

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. 285.

SATURDAY, 12th JUNE 1880.

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

ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

AS will be seen from a report we publish elsewhere in our columns, a meeting of the Interim Committee of the above Fund was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday evening. The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom presided, and among those present in support of his Lordship were Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., P.G. Master of Berks and Bucks, the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., P.G.M.M.M. Cheshire and North Wales, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Interim Treasurer, P.G. Chaplain, and Dep. P.G.M. Suffolk, the Rev. C. W. Arnold P.G. Chaplain and Dep. P.G.M. Surrey, and other brethren. The objects of the Fund were determined on this occasion, and from the chaos of suggestions which at the outset flowed in on worthy Bro. Dick Radclyffe considerably, it has been found possible to evolve something like order. It has now been determined—subject, of course, to the approval of the general body of patrons and supporters—that the objects of the Pupils' Assistance Fund shall include the provision of assistance to deserving Boys and Girls on leaving our Schools. This assistance is to take the form of procuring situations, advancing small amounts towards the purchase of tools and trade appliances, and towards outfits as well as obtaining apprenticeships, &c. It has been further resolved that the administration of the Fund shall be in the hands of a Committee formed out of the existing Committees of the two Schools, but with power to add to their number, and that it shall devolve on the Committee thus formed to select those cases which are held to be most deserving and most in need of help. It is further laid down that an annual audit shall be held, and a report be presented to the subscribers; while, to make it clear to the Masonic world that the Founders have no intention whatever of establishing a fourth Charity, it is distinctly announced that the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund will be wholly and solely supplementary in its character.

It will be seen from the above particulars that the *Vis et origo Fundi* is, as was originally announced and accepted by most brethren, retained. The multifarious suggestions, which appear to have puzzled a good many worthy members of the Fraternity, have now resolved themselves into a simple programme. It is not, and we take upon ourselves to affirm it never was, intended that this should be anything else than an Assistance Fund. It was never contemplated that its administration should have tacked on to it the "blessings of a paid Secretariat." The expenses will be little more than nominal, and the chances are that printing and postage will form the most considerable items. With a clear field and no favour, and the distinct understanding now officially made public that this is purely a subsidiary, and not a rival fund to our existing institutions, there is every reason to believe that the idea originated by Lord Rosslyn will be acted upon most successfully, and that those of our little folk who from necessity have been driven to seek eleemosynary aid from our Charities will have further assistance rendered them at the most critical period of their career, that is, when they are on the point of embarking in the grand struggle for an honest and honourable livelihood. We heartily endorse the action of the Committee, and we consider its members are entitled to the warm thanks of the whole Masonic fraternity. The establishment of this Fund, as Lord Rosslyn very appropriately suggested, is the completion of our educational edifice. Hitherto

we have given our boys and girls a most liberal education, but have done little towards enabling them to utilise the advantages of that education. Now, at least in those cases where such further assistance is proved to be necessary, we shall give deserving youngsters such help as may be necessary towards enabling them to utilise the benefits it has been our pride and pleasure to bestow on them. A very little goes a long way in the direction we have indicated, and it will be greatly to the credit of Lords Lathom and Rosslyn, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, and the energetic Dick Radclyffe, to bear in mind for the future that to their initiative or their co-operation the success of this most desirable Fund is mainly due. A little Latin now and again is excusable. So say we, and we know all good Masons will cordially join with us in saying—*Hoc utinam semper floreat Auilium!*

THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

OUR holiday season has begun, though not under the most favourable auspices as regards the weather. But we must not grumble because the merry month of June has not been so far all we could desire. We have had a long spell of dry weather, so long a spell, indeed, that the ground had become hard and dry, and sorely needed refreshment. Thus the rain that has fallen with greater or less abundance during the past few days must have been gratefully received—most gratefully received—by husbandmen; and we who dwell in London will reap the benefit in the shape of a more bounteous and therefore cheaper supply of vegetable stuff. Thus, though the business of perambulating London in rainy weather is not of the most agreeable character, we can well afford to grin and bear so small a trouble. Moreover, as the rest that brethren take from Lodge business usually lasts well into the autumn, there is ample time before us for the meteorological authorities to put themselves in good trim and do the handsome thing by us poor mortals, and we hope they will have the kindness to bear in mind that we had no summer weather at all last year, and will give us a double share this.

But whither does all this tend? Why this inane preamble about the weather? Well, worthy friends and brethren, we are in the first place doing no more than all our fellow-countrymen do pretty well every day of their lives. Our climate is so fickle that, when two Englishmen meet, it matters little if it be in the house or abroad in the busy streets, the first remark they address to each other, when the usual greetings have passed, has reference to the weather. In fact, in some cases this is the length, breadth, and depth of the conversation they indulge in,—this, the Eastern question, and the last new opera or concert. Then we are just now interested in the Clerk of the Weather's arrangements. As well might we have no summer holidays at all, if they are such as we were favoured with in 1879. Those who have been toiling through the year are beginning to think of the time they can devote to laying in the needful supply of ozone. We may seek this at some inland resort, or we may hurry off to the seaside and set to work bracing ourselves up for a further period of labour. But holiday making, whether inland or by the sea, is miserable work, when "Jupiter Pluvius" is in the ascendant, and "Phœbus Apollo" sulks nearly all day long behind heavy banks of clouds instead of bestowing on us the light of his

countenance—we hope this display of classic knowledge, and the use of inverted commas will not be set down as an excess of vanity on our part. What is the good of having read the Latin classics unless we occasionally air in public the knowledge we have gained? However, as we have just now observed, a wet and sunless holiday is rather dull, and we hope therefore we shall be soon enjoying ourselves under the best possible conditions of wind and weather. We hope too that our worthy friends, whether they journey north, south, east, or west, will not only obtain the rest they need from the cares and responsibilities of business, but will find themselves invigorated by the fresh air and the abundant exercise. One little piece of advice we venture to offer, and we have had considerable experience in holiday-making in various countries. People must not run away with the idea that much benefit is derived from long and frequent journeys by rail. What hardworking people stand most in need of is, rest and change of scene, but the former especially; and the man who lies on his back in some field basking in the sunshine acts far more sensibly than he who rises betimes of a morning, dashes off to the nearest station, and takes train some hundred miles and back, feeds incontinently, has a passing breath of fresh air, and then returns home late, quite worn out by the exertions he has put forth in order to make himself believe he has been enjoying himself. It is, of course, something to catch a momentary glimpse of the green fields, as the train is whirled along to its destination, but something more than this is needed in order thoroughly to renovate the system, and enable us once again to resume our duties successfully.

But the chief purpose we had in view in writing about the holiday season has yet to be achieved. Our remarks have been general in their character up to the present point, nor have we done much else than suggest that all of us are beginning to want a respite from labour. Just now, moreover, our Lodges are busying themselves about their annual excursions, and are probably planning where they shall go, what they shall do, and what it will cost them. On the first two points it is unnecessary we should offer any advice. Within easy reach of London, and it matters not in what direction one goes, there are delightful spots where a pleasant day may be spent. There is the river for those who like a sail, or a run to Gravesend, Sheerness, Southend, &c. Kew and Richmond and the neighbourhood are reached in comparatively a few minutes. In fact, no matter which way we turn, we need have no difficulty in finding a place to enjoy ourselves in each and every of the home counties. Nor is it difficult to fix upon the character of the recreation; but a more important point is to determine what shall be the cost of the day's excursion. We do not believe in niggardliness in connection with pleasure. Far better is it to remain at home, if as regards cost it is considered unwise or inexpedient to leave a small margin for unforeseen circumstances. At the same time, as travelling is now so cheap, there is no earthly reason why a day's "outing" should be made so hot that brethren of moderate means must decline to participate in the enjoyment. By all means let those who have plenty and to spare spend freely; but all are not born millionaires, and the expenses of a day's excursion should be regulated to suit the pecuniary possibilities of the many, not those of the wealthy. With a good many people, the outlay of five pounds for a single excursion is matter for serious consideration; yet there are not a few of our summer fêtes where a brother accompanied by (say) his wife and daughters would find very little left of the sum we have named at the journey's end. There might also be some excuse for the costlier programme if it secured a greater degree of pleasure, but it is well known that some of the most delightful trips are at the same time the most inexpensive. Nothing, for instance, can possibly be more enjoyable than a land or water pic-nic, yet there is no reason why it need cost more than a good family dinner, apart, of course, from the expenses of travel. Fresh air in a picturesque locality, and a liberal supply of creature comforts, are the chief constituents of a good "outing," and these, with railway or carriage fares, need not involve very serious expenditure.

We commend these remarks to the notice of our brethren just at this time, as most of them are doubtless looking forward to a little pleasurable recreation during the coming summer.

THE ANTIQUITY OF LAYING CORNER STONES WITH RELIGIOUS AND MYSTICAL CEREMONIES.

By R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY.

REPRINTED FROM THE LIBERAL FREEMASON.

I PROPOSE to lecture on the Antiquity of the laying of corner stones for public buildings with religious and mystical ceremonies. In doing this, I shall chiefly call your attention to late discoveries and translations from Egyptian and Assyrian Inscriptions which have evaded the ravages of time for several thousands of years, and whose recent translation by scholars has let in a light on the distant past of the Masonic Craft as extraordinary as it is interesting to all Masonic students.

These records, carved in stone, or burnt into terra-cotta cylinders, are still extant, and living witnesses of the facts they state, and may not be denied. You know that the Grand Lodges of Freemasonry, certainly for the past century and a half, have been in the habit of laying the corner stones of edifices of a public, religious, or benevolent character with peculiar ceremonies. The history of this usage has not, that I am aware of, been hitherto explored; but I shall lay before you evidence of the antiquity of that usage, of undoubted authenticity as far as it goes.

Properly viewed, these new facts seem to me important in the history of Masonry, whether considered as an art or as an association of men. For the Masonic student to weigh well what the stones have spoken, a few facts should be borne in mind.

1st. We are to compare our usages, forms, and knowledge, with those in vogue among the Pharaohs,—not theirs with ours.

2nd. That the Master Mason of antiquity was the Architect and Draughtsman in Architecture, combining these with his other practical functions, until after A.D. 1550, when Palladio began to set the example of separating the functions of Architect from those of a Master Mason.

Whilst the Freemasons were roaming through Europe Cathedral building, never permanently resident anywhere, they were able to preserve their liberty, independence and class organization, because the highest and the lowest in brains, wealth and skill clung together and made common cause against the assaults of feudal arrogance and monarchical cupidity. It is generally conceded that men of brains, priests, nobles and kings were attracted to and admitted within their Lodges. In no other way than by the aid of such protection and fellowship can you account for the long and successful fight they maintained in England against the statutes prohibiting their annual assemblies and general chapters, their oaths, and agreements of initiation. It was only when further violation was made felony, and modifications had enabled masters to avoid the statute of wages by contracting in gross, or by the piece, that the local laws appear to have controlled these strong organizations; and traditions made it probable that this control was rather in enforcing greater secrecy than in actual suppression.

But when those who aspired to master the highest branches of the arts of Architecture, exulting in the art-halo of the Renaissance, threw off their connection with the practical grades, disowned their fellowship in the Craft, and deriding the old Gothic art, devoted themselves to the Palladian, the unbalanced craft seemed likely to fall into obscurity. The public rapidly forgot that the old glories of the art were the master mason's work, and lost sight of the noble and intellectual distinctions which had separated the Frankmason from the art and calling of the wall builder and the bricklayer.

A few lingering Lodges of Freemasonry continued through the seventeenth century in England and Scotland, admitting gentlemen, artists, and other citizens to their fellowship, dimly preserving the traditions of their more glorious past, until in the time of Wren occurred that revival of Lodge Freemasonry with whose history we are all familiar. Knowing practical Masonry only as it exists in its last metamorphosis, a respectable number of our students have questioned whether this revival was an attempt to embody and preserve fading traditions of the craft, and its former organization, or whether its cherished traditions were the invention of some enthusiasts. No man has a right to deny the truth of history because he is ignorant. It is a Masonic duty to seek light as to Landmarks, that we may live up to them. I ask intelligent and bright Masons like you, when my story is told, to judge of the tenacity with which traditions and usages will cling in the memory and habits of a Craft descending thousands of years until all recollection of their origin is lost in oblivion.

LIGHT FROM THE STONES.—Very recently this age has learned how far into the past can be traced the usage of laying corner stones with important ceremonies, and the mystic reverence popularly attached to them.

The allusions in the Bible to the laying of corner stones are not unfrequent, and in the New Testament Christ is symbolized as the corner stone.

Job is held by scholars to be the oldest book of the Bible, and there we read that the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, asking, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?" and bid him to declare, if he had understanding, "who laid the corner stone thereof, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" (King James version.)

These sublime words simply paraphrase the mystic reverence which in the adjacent civilized states of that time hung around the ceremonial of the laying of the corner stone.

Masonic art began earlier in Egypt than in any country whose records are preserved to us; there the oldest specimens of Masonic art yet known to man are still extant; on these ancient edifices Craftsmen have carved those hieroglyphics, which students agree are the beginning, the infancy of the art of writing. The earliest of these inscriptions are more than forty centuries old, and for the past fif-

teen or eighteen centuries no man until within our day has been able to translate the records they bear. By aid of the key which Champollion discovered, the persistent labour of scholars has at last uncovered the contents of these records of the past.

Many matters of curious interest to Masonic students are thus freshly brought to our knowledge.

PATAH.—It may well surprise any one how closely the Masonic art was interwoven with religion in the time of their early dynasties of Egypt. As early as 4400 B.C., the leading God in their system of worship, *Patah*, was styled "the Holy Architect *Patah!*" In like technology and allusions the high priest of the country was called "the Foreman."

In this connection it will not excite any surprise to be told that amongst the trees sacred to this holy Architect of the Universe was reckoned at Memphis the acacia, nor to learn that there were two chief feasts to him in Memphis, viz.: on the first of the month *Tybi* and *Mechir*.

The office of "Foreman," or High Priest of *Patah*, was filled often by the princes of royal blood. There was also the office of Architect, or Master Mason, which demanded the highest intelligence, and the trained, skilful hand, and was the occupation of the noblest men at the king's court. "Pharaoh, architects, the mur-ket, who were often of the number of the King's sons, and grandsons, were held in high honour, and the favour of their lord gave them his own daughters out of the women's house as wives." 1 Brugsch, 47.

These architects, you will soon see, were not mere palace minions or political functionaries performing their duties by deputy, but were actual Grand Masters of the arts and points, tools and sciences of the Craft, and guardians of its rights and privileges.

In the Twelfth Dynasty, about 2100 years B.C., we meet with inscriptions of the reign of *Usurtasen I.*, describing a Council held in the third year of his reign, about building a new Temple to the Sun, at which the king orders the work to proceed; and the inscription then describes the solemn laying of the corner stone, undertaken by the king himself.

In this reign, *Mentu Hotep* was the chief Architect to the king.

In another connection I shall quote his description of the duties of his office, and of his own manual skill in the royal art, in which he evidently took a commendable pride.

CORNER STONES.—The laying of the corner stone of a new public building appears to have embraced a mystic religious appeal to the Holy Architect of the Universe. The Master Masons were, like the land surveyors, members of the priestly caste in the organization of the Egyptian social system, and the King was chief of this caste, as well as of the soldier caste. We shall see, in following the quotations, that not only was he by indirection the head and chief of the masons, but that he was personally instructed and taught the art and mystery of the Masonic craft, both in its practical and scientific departments, and presided at the most mystic of their ceremonials. A parchment acquired at Thebes in 1858, and now at Berlin, describes an occasion of this sort. 1 Brugsch (131) in citing it says: "Then ensues, now undertaken by the King himself (*Usur-tasen I.*), the solemn laying of the foundation."

Again, in the reign of that Egyptian hero, *Thutmes III.* (p 379), an inscription says: "The King with his own hand conducted the solemn festival of the laying of the foundation stone for this monument."

P. 410, *Amenhotep II.* son of *Thutmes III.*, beautiful and enlarged a temple. "Then the King carried out the festival of the laying of the foundation stone to the honour of all his fathers, when he dedicated it a massive tower gate of hard stone." In Vol. II. p 37, *Ramses Miamun*, in another inscription, says: "I gave orders for the building; I myself laid their foundation stone to build the work."

Ramses II. was crowned with his father at an early age (12 years). His progress in public employments is thus spoken of: "When thou wast a youth and counted ten full years, all buildings proceeded from thy hands, and the laying of their foundation stones was performed."

That this ceremony was mystical, and that the art instruction of the King was practical, will appear by an inscription of *Mentu Hotep*, chief architect of *Usur-tasen I.* (1 Brugsch, p 140), who also describes himself as a legislator and a judge. He distinguishes the duties of his various stations:—"As chief architect of the King, he promoted the worship of the Gods, and instructed the inhabitants of the country, 'as God orders to be done,'" Vol. I p 378-9. Speaking of *Thutmes III.*, "the King bid more than all his predecessors from the beginning, and had proved himself a complete master of the holy sciences."

There is an inscription of this last King on the Temple of *Amon Ra*. The date, according to 1 Brugsch, is 1600 B.C., which is about six centuries before King Solomon—which throws strong light on the ceremonial of the corner stone.

I will observe that, as we understand it, *Amon Ra*, in one of his types, was the Sun God, the centre of the then popular worship. The King was assumed to be his son, either in a spiritual or practical sense; and "the divine one" who attends and participates with the King on this act of piety is *Amon Ra*, himself invisible, though a real presence.

The inscription has not been preserved entire; there are places where the accidents in 3600 years of exposure to the elements have obliterated parts of the writing. I shall cite those parts which illustrate my subject.

1 Brugsch 384—The King says, "I gave the order to prepare the cord and pegs, for the laying of the foundation stones in my presence. The advent of the day of the new moon was fixed for the festival of the laying of the foundation stone of this memorial." After a few now obliterated paragraphs the inscription proceeds: "The God Ammon went thither to celebrate his beautiful festival—he drew near—the cord and pegs were ready, then his holiness placed me before him, towards the memorial. And I began—then the holiness of this God went further, and the beautiful feast was celebrated to my lord."

"Then I came forward, yes I, to complete the business of the laying of the foundation stone, because, . . . [here occurs another obliteration] . . . He went out, and the work of the first stroke of the hammer for the laying of the foundation stone was to be performed. Then the holiness of this divine one wished himself to give the first stroke of the hammer . . . [here another lacuna occurs] . . .

"There was laid in the foundation stone a document with all the names of the great circle of the Gods of Thebes, the gods and goddesses, . . . and all men rejoiced,"—here the stone and the inscription break off.

This inscription was found by Mariette Bey on the N.W. side of the Holy of Holies of the Temple of Karnak, where it is still to be seen.

Notwithstanding the vast difference between the religion of that time and of this, the Mason, who as member of the Grand Lodge has participated in the duties of dedication, must feel that he is on familiar ground in reading these descriptions of the proceedings of the Craft thirty-six centuries ago.

Does not also the conviction grow upon him that the mysticism which was attached to the Craft then is not without its parallel in the Craft now? Will he not also be struck with the fact that there was a speculative side to the Craft at that time which finds a noble expression in the spirit of the duties of *Mentu Hotep*, the Chief Architect, to promote the worship of God, the Supreme Architect of the Universe, to teach the Craft wisdom, and to protect the poor?

As I have more to say about Masonry in Egypt later on, I shall resume the consideration of Corner Stones in Assyria.

Since the fall of Babylon and Nineveh, centuries before the Christian Era, a midnight darkness hung over the knowledge of their arts, until the excavations of Botts, and Layard, and Smith exhumed their buried relics, and the researches of Rawlinson and Lenormant, Smith and others, translated the language of their public inscriptions and their public and private writing on cylinders. There also, as far back as sixteen or seventeen centuries before the Christian Era, the masonic art flourished, temples and palaces of stone, with carved inscriptions and pictorial descriptions on the panels of alabaster or marble, indicated that the Freemason was at work here.

I will remark that in Egypt and here, the Masonic Art to which I refer is the art of the stone cutter and stone mason, in the construction and ornament of stone buildings. The mere working in clay, the unburnt or the burnt bricks and the mere quarry working were performed in Egypt by prisoners, captives, and slaves under the cruel vigilance of skilled overseers. Our Craft held the lofty position due to its art, science, skill and epitomized knowledge of Geometry, Mechanics and Mathematics.

Contrast the Hebrew suffering in the plains by *On* in the claypits, with what the records disclose of the high social relations of the stone-workers; the cherished distinctions of the one, with the groaning tyranny which drove the other class into the desert as fugitives; and the difference will at once be manifest.

(To be continued.)

REVIEWS.

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

St. John's Lodge, No. 221, Bolton. A Short History and Extracts from the old Minute Books, together with a list of Members, with the date of their respective initiation or joining the Lodge, and other information connected with the Masonic Fraternity. Compiled by Bro. G. P. Brockbank, Treasurer and Senior Past Master, P. Prov. Grand S. Deacon East Lancashire, with a short Introductory Notice by Bro. W. J. Hugham, Past Grand Deacon of England. 1880. Bro. Morris, Printer, Oxford Street, Bolton.

(Continued from page 374.)

Book 2 contains the rules, eighteen in number, for the government of the Lodge. Under the first, which fixes the day and place of meeting, each member is to pay one shilling, half to be spent and half to the "fund Tyler," and "Candles to be paid out of the same." On St. John's day, however, the payment by rule 2 is fixed at Three shillings and sixpence, and even Brethren "Absent on that day Shall pay the same, Except Sickness or Confinement." It is next provided that brethren shall not be chosen "by Seniority" to any office in the Lodge, except they merit it, and that (rule 4) each one "Shall appear Clean and as Decent as he can, with an Apron, such as is worn by Ancient Masons. Likewise that Every subscribing Brother shall wear in his Breast that Mark of distinction that is worn by Ancient Masons on the Regular Meeting Nights." Cursing, and Swearing, and using "unbecoming Language in Disregard of God's name intendedly," or aggravating a fellow-member so as to disturb the harmony of the Lodge "whilst engaged in that most Serious and Solemn" is punishable by a fine of sixpence. Any one appearing "Disguised in Liquor" is mulct, for the first offence, "in the sum of sixpence, and for subsequent offences a shilling, to go to the fund For the Relief of Indigent Brethren." It does not seem to have occurred to the framers of these rules that a bibulous brother who came "Disguised in Liquor" might plead that he did so, not for the gratification of his appetite, but in order to increase "the fund For the Relief of Indigent Brethren," and there are doubtless many who would have regarded this plea as an extenuating circumstance. At least such a view is justified by later experience, as in the case of the great teetotal advocate who attended a great temperance demonstration "Disguised in Liquor," and explained that he did so solely for the purpose of giving a practical illustration of the evil effects of intoxication.

Absence without assigning a proper reason rendered the offender

liable to a fine of one shilling. Any old Mason wishing to join the Lodge and being found worthy, to pay half-a-guinea, "likewise to pay his own Registry." Any one ridiculing a brother's "Religion, Trade or Profession," was fined ten shillings, nor "admitted to sit in the Lodge until he pays the same and makes an humble Submission for his Transgression." By Rule 10, no brother was allowed to have a certificate till he had been a subscribing member for twelve months, "Excepting he is Leaving the Kingdom, or Going to some other part, or Entering into his Majesties Service, and then give his O.B. that he is not Deceiving the Lodge."—N.B. perhaps an Irishman had something to do with the framing of this law, to judge, at least, from the spelling of the last word but two. Rule 11 forbade the admission of Modern Masons or "any Subscribing those To Belongs," the meaning of which clause is obvious enough, though the language is slightly ungrammatical, the object being to "keep the Ancient Craft from being Adulterated." By the same law a visiting brother was to pay as much as a subscribing member, that is, one shilling, his first visit, however, being free. In the case of any member of the Lodge divulging any secrets to a person not belonging to it, his first offence was punishable by a fine of five shillings, and "an humble Submission for his Transgression"; a second offence was more seriously noted, the fine being half-a-guinea, after which if he committed himself again he was "Excluded and Reported to the Grand Lodge." Rule 13 enjoined great care on every brother "in offering his Interest to any Man Desiring to Become a Mason without first applying by petition, so that no Reflection may be Carried further by him if not admitted,"—a wise precaution, though the motive would seem to have been to protect the Lodge from the Reflections which they could have very well afforded to laugh at, rather than from the admission of unworthy persons. Rule 14 limits admission to those who are "of Abel Body, Honest Parentage, Good Reputation in the neighbourhood where they reside, and are observers of the Laws of the Land." The next two laws provide (1)—That a month's notice must be given before a man is admitted a member, "unless Some Cause May Appear Legal to the whole Lodge;" and (2)—That each intending candidate must send half a guinea with his "petition," which sum, in the event of his being approved, was to be "Detained as part of his Admission Money;" a further payment of one guinea on "his first entering the Lodge, and sufficient to raise the whole to £2 2s 6d, before he is raised to the degree of Master Mason, exclusive of his Registerie and Tyler." Rule XVII. is amusing, providing, as it does, "that if any Br. Comes on a stated Lodge Night with a foul shirt, with a Beard, Silk or Coloured Handkerchief, he shall pay a fine of twopence for every such offence." We know that in those days men prided themselves on being clean-shaven, so that a beard must have been decidedly objectionable, while the "foul shirt" would be indicative of want of proper respect for the Lodge, but we should have thought a "Silk or Coloured Handkerchief" was quite harmless. The last Rule of all provided that no brother should have a certificate granted "until he shall have paid all arrears due to the Lodge, likewise have Discharged all Debts he may have Contracted with any Brother of the same or in the house wherein the Lodge is kept in order to Soprt the Credit of the Lodge, Except Love granted from the Creditor"—manifestly a most wise law for a most seemly purpose.

We now turn to No. 3 Minnto Book, the first entry in which, under date of 27th April 1802, records—"That Br. McQuigan late one hour and Br. Britles the whole of the night"—a somewhat quaint way, in the case of the latter, of noting his absence. On the same day it was "Agreed a Brother be allowed £1 1s 0d for his Troble at the time of the Prossion," but the nature of the "Troble" is not indicated. After an explanation as to the reason why the Lodge left its quarters at the Lord Nelson, there follows a minute which is, perhaps, the most extraordinary in the whole series. "In contempt of this Lodge Rich. Clarkson said he was glad he was cleared of the Lodge, and should mend his old Breeches with his Apron to-morrow." What the said "Rich. Clarkson" had done, and whether he cleared himself or was cleared out by the Lodge does not appear in the record; but it is evident he was a very rude person indeed, though how the repairing of his old breeches with his Apron could be an act of ridicule towards the Lodge, when it would only have made himself ridiculous, we are at a loss to comprehend. On the same day it is noted that a Bro. Morris was "silenced for four months, and to have no Masonick Communications with this Lodge or any other for that space of time," for having "called a meeting without the leave of the Master or Officers," and on the 8th of July following it is ordered that at the end of that period Bro. Morris should have his "Setevicate," and not join the Lodge any more. In 1803 we read that Bro. Cane and Bro. O'Neal, the first Junior Warden and Master respectively, withdrew from the Lodge, while on the 5th April the Lodge was summoned to consider the misconduct of the then Master, Bro. Stead, but owing to his absence the consideration was postponed till some future occasion. On 30th June it is recorded as follows:—"Opened on the four degrees 4.50: closed on the 4th degree 6 p.m. On the 3rd & before 7, on first 20 past 10." Our brethren know well enough what is the fourth degree in these days; we presume, however, the fourth here mentioned must have been the R.A. degree. Why the Lodge need have taken four hours and twenty minntes for the ceremony of closing is not stated, and the inference we are left to draw is one which Bro. Brockbank has suggested elsewhere, to wit, that the labours of the brethren were of so severe a nature that they were compelled *nolentes volentes—volentes* mostly no doubt—to refresh themselves in each interval. The year following is recorded a Committee of Inquiry into a "Grievance between Josh. Wood and Thos. Longworth," the former charging Longworth with having accused him of "Bringing this Lodge to Poverty," and further said he—(Wood or Longworth, for it is not quite clear which of the two is meant)—had no God but his Lad, and that every Man's Soul was his God." In spite of his denial, Bro. Longworth was found guilty, and we learn that at the end of the year he was to have his Certificate, when he had settled his books and paid his dues. In 1805 the Lodge removed to the Elephant and Castle. On the 24th July 1806 it indulged in a game of "high jinks," the occasion being the visit of three brethren of the Bury Lodge, No. 171,

and an Irish brother. The minute of the 28th August is well nigh the most enigmatical in the whole compilation, and in the hope that some of our learned readers may be able to throw some light on it, we reproduce it in full:—"Report Thos. Wilkinson, a Spinner at Mr. Ormond's and Lodging with Br. Wood, a Native of Warrington, Visited by Bro. Joseph Wood and William Skelhorn, Brother of St. John, whose healths were drank, also Worthy Brother Throughout the Terraquous Globe [omitted Br. James Conelly, also of St. John. Who was toasted and the same reld?].] Bro. Brockbank suggests that "reld" means "replied," and we accept with pleasure his suggestion as being quite in the order of things. But very wisely does Bro. Brockbank abstain from offering further exposition, especially as to who may have been intended by "Bro. Throughout the Terraquous Globe." We are aware that in the days of the Commonwealth, many eccentric individuals took whole sentences, especially Scriptural ones, as names. The person who was irreverently known as "Damned Barebones" will occur to most people as a case in point, but we did not know the custom was in existence anywhere in England in the early years of the present century. Of course, it is possible the words may mean "all worthy brethren scattered over the surface of this Terraqueous Globo," and we hope it does; but that portion of the minute beginning with "Report," and ending with "Warrington" is certainly inexplicable. On the 18th December of the same year Bros. Hart S.W. and Longworth J.W.—the same, we presume, whom we have mentioned as having been guilty of a false charge against Josh. Wood—were nominated for the chair, and on ballot the latter was chosen. In the choice between Bros. Hart and Whalley for S.W., the latter was successful, while Bro. Bell was preferred to Bro. Quin for the Junior Wardenship. On the 27th of the month, however, votes were again taken, and Bros. Longworth, Hart, and Bell were elected W.M., S.W., and J.W. respectively, after which the Lodge was "Call'd to R. at four o'clock, when the brethren partook of a Good and Wholesome Dinner." The meeting must have been a very convivial one, as the Lodge was not closed till half-past ten o'clock. In the course of the year 1808 we have an instance of a "Modern" Mason being initiated, passed, and raised according to "Antient" form, as though he had been a "profane." In the minutes of the next year we read "it was proposed by the Master if Thos. Longworth should walk at the Funeral of Bro. John Bolton," but it was opposed and agreed "he should not," and at the next meeting "it was proposed by the Master if Bro. Ivers should not get any allowance for being sick, he going by a majority of the members." We must all sympathise with unfortunate Bro. Ivers for having been sick, especially as he does not seem to have had any allowance made for him under the circumstances; but where he went to "by a majority of the members" and why, is beyond our powers of exposition. A minute of 30th June of this year, recording that Bro. Bell was installed a second time as Master, and that many loyal toasts were drunk closes Book III.

Book No. 4 begins with the record of a visit on 24th August 1809, of two Modern brethren, members of Lodge No. 33,—now "Anchor and Hope," No. 37, an old Lodge, having been founded in 1732,—and after an entry in which it is mentioned that "The Master conspicuously toasted his Majesty in Ancient form," the rest of the Brethren giving "every Mark of Loyality to the King and Constitution," we find the Lodges, both Ancient and Modern, attending divine service at the New Church "in great harmony," it being an "Emergency Meeting of the Comemory of the Jubilee of his peasant Majesty, and was a Acomenced with the Ainchient Lodg 196." But these meetings and visits cannot be regarded as so very strange, seeing that the Union, fortunately accomplished in 1813, between Ancients and Moderns was doubtless the theme of general discussion at this period. At the meeting held in Commemoration of St. John's Day 1810, the Lodge drank "His Majesty's Land and Sea Forces Success," and drank it "deep in Clarret," so deep apparently that the Secretary had not recovered from the effects of his potations on the 19th August, when we find as follows:—"Opened in the Night Templer Order. Dearly Beloved Jeromier Grayham who had his Sertifiket delivered for him B'fore a large Body of Respectobel Brothers, met on the Resectobel order." The minute though strangely worded, however, is curious as showing the hollowness of the pretensions advanced by the so-called "Ancient" Masons, to be the original Bros. Simon Pure of Free and Accepted or Speculative Masonry, or otherwise we should not find them working Craft, Arch, and Templar Masonry under the same warrant. True there may be a connection between ancient and modern Templarism, and likewise between these and Freemasonry. Yet it is strange that they, who were such sticklers for the purity of the Craft and condemned the so-called "Moderns" for a less conspicuous ingrafting of ceremonial on the original Masonic tree, themselves added to it first Arch and then Templar Masonry. But to proceed. On December 6th, 1810, a "plan of general relief for the town of Bolton" was submitted and approved. On 2nd May, 1811, the Lodge was "engaged for some time in most serious business," so serious that no one seems to have had the courage to record its nature.—N.B. perhaps it was a series of Toasts drunk "deep in Claret." On the 28th November, after a most serious preamble in which stress is laid on the "Interests of Masonry," a Brother Blank for repeated acts of disobedience was excluded from the Lodge "FOR EVER, and shall be reported as such to the Grand Lodge by next Communication and his certificate is burned by vote." The "FOR EVER" does not, however, seem to have lasted longer than 7th October, 1813, for on that day he was admitted by consent of the brethren present, conditionally that he "came as a Visitor Member until he cleared off the Books and then come as a Subscribing Member." For "Books" must be read, we presume, "dues," or Bro. Brockbank could not have fulfilled his task of compilation.

It is not a little strange, as our worthy compiler has pointed out, that no mention whatever is made of that important and glorious event, "The Union"—that healing of a schism, which had divided our Fraternity for some three-quarters of a century. Our Bolton brethren of those days must have been singularly indifferent to the fortunes of the good old Craft.

One instance, and that after the Union had taken place, is given of the three degrees being conferred on one and the same individual at one and the same meeting, but the circumstances which justified this are not even alluded to. The penultimate entry in this Book bears date 9th May 1816, and is to the effect that "Thos. Sutcliffe" —Query, an ancestor of the late Bro. Sutcliffe of the Province of Lincoln—"wishes to lie dormant for some time," but though this brother may have been permitted to do so, the practice does not appear to have found favour with the Lodge, for on 23rd October 1817, a resolution was put "That for the future none shall lie dormant."

In the Fifth Book, the first entry fixes the night for meeting, and also that "the Lodge of Instructions should be held on the next Sunday but one to the Lodge night, and spend 3d out of the Stock"—no very extravagant expenditure it must be admitted. About this time (1819) there would seem to have been started the idea of establishing a Sick Fund in connection with the Lodge, for we read more than one entry to the effect that "reputations" or "replications" were made on the subject—we presume by these are meant "motions" or "recommendations." An entry on 23rd Sept. 1820 points to there having then been a Provincial Lodge, for we read that "Bro. Isherwood delegated to Preston to the day of the Grand Meeting." The next entry lays it down that no member was to receive any allowance outside the Lodge, Bro. Brockbank suggesting that this refers to a desire on the part of the brethren to drink outside the Lodge at the Lodge expense. In November or December of this year two brethren were expelled for non-payment, and "6 candidates admitted to the order of Red Cross of Babylon." We can only imagine that by this is meant the "Red Cross of Constantine," though it seems an unpardonable slur on the memory of the first Christian Emperor of Rome to have confounded his order with the pagan city, which is usually associated with a class or order that is unmentionable in polite society. But more important is it to ask what our brethren of those days can have been about when, in the teeth of the Articles of Union, in which pure and ancient Masonry is clearly defined, they ventured to work any other than the Craft degrees in a Lodge. We have read in other local Masonic histories of similar irregularities, but this is certainly the strangest that has come under our notice. A minute relating to the purchase of jewels for Deacons and Tyler, "according to present fashion" and "A Record 30 June 1830," with nothing recorded complete this Book. As Book 6 covers the five-and-twenty years, from 1821 to 1846, we shall defer all further comments on it till next week.

(To be continued).

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.

—o:—

ELECTION OF HOUSE COMMITTEE OF THE BOY'S SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I attended this election on Saturday last, believing that the introduction of a little new blood would benefit the Institution, especially as the names of some of the new candidates proposed, and marked with an asterisk, strongly recommended themselves as being earnest sincere business-like brethren, well calculated to share in the management of an Institution towards which they have been such liberal supporters. The laws of the Institution informed me that the votes were given by ballot, and I have always understood that to mean secret voting. I was therefore not a little surprised and amused to observe one indefatigable member of the Committee grasping at and filling up more than a score of voting papers. It was exceedingly obliging, but neither fair nor in accordance with secret voting.

Perhaps means will in future be adopted to allow members of the Committee to fill up their own voting papers, more especially as I observe that the two new members elected have only subscribed in the one case £10 10s and in the other £11 11s towards the funds of the Institution.

Your obedient Servant,

A LIFE GOVERNOR.

27 Walbrook, E.C., 7th June 1880.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I think attention ought to be called to the manner in which the elections of our Masonic Charities are conducted, I am led to say this from what I saw at the election last Saturday of the House Committee for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Article 37 of the laws distinctly states that the election "shall take place by ballot," yet how it can be called a ballot when one brother fills in a pile of balloting papers is more than I can understand, and this was done by one of the prominent members of the old House Committee last Saturday, as can be vouched for by others as well as myself.

I am no advocate for secret voting, as I think open voting, properly ruled by the chairman, to be much the safer plan but if the ballot

is to be adhered to it should be conducted strictly as a ballot. I think the papers ought to be given out to each brother, either by the chairman or by the scrutineers, and marked by them in such a manner that the scrutineers may easily identify the papers that have been properly issued.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

S. B. WILSON.

VISITING SECRETARIES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The letter of your correspondent "A.P.M." is doubtless, as poor Artemus Ward would have said, meant for a "goak," but seriously, a great deal of fuss is being made about the successes achieved by Bro. Hedges, who is unquestionably, a non-visiting Secretary. He is to be congratulated on his good fortune, and I am sure the last brethren in the world to grudge him the honour due to his achievements are Bros. Binckes and Terry. Equally certain am I, that if these brethren had any choice, or thought they had any choice, in the matter, they would much rather not be always running about London and the Provinces in the performance of what they hold to be their duty. Now there is an old saying to the effect that people must not expect to get what they want by sitting down, and waiting and hoping for it to come. It is all very well to open your mouth and shut your eyes, &c., but though you may sometimes get a nice little piece of sugar candy, you may, at other times, get an objectionable pebble or piece of dirt. Bro. Hedges must not labour under the mistaken notion that because the contributions to the Girls' School have been greater since his election as Secretary than formerly, he will always experience the same good fortune. It is well known that many subscriptions are given by Lodges or brethren on the spur of the moment, or because an official of one of our Institutions, like Bros. Binckes or Terry, is there to remind them that our Charities need constant help; and it generally and very properly happens that the donation or subscription is handed or forwarded to the Institution whose official representative happens to be present. Nor must it be forgotten that Bros. Binckes and Terry visit, as they do, from a sense of duty—the result of many years' experience. If Bro. Hedges, who, by comparison with his older colleagues, is a mere Toddlekins still in need of his nurse's help to keep him from falling or breaking his dear little arms or legs, can do without visiting, so much the better, say I, for Bro. Hedges; but I fear very much that a year or two hence we shall find the Girls' School lagging behind, unless Bro. Hedges's nurses are willing to go on doing for him what Bros. Binckes and Terry for years past have done for themselves.

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Faithfully and fraternally,

Nous VERRONS.

THE MASONIC RITUAL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your issue of 8th May contains comments by Bro. Rosseter on my letter printed the week previous. Bro. Rosseter interprets "bright morning star" to mean the sun. This is his so-called "literal translation of that passage," and he is very much afraid that my susceptibility has outrun my discretion. Permit me to say that, as Bro. Rosseter is a firm believer in the Grand Mastership of Messrs. Nimrod, Osiris and Co., he may also be able to believe that "the bright morning star" referred to the sun, or that the moon is made of green cheese, or anything else. I, however, cannot believe that the literal translation of the "bright morning star" was ever meant to convey the idea of the rising sun, and, should proof be called for, I can amply supply him with authorities, copied from the Masonic publications of those who interpreted the said passage just as I did.

The fact is undeniable, that since 1717 Masonic Ritual-mongers have been incessantly striving to turn the Lodge into a conversion trap. It has been so in England, in America, and on the European Continent, but with only this difference:—in Germany Masonry was made exclusively for Christians. Everything there was open and above board, but in England and in America they tried to make rituals with double meanings; hence our English and American Masonic luminaries have always been in a pickle—that is, they were either vacillating or prevaricating, as I have stated in a former paper. The same authority would declare that Masonry is a religion, and that it is not a religion. It is certainly high time for us to know what Masonry is. Pray, therefore, do tell us what Masonry is.

These sectarian allusions in the Ritual place the Hebrew W.M. in an unenviable position. If he does not know what he is reciting, he is laughed at for his ignorance; and if he does know the Christian significance of a phrase, and still repeats it, he is regarded with contempt for his hypocrisy. Nor is the Hebrew W.M. alone so regarded, for the finger of scorn may be equally pointed against the Jewish Masons in a Lodge who complacently listen to these Jesuitical interpolations in the Ritual.

On the other hand, it cannot be denied that those very pious brethren, who so persistently oppose the reform of the Ritual, must be utterly blind (notwithstanding their piety) to the principles of truth, honour, justice, and of "doing as they would be done by."

Respectfully and fraternally,

JACOB NORTON.

Boston, U.S. 21st May 1880.

"DROPPED" WORDS AND LETTERS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Every reader of your contemporary must in a very short time become painfully aware of the many inaccuracies to be found in each number of that periodical. Sometimes they consist of dropped words, at others of dropped letters, but more frequently of gross errors in spelling.

As an instance of an inaccuracy arising from "dropped words," take one of the short editorial paragraphs contained in the last issue of the journal in question. The Editor therein desires to impress upon his readers that "he is never personal." Surely the words "otherwise than" have clearly disappeared from between the words "never" and "personal."

Yours fraternally,

A.P.Z.

10th June 1880.

ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

THE Interim Committee of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund met together on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Deputy Grand Master of England, and Prov. Grand Master West Lancashire. Among those present were Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. Berks and Bucks, the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., and Bros. W. Hickman P.A.G.D.C. Deputy P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, Rev. C. W. Arnold P.G. Chaplain and D.P.G.M. Surrey, Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G. Chaplain and D.P.G.M. Suffolk (Interim Treasurer), and Dick Radclyffe Secretary. After careful consideration, it was resolved as follows:—

To assist Boys and Girls leaving the Masonic schools in procuring situations, &c. To advance small amounts to aid in the purchase of tools, outfits, &c., and to assist in obtaining apprenticeships, &c. That the administration of this Fund shall be in the hands of a Committee, to be formed from the existing Committees of the Scholastic Institutions, with power to add to their number, who shall select the most deserving and necessitous cases. That an annual audit be held, and report presented to subscribers. That a report of this day's proceedings be presented to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and Girls.

It was also laid down that in the opinion of the Committee the Fund will not necessitate the establishment of "a FOURTH Charity," but on the contrary that it will "serve as a Supplementary Fund," to be dispensed by the Committees in the manner suggested in the foregoing resolutions. The following are the Committee to carry out the above objects, namely, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn, Right Hon. Lord Brooke, M.P., Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., Rev. C. W. Arnold, Rev. J. Stadholme Brownrigg, W. Hickman, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw. A vote of thanks to Lord Lathom for his kindness in presiding was passed and acknowledged, and the sitting then terminated.

MILFORD HAVEN.

WE congratulate the worthy people of Milford and neighbourhood, and the Lodges which are held there on the prosperous future which apparently is in store for them. Not that they have not had their share of Fortune's smiles in the past, but the resolute determination which has been come to lately to promote the deep sea fisheries along the S. Wales coast must in time exercise a beneficial effect on this favoured place. Last week, accordingly, which witnessed the return to harbour of the first steam trawler, will with reason be remembered as a very bright particular week in the annals of Milford. But while this prospect is general in its character, and affects the whole of this particular community, we must not forget to mention that it has been resolved to erect a Masonic Temple for the use of the two Lodges here located. These are St. David's, No. 366, and the Neyland, No. 990, and it speaks well for their energy that they should have undertaken boldly a task which cannot fail to cost them a handsome sum. Thus, with new quarters on the point of being erected, and the presence among them of that genial Craftsman and skilled caterer, Bro. Palmer, lately of the Greyhound, Richmond, the Milford brethren are or should be in excellent fettle.

LYCEUM.—On Saturday Mr. Henry Irving reappeared in "The Bells." The house was crowded in every part, and the actor received fresh tributes of approbation for his masterly rendering of Mathias, the burgomaster, who is haunted by the sound of the sleigh bells. Mr. Irving acted his best in all the well-known striking situations of the play, especially in the last scene. Miss Alma Murray and Mr. F. Cooper, as the young lovers, deserve a word of praise, as likewise does Miss Parancefort as the burgomaster's wife. This play will be repeated every Saturday throughout June, with Iolanthe as an afterpiece, Miss Ellen Terry enacting the heroine.

We understand, from one of our Exchanges, that the Grand Chapter of Michigan, at its recent convocation in Jackson, appropriated 1,000 dollars for the entertainment of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, which meets 25th August next. A committee of seven was also appointed by the Michigan Grand Chapter, and Monroe and Peninsular Chapters have each appointed a committee of seven with the same hospitable object.

OLD ENGLISH LODGE, No. 1790, CROYDON.

THE first installation meeting of this youthful Lodge was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Hall, New Thornton-heath. The highly-esteemed W.M. having summoned his Officers to their places, the Lodge was opened in due form, there being present—Bros. Foulsham W.M., R. Buckworth S.W. W.M. elect, Rev. J. H. Roberts P.M., C. Daniel P.M., Bush P.M., H. Harland J.W., W. P. Robinson Secretary, F. C. Pascall S.D., E. Whitaker J.D., John Taylor I.G., Jno. Sergeant, J. F. Page, H. Legg, H. Baber, J. W. Russell, T. Young, M. Taylor, V. J. Abraham, J. Shakespeare, R. J. Fleming, W. H. Ransom, J. Clarke, and the following Visitors:—Bros. W. R. Sheadd I.P.M. Pannure Lodge 720, J. Bennett P.M. 231, Volney Keen Templar Lodge, New York, 203, G. Adamson P.M. Temple Bar Lodge 1728, B. Haynes P.M. Egyptian Lodge 27, W. Steedman P.M. 754, and Edward Brain Leopold Lodge 1751. The minutes of the previous Lodge meeting having been read and confirmed, the financial statement of the Lodge was presented, from which it appeared that after the heavy outlay incidental to the formation of a new Lodge, a balance of a few pounds only was due to the Treasurer, which was considered to be highly satisfactory, taking into account the exceptional expenses which had been incurred during the year. The ceremony of installation was then most impressively performed by Bro. Foulsham Installing Master, the W.M. elect being presented by Bro. Daniel, the office of D.C. being most efficiently discharged by Bro. Adamson. After the usual proclamations Bro. Buckworth the newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested his Officers as follow:—Bros. Harland S.W., Pascall J.W., Foulsham Treas., W. P. Robinson Sec., E. Whitaker S.D., J. Taylor J.D., J. Sergeant I.G., Bavin Tyler, Rev. J. H. Roberts D.C., Fleming W.S. and Legg A.W.S. The W.M., on behalf of the Lodge, presented to Bro. Foulsham I.P.M. a handsome jewel, which had been subscribed for privately by the Lodge, as a slight token of respect, and in recognition of the zeal and ability with which Bro. Foulsham had performed his arduous and responsible duties as W.M. during the first year of the establishment of the Lodge. Bro. Foulsham, who was no less surprised than gratified on receiving the unexpected *souvenir* (which was attached to his breast by the W.M.), said he had had the honour of founding three or four Lodges, but he did not think he had ever taken so deep an interest in any as he had taken in the Old England Lodge, which he looked upon as his pet child, and whilst he was blessed with health and strength he should do all in his power to promote its success and prosperity. He should ever treasure this jewel as being the outcome of a spontaneous expression of regard for him, who came amongst them a total stranger and had been received with the utmost respect and courtesy. The W.M. having risen in the customary manner, hearty good wishes were expressed by the Visitors, after which the Lodge was closed in due form, and the members were called "from labour to refreshment," in the banqueting room above, where the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and drunk, followed by those of a complimentary nature, including the health of the W.M., the I.P.M., the Visitors, &c.

HARBOUR OF REFUGE LODGE, No. 764, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

BRO. George Carter the W.M. elect, was duly installed on Tuesday, 8th inst., with the usual honours, the installing ceremony being gracefully performed by Bro. C. S. Lane P.G.J.D., the outgoing Master. The ceremony was witnessed by a large body of brethren, including many distinguished members of the Order. Amongst the Visitors were:—Bros. P.M.'s Knowles and Hunton of the Philanthropy Lodge, Stockton-on-Tees; Bros. Farmer P.M. North York Lodge, Middleborough, Tobey W.M. Marquis of Ripon Lodge, Darlington, Iley P.M. of the Tees Lodge, Stockton-on-Tees, Hall W.M. of the Lodge of Fraternity, Stockton-on-Tees, Spofforth W.M., John Horsley P.M. and Bennett I.P.M., of St. Helen's Lodge, Hartlepool. After being enthroned, the newly-installed W.M. invested his Officers for the ensuing year. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Commercial Hotel (Bro. Hobson's), where a sumptuous banquet was provided, the chair being occupied by Bro. Carter the W.M.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 348, BOLTON.

A REGULAR Meeting of this Chapter was held at the Bull's Head Inn, on the 3rd June. Present:—Comps. Henry Greenwood Z., John Harwood II., Robert Harwood P.Z. P. Prov. G. Standard Bearer as J., James Newton P.Z. Prov. G. Scribe N., Thomas Wilson P.Z. Treas., James Horrocks P.Z., William Cooper E., W. H. Alcock N., James Dooley P.S., John Morris, Richard Duxbury. Visitors:—Comps. C. R. N. Beswick-Royds P.Z. 62 Prov. G.H., G. P. Brockbank P.Z. 37 221 P. Prov. G. Treas., and Comp. J. Crossley (Wigan). The Chapter having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A candidate for exaltation was balloted for and approved. Bro. John Alcock P.M. 348, who had been previously elected, was duly admitted and exalted to the degree of Royal Arch Mason. The installation of principals and investiture of Officers for the ensuing year then took place, the following being the Companions invested, viz.:—Comps. John Harwood Z., James Newton II., James Dooley J., William Cooper E., William H. Alcock N., John Morris P.S., John Alcock first A.S., Richard Duxbury second A.S., Thomas Wilson Treas., Robert Harwood D.C., Thomas Higson Janitor. The auditors presented their report, which showed the finances of the Chapter to be in a satisfactory condition. All business being concluded, the Chapter was closed, and the Companions adjourned to the refreshment board.

CONCERNING THE BALLOT.

FROM THE MASONIC ADVOCATE.

AT the organization of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, among other regulations enacted for the government of Subordinate Lodges, was one requiring a separate ballot for candidates for each degree. This rule has been continuously in force up to the present time, and every Master Mason made in this jurisdiction has passed the ordeal of this triple ballot. It has also a standing rule that the ballot must be a secret one, and to maintain this secrecy no one is permitted to inquire how another voted, or even to disclose how he voted himself. That all may share equally in the responsibility of the result of the ballot, every member present when it is taken is required to vote.

So far as pertains to the first degree, the same regulations exist in the jurisdiction of all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and there is but one opinion among the best informed Masons as regards the correctness of them. All agree that no one should be made a Mason against the wishes of a single member. But as regards a ballot for the second and third degrees, there is not only a difference of opinion among well informed Masons, but also a difference in the regulations of the Grand Lodges of different States. While the regulations of Indiana are the more general ones, there are some jurisdictions in which only one ballot is required for the three degrees. We are informed that an amendment to that effect will be presented at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Indiana next May. Such being the case, we call attention to the fact, that the delegates may have time to consult the subject before being called upon to act in regard to it. The Grand Master has been notified of the proposed amendment, so as to bring the matter before the Committee on Jurisprudence previous to the annual meeting.

There is much to be said on both sides of this question. We do not propose to discuss it fully in this number, but may do so in our next issue. We will at this time only call attention to some points that should be duly considered. The present regulations have governed the Craft in this jurisdiction for more than sixty years. Under them Masonry has prospered, while Lodges have been established in every city, town and hamlet in the State. As a rule, to "let well enough alone," is a safe one to follow.

But is the question whether there shall be a separate ballot for each degree or only one ballot for three degrees, one of any special importance to Masonry? When a man presents his petition to a Lodge it is to be admitted a member of the "Ancient and Honorable Institution" of Freemasonry. In other words he asks to be made a Master Mason. His qualifications and fitness are then thoroughly investigated before the ballot is taken. If found worthy to receive the first degree he is certainly worthy to receive the second and third degrees, for the qualifications for each degree are the same, excepting that he is required to make suitable proficiency in the one taken before advancing to another. If after he has taken one degree the question is simply as to his proficiency in that degree to entitle him to pass on to the next degree, then why may not the vote be taken in the usual manner of taking the sense of the Lodge upon any other subject? What objection could any member have to this manner of deciding whether a candidate has learned his lesson? Unless the candidate is examined in open Lodge no vote at all is necessary, for a well posted committee could decide as to his proficiency.

It may be said that a candidate, after taking one degree, may commit some offence that should debar him further advancement. Would it not be better in such cases to stop him by preferring charges against him? If he is not worthy to advance, he is certainly not worthy to remain where he is. Besides, having assumed a Masonic obligation he is entitled to be heard in his own defence. Is it not sometimes the case when a ballot is required for each degree that a candidate is rejected without any apparent cause, to his own injury and that of the Lodge?

These are some of the points to be taken into consideration in connection with this subject. If any of our readers have any thoughts to present for the good of the Craft generally we shall be pleased to publish them in the next number of the ADVOCATE, which will be the only one issued before the meeting of the Grand Lodge. Let us give the subject the attention its importance demands, and endeavour to act for the best interests of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction.

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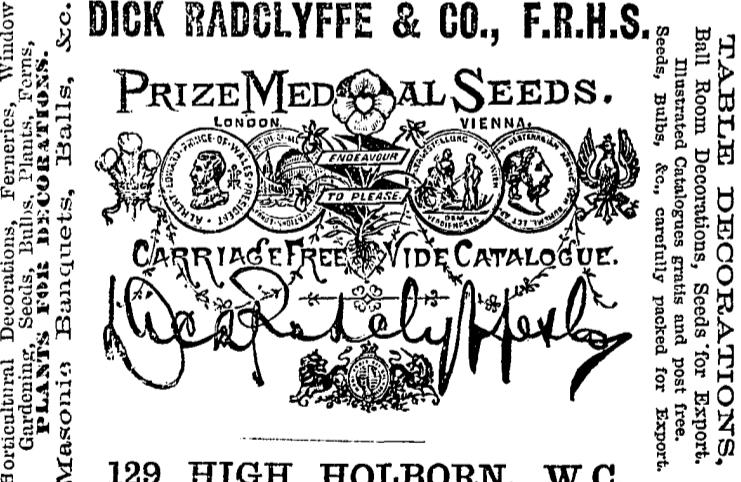
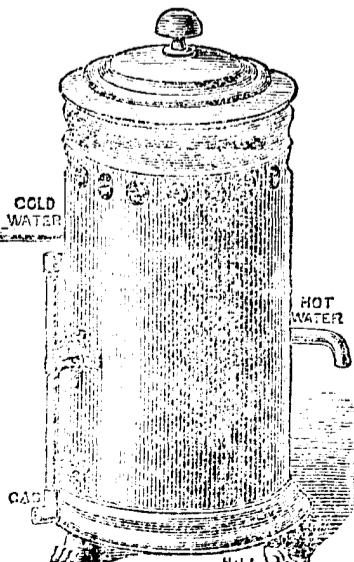
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By Order of the R.W. Prov. G.M. VISCOUNT HOLMESDALE,
ALFRED SPENCER,
Prov. G. Sec.
Maidstone, 27th May 1880.

The Arrangements of the Committee at Margate for the Festival are:—

LODGE at the Foresters' Hall	12:0 noon
SERVICE at St. Paul's Church, Cliftonville	1:30 p.m.
BANQUET at the Assembly Rooms, Cecil Square, Tickets 10s 6d each, including Wine, Dessert, and Waiters	3:30 p.m.

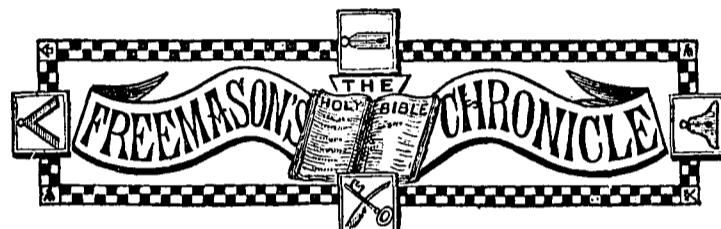
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THE late R.W. Bro. Col. Thomas Wildman, of Newstead Abbey, Prov. G. Master of Notts 1824-59, saw much active service after joining the army, which he did as Cornet 9th Lancers in 1808, exchanging subsequently into the 7th Hussars. In 1809 he served with Sir John Moore's Army in Spain. He was present at all the actions in 1813-14, and took part in the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 as Aide-de-camp to the late Marquis of Anglesea. He retired in 1837. Col. Wildman was initiated while serving with his regiment abroad. He joined Friendship Lodge, No. 6, in 1813, and Antiquity, No. 2, in 1819. In 1824 the late Duke of Sussex conferred upon him the honourable post of Prov. Grand Master of Notts, and in 1854 the brethren of that Province presented him with a very handsome silver epergne, value two hundred guineas, the late Earl of Scarborough presiding on the interesting occasion. Col. Wildman died 20th Sept. 1859, in his 73rd year, having been born 27th August 1787. In 1818 he purchased Newstead Abbey of the late Lord Byron (the poet), for somewhat under £100,000. Particulars of the above-mentioned presentation, &c. will be found in the *Freemason's Magazine* 1855, pp 103-112, and in the same journal for 24th September and 15th October 1859.

The late Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B., and M.P. Southwark, was a member of our Society. "It is not known," said the *Freemason's Magazine* of 17th November 1860, "when or where Sir Charles was initiated, but a few years since he was a constant visitor at the Lodge of Friendship, No. 6, where he was well known." Our late brother, who was cousin to the late Bro. Sir Charles Napier, the conqueror of Scinde, was born in 1786, entered the navy as first class volunteer in 1799, was actively engaged till the Peace in 1815. He next saw service under the Portuguese flag, and defeated the fleet of the pretender Dom Miguel. In 1840 he took part as Commodore, under Sir R. Stopford, in the bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre and other operations on the coast of Syria. He commanded our fleet in the first campaign in the Baltic in 1854, and in conjunction with the French reduced the fortress of Bomarsund. He died 6th Nov. 1860.

The late Duke of Richmond who was Prov. Grand Master of Sussex 1823-1860, entered the army at an early age, as ensign in the 52nd regiment, and served in all the actions in the Peninsular war from 1810 to 1814, including Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, the Pyrenees, and others, for which in 1847 he received the war medal with eight clasps. He was also aide-de-camp to the Prince of Orange (late King of the Netherlands) at the battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo. It was mainly through his Grace's exertions that the officers and men who had served in the Peninsular campaigns, received the medals, &c. commemorative of their brilliant services. The late Duke is believed to have been initiated when on service abroad. In 1823, the same year in which he was appointed by the late Duke of Sussex to be Prov. G.M. Sussex, he joined the Union Lodge, now No. 38, Chichester. He was

in the seventieth year of his age, having been born 3rd August 1791, and died 21st October 1860.

The late General Vernon, born 28th September 1779, died 22nd March 1861, entered the army as cornet in the 10th Hussars, 1798. In 1808 he was appointed D.A.A.G. to Sir John Moore's army in Spain. Joined Wellington in time for Talavera, 1809, and took part in Salamanca, 1812, (gold medal), as well as in other actions. Served subsequently in West Indies and Ionian Islands. Was initiated in the Lodge of Harmony, No. 384, Hampton Court, in 1802,—now extinct; and fifty years later—in 1852—his son Col. Vernon, lately Prov. Grand Master Staffordshire, was installed W. Master. "At the installation, also, of Bro. Col. Vernon as W.M. of St. Peter's Lodge, Wolverhampton, his father and two brothers were all present as P.M.'s," an unusual occurrence, writes the *Freemason's Magazine*. Of his three sons, two, namely, Bros. Henry C. Vernon, and Col. George A. Vernon, have distinguished themselves as Past P.G. Masters of Worcestershire and Staffordshire respectively.

The late Bro. Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, one of the most distinguished naval officers of the long war, was succeeded in the Prov. Grand Mastership of Notts by the late Colonel Wildman.

The late Captain Patrick Deuchar, R.N., who died 11th May 1869, was one of six brothers, among them being likewise the eminent Craftsman the late Bro. Alexander Deuchar, of Lodge No. 1 of Edinburgh. He was initiated 5th December 1806, being at the time a midshipman of H.M.S. Seahorse. He fought under Nelson at Trafalgar, and took part in the unfortunate Walcheren expedition in 1809. He had filled nearly all the offices in his Lodge, and for the last twenty years of his life had been Grand Director of Ceremonies in the Grand Lodge of Scotland. He had attained the venerable age of 84 years.

Among Freemasons of to-day who are or were in the military service of the Crown, may be mentioned Lord Amherst—lately Viscount Holmesdale—P.G.M. Kent, who was wounded in the Crimea; General H. E. Doherty, C.B.; Colonel A. W. A. N. Hood, Major-General Gore B. Munbee, Major-General Henry Clerk, R.A.; Lieutenant-Colonel C. Hutton Gregory, C.M.G.; Colonel H. T. Duncan, C.S.I.; Major-General E. K. Mone, R.A.; Major-General W. D. Aitken, R.A.; Major-General Augustus Fleming; Lieutenant-Colonel Reginald M. Sartorius, V.C., C.M.G.; and Major-General John N. Sargent, C.B. These, with the exception of Lord Amherst, are members of the A. and A. Scottish Rite of England. Major-General Sir James E. Alexander is Past Grand Master Stirlingshire, Scotland; and the following, among others, are of the Irish Craft:—Lieutenant-Colonel George E. Hillier, C.B.; Major-General Sir J. J. Hort, Bart., C.B.; Major-General Sir H. C. B. Daubeny, K.C.B.; and Major-General E. A. Whitmore. Major-General Darby Griffiths, C.B., Representative from Grand Lodge Scotland at the Grand Lodge Ireland, is 32° Scotland.

A. H. N.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Sir Stephen Cave, G.C.B., on whom, shortly before his resignation of office, the Earl of Beaconsfield, at the instance of Her Majesty, conferred the honour of a baronetcy. Sir Stephen Cave was born in the year 1820, and having entered at Balliol College, Oxford, took his degree of B.A. in 1843, with second class honours in Classics. He was chosen to represent Shoreham in 1859, and remained its representative till the close of the last Parliament. Bro. Sir Stephen Cave was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, in 1842.

By the death, at the advanced age of eighty-four, of Sir Robert Burdett, his cousin, Bro. Colonel Francis Burdett, one of the kindest and most genial of Masons, succeeds to the honours of the Baronetcy. Bro. Sir F. Burdett, besides being the Masonic chief of Middlesex in Craft, Arch, and Mark Masonry, is also the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at our Grand Lodge. He has filled the office of Grand Warden of England, is Constable of the Great Priory of Knights Templar of England and Wales, and *ex officio* member of the Council, M.I.I. Grand Sovereign of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, as well as Chief Intendant General for Middlesex, Essex, and Surrey, an honorary Vice President of the Rosicrucian Society, and Inspector General 33° for the Southern District A. and A. S. Rite.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Middlesex and Surrey will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on Tuesday, the 29th inst. Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett will occupy the chair.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—These Pills are more efficacious in strengthening a debilitated constitution than any other medicine in the world. Persons of nervous habit of body, and all who are suffering from weak digestive organs, or whose health has become decayed by bilious affections, disordered stomach, or liver complaints, should lose no time in giving these admirable Pills a fair trial. Coughs, colds, asthma, or shortness of breath, are also within the range of the sanative powers of this remarkable medicine. The cures effected by these Pills are not superficial or temporary, but complete and permanent. They are as mild as they are efficacious, and may be given with confidence to delicate females and young children.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys held their usual monthly meeting on Saturday last, Col. Creaton, Grand Treasurer, in the chair. On the recommendation of the House Committee the salaries of the first assistant master and the wardrobe keeper were raised, the first from £100 to £110, and the second from £50 to £60. Plans were submitted from the Board of General Purposes for the new Offices of the Institution, accompanied by a letter from Grand Secretary, offering the new office for the Boys' School for a rent of £85 a year, and a charge of £5 a year for coals, gas and attendance; this also included the use of the Board room, when not required for the purposes of Grand Lodge. These plans were accepted, subject to suggestions for variations which might occur to the Committee on consideration. Petitions on behalf of five candidates were examined and accepted. One outfit of £5 was granted to a late pupil, and a letter was read from another late pupil who had had an outfit voted to him, thanking the brethren for the gift. The following brethren were then elected for the House Committee:—Bros. J. G. Chancellor, H. W. Hunt, W. F. C. Montrie, J. Joyce Murray, W. Paas, Dr. Ramsey, W. Roebuck, Dudley Rolls, S. Rosenthal, E. J. Row, Charles Sanders, and R. W. Spice. The Finance and Audit Committee were Bros. John Constable, Donald M. Dewar, Charles F. Matier, William Mann, Thomas Meggy, Charles E. Soppet, Alexander Wallace, R. B. Webster, and Henry Veon. The usual vote of thanks closed the business of the day.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE monthly meeting of the Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. Lieut.-Colonel John Creton, Grand Treasurer, Vice Patron and Trustee (in the chair), W. F. Nettleship, Thomas Goode, W. F. C. Montrie, John G. Stevens, F. Adlard, Charles Lacy, Richard Herve Giraud, J. A. Farnfield, John L. Mather, John Constable, James Kench, T. Quittmann, W. Clarke, G. Bolton, James Brett, J. Newton, J. Bulmer, Thomas Cubitt, A. F. A. Woodford, A. H. Tattershall, J. R. Gallant, C. G. Dilley, Edgar Bowyer, William Stephens, Charles Fredk. Hogard, Charles Daniel, Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, J. M. Case, Henry G. Warren, Louis Stean, Charles Atkins, William Hale, W. Hilton, Thomas Meggy, Rev. C. J. Martyn, H. C. Levander, and James Terry Secretary. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the Secretary announced that the following brethren were the Committee of Management of the Institution for the year:—Bros. S. Rawson, A. F. A. Woodford, Shadwell Clerke, H. S. Somerville Burney, R. H. Giraud, Jabez Hogg, E. J. Barrow, N. G. Philips, W. F. Nettleship, James Kench, Charles Atkins, James Brett, W. Clarke, C. A. Cottebrune, C. F. Hogard, W. F. C. Montrie, G. Penn, A. H. Tattershall, H. G. Warren, James Willing jnn., F. Adlard, John Bulmer, C. G. Dilley, Thomas Goode, W. Hale, W. Hilton, Jilins Quittmann, L. Stean, W. Stephens, and R. W. Stewart. The death of some of the annuitants was announced, and also the names of the successful male and female candidates at the late election. Authority was given to sign cheques for the first quarter's annuities of these candidates, amounting in the case of the men to £210, and in that of the women to £208. Bros. W. Stephens, R. H. Giraud, W. Hale, H. G. Warren, and C. F. Hogard were elected the Finance Committee; and Bros. S. Rawson, Raynham W. Stewart, J. A. Farnfield, C. J. Perceval, and Thomas Cubitt the House Committee. The use of the Hall of the Institution at Croydon was granted for the summer entertainment to the inmates, and next Wednesday was fixed for the Stewards' visit. Bros. Col. Creton, the Rev. Adolphus Woodford, John Newton, John Constable, John G. Stevens, J. L. Mather, Charles Lacey, Charles Frederick Hogard, and William Clarke were appointed as Sub-Committee to enquire into the office duties and emoluments of the Collector of the Institution (an office now vacant), and to report to an adjourned meeting of the Committee.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE Annual Provincial Grand Lodge will be held in the Masonic Hall, Newland, Lincoln, on Thursday, the 24th June next (Festival of St. John the Baptist), on the invitation of the Lodges, "Witham," No. 297, and "St. Hugh," No. 1386, at high twelve punctually, under the presidency of Bro. W. H. Smyth, J.P., Deputy Lieut. for Lincolnshire, &c., R.W. Prov. G.M. The P.G. Officers and Past Officers, with the W. Masters and the acting Wardens of the Lodges in the Province, are convoked to attend; and all Master Masons are invited to be present. The W.M. and Officers of the Witham Lodge 297, will open the Lodge in the three Degrees at 11.30 a.m., at which time it is particularly requested that all brethren not invested with the purple will endeavour to be present. At noon punctually the R.W. P.G.M., the W. Deputy P.G.M., and Prov. Grand Officers will enter and open Prov. Grand Lodge. The Lodge will afterwards be closed by the W.M. and Officers of the "St. Hugh" Lodge, 1386. Craft Clothing and R. Arch and Charity Jewels only to be worn.

The usual reports having been presented, W. Bro. E. Locock D.P.G.M., will propose—

"That a Form of Enquiry respecting Candidates for Initiation who are non-residents, and also respecting Joining Members (similar to that now in use in the Prov. of West Yorks), be adopted in this Province, and that it shall be incumbent on the W.M. of every Lodge within the Province of Lincolnshire to observe the same."

W. Bro. W. H. Sissons P.M. 1447 P.G.J.W. will propose—

"That during the next and following years contributions shall be

solicited from the Freemasons of this Province for the purpose of raising the sum of one thousand guineas as an Investment Fund for the Education of Girls in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution."

(Contingent on the above being carried). "That the Fund shall consist of an Investment and Interest Fund, under the same rules and regulations as the 'Oliver Memorial Fund,' and that as a fitting token of respect to the recently appointed R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Lincolnshire, and as a proof of appreciation of his earnestness and zeal from the brethren of the Province, such girls as may hereafter benefit by the Fund shall be known and designated as the 'Smyth' Scholars."

W. Bro. Rev. Daniel Ace, D.D., P.M. 1332 P.P.G. Chaplain, will propose—

"That this Prov. Grand Lodge sanction a sum of money to be raised from the Province of Lincolnshire, sufficient to raise a 'Perpetual Presentation' of one girl to the Royal Masonic Institution of Girls, to be called 'The John Satcliffe Presentation,' the right of such presentation being vested in the Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire for the time being."

W. Bro. H. Watson P.M. 297 P.G. Reg. will propose, and W. Bro. C. F. Bonner P.M. 469 P.G.S.W. will second—

"That an Honorarium of £20 be given to the Prov. Grand Sec., from the Prov. Grand Lodge Fund, for the satisfactory and faithful manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of his office: and that in consequence of increased duties the Prov. Grand Secretary shall in future be paid a yearly Honorarium of £20 from the Provincial Grand Lodge Fund."

A special Charity Committee for the general support of the Province during the ensuing year will be selected, and a Provincial Grand Charity Steward appointed for the same.

Our views as to Uniformity of Ritual and our respect for Bro. James Stevens are well known to our readers. But we cannot call to mind anything which has given us greater pleasure than the signal overthrow of Bro. Stevens at the last Communication of Grand Lodge. We have supported his views on all legitimate occasions, because we deemed them worthy of support. But when a man has been fairly and overwhelmingly beaten, it is his bounden duty to accept the result without further question. Instead of doing this wisely, as he should have done, Bro. James Stevens has used his utmost endeavours to make himself, and the reasonable cause he has at heart, obnoxious to Grand Lodge. We have no hesitation in saying that he was somewhat rudely treated when the minute relating to his motion was denied confirmation by Grand Lodge. Still he ought to recognise that that non-confirmation of his recent and former motions is unquestionable. He is defeated, and should accept his defeat with the best grace he can. Moreover, it is the duty of Bro. James Stevens, as of every other Mason entitled to a seat in Grand Lodge, to show proper respect for the Chair, and we hold that the Earl of Carnarvon was scurvily treated by our too zealous brother at the Communication referred to. Will Bro. Stevens be kind enough to bear in mind that "Discretion is a Virtue?"

We beg to remind our readers in Berks and Bucks and the contiguous Masonic districts that the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, over which Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., so genially presides, will be held at the Wesleyan School Rooms, Maidenhead, on Monday next, at 2 p.m., a banquet following at 3 p.m. The business will include the appointment and investiture of P.G. Officers for the year, and the decoration of Bros. Dick Radclyffe S.D. 209, S. Knight W.M. 574, S. G. Hunt P.M. 574, Barron Fielder P.M. 574, R. G. Barton J.W. 771, and C. W. Cox W.M. 156; with the Provincial Charity Jewel. Special Railway arrangements have been made, and Return Tickets, at Single Fares, will be issued from London, Windsor, Reading, Oxford, Newbury, Abingdon, Swindon, Faringdon, Aylesbury, Wycombe, and Marlow Road; and at all Stations on the London, Wokingham, and Reading Railway between Waterloo Bridge and Bracknell.

It will be seen from our advertisement columns that the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent will be at the Foresters' Hall, Union Crescent, Margate, on Wednesday, the 23rd inst. The P.G. Lodge will be opened at the stated place of meeting at noon. The brethren will attend divine service at 1.30 p.m., at St. Paul's Church, Cliftonville, and at 3.30 p.m. the usual banquet will be held in the Assembly Rooms, Cecil Square. Doubtless there will be a strong gathering of brethren, as usual, especially as this is the first occasion on which the popular Grand Master Viscount Homesdale will preside since his elevation to the peerage.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

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SATURDAY, 12th JUNE.

- 199—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1607—Loyalty,
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
 1391—Commercial, Freemasons Hall, Leicester
 1415—Campbell, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
 1584—Loyalty and Charity, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 1637—Unity, Abercorn Hotel, Great Stunmore

MONDAY, 14th JUNE.

- Prov. Grand Lodge Berks and Bucks, Maidenhead
 45—Strong Man, New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, at 8 (Instruction)
 58—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)
 549—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.)
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8 (Inst.)
 1693—King-Jam, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Plimsoll Arms, St. Thomas Road, at 8 (Instruction)
 40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth
 104—St. John, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport
 151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
 210—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields
 292—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 297—Witham, New Masonic Hall, Lincoln
 481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 589—Druids of Love and Liberality, Masonic Hall, Redruth
 665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 787—Hanley, Hanley Hall, Dartmouth
 803—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall
 1021—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Barrow-in-Furness
 1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1436—Sandgate, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1474—Israel, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
 1592—Abbey, Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds
 1611—Eboracum, Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, York
 1618—Handyside, Zetland Hotel, Saltburn-by-Sea
 M. M. 171—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
 K. T.—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester

TUESDAY, 15th JUNE.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 167—St. John, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead
 177—Domatic, 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.)
 860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1041—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge, S.W.
 1446—Mount Edgecumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Moorgate Station Restaurant, at 7 (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1507—Metropolitan, Moorgate Station Restaurant, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1558—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.)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
 R. A. 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction.)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
 M.M.—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 418—Menturia, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley.
 452—Frederick of Unity, Greyhound, Croydon
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1008—Tregullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
 1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1276—Warren, Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire.
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
 1473—Boote, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6. (Instruction.)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich.
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool.
 1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abingdon-street, Northampton.
 410—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.

WEDNESDAY, 16th JUNE.

- Stewards' Visit to R.M.B.I., Croydon
 190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
 224—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
 539—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.15 (Inst.)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdeett Contts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
 1238—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1521—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1791—Cretton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate, at 8 (In.)
 R.A. 177—Domatic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 R.C.—Bard of Avon, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden Square
 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescot, Lancashire
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance
 178—Antiquity, Masonic Hall, King-street, Wigan.

- 200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton
 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds
 530—Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 758—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 823—Evertton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 874—Holmesdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells
 910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract
 969—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffield, Yorks
 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 1161—De Grey and Ripon, Denmark Hotel, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. Germains, Cornwall
 1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley, near Manchester
 131—Brighouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse
 1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool (In.)
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon
 1501—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull
 1634—Starke, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom
 1692—Hervey, George Hotel, Huyes
 R. A. 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury

THURSDAY, 17th JUNE.

- House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7. (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.)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 1227—Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton, E.
 1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James-street, Covent Garden, at 7.15 (In.)
 R. A. 733—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R. A. 1471—North London, Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Inst.)
 M.M.—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-rd., Dalton, E., at 8.30 (Inst.)
 56—Howard, High-street, Arundel
 98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem
 100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsby
 268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lyne
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
 337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Saddleworth
 343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starke-street, Preston
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire
 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn
 367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge
 523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester
 600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 636—D'Oglio, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
 659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth
 816—Royd, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
 1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford
 1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool
 1320—Blackheath, Green Man, Blackheath
 1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town
 1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon
 1576—Dec, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
 1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R. A. 63—St. Mary, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 R. A. 1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts
 K.T.—William de la More, Town Hall, Bootle

FRIDAY, 18th JUNE.

- House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 769—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 834—Kaneagh, 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)
 1159—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8 (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1842—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 8.0 (Inst.)
 R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)
 M. M. 101—Macdonald, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 347—Noah's Ark, Wagon and Horses Hotel, Tipton
 516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket
 541—De Lorraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George street, Leeds
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 1614—Alma Mater, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1773—Albert Victor, Town H. II, Pendleton
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R. A. 493—Hertford, Shire Hall, Hertford.
 R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield
 R. A. 837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, at 5.30
 R.C.—White Rose of York, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

SATURDAY, 19th JUNE.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham.
 309—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms Eastwood.

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NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—Held at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., on Thursday, 10th June. Present:—Bros. Grammer W.M., H. J. Phillips S.W., Hall J.W., Maidwell S.D., N. P. Valentine I.G., C. H. Webb Preceptor, L. Norden Secretary, Appell. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last Lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Norden answered the questions leading to the second degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of passing, Bro. Appell acting as candidate. Bro. Norden worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed in the second degree. Bro. Appell was unanimously elected a member of this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Phillips was elected W.M. for the meeting to be held on 24th June. The Anniversary Banquet will be held next Thursday evening, at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall Street.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—Held at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, on Saturday, the 5th inst., Bro. Gilham presided, and he was ably supported by the following brethren—McMillan S.W., J. Millington J.W., Pearcey Preceptor, Fenner Sec., E. Woodman S.D., Tuck J.D., Mullord I.G., there were also present Bros. J. Lorkin, Spencer, Houghton, Carr, D. Moss W. Williams, Fysh, Mendelsohn, Giller, H. Hall, and Brasted. The usual formalities were strictly observed, after which the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., in a careful manner, Bro. W. Williams candidate. Bro. Pearcey worked the first and second sections of the lecture. The Lodge was called off and on, when Bro. Moss worked the third section. Bro. McMillan was duly elected to preside at the next meeting, after which Lodge was closed.

Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, No. 554.—Held at Bro. E. Walter's, Green Dragon, Stepney, E. The regular meeting took place on the 1st inst., Bros. E. W. Walter (S.W. 554) W.M., Harvey S.W., J. L. Anderson J.W., T. J. Barnes P.M. Preceptor, William Cross Hon. Sec., G. H. Stephens Deacon, Mackenrot I.G., J. Taylor candidate, &c. Lodge was opened in due form, and the ceremony of initiation was carefully rehearsed. Lodge was next opened to the third degree, and then called off, affording the brethren an opportunity of discussing matters of interest. Lodge having been called on, Bro. Stephens was requested to work some sections, and the first and second of the first lecture were ably worked, with the assistance of the brethren, to whom Bro. Barnes afforded able instruction throughout. Bro. Harvey was elected to fill the chair on the 8th inst., and Lodge was duly closed and adjourned. To brethren seeking Masonic knowledge, we can recommend a visit to this Lodge any Tuesday evening. The Lodge room is cool and commodious, and possesses all the necessary adjuncts, whilst the working is acknowledged to be first-class.

On the 8th inst., present—Bro. T. F. Harvey W.M., supported by Bros. G. H. Stephens S.W., J. Taylor J.W., W. Hawes Deacon, Mackenrot I.G., T. J. Barnes P.M. Preceptor, W. Cross Secretary, and W. Marsh candidate. Lodge was opened with due formalities, and the ceremony of passing was worked very creditably. Lodge was called off and on again, and then opened up. Lodge was closed to the second degree, and Bro. J. Taylor worked the first and Bro. Stephens the second section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed down, these ceremonies being carefully performed here. Indeed, it is pleasing to witness the good working of the Lodge, most of the attendants of which belong to the mother Lodge. Bro. G. H. Stephens was unanimously elected to the chair for the ensuing meeting on the 15th inst., which Bro. P.M. Barnes kindly promised to attend, when he trusted Bro. Stephens would be well supported. We regret to miss the familiar face of our esteemed Bro. J. J. Berry P.M. 554 and Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Berry has unfortunately met with an accident, which deprives the Lodge of his valuable services for, we trust, but a short period. Bro. Barnes P.M. kindly acts as Preceptor in the meantime.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—At Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on Tuesday, 8th June. Bros. Brasted W.M., Christian S.W., Clark J.W., Smyth S.D., Carr J.D., Taylor I.G.; Bros. Dallas, Polak, Catlin. Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Polak candidate. Bro. Catlin, as candidate for passing, was entrusted; the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Catlin was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. J. Lorkin worked the first section, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Christian was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101.—An emergency meeting was held on Tuesday, 1st June, at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present:—Bros. J. Early Danks W.M., W. Ferguson S.W., E. J. Blackwell J.W., W. P. Ivey P.M. Secretary, C. R. Honey J.D., F. H. Hawkes D.C., R. C. Prickett Steward, T. Newman I.G., W. Hemming Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Flanagan I.P.M., Hurley, Welch, and Brown. Members—Bros. Ravenscroft, Weatherhead and Wort. Visitors—Bros. Mount P.M. 1328 J.W. 414, Jackson 70, Hawkes 414. The Lodge was opened, and a candidate for initiation was elected. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the W.M. delivered the lecture on the tracing board, this, as was that of the former degree, at the last regular meeting, was given *in extenso*, most carefully and correctly. The emblems were explained and illustrated, the noble orders in architecture, the liberal arts and sciences, the number of artificers employed, and the time occupied in the building of the

Temple of King Solomon at Jerusalem, together with its dedication, were all fully descended on, and the lecture was concluded amid the acclamations of the brethren. P.M. Hurley expressed his admiration in unequivocal terms, and proposed that a vote of thanks to the W.M. be recorded on the minutes; this was seconded by P.M. Brown and carried unanimously. The W.M. returned thanks, and intimated his gratification at the honour accorded him, likewise the appreciation of his humble exertions, at the same time he considered he had only done his duty to the Lodge; he also spoke feelingly of the kindness he had, since his occupation of the chair, at all times received from the members. P.M. Brown stated that with reference to the W.M.'s Stewardship at the Festival of the R.M.I.G., he felt confident that had it been usual in this Lodge a unanimous vote of thanks would have been recorded in acknowledgment of the truly magnificent sum (£200) taken up by him as the representative of the Grey Friars Lodge. He also congratulated the Lodge upon the appointment of the W.M. as Prov. G.S. of W. for Berks and Bucks, which honour he certainly merited, and which preferment he was quite sure no member would envy him. The W.M. again thanked the P.M.'s and brethren for their kind expressions, and congratulated the two Reading Lodges on Bro. Leaver, late Secretary of 414, obtaining the Life Annuity on his first application. This was a convincing proof of the advantage of the two Lodges co-operating and working together. The labours of the evening being ended, Lodge was closed.

Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319.—The regular meeting of this Lodge, whose members are engaged in the musical and dramatic professions, was held on Monday the 7th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street. The Lodge was draped in mourning, and each brother showed some mark to testify his respect to the memory of the late Bro. Charles Coote, one of the founders. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. Edward Swanborough, Wellard S.W., H. Cox J.W., W. Chamberlin P.M. as Secretary, Meyer Lutz S.D., J. Maclean J.D., Delovanti I.G., C. Tinney Organist, Gilbert P.M. Tyler. There were also present Bros. P.M.'s C. S. Jekyll G.O., W. A. Tinney, G. Buckland I.P.M., E. Torry, and Frewen; Bros. R. Sontar, Kent, Bracey, Morton, Pritchard, Fairchild, Silverberg, Max Klein, and Egerton. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. J. Strokirk 188, by the courtesy of the W.M., was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, as likewise was Bro. Jenkinson. The ceremony was ably and perfectly rendered by the W.M. Bro. Tinney played some appropriate music. Letters of apology were read from several members, who were unable to attend. A letter was also read from Bro. C. H. Stephenson, resigning his office, in consequence of professional engagements. This will enable another brother to go a step forward. The resignation was accepted with great regret, as Bro. Stephens had proved himself an ornament to the Lodge. Bro. Wellard S.W. said that this Lodge was well and worthily represented at the laying the foundation stones at Truro, the W.M. having attended; he should propose that a vote of thanks to him be recorded on the minutes. This was seconded by Bro. W. A. Tinney, and carried unanimously. The W.M., in suitable terms, replied; he was pleased to render any assistance to the Lodge, of which he was proud; he hoped always to successfully carry out all required of him. Bro. E. Terry P.M. proposed that a vote of condolence be sent to the sorrowing widow and family of the late respected Bro. George Honey. This was seconded by the W.M., and carried unanimously. A letter was read from Bro. Humphreys, asking the W.M. to recommend a petition for a Warrant for a new Lodge to be held at Maidenhead. Bro. J. Strokirk thanked the W.M. for his kindness in raising him. The W.M. remarked that having been initiated in the Joppa Lodge, eighteen years since, he felt a pride and pleasure at all times in rendering that Lodge any service. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. Among the visitors were Bros. T. Harding 859, E. Smith S.W. 1559, J. Strokirk 188, F. H. Cruggen 1670, F. Walters P.P.G.J.D. Middlesex, Adams P.M. 1623, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326.—An emergency meeting of this prosperous Lodge was held on Thursday, 3rd June, at the Lion Hotel, Hampton. Bro. John Bairstow Shackleton P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. 1524 W.M. opened the Lodge. The ballots were unanimous in favour of all the candidates for initiation. By the kind and courteous consent of the W.M., the chair was taken by Bro. Frederick Walters P.P.G.D. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, who in an able manner initiated his eldest son, Mr. Triphammer Frederick Edwin Walter into Freemasonry. The entire ceremony was given, including the lecture on the tracing board, and the charge to the newly-initiated member. Bro. J. B. Shackleton W.M. resumed the chair, and taking each candidate separately, and going through the entire ceremony, initiated Mr. William Bonn, Mr. Charles John Pratt, and Mr. Charles Isted. The W.M. then raised Bro. J. V. Willis and Bro. R. Willett. Business ended, the Lodge was closed and adjourned, to meet on Saturday, 19th June, at one o'clock precisely. Refreshment followed labour. There were present besides the above-named, Bros. J. W. Baldwin P.P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. 1423 J.W., W. Hammond P.P.G.D. Middx. P.M., T. W. Adams P.M., H. Potter P.M. W.S., F. Knight D.C., D. Steinhauer J.D., T. B. Robbins, L. Cohen, and some fifty others. Amongst a very large number of visitors were Bros. W. Smeed P.P.J.W. Middlesex P.M. 946, W. Pennefather P.M. S.W. 1623, J. Horton 371, and many others.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, on Tuesday, 8th June. Bros. Rawe W.M., Watson S.W., Day J.W., Pavitt S.D., Myers J.D., Power I.G., Worsley Secretary, P.M. Musto Preceptor; Bros. Watkins, Butler, Sadler, White, Keable, Marston, Prosser, McDonald, Andrews, &c. Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes read and confirmed; the ceremony of second degree was excellently

worked by the W.M., Bro. Butler being candidate. Bro. Pavitt, who we were very glad to see after his long and painful illness, worked the first, second and third sections of the lecture; the rendering of the six grand periods, by Bro. Keable, being very effective. The Lodge closed to the first, when Bro. Thomas Marston, of the Merchant Navy Lodge 781, was unanimously elected a member. Bro. Watson was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Musto brought forward, as per resolution of last week, the discussion of the summer outing, when the following brethren were appointed as the Committee for carrying out the same:—Bros. Pavitt, Smith, Andrews, Myers, Watkins, Rawe, Marston and Worsley; it was resolved that it take place on 16th of August, the Committee will meet on Tuesday next, at six o'clock, to determine where, and to make other arrangements. P.M.'s T.J. Barnes, B. Cundick, and others, have already promised to join the brethren on that day. As this outing is intended for the ladies, who thoroughly enjoyed themselves last year, we trust the weather will be favourable, and that a large party will assemble.

Corinthian Lodge of Instruction, No. 1382.—Held at Bro. Clark's, the George Hotel, Glengall-road, Cubitt Town, East. On Tuesday, the 8th inst., the proceedings of the Lodge comprised the working of the "Fifteen Sections," by the members of the Whittington Lodge of Instruction, No. 862, who were invited by the above Lodge. There was a large attendance of brethren. Amongst those present we noticed Bro. Hodges W.M. 1382; P.M.'s Bros. Carnaby, Delves-Bennett, Searell, and Balding Sec.; Bros. Clark, Stapleton, Millington, Raker, Milton, Howell, Doring, Galloway, Morrison and Bonner of 1382, Mace of the Zetland, McFarlane and Mackie of the Temperance, and Mil's No. 802. The Lodge was opened punctually at 6.30 by Bro. J. S. Brown J.W. 862 W.M., assisted by Bros. R. P. Tate S.W. 862 S.W. and W. H. Marston W.M. 55 J.W. After the minutes were read, the lectures were rendered by the following brethren. First Lecture—Bros. Brocklehurst, Collinson, Gates, Abell, Larchin, Tate and Lardner. Second Lecture—Bros. Lardner, Marston, Fox, Gush and Pate. Third Lecture—Bros. Tate, Fox and Larchin, the rendering of the sections was of unusual excellence, and called forth deserved congratulations from the numerous brethren present. To those who so admirably worked them a vote of thanks was accorded, also to Bro. J. S. Brown for the able manner in which he had presided on the occasion, and he was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Lodge. Bro. Brown, on returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him, congratulated the brethren on the manner in which their working had been done. The Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned until next Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, No. 1489.—On Monday, 7th June, at the Pembury Tavern, Amburst-road, Hackney. Bros. Crane W.M., Forss S.W., McDowall J.W., Blackburn S.D., Martin I.G., J. Lorkin Sec., Charles Lorkin Preceptor; also Bro. Catlin and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Catlin candidate. Bro. Forss worked the first, second, and third sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Forss was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1445.—Held at Bro. Stevenson's, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, on Monday, 31st May. Present—Bros. Myers P.M. Preceptor W.M., Partridge S.W., Robson J.W., Seymour-Clarke Sec.; also Bros. Goddard, McDonald, Newman, Kimbell, and others. The Lodge having been opened in due form and minutes read, Bro. Goddard was presented as W.M. elect, and duly installed in the chair of King Solomon by Bro. Myers, who rehearsed the ceremony of installation in his usual able and impressive manner. The Lodge was resumed in the 2nd degree, and Bro. Kimbell, a candidate for raising, was asked the usual questions and entrusted. Bro. Goddard W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of raising, in an able manner. Lodge was resumed in 1st degree, when Bro. Newman was elected a member.

On Monday, 6th June. Present—Bros. W. H. Myers P.M. Preceptor, Goddard W.M., Robson S.W., McGregor J.W., Goddard S.D., Seymour-Clarke Sec.; also Bros. Kimbell J.D., Woillaume, Lewis, McDonald, Lenzberg, and others. Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes read, when the ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Lenzberg being candidate. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. McDonald, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Lenzberg, of Joppa Lodge 188, was then elected a member, and Bro. Robson was elected W.M. for Monday next. On the application of a distressed brother, assistance was given, and the Lodge closed in due form. The dues are now accumulating for the purchase of Life Subscriberships to the Masonic Charities, to be ballotted for amongst regular attendants.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524.—Held at the Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, on the 9th inst. Present—Bros. W. Finch W.M., A. McMillan S.W., E. Dignam J.W., J. Williams Secretary, W. Green S.D., S. Morling J.D., W. Fieldwick Preceptor, W. Williams I.G.; also Bros. A. McDowall, A. R. Olley, T. Butt W.M. 907, H. J. Lardner, R. B. Greenwood, G. H. Stephens, &c. Lodge having been opened in due form, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. J. Williams being candidate. Lodge was lowered, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, A. R. Olley candidate. The first section of the lecture was worked by Bro. H. J. Lardner, and the second by Bro. G. H. Stephens, assisted by the brethren. Bros. T. Butt and Williams were admitted members, and Bro. McMillan elected to be Master at the ensuing meeting. Lodge was closed.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—At a meeting held at the Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., present:—Bros. C. Andrews P.M. as W.M., J. Wells S.W., A. Jones J.W., H. E. Tucker Treasurer and Preceptor, E. C. Porter S.D., E. T. Brown J.D., C. Bellerby I.G.; also Bros. H. Stephens and C. Meadows. After preliminaries, the first and second sections of the lecture were worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren, and the Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. C. Meadows answered the questions prior to raising, and retired. Bro. Tucker gave the lecture on the Tracing-board. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and resumed to first degree. Bro. J. Wells was elected W.M. for the meeting on Thursday, the 17th inst., and Lodge was closed in due form.

A Lodge of Instruction was opened on Thursday, 3rd inst., at Bro. Arnold's, the Crown, Albert Embankment, under the warrant of the Stockwell, No. 1339. The ceremony of consecration was rehearsed, Bro. H. E. Frances P.G.D. Surrey being the presiding Officer, Bro. J. Hammond P.G.D. Middlesex and Bro. Phillips W.M. Rose of Denmark the Wardens. A very large muster of brethren, hailing from Metropolitan Lodges and the Provinces, assisted at the inauguration. Bro. Frances, in the course of the ceremony, gave an oration upon the duties of Freemasonry, and the purposes of Lodges of Instruction, which was listened to with much attention. The anthems were capitally rendered by Bros. Ludlow, Marsh, and Bartlett, under the direction of Bro. J. Stock 1586. At the conclusion of the ceremony Bro. Ayling, who has taken much interest in forming the Lodge, was placed in the chair. On the proposition of Bro. J. Hammond, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Bro. Frances, and a similar compliment was paid to the musical brethren, who had kindly volunteered their services. The brethren then adjourned to a cold collation, provided by the host, Bro. Arnold. This Lodge of Instruction will meet every Thursday from seven to nine.

Newport Pagnell.—A serious fire occurred here early on Tuesday morning. Three dwelling-houses, with shops, were entirely destroyed, and also the greater part of the Swan Hotel. In the latter the Lodge of SS. Peter and Paul, No. 1410, have lost nearly the whole of their furniture, jewels, &c., but the Lodge is fortunately insured in the Sun Fire Office.

Bro. Charles Watkins, of No. 1 Torriano Avenue, Camden Town, has executed a life-like photograph of the late Bro. George Honey. The proceeds of sale will be given to our late brother's distressed family.

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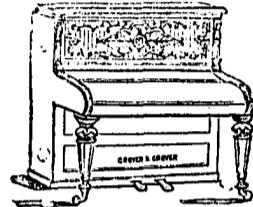
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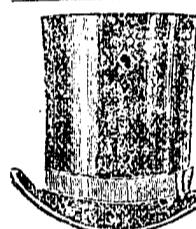
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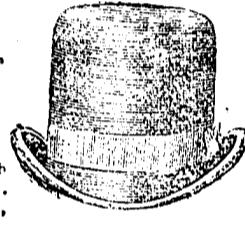
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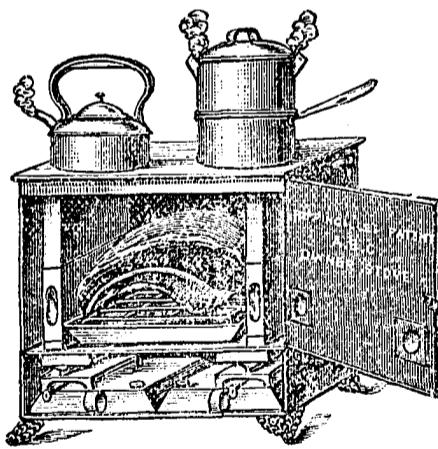
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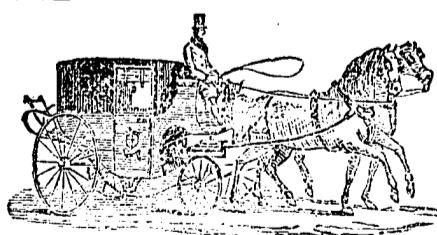
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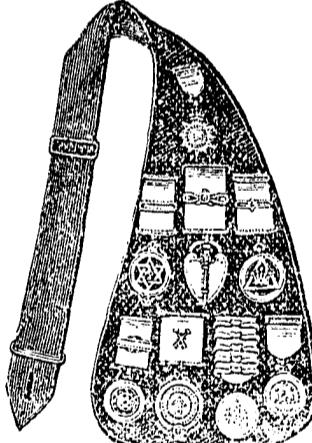
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