

THE

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THE APPROACHING SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

AMONG the first matters which require attention on the annual resumption of Masonic work are the elections for the two Schools connected with the English Craft. To many brethren, indeed, the receipt of the ballot paper for the October election of one or other of these Institutions is looked upon as the call "from refreshment to labour," while to others they serve as signals of the rapid approach of winter, and reminders that the period of Masonic activity is actually at hand. For the next three weeks there will be bustle and excitement in many a family whose hope is centred in the success of one of its members at the coming elections, while the same may be said of at least a considerable portion of the Masonic world at large: for when we take into consideration that there are no less than one hundred and twenty-seven applicants before the Committees of the two Schools, we may imagine that the friends and supporters of the candidates form no inconsiderable portion of those who take an interest in the welfare of the Order. Thanks to the publicity which has been given during the past few years to our charitable Institutions, and the hearty support they receive from all quarters, there are now few parts of the country or sections of the brethren but are in some way or other interested in the welfare of the Charities, and solicitous for the success of one or more of the many applicants seeking relief from the funds at the disposal of the respective Committees. We are aware that in many instances Provincial or other Associations, as well as private influence, have secured the proxies lately issued to the subscribers: yet there are doubtless some who are still at liberty as regards the disposal of their votes, and for their guidance as well as for the information of those who have not yet become entitled to rank as subscribers, we briefly put before our readers the needs and merits of the several candidates, or so much thereof as may be gathered from the information given in the published particulars of each case. We do so with the hope that the recital of these plain unvarnished facts may prove sufficient to soften the hearts of many whose circumstances in life render them able to afford assistance to the less fortunate members of the human family, and trust that our remarks may render the appeals of future Stewards and others who work in the good cause easier, and the responses heartier than has been the case in past years. We feel assured that the greater publicity there is given to the work of Masonic charity—in all its forms—the less need will there be to feel there are so many worthy of assistance to whom no aid can be afforded.

As we have already stated, there are one hundred and twenty-seven applicants for admission to the Schools at the forthcoming elections—fifty-four girls and seventy-three boys. We understand that the petition of one of the latter—George Arthur Thomas, No. 34 on the list—has been withdrawn. Of this number, according to present arrangements thirty-three only can be elected, there being seventeen declared vacancies in the Girls' School, and sixteen in the Boys' School. One gleam of sunshine, however, remains. It will be remembered that at the beginning of the present year the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls sanctioned the expenditure of a sum of money for the purchase of Lyncombe House and grounds, and in the event of the alterations there needed being effected in time, an additional twenty-five girls will

be elected—that being the number for whom accommodation is provided in the new building. As there is every probability that such will be the case, we shall base our remarks on that assumption; but at the same time would remind brethren who have the conduct of cases that it is bad policy to make sure of securing success without working for it. Even should the twenty-five additional vacancies to which we have referred be declared, there will still be some whose fate will be to be returned as unsuccessful, and failure on such occasion as this is likely to be will show weakness or indifference in the highest degree. We, therefore, anticipate the election of fifty-eight of the one hundred and twenty-six candidates still on the list, so that there is disappointment in store for sixty-eight of them—twelve girls and fifty-six boys.

As regards the candidates on the "Girls'" list, twenty-three of the fifty-four appear now for the first time, thirteen for the second, fourteen for the third, and two each for the fourth and fifth times respectively; while seven of them (Nos. 10, 27, 30, 36, 47, 48 and 49) make now the last application the rules of the School and their age will permit. Of these, No. 10, A. M. L. Stewini, one of six children left parentless, brings forward 506 votes from two previous elections. No. 27, S. M. W. Thomings, an only child, dependent on her mother, took part as a candidate at the last election, but no votes appear to have been recorded on her behalf, a fact which, although it may appear strange, augurs well, as doubtless the Province (Warwick) to which the case is accredited have the matter in hand, and having only one other case for this election will doubtless be able to return the two. No. 30, F. Riddell, has 128 votes to her credit from last April, she is one of three children left with neither father nor mother, a fact which the charity committee of Hants have doubtless taken into their consideration. The other four are each first applications. No. 36, E. M. Lewis, from Worcestershire, one of ten left fatherless; No. 47, M. O'Kell, from East Lancashire, an only child, dependent on a widowed mother; No. 48, G. E. Lee (West Yorks), one of five similarly placed, except that one is partly cared for; and No. 49, G. Ashworth, also from the Eastern Division of Lancashire, one of four children without a father. The special nature of these seven cases being last applications renders it more desirable that an extra effort should be made next month to place them on the roll of "successful."

London sends up fifteen candidates to compete for the present vacancies, ten of whom have already stood one or more contests. No. 3, E. A. Cecil, whose petition was approved prior to the alteration in the laws governing the subject, has a sister in the School, and comes forward with nearly a certainty of success on this occasion, having 1184 votes to her credit from the three previous elections in which she has taken a part. Next in order of seniority as regards number of votes in hand is No. 11, S. Riley, who has a brother in the Boys' School. From two previous attempts she has succeeded in securing a total of 751 votes, with which number she starts on the present occasion. No. 26, M. A. E. Skelton, has 655 votes to the good from April last; she is one of eight children dependent on their mother, who we sincerely hope will have her heart gladdened at this election by the success of her daughter. No. 24, R. Carey, one of six orphans similarly situated, has 515 votes brought forward from the last election, which is the only one she has taken a part in; she also stands a good chance. No. 25, A. L. Ford, appears on the list for the second time, and has 371 votes already recorded. Both her parents are living, and have to support her and one other child, which is

the only information we can gather from the published particulars. We think some reason should be assigned for the acceptance of this petition, as, unless there are some special circumstances connected with the case, we cannot see why the funds of the Charity should be taxed with the education and maintenance of this child, both of whose parents are living, and, judging from outward appearances, are in a position to maintain their offspring. We have referred to this candidature at some length, as we are acquainted with the residence of the parents, and think it is a case which clearly demonstrates the need there is for further details being given. We presume there are some special features which warranted the acceptance of the petition, and in such a case we should be the first to wish the parents success. Our remarks are not made against them individually, but against a system we think needs improvement. No. 21, E. Evans, whose father is dead, is one of five children left dependent on their mother; her father was a member of the High Cross Lodge, from which and from other friends 347 votes have already been secured; if the Lodge takes up the case next month, and the members do their best, there should be no fear of failure. No. 8, F. M. I. Oberdoerffer, who has 265 votes in hand from two previous elections, is another instance where the particulars supplied to the general body of subscribers are incomplete. Here also both parents are living, and there are also but two children dependent on them. Surely there are some special features likewise connected with this case which should be notified. Nos. 7, R. P. Pelham, and 17, K. S. Mee, have each 264 votes in hand, and each have taken part in two previous elections. The former has a sister in the Institution; the candidate and one other child are still dependent on their widowed mother. K. S. Mee is one of four children, whose father died in 1872. No. 22, A. H. Nicholls, who has a brother in the Boys' School, has stood one previous election, on which occasion 27 votes were polled on her behalf; she and three other children are dependent on their mother. Of the remaining London candidates, all of whom are fatherless, and now make their first application, No. 45 on the list, I. E. Wilkinson, is one of eight children, while the others, No. 39, E. S. Smith, No. 40, M. M. Gough, No. 44, E. G. Morgan, and No. 46, E. Delafons, are each members of families of six. M. M. Gough has a brother in the Boys' School.

The provinces are headed, so far as number of candidates is concerned, by the joint division of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, which puts forward six cases, to one of whom—F. Riddell, No. 30—we have already referred, among the last applications. No. 5, E. B. King, occupies a position which renders her almost certain of success next month, she having 1097 votes in hand from the two elections she has already taken part in: both her parents are living, and she and four other children look to them for support. No. 4, A. E. Hill, is one of four fatherless children still dependent on their mother, who has one other daughter in the Institution; the present applicant brings forward 187 votes from her three previous attempts. No. 20, M. McKinney, one of three fatherless children, has but two votes in hand, but that number will we doubt not be so far increased before long as to give her a place in the School to which she seeks to be elected. No. 31, M. J. C. Fry, has also appeared on one previous ballot list, but on that occasion no votes were recorded on her behalf: she is one of five left to the care of a widowed mother. No. 35, A. E. Turner, the only new case from this district, is one of a family of three dependent on their mother. Kent, East Lancashire, and West Yorkshire, each send three candidates to the poll. Kent has already polled 734 votes in favour of No. 23, A. E. Watson, who was a candidate in April last for the first time and is one of nine children, for whom a widowed mother has to provide. No. 29, F. E. Popkiss is one of six children of the late Bro. H. P. Popkiss, who, it may be remembered, was one of the pilots drowned by the foundering of a cutter in the Channel. She brings forward 214 votes, and we hope will secure sufficient support at the coming election to secure her admission to the School. The case is one which, at the time of the father's death, caused great sympathy to be expressed towards those he left behind, and it seems hard that even a second application should have been necessary. No. 41, E. B. Wyatt, is a candidate whose helpless condition should entitle her to special sympathy. She is one of two children left with neither parent, and we cannot but express a hope that she will be successful at the coming contest. Two of the East Lancashire cases have already received

notice among the last application cases; the other (No. 50, L. Williamson) is one of a family of eight, of whom two only are partially provided for, the other six being entirely dependent on their mother. The West Yorkshire candidates are each new cases, No. 48 also being a last application. No. 32 (C. Hartop), whose father died in June of last year, is one of five children, of whom three are entirely, and two partly, dependent on the surviving parent. No. 43 (M. E. Heaton) also relies for maintenance on the exertions of her mother, who has two other children to provide for; still we doubt not, ere another month has gone by, the one now seeking election to the Girls' School will be among those announced as successful. Devon, Lincoln, Somerset, Suffolk, Warwick, and Wiltshire each have two candidates, Devonshire being represented by Nos. 2 (E. Brown) and 6 (M. C. Drake); the former has stood four previous elections, at which only 91 votes have been polled on her behalf. Both her parents are living, and there are eight children dependent on them. No. 6 brings forward 22 votes from the two elections in which she has taken a part; she and six other children are dependent on a widowed mother. Each of the Lincolnshire candidates—No. 12 (A. E. Ashton) and No. 13 (C. A. Crowe)—have taken part in two previous contests, 24 and 16 respectively representing the number of votes now standing to their credit; both are members of families of three, left fatherless. We are aware there are little differences of opinion in this Province, which require adjustment, but, on the principle that those who make wars should fight them out, we think it is time that unanimity was restored, when such results as are here shown occur: forty votes to the credit of two candidates, each of whom has stood two elections, is monstrous. No. 19 (S. G. K. Bartrum), of Somerset, has 768 votes to her credit, so that her success is pretty sure; she and one other child are supported by their mother. No. 42 (N. E. Prideux) is one of four children similarly placed; their father, a member of Lodge No. 291, having died in September of last year. The two Suffolk cases are new ones, No. 51 (M. E. Spalding), both of whose parents are alive, being one of a family of six; and No. 53 (E. M. A. Townsend), whose father is dead, being one of eight requiring attention. Suffolk has on its roll of members some grand supporters of the Charities, and we shall be surprised if, on the present occasion, the result will do aught but add to its reputation. One Warwickshire case (No. 27)—a last application—has already been mentioned; the other is No. 9 (C. E. Coales), who has 237 votes to her credit from two previous elections; her mother is living, and she is one of four whose wants have to be supplied. No. 33 (M. L. Gane) is one of five children of the late Brother R. Gane—at the time of his death Worshipful Master of the Concord Lodge, No. 632, Wiltshire—who are now left to the care of their mother; while No. 54, the other case from this section—G. E. Bradford—is one of a family of four dependent on their parents, both of whom are alive. The ten other candidates we have to notice hail from as many Masonic Provinces or districts, Cambridgeshire in a measure heading the list, its candidate, E. M. Parker, who now appears for the fifth time, being No. 1 on the ballot paper. The small support she has hitherto received—but 75 votes in all—has been the subject of comment upon previous occasions. We can but again regret the apathy of the brethren, who should do their best for the orphan of an old member of their Province. Her mother has five children to provide for, so that the case may fairly be classed as most deserving of sympathy. No. 14 (E. Deacon), third application, has 181 votes to the good; both her parents are living, but her father is suffering from insanity—an affliction which in itself should secure the election of this, one of his seven children. A slight effort on the part of the Essex brethren should suffice to place her in the School, and we expect to hear they are successful. No. 15 (R. A. Bridgman, Hong Kong) has 961 votes, the result of two previous attempts; she has a sister already in the School, and is now the only child dependent on her mother. She is tolerably certain to be successful. No. 16 (A. A. Owens), from the Western Division of South Wales, has stood a like number of elections, and may also be pronounced as safe, her total of votes already polled being 953. Both her parents are dead, and there are four children to be provided for by the charity of friends. No. 18 (S. J. Bennett, Durham) has likewise made two attempts, her votes totalling up to 172; she and three

others are left to the care of their mother. No. 28 (E. G. Gibson), accredited jointly to Canada and Northamptonshire, has a brother in the Boys' School; she will doubtless soon become an inmate of the sister Institution, her total of 631 votes polled in April last being of itself sufficient for the purpose, if the arrangements we referred to in the early part of this notice are completed. She has neither parent living. No. 34 (A. L. Pope) is one of six children of a late member of the Province of Gloucester; if she can secure the support of that district her success is assured. No. 37 (A. A. Allison), from Northumberland, and No. 38 (J. M. Hogg), from Cheshire, each have brothers in the Boys' School. The former is one of three, and the latter of five, children left fatherless. No. 52 (A. M. Shelper), from the Eastern Division of South Wales, brings our review to an end so far as the Girls' Institution is concerned. She is one of five children left dependent on a widowed mother. We have endeavoured, in the foregoing remarks, to be as brief and impartial as possible, and if we have erred in any respect we have done so unintentionally. There are one or two matters to which attention is requisite, but these, being of a general nature, we shall leave for a future opportunity. We shall continue our notice of the remaining candidates—those for the Boys' School—next week.

MORE ABOUT THE IDIOSYNCRASIES OF AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

WE quoted last week a very excellent article from the *Corner Stone*, one of our American Masonic contemporaries, which justifies the views we have more than once expressed of the tendency of Freemasonry in the United States, and though our English High Grade Masons have not laid themselves open to some of the severe strictures of our contemporary, and avoid thrusting themselves continually on the public, they may learn a lesson or two from the article we refer to. Our Grand Lodge certainly does not practise charity with any niggardly hand, nor is it given to "rhetorical display." On the contrary, its benevolence is magnificent, and its meetings of the quietest and most formal character. Our Masonic press, too, has many and many a column "replete with the generous deeds and noble acts of individual Masons, or the liberal donations and timely assistance of Masonic bodies to their poor and impoverished brethren, their weeping widows, and starving orphans," while but very little space is found for recording the labours of Templar and High Grade Masonry. It seems, however, that, according to the *Corner Stone*, the Masonry of the American continent "has gone mad after high degreeism and grand titleism," and it does not seem an unnecessary caution to our brethren in the States to tell them, "that if they do not pay more attention to the pure, simple, beautiful symbolism of the Lodge, and less to the tinsel, furbelow, fuss, and feathers of Scotch Riteism and Templarism, the Craft will yet be shaken to its very foundations." There is a good deal of sound common sense in this. American Masons are very partial to outside display, and opportunities are rarely lost of having grand processions of brethren gorgeously arrayed in their clothing and regalia. So far, we think, the comparison between American and English Masonry is favourable to the latter. We hardly know what a Masonic show means, and the idea of the brethren marching up and down Piccadilly or Regent Street would be laughed to scorn by ninety-nine out of every hundred of our brethren. But there is a good deal of truth in the statement that Lodges here, as well as in America, are "too devoted to work and ritualism." There may not be an absolute desire "to manufacture Masons." But less caution is exercised in accepting candidates than is desirable, and there is undoubtedly a tendency on the part of many brethren to run after those degrees which are outside the pale of pure and ancient Masonry. This tendency, moreover, is greatly fostered by the consideration which is shown for those who have taken these degrees, and are entitled to write half the letters of the alphabet after their names in consequence. Happily, so long as we retain our dislike for outward show, this tendency will prove comparatively harmless. The ruling bodies of our High and other degrees work quietly and unostentatiously. They are liberal in dispensing moneys for a good purpose, and

they show but little care for the erection and decoration of Masonic temples. What is still more to their credit, the balance, as between receipts and expenditure, is invariably on the right side of the account. In fact, with us the study of the High Grades is almost as harmless as it is interesting, and but for the tendency we have mentioned of making much of those who take them, we should be inclined to regard them as ornamental, if neither useful nor necessary adjuncts to Craft Masonry. As to the idea of their ever being likely to unsettle the foundations of the latter, it may be dismissed without a moment's thought. They do not obtrude themselves upon pure Masonry, as they seem to do in the United States.

With the concluding paragraph of the article and the suggestion it contains that "the Freemasonry of the nineteenth century has a holy, glorious, God-inspiring mission to perform," we have no sympathy whatever. We have no faith in Masonic missions, except in so far as it is the duty of all Craftsmen to give practical expression to the virtues they profess. But this is a duty they owe to Society in common with all other men, and the fact of their being Masons entails on them no additional responsibilities. We look to the ministers of religion and men of strong religious instincts to go about reclaiming vicious men from their evil courses, and it is clearly a misconception of the scope of Freemasonry to associate it with the work of religion. It is enough when we fulfil our duties as men and loyal subjects of the Constitution we live under, thus setting a good example to our fellow-subjects. This is the full extent of any "mission," we may have. As regards the terrible picture which our contemporary draws of the "thousands of widows" in our ranks "burning the midnight oil with heated brows and aching hearts;" "of the thousands of starving Masonic orphans running wild in New York and our large cities, learning to curse and swear," and the "numbers among them sinking into idolatry," &c., "through drink," or "seeking solace in the gambler's hell," &c., &c., we are inclined to imagine that it is far too highly coloured to be true, or—and we fear there is no other alternative—Masonry must be a curse to America instead of a blessing. We have said that American Freemasonry is more partial to public displays, and is proud of its gorgeously-decorated temples, its numerous Lodges, its large aggregate of members, and the regalia of the different rites, but it would never have occurred to us to suggest that so much terrible evil was associated with it. We imagine our United States brethren are much like the rest of their countrymen, and possess their fair share of the virtues and the vices of all English-speaking peoples. By all means let us, where necessary, substitute Masonic truth and charity for "false glitter and flimsy tinsel," but we do not care to burden ourselves with a "mission," which is another of the idiosyncrasies of American Masonry.

DEAD.—Busy brain, and heart, and hand alike are dead and sepulchred. The ashlar rough yet rests in the adytum under the touch of the expert—the cubic stone sweats blood, as it were continuously to call the Craft more constantly from refreshment to labour till *at last* from labour to refreshment. What one may have left undone, failing or falling short in, others resuming the work may undertake to bring *form* from voice, and *order* out of chaos. Likewise comes good from evil; light from darkness. And man approaches his Maker, all harmonizing, that the Master have pleasure, while we profit thereby, both body and soul to God's greater glory for the good and illumination of humanity. Honour the loyal. Hardship to the craven! Truth the token! And Death, Time's leveller on earth.

Marble and recording brass decay,
And, like the graver's money, pass;
The works of man inherit, as is just,
Their author's frailty, and return to dust.
But *Truth* divine, for ever stands secure,
Its head is guarded, as its base is sure;
Fixed as the rolling flood of endless years,
The pillar of eternal plan appears,
The raving storm and dashing wave defies,
Built by that Architect who built the skies.

Again, night is nigh; the circle narrows. Companions! Zeal, caution, *Silence!* Draw the veil! The door shuts, and the Craft stands closed till the sound of the gavel in the Grand East.—*Rev. H. G. Perry.*

Good sense and good nature are never separated, though the ignorant world has thought otherwise. Good nature, by which I mean beneficence and candour, is the product of right reason; which of necessity will give allowance to the failings of others, by considering that there is nothing perfect in mankind; and by distinguishing that which comes nearest to excellency, though not absolutely free from faults, will certainly produce a candour in the judge.—*Dryden.*

LODGE HISTORIES.

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In accordance with a policy we have uniformly followed, of utilising whatever information relating to the rise and progress of individual Lodges comes in our way, we have great pleasure in reproducing from the columns of the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle* a very neatly and artistically written sketch of the St. Hilda's Lodge, No. 240, Shields, which in the course of the present year has had the good fortune to celebrate the Centenary Anniversary of its constitution. We congratulate our brethren of that Lodge on so auspicious an event, and likewise on having found so able an exponent of its history as the writer of the articles in our Newcastle contemporary.

CENTENARY OF ST. HILDA'S LODGE, No. 240.

THE brethren of the "mystic tie" connected with St. Hilda's Lodge, No. 240, of South Shields, of the Grand Lodge of England, recently celebrated their festival in honour of completing the Centenary of their Lodge. In connection with the event it may be interesting to the many members of the Craft to peruse a few extracts from the Minute-Books of the Lodge—which have been carefully preserved—as showing the progress of Freemasonry in South Shields and the immediate district, and as illustrating the intimate connection between Freemasonry and many important local events.

On what is marked as page 4 of the first Minute-Book of St. Hilda's Lodge, or, as it was then called, St. Hild's Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, is the following modest record of the constitution of the Lodge one hundred years ago:—"South Shields, Mar. 19th 1780. This day the Right Worshipfull Francis Peacock, Master of St. John's Lodge of Newcastle, No. 384, constituted the undernamed brethren into a regular Lodge, by the name of St. Hilda's, No. 521:—Richard Forrest W.M., Jas. Pletts S.W., Wm. Bolam J.W., Treasurer; Roger Whitfield, Secretary, Edward Giles, John Smith, Stewards." The only addition to this all-important inauguration are the following names of those who were present:—James Simpson, William Tate, Thomas Stephenson, Roger Todd, and James Harrison; and the following who as visitors graced the ceremony:—Francis Peacock, Samuel Wilson, William Anderson, and Ralph Brown, from St. John's Lodge. Such is the brief and bald chronicle which is handed down to us of what, according to the ritual and requirements of the present age, is a beautiful, imposing, and strikingly suggestive ceremonial. The severe curtness of the first Secretary (Roger Whitfield) of St. Hilda's Lodge leaves us entirely free to picture to ourselves, according as our respective imaginations may direct, the nature, extent, and meaning of the ceremony which one hundred years ago was duly performed in the furtherance and spread of the tenets of the ancient Brotherhood. If it must be accepted as a truism, that "brevity is the soul of wit," then Roger Whitfield and his immediate successors in the Secretaryship of St. Hilda's Lodge must have been endowed with a more than ordinary share of that brilliant faculty. Anything more brief than the early minutes of the Lodge it would be difficult to produce. For example, it is recorded on the top of the following page that an extra night was held on 22nd March 1780, at which Richard Forrest the W.M. and the before-mentioned Officers, with three other brethren, were present. The business of this extra meeting is quaintly described as follows:—"By the order of the Worshipful Master we have met this evening, when Matthew Hepple was proposed, and unanimously agreed upon by the brethren present to make the said Matthew Hepple free gratis for Tyler, which is accordingly done." On April 5th, one hundred years ago, was held the first General Lodge, at which James Forrest, the first "poor candidate"—after Hepple, the Tyler—was balloted for, and duly admitted as a fit person to be made a Mason. The simple entry of Forrest's admittance is closed up by the significant note:—"Accordingly, ten shillings and sixpence deposited." On April 19th was held a Masters' Lodge, at which, by order of the Worshipful Master, it was agreed—"as our Tyler was not passed and raised and (therefore was appointed a night previous to pass and raise) being our first meeting and not a convenient to pass and raise him that night." This entry is somewhat confusing, but by the minutes of an extra Lodge, held on 23rd April, it is clear that it was not convenient to make Hepple a Master Mason on the 19th, and accordingly he was passed and raised to a Master Mason on the 23rd. According to these old minutes, it is evident that the Officers constituting the Lodge were not so numerous as in the present time, for we find no mention made of the Deacons or Inner Guard, to say nothing of the I.P.M., Chaplain, D. of C., or Organist. The List merely comprised the W.M., Senior and Junior Wardens, the Secretary and Stewards. The Stewards were evidently more important officials in the times of our forefathers than now, and must have occupied the position and enjoyed the powers of present Deacons: for we find them carrying out the commands of the W.M. when indecorum was manifested by some of the brethren. On the 7th of June, Cuthbert Dawson was put to the ballot for admission, "but was not thought a fit person to be made—three balls against him." Why Cuthbert Dawson was deemed unworthy is, of course, not mentioned, but the entry shows that the ancient brethren were very circumspect, and were not afraid to act independently, for the candidate was nominated by no less a person than the W.M. Richard Forrest. The Lodge on the 9th of June was an important meeting, and must have been constituted the annual Lodge, for we find that on this night it was unanimously agreed and thought fit to meet on every Wednesday in the month, to have the benefit of a lecture. This is a practice from which many Masons would benefit at the present day. Then comes the following interesting minute:—"Also agreeable to our Bye-Laws

a Master was balloted for. The Worshipful Master put up Bro. James Pletts accordingly. He was balloted for—2 for him and 6 against him. Also Bro. William Bolam was put up by Bro. James Pletts and balloted for, when not one vote was found for him. Also Bro. Wm. Tate, put up by Wm. Bolam with the consent of the brethren, was balloted for, and a majority of 7 to 1 was found in his favour. He was appointed Master for the ensuing year." This would indicate that in those early days there was not that perfect "love and harmony" prevailing which should always characterise Masonic gatherings, but the somewhat disagreeable impressions caused by the balloting are dispelled on turning to the subsequent minutes, where we find Bros. Pletts and Bolam remaining in their chairs, respectively as Senior and Junior Wardens. On the 21st March 1781, the first anniversary of the Lodge, an unfortunate occurrence is recorded. This night's minutes are written—as were those for two or three nights previously—by Bro. Thomas Bowman, as Deputy Secretary. At the close of the record for the night is the line:—"Brother Roger Whitfield suspended for indecorum."

What is termed the "dedication" of St. Hilda's Lodge took place on 17th April 1781—Wm. Tate W.M. This must have been regarded as a high festival, for in addition to a long muster roll of members present there were numbers of brethren visiting from the Industry Lodge, Swalwell, No. 48; the Golden Lion Lodge, No. 169; the St. John's Lodge, No. 184; brethren of the 10th Regiment, No. 299; St. Nicolas' Lodge, No. 313; Sea Captains' Lodge; and the Syon Lodge, No. 314. As a visitor that night from the Syon Lodge appears the name of Brother Roddam—a name which is now so well known in connection with the Lodges of South Shields, North Shields, and Jarrow. At a Masters' Lodge on the night of 20th June 1781, we find this entry:—"By the desire and consent of the members present, a committee was chosen to add a clause to the Bye Laws, to authorise this Lodge to agree with some brother of abilities to attend the General and Master Lodge nights for the benefits of the lectures." The early members of the Lodge were manifestly anxious about becoming fully conversant with the precepts and the manifold beauties of the Craft. This committee reported at the following general Lodge, held on 4th July, when the required Bye Law, authorising the Lodge to obtain a lecturing master to attend the Lodge occasionally, was "laid before the present brethren for, and which met with, their approbation." This notification is immediately followed by another equally quaintly worded:—"By a committee it was agreed to propose to Brother Cook of Sunderland, our intention and agree (if willing) with him for the above purpose." On 1st August we find mention made of a Bro. Henry Bleaber, of St. Bede's Lodge, as a visitor. This was a Lodge named after the Venerable Bede, and was held in the parish of Jarrow, South Shields; but it seems that soon after this mention, the Lodge of St. Bede's ceased to exist in South Shields. Subsequently, about 13 or 14 years ago, a new St. Bede's Lodge was established at Jarrow, and is now in a flourishing condition. In the minutes of the Masters' Lodge night, held 19th September 1781, there is an entry which now seems strange to us. It is:—"Brother Monkman, by his own desire, stands candidate for the Herodian Degree." This degree, it seems, was intermediate between a Fellow Craft and a M.M. During the months over which the minutes from which these extracts are made extended, the attendance at the Lodges slowly increased, until at the beginning of 1782 the number of brethren present varies from 10 to 11. The attendance, however, at the Festival Commemoration on 2nd April 1782—at which only 17 brethren supported the then W.M., Brother Robert Todd—seems to have been far from satisfactory. In addition to the record of those present at the festival is appended this entry:—"Resolved, that the sense of ye brethren be taken on ye next general Lodge night, to appoint some regular mode for fining brethren absent on festival days." The subject of the fines is resumed in the following month, 1st May, in this way:—"This night a committee of ye following brethren were appointed to draw up a By Law for a more satisfactory mode of asserting a legal method of collecting fines on absent brethren on festival days, to limit the expense of tickets, and also the time of absent brethren not appearing in the Lodge entitled to summons without being excluded." Here follow the names of the committee. So far as the minutes of the meeting show, the matter would seem to drop here, but by a cash statement at the end of the first book of minutes fining for absence from the Lodge as well as festivals appears to have been a regular practice, the fines varying from 9d to 3d, according to the status of the brother. From the accounts referred to there is evidence likewise that the brethren, after transacting their business in the Lodge, devoted the remainder of the evening to refreshments, which were paid for out of a common fund contributed to by the members, and to which the fines were devoted. If the money in hand was not sufficient to meet the refreshment account, each member present was called upon to "buck up" until the required amount was realised. On the night of 19th June 1782, the harmony in the lodge seems to have been seriously disturbed:—"This night Bro. Shepherd's behaviour was of such a nature as to require admonishment from ye the then present Master, but he refusing to make such restitution for such offence, he still stands censurable for ye same untill his next appearance in ye Lodge." Bro. Shepherd was not penitent until 8th October 1782, when "a Lodge was called ys night to rectify some disputes relative to an occurrence of 19th June 1782, when due restitution was made by Bro. Jas. Shepherd, &c., &c." The "&c., &c." may be taken to imply forgiveness of the W.M. and brethren, for, on the 16th of October Bro. Jas. Shepherd appears as one of the Stewards. A side note to the minutes of 4th June 1783 gives us a glimpse into the inner life of the Lodges of the past century:—"This 4th of June 1783, by general consent, it was agreed that the expense of Lodge night shall in future not exceed 6d to each brother. Absent brethren fined as follows:—W.M., being absent 30 minutes after the time mentioned in his summons 6d, and absent ye whole night 1s; Wardens, being absent 30 minutes after ye time of their summons 3d, if ye whole night, 6d; all other brethren being absent 30 minutes after ye time mentioned in their summons 3d, if ye whole night 3d."

Thus the affairs progressed with little or nothing of moment until 4th January 1787, when the question of the fines once more cropped up in this wise:—"It is this night agreed that every brother who has not paid his fine, and is not agreeable to pay his fines which are now due, be excluded this Lodge, and treated as a visiting brother." Evidently in those days our brethren did not treat visiting brethren with the same courtesy and hospitality common to this era, else the penalty above quoted would not have been any punishment. On 1st February 1787, St. Hilda's Lodge received as a visitor from St. Bede's Lodge, South Shields, Bro. Greathead. After visiting regularly three or four months, Henry Greathead—afterwards known as joint claimant with Willie Wouldhave as the inventor of the lifeboat—became a member of St. Hilda's Lodge, and officiated as Officer in various capacities, and notably as Secretary, from June 1787 to 19th May 1789, when he was appointed J.W. In the latter year is the first record of St. Hilda's interesting itself in the great Masonic Charities. On 21st July 1789 is the following minute:—"This night it is agreed that 10s 6d shall be paid, on the 30th inst., to the Provincial Grand Lodge for the Charity Fund, and that Bro. Lec shall attend the P.G.L. on that day to represent the S.W." The affairs of the Lodge progress during the subsequent years, with nothing of note transpiring to mar its prosperity. St. Hilda's Lodge gradually increased in membership and funds; and the fact that the Officers were advancing in knowledge of the working of the Craft is made manifest by the minutes of the general Lodge night—2nd Oct. 1788—wherein it is recorded:—"That this night it was agreed that Bro. Wright (Lecture Master), of Sunderland, do cease to attend, except on a night appointed for a Herodian or higher Order." Up to that time Bro. Wright had been especially engaged to come over from Sunderland on Lodge nights to deliver the lectures to the brethren. Bro. Joseph Bulmer, the W.M. at this time, and for four years following, evidently had worked himself up, and was able to deliver the several lectures in the Craft degrees, and did so, according to the minutes, between 1788 and 1792. In the latter year Brother Bulmer was succeeded in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Paul Lec, who also delivered the lectures. The brethren, as is to be expected in a seaport Lodge, were troubled by the non-attendance and irregular attendance of some of the members, in spite of the elaborate array of fines that were from time to time drawn up. Bro. Bulmer just mentioned obtains an unenviable notoriety in the subjoined minute, dated General Lodge night, 5th July 1792:—"It is hereby enacted"—Bro. Thos. Wilson, the then Secretary, adopts a legal mode of diction—"that all members shall be fined for being behind the hour of opening the Lodge, for which offence Bro. Bulmer is the first, and has this night paid the sum of 3d." Here is a minute entered on 20th November 1794, which recalls the stirring history of the period:—"By the motion of the Right W.M. (Bro. Bulmer), Bro. Robinson, a member of this Lodge, and now in the French prison, it was unanimously agreed that one guinea be immediately paid to Mrs. Robinson out of the Pedestal [the said pedestal being the treasury of the Lodge in those days], and also a collection made by the brethren, when 18s was given for the benefit of Bro. Robinson's family." Sunderland Bridge was opened in 1796 with Masonic honours, and that the brethren of St. Hilda's took part is testified by the subjoined quaint minute, dated the 7th July 1796:—"Be it remembered, that in pursuance of a letter received from the Worshipful Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham, it is agreed that the Worshipful Master and Wardens attend at the Sea Captain's Lodge (Sunderland), on Thursday next, at 11 in the forenoon, in order to acquiesce in the forming of the rules of the mode of the procession intended to be held at the opening of the Bridge." The end of 1797 seems to mark a change in the constitution of St. Hilda's, for on the 16th of November a special meeting of the members was held to consider the best mode of ensuring a good attendance in the Lodge in the future. At this meeting there seems to have been only seven members present. However, the following important resolutions were agreed to:—"1st. That from henceforth every subscribing member to this Lodge shall pay into the hands of the Treasurer for the time being the sum of 10s per annum, which said sum of 10s shall be paid in four equal quarterly payments, the first payment to be made on the 7th December next. 2nd. That the fines now due to the Lodge shall be recovered by the Secretary, but in future no member shall be fined for non-attendance except at the Festival. 3rd. That every member refusing to pay his quarterage when due shall be expelled." These resolutions were unanimously agreed to at the subsequent regular meeting, but the list of attendances did not apparently improve very materially. Under date of 2nd March 1812 appears, for the first time in the minutes, George Potts—a name never to be forgotten by the members of St. Hilda's Lodge. Bro. Potts officiated as J.W. on that occasion, on subsequent Lodge nights as Deputy Senior Warden, so that it may be assumed that the venerable brother was already a good Mason when his name first appeared on the books of the Lodge. On the 13th of April in the same year we find Bro. Potts proposing Mr. Wm. Clay—another name connected with Shields history—as a candidate. At this period St. Hilda's was a flourishing Lodge, the attendances having more than doubled, and the membership having largely augmented. The average attendances were now over 20, and the subscribing members numbered 39. The original number of St. Hilda's Lodge was 521; at the Union of the Grand Lodges Ancient and Modern, on the 27th December 1813, this number was changed to 440; again, in 1832, when a general alteration of numbers took place throughout all the Lodges, St. Hilda's was further reduced to 292; and lastly, in 1863, when another general alteration took place, the number was placed at 240, at which it remains at present.

The Installation Meeting of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, No. 1278, was held on Thursday. Bro. J. G. Defriez was installed by Bro. Lazarus, the outgoing Master. Full report in our next.

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.

—:—

APPLICANTS FOR OUR CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me through your columns to ask the brethren to examine the detailed accounts of the parents of those seeking to be admitted, and I think that they will be fairly amazed to find that out of fifty-four applicants for the Girls' School only twelve of the fathers have done anything at all for Masonry, while in the Boys' list matters are far worse, for out of seventy-three candidates only ten have done anything for the Institutions. Now these things ought not to be. I find the average number of years subscription to their Lodges as follow:—for the girls $9 \times 54 = 486$, Boys $7\frac{1}{2} \times 73 = 547\frac{1}{2}$. So that had each of these Brothers subscribed only £1 a year the Institution would have benefited by the sum of £1,033 10s, and nobody would have begrudged doing more to assist; but when, time after time, as the lists come round these facts stare one in the face, it is enough almost to make one hold one's hand, especially when we find brethren who have been ten, fifteen, twenty, up to thirty years' subscribing members of Lodges, yet have given no further sign of interest. It would be very hard and un-Masonic to turn the cold shoulder to the widows and orphans of brothers, though in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the mothers are as much to blame as the fathers, for if they used their influence they could always make their husbands, if they did not themselves, subscribe to what might at any time be of ulterior benefit to themselves or their children. Lastly, let us see what a £1 ahead subscription of 1,250 Lodges with 25 members in each would bring in, viz., £31,250, a fact sufficient to induce every brother to give at least so much towards the Order of which he is, or ought to be, proud to be a member.

Yours fraternally,

V.P.

MORE LITIGATION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am glad you have drawn attention to the litigation pending between Bro. Wilson and the Boys' School. I follow your good example, and abstain from saying a word about the merits of the difference, but I think with you that Bro. Wilson has been badly used, and, as you say, has "good-naturedly allowed himself to be bandied about from pillar to post, in the vain hope that the House Committee, being at length actuated by a sense of reason, as well as by a desire to avoid a trial and the attendant evils, would agree to accept his account." Bro. Wilson, as an architect, knows the etiquette as well as the usages of his profession. Can the same be said of the House Committee? What do they know of architecture and its charges, or the labour which justifies those charges? Any one can check a bill of groceries by the price current, or a butcher's or baker's bill by the contract or market prices. How many among us could tell if an architect's prices are legitimate or not, and yet Bro. Wilson has not only submitted his account, with a due sense of responsibility as an honourable man and an architect, but has also expressed his readiness to abide by the decision, as to its justice or injustice, of one of the most eminent members of his own profession? Could any man with an atom of self-respect have offered to do more than this? Bro. Wilson, I believe, is a Vice-President of the Institution, which he is virtually, if not in so many words, accused of overcharging, and his willingness to abide by any reasonable decision should have been received with greater consideration than it seems to have commanded.

It will cost the members of the House Committee, individually or collectively, nothing to fight their battle with Bro. Wilson, but it may cost the Institution some hundreds of pounds, and assuredly it will be landed, as you suggest, in some expense. And all this trouble and annoyance and waste of money might have been avoided with a little management, not on the part of Bro. Wilson, who seems to have been ready to do anything reasonable, but on that of the House Committee who seem to have resisted, if they have not resented, each and all of his friendly advances.

Fraternally yours,

CORPORAL TRIM.

A CASE OF DISTRESS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The widow of a Mason who was for many years a subscribing member to a Scotch Lodge, now residing in Croydon, is in very distressed circumstances. She is a person of good education and unexceptionable character. Of late she has obtained a living as ladies' nurse, but her age and indifferent health are now obstacles to employment in that or any capacity. The case having come under my notice, I inquired as to whether she was eligible for the Freemasons' Asylum at Croydon? and was informed she was not, by reason of her late husband having belonged only to a Scotch Lodge. Will you or any of your numerous subscribers inform me if

this be correct? If so, whether any other means of relief is available for her in England?

The particulars of the case I would gladly furnish to any brother who would kindly take an interest in it.

Yours fraternally,

SAMUEL LEE RYMER.

Whitgift House, Croydon, 15th September 1880.

[If our correspondent will kindly be at the pains of addressing himself to Bro. James Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, 4 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., he will obtain all the information he can possibly desire. Or, if he prefer calling in person at the offices, as directed, Bro. Terry will receive him with his usual courtesy, and satisfactorily answer all questions. In a deserving case, we do not imagine our correspondent or any other brother, on making due representations in the proper quarter, will find any difficulty in obtaining temporary assistance for a distressed friend. Bro. Buss, the obliging Assistant Grand Secretary, will give him the requisite information. Our brother's ignorance of the laws governing the admission of male and female candidates to the benefits of our Masonic Benevolent Institution is excusable, as, from the non-appearance of his name in the list of its subscribers, we presume he has not given it much of his consideration. However, as the poor lady in question is the widow of a Scotch brother, we would suggest to our correspondent that he should place himself in communication with the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Edinburgh. Bro. Murray Lyon, who fills that office, will doubtless answer all questions with the least possible delay, and, if necessary, direct our brother as to the course he should pursue in the circumstances.—ED. F.C.]

A BEGGING MASON.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Some few weeks since one F. A. T., of Loyal Victoria Lodge, 557, Callington, called on me, and is doubtless the same person alluded to by "SECRETARY 804." It would, perhaps, be interesting to those who have relieved him to know what the Secretary of 557 may have to say about him.

The "Begging Mason" is becoming an intolerable nuisance to members of country Lodges; it is, I think, quite time that Grand Lodge took the matter into consideration, and devised some remedy. I have not the slightest doubt but that 99 per cent. of these persons are impostors; they most frequently have no certificate, and when they have one it is seldom possible to decipher the signature.

If some arrangement could be made that the Almoner or some other Officer of the Lodge giving relief should report the case to the Secretary of the Lodge to which the applicant professes to belong, it would then be an easy matter to give a warning when necessary, through the Masonic Press.

Yours fraternally,

W.M. 1410.

[We do not see how Grand Lodge can devise a remedy which will effectually dispose of that "intolerable nuisance" the "begging Mason." The utmost it can do is to enjoin caution on its subordinate Lodges, which are all liable to have applications for assistance made to them. But the character and extent of the caution that is exercised will necessarily depend on the discretion of the Lodge applied to. One poor brother may have lost or mislaid his certificate; another who it may be finds himself for the moment in a "pecuniary fix," may have left it at home, but, in any case, it is possible to prove the applicant is a Mason, and it would be harsh indeed to suggest that unless he can then and there produce evidence of his reputability, he should be sent away empty. Our correspondent's suggestion that, in every case where relief is administered it should be reported "to the Lodge to which the applicant professes to belong," seems to be about the best we can think of to meet the undoubted evil of which he complains.—ED. F.C.]

STATUS OF P.M.'s OF FOREIGN LODGES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A question has arisen among us which perhaps may be of interest to others as well as the Lodge to whom it particularly applies.

In the case of a P.M. of a Foreign Lodge, joining a Lodge under the English Constitution, does he retain his rank, or is he returned to Grand Lodge as M.M. only?

Yours fraternally,

ENQUIRER.

[A P.M., of a Foreign Lodge (Foreign Constitution),

joining an English Lodge, would take no rank in the Lodge he joins (as a P.M.), but would, if he had *regularly served* the office of Master, be eligible to be present at installation meetings, &c., but not to be returned to Grand Lodge as a P.M.—ED. F.C.]

A MASONIC TRIAL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Will "LIVE AND LET LIVE" be so kind as to inform us which are the Rites, High Grades, Christian Degrees, "or whatever in the name of wonder their promoters choose to call them" that "were in full working order for half a century before the 'Constitutions,' drawn up at the Union were known?" I believe the idea that the Ancient and Supreme Scottish Rite originated with Frederick the Great of Prussia has long since been exploded. The Royal Arch, according to D'Assigny, dates back to about 1744, but then that was recognised by the Union as a part of pure Ancient Freemasonry, and I doubt if sufficient is known of the Mark Degree to fix its origin with any amount of certainty. Moreover, the attempt made about a quarter of a century since to incorporate it with the degrees of Masonry as recognised by the Constitutions proved unsuccessful; Grand Lodge, at the instance of certain among its most distinguished members, entertaining conscientious objections to disturbing the bases of the Union, though at the same time it went so far as to acknowledge the degree had certain merits of its own. We often read of Templar Masons having taken part in procession with Craft and Arch Masons, during the closing quarter of the last century, and I suspect Dunckerley had much to do with the establishment of the Order in this country. "LIVE AND LET LIVE," however, should give us something definite in the shape of information on these points. Moreover, if they were in existence as far back as he states, does that prove anything, when we know that even the slight connection which once may have existed between these degrees and Craft Masonry has been long since broken off? It is not so very long since—the case is mentioned by Oliver—that a brother of position in one of the Provinces was deprived of his rank for having worn Templar clothing at a meeting of his Provincial Grand Lodge (Craft). I have had the privilege of inspecting the minutes of many Lodge books, and I have noticed mention of the Mark degree, in several instances, but even the wearing of a Mark jewel in a Craft Lodge is now bad form, and contrary to the Constitutions. The fact is our Side and High Degrees are eminently reputable and interesting, but they are not Masonry.

Can "LIVE AND LET LIVE" be serious when he asks for a copy of the Ritual of the "grade called the *Knights of the Mystic Square Circle*," which are not to be found in "the Lexicons of Bros. Kenning, Mackenzie, and Mackey?" Bro. "H." has been poking a little harmless fun at the High Grades or Christian degrees, or "whatever in the name of wonder their promoters choose to call them."

I yield to none in my desire to "LIVE AND LET LIVE," but I confess I am also anxious to

LIVE AND LEARN.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your last issue, re-addressed to me from town, was literally a "sea-side number," not the least amusing of its items being the comical letter signed "LIVE AND LET LIVE."

Are there "two Richmonds in the field?" or is alliteration contagious and misrepresentation a catching complaint? We are accustomed to these in a quarter which shall be nameless, but to what are we indebted for their introduction into your columns? Unless your correspondent is compiling a lexicon, based on his personal feelings, it is difficult to follow his several definitions:—to write a letter is "to lose temper;" to object to legal proceedings in connection with a Masonic Lodge is "to become vicious in tone;" to attempt a joke is "to mistake abuse for wit," and produce "obnoxious and unsavoury" reading; to tell the truth is "to throw mud;" to quote a few words from our laws is "garbling the Constitutions;" in short, to think or write anything not previously approved by "I. and L. L." is a proof of "bad taste," "ignorance," "foolishness," "lack of good breeding," "absence of knowledge," &c. If so, it must be so; but I hope to be excused from going to "L. and L. L." for "pity and compassion," or from furnishing copy of the ritual he has been searching for, until I have completed my annual holiday, the enjoyment of which has been much enhanced by a perusal, during a shower, of the funny-osity by "Live and Let Live."

Yours truly and fraternally,

H.

VOIGT v. TREVOR AND OTHERS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Defendant Bro. Trevor in this case has stated, both in your journal and also in that of your contemporary, that his costs will amount to £150. May I ask him to inform your readers—as I think they have a right to demand the information before responding to his appeal for help—how he has come by his knowledge in this respect? Have the costs in the matter been duly taxed? If not, would it not look more decent in the defendant to wait until this is done and the exact amount ascertained, before he proceeds with his present premature request?

I think that this question should be answered in a satisfactory and explicit manner, before any assistance is given to Bro. Trevor in the matter. It certainly seems to me to be an undignified mode of

proceeding, this appeal to charity, after an action at law (which, by the jury's verdict, was evidently a proper one to be brought by the plaintiff) has been fairly lost and won.

Yours fraternally,
A SOLICITOR AND A MASON.

THE UN-MASONIC TRIAL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—If "LOOKER-ON," who writes in your last issue, or any one else who wishes for information, will only ratify the good faith of their communications by subscribing thereto their *real name and address*. I shall have great pleasure in answering question with reference to my conduct in regard to the circumstances which led to the late "Un-Masonic Trial" at Leeds. But I cannot condescend to reply to shots from behind a hedge, notwithstanding the imputed friendliness of him who thus fires at me.

Yours fraternally,
TUDOR TREVOR P.M., P.Z., &c. &c.

120 Highgate, Kendal,
14th September 1880.

AN APPEAL TO THE CRAFT.

Bro. Voigt v. Bros. Carr, Trevor, and Laking.

THIS very un-Masonic Action was tried at Leeds on the 10th Aug. last, before Mr. Justice Bowen and a common jury, for libel alleged to be contained in a circular (issued according to regulation) by the W.M. (Bro. Carr) and the Secretary (Bro. Laking), two of the defendants, to the members of Lodge Alexandra, No. 1511, Hornsea, which embodied a motion by the other defendant (Bro. Trevor) for the exclusion from the Lodge of the plaintiff (Bro. Voigt)—see reports of the trial in the *Times* of 12th August and the *FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE* of 21st August last. On the 9th February 1877, a few days after his exclusion, the plaintiff served the defendants with notice of this action, *without any remonstrance with them or the Lodge, or appeal of any sort to higher Masonic authority*. But in consequence of the order made a few months later by Mr. Justice Field, before whom his demurrer was heard in the Queen's Bench, that the case "should stand over to go before the Grand Master," the plaintiff appealed to his Provincial Grand Master, Lord Zealand, who *declined to interfere with the sentence of exclusion passed against him by the Lodge*. He did not, however, withdraw the legal proceedings he had instituted against the defendants, and ultimately obtained a verdict with "One Farthing" damages.

Seeing that this Action has been brought in open defiance of all Masonic principles and law, I earnestly appeal to the Fraternity at large, to assist me in defraying the very heavy costs of the defence, which fall chiefly on me, and will amount to £150 at the least, and which I am quite unable to bear without their fraternal and liberal help.

TUDOR TREVOR,
Royal Cumberland Lodge, No. 41,
New Temple Preceptory, No. 117,
P.M. P.Z. P.E.C. 30 deg. &c. &c.

120 Highgate, Kendal, 6th September 1880.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire will be held on Wednesday next, 22nd inst., at the Public Hall, Runcorn, under the direction of the Rt. Hon. Lord De Tabley Prov. Grand Master. A Committee Meeting of the Fund of Benevolence of the Province will be held the same day at 12.30, when the various Petitions before the Province, either for pecuniary relief or otherwise will be considered and decided on. Among the business which will require attention in Prov. G. Lodge is a notice of motion proposed by Bro. John Wood P.G.S.W. to the following effect:—

"That from the Funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge the sum of 100 Guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows,—50 Guineas to each Fund,—thereby giving the R.W. the P.G. Master of Cheshire—Vice-Patron of the Institution—30 Votes at each Election."

This very material addition to the funds of the R.M. Benevolent Institution will we have no doubt be unanimously agreed to, and will prove another instance of the liberality of the brethren of this district. At 2 o'clock the brethren will walk in procession to the Parish Church, where Divine Service will be held. After the Sermon a collection will be made in aid of the Provincial Fund of Benevolence. After the closing of Prov. Grand Lodge a banquet will be held at the National Schools, tickets for which will be obtainable from the P.G. Stewards at the Hall. We hope to have the pleasure of attending and taking part in what promises to be a pleasant gathering.

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MASONIC PORTRAITS.

SKETCHES

OF
DISTINGUISHED FREEMASONS.

REPRINTED FROM "THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE."

By G. BLIZARD ABBOTT, of LODGE No. 1385,
ASSOCIATE OF KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

LIST OF PORTRAITS.

- | | |
|--|--|
| NESTOR
(Bro. W. Hyde Pullen, 33 deg., Past G.S.B., Past Dep. P.G.M. Hants, Assistant Secretary Sup. Council A. and A. Rite.) | AN INSTALLING MASTER
(Bro. W. Biggs, Past Prov. G.S.W. Wilts, and Past Prov. G. Sec. Berks and Bucks). |
| THE STATESMAN
(The Right Hon. Earl of Carnarvon, 33 deg., Pro Grand Master, Pro Grand Z., Past G.M.M.M., and Past M.P.S.G. Commander A. and A. Rite.) | A VETERAN
(Bro. W. Kelly, Past Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Sup. Leicestershire and Rutland, Prov. G.M.M.M. Leicestershire). |
| THE TREASURER
(Bro. F. Adlard, P.M. and Treasurer Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7). | A GRAND STEWARD
(Bro. John Wordsworth, 30 deg., Past G. Steward, Past Prov. G.J.W. Yorkshire, and Prov. G.M.M.M. W. Yorkshire). |
| THE DEPUTY
(The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, 33 deg., Deputy G. Master, Grand H., G.M.M.M., Great Prior of the Temple, and M.P. Sov. G. Commander A. and A. Rite.) | VIR VERITAS
(Bro. G. Ward Verry, P.M. and Past Prov. Grand. Soj. [Arch] Herts). |
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(Bro. E. J. Morris, Past G.J.D., and Past Dep. Prov. G.M. of Eastern Division of South Wales). |
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(Bro. J. Lancaster Hinc, P. Prov. G.S. Warden East Lancashire). | A DEVON CRAFTSMAN
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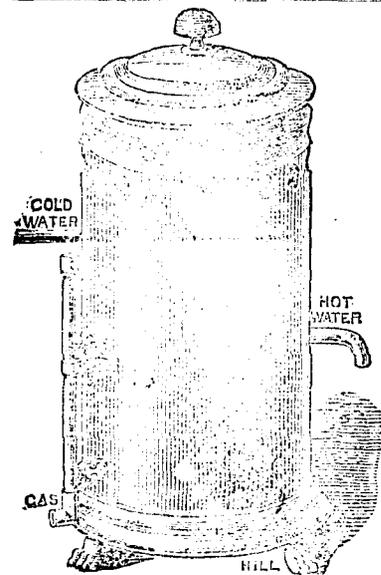
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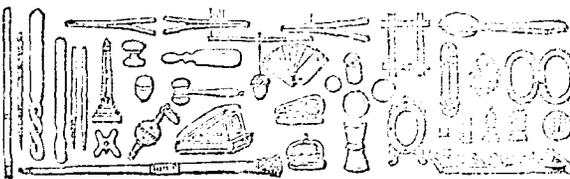
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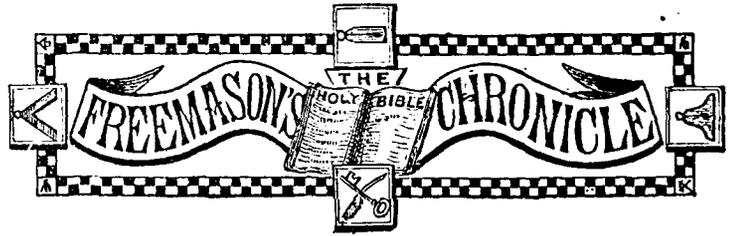
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ARCH MASONRY.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WILTSHIRE.

ON Wednesday, the 8th instant, the annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Trowbridge, on the invitation of the Chapter of Harmony, 632. The M.E. the Provincial Grand Superintendent the Rt. Hon. Lord Henry F. Thynne, M.P., in opening the proceedings expressed his regret that, owing to various circumstances, it had not been practicable to hold the meeting earlier in the season, as the comparatively small attendance of the Companions shewed that the day fixed was an inconvenient one. He was happy however in every other respect to be able to congratulate the Companions, more especially on the fact that the Treasurer reported a good balance in hand on the Charity Fund account. The usual routine business was transacted, including the report of the Charity Committee, who recommended that the balance in Treasurer's hands on the Charity Account should not be appropriated until after the discussion of the question of establishing a Provincial Benevolent Fund, which was to come before the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Craft Lodge. This recommendation was unanimously approved. The M.E. Superintendent appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follow:—

Robert Stokes	- - - -	Chapter 586	Prov. G.H.
William Nott	- - - -	632	Prov. G.J.
Henry C. Tombs	- - - -	355	Prov. G.S.E.
Samuel Gauntlett	- - - -	632	Prov. G.S.N.
William Nott	- - - -	632	Prov. G.Treas.
Edwin Browne	- - - -	355	Prov. G.P.S.
Alfred Plummer	- - - -	355	Prov. G.Reg.
John Chandler	- - - -	355	Prov. G.D.C.
John Savory	- - - -	355	Prov. G.Jan.

After the Provincial Grand Chapter had been duly closed, the Companions adjourned to the George Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served, including a liberal contribution of venison and game from the M.E. Comp. Lord H. F. Thynne.

HAMER CHAPTER, No. 1393.

A MEETING of this Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool, on the 9th Sept. There were present—Comps. J. Houlding M.E.Z., R. H. Evans P.Z., H. Jackson P.Z., J. S. Russell P.Z., Thos. Sammons H., John McCarthy J., J. Penton P.S., Rev. R. T. Leslie A.S., Dr. Pitts, H. Henderson, W. C. Erwin S.E., R. L. Stockton, R. Reader and J. Lyons. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the M.E.Z., assisted by his Officers, exalted Bros. D. Gaudin 1620, D. Oliphant 249, and J. W. Saldart 1547. The impressive and beautiful ceremony was most excellently performed. This being the night of installation, Comp. T. Sampson was installed to the chair of first Principal, McCarthy to the second, and J. Penton to the third. The ceremony was ably carried out by Comp. H. Jackson P.Z. The other Officers appointed were Comp. W. C. Erwin S.E. for the third time, Rev. R. T. Leslie S.N., Dr. Pitts P.S., J. Houlding Treasurer, Williams Janitor. The Auditors gave their report of the Treasurer's accounts for the year, which was very satisfactory, and was unanimously passed. This completing the business, the Chapter was duly closed. The Companions then adjourned to a banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual *Loyal and R.A. toasts* were given by the M.E.Z. with commendable brevity, and duly honoured. Comp. R. H. Evans P.G.P.S. responded in a very eloquent speech for P.G. Chapter and Officers. Dr. Pitts P.S. proposed the health of M.E.Z. and chiefs, which was heartily received. The M.E.Z. said he heartily thanked Dr. Pitts for the complimentary manner in which his health had been proposed, and the handsome reception it had experienced at the hands of all present. He also assured the Companions that he highly appreciated the honour conferred upon him by appointing him the first Principal of the Chapter, and would do his best to merit their confidence by prompt attention and diligence to the duties. He went on to say that he required no better example than that of his predecessors; and in endeavouring to walk in their footsteps, he felt confident he would not fail in giving that amount of satisfaction which they had a right to expect. In conclusion, he added that nothing should be wanting on his part to keep the Chapter in the same good order and position for which it has been noted in the past. Companion H. said he endorsed all that the M.E.Z. had said, and would do his best to assist in the Chapter work. Companion J. felt proud of the position to which he had been appointed, and nothing should be wanting on his part to further the interests of the Chapter. The health of the P.Z.'s was proposed, and responded to by Comp. Houlding. Comp. Penton proposed the health of the Installing Officer, complimenting him on the very able manner in which he had performed the ceremony. Comp. Jackson responded in a very eloquent speech, saying it always gave him great pleasure to assist in R.A. Masonry, and he would be willing at all times to render any

help he might be called upon to give. The health of the Officers of Hamer Chapter was proposed and severally responded to. The M.E.Z. then proposed the health of the new exaltees; and he felt sure he was expressing the sentiments of every Companion present when he tendered to them a hearty welcome to the Hamer Chapter and Companionship, and hoped they would be long spared to join in friendship. After a suitable response from the exalted, the Chapter separated until the first Thursday in November.

Harmony Chapter, No. 220, Garston.—The regular convocation and installation meeting of this ancient Chapter was held at the Wellington Hotel, on Thursday, the 9th September. There were present Comps. T. B. Myers M.E.Z., Thos. Roberts P.Z. 673 as H., John Hughes J., supported by a good muster of Officers and Companions, and a number of influential Visitors, among whom were Comps. P. J. Edelsten P.Z. 148 P.G.S.B., Hugh Williams P.Z. 580 and 1094 P.P.G.S.B., W. T. May P.Z. 220 and 673, Jos. Skeaf P.Z. 216 P.G.O., J. W. Ballard Z. 823, John Hayes Z. 594, W. Brackenbury J. 673, Edward Paull 1356, Thomas Hatton 203, &c. &c. After confirmation of the minutes of the previous convocation, Comp. May addressed the Principals elect and installed them in an impressive manner—Thos. Roberts (P.Z. 673) M.E.Z., John Hughes H., Samuel Tickle J. E. Comp. Roberts then proceeded to invest T. B. Myers I.P.Z., Robt. Pearson P.Z. Treas., T. F. Hill P.S., E. Humphries S.E., H. Hatch S.N. The M.E.Z. proposed two brethren for exaltation at the next convocation, after which the Companions adjourned to a substantial banquet, tastefully provided by the host, Comp. Wood. The customary toasts were proposed and heartily received, and a very agreeable evening was spent, enlivened by the harmony supplied by Comps. Skeaf, Hatton, Jacobs, &c.

St. Barnabas Chapter, No. 948.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 9th Sept., at the Chapter Rooms, Linslade. Comps. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg Prov. G.H. Berks and Bucks M.E.Z., W. J. Cawdell as H., Mickley as J., Poynter Scribe E., J. McCubbin Scribe N., McDowall Princ. Soj., Sandall 1st Assist.-Soj., Knight 2nd Assist.-Soj. Fountaine P.Z. Treas., Gibbs Janitor. After the Chapter had been formally opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. Election of Principals and Officers for the ensuing year was the only business before the Chapter. The ballot resulted as follows:—Comps. Mickley as M.E.Z., Fountaine P.Z. as H., Cawdell P.Z. as J., Poynter P.Z. as Scribe E., McCubbin P.Z. as Scribe N. Comp. McDowall was re-elected Princ. Soj. and Comp. Fountaine Treasurer. Nothing further offering, the Chapter was closed.

MARK MASONRY.

St. Barnabas Lodge, No. 97.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 9th Sept., at Linslade. Present—Bros. W. J. Cawdell W.M., Henry Poynter S.W., Jas. McCubbin P.M. as J.W., G. Mickley acting Sec., B. T. Fountaine Treas., A. McDowall M.O., A. H. Sandall S.O., E. C. Knight I.G., G. Gibbs Tyler. P.M. Bro. V.W. Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chaplain England. Visitor—Bro. G. Mickley. Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read. The W.M. vacated his chair in favour of Bro. Brownrigg, who proceeded to instal Bro. H. Poynter W.M. elect. In due course the questions were answered, and a Board of Installed Masters formed. Bro. Poynter was then duly installed into the chair of A., and the Past Masters greeted him in the usual manner. The brethren were readmitted, and they greeted the new W.M. as M.M.M.'s. The following were the Officers invested, viz., Bros. Cawdell I.P.M., Rest (by proxy) S.W., McDowall J.W., Fountaine Treas., Sandall M.O., Knight S.O., J. McCubbin P.M. as J.O., Howell P.M. Sec. and Reg. The Installing Master gave the addresses to the Wardens, Overseers, and the brethren generally. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Cawdell, and a vote of thanks to Rev. Bro. Brownrigg.

St. John's Lodge (Time Immemorial), Bolton.—The regular meeting of the above Lodge was held on Thursday, 9th Sept., at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton; Present: Bros. Jas. Deeley W.M., W. H. Alcock S.W., Israel A. Greenhalgh J.W., Thos. Entwisle P. Prov. G. Master, John Alcock P. Prov. G. Deacon, John Harwood P. Prov. G. Deacon, James Newton P.P.G. Inspector of Works, Thos. Morris P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer, Jas. Allen, Hy. Tattersall, Jno. F. Skelton, Jas. Corbett, Jno. Partington, Beckett, and others. The Lodge was opened at six o'clock, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Care I.P.M. 730, Chorley, who had been previously elected, was advanced to the degree by Bro. Thos. Entwisle P. Prov. G. Master. Bro. W. H. Alcock S.W. P. Prov. G. Steward was elected as W.M. for the ensuing year. Three candidates for advancement were proposed, and the Lodge was closed at 7.15 p.m.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held its monthly meeting at the Portugal, Fleet-street, on Friday last, and it was then announced by the Hon. Secretary, Bro. W. W. Snelling, that the amount of subscriptions up to the end of August was £1,002 19s, and that, through the medium of the Association, nearly 200 members have been made Life Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Charities. The Association is a permanent one, and brethren may join at any time, without payment of back subscriptions. A prospectus of the Association will be forwarded on application to Bro. Snelling. The entrance fee is 1s, and the subscription 4s per month.

Obituary.

BRO. EDWARD COX.

THE Masonic career of Bro. Edward Cox has yet to be written, but his demise, on Wednesday, calls for a few observations which will show how great is the loss the Fraternity has sustained. It was not only as a thorough worker of Masonic ritual that he obtained a distinguished name among the brethren, though in that particular he had few equals, and no superiors. It was more particularly as an active expositor of Masonic principles that he was known not to Freemasons only, but to persons outside the Craft. These latter were constantly in contact with him in the five elections to the Masonic Charities which take place every year, and they always found in him a gentleman who was never tired of listening to their appeals, and who was ever ready to forward the cause they had in hand. The demand on his time which the candidates for the Charities made was very great, but although he was much occupied in business matters, he managed to spare sufficient leisure to secure the return of any candidate whose case he took up. His activity and energy were unbounded, and these were not confined to advancing the interests of any poor Mason or widow, or the male or female orphans of brethren. Into the inner working of the Masonic Institutions he looked with a keen eye, and it could not be said of him that he had not the courage of his opinions. Wherever he saw there might be what, in his judgment, was an improvement, he manfully laid that judgment before his brethren, and sustained it by arguments which were never weak. But he was not a philanthropist merely in name. He contributed largely to the funds of the Institutions, and in this respect might be said to have a direct personal interest in their welfare. Besides this, he was the donor of prizes in the Schools, and no one took greater pleasure than he in seeing those prizes distributed to the children who had complied with the conditions of earning them. It would not, probably, be fair to say that he favoured one Institution above the other, but the contiguity of his residence to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls' at St. John's Hill, made it natural that his visits to that Institution should be more numerous than to the others. The very helplessness of a poor little girl, left by a father, and frequently by a mother as well, appealed to the gentle heart of Bro. Edward Cox as an additional argument in her favour, and the tenderness with which he treated the female orphans at the School on his many visits showed the solicitude which he entertained for a family that he looked upon almost as his own. It is not surprising that he took an important part in the discussions on the purchase of Lyncombe House, which will, no doubt, add greatly to the value of the Institution by preventing the erection of other buildings on the site which it would not have been desirable to have so near. Bro. Edward Cox was an opponent of the purchase, which it will be remembered was proposed to be made at a sum of £6,500. Bro. Cox set the outside value down as £3,800, and considered that this was a very large price to pay for an entrance to the Institution from the high road. Already he thought the Institution had as many burdens as it could bear, and that posterity would not thank the brethren for increasing those burdens. He admitted that it was a desirable thing that no other buildings should be brought near the School, but taking his stand on the excessive price asked by the proprietor of the property intended to be purchased, he denied that any one who desired to build on the land would give the price asked, as the noise of the railway would deter people from living in the neighbourhood who could pay a rent which would give an adequate return for the outlay. Bro. Cox, however, was overruled, and the purchase was completed after arguments that, though a fancy price was to be paid, the privacy gained by the Institution possessing the property was worth even a larger sum. Bro. Cox never questioned the desirability of privacy for the Girls' School, and as far as we can remember he at least was spared the application of the many opprobrious epithets which a reverend brother heaped week after week upon the opponents of the scheme. We have said above that the purchase of Lyncombe House will, no doubt, add greatly to the value of the Girls' School, and if it does no one would have had sincerer pleasure in this result than Bro. Edward Cox if he had lived to see it; and no one would more readily have admitted that his opposition was an error. Bro. Edward Cox never secured Grand Lodge honours. They were offered him once by the Grand Master, but refused. He was, however, a Past Provincial Grand Officer of Northampton and Huntingdon, in which Province he was looked up to as a high authority. Among the Craft generally he was also greatly esteemed.

BRO. EDWARD AMPHLETT, M.R.C.S.

Old Cambridge men will hear with regret of the death of Wor. Bro. Edward Amphetlet, M.R.C.S., and of St. Peter's College, Cambridge. Bro. Amphetlet was a zealous and energetic young Mason. He was initiated in the Isaac Newton University Lodge, and became the first Senior Deacon of the Alma Mater Lodge, No. 1492—a Lodge founded by members of the Isaac Newton. He was installed W.M. of the Alma Mater in 1878. He was also a Founder and Past Master of the Lodge at Staines, a member of the Euclid Royal Arch Chapter, and of the St. George's Royal Arch Chapter. Of this last named Chapter he was at the time of his death the First Principal. He was Past Prov. Grand Registrar (Royal Arch) of the Province of Berks and Bucks, and Prov. Grand Steward (Craft) for the Province of Middlesex. His genial and courteous manner endeared him to many, who will look back with pleasant recollection upon the friendship with which he honoured them. Only a short time before his death he placed in the hands of the Treasurer of the Alma Mater a curious old silver Treasurer's jewel for presentation to the Lodge.

KNIGHTS NEW AND OLD.

Differences between the Templars of the Eleventh and Ninth Centuries.

THE funny man of the *New York Times* indulges in the following spirit at the Knights Templar. To show that we are not afraid of his fun, and even enjoy it this hot weather, we reproduce it below.

There have been in Chicago during the present week some 20,000 Knights of the Templar variety. The modern Knight Templar has never yet been able to ascertain whether, when two or more of them are gathered together, they should be called Knight Templars, Knights Templar, or Knights Templars, and in order to spare his feelings, a sympathizing press ought clearly to shirk the question, and to describe the Chicago Knights in terms that cannot come in conflict with any possible grammatical rule.

We all know who the original Templars were, for the biography of Eminent Sir Wilfred Ivanhoe, of York Commandery, New York, is a mine of information on the subject. The Templar was a person who wore a variegated night-gown (whence, perhaps, the word Knight) in the day-time, and took a series of iron-clad oaths. He bound himself never to marry, a vow that did not put him to much inconvenience, but which must have signally failed to meet the views of his wife and children. He also swore to live in a state of poverty, a vow which he liberally interpreted to mean that he should earn nothing, but should live on the confiscated property of other people. He took an oath of obedience to his Grand Master, and undertook to go to the Holy Land to deliver Jerusalem from the Saracens. The latter obligation had its manifest advantages. Occasionally the Knight Templar did go to the Holy Land and fight, but to a much greater extent he stayed at home. He was, however, always on the point of taking the 8.30 p.m. express for Joppa, and consequently always had an excuse for declining to do anything that did not please him. If his children wanted shoes he always remarked that he expected to depart immediately for the Holy Land, and he really needed all his available money wherewith to pay his passage, and could not possibly buy shoes until his return. If his rent was due and the landlord notified him that he must pay at once, he immediately wrote him a note saying that he had just received orders to start for Jerusalem, and that as it was quite out of the question for him to call on his bankers before leaving, he would be compelled to postpone that little matter of the rent until his return. Thus the Templar who was always going to the Holy Land, but who never went, was the envy of less fortunate men who had no ready-made excuses to meet every difficulty. It appears from the life of Eminent Sir Wilfred Ivanhoe that the Knight Templar frequently took part in free circus entertainments, most of which were doubtless designed for the benefit of Sunday Schools. In these entertainments the Knights were often badly hurt, and there is good reason to believe that they were occasionally happily killed. In the absence of any steady employment, the Knights did a good deal of miscellaneous fighting with any available neighbour, and Most Eminent Sir Brian de Bois-Guilbert, of Jackson Commandery, No. 27, was in this respect a fair specimen of the fighting Knight.

The modern American Knight Templar is not at all like his illustrious predecessor. Instead of a white night-gown with a red cross, he wears a black frock-coat, a cocked hat, and shoulder-straps—a uniform that makes him resemble a chaplain in the Navy who has pawned his regulation blue coat and been compelled to transfer his shoulder-straps to a borrowed black coat. He does not take vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, and rarely—if we may credit the reports of the recent Chicago Conclave—takes even the total abstinence pledge. For Jerusalem he cares nothing, and never makes the slightest pretence of going there. His holy places are Chicago, St. Louis, or San Francisco, in one of which cities he gathers himself together once every three years, and marches in a solemn procession, sweltering in a close buttoned coat and cocked hat, and exciting the wonder of the beholding foreigner. At these Triennial Conclaves he always gives a public exhibition of Templar tactics, which consist in a series of semi-military evolutions of great intricacy and total lack of purpose. To the small boy he is an object of mingled amazement and mirth, and the public, which regards him as a sort of hybrid between the militia soldier and the circus performer, fails to comprehend why he exists and fatigues himself in the tiresome and expensive Triennial Conclave.

What the American Knight Templar does in the secrecy of his Lodge room is, of course, a mystery to the outside world. People who are immediately below a room in which the Knights are accustomed to gather, hear noises which lead them to believe that the Knights make a practice of falling over a large amount of furniture, a theory which is apparently confirmed by the fact that they issue from their meetings in a very heated and extremely thirsty state. Still, it seems intrinsically improbable that men should go to large expense in point of uniforms and horse-collars merely to meet together and fall over furniture, and we must assume that a meeting of Templars has some other and worthier object.

There was a time when many intelligent men, including John Quincy Adams and Thurlow Weed, believed that the Knights Templar Society was a dangerous thing, chiefly because it takes its members exclusively from the Masonic Fraternity. In these days no one views the Templars with alarm. A more innocuous gathering never took place than that which has just delighted the Chicago hotel keepers. The Knights are not as picturesque as the old Templars, but they behave themselves much better, and as between the ancient Knight in the act of torturing a Jew and the modern Knight peacefully nodding through a long sermon in a Methodist meeting house, it is very easy to make a choice.—*Keystone.*

DUES.—Dues do not run against members suspended for non-payment of same, and Lodges are not liable to Grand Lodge for dues on such during the time of their suspension.—*James M. Mobley.*

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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LODGE OF LOYALTY, No. 1607.

THIS Lodge held its annual installation meeting at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, on Saturday, 11th inst. Like others that used to meet there, it has suffered from the unfortunate closing of that celebrated place of entertainment in May last, when it sought refuge under the hospitable roof of Bro. Oddy, of the Seven Sisters' Tavern, Tottenham, where, though everything was done for their comfort, the brethren did not muster as was their wont under the aegis of their alma mater. If rumour speaks true, Bro. Willing will, at the end of the season, retire from the management of the Alexandra Palace. It is to be hoped, for the good of the pleasure-seeking crowds of London and its suburbs, as well as for the Masonic Lodges held there, such will not be the case, and that he will continue the new system of management he has so successfully inaugurated, with the profit he so worthily deserves, so that, in this instance, the proverb may stand good, *fama mendax non verax*. To return to the Loyalty, the following Brethren and Officers assisted in opening the Lodge, viz., Father of the Lodge Bro. John Newton P.M. and Sec. Nos. 174 and 1607, Bro. F. Brown P.M. 1607 and S.W. 174, C. H. Webb I.P.M. 1607 and W.M. 174, C. J. Perceval W.M. 1607, E. Legge S.W. and W.M. elect 1607, P.M. Urban Lodge 1196, W. Bedell J.W., J. Jones S.D., Carr J.D., Roberts I.G., Giller, Garden, Harrison, &c. 1607. Visitors—J. Kench P.G.P., Hogard P.G.S.W. Horts, and J. Terry P.P.G.J.W. Herts; P.M.'s Bros. Tickle, Blatchford, Hunt, Quitman, Wallblanche, North, Seddon, &c. The usual Lodge business was transacted, after which the ceremony of installation was ably performed by the outgoing W.M., Bro. C. J. Perceval, assisted by Bro. Terry Sec. R.M.B.I. as D.C., and the I.P.M. C. H. Webb. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in usual form, when the brethren sat down to an elegant banquet, provided by Mr. Barber, the able manager of the purveying department at the Alexandra Palace. Having enjoyed the same, the brethren, after the usual toasts, songs, &c., separated, at the early hour of ten, highly delighted with the few social hours spent in such perfect Masonic harmony.

Amherst Lodge, No. 1223, Riverhead.—Freemasonry is making some progress in this province, judging from what we saw at Westerham, on Saturday the 5th inst., on which occasion a goodly gathering of the brethren, locally and from a distance, indicated that an unusual quantity of work was on hand. The Lodge having been opened in due form by the W.M. Bro. Charles Dodd, he vacated the chair in favour of Bro. A. W. Duret P.M., who performed the first business, viz., the raising of two brethren to the third degree. The W.M. then resumed the chair, advancing three of the brethren to the 2nd degree, and then initiating five gentlemen into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. After some ordinary business a vote of thanks was awarded with acclamation to Bro. John Webb S.W., for his very handsome present to the Lodge of a beautiful set of working tools. The Lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where a very excellent repast was served by Host Waller. The W.M. Bro. Dodd presided, giving in his usual concise and terse manner the appropriate introductions to the various Masonic toasts. Bro. J. H. Jewell responded for the Provincial Grand Officers Past and Present; Bros. E. J. Dodd, A. W. Duret, and R. Durtnell, for the P.M.'s; Bros. E. W. Allen P.M. 173, Walker Cooper W.M. 538, Stephen Cooper W.M. elect 1637, W. E. Kentish J.W. 1293, F. D. Vine S.D. 173, and Henry Hoare 1744, responding to the toast of the visitors. The harmony of the evening was enhanced by the admirable recitation of Bro. E. J. Dodd P.M., and the singing of Bros. J. T. Baker S.D., William Harmer, and others. A most enjoyable evening was concluded about nine o'clock, many of the brethren having to return to town.

Wandsworth Lodge, No. 1044.—On Wednesday evening the first meeting for the season was held at the East Hill Hotel, Wandsworth. The majority of the brethren were in their places at the time appointed. The attendance was rather numerous, and comprised Bros. Henry Green 1087, A. J. Riddle 1787, J. Mason 1067, J. R. Gallant 172, P. H. Harnett 813, and Dr. Oakman. The W.M. elect, Bro. J. B. Walker, was duly installed by Bro. Boddy P.M., who was assisted by Bro. H. E. Frances P.M., both of whom were accorded votes of thanks, which were entered upon the minutes. The following Officers were appointed:—Bros. W. J. Huntley S.W., J. J. Holland J.W., W. F. Wardroper S.D., F. Reed J.D., and A. A. Denham I.G. The other brethren present were Bros. J. G. Kewney, F. H. Newens, J. G. Carter, H. R. Jones, George Hinck, W. A. Morgan, and A. N. Newens P.M.'s, and A. Brownlow, W. Bell, F. Tucker, W. Springett, and Thomas Arnison. The ordinary business having been disposed of, the fourth degree was worked, and the toasts were heartily given, and cordially responded to. In every respect a very pleasant evening was spent.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426.—At a meeting held at Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C., on Thursday, 16th Sept., at 6.30 p.m., Present:—Bros. Bissett W.M., Harper S.W., Goodenough J.W., Whale S.D., W. Baber J.D., Thomasson I.G., Saul P.M. Preceptor, Blackie Hon. Sec., G. Taylor, Bain, E. A. Baber, Wright, Kibble. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in second degree; Bro. Kibble offered himself as candidate, was examined and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was very ably rehearsed. Lodge was closed to first degree. Intimation was given that on

Thursday next the ceremony of installation would be rehearsed by Bro. A. E. Taylor W.M. 1851 P.M. 1201. Lodge was closed in due form.

Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1445.—Held at Bro. Stevenson's, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston. At the usual meeting on Monday, 13th Sept., Bro. McDonald acted as Preceptor in the absence of Bro. P.M. Myers. Bro. Goddard presided as W.M., he was supported by Bros. Partridge S.W. and Macgregor J.W.; also Bros. Lewis, Kimbell, Loring, Seymour-Clarke (Sec.), and others. After the usual formalities, Bro. Loring was questioned and entrusted, and the Lodge being opened in second degree, the ceremony of passing was ably rehearsed by the W.M. The 1st section of the lecture, and, after resuming, the 2nd section of the 1st lecture, were worked by Bro. McDonald, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Partridge was elected W.M. for Monday evening next, when we trust a goodly number of brethren will support him.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Peace and Harmony Lodge.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 11th August, at Du Toits Pan, South Africa. Present—Bros. Charles Roberts W.M., B. Klisser S.W., J. B. Ring J.W., E. B. Joffman acting Treas., E. Isaacs Hon. Sec., D. Avis Alm., E. Garisch M.C., W. Kuiper Arch. and Steward, R. C. R. Laing I.G., S. W. Green Tyler; Bros. E. D. W. Van Blerk, D. J. de Voss, R. C. Partridge, H. W. Hull, B. Hartog. Visitors—Bro. E. Harris, Sir Hugh Myddelton. Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Hon. Sec. then read an application to become a Freemason from Mr. Cecil Bayley. Ballot was then taken for Messrs. Crewell and Barnes, and both were elected candidates for initiation. Bro. S.W. apologised on behalf of Bro. P.M. Hartog, for his unavoidable absence. Lodge was then advanced to the second degree, when Bros. H. N. Campbell and W. R. Vilgeon were introduced and examined. Their answers to the questions of the W.M. proving eminently satisfactory (indeed it was patent to all they had made considerable progress in the science), they were duly passed. Lodge was then reduced, when it was unanimously resolved that the brethren assemble at the Athole Lodge on Tuesday evening, the 10th inst., and at the Cosmopolitan Lodge on Thursday, the 12th inst., for the purpose of assisting at the installation of the W.M. and Officers of those Lodges for the ensuing year. A collection was made for the poor, after which, the labours being ended, Lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren departed in peace and harmony.

JAMAICA.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE (S.C.)

At a Communication held on 5th August, at the Sussex Hall, of Provincial Grand Lodge of Jamaica and Grey Town (S.C.), presided over by the Right Wor. Bro. Hon. S. C. Burke Prov. Grand Master, and a goodly number of Officers, Masters and Wardens of Lodges under the Scottish Constitution, the following Officers were elected:—

R.W. Bro. C. W. Steer (Seville) -	Dep. Prov. Grand Master
J. O'Gilvie (St. John's) -	Sub. Prov. Grand Master
J. K. Spicer (Glenlyon) -	Prov. Grand Senior Warden
W. A. Paine (St. John's) -	" Junior Warden
B. M. Dias (Glenlyon) -	" Secretary
V.W. Bro. Rev. W. C. McCalla -	" Chaplain
R.W. Bro. D. N. Berwick (Caledonia) -	" S. Deacon
V.W. Bro. A. H. Jones (St. John's) -	" J. Deacon
S. J. Streadwick -	" Architect
R.W. Bro. J. G. Mesquiba -	" Bible Bearer
D. C. De Sausa -	" Dir. of Cer.
H. P. Thompson (Seville) -	" Sword Bearer
V.W. Bro. E. Melville -	" Dir. of Music
R.W. Bro. C. C. M. Knox (Glenlyon) -	" Marshal
V.W. Bro. Jonas Pollack -	" Inner Guard
John Hays -	" Tyler
V.W. Bros. E. B. Wolfe, W. D. Smedmire, W. C. Wepplar, Dr. J. A. Campbell, J. J. Lyon, W. Duff, G. Duff, J. Sherborn, H. J. Burger, R. J. Steel, A. Munroe -	Prov. G. Stewards

PILLARS OF THE PORCH.

FROM THE FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

IN the Masonic system much interest attaches to the two famous pillars erected at the entrance of the porch to Solomon's Temple. These historic columns have a well understood place in the unfolding of Masonic teachings, and the enquiring Craftsman is anxious to obtain information both in regard to their original structure and significance, and their symbolic meaning. We learn from the accounts in the Holy Writings that the pillars of the porch were designed and cast by that Hiram out of Tyre, a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, who is declared to have been a metallurgist and artist of high reputation, being skilful to work in gold and silver, as well as in brass, iron and stone. Without doubt this Hiram "Abiff" was also well versed in architecture, and in every way qualified to superintend so important an undertaking as the building of the great Temple at Jerusalem. His genius it was that wrought out the form and fashioning of the two brazen pillars that became so justly celebrated by reason of their strength, symmetry, beauty of ornamentation and moral suggestiveness.

Each was twelve cubits in height and twelve in circumference, having quadrangular capitals, swelling at the top and lily shaped, and artistically embellished with net work and pomegranates. The scriptural accounts of the height of these pillars and the character of their embellishments are not altogether clear and harmonious; hence there has been a considerable divergence of views as to their proper reconstruction. But the general form and appearance of the pillars are sufficiently made evident, so that it is their symbolical import which most naturally engages the attention of the antiquarian and the Mason. The names given to the two columns were Jachin and Boaz, the former being on the right and the latter on the left of the entrance to the Temple. In one sense these columns were memorials, and thus they were designated by the names with which they are now associated. Jachin was the assistant High Priest at the dedication of the Temple, and Boaz was the great grandfather of David. For some reason not made apparent these two individuals were especially commemorated by the pillars of the porch.

There was, however, without doubt, a much higher significance connected with the columns thus placed. By some it is held that these pillars were intended to symbolize the dual powers of Nature, and that it was only the following out of an Egyptian and oriental custom that caused Solomon to set up the curious pillars in the porch of the Temple. Whether or not this be the explanation of the columns there can be no doubt that obelisks, somewhat similar in form, and with like ornamentation were placed before the great temples of Egypt and India, and that they were intended to symbolize the truth already stated. It is also interesting to recall the fact that similar pillars were placed before churches and cathedrals by the builders in the middle ages; and thus used we may not question but that their understood symbolism had reference to God in some of the attributes of His nature, or some manifestations of His government. The pillars in the porch of the great temple may have had reference, perhaps, to the priestly and kingly power as signified in the names that were given them; but not less did they stand for and suggest the rule and mercy of Almighty God. In their passage from Egypt to Canaan the Hebrew people had been directed by the pillars of fire and cloud,—what more natural than that they should commemorate the Divine presence thus signified by these tangible emblems of their continued confidence in His protection? Give to the pillars this symbolical meaning and they become richly suggestive in the way of their Masonic uses.

NEW SADLER'S WELLS.

WE must congratulate the management of the "Wells" on their enterprise. Not long since it was our privilege to compliment them on the success of *Drink*, Mr. Charles Reade's adaptation of *L'Assommoir*. Since then the well-known dramatised version of Charles Dickens's "Bleak House" has been produced, the deservedly popular Miss Jennie Lee enacting the character of Jo, which gives the title to the piece. All the accessories are in keeping, and the audience each evening have given the most satisfactory evidence possible that the programme was to their liking. Indeed, so pleased were the Islingtonians with this deservedly popular piece, and the equally popular impersonation of Jo, by Miss Jenny Lee, that the management extended the original fortnight's run to three weeks, so that the last performance will take place this (Saturday) evening. On Monday will be produced *Othello*, with Mr. Charles Warner in the character of the Moor, Mr. Hermann Vezin as Iago, and Miss Isabel Bateman as Desdemona.

THE MOHAWK MINSTRELS.

The eighth annual benefit of Bro. Percy, professionally known as Mr. Edgar Mowbray, and one of the proprietors of the above troop of minstrels is fixed for Wednesday, the 29th instant, when there will be provided a special and entirely new programme, the first part of which will include a choice selection of nautical songs. It will be in the recollection of our readers that on the occasion of his last year's benefit, Bro. Percy provided a similar class of programme, and its reception was so hearty that he has—wisely, we think—resolved on giving another of the same character on next Wednesday week. As at Bro. W. Francis's benefit, of which we gave particulars in our last issue, the troop will appear in increased strength, and there will be an abundance of farcical, screaming, and other absurdities in the second part of the entertainment. Bro. Percy has our best wishes for his success.

BRO. EGBERT ROBERT'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND.

Early in November, a party of four talented and very popular vocalists—namely, Madame Edith Wynne, Miss Damien, of the Gloucester Festival, Mr. Bernard Lane, and Bro. Egbert Roberts—will visit some of the principal cities and towns in Scotland, with a view to giving a series of Concerts, which, if we judge rightly of our friends north of the Tweed, will be fully appreciated. The arrangements, so far as they have been made, include the rendering of the Oratorios of *St. Paul*, at Aberdeen, on 4th November; the *Creation*, at Inverness, on the 5th; a Miscellaneous Concert, at Glasgow, on the 6th; *Acis and Galatea*, at Greenock, on the 8th; and a Concert, of which the chief features have not yet been settled, at Falkirk, on the 10th November. The party will be under the management of Bro. John Stedman, and they are to be congratulated accordingly on having secured the services of so able and popular a conductor.

The meetings of the Islington Lodge of Instruction, No. 1471, are held on Tuesday evenings, at 7 o'clock, at the Moorgate Tavern, 15 Finsbury Pavement. Brethren are invited to attend. Bros. J. L. Mather P.P.G.D.C. Herts Preceptor, C. G. Sparrow S.D. 1743 Hon. Sec.

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, 18th SEPTEMBER

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Picnic, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham.
 380—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood.

MONDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER.

- 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)
 518—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
 720—Pannure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
 901—City of London, Gresham-street E.C.
 1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8 (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, at 8 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In.)
 1507—Metropolitan, White Swan, Coleman-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1608—Kilburn, 48 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 8.30 (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Plimsoll Arms, St. Thomas Road, at 8 (Instruction)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Trocadero, Broad Street Buildings, E.C. at 6.30 (Instruction)
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hobden Bridge
 331—Phoenix Public Room Truro
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge.
 424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead.
 466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton
 622—St. Catharina, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
 725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield.
 985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Ilcaton Norris, near Stockport
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland.
 1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
 1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congressbury.
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover.
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury at 8 (Instruction)
 1502—Israel, Masoate Hall, Liverpool
 R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
 R. A. 315—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
 R. A. 482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth
 R. A. 779—St. Augustine, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 M.M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne

TUESDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
 65—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.)
 857—St. Mark, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Village Club Lecture Hall, Wimbledon
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersdale Old Bridge, S.W.
 1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, The Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, at 7 (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich
 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
 R. A. 333—Doric, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8 (Instruction).
 117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool at 6.30 (Inst.)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 373—Socrates, George Hotel, High-street, Huntingdon
 384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
 403—Hertford, Town Hall, Hertford.
 418—Mentoria, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley.
 448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 452—Frederick of Unity, Greyhound, Croydon
 510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 779—Ferreers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 960—Buto, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
 1006—Tregallow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scourie, Cornwall.
 1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1089—De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Seacroft.
 1276—Warren, Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire.
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
 1473—Boote, Town Hall, Boote, Lancashire at 6 (Inst.)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prosthich.
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool
 1587—St. Giles, Royal Oak Hotel, Cheadle
 1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton.
 R. A. 410—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER.

- Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons Hall, W.C. at 6.
 103—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
 223—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crown-dale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 533—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
 720—Pannure, 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 (Inst.)

- 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1521—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1791—Creaton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate, (Inst.)
 R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)

- Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire, Public Hall, Runcorn.
 32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury
 210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
 220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
 274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
 290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
 625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Clockhcaton
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury (Inst.)
 1039—St. John, George Hotel, Lichfield
 1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Inst.)
 1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire
 1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull (Inst.)
 1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1723—St. George, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton
 M.M. Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

THURSDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER.

- House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 211—St. Michael, The Moorgate, Moorgate Street, E.C., at 8 (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 751—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
 1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8 (Instruction).
 1426—The Great City, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 1563—City of Westminster, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, W.
 1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James Street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (Inst.)
 1653—Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 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.)
 73—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
 348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 432—Abbey, Newdegate Arms, Nunceaton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool,
 784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
 1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 R. A. 292—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebdon Bridge
 R. A. 337—Confidence, Commercial Inn, Uppermill
 R. A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 K.T.—Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley

FRIDAY, 24th 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)
 766—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
 902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8 (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
 1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
 1299—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.)

- 810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton
 1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield
 1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion, Barnet
 1393—Hammer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
 1712—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 R. A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 R. A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster
 K. T. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER.

- 109—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
 1541—Alexandra Palace
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Picnic, at 7 (Instruction)
 1679—Henry Muggerridge, Prince George, Parkholme Road, Dalston.
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 615—St. John and St. Paul, Pier Hotel, Erith
 1462—Wharcliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, No. 554.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at Bro. Walter's, the Green Dragon, Stepney, E., on Tuesday, the 14th inst. There were Present:—Bros. E. Walter W.M., Job S.W., McCarthy J.W., Stephens S.D., Taylor J.D., W. Hawes I.G.; also Bros. Anderson, Twinn, A. Walter, &c. After usual formalities, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Anderson candidate. Bro. Twinn was next interrogated and entrusted; Lodge was advanced, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Twinn candidate. Lodge was further advanced, and closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. Twinn 1306 was elected a member of the Lodge, and Bro. Job having been appointed to fill the chair on the 21st inst., Lodge was closed and adjourned.

[We notice, with considerable pleasure, that our esteemed Brother Past Master Berry has sufficiently recovered from his accident to resume his duties as Preceptor to this Lodge.

We trust his health will permit him to attend as of old, when the Yarborough will again attract large attendances of brethren seeking instruction, combined with the comforts of a well-appointed Lodge room.—Ed. F.C.]

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—On 10th inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. Present:—L. Franckel W.M., F. Botley S.W., C. E. Botley J.W., and acting Sec., Tucker Treas., W. Caton S.D., Andrews P.M. J.D., T. Toynbee I.G.; Past Master Bro. Cordingley. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Cordingley candidate. The questions of the second degree were answered, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, the same brother acting as candidate. Bro. Toynbee answered the questions leading to the third degree. Lodge closed in second degree, and Bro. T. Toynbee, of Lodge Frederick of Unity 452, Croydon, was elected a member. Bro. F. Botley was elected W.M. for the meeting on Friday, 1st October. Lodge was then closed and adjourned to 17th inst. (Officers' night).

Whittington Lodge of Instruction, No. 862.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 15th inst., at Bro. Hyde's, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street. Present:—Bros. Fox W.M., Turner S.W., Tate J.W., Long P.M. Preceptor, Gates S.D., Abell J.D., Kearney I.G., and many others. After the confirmation of the minutes the Lodge was opened in second degree, and Bro. Brooklehurst being a candidate to be raised was examined and entrusted, and the Lodge being opened in third degree, the ceremony was ably performed by the W.M. The sections of the lecture were worked by the brethren, the questions being put by Bros. Tate, Abell, and Brown. Bro. Turner was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and then Lodge was closed.

Friendship Lodge, No. 928.—A meeting was held on Monday, the 6th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Petersfield. Present:—Bros. M. P. Creedon W.M., H. Peirson S.W., W. C. Burley J.W., W. B. Edjeler P.M. Treasurer, J. Woodhouse S.D., Naylor J.D., F. C. Wells I.G., Charles Knight Tyler. The business comprised the initiation of Mr. J. B. Hammond, and the raising of Bro. R. Pocock.

The Gilbert Greenall Lodge, No. 1250, Warrington.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., when there were present:—Bros. John H. Galloway W.M., T. H. Sutton I.P.M., Spencer Wallhead S.W., T. Hutchinson J.W., W. Richardson P.M. Treas., D. W. Finney P.M. Prov. G. D. of Ceremonies Sec., W. Taylor S.D., W. H. Jenkins J.D., J. O'Brien I.G., T. Donville O.G., W. Bolton, R. Heaton, A. Potter, Jos. Shilcock, H. Houghton, G. Cropper, P. J. Edelsten P.M., R. Brierley P.M., J. Baird, J. S. Green, W. Woods P.M., T. Barber, J. Barlow, A. G. Webster, J. Smethurst, H. Hoult, G. Mackey, J. Farrington, W. Reid, John Potter, A. F. G. Potter, and John R. Tomlinson P.M. 368. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed. The name of Mr. Charles Ashurst, station master, Warrington, was placed before the notice of the brethren in the usual way, and his acceptance notified by the W.M. Mr. Ashurst being in attendance was duly and solemnly admitted, the ceremony being admirably performed by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Richardson. The rest of the business was of an ordinary routine character, and the Lodge being closed in the usual way, the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Bro. A. Potter was the purveyor, and gave unqualified satisfaction. Bro. Galloway W.M. occupied the chair, and gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, after which the brethren separated in harmony, about half-past ten o'clock. Bros. Jenkins and Richardson added to the enjoyment of the evening by their vocal efforts.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—At Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, on Tuesday, 7th September. Bros. P.M. Myers W.M., Smith S.W., Fors J.W., Pavitt S.D., Tyer J.D., Brownsom I.G., Worsley Sec., Musto Prec.; Bailey, Rawe, Keable, &c. The Lodge opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Tyre acting as candidate. Bro. Worsley worked the first, second, third and fourth sections of the lecture, and the W.M. the fifth. Bro. Smith was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Tyer 1306 was elected a member, Lodge then closed.

On 14th instant.—Bros. Smith W.M., Pavitt S.W., Brownsom J.W., Cundick S.D., Ives J.D., Lane I.G., Worsley Sec., P.M. Musto Preceptor: Bros. Johnson, Sadler, White, Cope, &c. After preliminaries Bro. Worsley answered the questions, and the Lodge opened in the second degree; the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, the Deacon's work being beautifully carried out by Bro. Cundick, who showed the excellent manner in which this part of the ceremony should be conducted. Bro. Pavitt worked the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth sections of the lecture. The Lodge was closed in the second degree, when Bro. Pavitt was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Although Tuesday last was such an unpropitious night, this Lodge was well attended. We should recommend visitors to drop in next week, when the Treasurer will work the third ceremony.

Israel Lodge of Instruction, No. 205.—The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Rising Sun, Globe-road, Bethnal Green, on the 26th inst., by Bro. J. T. K. Job J.W. 1076, who will be supported by Past Masters Bros. T. J. Barnes S.W., B. Cundick J.W., W. Musto I.P.M., W. Myers, W. Yetton, and other prominent workers. Lodge will be opened at 7 p.m. precisely.

King's Cross Lodge of Instruction.—At the regular meeting of the above, on 12th inst., at Bro. Devine's, Blue Posts, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, the chair was occupied by Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. 188, L. Jacobs S.W., B. Kauffman J.W., J. S. Faul S.D., Bingham I.G., L. Solomons Sec., Devine Treasurer, Homming acting Preceptor. The ceremony of the first degree was rehearsed, Bro. Patrick Feeny acting as candidate. The W.M. then rehearsed the second degree, with Bro. Hook as candidate. The first, second and fourth sections of the first lecture were worked by the brethren assisted by Bro. Hemmings. Bros. Virral, P. Feeny 1017 and Hook attended as visitors, and were unanimously elected members. Bro. L. Jacobs was elected W.M. for the next week. The Lodge of Instruction was then closed.

Royal Arthur Lodge, No. 1360.—A meeting was held on 2nd September, at the Lecture Hall, Wimbledon. Present:—Bros. J. Brunker W.M., G. F. Robison S.W., R. T. Sumner J.W., C. Stockman Sec., E. Standen S.D., J. W. Oakman J.D., F. Edbrook I.G., J. Woodstock Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Peacock, Reeves and Cockerell. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. P.M. Reeves was elected W.M. for ensuing year, Bro. Jackson re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Woodstock re-appointed Tyler.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at York, on Monday, the 13th inst. Present:—Bros. C. G. Padel W.M., G. Balmford P.M. and Treasurer as S.W., G. Simpson J.W., W. P. Husband Assistant Secretary, M. Millington S.D., W. York as J.D., O. Marshall Organist, G. H. Simpson M.C., J. Blenkin I.G., P. Pearson Tyler; also Bros. Dyson, Girling, Stabbs, Carter, J. R. Jackson, H. Jackson, Blackstone, Brown, Humphries, Davies, Walker, J. F. Taylor, Atkinson, Chapman, &c. Several visitors were also present. A letter was read from Bro. J. S. Cumberland I.P.M., absent in London on account of ill health, and a telegram was also read from Bro. Whythead P.M., who is enjoying the sea breezes at Flamborough, and who had sent an old and curious apron for presentation to the Lodge. At refreshment, the usual toasts were given, Bro. Jennings responding for the Visitors. The W.M. was congratulated upon his restored health, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 9th Sept., at the Feathers' Hotel, Ealing. Present:—Bros. J. Green W.M., E. Geflowski S.W., S. Dyer J.W., H. E. Tucker Treas., W. Seward jun. S.D., J. Wells J.D., Gasson I.G. Past Masters C. Andrews; Bros. J. W. Woolmer, F. Botley, E. C. Porter. After preliminaries the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. P.M. Andrews candidate. Bro. Green vacated the chair in favour of Bro. H. E. Tucker, who opened the Lodge in the second degree, and Bro. J. W. Woolmer volunteered as candidate for the ceremony of passing, which was rehearsed by the W.M. in a very able and impressive manner. Bro. P.M. Andrews delivered the lecture on the Tracing Board. Bro. E. Geflowski was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. Lodge was then closed in due form.

Beaconsfield Lodge of Instruction, No. 1662.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, at the Chequer's Hotel, Marsh Street, Walthamstow. Present:—T. Upward W.M., C. B. Carter S.W., C. Webster J.W., G. Clark Sec., W. G. Hallows S.D., E. Brown J.D., H. F. Inman I.G.; Past Master Bro. J. Pinder; Bros. J. Edwards, J. A. Reed. The Lodge opened in due form and the minutes of last Lodge meeting were read. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Edwards candidate. Bro. Reed answered the questions preparatory to being passed to the second degree. Lodge was opened to the second degree when Bro. Reed was passed. The Lodge was then resumed, and Bros. Reed, Brown and Edwards were unanimously elected members. Lodge closed in form and adjourned.

MASONIC DISCIPLINE.—My attention has been called to the great want of "Masonic Discipline" in some of our Lodges over the conduct of those who profess and call themselves *Masons*. It is becoming more than ever necessary that Masonry should be bold in the declaration of its principles, and that it should as boldly determine to enforce its admirable tenets. Temperance is a cardinal virtue in Masonry. If this virtue be inscribed upon our banner, and if that banner be proudly waving in its purity over the temple, why should it be allowed, from time to time, to be disgraced by the workmen that are engaged in their labours beneath its folds of beauty? Shall Masons persist in continual, flagrant violations of all moral law, and in open and constant disregard of the most sacred teachings of our Fraternity, thereby bringing shame upon the Craft, and we refuse or neglect to punish the transgressor? Do not the immoral practices of some of our Brethren stamp the lie upon their profession and *Masonic characters*? With all the charity which the most generous heart can exercise, are we not compelled to acknowledge that we have too often denounced these things, and yet allowed our members to indulge in them? My Brethren, if our Institution be honest in its proclamation of hostility to vice, it will not tolerate, and even nourish in its bosom, those members who habitually practise those vices that are in violation of Masonic principles and morality. If our erring Brethren will not be restrained from disreputable practices by words of *loving counsel*, let us not hesitate to visit condemnation upon vice in all its forms, and ever maintain, by strict discipline, the high, moral standard of Masonry.—Grand Master Williams, of Delaware.

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.—On Monday, LEAP YEAR, and A WIDOW HUNT.
COVENT GARDEN.—At 8, PROMENADE CONCERTS.
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DRURY LANE.—At 7.30, A SERIOUS AFFAIR. At 8, THE WORLD.
STRAND.—OLIVETTE.
LYCEUM.—At 7.30, BYGONES. At 8.30, THE CORSICAN BROTHERS.
ADELPHI.—At 7.30, THERESE. At 9, FORBIDDEN FRUIT.
GAIETY.—At 7.30, HAPPY VILLAGE. At 8.30, THE MIGHTY DOLLAR.
GLOBE.—At 7.30, WHICH SHALL I MARRY? and LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.
CRITERION.—At 8, JILTED. At 8.45, BETSY.
OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8, IN THE SULKS. At 8.45, THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE.
FOLLY.—At 7.45, HESTER'S MYSTERY. At 8.45, THE UPPER CRUST.
NEW SADLER'S WELLS.—At 7.30, FARCE. At 8, OTHELLO.
ALHAMBRA.—At 8.0, LA FILLE DU TAMBOUR MAJOR. At 10.15, THE ALPINE BRIGANDS.
CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, THE UPPER CRUST, BICYCLE RACES, &c. On Thursday, FIREWORKS, &c.
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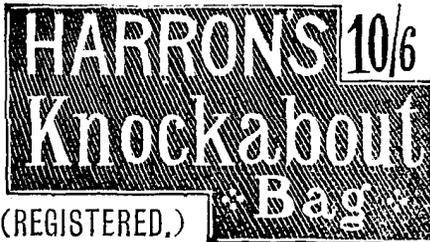
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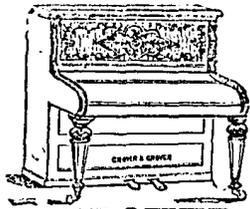
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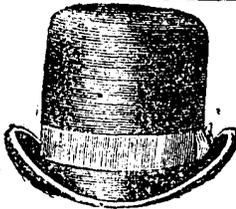


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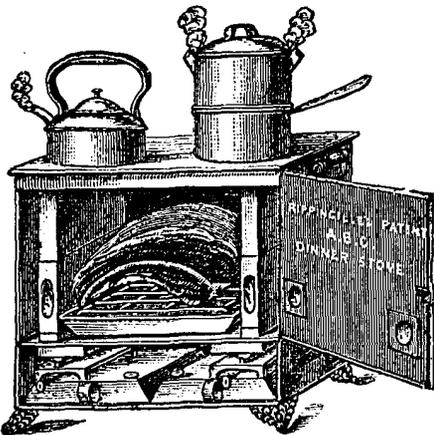
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