W., J. S. Lyon Treas., E. P. Albert P.G.P. Sec., Blanks J.D.,

N. Baum I.G.; P.M.'s S. Hickman, A. Dodson, J. Abrahams and L. Lazarus. The Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. Messrs. L. Wall and G. B. Howard were balloted for and duly initiated into the Order by the W.M. A letter of condolence was sent to Bro. L. Alexander P.M. on his recent bereavement. This being an "off night," the brethren sat down to light refreshments; the W.M. ably presided and gave the usual Loyal and Masonic Toasts. Bro. E. P. Albert P.G.P. returned thanks for the Grand Officers. The toasts of the W.M., P.M.'s, Wardens, Visitors and others were given and responded to, and the brethren after passing an agreeable evening separated. The Visitors were Bro. J. Lewis 1261, Albert Hall 427, Jennings, C. Daniel P.M. 65, and W. H. Bailey 65, 1201 and 1779.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—At Bro. Seaton's, the Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, on Wednesday, 24th inst. Bro. James Smith occupied the chair; Bros. John E. Fells S.W., W. Saint J.W., Walker D., W. J. Ramsay I.G., J. Bonner, Ellis, &c. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Pitt candidate. The chair was vacated in favour of Bro. Thos. B. Biddle, who opened the Lodge in the second degree, and after instructing Brother Smith, opened in the third and raised Bro. Smith. A vote of thanks were recorded to Bro. Smith for his first efforts as W.M. in this Lodge. Bro. S. W. Fells was duly elected W.M. for next Wednesday. All labour ended, the Lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

Ranelagh Lodge, No. 835.—This flourishing Lodge, established 20 years at the Bell and Anchor, at Hammersmith, has now so increased in numbers that it was unanimously resolved, at a former meeting, that it should be removed to the Criterion. Excellent accommodation having been given by Bros. Spiers and Pond, the first meeting was held there on Tuesday, the 3rd February, under the presidency of the W.M. Bros. Watson Shaw S.W., Warner J.W., Lines P.M. Treas., W. Alais P.M. Sec., G. Festa as S.D., Helmingford J.D., Webb I.G., P.M.'s Bryett, Butt; Visitors—Bros. B. Swallow P.P.G.D. Middlesex, Barfield P.M. 35 and 511, Scott P.M. 749, Dairey P.M. 141, Docker S.W. 1687, Stonor P.M. 180, Farwig P.M. 180, and Maxted 180. Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Archer Smith was passed to the second degree. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. Shaw S.W. was unanimously elected. Bro. Lines P.M. was re-elected Treas., Church Tyler. Bros. Blake, Lucas, Hicks and Purdue, were elected Auditors. A proposition was handed in for initiation and one for joining. The usual P.M.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Watson W.M. on his retiring from the chair, for the able and efficient manner he had discharged his duties during his year of office. Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony. There was no banquet, but a very excellent supper was provided by Bros. Spiers and Pond, the brethren on this occasion being the guests of Bro. G. Festa.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on 24th February. Bro. Cull W.M., Davis S.W., Dickinson J.W., Wallington Preceptor, J. Lorkin Sec., Clark I.G., Smyth Treasurer; also Bros. Dallas, Fraser, E. Williams, Marsh, Baker, Clark, Allen, Finch, Fenner, C. Lorkin, Polak, Lardner, Brasted, Carr and Byng. Visitors—T. S. Clarke 429, R. Forge 619, Hardrodt 1679, W. Goodyear 1708, C. Plowman 1708, J. Negaw 1298. The Fifteen Sections were worked by the brethren of the Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction. First Lecture—Bros. Sidney Boaz, Rowley, Hunter, Davis, W. S. Lee, Cull and Davis. Second Lecture—Bros. W. Williams, Dickinson, Lardner, Byng, Lardner. Third Lecture—Bros. F. Brasted, J. Wright, T. Gardner. Bro. E. A. Beckett 1364 and Bro. John G. Hopkins 1100 were elected members. A cordial vote of thanks, also honorary membership, was ordered to be recorded on the minutes, to Bro. Cull for the very able manner in which he had carried out the duties of the chair. There was also a cordial vote of thanks to the brethren who had assisted in working the Fifteen Sections. Bro. Christian was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—At the King and Queen, Norton Folgate, 19th February. Bros. Hine W.M., Lane S.W., Wilson J.W., Thorpe S.D., Fenner Preceptor, Wallbrecht Sec.; also Bros. Legg and Bronkhurst. The Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Fenner as candidate answered the usual questions. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The third section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Fenner, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the same brother worked the first and fourth sections of that lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Lane was appointed to preside at next meeting. The Lodge was closed and adjourned.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, on 25th February. P.M. Cundick W.M., P.M. Myers S.W., Smith S.D. 860 J.W. The Lodge was opened in due form with prayer, and the minutes read; afterwards the following brethren assisted in working the sections. First Spencer, second Watkins, third Rawe, fourth West, fifth Andrews, sixth Pavitt, seventh Cundick, eighth Watkins, ninth Johnson. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when Bro. P.M. Myers was again unanimously elected to fill the chair on Tuesday next. This little Lodge room was filled on this occasion—a fact we are not surprised at, as any one who wishes to get on in Masonry cannot do better than attend and receive instruction at the hands of its members.

Bro. R. Johnson, the efficient and courteous M.C., announces his 23rd annual ball at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Wednesday, 3rd March, where a numerous attendance of the brethren and private friends are expected to assemble.]

New Finsbury Park Lodge, No. 1695.—The regular meeting was held on Tuesday, the 17th inst. Bros. T. Press W.M., H. B. D. Dunn S.W., Hollis P.P.S.D. Herts as J.W., Davis P.M. Treas., A. J. Berry P.M. Sec., J. N. Thompson S.D., G. Edmunds J.D., J. H. Bastable I.G., J. Eldridge P.M. D.C., C. Hutchinson Steward, Grout Organist; P.M.'s W. T. Parkiss I.P.M., Richmond, Hollis, Perfect, Ayden, &c. After preliminaries, ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. J. C. Edwards and F. M. B. Bowers, who were duly initiated into the Order. Bros. F. Richmond, J. W. Clayton and J. R. Perfect were raised to the third degree. Credit is due to the W.M. for his working, in which he was ably assisted by the Officers. A candidate was proposed for initiation at next meeting and two brethren for joining; this will complete the number of members, the Lodge being restricted to 40. Bro. Davis P.M. and Treasurer proposed that a Lodge of Instruction be established under the warrant of the Lodge, to be called the New Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction,—Bro. Parkiss has offered the use of a commodious room for the purpose,—and that a Committee be formed to carry out the arrangements. This was seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously. The resignation of a Brother was accepted, with regret. Bro. Earl announced his intention to act as Steward for the next Festival of the Girls' School. Hearty good wishes were given by the Visitors, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren then sat down to a very sumptuous banquet and dessert, provided by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, that gave great satisfaction. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed the first Loyal toast. The National Anthem was sung, Bro. Davis P.M. taking the solo verses. After the toast of the Grand Master, Bro. Richmond sang "God Bless the Prince of Wales," accompanied by Bro. Grout on the Piano. Bro. Parkiss I.P.M. then took possession of the gavel to propose the toast of the W.M., who had done the duties of the Lodge in every respect to their satisfaction. Under his auspices they might in every respect anticipate a successful year of office. The W.M. thanked Bro. Parkiss for the kind manner he had spoken of him, and the brethren for their reception of the toast, his services were at their command; this young and promising Lodge had his hearty co-operation; if he had worked the ceremony to their satisfaction he was proud. Bro. George Edmunds then sang "Bonnie Dundee." The W.M. next proposed the toast of the Initiates; this was the toast of the evening. The new members had come with good recommendations, and they welcomed them heartily. Bros. Edwards and Bowers briefly replied. The E. A. song was sung. The toast of the Visitors was next given, and Bro. Blackie W.M. The Great City Lodge 1426 responded. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the I.P.M. Bro. Parkiss, who had so endeared himself to them all. No more kind and genial Mason could be found; the members all wished him health and prosperity, and that he might wear the jewel of the Lodge for many years. After a song from Bro. Pierpoint, Bro. Parkiss replied; he felt proud at having been the first Master of this flourishing Lodge; he had served the office two years. It was gratifying to note the liberality of the members; they had, indeed, aided him to represent the Charities three times. Bro. Earl, who was initiated in the Lodge, will this year be a Steward, for the second time, and he (Bro. Parkiss) hoped the brethren would give him their support. The Treasurer and Secretary, Bros. Davis and Berry, were next complimented; two more indefatigable brethren could not be found. Bro. Eldridge P.M. D.C. responded on behalf of the Treasurer Bro. Davis, who was obliged to leave; he was proud to endorse the words of Bro. Parkiss. The Lodge was in a flourishing condition, and while all liabilities had received attention, the Charities had not been forgotten. Bro. Berry, as one of the founders, hoped he had done all in his power for the welfare of the Lodge; the number of members was limited, and the initiation fee would now be raised. He had been gratified by the remark made by the Visitors as to the Lodge of Instruction—that by its establishment the younger brethren would be enabled to perfect themselves to follow in the footsteps of the W.M. The Junior Officers was the next toast; no better workers could be found. The W.M. hoped to see them all occupy the chair. At this stage of the proceedings, the worthy Secretary Bro. Berry announced, amidst loud applause, that the brethren had nobly supported Bro. Earl's list for the Girls' School, by subscribing the sum of 39 guineas, five guineas of which was given by Bro. Fisher (1524), a visitor. Bro. Earl thanked the brethren for their support; he hoped to carry up a good list for that noble Charity.

Bro. Dunn S.W. responded for the Officers; and after a song from Bro. Parkiss P.M., the Tyler's toast was given. The following were the Visitors:—Bros. Rowe P.M. 167, G. Veal 1288, J. Chinnery S.D. 145, Wilkinson 157, Pauling 828, Cattermole 217, Fisher 1524, J. J. Rowe P.M. 167 and 198, W.M. 504, Keyse 1602, Blackie W.M. The Great City 1426, Quincey 1319, H. M. Levy P.M. 180, &c.

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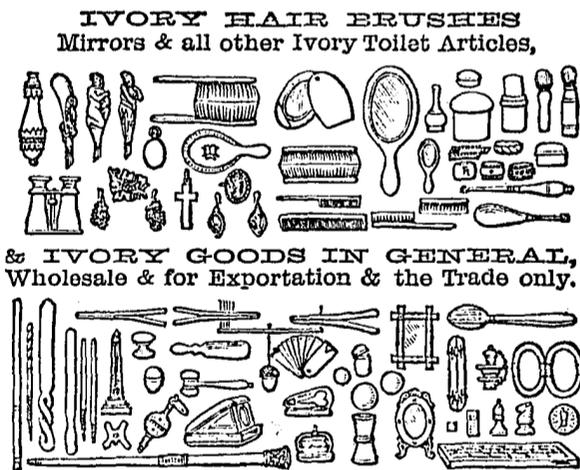
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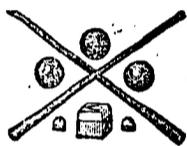
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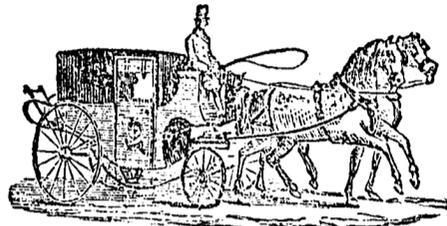
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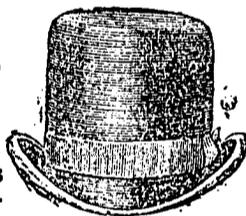
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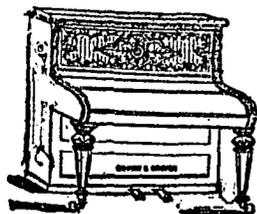
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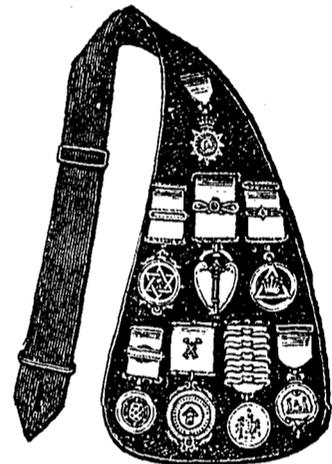
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