

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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MR. O'DONNELL, M.P., ON FREEMASONRY.

IT is a pity that when gentlemen rise in their place in Parliament for the purpose of denouncing or misrepresenting Freemasonry, they are not at the pains to ascertain what it really is. On Tuesday evening, in a long speech on the constitution and functions of the Royal Irish Constabulary, Mr. O'Donnell was pleased to complain that "while members of secret societies were forbidden to enter the force, the rules yet admitted members of the greatest secret institution of all—the Masonic Order. They had no more right to encourage Masonry than Ribbonism, Fenianism, or any other secret society." He further objected "to the official patronage of Freemasonry, because it established a cliquism in the public service, which was dangerous in a force entrusted with the preservation of the public peace." Had Mr. O'Donnell taken the trouble of finding out, as he might easily have done, what our Society is, he would never have coupled it with Fenianism or Ribbonism. Many books have been written for the purpose of explaining to the world what Masonry is, and what its aims and objects, its laws and constitutions. Had he consulted one of these numerous publications he would at once have discovered that a Mason and a Fenian have nothing in common. The latter belongs to a political organisation whose object, so far as we know, is the overthrow of the Queen's Government in Ireland. The former is loyal to the government of his country, whatever its form may be, or by whomsoever administered. Masons have nothing in common with the members of secret religious societies. The former respect all religions equally, the latter respect only the religion they profess, and take every possible opportunity of denouncing and injuring all other religions. Lastly, Masonry is not even a secret society in the same sense as Fenianism and the other bodies Mr. O'Donnell specified or referred to. Masons are registered in accordance with the provisions of an Act of Parliament, and are known as such to the government officials; but what do these latter know of Fenianism and its ramifications, and who belong to it, unless indeed some traitorous member discloses their names, or an outbreak against the government takes place, and a score or two of the fellows are taken red-handed? Mr. O'Donnell may safely lay the flattering unction to his soul that the Queen has no more loyal subjects in any part of her vast dominions than the Irish Freemasons, and none who are less likely to offend the religious scruples or instincts of their fellow subjects. It would be better for the peace of Ireland if all its inhabitants were as loyal, or as sincerely respected the principles of those who profess a different religious faith.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS: LIBERTY, BUT NOT LICENCE, TO ALL.

OUR readers will have no difficulty in imagining that the communications we are continually receiving are as varied in their contents as they are in the tone and energy with which the writers give expression to their opinions. Some are feeble both in style and matter, and these, of course, find their way into that receptacle which alone is fitted to contain them. Others are moderate, well calculated to throw light on the points with which they deal. These, if we have space enough, are inserted in our columns, but

as to a third class of correspondence with which we are not unfrequently favoured, we often find ourselves halting between the two desires—(1) To oblige our correspondents; (2) to avoid giving offence to our readers. In the class of letter we are now referring to, the writers are generally men of more than average ability, and though the language in which they express themselves is strong, their treatment of the subject they render seems logical enough, and they are as a rule most careful to avoid anything approaching to personality. But the views they entertain are so extreme that every now and again we feel it our duty to refuse insertion to their communications. It is true that over our "Correspondence" columns is inserted a proviso to the effect that, "We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents;" but no doubt our readers will bear with us while we say, that, though we are anxious, and have again and again given proofs of our anxiety, to offer a fair field and no favour to all; and though by the proviso alluded to we absolve ourselves of all responsibility for the opinions of our communicants, there are certain other responsibilities of which, if we conscientiously endeavour to fulfil our duties, it is impossible we can ever acquit ourselves. For instance, as a representative organ of Freemasonry, and having the defence and promotion of its interest at heart, it were unreasonable to expect us to make public letters in which the whole of our Masonic system is abused or misrepresented. We concede that it is allowable for different brethren to regard Freemasonry from different standpoints, just as, in a matter of religion, men will view it differently according to the different exigencies of their religious faiths. But there is a fundamental basis of Freemasonry, as there is a fundamental basis of religion, which must not be disturbed, or the whole edifice topples to the ground. We cannot prevent people from attempting to disturb this basis, and secure—unintentionally no doubt—so undesirable a consummation. But our sense of duty both impels and compels us to refuse admission into our columns all letters which, in our opinion, are calculated to disturb the foundations of our Masonic system. There are those who think that, even as it is, the latitude we have allowed to some of our correspondents has been too considerable, and there is no doubt about the fact that many letters have appeared in these columns which were refused insertion in those of contemporaries. This is a point which should be taken into consideration by those whose letters, or contributions as the case may be, are rejected. They have no right to complain of our inattention to their wishes, when they have before them so convincing a proof of the very liberal interpretation we place upon the word "latitude." It is one thing to say to our friends you are at *liberty* to give expression to your views on Freemasonry or matters connected with it, and another to grant an unrestricted *licence* of opinion, a *licence* which recognises no limit but that of its own vanity or its own dogmatism. Again, there is the correspondence which deals with matters of *fact*. Here there is little danger of any one exceeding the fair limits of discussion. The facts are stated, or misstated and corrected, and there ordinarily the correspondence ends. But there is also the correspondence which deals with matters of *opinion*, and here it is that an editor must take upon himself the responsibility of defining those limits of discussion which, in his opinion, are just and reasonable to all parties. It is desirable that in the discussions which generally follow the expression of any opinion about a disputed or obscure point, there should be the maximum of argument with a minimum of assertion. It is well, so long as the disputants content themselves

with the former, nor would any reasonable Editor entertain the idea of excluding any communication which might throw light on the subject, provided, of course, the space at his disposal allowed of its being inserted. But there are so many who mistake assertion for argument, so many who merely dogmatise, and on whom all argument, be it never so lucid and powerful, is utterly thrown away. What right have these to exclaim against the editorial *fiat*, when they find their letters left out, because he, in the exercise of his undoubted right, and in the fulfilment of his most responsible duty, considers that illogical assertions are in no wise calculated to secure logical deductions?

There is no subject which has caused us more trouble or involved us more with our correspondents than that which concerns the true definition of Freemasonry. We are old-fashioned enough to stand fast by the doctrines of its earliest expositors, that Freemasonry is a morality, and that while all religious and political discussions are properly forbidden in our Lodges, no mere morality can hope to prosper which does not rest its foundations on that abstract religious faith, which recognises a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being as its most important cardinal principle, and legal obedience to the powers that be as the be-all and end-all of its political faith. We do not stay to consider whether the religious basis takes the form of Christianity, Judaism, Mohammedanism, or Buddhism, nor does it occur to us to inquire if a man's political creed inclines to Imperialism, Monarchism, or Republicanism. If we find he recognises there is a God who ruleth all things, and by whom all things were made, and if we know him to be loyal to the government of the country in which he lives, we hold that he is a true Freemason. We do not hold that Masonry is a religion, because it cannot justly exist without a religious basis; nor can we allow that the English brother who is loyal to his sovereign is more or less of a Freemason than his American cousin, who obeys in all things the laws and constitution of the United States. We regard the Masonic Lodge as a place in which men of all religious and political creeds may meet and grasp the hand of good fellowship and brotherly love; but we say emphatically, it is not the place for the man who has no sense of religion, or who refuses to be bound by any considerations of loyalty—in a political sense. It must be obvious, then, that holding as we do these doctrines, we dare not, with all the desire in the world to permit free discussion, admit such communications as, if they have any aim at all, are intended to subvert the very foundations of Freemasonry. The editor of a Christian paper would never dream of allowing any letter to appear in his pages, which rejected the divinity of Christ, nor would the editor of a Jewish paper allow the insertion in his of any letter which accepted such divinity. Brethren, therefore, who ask for space in which they may be permitted to do all they can to shatter the edifice of English Freemasonry must not be surprised at our refusing them. Let them, if they will, assert that Freemasonry is only "a civil or lay institution." We have no objection to their so thinking, but then we argue that no "civil or lay institution" can or should exist, which does not begin by recognising belief in the existence of God and loyalty to constitutional authority as the fundamental bases of all mundane institutions. We hold that our Grand Lodge acted wisely and well when it forbade all intercourse with those French Masons who deny or ignore those fundamental truths. A body is not worth preserving when it has lost its vitality, and Freemasonry without the life that was breathed into it by its founders will be the stupidest as well as the veriest of all counterfeits.

There are, no doubt, many things which might appropriately be struck out of our lectures and ceremonies—some, merely because they are out of place, and others because they are both out of place and apt to excite ridicule, but of those many things belief in God is certainly not one. And as in all correspondence a line must be drawn between what is admissible and what inadmissible, it is as well we should state as explicitly as the English language will permit, that all letters will be rejected which deny that some kind of religious belief—no matter what its colour or character may be—is an integral part of Freemasonry.

We have received a communication from Bro. Benj. L. Wells P.M. 1511, in reference to our Article last week on the Sacredness of the Ballot; we regret it did not come to hand in time for our issue of to-day. It shall appear next week.

A PECULIAR SYSTEM OF MORALITY.

WE have all been taught that "Freemasonry is a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," but how few of us have apparently realized that this system of morality is such that it must render the earnest searcher after more light pure in thought, truthful in word, and holy and charitable in deed. We maintain that our system is a vitalized embodiment of all that is to be found good and upright, pure and holy in science and philosophy. The Mason from the day of his initiation until the hour of his death is only, after all, a *student* of our mysteries. Our master minds, and the giant intellects of the Craft, are alike unable to fathom the hidden meaning of every quarry, and daily the workmen, amidst the stones and rubbish, and the delvers in the mines, discover precious treasures, that for ages have been hidden and neglected. The science of Freemasonry is a theo-philosophy of the grandest and most liberal type. Before our altar kneel the Christian, the Hindoo, the Red Man, the Hebrew, the Unitarian, the Parsee and the Brahmin, and all can take the Brother's hand and join with him on bended knee in his prayers of praise and oblation to the God of Truth. And it is through "our peculiar system of morality" that each in his own mind, and by means of the electric current that courses through his own thoughts, traces to the Fountain Head the Deity of Morality.

We hear men talk of the morality of the day, and we fairly shudder at the thought. Every grade of society is impregnated with the most gross and licentious immorality. All classes are tainted with it, and the Church makes an unsuccessful effort to resist it. *Resist it!*

The fact is Church and Fashion too often go hand in hand in veiling with a gauze of gossamer the tainted pollution of our cities and the vile immorality of the country. What absurdity for preachers of God's Holy Word to thunder diatribes on the Sunday from the pulpit against the immorality of the age, and then, during the week, instead of going forth to "save the fallen and rescue the dying," content themselves with talking soft platitudes to indolent mammas, mincing daughters, and worldly-minded fathers, and carefully avoiding to allude, even in a whisper, to the wild oats of the young gentleman, the son and heir. Oh! dear no! "Young men will be young men. By and bye John will settle down and marry, and then it will be all right. All young men are a *leettle* wild, Mr. So and So." And Parson Soft-soap wends his way to another house to give expression to similarly stale ideas, and perhaps meeting Master John, pokes him in the ribs and says: "You are a bad boy, Master John. I have been telling mamma and papa you must settle down, &c." This is the morality of the hour. Wink at the disgusting habits of young men, allow them to besot themselves with wine and alcoholic drink, and by their vile allurements entice the innocent and virtuous from a path of happiness, and then having accomplished their purposes and gratified their lust, hurl their poor victims from them as polluted and unclean things into the very jaws of hell. Freemasonry recognizes no such morality as this; a morality one-sided and unjust; a morality based on a wrong and built up in foul-mouthed deceit and sin. Very truly has the poet expressed himself on this point in the following lines, entitled

"STONE THE WOMAN—LET THE MAN GO FREE."

Yes, stone the woman—let the man go free!
 Draw back your skirts, lest they perchance may touch
 Her garment as she passes; but to him
 Put forth a willing hand to clasp with his
 That led her to destruction and disgrace.
 Shut up from her the sacred ways of toil,
 That she no more may win an honest meal;
 But open to him all honourable paths,
 Where he may win distinction. Give to him
 Fair, pressed down measures of life's sweetest joys.
 Pass her, O maiden, with a pure broad face
 If she puts out a poor, polluted palm;
 But lay thy hand in his on bridal day,
 And swear to cling to him with wifely love
 And tender reverence. Trust him who led
 A sister woman to a fearful fate.
 Yes, stone the woman—let the man go free!
 Let one soul suffer for the guilt of two—
 It is the doctrine of a hurried world,
 Too out of breath for holding balances
 Where nice distinctions and injustices
 Are calmly weighed. But, ha! how will it be
 On that strange day of final fire and flame
 When men shall wither with a mystic fear,
 And all shall stand before the one true Judge?
 Shall sex make *then* a difference in sin?
 Shall He, the searcher of the hidden heart,
 In this eternal and fine decree,
 Condemn the woman and forgive the man?

The above expresses our peculiar system of morality perfectly. Freemasons are neither snivelling hypocrites nor nasal-twanged Pharisees, nor canting knaves wearing lugubrious countenances and lips curled down, as if God never intended man to smile, and who, in their idiotic and conceited self-complacency, imagine that because their little souls cannot enjoy the innocent pleasures of the young, or the quieter amusements of the aged, they are God's chosen children. The kiss of childhood to such is desecration, the song of the lark on a Sunday morning disturbs their devotions, and it is a crime to contemplate the Deity of nature on the Lord's Day, "beside the babbling brook," amidst the perfume of flowers, the green of the woods, the chirp of the squirrel and the carol of nature's songsters. All these things are immoral in the eyes of such men. What a morality! Now our peculiar system, which allows such liberality of thought in religious matters, permits equal latitude in things pertaining to morality. Freemasonry does not teach man to despise and shun those that have erred; she does not say to her votaries, "Bro. A. is drinking," or, "Bro. B. is cursing and swearing; let's kick them both

out!" No; she sends forth her sons to save such men, to bring them back to the fold; to try every means in their power to rescue them from the temptations with which they are surrounded, and as the Nazarene told those who were free from sin to cast the first stone, so we endeavour to do the same, and should ever be ready to use every effort to draw the drunkard back from the fires of a living hell, that are literally gnawing at his very vitals, and to save and rescue the fallen sister, who, believing in man's honour, has been robbed of all that is dearest to woman. Our peculiar system of morality teaches us that those unfortunates are to be saved, and not condemned, that it is an honour and not a disgrace to hold out the hand of love and give the kiss of friendship to those debased and unhappy ones, searching for God in profound darkness, wandering in blackness, because the morality of the world decries and denounces them, till all at once the bright electric effulgent rays of the light of the morality of Freemasonry displays the goodness and glory of the Heavenly Father—the Essence and Fountain Head of our peculiar system of morality.

The service of Freemasonry develops this peculiar system of morality by a continuous series of lessons. The various implements of architecture are applied symbolically for moral purposes—all our surroundings we are taught to view as illustrations of one great truth, and so the mind of the Freemason is constantly enabled to deduce, a practical lesson on morality from every leaf that blows and every bud that blooms, every bird that sings, and every fish that swims "midst the unfathomable mysteries of the ocean"—and all his morality is founded on a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being, omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent, who would not see the smallest creature crushed or the frailest flower injured, whose thoughts are on the welfare of the children of men, and who grieves over those who oppose His will or disobey His simple and benign laws. The Masonic code of morality is vitalized by his breath, for it is founded on the purest principles of piety and virtue, and has for its foundation a belief, firm and steadfast, in the Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of man. Now, since such is the case, how particularly careful should the Sons of Light be not to sully the reputation of the Brotherhood by a careless and thoughtless life. God has given every man a mission to perform, and the Mason's duties are numerous and arduous.

The Mason is not, in one sense, a free man, because he has taken upon himself, of his free will and accord, certain solemn obligations, which it is his duty, his privilege, we should say, to perform. If a Mason neglects these duties, he neglects God, and if he neglects God, he is no true Son of Light. There is no necessity at this time to expatiate upon those duties, but the Brother must recollect one thing, they are not confined to the Craft alone. If a Brother finds none wanting aid or advice in the Lodge or among the Brethren, he will find hundreds outside, and our peculiar system of morality teaches him that his duty lies amongst such as are in misery, sickness and despair. There is much for Masons to accomplish, but in order to fulfil their holy mission they must themselves uphold man's honour, protect and reverence woman's virtue, and be faithful and true to the Divine ordinances of the Godhead. Then, and then only, will Hiramites thoroughly understand and rigidly practise our peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.

Keystone.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

THE monthly Meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall. There were present Bros. Colonel Creaton (in the chair), H. A. Dubois, H. Massey, Colonel James Peters, C. H. Webb, Fred. Binckes, Arthur E. Gladwell, and Bro. Weber (for Secretary). There were no petitions before the Committee, and the business was of a purely formal character.

Bro. James Francis, one of the proprietors of the Mohawk Minstrel troupe, will take his eighth annual benefit on Wednesday, the 8th September. A special programme of more than ordinary length and brilliancy is announced, and the troupe will be greatly strengthened for the occasion, the number of performers, vocal and instrumental together, being increased to one-and-forty. It is hardly necessary to add that the programme abounds in novelties, almost every, if not every, song being described as "new," or specially written or composed for the interesting occasion. We anticipate that Bro. Francis, as at previous benefits, will have a house full to overflowing.

It affords us much pleasure to be able to announce to our readers that Bro. Kent, lately of the Moorgate Station Restaurant, has now established himself as proprietor of the Kings' Arms Hotel, Kew Green, close to the Royal Gardens. Here Bro. Kent will accord a hearty welcome to his numerous friends and patrons, while the frequent visitors to and residents in this Royal and popular hamlet are to be congratulated on having secured so worthy an addition to the number of its public caterers.

On the 20th inst., about 300 children from the Mile End Industrial Schools were taken for a day's excursion to Southend-on-Sea. The weather was fine, and fortunately there was a good tide, which served till the afternoon. Much credit is due to those who undertook the superintendence, one and all working untiringly and successfully to promote the happiness of their young charge. A word of praise must be given to the members of the band, which performed during the day a series of capital pieces. Bro. Froggatt is to be congratulated upon the result of his training, especially when the tender age of the pupils is considered. Among the friends who assisted we noticed Mr. W. Thacker, Vestry Clerk, Bro. Loane, the promoter of the trip, Mrs. Loane, Misses Furness, Bro. G. H. Stephens, &c.

UNITED G.I. ENGLAND.

THE following is the Business to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, 1st September 1880:—

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 2nd June for confirmation.

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

The Widow of a Brother of the Gosport Lodge, No. 903, Gosport £50

A Brother of the Mariners' Lodge, No. 249, Liverpool £10⁰

The Widow of a Brother of the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 53, Bath £50

A Brother of the Lodge of Good Fellowship, No. 276, Chelmsford £150

A Brother of the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10,

London £50

A Brother of the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7,

London £100

The widow of a Brother of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 288, Tod-

morden £50

The Widow of a Brother of the Beaufort Lodge, No. 787, Belper £50

A Brother of the Lodge of Peace, No. 322, Stockport £50

A Brother of the Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326, Hampton £150

3. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

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

The Board of General Purposes beg to report:—

(1.) Lodge No. 51 (Colchester) having passed a Brother after an insufficient interval from his initiation (viz. 27 days), the Board have ordered that the Brother be re-obligated in the Second degree, and have inflicted a fine of Two Guineas on the Lodge.

(2.) Lodge No. 113 (Preston) having initiated a Brother in the year 1875 for less than the regulated fee, and having omitted to return his name for registration, the Board have admonished the Lodge, and inflicted a fine of Two Guineas thereon.

(Signed) FRANK GREEN,
Vice-President.

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

To the Report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts, at the last Meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 13th August instant, shewing a balance in the bank of England of £5,649 0s 5d; and in the hands of Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £75, and for Servants' Wages £96 15s.

4. The Annual Report of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, dated the 21st of May 1880, will be laid before Grand Lodge.

5. Appeal of Brother Alexander Dimant, of the New Zealand Pacific Lodge, No. 517, Wellington, New Zealand (P.M., late of the Ballarat Lodge, then No. 1019, afterwards No. 717, Ballarat, Victoria), against a sentence of suspension passed on him by the District Grand Master of Wellington, North Island, New Zealand, for breach of the Constitutions in publishing the proceedings of the District Grand Lodge without authority.

N.B.—The papers relating to this Appeal will be in the Grand Secretary's Office till the meeting of Grand Lodge, and open for the inspection of the Brethren during office hours.

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

1862.—Stranton Lodge, West Hartlepool.

1863.—Priory Lodge, Tynemouth.

1864.—Western Polynesia Lodge, Noumea, New Caledonia.

1865.—Lodge True Freemasonry, Saidpur, Bengal.

1866.—Seaforth Lodge, Cabul, Afghanistan.

1867.—Umvoti Lodge, Greytown, Umvoti, Natal.

1868.—Unity Lodge, Oldham, Lancashire.

1869.—Sandown Lodge, Sandown, Isle of Wight.

1870.—Kumaon Lodge, Nynce Tal, Bengal.

1871.—Gostling Murray Lodge, Houslow, Middlesex.

1872.—St. Margaret's Lodge, Surbiton, Surrey.

1873.—United Service Lodge, Kingston, Jamaica.

1874.—Lechmere Lodge, Kidderminster.

1875.—Hercules Lodge, Tapanni, Otago, and Southland, New Zealand.

1876.—Flinders Lodge, Port Augusta, South Australia.

Note.—The "Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book" for 1881 will be published early in November next. Secretaries of Lodges willing to subscribe for copies of the Calendar are requested to notify to the Grand Secretary the number they will respectively require.

The Calendar Committee direct the attention of Masters of Lodges and Principals of Chapters to the necessity of communicating to the Grand Secretary any change in the day or place of meeting of Lodges or Chapters so soon as the resolution for effecting such change shall be confirmed.—Vide Book of Constitutions, pp 64, 92, 93.

SUMMER EXCURSION OF THE FRIARS LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1349.

Nothing succeeds like success is a proposition which meets with universal recognition. Among the many instances where this has been proved, the recent successful visit of the brethren of the Lodge of Instruction to the Crown Gardens, Buntingford, on the 14th inst., being the second anniversary Summer Outing, which ladies were invited. The previous occasion, which was reported in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE of the 13th September 1878, was, from an entirely successful aspect, both as to locality and arrangements. The Committee—Bro. Musto, Pavitt, and Worsley—therefore exercised a wise discretion this year in again selecting the same locality. The number expected being larger than upon the last occasion, it was deemed advisable, as far as possible, to arrange for the party to go by rail. Liberal arrangements were made with the Great Eastern Railway Company, whereby a saloon and other first-class carriages were placed at the services of those who might wish to leave town early, so as to enjoy a long day. A large number availed themselves of these facilities, and were amply rewarded by the additional time at their disposal for enjoying the many sports and recreations which this popular resort affords. The weather fortunately continued fine, albeit somewhat dull. Of the sports, croquet proved a strong attraction, whilst at lawn billiards the skill of the brethren was markedly displayed. But if the palm must be awarded to any game, it should certainly be that of archery, which engrossed the attention of by far the greater number, and though the practice of the sterner sex was good, it was open to little doubt that the Maids Marian had the best of the encounter, in point of skill, at this ancient pastime. This need not be wondered at, if it be true that, according to the authority of Plato, archery was the invention of the goddess Diana. As Englishmen, it is perhaps well that the remembrance of a weapon which although it has cost us a Harold, a Richard, and other historic celebrities, has done good national service, and gained us many noted battles—from Cressy, Poitiers, and Agincourt downwards—should still be in vogue amongst us. Whilst these enjoyments were proceeding, many of the guests took the opportunity to inspect the admirable gardens for which the Crown Hotel is so justly famous. Here the general effect was satisfactory, although we missed the splendid show of Hollyhocks which once formed so notable a feature in these grounds; perhaps, however, their loss was more than compensated by the improved show of dahlias and phloxes, in great variety of beauty and colour. Nor need the visitor confine himself or herself to the gardens, for the beauties of the surrounding country invite one and all to indulge,—in a row or a walk along the silver Lea. Should we do either we are sure to come upon a brother who, as a disciple of Izaak Walton, has stolen away in seeming unsociability to enjoy the "gentle" sport. Little perhaps does he think—and the opportunity for thinking is surely his while engaged in such an occupation—that the stream upon whose crystal bosom he peacefully gazes has been the scene of many a stirring event. Yet hardly ten centuries ago it bore the gallant Norseman's fleet of pinnaces from the River Thames along the Lea, passing Broxbourne nearly to Hertford (for the tide flowed in those early times to that ancient city). Here, having entrenched themselves, the Danes made sad havoc among the neighbouring people, until king Alfred caused a wall, called Blackwall, to be built in the East of London, which, diverting the stream, stranded their vessels and left their fortifications high and dry. These latter give a name to the locality, Weir or Ware, which is one archæologists and savants have much interested themselves in assigning a reason for. Nor should the village itself be neglected, for the pedestrian will be well rewarded by a visit to the church, which is a handsome edifice in the decorative style of English Architecture, with a square tower supporting an octagonal spire. The church and village anciently belonged to the Knights of St. John. The ancient Manor House, too, has played its part in history, and formerly belonged to the Monks of Barmsey. James I., on his march from Scotland, was entertained here. He was received by the Lord Keeper of the Seal, Lord Treasurer, Lord Admiral, and other notables, with all the pomp and circumstance of state. It may also be interesting to Freemasons to know that the principles dear to them are here well enforced. A school, free to the children of the parish, being sustained by an endowment since 1667, whilst an almshouse for six poor widows, and other minor benefactions exist. But the effect of outdoor exercise, is making itself felt, and the pedestrian, the angler, and those who have been engaged in sports are gathering in the saloon, where a banquet has been prepared by Bro. T. Beningfield in his best style. Being favoured with an early view of the banquet room, we were struck with the perfection of the arrangements—the splendid ferns, suspended along the roof of the building, gave a cool and refreshing aspect to the table, on which a buttonhole of flowers had been laid for each visitor. The menu deserves a word of praise—for whilst it contained a list of good things to come, it also included a list of toasts, to which had been affixed a suitable Shaksperian quotation selected by a studious brother. As upon a former occasion, the chair was taken by Bro. W. Musto P.M. and Preceptor, who was ably supported by Bros. T. J. Barnes and W. H. Myers in the vice-chairs. Ample justice having been done to the good cheer, during the discussion of which some selections were performed by a capital band, under the direction of Mr. R. Hirst, Grace was said, and the President rose. The ladies, he said, would no doubt find more pleasure in walking about the grounds than in any dry speeches which might come from him. He would, therefore, for their sake, speak briefly. The first toast was one which was always responded to by men with great heartiness, by the ladies with enthusiasm, but most especially so by Freemasons. Her Majesty was a lady who was known to be dear to all, both as our Supreme head and the mother of several noted men and Masons. The next toast, Bro. Musto said, one dear to English Freemasons—was, "H.R.H. the

Prince of Wales." As they were not all Masons, it would be highly improper to enter into his qualifications as Ruler of the Craft. The ladies look up to him as lovingly as we do, and he could assure them Masons acknowledge and revere the Prince of Wales. The toast "Success to the Friars Lodge of Instruction" was, the W.M. said, necessarily the toast of the day. It was the Festival of that Lodge which had brought them there. For two or three years it had engendered a great deal of good will and social feeling, in proof of which might be mentioned their last year's meeting. There had not been a single hitch upon that occasion to mar their pleasure, and he might claim the same remark as applicable to the present day. This success and social feeling were in a large measure due to their esteemed Bro. Pavitt, under whose roof they gathered, while their good working was attributable to the indefatigable Secretary Bro. Worsley. He could dilate at great length upon the excellent qualities possessed by these brethren, but the ladies would be better pleased to spend the time in the open air. The toast was most heartily received, and Bro. Worsley, in a warm eulogy on the Lodge of Instruction, claimed that it had been a genuine success, and it was second to none in London; statements, we may remark, that met with general approval. Bro. Barnes, after some humorous observations, said, as Bro. Worsley had stated, their Lodge of Instruction was second to none in London. However, the ladies would not understand this, but the brethren all knew what it meant. Personally he saw no reason why the ladies should not know what made up a successful Lodge of Instruction, and that without coming eighteen miles from home, and even then but once a year. The toast he had the honour of proposing was one which naturally emanated from the preceding one. The present Chairman was the Founder of the Lodge, but Bro. Worsley had undertaken the burden of calling them together; still if it had not been for Bro. Musto, who started the Lodge of Instruction, they would probably not have met to day. A better, worthier, and nobler fellow than Bro. Musto was not to be found. He was not a Mason of one or two years' standing only; he (Bro. Barnes) had known him intimately during a course of years, and a better fellow never lived. Any words more would be thrown away; he would ask them to drink the health of the chairman, and, quoting the text upon the menu, say, "Upon my soul, a proper man." Bro. Musto replied: For himself he had little to say, except to thank Bro. Barnes and those present for their kind appreciation of his services. His connection with the Friars Lodge of Instruction had been a most pleasant one; he had taken a great deal of interest in it, and so long as he lived he hoped to continue so to do. As Bro. Barnes had said so many kind things of him, he would appeal to all who knew him to credit him with sincerity of utterance in any remarks he might let fall concerning Bro. Barnes, of whom all he could say would be but gilding refined gold. Bro. Barnes is recognised as our Father in Freemasonry, and we owe to him whatever greatness we have achieved. What he (Bro. Musto) knew, and what incentive he had to acquire, was derived from Bro. Barnes. They likewise had that day as a vice president Bro. Myers. If Bro. Barnes was their father in Freemasonry, then Bro. Myers was his eldest son, and to him we must pay homage as well as to our dear old friend. Bro. Barnes, in acknowledging this compliment, said that the remark that Bro. Myers was his eldest son had set him thinking that in the Masonic circle he had been pained to witness that, as soon as a brother passed from among us, he was all but forgotten. One Bro. Austin, in life, had been called his first lieutenant; he (Bro. Barnes) would like, at future meetings, to keep in mind those brethren who had rendered special services, so that, though they might be cut off, and their faces seen no more, yet their memory should still be green. Bro. Myers also replied to the toast. The Treasurer, Bro. Pavitt, was next honoured. Of him the chairman remarked it was not necessary to say much. The longer they knew him, the more they respected him. He was one of the mainstays of the Lodge of Instruction, and his kind and genial reception was ever an inducement for the members to revisit the Lodge. (Cheers were then given for Bro. and Mrs. Pavitt.) Bro. Pavitt reviewed the progress of the Lodge; its career unquestionably had been a successful one, as was likewise this their second summer outing. He hoped they might have opportunities in future years of renewing the pleasant experiences of this day. The Secretary was next toasted, and in the course of his reply, Bro. Worsley said he had endeavoured to perform his duty, and to do his utmost to make this festive day of the Friars Lodge of Instruction a thoroughly successful one. He would rather wind up his speech by singing a song. This was done, and the Ladies were toasted, in felicitous terms, and Bro. Lowe, being a bachelor, was called upon to respond. He said he thought he was the wrong man in the right place. The ladies were deeply sensible of the kind and able manner in which their health had been proposed, their virtues extolled, and their beauty praised. They had appreciated their kind reception that day, but as they would now prefer to gain the open air, he would be brief, and thank the brethren for the honour done to the toast of the Ladies. The toasts were pleasantly interspersed with vocal and instrumental music. Among those who assisted should be mentioned Bro. Worsley, who was accompanied by Miss Worsley; Miss A. Musto, who gave a charming rendering of "She wore a wreath of roses," and later in the day, by desire, "Darby and Joan;" Bro. Smith and others. A fantasia for four hands, from Meyerbeer's "Le Prophète," arranged by Bro. S. Smith, was performed by the Misses Cull, in a highly finished manner. The shades of evening were falling as the party again visited the gardens, where, after obtaining souvenirs of the day, in the shape of bouquets, a dancing party was formed, under the skilful direction of Bro. T. Loane, who acted as M.C. This, with an occasional interval for vocal music, took up the time available before the departure of the last train to London, in the comfortable carriages of which all reached town safely. As on the former occasion, one and all could say that, "As happy we had met, so happy we would part, and happy meet again."

So mote it be!

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 SACREDNESS OF THE BALLOT.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—You deserve the thanks of the Masonic community for your article on the above subject last week. The ballot is nothing, if not secret, and less than nothing, if its secrecy is not sacredly observed. It is not in your column that I or any one else would venture to discuss the comparative merits of secret and open voting in parliamentary and other elections of public interest; nor, do I feel assured, would you permit me to do so if I were so disposed. But in Masonry, as in clubs, the ballot is the only possible mode for electing candidates for admission, and it is so for this very reason, that it is presumed to be secret. What, for instance, would be my feelings, or yours, dear Sir and Brother, if on admission to a Lodge or club, you or I sat next to one who had done his "possible" to keep us out? As I trust we are both possessed of common sense, we should probably say to ourselves that he was acting within his right, but should we be disposed to fraternise with him? Would there be no constraint in our intercourse, he being rendered uncomfortable because he had blackballed us, and we because we had been blackballed by him? On the other hand, and assuming, as I have a right to do, that the secrecy of the ballot is preserved, I may, in utter ignorance of his having voted against me, sit next to a man or brother, and chat with him unconstrainedly. We can talk together on general and particular subjects, and, it may so happen, amuse, if not interest, each other. We are, in fact, socially and Masonically, on a level, and it never occurs to either to dream of the black ball that was cast by one against the other. Many years ago I was a member of my college discussion society. I had been a member for two years, and had twice been elected to fill one of the vice-president's chairs—a position about corresponding with that of a Warden. My term of study was coming to an end, and, in accordance with custom, I was proposed as an honorary member. I was present when the ballot took place, and though I was elected, there was one black ball against some twenty or five-and-twenty white. I should have preferred, very naturally, a unanimous election, but if the ballot was a reality, not a sham, my intercourse, during the brief remainder of my stay at the college, was just as cordial as ever. So in a Club, Society, or Lodge, no one need have his mind disturbed by a black ball as long as he remains in ignorance of who cast it. But if the secret is allowed to ooze out, it is not in human nature for anyone to be on as comfortable terms with the man who voted against as with those who voted for him.

What, however, I should like to see is, some practical result from your sensible article. Why, for instance, is the case which formed its text not brought officially under the notice of the Board of General Purposes with a view to its being reported in Grand Lodge. The facts, as they have been openly stated in a Court of Law are public property, and it seems to me the Board of General Purposes will be conniving at a violation of Masonic law if they do not take cognisance of them and deal with them on their merits. It was the judge's suggestion that the case should have been submitted to a Masonic tribunal. There is a Masonic tribunal which is competent to try it, and why, therefore, is not the Lodge, in which occurred the practices which have been made the subject of a legal plaint, called upon to furnish such explanations as may be thought desirable, so that if it is too late to take action in this particular case, further troubles of a similar character may be prevented? What with the great experience of Bro. Sir John B. Monckton and the legal acumen of Bro. McIntyre, it ought not to be an impossibility to put a stop to these miserable squabbles which do so much harm to our Society.

I do hope some notice of this matter will be taken, so that it may not in future be in the power of an ignorant, incapable, or too impetuous brother to bring Freemasonry into bad odour with the public, or hold it up to public vindicate.

I may have written strongly, but I feel strongly, while I have done my best to avoid saying anything that could be regarded as of a personal, instead of a general, character.

I remain, yours, Dear Sir and Brother,

SPONTE SUA.

AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Truro, 23rd August 1880.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am sorry again to ask for a little space in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, so as to explain my position *re* American Freemasonry.

1. My desire in 1875, when taking exception to portions of your article on that subject, was to prove that some Grand Lodges in the United States were not open to your severe remarks, whereas I freely grant others may be. The article, however, did not select any of the many Grand Lodges for rebuke, nor were any excepted from the friendly castigation. It was on this ground, and this ground alone, that I wrote the short reply. Being so connected with the Grand L. of Pennsylvania, and knowing that body, and some others, were not really to be blamed, I simply sounded the *reville*, and having entered an appearance on behalf of our American Brethren naturally felt it

was for them to debate the subject, and accept or reject by fair argument the assertions made.

2. Strange to say I, have not seen any answer to your article, from that day to this, by any of our friends in America.

3. I have not seen Bro. *Mowbray's Masonic Messenger*, but our brother is an able well-informed writer, and ought, and doubtless does, know well about what he writes. I sent him some printed pamphlets as to our noble Masonic Charities.

4. Brother "BRITON" evidently also is at home on the subject, and many of his remarks apply with special force to some of the Grand Lodges in question, but I still maintain the objection to the Grand Lodges generally are too indiscriminate, and not appreciative of the good accomplished by many. I should like "more precise information," as does Brother "BRITON," but not having it, explains why I have not said more. My remarks were simply intended to exclude those about which I had information from the general criticism. Bro. "BRITON" kindly gives me credit for correct Masonic feeling as to my notice of *Masonic Relief Associations*. I do not care for them, or any such. It appears, however, that some brethren will provide for "a rainy day," or for their wives and families, when such societies are under the nominal wing of the Craft, and as it is better for them to do that way, than not at all, perhaps, it is as well to let them alone, especially as they tend to render charity less needful, and certainly "so far so good."

4. The enquiry is a very large one, and a deal has to be considered, it being simply impossible to attend to the many details in a hurriedly written letter. As Bro. "BRITON" points out, there is the "mileage" expense, and also other payments peculiar to the Grand Lodges in the United States. All these points fail to be considered, and also how much the private Lodges do out of their own funds to relieve the wants of their necessitous members, and strangers. In the latter respect it has often surprised me to find how much has been paid by individual Lodges to the widows (and families) of English brethren, who, in their destitution, have asked the aid of their husbands' brethren, and who have been sent back to this country free of expense, their husbands buried, and all needful wants responded to.

5. Finally let me say, that having now done my part to represent our American brethren *ad interim*, I shall not again trouble you on the subject, feeling assured that the Craft in America can furnish advocates able to do them justice, and if they do not, then the trial must be lost "by default."

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM J. HUGHAN.

THE UNITED STATES AND MASONIC CHARITY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The extract from the *Masonic Advocate* in your last week's number comes most opportunely, showing, as it does, from another and independent source, that the views you expressed in your very first number as to one of the idiosyncrasies of American Masonry find supporters in the United States, if not in this country. For instance, the statement "that the Grand Lodge of Indiana has deemed it advisable to adjourn for two years on account of the enormous expense attendant upon the annual gathering of Grand Lodge" is evidence of the fact that a very considerable portion of the funds of Grand Lodge is expended on the fulfilment of what in this country is held to be a duty. To put the matter in a more practical form. The Grand Lodge of Indiana defrays the expenses of those brethren who attend its gatherings; in England brethren from a distance who attend the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge pay their own travelling expenses. Again, as regards the Grand Lodge of New York, the same journal speaks of the mileage and per diem expenses being paid out of its funds, and that recently it has made a move in the direction of curtailing them, at least so far as Past Grand Officers are concerned. Now, if in the case of these and other Grand Lodges where similar expenses are allowed, the whole system were knocked on the head, there would at once be a handsome fund at the disposal of each Grand Lodge for purposes of Benevolence, and there would no longer be the same ground of complaint as exists now, that, while the receipts are considerable, the moneys available for charitable dispensation are the reverse.

As for other of the ideas set forth in the same article, I do not agree with them. If any one joins Masonry in the belief that he is joining a kind of benefit society, the sooner, I think, he is dispossessed of that idea, the better. If he is desirous of making one of a number of people who subscribe so much periodically towards a sick fund, so that, when he is prevented by illness from following his business, he may be in receipt of a periodical money allowance, there are doubtless in the United States, as in England, many such societies open to him, many, indeed, that will be only too glad to receive his contributions and those of as many others as may be willing to join. No one would be so silly as to deery these societies, but they have no single feature in common with Freemasonry. They are, as I said last week, a kind of Limited Liability Association, the members of which are entitled to receive certain benefits in return for certain payments. But no one who is actuated by just motives in entering the ranks of Freemasonry expects to derive any advantage from his subscriptions. He is presumed to be in reputable circumstances, which expression is meant to convey the idea, not only that he is a man of good moral character, but likewise that he is, professionally or otherwise, in a position to support himself and his family—if he has any—in a reputable manner. There is before him, as there is before all of us, the contingency that misfortune may overtake him, and he may fall from a state of comparative affluence into a state of difficulty or even absolute want. Then it is that Masonry steps in and helps him if he has proved himself worthy of such help. If he is cut off suddenly and before he has been able to make provision for his family, the Fund of Benevolence, after due inquiry, will vote him a grant of

money according to circumstances, while it is open to his children, if eligible, to offer themselves—by the medium of their natural or legal guardians—as candidates for admission to our Schools. As regards help in cases of sickness, but speaking necessarily from my own, and therefore, limited, knowledge, I venture to say that much assistance is rendered, but there is—rightly in my opinion—no relief available to meet such casual mischances. It is, as I pointed out in my letter of last week, the greatest mistake in the world—a radical error indeed—to reduce Freemasonry to the level of a benefit society. Freemasonry is of another character altogether, with other aims and objects in view. Charity is of the very essence of Freemasonry, but then no one would be so silly as to confound what is commonly understood—in England at all events—as a benefit society with a Charitable Institution. A man contributes to the former with the intent and purpose of securing to himself pecuniary assistance in his time of need, but, as I have said before, no one subscribes to his Masonic Lodge with any such intention or expectation.

Fraternally yours,

BRITON.

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Will you allow me to add to my remarks of last week, that I do not dispute the title of Provincial or District Grand Masters to the appellation of "Grand Officers," but merely to that of "Grand Lodge Officers"—these dignitaries being (as it seems to me) Officers *in*, but not of, Grand Lodge.

As "Grand Officers" they are clearly entitled to rule Grand Lodge, under paragraph 13, p 23, Book of Constitutions: but I altogether dissent from the position—that their liability to perform this function, constitutes them "Grand Lodge Officers," or Officers of Grand Lodge."

Yours fraternally,

A LONDON AND COLONIAL P.M.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Whoever your correspondent on the above subject, in your last number, may be, I feel there is much truth in what he says. It is a great misfortune for a Province when the leading officers are either unable or unwilling to visit the Lodges under their jurisdiction. I am of opinion that both the Deputy P.G.M. and his Secretary should be brethren of sufficient leisure to give some portion of their time to annual visitations, and not to be content to obtain their information as to the respective merits of brethren at second hand, still less to leave the appropriation of the various offices at their disposal to the last moment, and then to give them away on the principle of a scramble for nuts at a school feast.

It is somewhat disgusting to the mind of a hardworking and able Past Master to see himself left unnoticed for years, and Provincial collars bestowed on brethren unable to open a Lodge in the first degree. And yet, Mr. Editor, this is not such a very uncommon event I assure you.

I, like your correspondent, am a Past Provincial Officer, so that perhaps some people might say I ought to be satisfied and refrain from grumbling. But when I see such gross absurdities perpetrated as is the case in some Provinces, and brethren with neither knowledge, education, experience or position to recommend them foisted into high offices, and, on the other hand, bright, intelligent and working Masons passed over altogether, I cannot but think that there is something rotten in the state of Denmark, and that it is time to speak or for ever hereafter to hold one's peace.

I am, yours fraternally,

ANOTHER PAST PROVINCIAL OFFICER.

IN THE CLOUDS.

FROM THE KEYSTONE.

HE who visits the clouds sees both more and less than other men. He sees less—for the "daughters of ocean," the mists, climb the sky, and shut out the landscape below; but he also sees more—for the height to which he has climbed, and the fairy surrounding of fleecy clouds, stimulate his imagination, so that he sees with his "mind's eye" what he never saw before. The Irish nation claim, and justly too, that they possess an additional sense over and above those usually bestowed on man, to wit, the sense of nonsense—no man like an Irishman possessing the perception of the humorous and the ridiculous. Samuel Lover, in one of his songs, has expressed this fact in rhyme, thus:

"But along with sivin since we have one more—
Of which I forgot to tell you before—
'Tis nonsense, spontaneously gracing our shore."

Analogously, he who is in the clouds possesses an additional organ of vision—the "mind's eye," which enables him to see well nigh what ever he will. High up in the air, quaffing the vinous ether, he is wonderfully exhilarated. We are not surprised that the old Greek play-writer, Aristophanes, in his famous comedy of "The Clouds," placed Socrates, its hero, suspended in a basket, swinging aloft in the air in his "Thinking Shop." By the way, there is a certain mystic

aspect to this comedy, which we will make apparent to the reader by quoting a few lines from it:

"Socrates. Art thou ambitious
To be instructed in celestial matters?
Strepsiades. Aye, aye, in faith,
So they be to my purpose.
Soc. And if I bring you to a conference
With my own proper goddesses, the Clouds?
Streps. 'Tis what I wish devoutly.
Soc. Now take this chaplet—wear it.
Streps. Why this chaplet?
Would'st sacrifice me to a Cloud?
Soc. Fear nothing;
It is a ceremony indispensable
At our initiations.

Chorus of Clouds.

Ascend, ye watery Clouds, on high,
Daughters of Ocean, climb the sky.
Here mystic fanes and rites divine
And lamps in sacred splendour shine;
Here the gods dwell in marble domes,
Feasted with costly hecatombs,
And pompous sacrifices here
Make holidays throughout the year."

One day last week we stood on "Sky-Top," on the Shawangunk Mountains, when suddenly a mist enveloped us, and we realized what it was to be—in the clouds. We found our imagination extraordinarily stimulated, and there flashed upon us the Irishman's extra sense of nonsense, when Aristophanes's satirical picture of Socrates, suspended in mid-air in his "Thinking Shop," as portrayed in his comedy of "The Clouds," was limned before us. Then and there we were thoughtful as ever of our readers (for they are never out of our mind, so that if we travel a thousand miles it must be with pencil in hand), and this is what we saw and thought, *more or less*.

We did not presume to compare ourselves precisely with Socrates, especially as he is satirized by Aristophanes. It will be remembered that the Athenian philosopher had a snub nose, generally went bare-foot, possessing but one pair of shoes,—which lasted him for life, wore the same robe, winter and summer, and no under-garments! No, we did not compare ourselves with Socrates, either in manner of life, or in intellectual endowment. The only similarity between us was that we were both in "the clouds." What did we see? At first nothing. But what we lacked in seeing, we made up in thinking. It occurred to us that we were in sympathy with the Craft Universal at this Midsummer season—we were called off, or rather called up, to Refreshment. We were bathed in heaven's imperial bath of mist on a mountain top. The earth was shut out from view—we seemed nearer heaven than ever before, and in the very presence chamber of the Grand Architect of the Universe. We felt how little we were, and how great He is. We were lost for the moment, in space. Pride vanished. We were physically blind, although our mental vision was never clearer. The blood coursed from the heart to the brain with fresh vigour. In no Church were we ever more truly a worshipper of Deity than while we stood on that mountain-top. We seemed to be undergoing initiation into the Greater Mysteries—to be linked by a new tie to the great "I AM." No one who has been in the clouds ever regretted it.

The clouds, as a medicine for the soul, are fitted for occasional, rather than continual use. Stimulants should be indulged in with moderation. It would not do to always have the

"Eye in a fine frenzy rolling;"

but for seasonable use, as for example, during the days of Refreshment in summer, there is no tonic, for either the mind or the body, equal in efficacy to a bath in the clouds.

A mystic thought that was suggested to us as the clouds vanished was, the wide-spread character and unity of the Craft. Around us in every direction as far as the eye could reach were valleys and mountains, divided from each other by natural barriers, and the valleys themselves sub-divided into numerous fields—and yet all was a unit. Nature is one, and the Grand Architect of the Universe is its sole author. So with the Craft. We saw Freemasonry, as it were, before us, spread out all over the civilized world. Different speaking peoples were united by the same Mystic tie. Barriers of ocean and mountains were of no effect in separating brethren. All were one, as Nature is one.

We concluded, as we descended from "Sky-Top," that even Socrates had scarcely a better "Thinking Shop" than ours had been in the clouds, and we vowed to go there as often during the summer months as the exigencies of the lower world would permit.

Gleanings from Old Chronicles, &c.

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The following were among the ancient revenues of the petty Princes of Ireland, namely, "Cuddy"—a supper and lodging for one night, which the chief could command not only from his own vassals, but had a right by custom to ask it from his equals—the commutation was a certain quantity of honey; "Cuttings," or contributions to pay the chief's debts; "Dowgello," a tax for the maintenance of his dogs and huntsmen; "Cess," or horse meat and man's meat at a stipulated price; "Reflection," or a privilege the chief had of claiming a meal of cheese, curds, &c.; and "Sorchar," or meat and drink for a soldier or gallowglass, one day in a fortnight.

The total public expenditure in Ireland for the year ended Trinity Term 1296 (23 & 24 Edward I.), was £1,121 6s 0½d, as

appears from the earliest extant financial record of that kingdom. Amongst the payments in 1295, in respect of civil expenditure, appear the undermentioned annual salaries to certain officers, to wit, John Wogan, Chief Justice of Ireland, £250; William of Estden £40; Robert Wagon, Chief Justice of the Bench at Dublin, £40; Thomas of Wuyterby, another Justice of the Bench at ditto, £25 13s 4d; Walter De la Haye, Chief Justice of Common Pleas, £40; Master Thomas Kantock, Chancellor of Ireland, £40; Master Edward of Wodington, Chancellor of the Exchequer at Dublin, £13 6s 8d; Richard of Meanes, one of the two Chamberlains at the Exchequer at ditto, £6 13s 4d; together with two Writing Clerks of the Account Rolls and one Treasury Clerk, writer of the Rolls and Tallies at Dublin, at 5d each per diem. The payments for Military Service include the wages, at 4d a day, of John Chester, Captain of certain Welshmen employed in Keeping the peace, each of the said Welshmen receiving 2d a day wages.

The gross Revenue of Ireland, as appears from the second oldest financial record existing, amounted for the year ended Trinity Term 1371, to £3,840 12s 7½d.

The next Irish Exchequer Roll, in order of date, is the audited account of Sir William Brabazon, Knight, Sub-Treasurer and Receiver-General of the receipts out of the King's lands, &c., in Ireland, and of the lands of monasteries and other religious houses then recently dissolved, and is for the year ended Michaelmas 1546 (38 Henry VIII.) The Receipt side includes the Accountant's Arrears and Balances of his preceding Account, amounting to £12,051 17s 4d, and Receipts £3,541 5s 1½, making together £20,593 2s 5½d. The total payments reached £2,074 1s 4d, so that at Michaelmas 1546, the Accountant was debited with £18,519 0s 10½d. The payments include to John Aylen, Chancellor of Ireland, for yearly salary £100, and for his diet, at the rate of 10s per day, £182 10s, or together £282 10s; Chief Justice of the King's Bench, £100; second ditto, £40 13s 4d; Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, £40; second ditto, £20; Master of the Rolls, &c., £50; Treasurer of Ireland, £40; Clerk of the Council, £40; Solicitor to the Lord the King, £40; Attorney-at-Law to ditto, £16; Sub-Treasurer and Receiver General, £65 13s 4d; Auditor General, £45; Chief Baron of the Exchequer, £44; second ditto, £17 6s 8d; Chief Chamberlain, £40; Serjeant-at-Arms, £40; and Chief Remembrancer, £14. The Constable of Dublin Castle received £30 for the year, and the soldiers at rates varying between ninepence and eightpence per diem.

The above is the first of a series of accounts rendered in the same form up to the year 1643, only those for the years 1597, 1598, and 1611 being wanting.

The earliest bound book, containing an account of Public Receipt and Expenditure for Ireland, is for the year ended 20th March 1642 (17 Charles I.) Earl of Strafford being the Lord Lieutenant. The Charge side shows a balance from the previous year of £21,760 18s 4d, and Receipts £70,060 12s 1d, making together £91,821 10s 5d.

The payments out of this revenue amounted in respect of the Civil List to £10,373 1s 2d, while the balance—£81,448 9s 3d—was applicable to the Military list; and the Accountant was also charged with the defalcations for cheques, munitions, victuals, imprests, &c., to the extent of £21,512 13s 10d. From the details on the payment side it appears that the captain of a horse troop received 9s a day, the lieutenant 2s 8½d, the cornet 2s 3d, the trumpeter 1s, and each horseman 1s; while in a company of foot the captain's pay was 7s 6d a day, the lieutenant's 1s 6d, the ensign's 1s 1½d, the "giant drum" 9d, the chirurgeon 9d, and each foot soldier 6d. The Earl of Strafford received £24 per diem—namely, for entertainment £10, and for 30 waggons, each 9s 4d, £14.

From a Proclamation issued at Dublin Castle on 6th April 1637 it appears that the value of the Irish Harp Shilling, 9 oz. fine, was fixed at 12d Irish or 9d English, and the value of the English shilling at 12d English and 16d Irish. The preamble to this proclamation begins:—"Whereas the Records and Accounts of all His Majesty's Revenues, certain and casual in this Kingdom"—that is, Ireland—"and all the Receipts and Issues of His Majesty's moneys, have heretofore usually been reckoned in Irish money or Harpes, which is a fourth part less than sterling English, whereby it hath sometimes happened that His Majesty's process to Sheriff having issued in that manner, the Sheriffs in some parts have been observed to levy sterling English money of the subjects instead of Irish, thereby overcharging the subjects a fourth part more than of right they ought to pay; and the Sheriffs notwithstanding answering into His Majesty's Exchequer but Irish money only, according to the sums contained in the Green Wax Books," &c., &c.

When James II. was in Ireland in 1689, endeavouring to maintain his sovereign authority there, he had recourse to a debasement of the coinage, in order to raise supplies, and copper, or brass and copper mixed, and pewter moneys, equivalent in weight to silver coins, were legally made current by proclamation, those who refused to take the money being punishable with the utmost rigour of the law, and those who counterfeited it being declared guilty of high treason.

A quantity of this debased coinage of the nominal value of £22,489 was found in the Dublin Mint when William III. arrived in that city. A Royal Proclamation was accordingly issued in July 1690, by which those coins were appointed to pass current at the following rates, namely, copper crown pieces and large copper half-crowns at 1d each, small half-crowns at three-farthings, large copper shillings at a halfpenny each, and small copper shillings, copper sixpences, and pewter half-crowns at one farthing each. The small French three-sou-pieces which James II. had made legal tender to the amount of 3½d were sold at a halfpenny each.

James II. had also, on his arrival in Ireland, ordered that the English guinea should pass current at £1 4s each, and the English shilling at 13d. When William III. had established his authority over the island he fixed the ratio of Irish currency to money of account at 13d Irish for 12d English, and so it remained up to the Consolidation of the English and Irish Exchequers in 1817.

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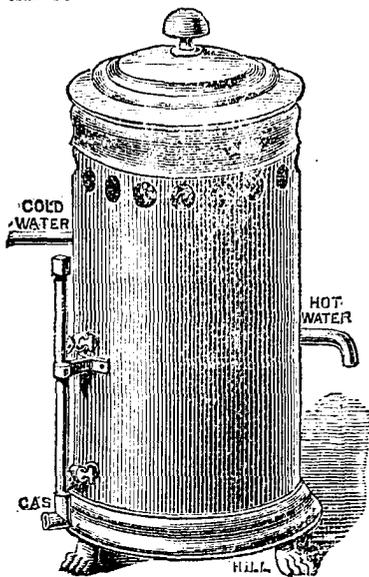
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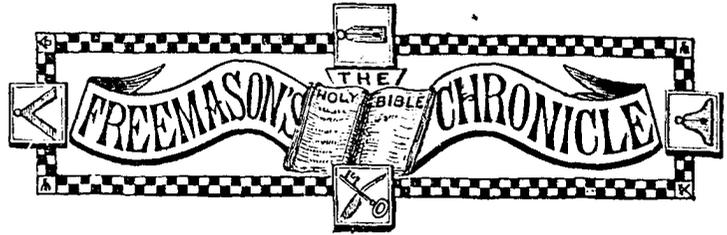
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PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon was held on Thursday, 19th inst., at Barnstaple. The business commenced with a meeting of the Committee of Petitions at the Masonic Hall, Queen Anne's Walk. Among the officers and representatives were the following:—**R.W. Bro. W. G. Rogers D.P.G.M.** Chairman; **W. Bros. Charles Godtschalk P.P.G.D.** Representative of the Committee in London; **J. B. Gover** Secretary, **J. P. Heath W.M. 39,** **M. Emden W.M. 105,** **W. T. Maynard P.P.G.T. 106,** **Saml. Jones P.P.G.J.W. 112,** **F. Littleton I.P.M. 159,** **J. E. Curteis P.P.G.S.W. 189,** **H. Welsh P.P.G. Pars. 202,** **W. Browning P.M. 223,** **R. Cawsey P.M. 230,** **Jno. Brewer P.G. Sec. 251,** **W. C. Oliver P.M. 251;** **W. R. Northway jun. W.M. 282,** **J. C. Palmer W.M. 372,** **Lient.-Col. J. Tanner Davy P.P.G.S.W. 421,** **G. Pitt-Lewis 444,** the Rev. **Thos. Russell P.P.G.J.W. 489,** **Geo. C. Searle W.M. 710,** **J. R. Dugdale P.M. 954,** **W. H. Mackay W.M. 1091,** **E. Aitken-Davies P.P.G.S. Wks. 1099,** **H. G. Beachey P.G. Treas. 1,138,** **Geo. Evans P.P.G.S.D. 1,181,** **W. Powell P.M. and Sec. 1205,** **J. Bassett W.M. 1,212,** **J. R. Lord P.M. and Treas. 1247,** **S. B. Harvey P.M. 1255,** **Jas. Chapple W.M. 1,396,** **Jas. Murray P.M. 1402,** **R. G. Bird P.M. and Sec. 1550.** The reports of the Secretary and of the London Representative were read. That of the Secretary complained of some of the Lodges and Chapters not forwarding to the Committee of Petitions their voting papers for the elections, in accordance with the policy pursued in the Province. While that of the Representative of the Committee complained of a want of support.

The result was the preparation of a report to be presented from the Committee to the Provincial Grand Lodge, of which the following is an outline:—

The report of Brother Godtschalk—Representative of the Committee in London—clearly showing the work accomplished at the great Charities in London, for the Province. The actual number of votes received by him from the Province, and from all other sources. The various loans of votes, together with exchanges to and from sister Provinces, giving the following result for the half year ending June 1880. One boy **Herbert Norrish,** elected 10th April; one widow, **S. Andrews,** elected 21st May; one Aged Mason, **Geo. Elliott,** elected 21st May.

To elect these three candidates the total votes polled had been 2,756, while the total number of votes received by your Representative from Devon had only been 1294, your Representative supplying, from private sources, the remaining 1462 votes necessary to carry the election of the three candidates named. Your Representative therefore points to the large annual amount the Province is receiving through its male and female annuitants, from the funds of the R.M.B.I. Through the successful disposal and manipulation of its votes, nine aged Masons and six widows from Devon are at this moment being maintained on the funds of the R.M.B.I. These annuitants receive between them £552 per annum.

A result wholly disproportionate, and far in excess of the voting strength or power possessed by Devon, but brought about by the system sanctioned and adopted by the Committee, and carried out by your Representative, in manipulation and successful exchange, and by lending votes and co-operating with sister Provinces.

In a like manner, Devon was successful in the election of its orphans, the Province having at this moment six boys and six girls respectively in the Royal Masonic Schools.

Your Representative therefore earnestly places before the Committee the great and substantial benefits received by Devon from the Great Central Masonic Charities, through its elected candidates (over and above its normal strength of voting power), and regrets to say, that in return for the work he is doing the support given to the great Masonic Charities is quite inadequate to the benefits received by the Province of Devon from those Institutions.

Bro. Charles Godtschalk concluded his report by moving the following motion:—That this Committee recommend the sum of fifty guineas be voted from the funds of Prov. Grand Lodge to the R.M.B.I. for Aged Masons and Widows, and also a sum of fifty Guineas to the R. M. Institution for Girls.

It was then found the funds at the disposal of Prov. G. Lodge would not reach the amount asked for, but the available balance at its disposal was unanimously tendered in response to **Bro. Godtschalk's** appeal, and accepted by him.

Bro. J. B. Gover, Secretary to the Committee then proceeded with the report of that body, as follows:—After repeated applications seven Lodges and five Chapters had failed to send their votes to the Committee, and from that and other causes from 500 to 600 votes had been either lost to the Province or used in opposition to Devon candidates; and as nearly every Province in England and Wales had now adopted the same mode of working used by that Committee for eleven years, it could not be too strongly impressed upon the Lodges how highly important it was for their own interest that Devonshire be thoroughly united. The thanks of the Committee were due to the **W. Bro. Charles Godtschalk** for his untiring energy, and successful management of the votes at the various elections, and that his report be received and adopted. The Committee referred with regret to the great increase in the number of petitions for relief. Those had all

received careful attention, and the applicants had been shewn to be not only entitled to, but were in urgent need of, assistance. The sums voted and recommended in the cases already considered, and the probable future claims of which the Committee saw no reason to anticipate any diminution, constituted a heavy strain on the limited resources of the Provincial Grand Lodge. At a meeting held at Plymouth on the 25th of January last the Committee granted the sum of £5 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 491, Axminster; £5 to a brother of Lodge 156, Plymouth, and they recommend that the Provincial Grand Lodge grant a further sum of £10 to that brother; and the sum of £5 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 39, Exeter. At the meeting held at Devonport on the 19th of May, the sum of £5 was voted to the widow of a brother of Lodge 489, Bideford; £5 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 797, Dartmouth; £5 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 951, Devonport; £5 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 1,205, Stonehouse; £5 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 1,396, Newton Abbey; £5 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 70, Plymouth. The whole of those sums had been paid, with the exception of the £10 recommended for approval by the Prov. G.L. At the meeting held at Barnstaple that day the Committee voted £5 to the widow of a brother of 489, Bideford; recommended a grant of £10 to the widow of a brother of 1,396, Newton Abbey; voted £5, and recommended a further grant of £10, to the widow of a brother of 223, Plymouth; recommended a grant of £10 to the widow of a brother of 70, Plymouth; voted £5 to the widow of a brother of 710, Totnes; voted £5, and recommended a further grant of £10, to a decayed brother of 1,205, Stonehouse; voted £5, and recommended a further grant of £10, to the widow of a brother of 106, Exmouth, who was lost in the Atalanta; voted £5, to a decayed brother of 710, Totnes; voted £5, and recommended a further grant of £10, to the widow of a brother of 156, Plymouth. The Committee also adopted a widow of 39, Exeter, as the candidate for the Province at the next election for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, and the son of a deceased brother of 1,181, Seaton, as the candidate of the Province for the Royal Institution for Boys and Girls. Grants of 25 guineas each were recommended to the Institution for Aged Freemasons, and to the Institution for Girls. These amounts to be placed on the list of Bro. Godtschalk, the balance remaining in hand not admitting of larger grants. Bro. Gover's recommendation of a grant of 10 guineas to the Devon Educational Fund was withdrawn.

The Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at the Masonic Hall at 2 p.m. The hall was appropriately laid out for the occasion with the furniture and regalia of Lodge Loyal 251, Barnstaple. Viscount Ebrington, the R.W. the Prov. G.M. of Devon, presided, supported by W. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Tanner Davy as P.G.S.W. *pro tem*, and Captain W. Elphinstone Stone P.G.J.W. *pro tem*. In addition to the officers who attended the Committee of Petitions the following were also among those present at the Provincial Grand Lodge:—W. Bros. J. W. Keyworth P.P.G.S.W., H. J. P. Dumas P.P.G.W. Surrey, the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.P.G. Chap., Rev. C. W. H. Holley P.G. Chap., Rev. R. J. Russell P.P.G. Chap., S. Jew P.P.G.T., R. B. Twose P.P.G.T., V. Bird P.P.G.T., George Hirtzel P.G. Reg., John Cook P.P.G.S.D., J. R. Chanter P.P.G.J.D., L. D. Westcott P.P.G.S. Wks., H. Wilson P.P.G.P. Worcestershire, A. Bodley P.G.D.C., J. P. Phillips P.P.G.D.C., J. M. Hiley P.P.G.A.D.C., W. Oram P.P.G.D.C., C. W. Willshire P.P.G.D.C., S. Loram P.P.G.D.C., John Wood P.P.G.D.C., J. Edwards P.P.G.O., E. A. Vinnecombe P.G.O., G. W. Bishop P.P.G.S.B., John Lynn P.P.G.S.B., John Swann P.P.G.S.B. D. Box P.G. Purs., W. Cole P.P.G. Purs., J. Harris Square P.G. St., W. Pidslop P.G. St., E. J. Knight P.G. St., E. Furze P.G. St., F. Pollard P.G. St., James Jerman P.G. St., P. L. Blanchard P.G. Tyler. H. Melhuish P.M. 1,125, W. Odam W.M. 70, R. Blight W.M. 223, T. C. Lowary P.M. 223, Thomas Higgs P.M. 106, E. T. Fulford W.M. 1,254, B. S. Johns W.M. 159, S. D. Nicholls P.M. 282, W. Harris P.M. 1,138, T. Parkhouse P.M. 1,125, W. Britton P.M. 251, A. F. Lunke P.M. 112, W. J. List P.M. and Treas. 251, W. A. Goss jun. W.M. 1,402, H. Cameron W.M. 1,205, F. Hooper P.M. 1,212, W. H. Toller P.M. 251, J. Page P.M. 39, George Huxham P.M. 1,254, G. R. Barrett W.M. 1,255, W. Conquer W.M. 1,099, J. Kingdon I.P.M. 421, W. H. Gillman P.M. 1,099, G. Gould P.M. 1,099, W. T. Walter I.P.M. 1,099, J. A. Kingdon P.M. and Treas. 421, J. T. Widgery P.M. 421, J. Paige W.M. 421, R. Pengelley P.M. 70, Lieut.-Colonel FitzGerald W.M. 189, Byron Elliott W.M. 1,247, L. J. Webber W.M. 1,550, Jno. Olver P.M. 1,138, Jno. Stocker P.M. 39, J. E. Moon P.M. 189, Thos. Elsworthy P.M. 251, M. Farrant P.M. 112, H. M. Burrow W.M. 489, J. R. H. Harris W.M. 230, J. Osborne W.M. 954, T. Freeman P.M. 106, W. H. Triplett P.M. 1,255, W. G. Lacey P.M. 106, F. Littleton I.P.M. 159, J.W. 1,847; Bros. W. H. Pike J.W. 156, E. Tout S.W. 70, W. Cocks J.W. 106, W. Gregory J.W. 1,254, John Lavis S.W. 223, C. C. Kendrick S.W. 1,254, C. D. Stentiford J.W. 159, C. A. Nicholson S.D. 1,847, Chas. Pope J.W. 1,138, G. Pollard S.W. 489, John Bickell S.W. 421, C. Croydon S.W. 189, J. Murrin S.W. 1,396, Owen Knowles S.W. 159, F. Snelling J.W. 1,396, A. T. Blamey S.D. 1402, J. Penrose J.W. 1,212, T. E. Peek S.W. 1,205, S. O. Elliott J.W. 202, W. J. Stanbury J.W. 1,099, S. Paunter S.W. 1,099, W. Redmond S.W. 1,855, P. Pearce S.W. 1,247, J. B. Arcott J.W. 489, W. H. Hunt J.W. 1,205, W. Vicary S.W. 1,138, W. Densham S.W. 39, W. Brown S.W. 444, John Moysey J.W. 223, R. P. Morrison S.W. 251, R. Rundell 853, British Kaffraria; A. H. Chanter J.W. 1,135, R. Grills S.W. 202, H. B. McMillan 1,847, R. Ellis S.W. 230, R. W. Pitcher J.W. 230, J. T. Crosby S.W. 954, G. Hickey J.W. 954, John Hammond J.W. 1,255, D. Banks S.W. 146, George Todd P.M. 489, W. Mountjoy J.W. 421, R. Hambly J.W. 1855, &c.

The Secretary's report showed a membership of 2,234 in the Province. The Treasurer's report an income of £346, and balance in hand £129, both reports were unanimously received and adopted. In answer to an inquiry, it was stated that the funds of the Fortescue Annuity Fund had been re-invested in the names of new trustees, the R.W. Bros. the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and Bro. Pope. The money invested in a mortgage had been recalled. The report of the Committee of Petitions was received, and adopted without comment.

The R.W. the P.G.M. gave notice of a proposal to reconsider at the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge its Byo-laws. It was desirable, he thought, to alter some of them. A colloquy on various points in these laws ensued. The suggestions for their improvement met with unanimous approval.

W. Bro. J. E. Moon was proposed by W. Bro. J. E. Curteis as the Treasurer for the ensuing year; he in the course of his remarks stated a complaint had been made that as a new Treasurer was elected each year, the Treasurers had only just time to learn their duties when their term of office ceased. That difficulty, it was pointed out, could be easily met by always electing able business men to the office, and unanimous disapproval appeared to be entertained, for several reasons, against any change from the Lodge's ancient privilege to "elect a Treasurer once a year." Brother J. E. Moon being a member of his (Bro. Curteis's) own Lodge, he was in a position to say that the business and substantial qualifications of that Brother for the office of Treasurer to the Province were indisputable. W. Bro. Charles Godtschalk P.M. P.P.G.D. seconded the nomination of Bro. Moon.

In doing so he took occasion to refer to the remarks that had fallen from the P.G.M. relative to the office of Provincial Grand Treasurer. He gleaned from those remarks that no intention existed, neither was the remotest wish expressed, to interfere in any way with the constitutional right of the Province to elect from amongst their body a Brother to serve the office of Treasurer.

Brother J. E. Moon was then unanimously elected.

W. Bros. J. E. Curteis and Passmore were re-elected the auditors.

The P.G.M. invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year:—W. Bros. the Hon. L. Hesketh Palk 328 P.S.G.W., G. Pitt-Lewis 444 P.J.G.W., the Rev. Mr. Morris 1,181 Seaton, the Rev. Mr. Warren 1,138 Newton Abbot, P.G. Chaps., J. E. Moon 189 P.G.T., John Treeby 223 P.G. Reg., John Brewer 251 P.G. Sec., E. Furze 421 P.G.S.D., J. Harris Square 1486 P.G.J.D., James Jerman 39 P.G.S. Wks., F. Pollard 1,284 P.G.D.C., W. Pidsley 1,254 P.G.A.D.C., J. Russell Lord 1,247 P.G.S.B., George Whittloy 156 P.G.O., E. J. Knight 202 P.G. Purs., W. C. Oliver 251, S. G. Loveless 294, W. H. Gilman 1,099, F. Hooper 1,212, W. H. Goodridge 797, H. Cole 1,091, P. G. Stewards; P. Blanchard P.G. Tyler, John Rogers P.G.A. Tyler.

Bro. Vincent Bird's proposal to vote fifty guineas to the Devon Masonic Educational Fund was withdrawn, the balance in the hands of the Treasurer having already been appropriated by other votes.

It was resolved that the presentation made by R.W. Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., P.P.G.M., of his chain of office, as an heirloom to the Province, should be recorded by its being engraved on the medal attached to the chain.

In the evening a large party of the brethren dined together at the Golden Lion Hotel. R. W. Bro. Viscount Ebrington presided.

SOC. ROSICR. in Angliâ.

York College.—The Masonic Archaeological body held its August meeting last Saturday, in the Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds, by kind permission of the trustees of that building. Many of the Fratres met at 1 p.m. and travelled by tramcar to Kirkstall, where they inspected the ruins of the beautiful Cistercian Abbey, which are second in extent in Yorkshire only to those of Fountains. Their peculiarities and beauties were very ably and lucidly pointed out to the party by Fratres E. Pearson Peterson, who acted as cicerone, and under his guidance all the prominent details were carefully investigated, with the additional aid of ground plans. Returning to Leeds, the College was opened at 4 p.m., the following Fratres being present:—T. B. Whytehead Hon. IX. Chief Adept, J. S. Cumberland VII. Celebrant, J. Maffry IV. as Suff., E. Linck IV. as Secretary, T. J. Wilkinson VI. P.A., W. Rowley VI. S.A., E. Peterson V. T.A., W. Watson IV. as Q.A., C. L. Mason V. Con. of N., &c. Several letters of apology were read from Officers and Fratres who were unable to be present, and successful ballots were taken for four candidates. Three aspirants were duly admitted to the M.C., making the number of full members 32, the College being thus made up to its full strength of 36. A candidate was proposed for admission, and then Fra. Walter Rowley VI. read an excellent paper on the "History of Leeds," for which he received the thanks of the College. Votes of thanks were passed to Fra. Rowley and Fra. Peterson for their valuable papers, which were ordered to be printed. The W. Celebrant called attention to the fact of the prosperous position of the Order in America, which was especially interesting to them, since it was, two years ago, at York, he and their Chief Adept had taken part in the admission to the Order of the Fratres who had founded the first College in the United States. The M.C. was then broken. The next meeting of the College will be held in York, in the month of November. After the conclusion of business, the Fratres partook of tea together and spent a pleasant hour, before departing to their respective homes at York, Bradford, Thirsk, London, &c.

We learn that an aquatic fete in aid of the "Atalanta Fund" was given by the members of the Greenwich Swimming Club on Tuesday 17th inst., at the Bath of the Royal Naval Hospital School, Greenwich, and we are glad to announce the result will produce a large addition to the amount already subscribed on behalf of those left destitute by the loss of relatives in the ill-fated vessel. A special feature of the entertainment was the appearance of Bro. Professor Hoare, whose wonderful evolutions in the water entitle him to a prominent place among our aquatic champions.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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HIGH CROSS LODGE, No. 754.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at the Seven Sisters' Tavern, Page-green, Tottenham. The following Officers and brethren were present:—Bros. Burford W.M., H. Stephens, W. Steedman, J. Linzell, G. Townsend, J. Wells, C. F. Barham, W. Dance, and G. Jones, Past Masters; Bros. T. J. Farrin S.W., Henry V. Clements J.W., David Roberts P.M. Treasurer, T. Cunningham P.M. Secretary, J. H. Thompson S.D., W. M. Tegg J.D., J. Garrod I.G., J. Very Tyler. The Visitors were Bros. G. H. Patmore S.W. 228, W. Hawtin 1287, S. Hill 512, T. Greenwood 749, A. C. Boot 362, T. S. Bird 1567, H. Garrett 173, John Green 27, W. W. Morgan jun. 1385, J. H. Thompson 1580, T. J. Maidwell 27, J. Driscoll 30, G. R. Soper 1365, C. Winslade 69, C. Beaumont 901, R. J. Dart 192, Frederick Binckes Grand Stewards' Lodge, H. M. Dalton 134, R. E. Hunt 45, G. Smith 1799, H. J. Dean 45. After the transaction of the routine business of the Lodge, Bro. Clements the W.M. elect was presented, obligated, and duly installed, Bro. Linzell acting as Installing Master. The new W.M. having received the salutations of the brethren assembled, proceeded to invest the following Officers for the ensuing year:—J. Farrin S.W., J. Garrod J.W., David Roberts P.M. Treasurer, T. Cunningham P.M. Secretary, W. M. Legg S.D., Lewis J.D., A. G. Fidler I.G., Roe D. of C., J. Smith Steward, Very Tyler. In appointing the several Officers, the W.M. addressed each on the duties expected of him, and briefly explained the moral lessons taught by the respective jewels of office. A petition to the Board of Benevolence on behalf of the widow of a deceased brother was formally recommended by the Lodge, and signed by the principal Officers, as well as by several of the members, after which Lodge was closed, the brethren repairing to the banquet-room, where a most enjoyable repast awaited them. Full justice having been done to the good things provided, the W.M. proceeded with the toasts of the evening. Those in honour of the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., the Pro G.M. and other Grand Officers, having been proposed and heartily received, that of the W.M. of the High Cross Lodge was given by the I.P.M. Bro. Burford, who said he felt it a great pleasure to propose the health of his successor, Bro. Clements, as he felt sure one and all would be gratified in according a hearty reception to the toast. Any one who knew Bro. Clements would agree with him that their present Master was well suited for the post he occupied, and he felt they could look forward to the coming year with satisfaction, assured that the work of the Lodge would be efficiently carried out. It was announced that the charity box, which had been sent round among the members of the Lodge, contained the sum of 20s, which amount was handed over to the Treasurer. Bro. Clements, in replying to the toast proposed in his behalf, said he felt at a loss to express his feelings. Bro. Burford had said so much in his favour, both as regarded what he had done as well as what he was expected to do, that he really felt uncertain whether he should be able to satisfy them. However, so long as he was connected with the High Cross Lodge, he should endeavour to do his duty in as satisfactory a way as they said he had done in the past—indeed he should do his best; to do more was impossible. He craved the assistance of his brethren in the work of the Lodge, and if at any time he went wrong, he hoped they would not fail to tell him of it, just as they had applauded him for his past efforts. He now proposed the health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Burford, with whom he said the brethren were all well acquainted, he having been present at each of the meetings held during his term of office. He felt sure the brethren would drink his health most heartily on this the night of his retirement from office. He was aware that Bro. Burford had not fulfilled the duties of the chair to his own satisfaction, but he was certain that he had done his best to rule the Lodge. The W.M. had also much pleasure in presenting, in the name of the members, the P.M.'s jewel, which they had voted at the last meeting; and in doing so he felt he expressed the desire of all present when he said that he hoped Bro. Burford would enjoy health for many years to come, and often wear that token of regard in their midst. Bro. Burford, in acknowledgment, desired to express his heartiest thanks for the way in which he had been received that night, and indeed throughout the year. He had had matters of business to attend to, which had prevented his paying as much attention to his duties in connection with the Lodge as he should have liked, but he hoped the brethren would overlook any shortcomings on his part. The next toast was proposed in honour of the Installing Master Bro. Linzell, who, the W.M. said, had rendered great service to the Lodge on many occasions, and he hoped would be among them for many years to do so again if needful. Bro. Linzell having tendered his thanks, expressed his opinion that he had that day placed in the chair a Brother who was not only able to rule, but he believed willing to do his utmost for the Lodge. He looked forward to a most successful year of office. Bro. Clements next called upon the brethren to drink success to the Masonic Charities. He felt the presence of Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the Boy's School would be looked upon as a sufficient excuse for his altering the order of the toasts. He had hoped also to have had the company of Bros. Terry and Hodges, but they had both written stating their inability to attend. After a hearty response, Bro. Binckes rose to reply. The Masonic Institutions were so well known to the members of the High Cross Lodge, as well, he doubted not, to the numerous visitors, that he felt it unnecessary to introduce them. He need hardly say that the Lodge had, by its efforts during the past few years, won a place for itself which reflected the greatest credit on its members. That this state of affairs was likely to continue, was evident from the fact that next year the Lodge would be represented at all three of the Festivals. He could but regret the absence of his young friends, who were away enjoying themselves at the seaside, or elsewhere,

while he, a poor old man, was left to plead the cause of charity. Still he felt his was not a very difficult task among such brethren as those around him. He had personally to thank Bro. Clements, who in June last represented the Lodge at the Festival of the Boys' School, when, under the presidency of the Earl of Lathom, one of the most successful Festivals ever known in connection with Freemasonry took place. That and other similar gatherings had realised so much for the Masonic Charities that Freemasons could say that no society in the world could boast of such institutions as those they supported. He then referred to the work being done through the efforts of those connected with the Tottenham and Enfield Charity Association, the sum raised during the two and a half years it had been in existence being, he was told, no less than £374 17s—a grand total, and one of which they might justly be proud. While it was true that Freemasonry was flourishing, it was also true that the demands made on it were daily increasing. He hoped the brethren would forgive him if he appeared to take up too much of their time; he was pleading for those who could not plead for themselves, and who therefore were obliged to place their cause in hands such as his; and further, he was but trying to induce them to continue a work which had been so well supported by those who had gone before. The health of the Past Masters was next given from the chair, the W.M. being very pleased to be able to tender a welcome to so many of their number. They had on the present occasion as many as thirteen present, almost as many as it was possible to muster. He hoped the P.M.'s would continue to show their love for the Lodge, where he felt assured their efforts would always be appreciated. Personally, he felt on the best of terms with them—a fact which, he thought, augured well for the next twelve months in the Lodge. Bro. Stephens, in acknowledging the toast, said he could not call to mind what injury he had done that he should be called upon to respond for so large a company of Past Masters. There were many present who wore his seniors, and who would have been far more suitable than he; but having been commanded, he obeyed most willingly. He felt quite sure that all the assistance the Past Masters could give would be accorded most heartily. There was a good feeling existing between the Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge, that must lead to the work of the Lodge being carried on in the same smooth way as heretofore. The toast of the Visitors was the next on the list, and that was given and received in a most hospitable manner, Bros. Greenwood and Driscoll replying. The toast of the Officers, the Worshipful Master considered more particularly concerned himself, perhaps even more than it concerned the Lodge, for without good Officers he could do nothing. He looked upon all he had that day appointed as being able to perform the work of every post they might be called upon to fill. He also looked upon them as those he could with pleasure work with, and if any of his appointments might be open to question, they should bear in mind that he was in a very similar position to that of a captain of a ship to whom must be left the appointment of assistants who would work amicably, and among whom there was no fear of mutiny. Each of the officers having replied, the toast of the Press was given, Bro. Morgan jun. acknowledging the compliment paid by the W.M. to the Masonic portion of the literature of the country. The proceedings were brought to a close in the usual form.

UPTON LODGE, No. 1227.

THIS Lodge met at the Spotted Dog, Upton, on Thursday, the 19th instant. There were present Bros. J. Andrews W.M., A. W. Fenner S.W., Witherston J.W., Wayland Treas., Sergeant Sec., A. Clark S.D., R. W. Pearcey J.D., Gieseke I.G., Bowler Tyler, and P.M.'s Bratton, Picking, Brown, and Lyons, with a good muster of the members. The usual preliminaries were gone through, and the Lodge advanced to the second degree, when Bros. G. and S. Ager gave proof of their proficiency, and were duly entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and those brethren were raised in a very impressive manner. Lodge was resumed, and Bro. C. Free answered the questions in a satisfactory manner, and was passed to the degree of F.C. The principal business of the evening was then proceeded with, that of the installation of Bro. Fenner the W.M. elect, who was duly obligated by the W.M. Lodge was resumed to the third degree, and those brethren below the degree of Installed Master retired. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Fenner was regularly installed into the chair of K.S.; he invested Bro. Andrews as I.P.M. The Board of Installed Masters was then closed, and the brethren admitted; they saluted the W.M. in the three degrees, after which the W.M. appointed and invested his Officers as follow:—Bros. Witherston S.W., A. Clark J.W., Wayland Treas., Sergeant Sec., R. W. Pearcey S.D., Gieseke J.D., D. Legg I.G., Wallbrecht W.S., Patrick D.C., Bowler Tyler. After this the ceremony was completed by Bro. Andrews giving the addresses, in a manner that elicited the hearty approbation of those present. The brethren then adjourned to banquet, which was served by Mrs. Vause in her satisfactory manner, and to which the brethren did ample justice. The cloth being removed, the usual Loyal toasts were proposed, and heartily responded to. The health of the W.M. was proposed, in a very graceful speech, by Bro. Andrews I.P.M. In response, Bro. Fenner thanked Bro. Andrews for the flattering way in which he had proposed the toast; also the brethren for the cordial manner in which they had received it; he hoped to discharge his duties in as admirable a manner as had Bro. Andrews; he would strive his utmost to give satisfaction to the brethren and promote harmony in the Lodge. The W.M. then, in the name of the Lodge, presented Bro. Andrews with a handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted by the brethren. In doing this, Bro. Fenner descanted upon the many abilities Bro. Andrews had displayed during his year of office. Another souvenir was also presented to the I.P.M., in the shape of a necklet for Mrs. Andrews. This gift was offered in the name of the brethrer of the Lodge, as a mark of their appreciation of Bro. Andrews;

and the W.M. hoped that both he and his wife might live for many years to wear them. Bro. Andrews, in feeling terms, acknowledged the kind marks of their approbation; he assured the brethren that he would always have the interest of the Upton Lodge at heart, and would do his best to further its interests. The Visitors' toast was received with acclamation. The W.M. observed that some of those present were of high Masonic degree, and he felt proud in having such an array of visitors as now sat around him. Bro. Barnes P.M., in an effective speech, complimented the I.P.M. on the excellent manner in which he had discharged his duties during the past year; also, on the admirable way in which he had crowned those duties by installing his successor. He trusted Bro. Andrews might live for many years to wear the jewel the Lodge had presented him that evening. Bros. Turquand P.M. and Wilson P.M. replied for the rest of the Visitors. The Past Masters' toast was also honoured by the brethren in a bumper. Bro. Bratton P.M. (one of the founders of the Lodge) congratulated the Lodge on having such good workers as their present Officers; he complimented Bro. Andrews on the excellent manner in which he had discharged his duties as W.M., and had no doubt the brethren now had a Master who would perform his duties with as much credit to the Lodge as his predecessors. Bros. Brown P.M. and Lyons P.M. also responded. The W.M. then proposed the health of the Treasurer and the Secretary, whom he designated as pillars of the Lodge, and congratulated the brethren on having two such efficient Officers. In the Treasurer was combined the knowledge of a man of business with the kindness of a brother Mason; that had been proved on various occasions. He felt sure that while the Lodge had the advantage of his services no doubt could be found as to its wellbeing. Speaking of Bro. Sargeant, the indefatigable Secretary, the Worshipful Master felt he could hardly do that brother the justice he deserved; the zeal and ability he displayed in assisting the W.M. in discharging the duties of the chair was most commendable; he trusted the brethren would do full honour to the toast, which was then most enthusiastically received. Bro. Wayland in responding assured the brethren that he always strove to do his best for the benefit of the Lodge. If he had been successful in winning their approbation, he was fully satisfied, and would go on discharging his duties with renewed vigour, by so doing he hoped to retain the high opinion the brethren had expressed of him. Bro. Wayland concluded by thanking the brethren warmly for the kind manner his toast had been received. Bro. Sargeant replied; after the excellent speech of Bro. Wayland, he felt he had nothing to say. However, as he was still "on the job" he could only thank the brethren for the hearty reception the toast had met with; he assured them he would perform his duties to the utmost of his ability, and so continue to merit a continuance of their good opinion. In proposing the health of the Officers the W.M. congratulated some of them on their proficiency in the various duties of the Lodge, which was mainly due to regular attendance at the Upton Lodge of Instruction. Bro. S.W. replied, in a short speech. As neither time or trains wait for man, the W.M. then summoned the Tyler, whose toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close. The Visitors were Bros. Barnes P.M. 933, Turquand P.P.G.D.C. Surrey P.M. 1556, Wilson P.M. 1155, Read P.M. 781 and 1349, Medland P.M. 781, Biddle P.M. 193, Fisk and Wills 212, Ford 180, and Woodman 1524. The following brethren kindly contributed to the harmony of the evening:—Bros. Sargeant, Ford, Read and Stroud, each was accompanied on the piano by Bro. Sherwin, who also during the evening discoursed some excellent music.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE, No. 1834.

THE ceremony of installing the Worshipful Master elect for the ensuing year of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1834 (Bro. Thomas Good), took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Landport, on Tuesday, 24th inst., in the presence of a large number of members of the Craft. The ceremony was performed according to ancient custom by Bro. S. R. Ellis P.M., to whom a vote of thanks was subsequently accorded for the admirable manner in which he carried out the duty. At the conclusion, the new W.M. appointed and invested his Officers as follow:—Bros. H. Cawte I.P.M., George Mason S.W., W. D. Parkhouse J.W., S. R. Ellis P.M. Treas., J. W. Gardner Secretary, Westaway D.C., George Brown S.D., G. Banning J.D., T. Larcum I.G., J. Moody and J. S. Gardner Stewards, J. Exell Tyler. Lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to the dining-room, where an excellent banquet was served, under the direction of the officials of the Freemasons' Club, with the result of whose first efforts in this direction universal satisfaction was expressed. The W.M. presided, being supported during the evening by the following brethren:—Bros. H. Cawte I.P.M. P.P.G.W., A. Cudlipp P.M. 847 P.P.G.D.C. (Mayor of Portsmouth), M. E. Frost P.M. 497, &c., P.G. Treasurer, G. Felton Lancaster P.M. 903 P.P.G.D.C., E. S. Main P.M. 903 P.P.G.D.C. Secretary Freemasons' Hall and Club Company, S. R. Ellis P.M. 342 P.P.G. Reg., E. Groves P.M. 487 P.P.G.D.C., Weeks P.M. 804, J. T. Craven P.M. 342 P.P.G.S.B., G. Wilkins P.M. 342 P.P.G.S.B., W. C. Redward P.M. 342, &c., C. B. Whitcomb P.M. 1705, J. W. Willmott P.M. 342 P.G.S., R. Barnes W.M. 342 P.G.D.C., A. R. Holbrook W.M. 309, W. Dart W.M. 804, R. W. Mitchell W.M. 903, G. R. Strick W.M. 1423, G. J. Arney W.M. 1658, G. Grant W.M. 1705, C. G. Adames S.W. 1775, H. J. Andrews J.W. 1776, F. Wilton P.P.G. Organist, J. E. Buck J.D. 342, D. Whitehall, G. T. Cunningham, Niven, Box, Marshallsay, the Officers of the Lodge, &c.

On Tuesday, 24th inst., Major Chard, V.C., R.E., took the Masonic degree of the Rose Croix at the Huyshe Rose Chapter, Huyshe Temple, Plymouth. Bro. I. Watts president.

SAILING BARGE MATCH.

Amongst the annual "outings" which Londoners enjoy must now be included the Race for Sailing Barges. To many inhabitants of the Great City the event may be unknown, but to all connected in any way with the river below bridge, it is looked forward to with pleasure, as affording a most enjoyable day's outing. Some take water at London Bridge, but Blackwall Pier is the great rendezvous and starting point for those intending to accompany the barges in their contest for the Championship of the Thames. Here the various craft, from the largest paddle steamer chartered for a Committee-boat down to the tiny steam launch, embark their happy freights and make for Erith, where the smart barges are moored in readiness to start for the Nore Light-Ship, round which and back to Erith is the usual course. This year the match was sailed on Tuesday, 17th inst., when the barges were favoured with a stiff breeze, which carried them through the water at such a rate that it was only the fastest steamers which could keep up with them. Amongst the few steamers that did, and went the whole course, was the Steam Yacht "Game Cock," of which Bro. E. Martin (Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87) is Captain. This vessel had been chartered and provisioned for the day by Bro. J. R. Cox, of the John Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, who invited the W.M. and other members of that Lodge to accompany the barges. She started from Blackwall Pier at 10 o'clock, with about twenty brethren on board, and was not long running down to Erith to witness the barges start, and after affording her passengers an excellent view of the race, from beginning to end, landed them back at Blackwall before 8 o'clock. For a trip down the river or out to sea, there is no better vessel for a small party than the "Game Cock."

Sun and Sector Lodge, No. 962.—A meeting was held on 18th August, at Lodge Rooms, Portland-square, Workington, Cumberland. Bros. J. L. Coverdale W.M., D. B. Whinstone S.W., Wm. Jackson J.W., G. Brooker Treas., Jas. Thompson Secretary, Wm. Whitehead S.D., J. F. Barnett Steward, A. Osbaldeston I.G., J. Trougher Tyler; P.M.'s J. Wood, J. A. Salkeld, H. Irving, Rev. E. M. Rice, &c. The business comprised the raising of Bro. F. W. Paul. The members considered the subject of providing refreshments after the monthly Lodge meetings. After free and full discussion, it was unanimously agreed to do so. The balance-sheet for the past year was read and adopted.

Friars' Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning town, on Tuesday, 24th inst. P.M. Myers W.M., P.M. Cundick S.W., Forss J.W., Watson I.G., Worsley Secretary, P.M. Musto Preceptor. Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes read; the Lodge then opened in the second and third degrees, and resumed to the second, when the following sections were worked by the brethren:—First Bro. Watson, second Johnson, third Pavitt, fourth Forss, fifth Musto. In the third degree Bro. Smith worked the first, Musto second, and Forss third. Lodge then resumed to the first, when Bro. P.M. Cundick was unanimously elected to fill the office of W.M. for Tuesday next, when the installation ceremony will be rehearsed by Bro. Cundick. This will be a treat for all who can possibly attend, as the working of Bro. Cundick is not to be surpassed. P.M.'s T. J. Barnes, Musto and Myers will support him on the occasion.

Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1445.—At a meeting held at Bro. Stevenson's, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, on Monday, 23rd August. Present:—Bro. W. H. Myers P.M. Preceptor, Bro. S. L. Green W.M., Goddard S.W., Partridge J.W.; also Bros. McDonald, Lyons, Kimbell, Robson, Seymour-Clarke Sec., and others. After usual formalities, the Lodge was opened to the third degree, and Bro. Lyons was raised. The ceremony being very well rehearsed by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees, and Bro. McDonald worked the second and third sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed in due form. Next Monday being the fifth Monday in the month, the usual practice will be adhered to, and the ceremony of Installation will this month be rehearsed by Bro. McCarthy W.M. 1076. Judging from former experience of that brother's working, Craftsmen will do well not to miss so good an opportunity of acquiring Masonic knowledge and instruction. Bro. T. E. Goddard will be duly installed as W.M.

Hackney Carriages and Stage Coaches were first subjected to a duty or licence by the Act 14 Charles II. cap. 2, but this was a local tax imposed for the purpose of raising a fund for paving, amending, and enlarging the streets within the bills of mortality. In 1694 (5 William & Mary) the produce of the tax was transferred to the National Exchequer, and has ever since remained a part of the Public Revenue. In this year every Hackney Carriage was charged £50 for the licence for twenty-one years, and £1 per annum duty. Stage Coaches were licenced for one year only and paid £8 each. These duties were at first collected by a Board of Commissioners of Hackney Coaches. However consolidation with other boards was recommended in 1781, but not effected till fifty years later, when it was joined to the Board of Stamps.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—For bad legs, bad breasts, scorbutic and scrofulous sores, this is a genuine specific. The grateful and earnest gratitude of thousands who have experienced its unrivalled power over these complaints, and who have been raised from prostrate helplessness and a condition loathsome to themselves and others, renders it quite unnecessary to enlarge in this place upon its extraordinary virtues. The parts affected should be bathed in lukewarm water, and when the pores are thereby opened, the Ointment should be rubbed in, at least twice a day. It is always advisable to take Holloway's Pills in these disorders, as this much assists the Ointment's action. The Pills check the fever, purify the blood, and eject all morbid matter engendered by these diseases.

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, 28th AUGUST.

- 1541—Alexandra Palace
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
R. A. 178—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan.

MONDAY, 30th AUGUST.

- 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, Gnu Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8 (Instruction)
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
1445—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, at 8 (Inst.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In.)
1507—Metropolitan, White Swan, Coleman-street, E.C., 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 (In.)
1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1695—New Finsbury Park, Plimsoll Arms, St. Thomas Road, at 8 (Instruction)
62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
148—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
1177—Tenby, Royal Assembly Rooms, Tenby, Pembroke
1449—Royal Military, Canterbury, at 8 (Instruction)
R. A. 418—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax

TUESDAY, 31st AUGUST.

- House Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Croydon, at 3
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)
1041—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1349—Triars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (In.)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30 (Instruction)
299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton
1566—Ellington, Bell Hotel, Maidenhead
R. A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester

WEDNESDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER.

- Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, at 6 for 7
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
538—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
1298—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1707—Eleanor, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, E.C.
1791—Creston, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate, at 8 (In.)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
71—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
298—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, Rochdale
326—Moir, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol
327—Wigton St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
406—Northern Courtiers, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne
417—Faith and Unity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire.
594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
645—Humphrey Chesham, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
678—Earl Ellesmere, Church Hotel, Kersley, Farnworth, near Bolton.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury (Inst.)
992—St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton.
1010—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship-street, Hull.
1013—Royal Victoria, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland. (Instruction.)
1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
1091—Erme, Erme House, Ivybridge, Devon
1107—Cornwallis, Masonic Hall, Erith.
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Clayport-street, Alnwick
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street.
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea
1335—Lindsay, 20 King-street, Wigan.
1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh, Lancashire.
1356—De Grey and Ripon, 110 North Hill Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool (In.)
1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester
1431—St. Alphege, George Hotel, Solihull
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull (Inst.)
1620—Marlborough, Derby Hall, The Brook, Liverpool
R. A. 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heekmoudwike
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds
M. M. 36—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Duke-street, Barrow-in-Furness.
M. M. 56—Temperance, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
M. M. 65—West Lancashire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

THURSDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER.

- 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Gre., 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)
211—St. Michael, The Moorgate, Moorgate Street, E.C., at 8 (Instruction)
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.)
1228—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
1445—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston
1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James Street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (Inst.)
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.)
M. M.—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-rd., Dalston, E., at 8.30 (Inst.)

- 21—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
31—United Industrious, Masonic Room, Canterbury
38—Union, Council Chamber, Chichester
123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
254—Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry
266—Naphali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
294—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks
295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
309—Harmony, Red Lion, Fareham
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.
425—Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester.
446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire
463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
637—Portland, Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent.
792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bulring-lane, Great Grimsby.
974—Pentalpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
976—Royal Clarence, Blue Bull, Bruton, Somerset
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.
1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirkby Lonsdale
1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland
1282—Ancholme, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire
1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Topsham, Devonshire
1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire
1360—Royal Arthur, Village Club Lecture Hall, Wimbledon
1384—Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes
1473—Bootle, 146 Barry-street, Bootle, at 6 (Instruction)
1482—Isle of Axholme, Masonic Hall, Epworth, Linc.
1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich
1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms Hotel, Padilham, near Burnley
1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley
1594—Cedowain, Public Booms, Newtown, Montgomeryshire
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Baling, at 7.30. (Instruction)
1763—St. Mary, Masonic Hall, Thame, Oxon
1790—Old England, Masonic Hall, New Thornton Heath
1807—Loyal Wye, Builth, Breconshire
R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield
R. A. 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
R. A. 753—Bridgewater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
R. A. 1214—Scarborough Hall, Scarborough, Caledonian-road, Batley
R. A. 1337—Stockwell, Half Moon, Herne Hill.
M. M. 53—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

FRIDAY, 3rd SEPTEMBER.

- 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)
768—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction)
902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
923—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8 (Instruction)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1283—Finsbury Park M. M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8 (In.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 8.0 (Inst.)
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)
Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 8.30.
41—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
412—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon.
837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
839—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester
1074—Underley, Masonic Rooms, Kirkby Lonsdale
1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
1333—Atheletan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.
1387—Chorlton, Masonic Room, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1393—Hammer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
1528—Fort, Red Lion Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall.
1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
1648—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
1664—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Gosforth.
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
R. A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, at 5.30

SATURDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
R. A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
1223—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent
1458—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester
R. A. 308—Affability, Station House Hotel, Bottoms, Stansfield

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

St. Michael's Lodge of Instruction, No. 211.—A meeting was held on Thursday evening, at The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, when the following were present: Bros. Payne W.M., F. Brasted S.W., Nash J.W., Radcliffe S.D., Pepper, Froom, Pearce, G. H. Stephens, Morgan, Graham, King Preceptor, &c. After preliminaries, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Pearce candidate. Bro. Pepper offered himself as a candidate for passing, underwent examination, and the W.M. in the usual course rehearsed the ceremony. Some sections of the second lecture were then worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed in the second degree, and Bro. Brasted was elected W.M. for next meeting. The brethren of this Lodge of Instruction have secured most comfortable quarters at the Moorgate.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. Latterly we have not heard so frequently from the Secretary of this popular Lodge of Instruction as we could desire. However, being in the neighbourhood of Kew on Friday last, we spent a very pleasant hour with the members. We found no less

than four Past Masters of the Mother Lodge present, and a goodly attendance of members to support them. The Lodge was opened at 8 o'clock, by Bro. Maton, whilst Bro. Gellowski and Walter Goss P.M. respectively filled the chairs of Senior and Junior Warden. Bros. C. Andrews P.M. S.D., L. Franckel J.D., J. M. Mitchell I.G., J. Chambers Roe P.M. Preceptor, Henry E. Tucker Treasurer; also Bros. W. Gardiner P.M., Gomm W.M. 780, B. Blasby, J. Brill, &c. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation. Bro. W. Gomm then took the chair and rehearsed the ceremony of passing, Bro. Morgan acting as candidate. The W.M. resumed the chair, and several matters were discussed, relative to the time for commencing business, &c. Bro. Gellowski was elected W.M. for next meeting, and then Lodge was closed. Bro. Gunner, the Secretary, was away for his holidays. The Lodge room is well appointed, and Host Brill seems ever anxious to minister to the comfort of his patrons. The members of the Lodge always accord a hearty welcome to visiting brethren.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Hold at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on Tuesday, 24th instant. Bros. Polak W.M., Carr S.W., Brasted J.W., Marsh S.D., Williams J.D., Smyth I.G., J. Lorkin Secretary, Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Dallas, Christian, and Johnson. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Johnson candidate. Bro. C. Lorkin worked the first, second, and third sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. J. Lorkin was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. P.M. Wallington will rehearse the ceremony of installation on Tuesday evening next.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—At the Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, on Thursday, 19th inst. This being the meeting previous to the assembling of the Mother Lodge, which had been summoned for emergency business on Saturday, according to custom the Officers of the year (or so many of them as could attend) took their respective positions. The Lodge of Instruction was therefore formed as follows:—Bros. H. Kasner W.M., A. J. Burr S.W., J. Green J.W., J. J. Clarke S.D., W. Seward J.D., F. Millsom I.G., J. Wells Sec., H. E. Tucker Treasurer and Preceptor; also Bros. J. Chambers Roe P.M., W. W. Morgan, E. C. Porter, E. J. Acworth, Meadows, H. Stephens, Bellerby, &c. Lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. ably rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Morgan acting as candidate. The arrangements for presenting the proposed testimonial to Bro. F. Delevante were discussed, and after other business had been considered Lodge was closed.

Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction, No. 1278.—On Wednesday, 25th August, at the Salmon and Ball, Bethnal-green-road, E. Bros. Wooding W.M., Abrahams S.W., Ward J.W., Smith Treasurer, Hand Sec., Tyre S.D., R. Smith J.D., Clements I.G., Hogg Preceptor. Visitor—Bro. Smith, &c. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second, and Bro. Smith answered the questions leading to the third, and was entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Smith acting as candidate. Lodge resumed to the first degree. Bro. Hand worked the first, Bro. Wooding the second section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren; and Bro. Hogg worked the third, assisted by Bro. Wooding. Bro. Abrahams was appointed W.M. for next week. Nothing further offering, the Lodge was closed in due form.

West Middlesex Lodge, No. 1612.—An emergency meeting of this prosperous Lodge was held on Saturday, the 21st inst., at the Ealing Institute. The W.W. Bro. Henry Kasner presided, and he was supported by the immediate Past Master Bro. T. Kingston; Bros. A. J. Burr S.W., J. Green J.W., J. Chambers Roe P.M. Secretary, Henry E. Tucker Treasurer, W. Seward jun. J.D., Fisher I.G., F. Delevante Organist, Rawles Tyler. Amongst the visitors were:—Bros Walter Goss P.M. 780, Eydmann 780, Manton 780, Owen, and W. W. Morgan Sec. 211. The Lodge was formed and opened in regular way, Mr. Geo. Crook, who had been ballotted for at a previous meeting was introduced, and the W.M. performed the ceremony of initiation in a manner that will sustain the reputation this Lodge has acquired for perfect working. The main business of the day, however, was formally to offer to Bro. F. Delevante, Organist of the Lodge, some slight recognition for the many services he had rendered the brethren, and with a view to affording him some help at the present time, when he is sorely afflicted as to his eyesight, an affliction which renders it necessary he should seek some rest from his professional labours, and which may, though we sincerely hope it may not, result in a permanent deprivation of that greatest of all blessings—sight. The W.M. on rising to explain to Bro. Delevante what the members desired, said he considered what he had then to do a most pleasing duty, indeed he might say the most pleasing duty of his year of office. At an earlier meeting the brethren had voted a sum of £5, this being the maximum sum allowed by the Bye Laws, towards a testimonial. This had been liberally added to by the members, and those associated with the Lodge of Instruction working under its warrant. The Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, which meets in the immediate neighbourhood, likewise had expressed a desire to participate in this tribute of respect, and the united exertions of those who had taken part resulted in the realisation of a goodly sum. The brethren who had the conduct of affairs had been somewhat exercised as to how the money should be expended; several propositions were made and duly considered; it had been suggested that a watch and chain should be purchased, but this idea was abandoned. Eventually it was decided that the

testimonial should take the more substantial form of a purse of money, and that the good feeling of those who contributed should be expressed in the shape of an illuminated vellum. Bro. Kasner then formally presented these gifts, assuring Brother Delevante of the firm hold he had on the respect and esteem of the brethren, and personally expressing a hope that the purse he had now the gratification to present might ever retain a goodly bulk, and never be unequal to the demands the recipient might be called to make upon it. The illuminated testimonial, with the purse of money, were then formally handed over to Bro. Delevante. We may state here that to Bro. J. Chambers Roe P.M., had been entrusted the preparations of the gift. It displayed most artistic taste on the part of that brother; the execution was faultless, and reflected greatly on the refined spirit in which the whole was conceived. We append copy of the inscription:—

This Testimonial,
With a Purse of Sovereigns,
Was presented to Bro. F. DELEVANTE,
By the Brethren of
THE WEST MIDDLESEX LODGE, No. 1612,
And the Lodge of Instruction attached thereto,
And in conjunction with
The Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780,
As a mark of respect and esteem for services rendered as Organist,
and for his genial kindness, affability, and brotherly
love towards all.
HENRY KASNER W.M. 1612.
ADAM J. BURR S.W.
JAS. GREEN J.W.
HENRY E. TUCKER, Preceptor of Instruction No. 1612.
J. CHAMBERS ROE, Preceptor Lodge of Instruction No. 780.
Ealing, 21st August 1880.

Bro. Delevante, on whom the remarks of the W.M. seemed to make a deep impression, said that the kind sympathy expressed by Bro. Kasner, accompanied as it was by so weighty an earnest of their good feeling, had left him—loquacious as he generally was—almost without the power of speech. He felt somewhat in the position of the earnest toiler in a gold field, who has spent week after week in ineffectual labour, and who suddenly drops upon a vein of the bright shining metal. The, to him, event of the day, was wholly unanticipated. True, that prince of good Masons, Bro. Beasley, some time since had thrown out a hint that his services deserved some recognition, but he (Bro. Delevante) did not feel he had done anything worthy of special recognition; moreover, he felt the occasion was inopportune, as the members of the Lodge had heavy claims upon them. With respect to what the W.M. had said in regard to his affliction, he was about to take—on medical advice—a short sea trip, and the brethren might rest assured that the surroundings of that trip would be made none the less pleasant by two or three of the bright coins contained in the well-furnished purse he held. As to the handsome Testimonial, nothing could be in better taste. He was, indeed, proud of its expression of good feeling, and felt sure it would be equally valued by his children and his children's children. He sincerely hoped he might benefit by the voyage, as in that case it might be said—if that were possible—their kindness had a double value. He thanked those who, like our brethren of old, had worked so noiselessly, that not even a sound of what they were doing had up to this day reached him. He accepted their gift—yea, as the salt of the earth;—if he took but a pinch of it, it would add zest to his enjoyment. He was not going away for long; he trusted he might return benefitted by his trip, and that he might participate with the brethren in many future meetings, where their conduct might be governed by faith, hope, and charity; and that the Lodge and its members might continue in unity, peace, and concord. This completing the business of the day, Lodge was closed. The brethren then repaired to the Feathers' Hotel, where Bro. Stephens supplied an inexpensive but substantial dinner and dessert, which was placed upon the table with every regard to detail, and appeared to give unqualified satisfaction to those who partook. Bro. Kasner presided, and on the removal of the cloth gave the customary toasts, which were severally honoured and responded to. In the course of the evening some capital songs were sung; amongst those who contributed to the harmony we may enumerate Bros. Meadows, Green, Parsons, Coop, Youens, Clark, Moton, Morgan, &c. Bro. Delevante acted as accompanist.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 8, PROMENADE CONCERTS.
HER MAJESTY'S.—At 8, HAVERLY'S AMERICAN UNITED MASTODON MINSTRELS. Wednesday and Saturday, at 3 also.
DRURY LANE.—At 7.30, A SERIOUS AFFAIR. At 8, THE WORLD.
HAYMARKET.—At 8, A FAIR ENCOUNTER. At 8.15, A BRIDAL TOUR.
ADELPHI.—At 7.20, THE MAID OF CROISSEY. At 9, FORBIDDEN FRUIT.
GAIETY.—At 7.15, THE WATERMAN. At 8.15, HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS. At 9.45, YOUNG RIP VAN WINKLE. On Monday, THE MIGHTY DOLLAR.
OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FARCE. At 8, THE EVICTION. Last night.
STRAND.—At 7.15, RUTH'S ROMANCE. At 8.0, MADAME FAVART. Last night.
VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, OUR BITTEREST FOE. At 8.15, THE GUV'NOR, &c.
CRITERION.—At 8, JILTED. At 8.45, BETSY.
OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8, IN THE SULK. At 8.45, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE.
FOLLY.—At 7.45, HESTER'S MYSTERY. At 8.45, THE UPPER CRUST
CONNAUGHT.—At 7.30, THE RENDEZVOUS, and FALSELY JUDGED.
IMPERIAL.—On Monday, at 3, YOUNG RIP VAN WINKLE, and LISCHEN AND FRISCHEN.
NEW SADLER'S WELLS.—At 7.30, DRINK. On Monday, JO.
ALHAMBRA. At 7.30, THE RENDEZVOUS. At 8.0, LA FILLE DU TAMBOUR MAJOR, &c.
STANDARD.—At 8, THE DANITES.
CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CHORAL FESTIVAL OF THE TONIC SOL-FA CHORAL ASSOCIATION. On Thursday, FIREWORKS, &c.
ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, &c. Open Daily.
EGYPTIAN HALL.—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, at 8. HERR FRIKELL at 3 (except Saturday).
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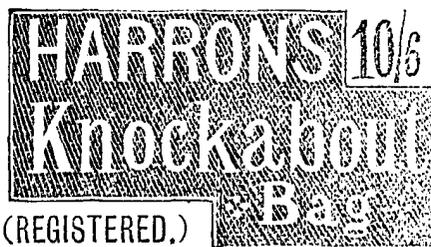
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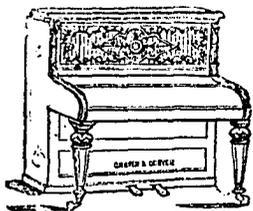
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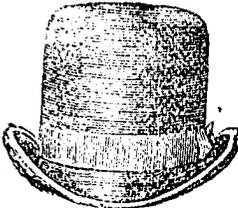
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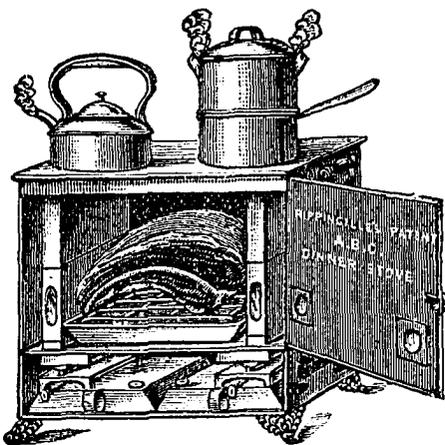
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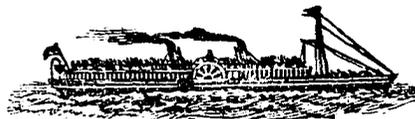
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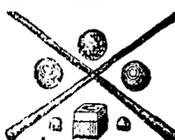
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