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PRECEPT AND PRACTICE.

IT is an old story, yet it is none the less astonishing, that whilst the bands of brotherhood are theoretically presumed to unite all Freemasons into one happy family, where not so much as the slightest whisper of strife is ever heard, or likely to be heard, there are few, if any, societies in which litigious differences are so common. We know well enough that in Freemasonry, as in Religion, to expect anything like perfection were an absurdity. It is not in the order of things that men should live on from year to year without having their differences of a more or less serious character, but it is one thing to know that such differences must arise, and another to force them into being at every available opportunity. We are not so silly as to expect that every proposition which may be made will meet with general favour or support, but we do think it both reasonable and desirable that when one is made it should be treated with a certain degree of consideration. If the minds of different men are so constituted that it is impossible they should ever be brought to look upon one particular object in one and the same light, there is not the slightest reason why these different men should not be satisfied with expressing their disagreement amicably. There is no need for any among them to indulge in harsh language, or suggest unpleasant innuendoes in respect of those who have the misfortune to think differently. In the political world this truth is pretty generally recognised in these days, and the instances are rare, indeed, where men who take opposite views on the great questions which are always agitating the world now exhibit any feeling of personal hostility towards each other. So in the legal world, the advocates who figuratively pummel each other in the interests of their respective clients when in court, are privately the best of friends. Of this we have a memorable instance in the celebrated trial of "Bardell v. Pickwick," when, to his surprise, and we fear we must add, his indignation, the latter gentleman saw Serjeant Buzfuz and the learned leader on his own side saluting each other cordially after the manner of two old friends. We know, too, that differences of religious faith are no obstacle to the purest and most disinterested friendship. But though squabbles are by no means infrequent among other classes of men, we confess, without the slightest feeling of hesitation, that considering the tenets they profess, there is, as we have before remarked, no society in which angry differences so frequently arise as in Freemasonry. Why this should be the case is a matter we dare not attempt to explain: all we can venture to note is the fact of its being so.

The present year—and one half of it has not yet expired—has been more than usually fruitful of these interfraternal disturbances. At two of its Communications Grand Lodge has been made the scene of an unwonted excitement, such as will not be remembered as among the pleasurable episodes of the year's Masonic history. There has been evinced in connection with the conduct of both our Schools, and not once only, but on various occasions, a bitterness of spirit which has not been creditable to those who have indulged in it. Some very harsh things have been said about those who have been and still are advocating the establishment of a new and special Fund, though we cannot see why those who take an active part in favour of or against the formation of this supplementary Charitable Fund cannot manage to think or speak

charitably of their brethren. All this has led to a vast amount of angry correspondence, and that portion of it which appeared in the columns of our contemporary seems to have so seriously perplexed the brains of its Editor that he has been under the necessity of furbishing up his choicest vocabulary, so that he may be fully equal to the occasion when the next explosion of temper among any of his brethren takes place.

We have no wish to inflict a homily on our readers. Nevertheless, it seems necessary from time to time to remind them that the word Charity has an important significance, while the principle of which it is the written expression is the quintessence of Freemasonry. Deprive it of this principle of Charity, and our Society at once loses the very reason of its being. Many, of course, will turn round and say, Look at our magnificent Institutions, and the thousands we raise annually for their support! Are there not always over 200 children being educated in each of our Schools, and does not the Benevolent do much towards the support of upwards of 300 old men and women? Then there is Grand Lodge itself, which, by the medium of the Board of Benevolence, annually dispenses its thousands, to say nothing of what is done by individual Lodges, local Associations, &c. &c. Well, granted, say we. All this almsgiving bespeaks a generous spirit on the part of the Society, but almsgiving is only a very inconsiderable part of what is meant by Charity. The woman who cast her mite into the Treasury was in that one respect as charitable as the wealthiest who may have given several talents; while the Pharisee who gave the tithe of all he possessed to the poor was a mere proud boaster by comparison with the humble Sadducee he so cordially despised. Brethren are too apt to run away with the idea that they best illustrate the virtue of Charity who give of their substance most freely. Yet there are many people who, though they never give alms, are animated by the purest spirit of charity. They have a kind word for everybody; they never think or suggest evil of others. They sympathise actively, as well as deeply, with human suffering. In short, they strive to the best of their ability to fulfil their duties as Masons, and this they do quietly and unostentatiously, the only reward they desire to obtain being the love of their fellows.

Far be it from us to say one word which might be considered as suggesting that almsgiving is no part of Charity. The Craft has taken upon itself the duties and responsibilities of supporting certain institutions with a view to helping those whom the sad vicissitudes of fortune have reduced from a state of comparative affluence to that of comparative, if not actual, poverty. What we are desirous of pointing out is that this is by no means the "be-all and end-all" of Freemasonry. We appreciate and applaud these good deeds of the Craft; but at the same time we should like to see more of the sympathetic feeling which theoretically is supposed to bind us together as brethren of the mystic tie. We take the greatest pride in the principles we profess, and we know that that pride is best exhibited by a faithful and active interpretation of those principles. We do not, for instance, give the best evidence we can of the love we bear our neighbour, when—figuratively speaking of course—we belabour him or kick him downstairs. When we show ourselves indifferent to the behests of duly constituted authority, we by no means give the best illustration it is in our power to give of our respect for the laws and constitutions of our Order. We do not best illustrate the virtue of Charity when we travel out of our way to use harsh words of a brother, to impute motives to him, or to suggest his ignorance of the amenities, as well as of the

usages, of society. To be always snapping and snarling at people who differ with us is not the likeliest way to secure their respect, or, if they be non-Masons, to impress them very favourably with the creed and articles of Masonry. Still worse is it to do all or any of these things, and at the same time to protest they are done in a purely Masonic spirit. If there is one vice a brother should hold in the greatest abhorrence it is the vice of Humbug. This has no place in our profession of faith, and should have none in the practice of that profession. If by any chance we think it undesirable to adopt a particular line of policy, if we are inclined to believe that other men than those occupying them may be found to hold certain offices; if we imagine a new idea is well-timed, and calculated to make the good we are doing more complete; if, or, rather whether we hold these views or the opposite, let us at least show proper respect for our principles, and agree to differ amicably. If it is impossible for the world to go on without squabbling, let us at all events strive to keep as much as we can of the squabbling outside the pale of Freemasonry.

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

By R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY.

REPRINTED FROM THE LIBERAL FREEMASON.

(Continued from page 387).

ASSUR.—It appears from many of the inscriptions that both at Nineveh and at Babylon the custom was to place under or at the four corners of public buildings a burnt clay tablet or cylinder, with inscriptions. This was called a "Timin," and it was regarded with peculiar reverence, as the Hebrews regarded the corner stone. It was intended to remain for ever, and terrible imprecations were invoked on any succeeding King who, finding it by any casualty, or exposing it, should not restore it to its former place.

Thus in Vol. I. of the Records of the Past, is translated an inscription of Sennacherib (page 30), in which he states, "The Timin of old times had not been forgotten, owing to the veneration of the people." Again at p 29, "The ancient Timin of its palace, those of old time had stamped its clay with sacred writing and repeated it in the companion tablets." To these latter tablets I shall again recur.

The inscription at Birs-Nimrod, in the time of Nebuchadnezzar, who rebuilt the Temple of the Sun, ruinous from age, states: "Its site had not been disturbed, its Timin had not been destroyed." (See Vol. VII. p 77.)

When an Assyrian king captured a town and destroyed it, he always seems to have taken special pains to destroy its Timin. Thus in an inscription of Sargon (about 720 B.C.), at Khorsabad, is found, "I reduced Dur Iakin, the town of his power, to ashes, I undermined and destroyed its ancient forts, I dug up the foundation stone, I made it like a thunder-stricken ruin."

The valley of the Euphrates was overflowed by freshets, and it was the custom of architects to erect a mound of considerable height and large surface, on which their imposing Temples and Palaces were erected, and protected from the consequences of freshets.

There are some reasons to think that a Timin may sometimes have been placed in the protecting foot-walls of such mounds. Fortunately, however, there is no doubt of its relation to the foundation and dedication of public buildings.

Discovery has been made in the ruins of the Temple of the Sun at Mugheir (the Ur of the Chaldees) of four cylinders inscribed with the sacred writing, one at each corner of the Temple. These are translated, Vol. VIII. p 143 of the Records of the Past.

They are of the time of Nabonidus, king of Babylon. He states that he rebuilt this Temple on its old Timin. The king makes this invocation, also: "Like heaven, may its foundation stand fast."

The "companion tablets" heretofore referred to were built into the foundations, probably much as is now practised.

A regular foundation-stone has been discovered at Khorsabad, in the very interior part of the construction; a large stone chest, which enclosed several inscribed plates, was dug up by M. Place in 1853. This is the only extant specimen of the Assyrian foundation-stone. It is described in the Records of the Past, Vol. XI. p 31.

In this chest were found one little golden tablet, one of silver, one of lead, one of copper, one of tin; the seventh was written on the chest itself, the sixth was of alabaster.

The inscriptions on four of the tablets are given. He describes himself as Sargon, the mighty king, &c., "who reigned from the two beginnings to the two ends of the four celestial points." In the course of the inscriptions he mentions an eclipse, which fixes the date as prior to 721 B.C.

This is a later date than the Egyptian inscriptions, and probably later than the date of Job, or the Temple of Jerusalem. The similarity in the usage of the Architects, and in the reverential feeling, suggests a common centre of origin in some earlier civilization whence this masonic Craft spread, carrying its traditions into the nations, which grew wealthy and ambitious enough to welcome the reverential and scientific art.

There is a further resemblance, in the same Vol., p 21. It appears

that there was a ceremony attending the laying of the corner-stone which had a highly religious as well as artistic character, in which the king himself bore a part of the practical masonic labors of the craftsman. Sargon, in the inscription says, "In the month of Ab, the month of the God who lays the foundation-stones of towns and of houses, all the people assembled, and performed the ceremony of Selal [of the handbells] on gold, on silver, on copper, on metals, on stones, on the trees of Amanus, and, according to the rule, distributed the various employments, I laid the foundations, and placed the bricks," &c.

These are all the important Assyrian inscriptions on this subject which have come to my hand. I am bound to say, that I do not consider my researches are at all exhaustive investigations of what has been discovered and published. They sufficiently establish the fact of the great antiquity and wide-spread Masonic usage of laying corner stones, as well as the mystic and reverential character of the ceremonial with which it was performed. A thorough examination of all that has been brought to light within the past half century, and the progress of discoveries still ardently pursued by eminent scholars of Europe, will doubtless add much to what is here collated, that will illustrate the habits of the Masonic craft in early times. There was a perfection in the practical skill of the ancient craft which has not been equalled since. The contributions of beauty, harmony and grace which the masters of Greek, Saracenic and Gothic art have made to architecture, cannot be overlooked, but still, these old craftsmen, who preceded them thousands of years, and piously worshipped the Holy Architect of the Universe, in many practical points remain unapproachable by any of their successors.

ARCHITECTS.—There is something very striking to me in the social distinction in which the Masonic craft was held in Egypt. Brugsch, in his history of the Pharaohs, Vol. I. p 47, says, that the architects of the Pharaohs (the mur-ket) were often the king's sons and grandsons, and often the kings gave them his daughters for wives. In the following page he gives a list of those of the first dynasty; three appear to have married daughters or descendants of the blood royal. One is stated as a man of low extraction, but married to the lady Noferrhotep, from the house of the king; one was a king's son, and of three no details are given. These lived more than 4000 years B.C.

The priestly caste was more inclusive of learning and art in those days than in modern times. While the highest God-Patah (the father of their other Gods) was hailed by his title as Holy Architect of the Universe, and the high priest under the kings was called the Foreman, it must be admitted that the art and architecture of the stone masons was in the closest and most natural relation to the religion of the country. In the fourth dynasty, a king, Seruchis, is said to have invented notable improvements in constructing edifices of carved stone, and some also in painting the hieroglyphic writings.

It is not singular that we find the names of the architects who were the masters of the particular works inscribed thereon, and preserved, for these highly educated master masons held no grovelling position in the state. They were eligible to the highest civil and priestly offices, and frequently one more distinguished for practical abilities was entrusted with such. Nor is this a fanciful conception. Such persons holding double offices, have inscribed their pride in their practical skill at the handicraft they possessed.

Mentu-hotep, the chief Architect of Usurtasen I., the inscription on his tombstone, now at Bologna, is thus described by Brugsch, I. p 140.

"He prides himself on having been 'a man learned in the law, a legislator,' one who apportioned the duties, and ordered the works in the district, who kept order in the whole land, who carried out all the behests of the king, who, as judge, decided and restored his property to the owner."—See p 19.

"As chief architect of the king, he promoted the worship of the Gods, and instructed the inhabitants of the country according to the best of his knowledge, as God orders to be done. He protected the poor, and freed him who was in want of freedom. Peace was in the words which came from his mouth, and the book of the wise *Thot* was on his tongue. *Very skilled* in artistic work, *with his own hand* he carried out his designs as they ought to be carried out. He knew the hidden thoughts of men, and he appreciated a man according to his value," &c., &c.

He also was governor of the town of Aut, and the land of Teshur. His panegyric finished by some remarks about a Temple of Osiris: "I it was who arranged the work for the building of the Temple, and sunk the well according to the order of the holiness of the royal lord." Righteous and generous were the speculative duties of his office of Architect. Proud of his craft was this Grand Master; and no other official rank of his was so high or so noble that in his mind it obscured the skill of his own hands, or the fertility and grace of his powers of artistic masonic design.

The Craft, now four thousand years after you have laid down the chisel and the mallet, dropped the crayon and the line, and put off your regalia, O Mentu-hotep, will hail you as a fellow, and not forget you when they drink to the health of the living masons throughout the world, and the memory of the dead.

Brugsch, I. p 180, says, the artist was the most honoured man in the Empire, and stood close to Pharaoh, who poured his favours in a full stream on the man "of enlightened spirit and skilful hand."

The old master Martisen, who lived forty-four centuries ago—calls himself "a master among those who understand art, and a plastic artist," who "was a wise artist in his art." He relates in succession his knowledge in the making of "statues, in every position, according to prescribed use and measure;" also he describes as his particular invention an etching with colours that resist fire and water; and states "no man has arisen who is able to do this except himself alone and the eldest son of his race, whom God's will has created. He has arisen able to do this, and the exercise of his hand has been admired in masterly works in all sorts of precious stones, from gold and silver to ivory and ebony." His son was named Usurtasen. These two

masters opened the age of the highest development of art under the kings of the twelfth Dynasty.

Bek, an architect at the Red Mountain in the time of Amenhotep IV., described as son of "the overseers of the sculptors from life men, and of the lady Ri-n-an," described himself, "overseer of the works at the Red Mountain, and artist and teacher of the king himself, an overseer of the sculptors from life at the grand monuments of the king for the Temple of the Sun's disc in the town of Kuaten." Brugsch, I. 411.

Bek's tombstone was sold at auction a few years since in Cairo to Mr. Vassali. In another context I shall refer to its inscriptions.

Sennut was architect in Queen Hashop's reign. He was "chief steward of the house" and "clerk of all the works," "first of the first." He was of skilful hand, but as his monument says, "without the fame of proud ancestors," or, as we would say, a self-made man.

Amen-men-haut in the forty-seventh year of the reign of Thutmose III., was the master builder of the Temple of the Sun at Heliopolis. He is styled "Hereditary lord and first governor of Memphis, the architect in the town of the sun, the chief superintendent of all the offices in Upper and Lower Egypt, the head architect of the king, the steward of the king's palace."

Bekenkhonsu was chief in the time of Rameses Miamun. He also was "the hereditary lord and first prophet of Amon." He says: "I was a great architect in the town of Amon, my heart being filled with good works for my lord." Again, "the skilled in art, the first prophet of Amon, Bekenkhonsu, he speaks thus: I performed the best I could for the Temple of Amon as Architect of my lord," &c., &c.

He put obelisks at the gate of the Temple. He was the president of the prophets, and his priesthood has lasted over fifty years of his life.

Levi or *Lui*, was chief architect to Mineptah II., High Priest of Amon, and also treasurer, and his son Roma succeeded him.

After the Persian conquest of Egypt, the same consideration was paid to the Architects, and in the time of Darius I. (490 B.C.), an Egyptian, Krum-al-ra, was "Architect of Upper and Lower Egypt." He furnishes, in an inscription published by Brugsch, p. 299, a pedigree of twenty-four generations of his ancestors, who had been architects, and many of whom also had filled other offices of importance.

These brief references show the distinction accorded to the Craft through many thousands of years in the old time, and provoke the reflection that the further we go back into the records of the Craft the more brilliant its social position appears.

I have already shown the Kings of Egypt assisting at laying corner stones with mystic and religious rites, the inscriptions collected by Brugsch show that Architecture was a valued branch of the truly Royal Education, and could truly, in the earliest times, be called "the Royal Art." *Bek* inscribed on his tomb that he was teacher of the King himself.

King Amenhotep III., in an inscription (Brugsch, I. p. 428), Pharaoh himself "gave instructions and the directions, for he understood how to direct and guide the Architect." The visitor of to-day, at Karnak, sees the work of this King yet standing, and can judge for himself whether this Royal Master of Art had the skill of his craft. The gigantic statues of this King and his wife, known usually as the Memnon Statues, are on the opposite side of the river, marking the site of another temple erected by the same monarch. These statues were planned and erected by Amenhotep, Chief Architect, Governor and Secretary.

Thutmose III. built, about B.C. 1600, the Temple of Osiris. An inscription says, "And each one of the Temple Artists knew the plan, and was well instructed in the mode of carrying it out; no one betook himself away from that which it was given him to do (viz., to build) a monument to his father Osiris, and to erect in good work the inlaid mystery which none can see and none can declare, for none know his form."

In Rameses II.'s time, Am, the King's son, of Kush, was the directing architect.

In Rameses Miamun's time (1133 B.C.) in an inscription on the Temple of Soti (Vol. II. p. 35), the King speaks to the Chamberlain at his side, "Speak, that there may be assembled the Princes, the favourites of the King, the Commanders of the body-guards as they are, the architects, according to their numbers, and the Superintendent of the house of the rolls of the books." This Pharaoh laid the foundation-stone himself.

The inscription says: "When this speech from the lips of the Princes before their Lord was ended, then the king commanded, and gave commission to the architects, and separated the people of the masons, and the stone-cutters with the help of the graver, and the draughtsmen, and all kinds of artists to build the most holy place for his father, and to raise up what had fallen into decay in the Necropolis, and in the Temple of his father, who sojourns among the deceased ones."

Here there appears to have been very practically a Master's lodge, or a Grand Lodge, of that era assembled. Further on we read that this worthy mason and royal master had painted on the entrance of this Temple portraits of sixty of his sons, and fifty-nine of his daughters. Truly he intended his works should live after him.

I have finished my citations. The reign of *Caste* in Egypt worked no harm to this royal craft, for it belonged to the priestly and governing caste, and the road to civil preferment and priestly rank was free to its votaries. It found them on the throne, in the palace, and in the workshop, and in the Temple of the Great God-Patah, Chief Architect of the Universe and God of Truth.

The publication by Mr. Brugsch of the "History of the Pharaohs," from the inscriptions yet extant, is the mine whence these Egyptian inscriptions are exclusively drawn.

To the great value of his labors let me bear a faithful testimony. The light he has incidentally thrown on the organization of Masoury as a Craft will, I hope, induce him, out of his intimate acquaintance with the extant inscriptions, painting, papyri, and his mastership of

their language, to favour us with a little more light on the obscure subject from over which he has raised a corner of the veil.

My task is performed. The dignity of the organization of Masoury is exposed to you, and the broad scope with which it gathered into its fold the art of working and building in stone, in all its adjunct branches. The light of education illumined the ancient craft beyond any other body of men of their age. Geometry, mathematics, its own technology and physics grew up within lodges, where knowledge and skill brought promotion and power. The speculative mysteries and metaphysics of a theology which taught the immortality of the soul and its responsibility for our good and bad actions was familiar to them. Of the Holy Architect of the Universe whom they worshipped they said, "all things came into existence after he existed." They styled him "the Lord of Truth," "the Father of beginnings."

Their art, formed into grandeur and perfection by their efforts, was the lamp from which Greek, Assyrian, Roman, and Semitic architecture caught the holy flame. Their instruction formed the artists of civilisation who succeeded them on the stage.

Over the illustrations I have drawn from the inscriptions of these giants of an elder day, I ask the Blue Mason and the Red, and the Grand Master Architect of the symbolic degrees, to stretch the line for themselves. I ask them, with square and level to test these relics of the corner stones Freemasons laid thousands of years ago—the work of a craft which was then a Royal art, both practical and speculative, enlightening the infancy of civilisation—and say, in the light we follow to-day, whether such work is not still true and trusty.

The annual visit of the Stewards to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution took place on Wednesday. We have a full report of the proceedings, and trust we shall be able to find space for it in our columns next week. For the present, let it suffice to say that, in spite of the very inauspicious weather, there was a good muster of brethren, and many ladies graced the Asylum by their presence. Bros. Raynham Stewart and Cubitt occupied the chair and vice chair respectively. The indefatigable Secretary, Bro. James Terry was, as usual, unremitting in his attention to the guests and inmates, while the venerable Warden, Bro. Norris, and Miss Norris played their part admirably. Be it added that a subscription was entered into by some of the brethren present for the purchase of a pianoforte, so that those of the residents who may possess musical ability and taste may have the opportunity of now and again relieving the monotony of what, after all said and done, must be a somewhat dreamy life.

It appears from the Prov. Grand Secretary's statement at the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks, which was held on Monday, and of which a report will be found elsewhere, that there are at present 726 subscribing members in the Province, of whom 169 are Past Masters. Forty one of these had been initiated during the past year, and fourteen were joining members. The sums disbursed by the various Lodges in charity amounted to £242 4s 6d, the aggregate of the balances in hand being £684 4s 11d.

We have great pleasure in announcing that Bro. Terry has been fortunate enough thus early to secure a chairman for the Festival next year of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Our R.W. Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Superintendent of West Yorkshire, has kindly expressed his intention of taking upon himself the duties of President on that occasion. We congratulate Bro. Terry on having enlisted the sympathies on behalf of this Institution of so distinguished a brother, whose advocacy, backed up, as it will be, by one of our strongest, best organised, and most liberal Provinces, cannot fail to be otherwise than most powerful for good.

On Monday afternoon a deputation, which included the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe P.G.M. and Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, the Earl of St. Germans P.G.W. England, the Earl of Devon, the Bishop of Truro, and other gentlemen, waited on the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, with a view to requesting the assistance of his Lordship, who is a native of Truro, in raising the balance of the large fund required for the erection of Truro Cathedral. His lordship was pleased to express his readiness to start a fund in the City for the purpose, and he trusted his expectations of a successful result would be realised.

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. Hughan, Past Grand Deacon of England. 1880. Bro. Morris, Printer, Oxford Street, Bolton.

(Continued from page 389.)

As we advance further the minutes improve in the phraseology, though at the same time we lose most of the quaint and more curious writing. The first entry in Book VI. bears date 17th February 1821, and records the initiation of Bro. William Dawson, whom subsequently we meet with very often, and who, Bro. Brockbank tells us, was a Masonic Instructor in the county of considerable popularity. After entries respecting the initiation of a brother under age, for which of course a dispensation was obtained, we find it noted that a sum of Twenty Guineas was lodged in the Bank in the name of the Lodge. On the 11th November the Lodge writes to the Masonic Committee, Castle Inn, North Liverpool, offering them comfort and consolation, and Bro. Brockbank points out that the brethren to whom this comfort and consolation were offered belonged to Lodge No. 31, and were afterwards expelled the Order for contempt of Grand Lodge, the Lodge itself, as a reference to Preston's *Illustrations* will show, being erased from the roll. On the 15th December two brethren were delegated to attend P.G. Lodge, their expenses being borne by the Lodge. With one exception, in which mention is made of a petition of Reconciliation being forwarded to Grand Lodge on behalf of Lodge 31, the minutes in 1822 refer to the ballot and Bye Laws and testify to a very strange conception of duty on the part of the Lodge and to an equally strange laxity in matters disciplinary on the part of Grand and P.G. Lodge. Thus a candidate who was balloted for on 9th March had two black beans cast against him, whereupon a Brother moved and carried a resolution to the effect "that any candidate being objected to by more than two members, if a majority of the members think proper, the objection shall be disclosed to the Lodge for their satisfaction," while, on the 11th May, the Master refused to put a motion "That we are ruled by the Grand Rules or Bye Laws as they stand at present." Here we have a Lodge deliberately proposing to break the secrecy of the ballot, and the Master placing himself above the "Grand Rules" and the Lodge's own Bye Laws. A step, however, towards determining these irregularities, or, at all events, towards inviting the sense of Grand Lodge on these matters was taken, and it was resolved by a majority that the Bye Laws of the Lodge should be sent to Grand Lodge for their sanction. The only event worthy of being recorded in 1823 appears to have been the attendance of the Lodge at the laying the foundation-stone of a new Church in Bolton, which it is suggested was Trinity Church, built from the so-called "Million Fund." Next year the Lodge took part in a similar ceremony at Farnworth, in conjunction with the other Bolton Lodges and the Ringley Lodge, No. 765. The same year, too, it was agreed "that members who belong to this Lodge appear on St. John's Day in a clean neat apron, in either Craft, Arch or Black." In 1825 the Province was divided into two—East and West Lancashire—though on 1st October a resolution was passed that a petition should be forwarded to Grand Master the Duke of Sussex, recommending Bro. Crossley as a "fit and proper person to become P.G.M. for the County of Lancaster." A few days later it was agreed to postpone their attendance at Prov. Grand Lodge till the following year, when Bro. W. Dawson W.M. represented the Lodge, and was allowed a guinea for his expenses. In the year 1828 the same Bro. Dawson attended Provincial Grand Lodge as a "Provincial Grand Officer," and had the post of P.G.D. of Ceremonies conferred upon him by Bro. John Crossley, who is styled "Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Superintendent of the Sublime Degree of Royal Arch Masons, and Eminent Knight Provincial Grand Commander of the Religious and Military Order of Knights Templar." Thus, even after a lapse of fifteen years from the Union, Craft, Arch, and Templar Masonry were mixed up, if not worked, in the same Lodge. In 1829 the Prov. Grand Lodge met at Bolton, and Bro. John Warbrick was appointed Prov. Grand Steward. In 1830 there were two funeral processions—one in order to pay respect to Bro. Val. Quin, an actor of some note at that time, and the other "for the purpose of the interment of our late Majesty King George the Fourth, Grand Patron of Masonry," the Lodge bearing one-third part of the expenditure. In 1831 there was a procession in honour of the King's birthday, and one was arranged for on his coronation day, but no expenses to be allowed out of the Lodge funds. On 20th August 1836 we gather that a new Local Fund for a Masonic Female School and a similar Fund of Benevolence were established in the Province, and that *St. John's Lodge* was a contributor to and supporter of both. Rather a strange entry occurs on 24th June 1837, where we read that £1 was granted to a Lodge at Dukinfield towards a lawsuit for recovery of property. In 1838 Bro. Thomas Preston D.P.G.M., attended by his Officers, took the chair, examined the books and accounts, and offered some useful remarks and suggested alterations. Shortly afterwards, it seems, a law was passed requiring "all members' Certificates to be deposited in the chest." In 1840 the Lodge resolved on becoming a subscriber to the intended Orphan School—a proof that, if the members hitherto had been and still were somewhat illiterate, they had an excellent notion of what constituted one of the principal duties of Freemasons, and lost no opportunity of giving effect

to it. The minutes of 6th April 1841 contain copy of the rules issued by Grand Lodge denouncing the Freemason's Quarterly Review, and any Brother who furnished materials for the same, and at the next meeting a letter was directed to be sent to the Duke of Sussex M.W. G.M. congratulating him on his action. This, we presume, refers to certain differences which arose about this time in connection with the establishment of what is now known as the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the result being that Bro. Dr. Crucefix was for some time suspended from all his Masonic functions and privileges. There is no doubt the differences arose, as such matters usually do, out of misconceptions which it was found impossible to make clear at first, and much warmth of feeling was exhibited; but in time these misconceptions passed away, Dr. Crucefix was restored to his rank and privileges, and the Benevolent Institution flourishes like a green bay tree in testimony of the earnestness of purpose by which all parties to the dispute were animated. On 25th June 1843 mention is made of a "Code of Bye-laws agreed upon for Sick and Craft." On 6th July 1844 it was resolved that the Lodge should co-operate with No. 363 in requesting Bro. John Crossley to become Prov. G. Master for the Eastern Division of Lancashire. Next year it is recorded that the "Local Fund, Sick and Burial," should be formed apart from the Lodge Funds, and the rule forbidding members from joining other secret societies was rescinded, while Bro. Warbrick, whose name occurs frequently, and always with distinction, was presented with a horn snuff-box. On 17th June the compiler of this narrative being under age, was initiated by dispensation of Bro. S. Blair D.P.G.M. nominate, and four months later the same brother and others passed the chair, these being the last who were permitted to go through the ceremony in consequence of the new authorities having interdicted the practice. This interesting event appropriately closes Book No. 6.

The next Minute Book covers a decade of years and brings us to 1856, but it records a by no means strange and eventful history. The first note of any moment mentions that Bro. Brockbank was elected to the office of Secretary in the year of his initiation. In 1847 we read it was resolved that the Lodge furniture should be repaired at an expense not to exceed £50. Later in the same year a new code of Bye-laws was adopted. A most unusual circumstance is recorded under date 4th January 1848. The Worshipful Master refused to serve, and a new election became necessary, Bro. Harris, who a short time before had been chosen Secretary, being elected to the chair. In 1849 Bro. Brockbank, who was at the time W.M. of the Lodge, was appointed to act as Prov. G. Steward at the Prov. Grand Lodge meeting. In 1850 the Lodge gained an accession of strength in the person of Bro. John Tunnah, subsequently and still the respected Prov. G. Secretary, who was accepted as a joining member. In 1851 the Secretary was, for the first time for many years, appointed by the Master, and towards the end of the year it was resolved that the W.M.'s chair should be fitted with its canopy and appendages on the occasion of the Festival of St. John. Bro. Brockbank recounts how the Master sat in this chair—which was like a watch-box—smothered with curtains, and with his hat on "Nature's Peg" perspiring fearfully as though he was having "a Vapour Bath." Still whether the chair and canopy were comfortable or not, it is evident the Lodge was bent on making itself as imposing as possible, for in 1852 new collars and gauntlets for the officers were purchased, the hour for meeting was made earlier, and it was forbidden that any liquor should be brought into, or smoking allowed in, the Tyler's room during the time the Lodge was assembled. Moreover, its charitable inclinations were even more tenderly fostered than before, and several times we read of sums of £10 being voted in aid of the Local Fund of Benevolence. The last entry in this book records the initiation, at a Lodge of Emergency, of our worthy Bro. Thos. Entwisle, who is another of the lights of Freemasonry of which Bolton has reason to be proud.

The next section extends over five years only. The first note of importance relates to the signature of a petition to the Annuity Fund—now the Royal Masonic Benevolent Fund—on behalf of Bro. Jas. Isherwood who, as far back as 1820, when the first mention of a P.G. Lodge occurs in these minutes, was told off to attend it as a delegate. Unfortunately for him, Bro. Isherwood does not seem from the Reports of the R.M.B.I. of those days to have been successful in his candidature. We next read of a memorial being signed for the appointment of Bro. Stephen Blair as P.G. Master, which was acceded to, as that respected brother was installed as P.G.M. at Manchester on 24th July 1856. On the 20th August next following, a Lodge of Instruction was formed, under the auspices of the Lodge and with its sanction. But this Lodge did not exist for long; its sittings were discontinued in a little over a year, and the mother Lodge was presented with a Grand Lodge banner, as a token of respect on the part of its daughter. Meantime the initiation fee was raised to four guineas and a half—a fact which proves that the Lodge was desirous of members of, socially speaking, a higher status. We are not suggesting they were becoming ashamed of having among them humbler brethren less well furnished with the comforts of life. We imagine their object was to secure something of equality of position among the members—a not unnatural or ill-disposed wish, when we bear in mind that there are two extremes, one which would make Freemasonry too cheap, as well as one which would make it too costly. In making the change the Lodge seems to have hit upon a happy mean between these two. A little later and a project is noted for building a Masonic Hall for the town, but what came of it is not recorded. There is a Freemasons' Hall at Bolton, but the *St. John's Lodge* does not hold its meetings in it. In 1858 the Lodge contributed towards presenting Bro. Blair P.G.M. with a banner of Grand Lodge, and the year following the Provincial Grand Lodge held its meeting at Bolton, two of the members being nominated as Prov. Grand Stewards. In 1860 the portrait of Bro. Dawson, in his clothing as a P. Prov. Grand Officer, was presented to the Lodge, the artist being a Mr. Walley, of local fame. The book closes with a minute recording that Bro. Entwisle was appointed Charity representative for the Lodge to the East Lancashire Committee; and the next book begins with an entry to the effect

that the same brother collected a sum of money in aid of the Masonic Benevolent Institution, this minute bearing date 16th April 1862.

We have now reached the last section of the proof sheets, which Bro. Brockbank has kindly forwarded, and we are happy to say that among the earlier, as, indeed, also among the later records, are several which refer especially to his most valuable services. Thus, on 21st January 1863 is recorded a vote of thanks to him on his retiring from the Secretaryship after from some thirteen to fourteen years' service, and on the 15th April following that he was presented with a handsome skeleton clock, accompanied by a diamond ring to Mrs. Brockbank, "as a mark of respect and in appreciation of his services as W.M., S.W., and Secretary for 16 years." The next minute notes that the number of the Lodge had been altered from 268 to 221, and then an intimation is given that the P.G.M. would lay the foundation stone of the new Masonic Hall at Manchester. A month later we are told that Bro. Tannah P.G.M. presented to the Lodge a portrait of the Prov. Grand Master Bro. Blair. In 1865 Bro. Entwisle again collected money in aid of the Benevolent Institution. A minute of 17th July 1867 notes that a letter from Grand Secretary Gray Clarke was read, "cautioning the brethren against holding Masonic intercourse with persons professing to be regularly made Masons, but who have not been initiated in a regularly warranted Lodge." A little later the Lodge, we are told, went into mourning for three months out of respect to the memory of Bro. Lawrence Newall Deputy P.G.M. About this time the Lodge resolved on re-arranging its meetings, so as to have a vacation in July and August, while in 1868 the June meeting was dispensed with, so that those members who were desirous of doing so, might attend the laying of the foundation-stone of the Albert Asylum, Lancaster, by the Earl of Zetland M.W.G.M.—an opportunity of which Bro. Brockbank tells us many prominent brethren availed themselves. The minute immediately following this is a painful one, recording, as it does, that a petition was sent to the Lodge of Benevolence on behalf of Bro. William Dawson the senior member of the Lodge. This Bro. Dawson, who was highly respected, and well known as a Masonic exponent of merit, had been initiated as far back as 17th February 1821. He was W.M. in 1826 and on several occasions had acted as delegate for this Lodge at Prov. G.L. meetings; and yet after an honourable career, extending over very little short of half a century, his necessitous circumstances drove him to apply for relief—a sad illustration of the vicissitudes of fortune which some of the wealthiest among us are called upon to undergo.

The next minute introduces to us the name of a most worthy brother, who held a high position in the Province, had received Grand Lodge honours, and died beloved and respected by all who knew him, as recently as 1876. We allude to Bro. W. Romaine Callender, who is here referred to as having "delivered a lecture on the Tracing Board in the first degree." Bro. Callender succeeded Bro. Newall in the Deputy Prov. Grand Mastership, and held that office at the time of his death. The next year (1869) the Lodge subscribed towards a monument to be erected to the memory of Bro. Callender's predecessor, and subsequently the question of holding the Lodge meetings in private rooms was entrusted to a Committee consisting of Bros. Entwisle and J. W. Taylor. In 1870 are recorded among other matters the presentation in open Lodge of an illuminated address on vellum, enclosed in a gold frame, to Bro. Jos. Howarth, on his retirement after seven years from the office of Treasurer, and of jewels to three worthy Past Masters, Bros. T. Morris, James Fitznewton, and William Fliteroff. On the 18th August is noted a letter from Grand Secretary, announcing appointment of Bro. Le G. Nicholas Starkie as Prov. G. Master, in succession to the late Bro. Blair. Nearly the whole of what follows concerns our worthy Bro. Brockbank himself. On 18th Jan. 1871, in commemoration of his having completed twenty-five years of membership, he presented to the Lodge a silver chain to be worn by the W.M. over his ordinary collar. The chain is described as having thirty links, the monogram 221 and the eagle, which is symbolic of St. John, being placed on each alternate link, while suspended from it hang the square within a circle and the donor's crest, and pendant therefrom a silver eagle. It is hardly necessary to say that a vote of thanks illuminated was subsequently presented to the donor. Then on 15th February he announced that as Steward at the Festival of the Benevolent he had collected £134—afterwards increased to £140—in aid of that institution, that being the first occasion on which any member of the Lodge had acted as Steward at any of the London Festivals. The W.M. announced on 20th March 1872 that in recognition of these various services the P.G.M. had intimated his intention of conferring the rank of Prov. G. Senior Deacon on Bro. Brockbank, that being the first occasion since 1826 on which an honorary appointment had been conferred on a member of the Lodge. Two months later the Lodge offered him their congratulations on the appointment. The good example thus set in connection with our Festivals bore immediate fruit, for the last entry, dated 20th Nov. of this year, records that three members had undertaken the office of Steward for the Boys' School Festival, Bros. E. C. Gilbert, W. Hewitt, and J. M. Rutter, while the last-mentioned was to act in the same capacity at the next Festival of the Girls' School, and Bro. J. W. Taylor for that of the Benevolent.

We have now completed our sketch of this interesting compilation, so far as the sheets have reached us. What further remarks may be necessary, and the rest of the story, will be added when we receive what remains to be published.

(To be continued.)

We beg to remind our readers that the Prov. G. Lodge of Kent will be held at Foresters' Hall, Union Crescent, Margate, on Wednesday next, the 23rd instant. The hour of noon is fixed for the opening of the P.G. Lodge; 1.30 p.m. for attending Divine Service at St. Paul's Church, Cliftonville, and 3.30 p.m. for the banquet.

Obituary.

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HON. ROBERT HAMILTON, M.A., M.D.

DISTRICT GRAND MASTER JAMAICA.

IT is with very sincere regret we announce the death of Dr. Robert Hamilton, District Grand Master, and Grand Superintendent of the R. A. Masons, as well as Provincial Grand Master Mason of Jamaica. Dr. Hamilton's health, it seems, had been failing for some time, and therefore though the wish was father to the thought that, considering he was only in the sixtieth year of his age, his life might be spared for many years, his death has not been altogether matter for surprise. Our deceased brother was educated at the University of Cambridge, after which, having graduated as M.A., he betook himself to the study of medicine, and after obtaining the customary diplomas, went out to Jamaica, where he had inherited a considerable property from a grand uncle, Mr. W. Hamilton, an English merchant in Kingston, and Colonel of a Kingston regiment of Militia. This gentleman, on withdrawing from business, sought retirement at Clifton Mount, a coffee estate which he had settled, and hither, as we have said, Dr. Hamilton when about thirty years of age went out, and took possession of the property. He also practised medicine to a limited extent in the surrounding country. He led a quiet, unostentatious life—that of a typical English country gentleman—for several years, until in 1864, he was offered by Sir Charles Darling, and accepted, a seat in the old Legislative Council. Soon after, he was appointed a member of the Executive Committee, and while filling that responsible place—which he did until the abolition of Constitutional Government, after the troubles of 1865,—he accepted the office of Custos Rotulorum for the parish of St. Andrew. On resigning these posts he returned to England. He spent a considerable time on the Continent, walking again, for personal gratification, the hospitals of England and France. Upon his return to Jamaica, he was called to the present Legislative Council by Sir Anthony Musgrave, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Hon. Robert Nunes. He had taken an active part in the volunteer movement, and was major of the St. Catherine's Administrative Corps, composed of artillery of that parish, and of Kingston. He deeply interested himself in medical and educational subjects, and at the same time was a most social, generous, and hospitable man. In politics he was an ardent liberal, and being in Paris as a medical student during the stormy days of 1848, he sided with the Republicans, at first dressing their wounds, and then shouldering a musket behind the barricades. At the same time he was essentially a lover of order, and only played this part from his sympathy with people whom he regarded as oppressed. Dr. Hamilton was also a member of the Queen's Body Guard, or Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms.

It is chiefly, however, as a Mason, that his career will prove of interest to our readers, and to give some idea of the high consideration in which he was held among the brethren a mere recapitulation of the offices he held at the time of his lamented decease will suffice. First and foremost he was District Grand Master of Jamaica, to which office he was appointed 5th Nov. 1858; District Grand Superintendent of R.A. Masons—date of patent 10th Jan. 1859; and had been Prov. G.M.M.M. since 1877. He was also a Supernumerary member of the Supreme Council, 33° of the A. and A. Rite, and Prov. G. Master of the Royal Order of Scotland.

His funeral which took place on Sunday, the 23rd May, was attended by over 300 friends, local officials, and Masonic celebrities, among whom were the Lieut. Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Justice Ker, the Auditor General, Custodes McDowell and Kimble, Prov. G.M. Bro. S. C. Burke (S.C.), and Deputy G.M. Bro. Altamont de Cordova (E.C.) The remains were consigned to their last resting place at Craighton Churchyard, the funeral service being read by Archdeacon Brooks, the choir and organist assisting. Sprigs of myrtle having been thrown on the coffin by the brethren, the Ven. Archdeacon spoke a few earnest words, after which the assemblage dispersed. No attempt was made at a Masonic demonstration, but we feel assured the memory of our deceased brother will be deeply respected, and that he will always be spoken of as one of the chief Masonic luminaries of his day. Bro. Dr. Hamilton had been twice married, but leaves no issue to mourn his loss.

JAMAICA.

Collegium Fabrorum, Kingston.—The ordinary meeting was held 13th May, presided over by Wor. Bro. M. Y. Ross; Bros. E. Finzi S.W., Da Cotta J.W., and other Officers. Being the night of election, a good many members were present. The aspirants for the chair were Bros. E. Finzi and W. Duff. The ballot was taken, and resulted in the election of Bro. E. Finzi.

We are happy to announce that another Mark Lodge will shortly be opened in this city, to be called the Kingston Mark Lodge, of which Wor. Bro. W. Andrews jun. is to be first Master, Wor. Bro. M. Dias Senior Warden, Wor. Bro. J. Thirlwall Junior Warden. The petition is numerously signed.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism or Neuralgic Affections.—No diseases are more frequent, painful, or difficult to cure than these. From their attack no tissue of the human body is exempt; neither sex nor calling is secure. It is a blessing, however, to know that all these sufferings may be completely and expeditiously subdued by Holloway's remedies. The Pills much assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar painful disorders; whilst the Ointment cures the local ailments, the Pills remove the constitutional disturbance, and regulate the impaired function of every organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and complete, and the disease rarely recurs, so perfect has been the purification performed by these searching preparations.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

CAVEAC LODGE, No. 176.

THE Installation Meeting of this influential and prosperous Lodge was held at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on Saturday last, 12th inst. Present:—Bros. Walter Neumegeu W.M., Alfred West Thorpe S.W., P. A. Nairne P.M. Treasurer, Charles T. Dorey P.M. Secretary, E. F. Johnston S.D., William Kirkness J.D., Charles Browne P.M. D.C., Thomas Quihampton P.M., J. B. Sorrell P.M., W. Miller Goss P.M., W. J. Stride P.M., J. B. Sorrell jun. P.M., Robert Sutherland, Aubrey Browne, Oscar L. W. Moore, Charles J. Scott, Charles Bischoff, Frederick Elder, Guillermo A. Wilson, and Louis B. C. Will. Visitors:—Bros. Buss Assistant Grand Secretary, Simpson P.G. Chaplain, Hogg P.G.D., Costa P.G.D., M. R. Morton P.M. Bank of England 263, John Charles P.M. 19, A Middlemas P.M., Harold Carter W.M. Moira 92, John G. Horsey W.M. 1619, Charles Atkins W.M. 1260, H. B. Mugliston S.W. 1228, H. Paget J.W. 194, S. Pollard S.D. 19, C. H. Dorey Roman Eagle, Edinburgh, 160, W. W. Wartraby 1330, Robert Symington 1330, J. L. Patisson 2, F. R. Hales 34, Buzzegoli and H. L. Hancock 143. Lodge was opened at four o'clock p.m., in due form, and with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. L. B. C. Will, a candidate for raising, having been entrusted, retired, when Lodge was opened in the third degree, and he was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Resuming to the first degree, and the ballot proving unanimous, Mr. E. C. Fielding was initiated into the secrets of ancient Freemasonry, and the Lodge resumed in the second degree. The D.C. then entered, and presented Bro. Alfred West Thorpe S.W. the W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. Upon the conclusion of the first portion of the ceremony Lodge was resumed in the third degree, all below the rank of I.M. were requested to retire, a Board of Installed Masters was opened, and the W.M. elect duly placed in the chair of K.S. in the usual manner. He having been saluted, proclaimed, and greeted, then invested his predecessor as I.P.M. and closed the Board. The brethren were re-admitted, and the W.M. saluted, proclaimed, and greeted, in the several degrees. Bro. Thorpe invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. E. F. Johnston S.W., W. Kirkness J.W., P. A. Nairne P.M. Treasurer, C. T. Dorey P.M. Sec., W. G. Elder S.D., Robert Sutherland J.D., and O. L. W. Moore I.G. The Tyler was then unanimously re-elected and duly invested, after which the I.M. delivered the ancient charges to the W.M., the Wardens, and brethren. The W.M. said a very pleasing duty devolved upon him, as Master of the Caveac Lodge, viz., the presentation to their I.P.M. of a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, voted to him by the brethren as a slight recognition of his able services as W.M. during the past year. Bro. Neumegeu having responded and other business been transacted, Lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial banquet. During the evening the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Neumegeu, when giving the toast of the W.M., spoke in very high praise of the abilities and virtues of Bro. A. W. Thorpe, whom they all so much respected, and whom they were all so pleased to see in the Master's chair; he felt convinced, as did one and all, that with such a W.M. the Caveac Lodge was certain of a prosperous year. In responding Bro. Thorpe alluded to the very impressive manner in which the ceremony of installation had that evening been rendered by their I.P.M. Bro. Neumegeu. After the Tyler's toast the brethren dispersed.

THE GILBERT GREENHALL LODGE, No. 1250,
WARRINGTON.

THE members of the Lodge and their visiting friends held their annual Festival on the 8th inst. The meeting was called for three o'clock, and immediately after that time the W.M. (Bro. T. H. Sutton) with his Officers assumed their respective positions. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were confirmed. Among those present were:—Bros. H. S. Alpess Prov. G. Sec., Dr. Boves P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmoreland, D. W. Finney Prov. G.D. Cers. W. Lancashire, E. C. Cooper P.P.G.S.B., J. R. Yongg P.M. 148, C. E. Hindley W.M. 148, Samuel Saunders 1609, J. Fineberg 1609, J. H. Galloway S.W. W.M. elect, T. H. Sutton W.M., S. Wallhead J.W., W. Richardson P.M., W. Woods P.M., W. Taylor I.G., T. Hutchinson S.D., T. Donville, A. W. Brnddritt, J. Shillcock, R. Brierley P.M., J. Baird, J. Farrington, J. Jones T. Barber, F. Massey, J. Smethurst, G. Fairhurst, J. C'Brien, G. Mackey, P. J. Edelsten P.M., T. O. Speakman, J. Barlow, R. Heaton, J. Currey, D. Hooley, J. H. Potter, A. F. G. Potter, W. Reid, &c., &c. In due course a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. J. H. Galloway S.W. and W.M. elect was presented and installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, Bro. D. W. Finney Prov. G.D. of Cers. being the Installing Officer. This done and cement applied, the Board was dissolved. The newly appointed W.M. invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. T. H. Sutton I.P.M., S. Wallhead S.W., T. Hutchinson J.W., Richardson P.M. Treasurer, D. W. Finney P.M. Sec., W. Taylor S.D., W. H. Jenkins J.D., J. O'Brien I.G., T. Donville Tyler, J. Jones and J. Farrington Stewards. After routine business, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren above named, augmented by others, adjourned to the Lion for the banquet. Bro. Galloway W.M. presided, supported by a long array of Prov. and other distinguished brethren. We should not omit to mention that a very interesting feature in the proceedings was the presentation of a very handsome and chaste P.M.'s jewel to Bro. T. H. Sutton the I.P.M., bearing a suitable inscription, in recognition of that worthy brother's services during his year of office. The proceedings, which were of the most lively character, were brought to a close about nine o'clock, and the brethren separated in the most perfect harmony.

ST. NICHOLAS LODGE, No. 1676.

THE Installation Meeting of this young but very flourishing Lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street-west, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 7th. The Lodge was opened in due form at three o'clock by Bro. A. R. Taylor W.M., supported by his Officers. All formalities having been gone through, Bro. E. D. Dowds P.P.G.S.W. took the chair, and the W.M. elect, Bro. M. E. Catcheside S.W. was presented to him for installation. The ceremony being most impressively performed, the newly-installed W.M. invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. R. Taylor I.P.M., F. Blencowe S.W., R. W. Cummings J.W., J. R. Pringle Treasurer, E. Marston Sec., R. Veitch S.D., J. P. Clark J.D., J. Cook P.M. D.C., W. Simpson I.G., R. Ferry Organist, J. Curry Tyler. After the transaction of the business of the Lodge, Bro. E. D. Davis P.P.G.S.W., in a few well-chosen remarks, presented to Bro. John T. Taylor I.P.M. P.P.G.A.P. a beautiful and valuable P.M.'s jewel, which bore a suitable inscription, and which had been subscribed for by members of the Lodge. Bro. Taylor feelingly responded for the handsome present which the brethren had made him, in recognition of his services to the Lodge. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to the Central Exchange Hotel, Grey-street, where the Annual Festival was held, and an agreeable evening was spent, the harmony being pleasantly contributed to by Bros. Gibbons, Keeney, Dowar, Robson, &c.

THE SUBURBAN LODGE, No. 1702.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, 11th June, at the Abercorn Arms Hotel, Great Stanmore, and in consequence of the fineness of the day was very numerous and attended. Bro. A. F. Roberts W.M. presided, and there were present Bros. Redford S.W. W.M. elect, J. D. B. Wall J.W., J. Tickle P.M. Treasurer, C. Hawksley Secretary, W. T. Buck S.D., J. F. Hepburn J.D., C. S. Buck I.G., W. R. Shutt W.S., G. H. Carter Steward, and the following Visitors:—Bros. H. G. Buss Assistant Grand Sec. and Prov. Grand Sec. for Middlesex, W. C. Maddever P.M. 504, Robt. Wright P.M. 504, W. J. Foster P.M. 19, H. W. Ruff W.M. 95, G. N. Watts P.M. 194, H. Thompson 1426 and P.M. 177 and 1158, A. Buck J.D. 453, R. G. Webster P.M. 579, W. G. Watson I.G. 633, E. C. Kilsby 871, Dr. J. E. Carpenter P.M. 1196, J. Pearson P.M. 1196, J. Heath W.M. 1196, F. Redford 1196, F. Eckstein 1196, G. H. Hunter W.M. 1298, J. F. Fellary 1385, W. S. Marshall 1549, W. S. Whittaker 1572, T. Gates 1599, &c. The Lodge having been opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, a ballot took place for Mr. W. B. Andrews, a candidate for admission, and it resulting unanimously in his favour he was introduced and impressively admitted to the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The next business was the installation of Bro. Redford Worshipful Master elect, for which purpose Bro. Tickle Past Master and Treasurer took the chair, and Bro. Redford was duly invested in the presence of a large body of installed Masters. After the usual salutes he appointed his Officers as follows:—Bros. Wall S.W., W. T. Buck J.W., J. Tickle Past Master Treasurer, C. Hawksley Secretary, J. F. Hepburn S.D., C. S. Buck J.D., W. R. Shutt W.S., G. H. Carter I.G., Eaton Steward, Ritchie D.C. One of the addresses was delivered by Bro. Dr. Carpenter, and the others by the Installing Master. The installation ceremony having been concluded, the next business was the initiation of Mr. Robert Watson jun., and that ceremony was most ably performed. A motion for the increase of the annual subscription was put and carried, as was one by Bro. Tickle—"That the Lodge meet in the months of January, March, May, June, and October, instead of as at present, and that the Bye-law be altered accordingly." An interesting incident here took place in the proceedings of the meeting, which was the presentation to the Lodge, by Bro. Milbourn, the architect engaged in the restoration of the Church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, built by Sir Christopher Wren, of a man of old oak, beautifully polished, formed out of one of the rafters of the old church, and it was looked upon as a relic of great interest. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Milbourn for his valuable gift. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren for some time amused themselves by inspecting the beautiful gardens attached to the hotel, or viewing the charming country by which it is surrounded. On re-assembling, they proceeded to the banquetting-room, where a sumptuous banquet awaited them, and to which ample justice was done. On the removal of the cloth, the Wor. Master, in giving the toast of the Queen and the Craft, said she had endeared herself to all her subjects, and more particularly so to Freemasons. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was the health of the Prince of Wales Most Worshipful Grand Master. As his merits and the interest his Royal Highness took in all that concerned the Craft were so well known and appreciated, he should offer no further observations, but at once call upon them to drink the toast—a request that was enthusiastically responded to. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was the health of the Earl of Carnarvon Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers past and present. All the Grand Officers were supporters of their Masonic Institutions, and had the interest of them at heart; their merits were well known, and they were always in attendance to promote the welfare of the Craft. He would say no more, but propose their health, coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Buss Assistant Grand Secretary. The toast was cordially received. Bro. Buss, in responding, said the W.M. had placed him somewhat in a difficulty in having to return thanks for the Grand Officers; he regretted there was no one more eminent amongst them present to return thanks for the very cordial manner in which they had received the toast. He thought, however, they would agree with him when he said, that they were the right men in the right place, as there were no men who could devote more time and trouble than they did to promote the interests of the Craft, and in their name he returned thanks for the honour they had con-

ferred upon them. The W.M. said the next toast he should ask the brethren to drink was the Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers. They were particularly fortunate in meeting on one of the most charming spots in Great Britain; he regretted that their Provincial Grand Master was not present with them that evening, but hoped in the future he would honour them with his company. They had had the pleasure of a visit from him once, and one of their members (Bro. Tickle) had been appointed as one of the Prov. Grand Officers. He should couple with the toast the name of Bro. Tickle. Bro. Tickle said, in responding, that he was sorry that the Provincial Grand Master was not with them that night to see with his own eyes what was passing there; it was a great misfortune to them that he was not amongst them. In the name of the Provincial Grand Officers he begged to return thanks. The Wor. Master said the next toast he should have the pleasure of bringing before them that evening was a very pleasing one to him. He had had the pleasure of introducing two gentlemen into the Order, and he was sure that both of them would do credit to the Lodge. He had known Bro. Andrews for some time, and therefore had great pleasure in introducing him to the Lodge, as he was sure that he would be a credit to it. Having passed a warm compliment upon Bro. Watson, the W.M. concluded by proposing the health of their newly-initiated brethren, Andrews and Watson. Bro. Veal gave, with good effect, "The Entered Apprentice" song. Bro. Andrews said he was unaccustomed to speak in public; he would only say that he would endeavour to carry out the tenets of Freemasonry to the best of his ability. Bro. Watson said he thanked them from his heart for the very kind manner in which they had drunk his health; the ceremony he had gone through was so deeply impressed upon him that he could not express himself in proper terms; he would do his best to prove himself a worthy Mason. Bro. Roberts I.P.M. said he had with the utmost pleasure to propose the next toast; it was one that he was sure would be reciprocated by every brother in the Lodge. It, however, was an easy one, as it was the health of the W.M., who was well known to them, and whose good qualities were admitted by all. He was a most worthy brother, and he was sure that every one in the Lodge was proud of him as W.M. Wishing him a prosperous year, he asked the brethren to drink his health, hoping that for many years he might be amongst them. The toast was cordially received. The W.M. thanked Bro. Roberts for the very kind manner in which his health had been drunk. He could assure them that if he should fail in giving them satisfaction it would not be from want of inclination but from want of ability. The next toast he had to propose was the Past Masters; after alluding to the services of Bro. Tickle, he said that Bro. Roberts, contrary to the advice of his medical man, at great inconvenience had come amongst them to carry out his duties as W.M. He had great pleasure, in the name of the Lodge, in presenting him with a jewel, trusting that for many years he might be a member of the Lodge, and give them the benefit of his advice and good counsel. Bro. Roberts returned thanks, and after some other toasts had been given the proceedings were brought to a close, and most of the brethren returned to town, having spent a day of unmingled pleasure.

NORTHERN COUNTIES LODGE, No. 406.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge took place on the 2nd instant, at the Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Lodge was opened by Bro. R. G. Salmon W.M., assisted by the following Officers:—Bros. John Page I.P.M., G. W. Lax S.W., S. M. Harris J.W., E. Dunford Sec., R. W. Sisson as S.D., A. Hume J.D., E. W. Sisson I.G., Bilby W.S., and G. W. Sims Tyler. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Lodge was raised to the third degree, and two brethren received the sublime degree of M.M. from the W.M. in a very perfect manner. The Tracing Board was correctly explained by Bro. Page I.P.M. The ordinary routine business having been gone through, and a committee appointed for the purpose of revising the bye-laws, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room, where a very pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by several songs and recitations. There were several visitors present.

ROYAL ARCH.

LEBANON CHAPTER, No. 1326.

THE regular convocation of this Chapter was held on Thursday, 10th June, at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. There were present Companions W. Hammond P.Z. as M.E.Z., J. Hammond H., F. Walters P.Z. as J., E. Hopwood P.Z., Moody 1st Assist. Sojourner, Errington, and several others. The minutes of the last Chapter were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed by the M.E.Z. The Bye-laws were read. The elections were unanimous in favour of Companions J. Hammond as M.E.Z., J. B. Shackleton II., J. C. Woodruff J., S. Wickens P.Z. S.E. Treas. re-elected, Moody S.N., Davey P.S., Gilbert Janitor re-elected. The usual P.Z.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Comp. Edwin Gilbert I.P.Z. Comp. T. W. Adams M.E.Z. West Smithfield Chapter was proposed as a joining member. Several candidates were proposed for exaltation. Business ended, the Chapter was closed and adjourned to meet on Thursday, 8th July, at 4 p.m. The usual banquet was served.

DEATH.

HAMILTON—On 20th May, at Clifton Mount, St. Andrew, Jamaica, the Hon. ROBERT HAMILTON, M.A., M.D., J.P., District Grand Master of East Jamaica, Member of the Legislative Council, late Custos of St. Andrew, &c.

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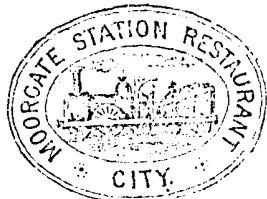
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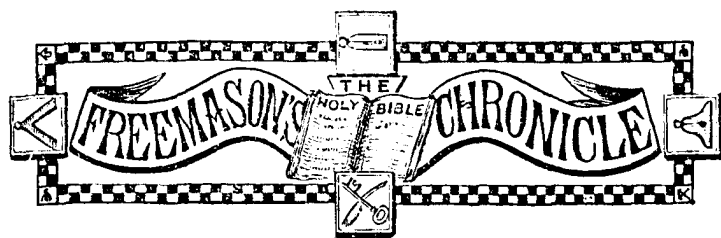
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THE Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norths and Hunts was held on Thursday, 10th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton. The Provincial Grand Master the Duke of Manchester was prevented by ill health from attending, and therefore Bro. Butler Wilkins, the Deputy G.M. of the Province, assumed the presidency of Provincial Grand Lodge. He first announced that he had received a letter from the Prov. Grand Master explaining his absence, but inasmuch as the letter contained other matters which would be brought forward at a later hour, he did not think it necessary to read it then. He next proceeded to open the Provincial Grand Lodge, when the Prov. Grand Secretary read the minutes of the meeting held last year at Wellingborough, which, after an explanation from the chair as to the alteration made in the locality of holding this year's meeting, were confirmed. The roll of Lodges was then called over, and the various representatives having reported themselves, the minute books were examined and signed. The Acting Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to nominate and instal the Officers for the ensuing year, the following brethren being selected:—Bros. T. R. Wood Pomfret 360 S.W., W. J. Pilcher St. Peters 442 J.W. (in the case of this brother a dispensation had been obtained from Grand Lodge, in consequence of his being a non-resident of the Province), Rev. S. W. Wigg Eleanor Cross 1764 Chaplain, Rev. W. E. Hall Wentworth 737 Asst. Chap., R. C. Parr 607 Reg., F. G. Buckle St. Peters 412 Sec., H. Standley Perseverance 455 S.D., H. J. Atkins Eleanor Cross 1794 J.D., W. Wade Soerates 373 S. of Works (Bro. Marson invested in his absence), R. H. Griffin St. Peters 442 D.C., G. Ellard Pomfret 360 Assist. D.C., Howens Wentworth 737 Sword Bearer, S. Slinn Wentworth 737 Standard Bearer, A. J. Evans Fidelity 445 Purs. (Bro. Greville invested in his absence), W. Acroyd Wentworth 737 Org., Richard Howes Fidelity 445 (re-elected) Treas., Ayres Pomfret, Harrison St. Peters, Linnel Fidelity, Royce Merit, Park Perseverance, Matthews Wentworth, Stewards. In proposing the re-election of Bro. Richard Howes to the office of Treasurer, the acting Deputy Prov. G. Master said it had been his great pleasure to propose the election of Bro. Howes on many previous occasions, and he was extremely gratified to do so again. He had always performed his duties most efficiently, and he felt it impossible that Prov. G. Lodge could elect a brother more suited to the office, or who would more faithfully discharge the duties appertaining thereto. The proposition was seconded, and carried unanimously amid acclamation. The Secretary then read the report prepared by the Board of Benevolence and Charity organization committee of the province, which had met previously at the Peacock Hotel. At that meeting Bro. Butler Wilkins presided, and the following among other business was transacted:—The accounts for the year, which comprised grants of twenty guineas each to the Male and Female Funds of the Benevolent Institution, £20 to the widow of a deceased brother, £15 to a brother whose present condition entitled him to the sympathy of the members, and the usual expenses of the year, were passed, and on the grants being put to the vote in Prov. Grand Lodge they were confirmed, and the Treasurer's statement was signed. The amounts standing to the credit of Prov. Grand Lodge are as follow:—Owing on mortgage of Masonic buildings, Northampton, £700, balance in hand £76 19s 6d. A discussion then ensued as to the desirability of issuing a Provincial Calendar, it was suggested, on the one hand, that Grand Lodge should simply endorse the publication with its sanction and authority, and on the other that the funds of the Province should be held liable for the difference between selling and cost price (if any), thereby making the issue of the Calendar a part of the work undertaken by the Grand Lodge; but this latter was, after considerable comment pro and con, rejected, and the former proposition carried, Grand Lodge recommending to its daughter Lodges to support the Calendar it was proposed to issue. Bro. Wilkins then read the letter from the Duke of Manchester, which, as we have already stated, expressed the inability of his Grace to attend, and also informed the brethren that it was his desire to resign his appointment as Prov. Grand Master. This letter it was decided should be entered on the minutes, and as the Prov. Grand Master had expressed a desire for the Deputy to take steps to make the proper representations to Grand Lodge, it was decided that such should be carried out. This completing the business of the day, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was held at the Peacock Hotel. Here also Bro. Butler Wilkins presided, and in due course he proposed the usual loyal toasts. Bro. Boemo P.M. 360 proposed that of the Prov. Grand Master, the Duke of Manchester. The privilege of proposing the toast having devolved on him, he could but express the pleasure he felt in offering it for the acceptance of the brethren. They must all regret, as he did, the cause which, on the present occasion, prevented the attendance of their chief, and he felt sure that all present would join in the wish that the Duke would soon be restored to health. The toast was honoured, and then Bro. E. J. Orford P.M. 416 proceeded to give that of the Deputy Prov. G. Master Bro. Butler Wilkins. He felt that anything he could say would ill represent

the feelings of the brethren as regarded the Deputy. Most would endorse the opinion entertained by himself and the brethren generally that in Bro. Wilkins they had a Mason who faithfully, and to the best of his ability, performed the various duties which devolved on him. The toast met a most hearty reception. Bro. Butler Wilkins thanked those present for the way in which they had responded to the toast. He took the opportunity of reminding them that it was five years since he was appointed to take the prominent position in Freemasonry he occupied. He remembered the first time he addressed a Provincial meeting, when he must say the collar of office sat more heavily on his shoulders than it did on the present occasion. It was true that at the commencement of the term to which he had just referred they had clouds and mists hovering over them, but he was pleased to say they had all been dispersed. He ventured to say that at the present day there was no better worked Province than that of Norths and Hunts, and he hoped they would long maintain the reputation of being in the foremost rank. If he had failed to carry out the promises he had made from time to time, it was from inability of head rather than of heart; he had endeavoured as far as he could to fulfil those promises, and he hoped the brethren were satisfied with what he had done. During the five years in which he had been so prominently associated with the Province there had been added to the roll one Lodge and two Chapters, all of which were prosperous and working in good order. By this he did not mean to express an empty phrase, for every Principal and every Master of the district was doing his work, and in all cases would scorn the idea of incompetency. They had now the permission of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to establish a Grand Chapter for the Province; this he hoped would soon be formed, and prove as great a success as he wished it might be. He next proceeded to review the support which the Province had given to the central Charities during the term; he found that no less a sum than £553 had been contributed during the five years by the Lodges and Chapters themselves; while if he took into account the personal donations added to the lists of the various Stewards, he found Norths and Hunts figuring with a total of something over £740. This he thought was a sum of which a Province like theirs might justly be proud; still they must not forget that if they had freely given, they had also freely received. He next touched on the position in which the Province was placed by the retirement of the Provincial Grand Master. It was not for the brethren to say who should or who should not succeed to the government of the district, but he felt convinced that if the brethren could point to any brother whom they felt would discharge the duties with satisfaction it would have great weight with the Prince of Wales when he made the appointment. Bro. W. Kingston P.M. 360 gave the health of the Prov. Grand Treasurer, Prov. Grand Secretary, and the Grand Officers of the Province present and past. Bro. Kingston would have been pleased if the proposal of this toast had been in other hands, but he felt that no brother could have better proposed it than himself if the desire for the welfare of those comprised in the toast was to be a gauge of his desire to do the toast justice. He should have felt his shortcomings much more had he been entrusted with a toast requiring better advocacy than the one under notice, which he might say only needed to be mentioned to secure a hearty welcome from the company. Bro. J. T. Greene proposed the toast of the Masonic Institutions. He considered the toast of Charity was the best on the list. Freemasonry itself was Charity, and it comprehended a vast amount of Charity. Bro. Terry replied in a most forcible manner, acknowledging the support given to the Benevolent Institution in Provincial Grand Lodge, and also the hearty co-operation of the brethren in the past. He announced that Bro. Stanton P.M. of the Pomfret Lodge and Bro. Hall of Wellingborough, had each consented to act next year as Stewards for the "Old People." Bro. T. R. Wood W.M. 360 proposed "The Visitors," to which Bro. Agnow, of New South Wales, replied. The remainder of the evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner, the brethren each doing his best to keep up the harmony of the meeting by songs and recitations. In this, as well as in the intervals between the speeches, they were most ably assisted by Bro. Seymour Smith, whose journey from London was amply rewarded by the hearty reception he received, and the apparent enjoyment he afforded by his songs and humorous sketches. We understand that the plants and decorations for the Lodge and banquet table were supplied by Messrs. J. Perkins and Sons, and Bro. A. Cockerell, of 360, and that the decoration of the banquet room was the work of Bro. J. Jeffrey 1764. The brethren are to be complimented on the result of their efforts.

PROV. G. LODGE BERKS AND BUCKS.

THE Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks was held in the Wesleyan School Rooms, Maidenhead, on Monday, it having been found necessary to secure these rooms owing to the incomplete state of the Town Hall, which, but for unforeseen circumstances, would have been rebuilt by the 1st May. A better place for such a gathering could not have been selected, at least at this time of the year, though we admit that a Masonic Province which can boast of an historic Newbury, a county town such as Reading, Royal Windsor, and Aylesbury, famous throughout England for its dairy produce and breed of ducks, has rich embarrassment rather than a poverty of choice. But Maidenhead, on the silvery Thames—and the river here deserves the epithet—the favoured haunt of excursionists who delight in the study of *to kalon*, as well as of boating men and anglers, with its beautiful surrounding scenery, is a perfect Paradise in the leafy month of June, when the feathered songsters are warbling their praise to the Great Architect, and the insect world is burring and humming in unison. It must be a placid life which the good people of Maidenhead live from year to year, and it is gratifying to know that in such a place our much-loved

Craft has found a home—two homes rather, for it can boast of two Lodges, the St. John's No. 795, and the Ellington No. 1566. Provincial Grand Lodge, therefore, which met at the appointed time of two p.m., under the genial presidency of its respected chief, Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., found everything prepared for its reception. All the Lodges in the Province were represented, and there was a fair muster of visitors, prominent among whom we noticed Bros. Colonel Shadwell Clarke, R. Giddy D.G. Master Griqualand, and P. Binckes P.G.S. Secretary to Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The Chief was well supported by his Grand Officers and the brethren of the different Lodges, there being present of the former Rev. J. S. Brownrigg P.G.C., who, since the vacation of the office by the Very Rev. Pure-Cust, Grand Chaplain and Dean of York, has been re-appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and Bros. H. Poynter P.G.J.W., Rev. G. De Ewer A.P.G.C., Chas. Stephens P.G. Treasurer, R. Bradley P.G. Sec., Jabez Adams P.G.S.D., R. Roberts P.G.J.D., W. Biggs P.P.G. Sec., A.G.D.C., James Rutland P.G.O., and W. Hemmings P.G. Tyler. Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the roll of Lodges and Officers having been called, and the minutes of the last meeting at Abingdon having been read and confirmed, the balance sheet of the accounts of the Provincial Grand Treasurer, as audited by the Finance Committee and signed by the Provincial Grand Master, were presented. These showed that financially the Province was in a very satisfactory condition. The Prov. Grand Secretary's statement, in which was set forth the position of the several Lodges in the Province was then read, and showed that the Craft in this district had made commendable progress and was constant in its attention to work. The P.G.M. then rose and made a few brief but appropriate remarks. There was, indeed, but little for him to say beyond offering them his congratulations on the favourable state of the Craft in the Province, and the numbers which had assembled on the present occasion, as well as on the fact that the Charity Fund was receiving a larger measure of support than at the corresponding period of last year. He took, however, the opportunity of speaking warmly in favour of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, which he strongly recommended to their support as a Fund that could not fail to be of the greatest service to those it was intended to benefit. After announcing that the next annual meeting would be held at Aylesbury, the P.G.M. proposed, and it was unanimously agreed, that the Lodges subscribing to the Charity Fund should have sums appropriated to them in proportion to their several contributions. Bro. Charles Stephens having been re-elected to the office of P.G. Treasurer, Sir Daniel Gooch invested the following brethren with the Provincial Charity jewels, namely, Bros. Dick Radclyffe S.D. 209, Stephen Knight W.M. 574, S. G. Hunt P.M. 574, E. L. Shepherd P.M. 915, R. G. Burton J.W. 771, and C. W. Cox W.M. 1566, and, in doing so, made a few complimentary remarks to each, especially to Bro. Dick Radclyffe, who is deservedly popular throughout the Province. The P.G.M. then invested Rev. J. S. Brownrigg with the insignia of office as Deputy P.G.M., and took the opportunity of congratulating him on his return to a post with whose duties he was well acquainted, and which, therefore, he was so eminently qualified to fill. He then appointed and invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. J. O. Carter P.M. 209 Prov. G.S.W., J. Reeve P.M. 1639 and 840 Sec. 1639 P.G.J.W., Rev. E. de Ewer 1566 P.G. Chap., Rev. A. J. Riddle W.M. 1787 P.A.G. Chap., C. Stephens S.W. 414 P.G. Treas., C. Oades P.M. 414 P.G. Reg., R. Bradley P.M. 414 P.G. Sec., J. R. Wilmer P.M. 1410 P.G.S.D., G. M. Knight P.M. 574 P.G.J.D., J. Early Danks W.M. 1101 P.G.S. of W., C. W. Cox P.G.D.C., W. Biggs P.A.G.D.C., John Tomkins W.M. 915 P.A.G.D.C., T. W. Robinson W.M. 591 P.G.S.B., H. Willis W.M. 591 P.G.O., A. Culverhouse P.M. 840 P.G.P., T. Taylor W.M. 1410 P.G.S., J. W. Poulton 591 P.G.S., S. W. Slater 1787 P.G.S., Gough 840 P.G.S., Jowett 591 P.G.S., Dover 591 P.G.S. Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, which had been prepared for them in the School, and which had the further merit—from an artistic point of view—of being unusually attractive to the eye by reason of the many elegant and varied Masonic devices with which the tables had been decorated by Bro. Dick Radclyffe. After dinner the usual toast list was gone through. The health of Sir Daniel Gooch was proposed by his Deputy, Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, in well-chosen terms, and it is needless to add, was received with acclamation. The P.G.M., in his reply, spoke in high terms of his Reverend Brother's qualifications for the position he held, and most cordially thanked the brethren for the reception his health had met with at their hands. He also again brought under notice the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, and hoped it would find plenty of support in the Province. The toast of the Visitors was replied to, in the first instance, by Brother Giddy, and then by Brother Lieut.-Colonel Shadwell Clarke, who expressed his readiness to do all in his power, in his capacity of Grand Secretary, to further the interests of the Province, though he was pleased to point out that, from what he had seen that day, he thought but very little assistance from him would be needed in order to maintain the excellent position which the Craft had secured in the Province. Bro. Binckes responded for the Masonic Charities, and expressed a hope that the approaching Festival of the Institution with which he had been so long connected would be as successful as he had reason to believe it would be. The toasts were interspersed with songs and glee, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Bro. Jas. Rutland P.P.G.O. One point must not be passed over in silence. The dinner tickets were fixed at a very moderate price, and yet the dinner, which was provided by Bro. Tyler, of the Bear Hotel, was ample and good—which confirms what we said last week as to summer excursions, that no part or parcel of a day's pleasure need be costly in order to be enjoyable. It may be as well to add that owing to the fine weather many brethren took the opportunity of enjoying a drive in the neighbourhood, and so re-invigorated were four of these enterprising spirits by their excursion that before taking their departure for London they found it necessary once again to refresh themselves. But alas! for the vanity of human wishes. Having selected, as they thought a suitable place

by the river side, they entered in order to appease their hunger and went disconsolately away an-hungred. The modest chops, beer, and et ceteras vouchsafed them would not have satisfied a healthy child. But the landlord, though he seems to have forgotten the viands, did not hesitate to make the exorbitant charge of sixteen shillings. Sixteen shillings for four small chops and potatoes, bread and cheese and beer! We trust readers of this who may visit Maidenhead will decline to afford the landlord of this riverside hostelry the opportunity of serving them as these friends of ours were served.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am very glad you have drawn attention to the matter of expense in connection with our summer excursions. I often have the chance of joining a party of brethren "on pleasure bent;" but in the majority of cases I am obliged to decline availing myself of it, because, having a wife and two grown-up daughters—to say nothing of the junior olive branches—necessity compels me to think more than the proverbial "three times" about spending £5 or £6 on a day's pleasure. Nor if I had the money to spend, do I think we should enjoy ourselves any more at a cost of twenty-five or thirty shillings each than at half that amount. I know there are many who think happiness impossible without an unlimited supply of champagne, the chief point in its favour being that it is a high-priced wine. Probably not one in twenty of these worthy folk could tell, if they were asked, one vintage from another, or even distinguish the genuine wine from old gooseberry; but Fashion has laid it down that champagne is the *sine qua non* of a grand feed, and several cases of it must be swallowed in order to be quite *comme il faut*. Of course if a man drinks it habitually at home, there is nothing strange in his drinking it when he dines out. He regards it as others regard beer and spirits and water, but who of those who never from one year's end to another drink a bottle of "cham," as it is vulgarly called, at home, is the better for having drunk half-a-guinea's worth of a wine he knows nothing about? Even a bottle of Gladstone's claret would answer the same purpose, while a tankard of sound English beer would be a thousand times more acceptable, but "for the appearance of the thing." There, in fact, lies the whole secret. For the sake of appearances, the man of moderate means, when out on an excursion, drinks champagne "like a lord," and for a week or two afterwards must pinch himself at home "like a beggar."

In my young days I often went nic-nicking, but I never found it too hot for my modest purse, and always enjoyed myself thoroughly. Many of these "outings" were organised on what is known in business as the "principle of co-operation." To so many were assigned the provision of the fluids, and to so many that of the solids. There was an ample, varied, and excellent supply of both, and only now and again did it happen that one blessed with a good plain cook, warranted to know nothing of our business, brought a veal and ham or pigeon pie that would have taxed the jaws of a Sunson to masticate. But such an accident—vexations enough, no doubt, to the individual—was always received good humouredly and served for a little friendly chaff till something similarly ridiculous happened. And somehow there was always something funny happening on these occasions. A thirsty soul mistakes the vinegar for the claret, an absent-minded man sat himself down incontinently on a veal and ham pie, a lobster salad, or in the salad mixture, but invariably the day was found to be too short for the pleasure. The elderly folk had to break off in their reminiscences of former days, and the young folk thought they ought to have had more time for flirting or love making. In short, every one was happy. I doubt whether it would have been so, with many of us at least, if we had had to pay thirty shillings apiece for the expedition.

I intend this letter, which is probably an absurd one, as a protest against the tendency to extravagance which finds daily-increasing favour with the Craft. I have written it because I know that a thoroughly enjoyable excursion is not inconsistent with a provident outlay.

Yours fraternally,

EDWARD ALLAWAY.

ISLINGTON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Moorgate Station Restaurant,
15th June 1880.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Will you kindly intimate in an early number of your valuable journal that the Islington Lodge of Instruction is held every Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock, at the above address, under the able Preceptorship of Bro. J. L. Mather P.M. 65, 1471, 1580, &c., P.Z. 174, 1471, &c.

Yours fraternally,

W. BAUSOR,

Secretary 1471.

SOC: ROSICR: IN ANGLIA.

"ROSICRUCIANISM."

An Inaugural Address, delivered at the First Meeting of the York College, at York, 24th February 1880, by

R.W. FRA. T. B. WHITEHEAD, Chief Adept.

FRATRES,—On the eve of addressing so distinguished a body of Masons as that I now see assembled, I think I can scarcely be accused of affectation if I express some measure of diffidence; knowing so well that there are many of you far better qualified to instruct than your Chief Adept. Still I feel no less that on the occasion of the first meeting of the York College of Rosicrucians something is naturally expected from its leader, and on this account I have put together a few remarks which I trust will serve as some introduction to the intelligent existence which seems to open before us.

Some there are present to-day, novices of our Order, and others who perhaps have not made diligent inquiry into the subject, who will in the ordinary course of thought ask—What is the Society into which we entered, and why is it called the Rosicrucian Society of England? This opens up two questions—Who and what were the Rosicrucians, and who and what are the Rosicrucians? To the first of these it is by no means easy to give a thoroughly satisfactory reply. There are those who are prepared to maintain that the Society of Rosicrucians was a myth. That the Order was purely imaginary, born and existing only in the fanciful imaginations of a certain set of mediæval students who found the idea a convenient pivot on which to hinge their teachings, and a cloak beneath which to conceal their secret proceedings. Others there are who, whilst admitting the actual existence of a secret Order of the name, believe that its philosophical aspect was purely a mask beneath which to hide complicated intrigues of a political nature, and who claim for its members some of the most eminent of the scholars of Europe of the older time—as Boccaccio and Dante. As for the traditional history of the Rosicrucians, the only writer who has pretended to afford us any insight into it is John Valentine Andrea, whose Latin writings were very numerous, chiefly consisting of moral and occult treatises. Andrea was born in 1586, and died in 1654. He wrote many books, and was a staunch advocate of Protestant principles or the right of private judgment. In 1614 he published a work called *Fama et Confessio Fraternalitatis Roseæ Crucis*, which went through several editions, and which professed to give an account of the origin and aims of the Rosicrucian Society. It is manifest, as you will see presently, that this history is almost entirely fabulous, but it is exceedingly ingenious, and well adapted to excite that curiosity and craving for the unknown and marvellous which at all times has characterised the human mind, and especially about the period at which Andrea wrote.

According to his story there lived once upon a time a certain Christian Rosenkrenz, who was of good birth but poor, and who was compelled to enter a monastery at a very early age. When 16 years old he set off on a pilgrimage with one of the monks to the Holy Sepulchre. Arriving at Cyprus the monk fell ill and died, and Rosenkrenz had to pursue his journey alone. When he reached Damascus he stayed there three years, pursuing with zeal the study of the occult sciences, which were then taught by the Magi in that city, who were known as the "The Wise Men of the East." From Damascus he made for Egypt, and there further renewed his researches, and at last, having skirted the shores of the Mediterranean, arrived at Fez, in Morocco, where his instructors in Damascus had ordered him to reside. Here he stayed two years, and then crossed over to Spain, thence returning to Germany, where he resolved to form a society for the preservation and prosecution of the sciences of which he had made himself master. He therefore selected three monks of his convent, and, under vows of secrecy, imparted to them his learning, which was to be committed to writing, in a mystic vocabulary, for the use of future students. The science of medicine was one of the branches of study included; but so large became the number of applicants for relief that Rosenkrenz resolved to admit four new members, which was done, and it was arranged that two should remain in their House of the Holy Spirit (as it was called) with Father Christian, and the others should travel and acquire knowledge and dispense relief, but that all should assemble annually and mutually communicate ideas and results. The brethren were not distinguished by any peculiar garb, they practised the healing art without any charge, and each one was required during his life to appoint one to succeed him at his death. The letters R.C. were their title and watchword, and it was arranged that the brotherhood should be kept a secret for a hundred years.

At the age of 100 years Father Rosenkrenz died, and was buried by the two brethren who had remained with him, but the place of his burial remained a secret to all the rest, the two carrying the secret to the grave. Nevertheless the Society was continued, but unknown to the world, always maintaining its number of eight members. They preserved a tradition among them that at the end of 120 years the grave of Father Rosenkrenz was to be discovered, and the brotherhood no longer be kept secret from the world. About that time the brethren began to make some alterations in their buildings, and attempted to remove to a more fitting situation the memorial table, on which were inscribed the names of those who had been members of the Fraternity. The plate was of brass, and was fixed to the wall by a nail driven through its centre, but so firmly was it attached that, in taking it away, a portion of the plaster was torn off, and disclosed a secret door. Upon removing the rust on the door there appeared written in large letters "*Post CXX Annos Patebo*"—After 120 years I will appear. They opened the door, and discovered an heptagonal vault, each of its seven sides being five feet wide and eight feet high.

It was lighted from an artificial sun in the roof, and in the middle of the floor there stood, instead of a tomb, a circular altar, on which was an inscription, stating that this apartment had been erected by Christian Rosenkrenz as a model compendium of the universe. About the vault were other inscriptions, as *Jesus vult omnia, Legis jugum, Libertas Evangelii*, and so on, indicating the Christian character of the builder. In each of the sides was a door opening into a closet, and in these closets they found many rare and valuable articles, such as the Life of the Founder, the Vocabulary of Paracelsus, and the Secrets of the Order, together with bells, mirrors, burning lamps, and other singular articles. On removing the altar and a brass plate beneath it, they came upon the body of Rosenkrenz in a perfect state of preservation.

Andrea's book created all the sensation he probably anticipated, and numbers of persons came forward with a view to join this romantic society, which, however, they failed to discover, its existence being solely in the brain of Andrea. The result, however, was the formation of more than one mystical brotherhood, claiming ancient origin, and amongst those who prominently belonged to English branches of them were Elias Ashmole and Richard Fludd. The members professed to be in search of lost secrets connected with alchemy and astrology, especially the Philosopher's Stone (whatever that was), and the art of making gold. In times when all secret working was dangerous, as being regarded by Church and State with suspicion, it may have been a very convenient blind to profess a search for that which, when found, would enrich mankind, and remove the necessity for labour. The symbol of the Rosicrucians was a rose upon a cross, the rose being a symbol of secrecy, and the cross of the light of knowledge.

The history and objects of the early Rosicrucians are, however, veiled in mystery, and, like Freemasonry, the theories advanced regarding them have been very numerous. Between them and the ancient Gnostics many similarities of emblems and ideas have been found, and so some have asserted that their origin was to be sought in the history of that curious and powerful sect which flourished during the earlier days of Christianity, and whose remains in the form of amulets, gems, marks, and altars are so frequent in the ruins along the shores of the Mediterranean.

Amongst the bygone writers on Rosicrucianism are many names of note—Albertus Magnus (Cologne), Alexander Ales (Edinburgh), Arnold of Villanova, Roger Bacon, Thomas Chardock (Salisbury), Dr. Falk, Nostradamus, Florent de Villers, and many others. They were all voluminous authors, and wrote on hermeticism and the occult sciences.

It is much easier to reply to the question—What is the Rosicrucian Society of the present day of which we have the honour to be a branch? It may be very justly described as a Masonic Literary and Archaeological Association, having for its objects the endeavour to elucidate the history of Freemasonry and to examine kindred questions and subjects. It is not a Masonic Order, having an entirely distinct and independent basis and foundation, but it is for evident reasons a *sine quâ non* that its members should have previously been received into the Masonic fraternity. The Rosicrucian Society numbers in its ranks many of the most intelligent Masons of England, Scotland, Ireland, Europe, and America, for everywhere are independent branches of the Order in fraternal connection with each other. Of late it has spread considerably, and numbers in England some six or seven colleges, including the Metropolitan College. The Supreme Magus in Angliâ is the M.W. Fra. Dr. Woodman of Exeter. The Degrees of the system are nine:—1, Zelator, Illuminatus or Junior; 2, Theoricus; 3, Practicus; 4, Philosophus; 5, Adeptus, Junior or Minor; 6, Adeptus, Senior or Major; 7, Adeptus Exemptus; 8, Magister Templi; and 9, Magus.

A college consists of 36 members, the Chief Adept being of the 8th grade. There may be then 2 of the 7th grade, 3 of the 6th grade, 4 of the 5th grade, 5 of the 4th grade, 6 of the 3rd grade, 7 of the 2nd grade, and 8 of the 1st grade. After this number (36) aspirants can still be admitted to the first grade, but (as in a Royal Arch Chapter exceeding 72) they are not actual voting members of the college when thirty-six of their elders are present.

Fratres,—I am very anxious that the York College should carry out faithfully the objects for which the Order was revived. Our headquarters are upon classic ground. We are meeting on a spot at which many writers have supposed was a centre of working of the ancient Caldees. We are surrounded by an atmosphere pregnant with memories of the past. It is for the sake of those memories, and for the investigation of their origin, that we propose to meet together as a college. We have amongst us Fratres who are well able to enlighten us on many points on which we desire information. We are fortunate in numbering on our already long roll Masons of great erudition and known in the literary and working Masonic world. There is, perhaps, no Provincial College of the Order that has begun under fairer auspices than we have done this day. But I am very anxious that we should not rest upon our oars. Let us not content ourselves with having done well, but let us aim ever to be advancing and improving. The field of labour which presents itself before us is large and varied. So many branches of knowledge are open to us that amongst ourselves we may each find some special line in which to direct the channel of our thoughts and studies. I hope each member will regard it as his positive duty, as a member of this College, to render himself expert in some branch of Masonic study, so that he may, when his time comes, be prepared to enlighten his fellows when called on so to do. And I would further ask you to be careful whom you propose for a participation in our knowledge. Remember that the acquisition of members is not our object. We do not desire to fill up our ranks with drones and dummies. Let each candidate introduced be one whom you have the best reasons for believing will not only be a credit to our society but will, by his talents, education, and energy, be able to add to the knowledge of his companions. Thus aiming and working, we cannot fail to become a beacon in the Order, and shed the light of intelligence upon those Masonic circles with which we come in contact.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

SATURDAY, 19th JUNE.

- 108—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.
308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms Eastwood.

MONDAY, 21st JUNE.

- 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)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8 (Instruction)
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
1445—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, at 8 (Inst.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amburst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (Inst.)
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.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road, at 8 (Inst.)
1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1695—New Finsbury Park, Pimlico Arms, St. Thomas Road, at 8 (Instruction)
61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
236—York, Masonic Hall, York
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley
302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hobden Bridge
331—Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
408—Three Graces, Private Rooms, Haworth
424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton
467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham
613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport
622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield.
1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover.
1238—Gooch, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8 (Inst.)
1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1512—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford
R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R. A. 315—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
R. A. 482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth
R. A. 779—St. Augustine, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
R. A. 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Pewsbury
M.M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne

TUESDAY, 22nd JUNE.

- 14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1014—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1310—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
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)
1559—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (Inst.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (Inst.)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
1719—Evening Star, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle, 7.30 (Inst.)
126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
178—Antiquity Royal Hotel, Wigan.
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30 (Instruction)
253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
779—Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens, Lancashire
956—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston
1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
1214—Scarborough, Scarborough Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley
1343—St. John's Lodge, King's Arms Hotel, Grays, Essex
1547—St. Giles, Royal Oak Hotel, Cheddle
1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1675—Antient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R. A. 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

WEDNESDAY, 23rd JUNE.

- Provincial Grand Lodge Kent, Foresters' Hall, Union Crescent, Margate
Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons Hall, W.C. at 6.
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
212—Euphrates, Masons Hall, Buzinzhall-street, E.C.
223—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (Inst.)
533—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Popple-cour, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
1274—Burdett Contts. Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1791—Creston, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate, at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
125—Prince Edwin, White Hart Hotel, Hythe, Kent
128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury, Lancashire
210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester

- 290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury (Inst.)
1039—St. John, George Hotel, Fichfield
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Inst.)
1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire
1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull (Inst.)
1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slaithwaite
R. A. 86—Lebanon, Masonic Hall, Prescot
R. A. 49—Stortford, Chequers Inn, Bishops Stortford
R. A. 605—De Tabley, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire.
R. A. 1356—De Grey and Ripon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

THURSDAY, 24th JUNE.

- Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire, Masonic Hall, Nowland, Lincoln
General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
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, 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 7.45 (Inst.)
R. A. 217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
R. A. 1471—North London, Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Inst.)
R. A. 1615—Bayard, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
K.T.—Mount Calvary, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor, Great Yarmouth
111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
240—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-le-Dale, near Blackburn
348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
350—Charity, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough, near Manchester
369—Limestone Rock, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Clitheroe
456—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter
462—Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Accrington
594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
986—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
971—Trifolgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley
1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
1450—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester
1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction)
1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple street, Newcastle
R. A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetam Street, Rochdale
R. A. 216—Sacred Delta, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hobden Bridge
R. A. 337—Confidence, Commercial Inn, Uppermill
R. A. 437—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields
R. A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
M. M. 34—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester

FRIDAY, 25th JUNE.

- 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)
766—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge (Inst.)
834—Anelagh, Six Bells, Hammernsmith (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 (Inst.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1442—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd. N. Kensington, at 8.0 (Inst.)
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)
401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaidburn
404—Watford, Freemasons' Hall, Watford.
469—Sutherland of Unity, Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyme
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill
1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Easthorpe, Mirfield
1303—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1712—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
R. A. 212—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster
R. A. 680—Softon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R. C. 20—Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 26th JUNE.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1511—Alexandra Palace
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
176—Orpheus, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
615—St. John and St. Paul, Pier Hotel, Erith
1162—Wharcliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
1164—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—A meeting was held on Wednesday evening, at the Railway Tavern, Fen-church-street. Present—Bros. P.M. T. B. Biddle W.M., John E. Fells S.W., James Smith J.W., Biddle Treasurer, J. K. Pitt Secretary, Hy. Morris S.D., G. L. Walker Preceptor, Henry Cattermole I.G. Visitors—Bros. Cattermole 1839, Parker 815, John Aillard, &c. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The questions in first degree were interrogated

for the benefit of Bro. Parker and he retired. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. N. P. Valentine, a candidate for raising, answered the questions, was entrusted and duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. S.W. John E. Fells was duly elected W.M. for Wednesday next, and then the Lodge was closed in due form. The sum of five shillings was voted to a travelling brother.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—Held at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, on Saturday, 12th inst. Bros. McMillan W.M., J. Millington S.W., Tuck J.W., Pearcey Preceptor, Fenner Secretary, W. Williams S.D., Spencer J.D., T. Taylor I.G.; also Bros. Trewinnard, J. Lorkin, Osborn, Gilham, R. Defriez, Houghton, Selig, Brasted, Fysh, Hamer, Mendelsohn, &c. Usual preliminary formalities were gone through. Bro. J. Lorkin answered the questions leading to the second degree and was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree and the ceremony of passing rehearsed in the W.M.'s usual careful manner. He was ably assisted by his Officers, Bro. Lorkin candidate. Bro. Pearcey worked the first section of the lecture, when the W.M. gave the lecture on the Tracing Board. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Fenner acting as W.M. elect. Bro. A. A. Selig of the Canterbury Lodge 1048, Christchurch, N.Z., was elected a member. Bro. J. Millington was elected W.M. for the next meeting, after which Lodge was closed and adjourned.

Northern Counties Lodge of Instruction, No. 406.—Meeting of this Lodge was held on the 8th, at the Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bro. Duckett jun. S.W. 481 in the chair, and Bro. John Page P.M. 406 acting as Lecture Master. Bro. Duckett explained the tracing board in the first degree in a very perfect manner, for which he received the applause of the brethren. Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. G. W. Lax S.W. 406 rehearsed the second degree, giving the working tools and charge, all of which he explained with an amount of care that did him credit. After several questions had been answered the Lodge was closed.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—At Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on Tuesday, 15th June. Bros. Christian W.M., Clark S.W., Smyth J.W., Carr S.D., Wardell J.D., Brasted I.G., J. Lorkin Sec., P.M. Wallington Preceptor; Bros. Polak, C. Lorkin and others. Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Polak, a candidate for raising, was interrogated, entrusted, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the W.M. giving the Traditional History. Bro. C. Lorkin worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed to the first degree, when Bro. Clark was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Business being ended, Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned. Bro. Wallington P.M. 860 will work the ceremony of installation on Tuesday next.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 16th June, at Bro. Hyde's, Red Lion, Poppins-court, Fleet-street. Present—Bros. Drury W.M., Abell S.W., Turner J.W., Long Preceptor and Sec., Hallam S.D., Tate J.D., Brown I.G., and many others. After the confirmation of the minutes Bro. Brocklehurst proved his proficiency. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The whole of the sections of the third lecture were worked, the questions being put by Bros. Abell, Hallam, and the Preceptor. On the Lodge being resumed Bro. Abell S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was closed in due form.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, on Tuesday, 15th June. Bros. Andrews W.M. 1227 W.M., Watson S.W., Pavitt J.W., Smith S.D., Cope I.G., Worsley Secretary, P.M. Musto Preceptor; also Bros. Brownson, Sadler, Dixon, &c. After preliminaries the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Brownson acting as candidate; the W.M. worked the first section of the lecture. The Lodge closed to first degree, when Bro. Watson was elected to fill the office of W.M. on Tuesday, 6th July. Next week will be the night for working sections only, and the following week, being the 5th Tuesday, the installation ceremony will be rehearsed by Bro. Andrews W.M. 1227, who will have to instal his successor in his mother Lodge at Upton next month. Bro. Andrews being an excellent worker, we would recommend all who can to attend on the 29th, when he will be assisted by Past Masters Musto, Cundick, Myers, and several brethren from the celebrated Doric Lodge of Instruction; it is anticipated this will be one of the nights of the year. Wet weather or dry weather, this Lodge always holds its meetings. The Committee last night decided that the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, should be the place where their summer outing with the ladies should be held.

Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1445.—Held at Bro. Stevenson's, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, on Monday, 14th June. Present—Bros. J. Robson W.M., Goddard S.W., Kimbell J.W., Seymour-Clarke Sec.; also Pros. Partridge Rayner, and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes read. The ceremony of initiation was then ably rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Seymour-Clarke acting as candidate. The 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture were worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. A vote of thanks was passed and recorded for the able manner in which the W.M., Bro. Robson, had filled the chair during the evening, it being his first attempt. Bro. Goddard was then elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and Lodge was closed in due form.

Sackville Lodge, No. 1619.—An Emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 8th inst., at the Crown Hotel, East Grinstead. Present—Bros. John G. Horsey W.M., S. Davison S.W., E. A. Head J.W., Charles Sawyer I.P.M. Secretary, W. Radge S.D., J. G. Calway J.D., M. Ovenden, W. H. Brown, G. Mitchell, J. Cooper, George Berry, Thomas Carder, Henry Horsey, T. Betchley, C. Firbank, and G. W. Holmes. The Lodge was opened at four p.m., Bros. G. Mitchell and W. H. Brown, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the ceremony being rendered in a most impressive manner by the W.M. Bro. George Berry was afterwards passed to the degree of F.C., and the Lodge then closed.

Unity Lodge, No. 1637.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 12th inst., at the Abercorn Hotel, Great Stanmore, under the presidency of the genial W.M. Bro. J. C. W. Davis P.M. 382 and Prov. Grand Steward Middlesex, who opened the Lodge, supported by Bros. A. Cooper as S.W., W. Murlis P.M. as J.W., W. Stephens P.M. P.P.D.C. Middlesex Treasurer, T. Cooper S.D., Slynau I.G., Penn D.C., Linscott W.S., J. Middleton Tyler, H. M. Levy as P.M. The following Visitors were in attendance:—Bros. W. Murlis P.M. 1264, J. Bellerby P.M. 65 and 60, Nicholls 1264, Fradd 101, S. Parkhouse I.P.M. 1642, Bartle 1642, Biorn 733, Handover 1642, H. M. Levy P.M. 188. Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. A telegram was read from the Secretary, regretting his absence. A ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. H. N. Larkin, which was unanimously in his favour, and he was initiated into the Order by the W.M. It is needless to say, from the Masonic experience of that brother, that the working was perfect. The name of a candidate for passing was on the agenda paper, but he was not present. A letter was read from Bro. H. G. Buss Assistant Grand Secretary, Prov. G. Treasurer Middlesex, stating that the proposed testimonial to the R.W. Bro. Col. Sir Francis Bardett, Bart., first Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, and inaugurating the tenth year of his service, will be presented to him at the forthcoming Provincial Grand Lodge; the sum of one guinea was subscribed to the fund. The Lodge was then closed until August, when it was decided that the ladies should be invited to attend. The brethren then sat down to a very excellent dinner, provided by the worthy host, Bro. Veal, in a manner that gave great satisfaction. Grace having been said, the W.M., in appropriate terms, proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. In proposing that of the R.W. Brother Sir Francis Bardett, Bart., the W.M. said the Prov. Grand Master might be congratulated on succeeding to the title. Since Sir Francis Bardett had been in the Province he had looked after their interests; he is one who has Freemasonry at heart, and all who come under his banner know that they must carry out every detail. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Deputy Grand Master Bro. Sir Charles Bright. The same remarks would apply to him; in Sir Charles they had a brother who holds a distinguished position in the Province, and who is a respected member of our Order. Bro. W. Stephens responded. He was pleased to have his name coupled with the toast; since he had been associated with the Province everything had been well carried out; Freemasonry was well looked after in Middlesex. Before resuming his seat he would, with great warmth of feeling, propose the toast of the W.M., who is one that does his duty in every respect. They had seen his working, and they all respected him. Personally he felt proud to own Bro. Davis as W.M. of the Lodge; long may he live, not only to be an ornament to his Lodge, but also to Freemasonry, wherein his services are well appreciated. The Wor. Master thanked Bro. Stephens for his kind expressions; anything he (Bro. Davis) could do to promote the harmony of the Lodge he should consider a pleasure; he thanked the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which the toast had been received. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the newly-initiated brother, who came with good recommendations. Bro. Larkin having acknowledged the compliment, the W.M. proposed the toast of the P.M.'s and Treasurer, which was responded to by Bro. W. Stephens, who regretted the absence of Bro. Woodward, whom the members at all times were pleased to see. As Treasurer of the Lodge he hoped to see more of the P.M.'s among them at the future gatherings. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Visitors, and Bros. Bellerby, Murlis, and H. M. Levy responded. The toast of the Officers was next on the list; the W.M. was proud to say he was assisted by brethren who were in every respect capable of doing the work. He regretted the absence of the S.W., Bro. Grist, whose illness was of a serious nature, but he hoped it might soon be their good fortune to see him again among them. He would call on the acting S.W., Brother A. Cooper, to respond to the toast. After responses, the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated. Great credit is due to the indefatigable exertions of Bro. Linscott for the comfort of the brethren and visitors. The W.M., Bros. Handover, Woodmason, and Bellerby contributed to the harmony.

Hermes Chapter, No. 77.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 9th June, at the Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend. Present—Comps. E. C. Woodward M.E.Z., Rev. P. M. Holden H., Cameron P.Z. J., E. J. Scott P.Z. Treas., C. A. Cottebrune P.Z. Scribe E., Murley S.N., Hall P.S., Martin Janitor; Comps. M. Crook, Dücker, Festa, Coe, Skilliter, &c. Visitors—Comps. J. E. Shand 25, E. Farwig 180, Parker P.Z. 733, Pratt P.Z., Dixon P.Z. and J. E. Edmonds 1507. Chapter opened and the minutes of last meeting were confirmed. The election and installation of Officers resulted as follows:—Comps. Rev. P. M. Holden M.E.Z., Woodward I.P.Z., Cameron P.Z. II., Murley J., Cottebrune P.Z. S.E., Scott Treasurer, Dücker S.N., Hall P.S., Skilliter 1st Assistant Festa 2nd Assistant Sojourner. Ballots, taken for Bros. E. Curtice 22 and F. Farr 1687, resulting favourably, both candidates were exalted into R.A. Masonry very impressively by the M.E.Z. Rev. P. M. Holden. The addresses, given from the three chairs, were also well and accurately rendered. After Chapter was closed, the Companions dined in good style, and the customary R.A. toasts were honoured, after which the return to town was made.

Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.—An emergency meeting was held on Monday, the 11th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. Lindner W.M., Hodgson S.W., M. Loewenstark J.W., J. J. Wilson P.M. Treasurer, J. Dyte P.M. Secretary, Winn S.D., Beaton J.D., Moorcraft I.G., P.M.'s Harrison and Robins. Lodge was opened, and Messrs. Miller and Bouwell were balloted for, and duly initiated into the Order. Bro. Daig was raised to the third degree. The principal business of this meeting was for the purpose of recommending the petition of the widow of the late respected Bro. Kirkby, and thus enabling her son to become a candidate at the election of the Boys' School in October. It was decided that a summer banquet should be held at the Crystal Palace in July next, where the Ladies should be present. A candidate was proposed for initiation at the next meeting. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. Bros. T. Bull P.M. 145 and G. W. Stephen 318 (Elgin, Scotland) were present as visitors.

Kings Cross Lodge of Instruction.—At Bro. Devine's, Blue Posts, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, on the 13th instant. Bros. Silvester W.M., Burgess S.W., B. Kanffmann J.W., Devine Treas., S. Solomon Secretary, Little S.D., Gayer I.G., Hemming Preceptor; and Bros. Kent, H. M. Levy, Koester, Wilson, Soucher, Canfield, Smith, and Baker. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Kent acting as candidate. The ceremony was perfectly and impressively rendered. The first and fourth sections of the lecture were worked. Bros. C. Woods 145 and Bingham 405 (Scotland) were unanimously elected members. Bro. Burgess S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946.—The regular Lodge meeting was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Grotto Hotel, Cross Deep, Twickenham. Present—Bro. Dan. Argyle W.M., supported by the Wardens, Officers and P.M.'s. Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Charles Holland No. 157 and W. T. Bell were unanimously elected joining members. Bro. W. Smeed P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., raised Bro. Alfred Loft to the third degree, and Bro. J. H. Sholl was passed to the second degree by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of an excellent banquet. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Some excellent songs were sung by Bros. W. Smeed, Dr. J. Pope, Garwood and Beard. The Visitors were Bros. Latham, late 916, Green 73, and Gearey 154.

Era Mark Masters Lodge, No. 176.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Friday, 11th June. The Lodge was opened by Bro. W. Hammond P.J.O. W.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed by the W.M. The new list of Officers was arranged, and comprised the names of J. Hammond S.W., J. B. Shackleton J.W., T. Horton P.M. Treasurer, W. Pennefather Secretary, T. W. Adams G.S. P.G.I.G. Middlesex and Surrey, J. Allsopp, R. P. Tebb, H. Meyer, Edwin Bromley, and others. The names of several candidates were given in for advancement; and it was arranged to meet in future at 2 Red Lion-square, Holborn. Business being completed, the Lodge was closed. No banquet was provided.

Our Jamaica correspondent, speculating on the appointment of a successor to the late R.W. Bro. Hon. Robert Hamilton, M.A., M.D., District Grand Master of Jamaica, mentions as being eligible for that high office W. Bro. J. W. Whitebourne Past Deputy D.G.M., and the present Deputy District G.M., Bro. Altamont De Cordova, besides several Past D.G. Wardens. He considers the appointment of Bro. De Cordova would be hailed with satisfaction, as that brother is generally beloved by the Craft for his courteous manners, and the ability he has shown in the fulfilment of his duties as Dr. Hamilton's Deputy.

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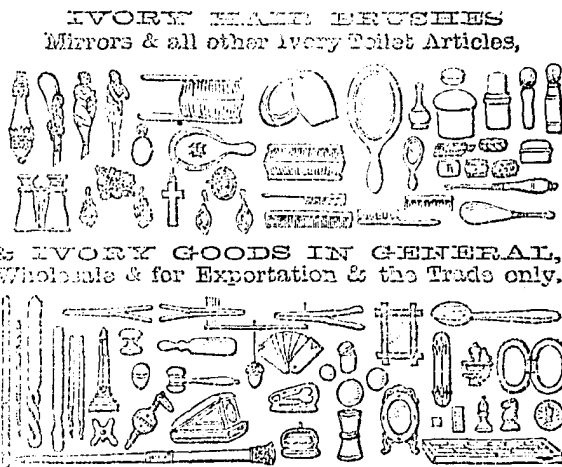
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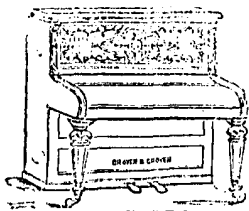
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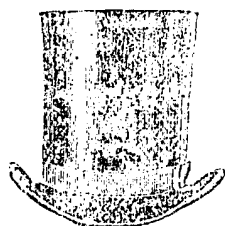
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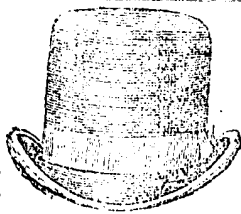
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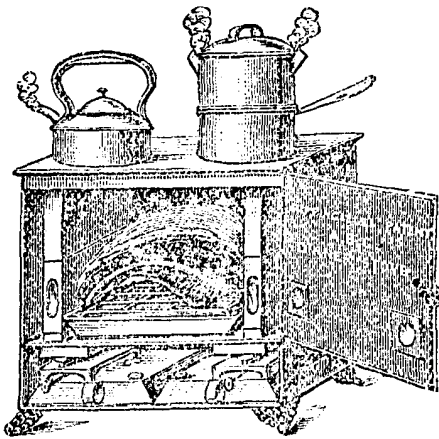
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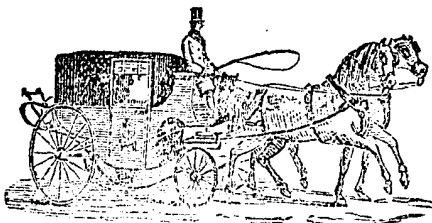
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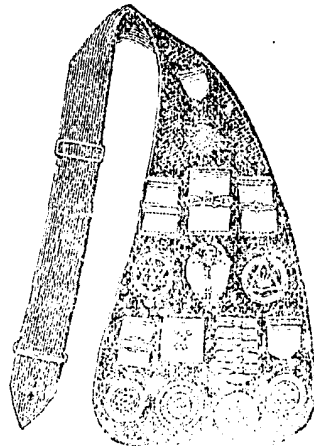
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