

THE
Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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LODGE QUARTERS.

FROM an extract from the *Portsmouth Times*, which appears elsewhere in our columns, it will be seen that the authorities of Grand Lodge are strongly opposed to the meeting of Lodges in hotels and taverns. Our contemporary, in speaking of the grant of a Warrant of Constitution to the William of Wykeham Lodge, No. 1883, Winchester, and the near approach of its consecration, informs its readers that originally "it was intended that the new Lodge should be held at the George Hotel, but it seems that objections exist in Grand Lodge to granting Warrants to new Lodges if held at hotels." For this reason the Prov. Grand Master, instead of pressing Grand Lodge to issue its warrant, very wisely suggested that the proposed new Lodge should elect to meet at the Masonic Hall, and the suggestion having been accepted by the founders of the William of Wykeham Lodge, the Warrant has been issued, and the Lodge will be constituted in due course at as early a date as possible. Now the resolution above referred to as having been adopted by Grand Lodge, indicates a very important change of policy on its part, and one which, as involving somewhat momentous consequences to the Craft, seems to demand some passing consideration at our hands. It must be obvious to every member of our Society that it is most desirable every Lodge of Freemasons should have quarters of its own, if its finances will allow of so desirable a consummation. In the event of this being out of the question, its next best course is undoubtedly to endeavour to find its local habitation in some private hall or an Assembly Rooms. Even the most enthusiastic admirers of what is known as "the fourth degree" must admit that it is desirable the work of our Lodges should be kept as distinct as possible from the necessary, if most agreeable, task of satisfying the appetite. Some men live to eat, but the wiser and more sensible among us eat to live, and the association of the Philosophy of Freemasonry with the everyday life of a public house may do something towards elevating the latter to the dignity of a Masonic Hall, but it cannot be said to add lustre to the fair fame of the Craft. It is true that on examining the earliest extant Lodge lists we shall find that our Lodges were almost without exception in the habit of meeting at taverns, and many of the localities in which these taverns were situated were even then of somewhat dubious respectability. This, however, must be set down to the fact of there being few, if any, places of a private character where our brethren could meet. Even Grand Lodge had no abiding place of its own, and its Communications were held sometimes at the more renowned hostelries of the time, and sometimes in the halls of our City Companies. But there are many Masonic Halls now standing in the metropolis, and in most of our large Provincial towns. Elsewhere Town Halls are available for the gatherings of the Craft, and in addition are to be found many other appropriate places for the same purpose. Wherever then there are available Masonic or other Halls, we think it a wise policy on the part of the Grand Lodge authorities to insist on new Lodges at all events taking up their quarters in them. We must not lose sight of the fact that our system of Masonry was not started for the purpose of benefiting the tavern or hotel keepers, though the services of the latter may be as necessary to Masons as to others among Her Majesty's lieges. It may be, of course, that a Masonic Hall is not adaptable for the purpose of a Masonic banquet, in which case doubtless an adjournment will take place to the nearest refectory, be it either

a tavern, hotel, or even the more common public house. No very serious amount of hardship, or inconvenience is likely to follow from such a plan. Under any circumstances, however, we hold it to be both expedient and desirable that in the cities and towns which are fortunate enough to possess Masonic Halls, Grand Lodge should make it a rule, requiring such new Lodges as it may think proper to constitute to hold their meetings on premises especially set apart for the purposes of Freemasonry. Thus in the case of the William of Wykeham Lodge, the City of Winchester has its Masonic Hall, and what more reasonable than that Grand Lodge should regard such Hall as being more suitable for Lodge meetings than an hotel?

We do not suppose the authorities of Grand Lodge have resolved on issuing warrants only to such Lodges as are prepared to find quarters of their own other than are to be had at hotels or taverns, nor must we be taken as arguing in favour of such a policy. In London, for instance, there are so many Lodges, and they are scattered over so wide an area, that even if there were a dozen Masonic Halls erected in as many central localities, it would still be found impossible to accommodate them all. Nor is there, in our opinion, anything in the slightest degree derogatory to the character of Freemasonry, when we find Lodges meeting in such places as the Albion, Aldersgate-street; Anderton's, Fleet-street; the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street; the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street; the Imperial, Holborn Viaduct; the Inns of Court, Lincoln's Inn Fields; Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue; and others we might name, as possessing an equally high character. These are to all intents and purposes as private as any Hall could be, and there is no likelihood that a Masonic meeting at any one of these establishments could ever degenerate into a vulgar or disreputable orgy. Their proprietors and managers are men of too high a stamp to allow anything of a doubtful character to pass unnoticed. The same remarks apply with equal truth to many hotels in our provincial towns—hotels which, for generations, the worthiest and best members of the community have been in the habit of frequenting. For these reasons, we shall be sorry to see anything like an indication on the part of the moving spirits of Grand Lodge to discountenance Masonic meetings at hotels and houses of good repute. While, as we have before said, our system of Masonry was not invented in order to benefit hotel and tavern keepers, it is very certain that we owe a debt of gratitude to them for having placed the needful accommodation at the disposal of our Lodges. What is needed is, that a Lodge shall provide for itself reputable quarters, and these are to be found in all parts of London, as well as in our provincial towns, without the slightest difficulty.

THE GLORIFICATION OF FREE-
MASONRY.

IN reproducing the excerpt from the pages of the *Christian Age*, bearing the above title, we take the opportunity of suggesting to our Christian (?) contemporary that, whatever may be the shortcomings of Freemasons—and Freemasons are but fallible—they are ever ready and anxious to think charitably of all men. They willingly accord to others the right they claim for them-

selves, the right—within the limits of propriety—of free thought and free speech. They are free thinkers—not in the sense in which the term is ordinarily used, but in its widest and most liberal interpretation. Thus, in respect of religion, they one and all believe in the existence of the Creator, or, to use their own expression, the Great Architect of the Universe; but each of them is at liberty to worship that Creator in the manner that to him seems most fitting. The majority of them are Christians, many are Jews, many Mohammedans, Parsees, and so on through the whole category of religious faiths. In their Lodges they meet on one common ground as God-fearing men, respecting their brethren's belief as they respect their own, and avoiding the discussion of any and every subject which, as being likely to evoke differences of opinion, is at the same time calculated to breed contention and strife. They humbly endeavour to inculcate, practically as well as in theory, the simple truths of morality, by doing unto others as they would that others should do unto them. They do not think that it is a part of their ordinary duty to sneer at those who differ with them. They are not minded to speak evil of people when occasion offers, or, as we regret to say is too often the case, when there is no occasion for speaking of them at all. While they admire a man for his virtues, they deal tenderly with his faults, ever bearing in mind what the poet has so tersely expressed, that "To err is human, to forgive divine." They claim no merit because they conscientiously strive to be God-fearing and neighbour-loving folk, neither do they hold themselves out as possessing any special immunity from the ordinary failings of humanity. They do not regard their system as Christian because it is charitable, for they consider charity is of the essence of *all* religions, and that where there is no charity, there can be no true religion. Masons, in short, try to do their duty in the station of life in which they are placed, and in accordance with the moral and religious light that is in them. If they are not always successful, they have, at least, the consolation of knowing it is their misfortune, not their fault—a misfortune which has been shared by many worthy men in the past, and will be shared by many men in the ages to come. We are not offended with the *Christian Age*, because it has spoken its mind freely on a subject of which it knows but little. We would, however, modestly suggest to its editor that he should make himself acquainted with "the system of Masonry," by reading our Old Charges or Book of Constitutions, before he again proposes to himself to enlighten his readers on either its merits or its shortcomings. As we have not taken upon ourselves the functions of a clerk in holy orders, we are not so presumptuous as to attempt instructing our readers in the mysteries of religion, but we do claim to know something of the Fraternity to which we belong. That being so, we may state that we see nothing inappropriate, or partaking too much of the character of self-glorification in ex-Lord Mayor Truscott's remarks at the Masonic banquet at the Mansion House. Possibly the editor of the *Christian Age* may in time be brought to understand that, how great soever may be his qualifications for enlightening the Christian world as to the truths of Christianity, they do not constitute a sufficient justification of his attempt to instruct his readers in a subject about which, if we take his remarks below as a criterion of his knowledge, he is, to put it as gently as possible, but very ill-informed. He will do wisely to ponder well the simple truth contained in the familiar proverb, "The Cobbler to his Last." The excerpt reads as follows:—

THE GLORIFICATION OF FREEMASONRY.—Is not this thing being carried a trifle too far? Lord Mayor Truscott is a Mason; so is the Prince of Wales. What so natural as that they should meet, give the Mason's grip, dine, and drink together? But is it necessary to talk after the fashion Lord Mayor Truscott has adopted? Why, the great ecclesiastical alliance of the future already exists in Masonry! "Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believes in the glorious Architect of heaven and earth, and practises the sacred duties of Morality." We are afraid the Order has not always been a promoter of good morals, and are not fully persuaded that it is so now; as to religion, the less said about it the better. But the Prince, as Mason-in-Chief, has laid the foundation stone of Truro Cathedral with Masonic ceremonies; and this must cover a multitude of sins. The Masonic Creed at the consecration of the first stone will hardly harmonize with the Athanasian Creed at the opening of the building itself by the Archbishops and Bishops, and the consigning of some brother Masons, who believe the former but not the latter, to endless torments. The system of the Masons is unique, but it is not necessarily pious; it is charitable, but it is not therefore Christian. Let there be a clear distinction drawn between things that differ. Surely this

is not too much to ask in the interest both of clear thought and Christianity. Have our readers ever seen Professor Finney's book on Masonry? Its study would clear the atmosphere which is breathed at Mansion House banquets.

PHILADELPHIA, THE PREMIER MASONIC CITY OF AMERICA.

By Bro. W. J. HUGHAN.

WHENEVER and wherever my good friend Brother Gould S.G.D. desires my opinion, I always feel bound to respond, though, in the present instance, I must confess that we are all *simply examining a puzzle* without the means of completely solving it. Brother Gould has ably and most fairly stated the *negative* side of the question as to the claim of a Lodge at Philadelphia, U.S.A., being at any time on the roll from 1730 to 1734, as published in the engraved lists of the Grand Lodge of England. The *affirmative* side I have already given, and shall only now refer to points raised by Bro. Gould which require particular consideration.

1. It will be well, however, as preliminary, to note the following *established facts*:—

- (a) Daniel Coxe, Esq., was appointed Prov. G.M. of "New York, New Jersey, and Pensilvania" by the Duke of Norfolk M.W.G.M., by Patent dated 5th day of June 1730, *being the first for any part of America.*
- (b) The Patent empowered Bro. Coxe to "to constitute the brethren (free and accepted Masons) now residing, or who shall hereafter reside in those parts, into one or more regular Lodge or Lodges, as he shall think fit," &c.
- (c) The application for the appointment was made by Bro. Coxe "and several other brethren, free and accepted Masons, residing, or about to reside, in the said Provinces."
- (d) The "Patent" gave authority to "the brethren who do now reside, or who may hereafter reside, in all or any of the said Provinces," to elect a Prov. G.M. "every other year on the Feast of St. John the Baptist."
- (e) The privilege thus given was exercised on June 26th 1732, in Philadelphia, when Bro. W. Allen was chosen Prov. G.M., and appointed Bro. W. Pringle D.G.M. The Wardens chosen were Bros. T. Boude and Benjamin Franklin. This account of the Prov. G.M. is to be found in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, June 19th to June 26th 1732. This is the earliest printed notice known of the election of a Prov. G.M. in America, and is doubtless the *first* of its kind.
- (f) In the "Dedication Memorial Volume" (Philadelphia, 1875) is a copy of a letter (still extant) by Bro. H. Bell to Bro. Dr. Cadwallader, of date Nov. 15th 1754, in which the writer claims to be "one of the originators of the first Masonic Lodge in Philadelphia." He also states that, in "the fall of 1730" they made application to the Grand Lodge of England for a Charter, "but before receiving it, heard that Daniel Coxe, of New Jersey, had been appointed by that Grand Lodge as Prov. G.M.," &c., &c. "We therefore made application to him, and our request was granted."
- (g) In the *Pennsylvania Gazette* for Dec. 8th 1730, it is stated "there are several Lodges of Freemasons erected in this Province."
- (h) Bro. Benjamin Franklin subsequently became Prov. G.M., and, as Prov. G.M. or G.M., wrote to Bro. Henry Price, Nov. 28th 1734, for a confirmation of the privileges which the brethren of Pennsylvania enjoy, "of holding annually their Grand Lodge," &c. He explains that this step was taken because he had heard that Bro. Price's Patent was

"extended over all America," &c.—(Vide Bro. McCalla's History of the subject.)

2. These points having been established, I quite agree with "Philadelphos" in his capital letter of the 30th ult., that "Freemasonry undoubtedly established itself in Philadelphia before it did in any other City of the United States." Indeed, until these statements are disproved, I shall not trouble to defend them in any way.

3. The question, however, is, was a Warrant ever granted by the G.L. of England, or by the Prov. G. Master Coxe (which means the same thing virtually), between the years 1730 and 1734, for Philadelphia, and was it ever on the engraved lists? That one or more Lodges were granted by Bro. Coxe is certainly almost proved from the foregoing. Whether he, as Prov. G.M., sent on the notices of Charters thus granted, I cannot say, and do not know who can. Bro. Price, as Prov. G.M. of Massachusetts, granted a Warrant in 1733 to the St. John's Lodge, Boston, and by a notice being sent to London, it was placed in the engraved list of 1734 as No. 126. If the Warrant was paid for in London, we are not aware of any record thereof, and Bro. Gould, after searching to 1738-39, was unable to find any account thereof. It was, however, as we know, duly constituted. In the numeration before 1740, it is evident that No. 79, if granted to a Lodge in England, would be dated (say) 1731. *The numbers 81 to 83 were of that year.* Brother Gould kindly searched for me as to this matter some time since, and found the payment, noted in the *G.L. Records*, of two guineas, by 79 Castle in Highgate, London, for a *Constitution*. This was on the 21st Nov. 1732, when a Grand Lodge was held, and is carefully chronicled in the "Four Old Lodges," p 82. The author declares it to have been constituted in 1731. I wonder if this really were the case. It may have been occupied by another Lodge in 1731, and given to the one at the "Castle" in 1732. At all events, if the "Castle" were the first to hold 79, it was late in paying for its constitution, for many of its juniors paid the fee in 1731 and early in 1732. However, assuming that No. 79 was originally granted to the "Castle," London, in Dr. Rawlinson's List of 1733 the number is *vacant*. I quite concur with Bro. Gould in placing this list at 1733 (the latter part), and that, in all probability, it is a transcript of one of the engraved lists of 1733. The engraved lists of 1730, 1731, 1732, and 1733 are missing, unfortunately, and so all is conjecture on these points, unless confirmed by the Grand Lodge records. It is also *vacant* in the Engraved List of 1734. That of 1735 is *missing*. Those of 1736-8 have 79 credited to a Lodge at St. Martin's Lane. In the "Four Old Lodges" it can be traced as follows—79 (no date) 1736 List. In 1740 it became 68 and dated 1730! In 1756 it was raised to 42, in 1770 to 35, in 1781 to 31, and in 1792 to 29 (still in London). By our "Masonic Register" it will be found located at Deal in 1814 as 44, and became 39 in 1832, soon after which it again collapsed. 1730 was said to be its date from the List of 1740 down to 1832! but it is quite evident that it was not so. There was sometimes more than one edition of an Engraved List in the same year. We have seen two of 1725, the second issue having four more Lodges added. During the period of 1734 to 1754 there were Pocket Companions published with Lists of Lodges. These were, of course, copies mainly of the regular Lists issued by the Grand Lodge. They do not, however, any time say from what edition their Roll of Lodges is taken, and so when they contain Registers of Lodges which are not in the Engraved Lists preserved, all things being equal, it is fair to presume that they were made from Editions now missing. As a case in point, 1734 List of Lodges in "Smith's Companion," has 79 vacant; but in another "Pocket Companion," printed in Dublin for the year 1735, which has a Roll of Lodges for the year 1733-4, that number (79), is filled by "The Hoop in Water St., in Philadelphia, 1st Monday." Now, I have been asked to believe that my discovery of this fact is of no value, and that there never was such a Lodge granted for that City. I answer, why not? Admitted that it is a puzzle, it is not the only puzzle as to old Lodges, for on that subject let any one consult the "Four Old Lodges," and they will see it is not even so great a puzzle as some others. Bro. Gould asks me to explain how it is that 79 is full in one of the copies, and vacant in the other. I cannot do so, and apparently he cannot, for he assured, if he could he would,

whether it favoured his view or otherwise. But though we cannot explain why they differ, that they differ, *there is no doubt*; and therefore why should it not be accepted as fairly probable, if not actually certain, in the light of the foregoing statements, that 79 was for a short while located to Philadelphia, in response to the petition of the brethren in that city, who however relinquished it for the charter given them by Bro. Coxe? Surely, the compiler of the 1735 "Pocket Companion" at Dublin, did not imagine the name of the Inn, the place, and the day of meeting of No. 79? Why should not he be credited with as much consideration as that of the 1735 work, in which the number is left vacant?

I agree with Bro. Gould's able statement of the *negative* view of the subject, but in the absence of evidence, the *affirmative* side is equally as strong, and beyond question has in its favour the fact that in a List of Lodges printed in 1735, No. 79 is located at Philadelphia. I beg to thank Bro. Gould and Bro. "Philadelphos" for their fraternal criticisms, and if it is all the same to them, we will let the matter rest as *not proven* until more facts are discovered.

PROV. GRAND LODGE OF OXFORDSHIRE.

THE annual meeting was held in the hall of the Apollo Lodge on Wednesday 10th inst. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, the Provincial Grand Master, was unable to be present, and in his absence Bro. Reginald Bird, the Deputy Grand Master, presided. He was supported by Bro. Rev. H. A. Pickard, Past Grand Chaplain of England, Bro. F. P. Morrell, Past Grand Deacon of England, the Chaplains of the Lodge, and many Past Masters and Past Provincial Officers. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Deputy G.M. read the report upon the various Lodges in the Province and expressed himself satisfied at the progress that Freemasonry was making therein. The Treasurer's report was then read and showed the funds of P.G. Lodge to be in an excellent state. Bro. F. P. Morrell proposed the re-election of Bro. Randall as Treasurer, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Randall has held this appointment for upwards of a quarter of a century. Bro. H. A. Pickard read the report of the Charity Committee, and Charity Jewels were presented to Bros. T. E. Withington 357, J. M. Dormer 340, and S. P. Spiers 340. Bars of the Jewels were presented to Bros. R. Bird 357, Rev. H. A. Pickard 357, F. P. Morrell 357, F. Hedges 478, J. Potts 599, H. R. Cooper Smith 357, Rev. H. Deane 357, T. E. Withington 357, and C. Park 340. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master then invested the Prov. G. Officers as follow:—W. Parratt Senior Warden, C. A. Galpin Junior Warden, Rev. S. C. F. Angel Smith Chaplain, T. Randall Treasurer, E. L. Hawkins Registrar, A. Winkfield Secretary, W. N. Glencross Senior Deacon, J. M. Dormer Junior Deacon, H. P. Symonds Sup. of Works, J. J. Callcut and J. Callcut Directors of Ceremonies, W. Whatcoat Sword Bearer, W. R. Bowden Organist, S. Salter Pursuivant, Thomas Eley Asst. Pursuivant, W. P. Ellis, W. Adkins, J. R. Maguire, H. G. W. Drinkwater, E. R. Baynes, and H. M. Humfries Stewards, and G. Norwood and Biggs Tylers.

From an Australian Exchange we learn that:—

"The stay made by the Duke of Manchester R.W. Prov. G.M. Norths and Hunts in Hamilton was much shorter than had generally been anticipated. Early on Thursday morning, 16th September, accompanied by Sir Samuel Wilson, the Hon. R. Simson, Mr. T. Skene, Mr. Manson, and Mr. J. M'Kellar, he was driven out to Redruth. There, a breakfast, such as the hostess of the Wannan Inn can so well prepare, was duly discussed, and a visit paid to the neighbouring falls, which, thanks to the recent rains, were seen in all their grandeur. His Grace was not slow in expressing his admiration of them, and like many others have been, was probably surprised upon coming so suddenly on so splendid a waterfall, the contour of the country between Redruth and the precipice not leading a stranger to expect anything like so fine a sight. The Duke returned to Hamilton by the mid-day train, by which he took his departure for Melbourne. It had been expected he would visit Murndal and other properties in this greatly favoured portion of the colony, but this his time would not allow. In fact, there are a great many Pastoral and Agricultural shows and other events taking place, and every district is anxious to secure a visit from a nobleman who has ever taken so active an interest in colonial affairs, and is himself a sheep-breeder of no mean repute. Invitations without number are therefore pouring in upon him. It is, however, to be hoped that before he returns to England, His Grace will be able to make a tour through the country between Hamilton and Casterton. He has expressed admiration at the richness of the pastures through which he has already travelled, but it may be fairly stated he has, as yet, seen nothing that can equal the hills and dales included in the Muntham, Struan, Merino Downs, Murndal, and other estates which could be mentioned.

Our readers will regret to learn that Bro. Dr. Moore P.G.S.B. Eng., of Lancaster, still lies in a critical state. The serious symptoms have not abated, and his condition causes considerable anxiety to his friends.

MARK MASONRY.

OLD KENT MARK LODGE.

THE usual quarterly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street. Present:—Bros. Henry Venn W.M., Moon S.W., Rody Date M.O., Mather S.O., J. L. Mather J.O., Soppot D. of C., Dewar Secretary, Pinder Steward, Tanner I.G.; Past Masters Rosenthal and Meggy. Visitors—Bros. Albert P.G.P. and Turquand. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Dr. Mordaunt Sigismund was advanced into the mysteries and privileges of this honourable degree. It was unanimously decided to raise the subscription fee from three to four guineas. Two brethren were admitted as joining members. The brethren then sat down to a banquet, under the presidency of the W.M. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, in appropriate terms, by the W.M., and duly honoured. The health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom and the other Grand Officers, who take so great an interest in this degree, was proposed, and drunk most cordially. Bro. Dewar Assistant Grand Secretary replied, in a few happily chosen sentences. The W.M. then gave the health of the newly advanced member, saying that the new brother by his side had quite taken away his breath by the Masonic knowledge he seemed to possess, and the efficient manner in which he went through the ceremony. He felt sure that the Order, and this Lodge in particular, might congratulate themselves on so promising an acquisition. A brother sang an excellent song. Bro. Dr. Mordaunt Sigismund briefly acknowledged the toast, and after thanking the W.M. for the complimentary manner in which he proposed his health, asked whether it was not somewhat remarkable that after making him a *Mark*, he should be called upon to make a re-*mark*. Did the brethren all point their glasses at him because they were such excellent *Marks-men*? His ambition to be raised in this honourable Order arose from the fact that he so frequently came across men who were of *no Mark*. This probably arose from his strong desire to be of *some Mark*. He was somewhat of a traveller—had roamed Eastward. Needless for him to say that he had come across Land-Marks, as well as Water-Marks. Speaking of Water Marks, he visited an island, or rather a number of islands—"the Bride of the Sea"—where he paid his respects to the Lion of *Mark*—the place of *Mark*, and the Church of *Mark*. On continuing his journey he visited the tomb of a *Mark Aurelius* and the Monolith of *Mark Antony*. Returning Westwards, he met with a whole people who highly prized the trade *Mark*; a whole nation, in fact, he found to be extremely partial to *Marks*. Amongst them it is quite a household word now—"Save your *Mark*!" Of course he was not alluding to the German Empire. Oh no! This country can boast of an exalted lady, who is the wife to M.W.G.M.—I presume I am correct in saying that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is a *Mark*? Upon being answered in the negative, he proceeded to say, "Oh well! if she is not the wife of a *Mark*, she is the daughter of a Den-Mark. He (the speaker), although an American, had no hesitation in saying, and he felt sure that the brethren would all agree with him, that although Her Royal Highness is not a *Mark* herself, she has succeeded in making on the hearts of her future subjects an *indelible Mark*! He now desired his brethren to *Mark* him well. Although but a novice, barely three months having expired since he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, he had the temerity to dive deeply into the hidden mysteries of the Craft and seek knowledge fearlessly. He was sincere and somewhat of an enthusiast; he loved the Order to which he belonged, and with assiduity and fervour he hoped to make *his Mark*. It seemed to him that the Order in which he had just been received was an offspring of the parent Order—a branch of the stem—a chip of the old block; and a fine strong block it was. It reminded him of some glorious old oak, which in the exuberance of her strength and vigour, gave birth to a large healthy family. To his inexperienced eye the whole category of Orders were the legitimate children of the Mother Craft, and should, like dutiful and loving children, cluster and ivy-like entwine themselves around their beloved parent. It is true that most of the affiliated branches enjoy a certain autonomy; none, however, can, or dare, declare themselves independent of their glorious mother. In her glory they gloried. She throws her benign influence over them all, and casts her reflex on them. They were all aware that it was the hope of reward which at all times sweetened labour. Now *wages* are very good in their way; but what he, and he trusted all the brethren, prized far more, was the approbation of his brethren and mankind in general. He was forcibly struck with the similarity between the various degrees and cadences of their beautiful Order and human life. The candidate is first initiated into the mysteries of this life, in a state of indigence and utter helplessness he sees light for the first time; he then undergoes the dangerous infantile period, till he passes into adolescence; then he finds himself superior to the infant, but inferior to the man. One point of the compass is then exposed to his view, and he hangs as it were between two periods. He then emerges into the sublime degree of a man—ripe, mature, and he is free to work with both points of the compass. He then contemplates himself; he is taught to *know himself*; he is a free agent, and it behoves him to lay out his path. Cautious, yet fearless, he stands before his Maker—a man, a *Master*; wherever his road then leads him, he, and he alone, must pave the way. Then arrives a time when he is *advanced*; and this, with perseverance and keeping straight in the path, must result in being *exalted*!—exalted in rank and social position. He (the speaker) had been *initiated*, *passed*, and *raised*, and, with the assistance of the Great Overseer of the Universe, he hoped in good time to pass through the *Arch*, and be *exalted*. He thanked the W.M. and brethren for the kind manner in which they had listened to him, and begged, at the same time, to express his sincere thanks to the brethren who were good enough to propose and second him, he coupled with them the Brother to his right—Bro. E. P. Albert

P.G.P.; he was not only a brother to the Craft, but ought by right to be styled the *Mother*—to so many members had he given birth. Brother Albert is an antediluvian old fossil, but staunch and true as gold; who is there in the Craft unacquainted with the name of E. P. Albert? He reminded him of a rough unpolished stone of the purest water. The toast of the Past Masters was then drunk, and Bro. Rosenthal P.M., in responding, said, considering that he was the oldest member in that Lodge—the *founder* in fact—he must decline to receive the thanks of the Brother *avancé*; the new Brother owed him no thanks, since he was sure to cast a lustre not only on the Lodge to which he had been just admitted a member, but on Freemasonry in general. He, an old—a very old Mason—hardly knew what to say to a stripling—a mere boy—a babe in the Craft, who could speak as he had spoken. And, brethren, right well did he say what he had to say. He again asked himself, if the babe can act thus, what will he do when he grows up to be a man. The Visitors' health was then drunk, and was responded to by Bros. Albert and Turquand. The latter was happy to inform the brethren that a new Mark Lodge of Instruction, of which he was Preceptor, had been opened at the Trocadero, opposite Broad-street Station, where he trusted to see and there welcome all the brethren. To the toast of the W.M., Bro. Venn said it was the first time he had worked in the Master's chair, and he considered that he had not worked to his satisfaction, but trusted to do better upon the next occasion. The Joining Members' health was then drunk, and a Brother from Calcutta replied in a few chosen words. With the Tyler's toast a very enjoyable time came to an end.

HUYSHÉ LODGE, NO. 91.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge was held at the Ebrington Hall Devonport. There was a good attendance, and after an advancement of a brother of Lodge Fidelity (the ceremony being performed by Bro. Thomas Searle P.M. 100, P.P.G.A.D.C.), Bro. J. R. H. Harris, who had been previously unanimously elected, was installed as Master. This ceremony was also performed by Bro. T. Searle, assisted by a Board of installed Masters, amongst whom were V.W. and W. Bros. John Lynn P.M., P.P.G.O., A. Rowe P.M., P.P.G.D.C., John Rogers P.M., P.P.G.T., E. Murch P.M., P.P.G.O., J. Baxter P.M., P.P.G.S.D., H. Miller P.M., P.P.G.S.Wks., James Gidley P.M., P.P.G.T., F. Littleton P.G.J.D. On the completion of the ceremony, the following Officers were appointed for the ensuing year:—Brothers Alexander Rowe I.P.M., R. Ellis S.W., H. Bridgman J.W., R. J. Goodyear M.O., T. Towan S.O., W. Coath P.M., J.O., J. Lynn Treasurer, H. Miller S. and R. of M., W. Joll I.G., J. Rogers T. The accounts were audited, and a satisfactory balance announced. Simple refreshment in the Lodge-room followed, and the brethren honoured the usual toasts.

JAMAICA.

A SPECIAL meeting of the District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica was held on the 27th October, for the purpose of nominating a brother to fill the important office of District Grand Master, in the room of the late lamented Bro. the Hon. Dr. Hamilton. One of the largest gatherings of the Craft that has taken place in this island for many years assembled on this occasion. The District comprises eight Lodges, under the English Constitution, namely—Westmoreland, Sav. la Mar, Hamilton, Spanish Town; Friendly, Royal, Phoenix, Sussex and Jamaica, Kingston; and Phoenix, Port Royal. The Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of each Lodge were present. The Lodges have held special meetings, and nominated brethren to be recommended to District Grand Lodge. Five have recommended the Right Wor. Bro. Altamont De Cordova, present Deputy District Grand Master; one has recommended Right Wor. J. W. Whitebourne Past Deputy District Grand Master; two have recommended Wor. Dr. Allan P.M. Jamaica Lodge—a Lodge just two years in existence. There is a strong feeling in favour of the present Deputy Grand Master, but it is deeply regretted that a rumour should have been afloat that the Right Wor. J. W. Whitebourne would not offer himself for the appointment. He is one whom the brethren have always looked up to for advice, and is ever willing to render all the assistance in his power. But if the rumour of his unwillingness to accept the office is correct, no better selection could be made than our present Deputy District Grand Master, who is always at his post, and ready to promote the interests of Masonry. Bro. De Cordova is an old P.M. of one of the first Lodges in this island, and it is hoped every success will follow him. The result is anxiously looked for by the brethren.

Glenlyon Lodge, Kingston.—The ordinary meeting was held on 13th October, presided over by Rt. Wor. J. K. Spicer. This being the night of election of Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Tyler, the Rt. Wor. A. E. Burke Past Prov. Grand Secretary was elected to the chair, this being the third time that he has had the honour of presiding over this Lodge. Bro. J. Pollack was elected Senior and Bro. J. K. Scott as Junior Wardens.

The District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica have issued circulars to the several Lodges in the Province, calling on them to nominate a Brother to fill the important office of District Grand Master. The several Lodges have held special meetings:—The Jamaica on 12th, the Westmoreland on 14th, the Phoenix on 21st, the Friendly on 19th, the Collegium Fabrorum on 19th, the Sussex on 20th, the Royal on 21st. It is reported that the present Deputy District Grand Master's name has been brought forward very prominently, though some Lodges think that the appointment should not take place for some time yet. The District Grand Lodge will meet on 27th, when t he report will be forwarded for the pleasure of approval by His Royal Highness the Grand Master of England.

Caledonian Lodge, Port Jamaica.—A meeting was held on 14th ult., when Wor. A. D. C. Levy was elected Master, Wor. D. Berwick S.W., Bros. J. A. Hinselwood J.W., J. Nelson Treasurer, J. A. Hinds Tyler.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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LODGE CHARITY FUNDS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your last number you have given an extract from the byelaws of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, Colchester, according to which the sum of six guineas for Masonic Charity is to be annually paid by the Treasurer of that Lodge to the Masonic Institutions. Will you allow me to quote from the byelaws of a very juvenile Lodge—Eboracum, No. 1611—by the aid of which that Lodge has, each year of its existence, had a sum of over ten guineas with which to purchase a vote in perpetuity for one of the Charities, and which sum, of course, increases each year with the growth of the Lodge.

Byelaw 19 is as follows:—

"SPECIAL CHARITY FUND.—Four shillings of the annual subscription of every member of the Lodge and four shillings of every joining and initiation fee shall be set apart for the formation of a Special Fund, which Fund shall annually be disposed of, in whole or in part, by the vote of the Lodge, for the endowment of some chair in the Lodge, or for any other purpose, in connection with one of the three Masonic Charities. The vote of the Lodge on this question shall be taken at the meeting for the election of Master, and due notice thereof, as well as of any motions to be made respecting the disposal of the Fund in question, or any part thereof, shall be given on the summons calling that meeting, and any Brother wishing to bring forward any motion on this subject must forward a copy of the same to the Secretary at least ten days before the meeting in question."

I am, yours fraternally,

T. B. WHITEHEAD, P.M.

TRADING ON MASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

11th November 1880.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I trust your able article of last week on the above subject will have the effect of drawing the attention of the Board of General Purposes to so flagrant a violation of the principles of the most ordinary commercial morality, and if the law cannot compel this wine merchant to give up using the arms of the Grand Lodge of England as his trade mark, that a way will be found of visiting him with some condign punishment in the shape of exclusion or suspension from his rights and privileges as a Mason, if he be one, or by studiously avoiding having anything to do with him or his champagne. Rather would I drink a gallon of "old gooseberry," and let it play "old gooseberry" with my stomach for a whole year afterwards than patronise a tradesman who, under the cloak of charity, has been guilty of such impertinence to our Society.

That men like Bros. Stillwell, Spencer, Kenning, and others should use some Masonic implement or symbol as the emblem of their trade is justifiable. It is their business to provide Lodges with their paraphernalia, and brethren with their clothing and regalia. But what, in the name of fortune, have the square and compasses to do with the sale of Burton ale and sandwiches, claret, or mock turtle? Why, if out walking I feel that I need a slight refectory, am I to be annoyed by seeing a parade for trade purposes of those symbols which, as a Mason, I so much respect? There is no special virtue that I am aware of in the liquors or comestibles that are sold by a man who happens to be a Mason, while the chances are that, if I am ass enough to patronise a brother who trades on his Masonry, I shall pay more heavily than in an ordinary place of business. Business is business, and Masonry is Masonry, and the less they are mixed up for trade purposes the better.

Yours fraternally,

NO HUMBAG.

THE MOTHER CITY OF AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me to correct two inaccuracies in the tabular statement published in your last impression (p 323).

1. For date of Constitution, *English List*, read *Engraved List*.

2. The fee of £2 2s paid for Constitution on April 21 1730, which is credited to Lodge No. 74, must, I now think, have proceeded from Lodge No. 63, constituted March 25 1730, whose place of meeting (though at an earlier date) was also the "Bear and Harrow."

The first footnote at p 323 should therefore be cancelled.

The Lodge No. 63 at the "Bear and Harrow in the Butcher's Row,"—so described in List No. 11 of my "Four Old Lodges," p 50—was a very high class one, and numbered amongst its members the Earl of Strathmore Master, Viscount Montague (G.M.), G. Rooke and J. Smythe (G. Wardens), Dr. Desaguliers, Viscount Mountjoy (father of the first Earl of Blessington, G.M. of the Ancients), Sir W. Gordon, and Colonels Pitt and Diggs.

The circumstances of this fashionable Lodge, constituted March 25 1730, paying for its charter within a month of its formation, is there-

fore very noteworthy, when we find that another highly fashionable Lodge (No. 79), waited for more than a year before discharging this primary obligation.

3. Perhaps I may be excused for again drawing attention to the light which the second and immediately following editions of Pritchard's "Masonry Dissected," are calculated to shed upon the subject of early American Freemasonry?

Yours fraternally,

R. F. GOULD.

GRAND CHAPTER.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Can you, or any of your readers, explain how it is that the proceedings of the Quarterly Convocations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons, England, are so utterly uninteresting that it seems hardly worth while cumbering your pages with the accounts of the meetings? The number of those present is oftener than not below that of an ordinary Lodge meeting. It seldom happens that any of the more distinguished Companions are in attendance. The business is for the most *nil*, or of the most formal character, such as the approval of the quarter's accounts, and the grant of warrants to new chapters. As regards the latter, the petition is occasionally rejected *pro tem*, on the ground that, according to the laws that govern Grand Chapter, it is premature, as the Lodge to which the proposed Chapter is to be attached has not been in existence the prescribed number of years. Occasionally this law, on due and sufficient cause being shown, is set aside. But even the reports which appear in your contemporary of these Quarterly Convocations would not be worth the space they occupy were it not for the names of those who attend being given, and that is a matter which cannot possibly interest any but the worthy Companions themselves. Believe me, I am not desirous of withholding credit from those who fulfil their duty by attending. Indeed, I know there are many most excellent Masons among them. The Grand Officers, too, are to be congratulated—those, at least, holding rank below that of a Grand First Principal—on their punctuality, seeing how little encouragement they receive from Royal Arch Masons generally. Yet Grand Chapter is in a flourishing condition financially. It does a world of good for our Charitable Institutions, its periodical donations being of a most liberal character. Above all, the Royal Arch is constitutionally the *ne plus ultra* of Freemasonry. May I, Dear Sir and Brother, take the liberty of asking, in the quaint phraseology of the late Artemus Ward—Why this thusness?

Fraternally yours,

BLUE MASON.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INGOLDSBY JUNIOR.—Your "Ex Cathedra; A New Entered Apprentice's Song," is declined with thanks. It is too rudely personal, and too—well, the one reason we have stated for its rejection must suffice.

T. LONGDEN.—A biographical sketch of the late R.W. Bro. Rev. J. Huyshe, P. Prov. G.M. Devonshire, will be found in *Masonic Portraits*, First Series, to be obtained at our offices, 23 Great Queen-street, W.C. Price 3s 6d.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

WILL BE WORKED

By the members of the Smithfield Lodge of Instruction, No. 1623, at the Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524, at the Royal Edward, Triangle, Mare-street, Hackney, on Wednesday, the 24th instant. Bros. H. J. Lardner S.D. 1623 W.M., G. H. Stephens S.W., W. Fieldwick Preceptor. The following brethren will take part in the working:—Bros. Webb, Laurence, Goodenough, Moss, Davison, Stephens, Greenwood, King, Penuefather, Davis, Butt, Mallet, Tilling, and Perkins.

By the brethren of the Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426, at Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C., on Thursday, 25th November, commencing at 6.30 p.m. Bro. Thomas Poore P.M. 720 will preside. First Lecture:—Bros. J. Rnsh, H. Wright, W. Shaw, R. Boby, T. W. Ockenden, C. F. Goodenough, and J. King. Second Lecture:—Bros. J. M. Powell, A. Marvin, G. W. Blackie, H. J. Lardner, and G. W. Saul. Third Lecture:—Bros. H. K. Harris, E. A. Taylor, and H. Sibley.

At the St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction, No. 180, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, on Monday, 29th inst., at 7 p.m. precisely. Bros. Woods J.W. 145 W.M., Farwig P.M. 180 S.W., Docker W.M. 1687 J.W., William C. Parsons P.M. 180 Secretary. First Lecture:—Bros. Mole, Jones, Blundell, Harding, Bel-frage, Kidder, and Farwig. Second Lecture:—Bros. Maxsted, Docker, W. C. Smith, Watts, and Dairy. Third Lecture:—Bros. Richardson, Lowrie, and Hancock.

At the Mount Edgecumbe Lodge of Instruction, No. 1446, at the Harp Tavern, 19 Jermyu-street, W., on Tuesday, 30th inst. Bros. J. B. Docker W.M. 1687 W.M., C. A. Woods J.W. 145 S.W., A. Cameron P.M. 180 J.W., F. Farwig P.M. 180 Preceptor, F. W. Green 1687 Hon. Sec. First Lecture:—Bros. F. Green, L. Beck, Hammond, J. J. Smith, A. Cameron, Waugh, and W. J. Burgess. Second Lecture:—Bros. E. J. Scott, J. Hemming, W. C. Smith, E. Farwig, and J. Paul. Third Lecture:—Bros. Hancock, Dean, and W. Cleghorn.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

THE monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, 17th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. There were present—Bros. Joshua Nunn as President, James Brett as Senior Vice President, C. A. Cottobrunne as Junior Vice President, Lt.-Col. Shadwell H. Clerke G.S., H. G. Bass Assist. G.S., A. A. Pendlebury, Garrod, C. F. Hogard, W. H. Perryman, R. F. Gould, Griffiths Smith, John Constable, S. Rawson, W. Mann, William Clarke, H. Massey, G. P. Britten, William Stephens, James Kench, Charles Atkins, Thomas Cubitt, J. D. Collier, George Burt, S. Lindner, R. Atkins, Charles Dairy, John Docker, J. H. Matthews, W. Ingram, Robert Harrison, P. McCarthy, W. Kipps, George Smith, G. Adamson, W. Groome, A. Cooper Bradley, W. T. Clinton, V. Jagielski, George Boulton, Robert Snare, C. H. Köhler, A. W. Fenner, James Squire, J. Henry Smith, E. West, T. R. Marshall, J. Lazarus, Henry B. D. Dunn, Neville Green, William Vandy, W. Sutherland, J. R. Stacey, W. Radcliffe, W. L. Kitson, H. Shaw, Albert Fish, W. H. Dean, John Ledger, John Henry Leggott, J. Perkins, Edward Mackney, James Weaver, R. S. Waylett, Michael Maybrick, James Blyth, H. A. Lovett, Henry Turner, M. D. Loewenstark, M. Rickwood, Thomas Cull, F. C. Wemyss, and H. Sadler Grand Tyler. At the Board of Masters, which was first held, the agenda paper for the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, was settled. The Lodge of Benevolence first confirmed grants to the amount of £680 made at the last meeting. On the new list, there were thirty-five cases, of which three were deferred, being incomplete. The other thirty-two cases, were, after a sitting of four and a half-hour's duration, relieved with a total sum of £925, in grants of £100, £75, £50, £40, £30, £25, £20, £15, £10, £5.

THE PROPHET VOLTAIRE.—Our readers are aware that it was not until the year 1877 that the two moons that gyrate around the planet Mars were discovered, by Asaph Hall, at the Naval Observatory, Washington. M. Voltaire had, however, long years before that period pointed out the existence of these two moons. In his comic romance, *Micromegas* (the edition before us was published in 1772) we find the following words:—"They describe two moons subservient to that orb (Mars), which have escaped the observation of all our astronomers. I know that Father Castel will write, and that pleasantly enough, against the existence of these two moons; but I entirely refer myself to those who reason by analogy; those worthy philosophers are very sensible that Mars, which is at such a distance from the sun, must be in a very uncomfortable situation, without the benefit of a couple of moons, &c." To our mind M. Voltaire saw these two moons with the eye of reason. It may be argued that this could not be prophecy, inasmuch as M. Voltaire was not a Jew; we do not know, or indeed care, whether he was a Prophet or a Jew, seeing that—without any childish assumption of knowledge unknown to science—we merely record facts that are incontrovertible. We have sought round this whole city for a man of the mental calibre of Father Castel, but in vain; and in the absence of the omniscient Father Platt, of Grace Church, we are loth to hazard an opinion. The Reverend "Prelate" Platt—"who would to Chicago go, whether his wifey was willing or no"—is, it appears, "a minister of the gospel and prelate of the brotherhood;" and, looking at the two columns in the *Alta California* of the 9th inst., wherein he undertakes to enlighten the whole world in regard to Freemasonry, and "the Soldiers of Religion, the Valiant Knights Templar," we feel assured that he is the very man we seek—a profound and most wonderfully big Masonic Bug, always cock-sure about everything in regard to which the rest of mankind is in doubt. His "Eminence's" return is anxiously looked for, by both his fellow-citizens and brother Masons. Some of the latter, deeming it wiser to wash soiled linen at home, remain silent, though much aggrieved that this "Worshipful Christian Knight," this blatherskite ecclesiastical Don Quixote, should, in his published discourse, place them before their fellow-creatures in this year of grace as a set of credulous, ignorant idiots. Had this "sublime prelate" eased himself of this discourse in Lodge, we should have known how to treat it and him (*with a mild grin*), and have been saved the humiliation of a supposed approval and indorsement of his high-falutin production—a drop of truth in an ocean of slush. We have at heart too much respect and affection for real Freemasonry to desire to see it placed in a contemptible and ridiculous light; and we hope that in future our great "Prelate" will exhibit some modesty, and, remembering the existence of our common Schools, "draw it mild," or milder. We know not to whom this discourse was addressed, but we cannot conceive it addressed to Freemasons; it must have been intended to amaze the vulgar. There is no denying the fact that the marvellous, with the vulgar, ever takes the place of reason; and that in dealing with the ignorant we must, to carry them with us, always seem to embrace that opinion which is most incredible; but, after all, let us in seriousness ask: *Does Freemasonry require to be "cracked up" in this mendacious manner?* We think not. Our ancient brethren had good reasons for viewing Cowans with suspicion, having always found that a tolerable Divine always made an intolerable Freemason.

The Installation meeting of the Whittington Lodge, No. 862, was held on Monday, 15th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, London. A report of the proceedings shall appear in our next.

The annual meeting of the Sphinx Lodge, No. 1329, will be held this day (Saturday) at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 3.30. Bro. B. R. Bryant is the W.M. elect.

We regret that, in consequence of the illness of our representative, we are unable to give a report of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland, which we promised should appear last week.

THE UNITED WAITERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

THE Eighteenth Annual Festival of this Association was held on Monday night, Bro. F. Binckes (Royal Masonic Institution for Boys) in the chair. Despite the heavy rain there was a good attendance. The Association was formed for the purpose of relieving such as might be from some unforeseen calamity or misfortune in sickness or distress, the member having first of all given evidence of his desire to provide for a rainy day by joining the Association. Though a comparatively young institution it has given proof of its vitality by distributing £1,600 in relief among worthy applicants, and accumulating a sum of £520, which it has in hand, as a reserve for the future. The Chairman, in an eloquent speech, advocated the claims of the Association, and trusted that the result of the donations would show they were duly appreciated by the general public. The operations of the Association were not confined to London, efforts having been made successfully to establish branches in all provincial towns, the largest as yet being at Brighton, where much energy and ability were being displayed. The occasion was rendered the more interesting by the presentation of medals to the President and Secretary to mark the members' appreciation of those gentlemen's services. The result of the Chairman's appeal on this occasion was an addition of between £30 and £40 to the fund.

Islington Lodge of Instruction, No. 1471.—The annual supper of this Lodge took place on Tuesday evening, at the Moor-gate, under the presidency of Bro. J. L. Mather, who was supported by Bro. C. J. Sparrow as Vice-President. Including Visitors, the muster reached forty all told. Lodge was formally opened and closed, and the brethren at once sat down to discuss a well served repast. On the removal of the cloth, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Seaman shortly afterwards rose for the purpose of proposing the toast of the evening, namely, Prosperity to the Islington and the health of its Preceptor, the President of the evening, Bro. J. L. Mather P.M. In the course of his remarks, Bro. Seaman spoke in eulogistic terms of the excellent instruction afforded by the Lodge, and, as a necessary corollary, paid a high compliment to Bro. Mather for his ability and assiduity as Preceptor. He further urged upon all young Masons that it was their duty to perfect themselves as far as possible in the ritual as set forth by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. He likewise alluded to the many promising students who were indebted for their knowledge of Freemasonry to the able tuition of their President. After a song—"The anchor's weighed"—by Bro. Thompson, Bro. Mather rose and gratefully acknowledged the compliments paid him by Bro. Seaman, and the handsome manner in which the toast had been received by those present. After an allusion to their change of quarters, Bro. Mather remarked that it was very difficult for any one to speak of his own doings; yet he conscientiously felt he had always endeavoured to fulfil to the best of his ability the arduous duties of Preceptor. Occasionally he had been under the necessity of absenting himself from his post, but he had good reason for believing—as, indeed, was evidenced by the heartiness of feeling extended towards him that evening—that any shortcomings of his would be dealt with tenderly out of consideration for his admitted anxiety to perform his work satisfactorily. With the toast of the Visitors were coupled the names of Bros. Morgan and Roberts, who briefly, but appropriately, acknowledged the compliment paid them.

Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, No. 554.—Held on Monday at Bro. A. Walter's, Green Dragon, Stepney, E. Bro. E. W. Walter in the chair. The following brethren supported him, namely:—Bros. Ellinford S.W., Lax J.W., Andrews acting Preceptor, Cross Secretary, Forss S.D., Taylor J.W., Mackenrot I.G., Loane, &c. Lodge having been opened, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Loane candidate. Lodge was closed down, and Bro. Forss worked the first and second sections of the First Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Lax was elected W.M. for the meeting on the 30th inst., and Lodge was closed.

THE LETTER H's PETITION.

"Whereas I have by you been driven
From house, from home, from hope, from heaven,
And placed by your most learned society
In exile, anguish, and anxiety;
And used, without one just pretence,
With arrogance and insolence;
I here demand full restitution,
And beg you'll mend your elocution."

* * * * *

"Whereas we've reserved you, ingrate,
From handcuff, horror, and from hate,
From hell, from horsepond, and from halter,
And consecrated you in altar,
And placed you where you ne'er should be,
In honour and in honesty;
We deem your prayer a rude intrusion,
And will not mend our elocution!"

VERAX.

THE MOHAWK MINSTRELS.

THIS popular troupe of Minstrels intend giving a special entertainment on Wednesday next, the 24th instant, for the purpose of inaugurating the eighth consecutive year of their establishment. During this time their headquarters have been at the Agricultural Hall, and the increased appreciation in which they are held is evidenced by the support they received, not only from the worthy Islingtonians, but likewise from the numerous patrons from all parts of the metropolis who flock to their Concerts. Moreover, their efforts to entertain the public are by no means confined to Islington, and whether they have betaken themselves to the Alexandria Palace, the Crystal Palace, or an east end or other theatre, they have invariably experienced a hearty reception. The troupe is strong in numbers and talent, both vocally and instrumentally. They have an interlocutor in the person of Mr. Harry Hunter, whose contributions to the Mohawks' repertoire of songs are always well received. Mr. Edgar Mowbray (Bro. Percy) is a courteous and considerate manager, while their corner men, eight in number—four bones and four tambourines—include such general favourites as Bro. James Francis, Messrs. Ted Snow, F. Duriah, and W. Freeman, the Brothers Ray, Mr. Diamond, and Little Thomas. An excellent programme may be anticipated.

We have had our attention called to copy of a circular letter from the principal Officers of "the Gael" Lodge, No. 609, Glasgow, in which pecuniary assistance from the general body of Masons is solicited for the purpose of enabling the Lodge to extricate itself from its difficulties. It seems this Lodge was established in order that our Scottish brethren in Glasgow and its vicinity might have the opportunity of learning the beautiful ceremonies of the Craft in their native Gaelic. From various causes, however, "The Gael" has been unable to meet the heavy expenditure it has been obliged to incur, and a considerable debt has accumulated. Hence the present petition, which, however, we are inclined to think will not find much favour south of the Tweed. It was, no doubt, laudable to establish "The Gael" Lodge for the purpose indicated, and our readers will, no doubt, sympathise with its members, who are no longer in as flourishing a state as they were in the years that are past. They will not, however, lose sight of the fact that in England our Lodges have before them the very serious task of providing annually the considerable sum of £40,000 in order to keep our Institutions up to the prescribed state of efficiency. There may be perhaps some brethren who, from their regard for Scotchmen generally and Glaswegians in particular, will be willing to render such assistance as is in their power, while our loyal Scottish brethren, we feel convinced, will not let the opportunity of assisting with their usual generosity what to them must appear so commendable an object. "The Gael" has our entire sympathy, as well as our best wishes, for its successful issue from its present difficulties.

SMALL SAVINGS BY POSTAGE STAMPS.—In consequence of the expense involved in receiving very small deposits in Post Office Savings Banks, no deposit of less than a shilling is accepted. As it had been repeatedly urged that the maintenance of this limit placed very serious obstacles in the way of saving by those who could only put aside a few pence at a time, it was stated at the close of last session that a plan was about to be tried experimentally in certain counties which would enable small savings to be effected by the use of ordinary postage stamps. The plan was brought into operation on the 13th September in ten counties situated in different parts of the United Kingdom, and during the seven weeks it has been in operation, the success obtained has been so marked, that it has now been decided to extend it to the entire country. This decision will take effect on Monday, the 15th instant. On and after that day, at every Post Office in the United Kingdom, forms for the making of small deposits in Post Office Savings Banks will be issued gratuitously. Each of these forms, which are about the size of an ordinary cheque, will have twelve divisions, in each of which a penny postage stamp can be placed. When a form has thus been filled with twelve stamps it will be received at any Post Office at which there is a Savings Bank as a deposit of a shilling. During the seven weeks that the experiment has been in operation, more than 14,000 of these forms have been received, and more than 7000 new accounts have been opened through their agency. As the selected counties contain less than one-tenth of the entire population of the country, it may be fairly assumed that if the plan had been applied in the first instance to the whole country, it would, during the period referred to, have led to the opening of more than 70,000 new accounts. The following are the ten counties in which the experiment has been tried, and they are arranged in the order in which it has been most successful in proportion to the population of the respective counties:—Cardiganshire, Ayrshire, Kent, Aberdeenshire, Cumberland, Somersetshire, Norfolk, Leicestershire, Down, and Waterford. The forms, after being received at the local Post Offices, are transmitted to the General Post Office; they have come to hand in remarkably good order, most of them presenting the appearance of perfect newness, and it has not been necessary in a single instance to return any of the forms on account of their being damaged or defaced.

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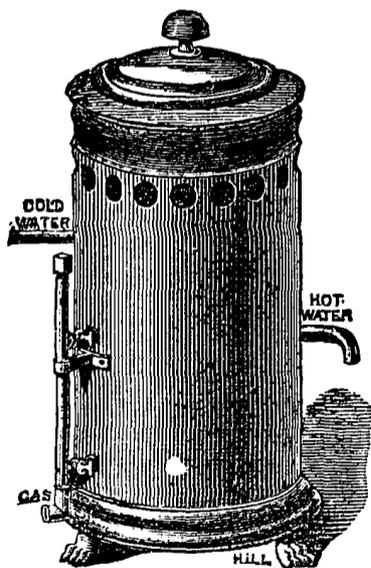
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**THE WINTER HALF-YEARLY COMMUNICATION OF THIS
Grand Lodge will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Tuesday, the 30th of November 1880, when and where all Grand Officers (Past and Present), W. Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Overseers of private Lodges are hereby summoned to attend, and at which, by permission, all regularly registered Mark Master Masons may be present.**

Grand Lodge will be opened at five o'clock p.m.

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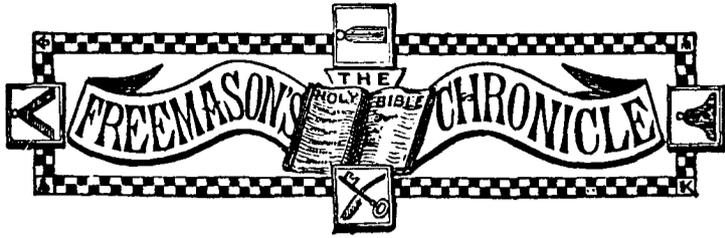
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SHAKESPEARE A FREEMASON.

REFRINTED FROM THE WELSHMAN.

IT is said, and evidences of the truth of the statement are not wanting, that elaborate essays have been written, and most satisfactory proof given that Shakespeare must have been a lawyer, a doctor, a soldier, a sailor, an actor, a gardener, a woolstapler, a horse-boy, a glover, a schoolmaster, a publican, a poacher, a tanner, a gravedigger—indeed, if a tithe of the statements made respecting him be true, he must verily have “played many parts,” and his “acts” must have numbered considerably over “seven ages!”

We have in our time listened to grave attempts, made with more or less success, to show that he must have been “a Papist,” “a Jew,” “a spleeny Lutheran,” “an ambitious Churchman,” “a dissentious rogue,” “a heathen philosopher,” “a pagan rascal”—in brief he has been trotted out in more characters than we “have thoughts to put them in,” or “imagination to give them shape.” Passing all these inquiries by, however, not as “unconsidered trifles” but rather as “deserving of high commendation and applause,” we propose to consider within the present limits if there is a fair ground for the oft-asserted statement that Shakespeare was a Freemason!—premissing, for general information, that we have it not in intention to rake up and produce, as evidence, any “special word,” “set phrase,” or “certain marks” whereby his brotherhood might unquestionably be established after a fashion and in a manner unfitting for profane ears, but more by reference to such “covert illusions,” “hidden meanings,” “veiled teachings,” and “symbolic illustrations” as may be sufficiently well understood by the initiated, if not by the general reader.

An eminent Freemason, upon the occasion of his installation as W.M. of the “Bard of Avon” Lodge in June 1872, in the course of an admirable address, delivered to a singularly appreciative audience, quoted several passages from the plays of the great dramatist, which, according to his judgment, had not merely a Masonic bearing, but also indicated the possession by the author of very special Masonic knowledge. It was not to be expected that “cabin’d, cribb’d, confin’d” within the narrow bounds of an after-dinner speech, any more could be done in this direction than simply to offer for acceptance a few illustrations; the aptness and the force of which, and the skill exhibited in their selection, produce in our mind a profound regret that one so gifted, so competent, so thoroughly qualified to deal exhaustively with such an interesting inquiry, should have permitted the handsome volume entitled *Shakespeare a Freemason* to be printed and published, without having given himself the trouble—nay, the gratification—of collecting and accumulating further proofs from the vast stores at his disposal: stores of wealth, which his skilled hand would have found no difficulty in arranging “in order,” and with his ready pen, presenting his brethren “in due form” and “cunning manner” with much additional evidence: for “in faith he is a worthy gentleman, exceedingly well read!”

The inquiry is one in which, in our “salad days” when we were “green in judgment,” some thirty years ago, we took an absorbing interest—an interest which “age has not withered nor custom staled”; it possessed for us an attractive charm which has not yet entirely left us; for it is, so to speak, the lingering perfume laden with the pleasant influences of the past—*alieni temporis flores*—which has aroused us from the drowsiness engendered by years of apathy and neglect, to accept the challenge of the distinguished brother aforesaid, as conveyed by him in his most instructive and interesting book, to wit—that others should aid this inquiry with their own researches, should lend brotherly assistance to strengthen the evidences and proofs, so as to make them not merely acceptable, but also conclusive.

It is, however, not because we would attribute the fewness of the illustrations in the volume to which we refer, to the

Modesty that has not craft to colour,

or that we have any lurking feeling “in our heart of heart” that the quotations therein given bear somewhat the same comparison with the other subject-matter therein contained, as did Sir John Falstaff’s “halfpenny-worth of bread” to the “intolerable deal of sack” therewith associated; but because we have ventured humbly to think “our ancient skill may beguile us” into contributing some small measure of information to the researches of those who have gone before us in the inquiry, and thus it may be “thoughts speculative their unseen hopes relate” “in passages of proof.” It is in such a spirit that we have collated and now offer a few illustrations and comments as simply evidences “within the scope of our opinion,” in trustful confidence that no dire consequences may ensue between us and our illustrious brother, because it may be said of us in the present instance—

In one line two crafts directly meet.

There can be very little doubt, we think, that the Great Master was intimately acquainted with, and moreover learned in, “the traditions, forms, and ceremonies” which we are accustomed to associate with “Brotherhoods in Cities”; but we desire to avow at starting that we are not among those who insist and declare that he

must have been a Freemason simply because of the oft-quoted line in *Love’s Labour Lost*—

I will visit thee at the Lodge.

To assume this would be to urge our claim unfairly, to build upon insecure foundation, for it should be remembered that the words thus used were spoken by Armado to Jaquenetta; and, while we have not the slightest objection to admit it to be quite within the limits of possibility that a Freemason’s Lodge might have been intended or thought of, it must also be borne in mind there is not a particle of evidence to show that women were frequenters of, or even admitted at all into, Masonic Lodges in those days any more than in our own. One feels more justified in calmly settling down in the conviction that Armado had other intentions in visiting the Lodge than the study of the liberal arts, but this interpretation he might resent as an attempt on our part “to enquire too curiously,” so we will say no more about it.

In precisely the same category is the passage in *Titus Andronicus*, where Saturninus, alluding to his brother Bassianus, says—

He and his lady both are at the Lodge.

But there are other references to Lodges which are not open to an objection of this nature, for example—

The Lodge in a Warren,

alluded to by Benedick in *Much Ado about Nothing*; again, in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, where Justice Shallow accuses Sir John Falstaff thus—

Knight, you have beaten my men,
Killed my deer, and broken open my Lodge.

And yet once again, in the same play, when Mistress Quickly issues her directions—

The several chairs of order look you scour,

it is by no means an unfair interpretation that she meant the chairs of the Master and Wardens of the Lodge, which, peradventure, might have been holden at the sign of “The Garter!”

Let us pass on, however, to show how intimate must have been the acquaintance with the administration of a Lodge. In *Taming of the Shrew*, Biondello, in a conversation with Vincentio, makes use of the expression “My old Worshipful Master;” and scattered through other plays are frequent references to “Worthy Masters,” “Potent Masters,” “Good Masters,” “Elder Masters of known honour,” and so on.

The allusion “Wardens’ Pies” in *The Winter’s Tale* is suggestive of pleasant intimacy with the Junior Warden, if not during work, at any rate in his call from labour to refreshment!

“Chaplains” are rather hardly dealt with in *Henry VIII.* as “Teachers of divers and dangerous opinions which are heresies.”

The only reference to “a Treasurer” will be found in *Antony and Cleopatra*, but we are given “a Master-Secretary” in *Henry VIII.*, and an allusion to those “who play the Scribe” in *Titus Andronicus*.

Deacons, Masters of Ceremonies, and Organists do not appear to have earned for themselves the privilege of having their names enshrined in any play: perchance as Officers they did not exist. If they did, we feel assured they were not only “Officers fit for the place,” but also “Officers of great worth.”

We find in *Pericles* mention made of “A Sojourner;” and in *Henry VIII.* we find “Pursuivants;” while in *Twelfth Night*, *King Lear*, *Timon of Athens*, and other plays we discover “A Steward.” In this last play we find also a passage which can only refer to Inner Guards—

Employed to guard sure their Master.

And, to conclude, the office of Tyler must of a surety be meant in *Othello*, for to whom but a Tyler could Montano speak when he says—

Guard the door without.

Touching Lodge observances, &c., it would be easy to multiply illustrations. Let us take two or three at random. For example, what more complimentary remark could be made to a skilled Master of a Lodge than

You have made good work, you and your apron men.

Or, again,

You have made fair hands, you and your crafts,

both quotations being taken from *Coriolanus*.

On the other hand, what can be more suggestive of an incompetent Master of a Lodge than the observation of Justice Shallow in *Henry IV.*—

He is not his craft’s Master, he does not do right.

In *Much Ado about Nothing* there is a delicious snub to those who are given to the performance or non-performance of their duties “by virtue of their office!” Are there no Dogberrys to be found in these latter days?

What more natural and pertinent inquiry from a Master, say to an unpunctual, unprepared Junior Warden than we chance upon in *Julius Caesar*.

Where is thy leather apron and thy rule?

How widely different was the estimation in which Masons were held in the old days as compared with our own times may be learned from a line in *Henry VI.*—

The nobility think scorn to go in leather aprons,

Turn to *The Tempest*, and see how differently Prospero thought and spoke—

Mark but the badge of these men,
Then say if they be true.

And touching these same badges it is curious and extremely interesting to note how apt and correspondent is the description often given in *Measure for Measure*—

Lambskins, too, to signify that Craft
Being richer than innocency, stands
For the facing.

Passing other references to "Aprons, Rules, and Hammers," it will be profitable to examine well the references to Masonic emblems, showing as they do not only a thorough knowledge of the symbolic teaching conveyed, but an equally thorough appreciation of their lessons, which are strengthened and enforced with singular effect and beauty of expression. Turn to *Antony and Cleopatra*. What can be finer, clearer, or more in harmony with Masonic interpretation than Antony's reply to Octavia—

I have not kept my square; but that to come
Shall all be done by rule.

In the same play we learn how the brethren should dwell together in unity—

Should square between themselves
And cement their divisions.

(To be continued.)

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, 20th NOVEMBER.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1732—King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8

MONDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER.

4—Royal Somerset House and Tavern, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
45—Strong Man, George Hotel, Australian Avenue, Barbican, at 8 (Instruc.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
183—Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, E.C.
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, 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, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 7.30 (Inst.)
1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8 (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road, at 8 (In.)
1632—Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
1695—New Finsbury Park, Plimsoil Arms, St. Thomas Road, at 8 (Instruction)
1818—Clapham, Alexandra Hotel, Clapham Common
R.A. 25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead.
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
1419—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury at 8 (Instruction)
1477—Sir Watkin, Masonic Hall, Mold
R.A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R.A. 302—Charity, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford

TUESDAY, 23rd NOVEMBER.

14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
92—Moir, Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1196—Urban, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
1441—Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
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, at 7.30. (Instruction)
1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (In.)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
1744—Royal Savoy, Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden (INSTALLATION)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.33
24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle, 7.30 (In.)
117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30 (Instruction)
253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1675—Ancient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R.A. 159—Adam, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness
R.A. 1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 24th NOVEMBER.

193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
223—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-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—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
731—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E., at 7.30. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Inst.)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
1017—Montiflore, Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, W.
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Instruction)
1298—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
1476—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
1624—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)

1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
1768—Progress, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)

32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury
163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
1039—St. John, George Hotel, Lichfield
1083—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)
1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow
1219—Strageways, Empire Hotel, Strageways, Manchester
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Inst.)
1293—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Lancashire
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull
1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
1723—St. George, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton
R. A. 42—Unanimity, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire
R. A. 503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone
R. A. 1503—Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
M.M. Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
M. M. 178—Wiltshire Keystones, Town Hall, Devizes
R.C.—Philips, Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster

THURSDAY, 25th NOVEMBER.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
17—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
211—St. Michael, The Moorgate, Moorgate Street, E.C., at 8 (Instruction)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
768—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan, Deptford
1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
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.)
1658—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.)
K.T.—Albert, Masonic Rooms, 23 Ann-street, Rochdale

78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor, Great Yarmouth
111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool 7.30. (Inst.)
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
349—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
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
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction)
1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
R.A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield
R. A. 292—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R. A. 360—Northampton, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton
R.A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
R.A. 1214—Scarborough Hall, Scarborough, Caledonian-road, Batley
M.M. 32—Union, Freemason's Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
K.T.—Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley

FRIDAY, 26th NOVEMBER.

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)
569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road, E.C.
766—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 6. Annual Banquet
834—Hanelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8 (Instruction)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8 (In.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
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
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion, Barnet
1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth
1712—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
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, 27th NOVEMBER.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1679—Henry Mugeridge, Prince George, Parkholme Road, Dalston.
1706—Orpheus, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
R. A. 178—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The chief Wonder of modern times.—This incomparable medicine increases the appetite, strengthens the stomach, cleanses the liver, corrects biliousness, prevents flatulency, purifies the system, invigorates the nerves, and re-instates sound health. The enormous demand for these Pills throughout the globe astonishes everybody, and a single trial convinces the most sceptical that no medicine equals Holloway's Pills in its ability to remove all complaints incidental to the human race. They are a blessing to the afflicted and a boon to all that labour under internal or external disease. The purification of the blood, removal of all restraint from the secretory organs, and gentle aperitive action are the prolific sources of the extensive curative range of Holloway's Pills.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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UNITED STRENGTH LODGE, No. 228.

A meeting of the members of this Lodge was held on Tuesday evening, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, when there was a numerous attendance of brethren and visitors, including a sprinkling of members hailing from Luton and other parts of Beds and Herts. The chair was occupied by Bro. Robert Snare W.M., who was supported by Bros. R. Pearcey I.P.M., Robert Grigg P.M., Alfred Colston P.M., Robert H. Halford P.M., White P.M., G. H. Patmore S.W., A. H. Hickman J.W., T. A. Winsland P.M. Treasurer, Edward Davies P.M. acting Secretary, H. W. Alford S.D., F. J. Hunt J.D., Geo. Bellott D.C., J. Terry P.G.J.W. Herts Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (acting as Steward), J. D. Quartley, Chas. Wm. Butler, H. G. Flaws, James Brown, E. H. Johnson, W. Smith, W. J. Randall, E. Woodman, Vilett Rolleston, John Henry Miller, C. Reepe, H. Woodman, H. Paine, H. Langley, M. Grigg, Joseph R. Green, Max Turner, James Evetts, and others. Amongst the Visitors were Bros. T. H. Bromley P.M. 228, Reginald Turner 177, Henry Faijer P.M. 1840, E. Dodson P.M. 72, and W. Clarke A.G. Pursnivant. Lodge having been duly opened, Mr. Francis Edward Thurland, surgeon, was balloted for and accepted, the nomination having been made by Bro. E. H. Johnson, seconded by Bro. Wm. John Hunter A.D.C. The initiation ceremony was ably performed by the W.M., who delivered the charge with more than ordinary effect. Subsequently Bros. Vilett Rolleston and John Henry Miller were passed: and during the after business the W.M. consented to accept the post of Steward at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, a sum of ten guineas being voted from the Lodge funds with which to head his list. The usual compliments having been exchanged, Lodge was closed in form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was served in the well-known excellent style of Messrs. Ritter and Clifford, and under the efficient and personal supervision of Bro. Henry Mills. The general arrangements of the evening were admirably carried out by Bro. Sherwill, whose study to promote the comfort and convenience of the party elicited unbounded expressions of satisfaction. Bro. James Marcham made a most efficient toastmaster. The W.M., in proposing the health of the M.W. the G. Master, took occasion to refer to the day of meeting as being the anniversary of the birthday of the Prince of Wales, and no doubt amongst the toasts being drunk at that moment at Sandringham, that of Masonry was not absent from the mind of his Royal Highness. In responding for the Pro Grand Master, Deputy G.M. and G.O.'s past and present, Bro. Wm. Clarke said there was something special in the day of this meeting which required notice at his hands. First, because of its being Lord Mayor's Day, and then its being the Prince of Wales's birthday, which it pleased him to see had been noticed by the W.M. Then they had a Grand Lodge Officer who had occupied a foremost position, not only in the City of London, but in the world, he might say—he meant the Junior Grand Warden of England, the retiring Lord Mayor Bro. Sir Francis Truscott. There had taken place during the last year one or two things which would be placed on the record of Masonic history as incidents of very great importance. He alluded to the laying of the foundation-stones of Truro Cathedral by the Most Worshipful Grand Master in the birthplace of the late Lord Mayor; and the Masonic Banquet that was lately given at the Mansion House, when the Most Worshipful Grand Master and a host of distinguished brethren from all parts of the country were the guests of the Junior Grand Warden of England. These were events which would be handed down as of paramount importance in the history of English Masonry in 1880. This was an occasion of interest to himself personally, as this was the first London Lodge he had the honour and pleasure of visiting. Therefore he felt it an unusual source of pleasure to have his name associated with such an important toast. What had occurred this year in Masonry would tend to prove, if need be, not only the increase of the number of Masons, but would send forward into the world the opinion that Freemasons were not what some had been ready to say of them, but that they were a body who had thoughts and feelings for those who unfortunately required their assistance. He felt that Freemasonry was destined to fulfil a far greater position than it did now, and that it would continue to afford help to those who might stand in need of it. The Immediate Past Master, in giving the health of the Worshipful Master, referred, in felicitous terms, to the manner in which Bro. Snare had discharged the duties of his office, and though, by the effluxion of time, he would soon vacate the chair he so ably filled, they would all recollect the efficiency he had brought to bear upon his duties. The W.M., in acknowledging the compliment paid him, said it was somewhat difficult to vary the replies he had to make to compliments so often repeated. Still, he wished to convey to them an assurance of his gratitude for the very kind and flattering way in which his name was always received. It had been his endeavour to do all he could to uphold the prestige of this Lodge, and he knew that any shortcomings in that direction they might have observed on his part would be amply overlooked. In turn, the Worshipful Master proposed the health of the initiate, the toast being most cordially received; and Bro. Thurland responded, in a modest and becoming speech. A hearty welcome was given to the Visitors; in replying for whom Bros. Clarke A.G. Purs., Faijer, and Bromley responded. Each and all spoke of the excellent working of the Lodge, and Bro. Bromley, in his customary "few words," spoke of the hearty hospitality visitors always received at the hands of this excellent Lodge. As to the working, why it was the same as it had always been, and the United Strength was considered to be one of the best worked Lodges in existence. He was proud to see it kept up as it was twenty years ago. Bros. Dodson and Turner also replied. In response to the toast of the P.M.'s, which was given in feeling terms by the W.M., Bros. Pearcey and Winsland returned thanks. The toast

of the evening was that of the Masonic Charities, in responding for which Bro. James Terry observed that in speaking of the Masonic Institutions they must first of all premise that they were varied in their character and in their scope. They had all read the observations made by the Prince of Wales at the late Masonic banquet, and they had heard from the lips of his Royal Highness (and he was well instructed as to what he should say) that during the past ten years the roll of Masonry had increased by 10,000 every year. He also went on to state that, comparing what Freemasonry was in 1843, at the close of the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Sussex, when there were only 750 Lodges, at the present time they had 1887. Then (in 1843) they expended in charity something like about £4,800 a year, but at the present time they were spending, in the Girls' School something like £13,000. in the Boys' School about £14,000, and for the Old People considerably above that. In addition to these, there had been received during the past year for the three Masonic Institutions a sum approaching £42,000. Simply compare that with what was done forty years ago. Masonry was then a grand institution; the Charities were noble ones. But what were they in the present day? And what was Freemasonry now? Forty years ago there were 750 Lodges, and yet Freemasonry was a noble Institution. Then what could be said of it now that it numbered 1887 Lodges? If at the period he mentioned something like £7000 was given away, and they had now £40,000, what could be said on behalf of our Charities, but that the more one knew of them, and the more one was acquainted with them, the more they must be struck with admiration at what the Societies were doing. They would remember that at the last October election twenty-five additional candidates were placed upon the list of the Girls' School. There were forty-two girls taken altogether off the list of those who desired admission into it. That made a great acquisition of strength, for instead of having 210 girls, they were now enabled to feed, clothe, and educate 235, within the walls of that splendid Institution at Battersea Rise. Then, again, as to the Girls' School; at the last Cambridge Middle-Class Examination, they sent up fourteen pupils, ten of whom passed with first-class honours, three with second-class, and one gained honourable distinction. There was not a single failure on the part of those who submitted themselves for examination. Then, again, as to the Boys' School at Wood Green, which included 225 boys, they sent up fifteen to the last Oxford Middle Class Examination, for which 2,100 boys presented themselves. The students from the Wood Green Institution took eleven prizes, leaving only four to be competed for by all the rest of the competitors in England. There was not a failure on the part of any of the fifteen boys sent up. He meant to say, therefore, that, as far as regarded the educational character of these Institutions, no matter what they might cost, they had these results to prove what a splendid education must be given to these girls and boys. Now, as to the Old People, they could not, of course, talk about Oxford and Cambridge Examinations, but they could point to something equally, if not more satisfactory, and that was to the blameless life, well spent for sixty or seventy years amongst those who recommended them to the benefit of this Grand Institution, without a spot or blemish on their character. If it were possible for a man or woman to live without a word of reproach being capable of being brought against them, it was something to be said of them that they had led a wholly irreproachable life. No less than 335 of these old people thus cared for looked to the Craft which in former years they had helped to support, and the Craft had never failed them. As Freemasonry had grown, so had been the increasing prosperity of that Institution, though at one time it was looked upon as the "black sheep of the fold." It was simply tolerated, and was not even permitted to have an annual festival. At length it was allowed to have a festival once in three years, but it grew, and eventually the Grand Master consented to its having a biennial gathering, and last of all a yearly festival. Since then, what had been the result? Instead of having forty annuitants with £16 a year—hardly enough to keep body and soul together—they had now 335, and the sum of £11,674 a year was being paid away in annuities alone. Years ago it would have been regarded as an utter impossibility that such an amount of affection and regard could exist in the minds of the Craft on behalf of those who had borne the heat and burden of the day, and who, by reason of their age, ought to be exempted from further toil. Bro. Terry, having spoken of a claim which the Institution had upon this Lodge, which had been fortunate in securing two annuities for their candidates, thanked the W.M. for having kindly consented to become a Steward at the next Festival. Since February last thirty-two new petitions had been accepted for the next election; some of the applicants for the benefits of the Institution were fourscore years of age, some over seventy, and many over sixty. If they would but think for a moment what it was to have nothing in the world to live upon and to be dependent upon the charity of others, which might be withdrawn at any time, they could well imagine how acceptable it must be to those poor old people to know they had £40 a year coming in, a home, coals throughout the winter months, medical attendance, and other comforts. What happiness to them to know they were spared from all future anxiety, that the wheels of life had simply to roll on until they could roll no longer. The possession of an annuity meant a fresh lease of life; and in conclusion he made an earnest appeal to the brethren to help forward and promote the Institution which conferred such inestimable benefits upon so large a number of persons. It was most distressing to know the number of deserving cases which could not be considered for want of funds; and if, as the Prince of Wales remarked at the Mansion House Banquet, every member of the Craft subscribed to the funds of the Charities there would be no need for Festivals or special appeals on behalf of the poor. This Lodge did its utmost to support the Charities, and he only wished its example was followed by every other Lodge. If every member of the Craft only subscribed 5s a year to each of the three Institutions, instead of having £42,000 a year to devote to charity they would have £90,000 or £100,000. Several complimentary toasts were afterwards honoured, and amidst an abundance of good music and singing a most enjoyable evening was passed.

UNITED BROTHERS LODGE, No. 1062.

THE ceremony of installing the Worshipful Master Elect for the ensuing year (Bro. James Gieve) took place at the Lodge Room, Castle Hotel, Southsea, on Monday 8th inst. Bro. Mark E. Frost P.M. 487, P.G. Treas. Hants and Isle of Wight, was the Installing Master, and conducted the ceremony with his usual ability and skill. The board of Installed Masters consisted of Bros. H. Cawte P.M. 342, P.P.G.W., E. M. Wells P.M. 487, T. Batchelor P.M. 1069, George Bond P.M. 1069, P.P.G.S.B., Edwin Groves P.M. 903, P.P.G.D.C., J. Wallingford P.M. 903, P.P.G.W., George Rake P.M. 487, P.P.G.W., A. R. Holbrook W.M. 309, Robert Barnes W.M. 342, P.G.D.C., H. Threadingham W.M. 487, P.P.G.P., W. Dart W.M. 804, Valentine Brown P.M. 903, G. R. Strick W.M. 1428, G. Grant P.M. 1705, R. J. Rastrick P.M. 1069 and S.S. Pearce P.M. 319 (Southampton), P.P.G.D. Amongst the brethren present were the following:—Bros. Albert Wendover J.W., D. Whitehall, H. Cook, W. E. Atkins, G. Whitehall, R. Little, H. Craven Dnpree, and A. G. German 1069; J. R. Hayman S.W. 257, and J.W. 309, T. P. Palsgrave S.W. C. Groom, and J. N. Malone 487, J. W. Gieve 309, G. L. Stobbs J.D. 175, Philip Hyams 697, &c. At the conclusion of the ceremony the newly installed Worshipful Master appointed and invested his Officers as follows:—Bros. A. Wendover S.W., W. E. Atkins J.W., Rev. P. H. Good Chap, R. J. Rastrick P.M. Treas., G. Bond P.M. Sec., D. Whitehall S.D., F. H. De Rheims J.D., H. J. Guy P.M.D.C., J.A. Creber Org., G. Whitehall I.G., H. Cook Stewd, R. Little Stewd, Exell Tyler, —A vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Bro. H. M. Emanuel P.M., P.P.G.W., who for many years had filled the office of Treasurer to the Lodge, and a vote of sympathy was also accorded to Bro. W. C. Redward P.M., who has been suffering from a serious illness.—Bro. E. Groves P.M. received the thanks of the Lodge, on retirement from the office of Secretary, for the manner in which he had carried out his duties for some years.—The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. H. Craven of the Castle Hotel, and at which Bro. Gieve W.M. presided.

TRINITY COLLEGE LODGE, No. 1765.

THE Installation meeting of the above Lodge, the members of which are associated chiefly with the science of music, met on the 4th inst., at No. 13 Mandeville-place, Manchester-square. Bro. Rev. John Robbins, D.D., G.C. Middx W.M., W. Keen, M.D., as S.W., A. J. Hammond J.D., J. C. Turner P.M. Treas., J. Stedman L. Mus. Sec., H. Stark S.D., Rev. B. Hunt J.D., P. Martin I.G., P.M. E. Lott P.P.G.O. Middlesex, and a numerous assemblage of members and visitors. After preliminaries, Bro. Thwaites was raised to the third degree. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. J. A. Hammond J.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge, and duly installed into the chair by the retiring W.M. Bro. J. Robbins, D.D., who performed the task in a very perfect and impressive manner. On the re-admission of the brethren, the customary salutations were given, and the W.M. appointed and invested the following Officers:—J. Robbins, M.D., I.P.M., Stark S.W., B. Hunt B. Mus. J.W., J. S. Gabriel Treas. J. Stedman L. Mus. Sec., E. J. Hoare S.D., B. Turner B. Mus. J.D., G. F. Hammond I.G., E. M. Lott P.G.O. Org. and W.S., F. Clark D.C., S. Harrison Tyler. The selection made by the W.M. seemed very satisfactory. The report of the Audit Committee was read; it showed a balance in hand of £62 7s 2d, and furniture, &c., valued at £104 3s 9d, although the Lodge has been in existence but two years. It must be a great pleasure to the new W.M. to take the chair under such favourable auspices. After votes of thanks had been accorded to the auditors, a candidate was proposed for initiation, and a letter was read from Brother Shadwell Clerke G.S., regretting his inability to attend. Hearty good wishes were given from the brethren and visitors, and Lodge was closed. After the banquet the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen and the Craft, and the National Anthem was given, Bro. Stedman singing the solo. After the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., Bros. Bradbury, Turner and Stark played a duet on the pianoforte, that was deservedly applauded. The toast of the Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers was given. Bro. Radcliff played "Coming Thro' the Rye," with variations, on the flute, Bro. Turner accompanying on the piano. The W.M. next proposed the toast of the Installing Master, Bro. Robbins I.P.M., who eloquently acknowledged the compliment, and then proposed the health of the W.M. No better or more energetic Master could be found than Bro. Hammond. After this toast had been gracefully acknowledged, the W.M. gave that of the Visitors, coupled with the names of Bro. Farwig P.M. 180, and Bro. Stanley Smith, who both responded. Several other toasts followed, and with such an array of talent present we need hardly add that the harmony was well sustained. Among the visitors present were Bros. A. Sorzqueray 33, T. Loring 171, H. Reed P.M. 733, W. Morphew 1535, F. Farwig P.M. 180, Tate 1563, Venables 263, F. A. Kelly 1524, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, &c.

FRIENDSHIP CHAPTER, No. 202.

THE annual meeting of this Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, St. Stephen's-street Devonport, on Thursday evening 11th inst, for the purpose of installing the Principals and investing the Officers for the next year. The Principals installed were E. Companions Robert Marshall Z., E. Binding H., W. H. Terrell J. The ceremony was performed by E. Companion E. J. Knight P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., with a Board of Installed Principals, consisting of E. Companions H. Welch P.Z., J. B. Gover. P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., C. Watson P.Z., E. Murch P.Z., P.P.G.O., W. Coath P.Z., R. Pengelly Z., 70, J. Baxter P.Z., P.P.G.A.S., E. Parnell P.Z., P.P.G.S.B., E. Aitken Davies P.Z., P.P.G.R. The Officers elected and invested were—Companions H. Welch P.Z., E. J. Knight S.E., J. D. Sandy S.N., E. Murch Treas., Robert Grills P.S., Richard Lavers 1st A.S., Wm. Oates 2nd A.S., Joseph Benny J. The Treasurer's statement was a very satisfactory one: a good amount has been given to one of the great London charities, and a good working balance remains.

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, 8th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bro. John Duckett jun. W.M., assisted by the following Officers:—Bros. John Usher I.P.M., Thomas Prentice S.W., C. B. Ford J.W., John Spearman Treas., H. Usher Acting Sec., Joseph Cook D.C., Thomas Dinning Acting S.D., D. M. McDonald J.D., R. Ferry Org., John Mackay I.G., W. T. Lowrey S.S., Thomas Dinning J.S., G. S. Sims Tyler. The Lodge was opened in due form by the W.M. After the confirmation of minutes, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. W. R. Pape, having answered the questions in a satisfactory manner, received the test of merit, and retired for preparation. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, when Bro. Pape was re-admitted and impressively raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by the W.M., who described the tracing board, and explained the working tools, Bro. Usher I.P.M. rendering the charge. The Lodge was then successively closed from the third and second to the first degree. The hearty good wishes of many of the visitors having been tendered to the W.M., the Lodge was closed in love and harmony. A brilliant assemblage of distinguished visitors honoured the Lodge on this occasion, among whom we noticed the following:—Bros. P.M. Thos. Robson 431 P.G.J.W., A. Mustart W.M. 431 P.G.S.B., John Harcus 431, R. Smaile 541, M. M. Catcheside W.M. 1676, John Braithwaite W.M. 1427, F. H. Corder W.M. 1664, C. C. Davison W.M. 636, J. T. Taylor 1676, R. Whitfield 48, J. Pounder 1119, John Page 406, A. Osterberg (Sweden); also the following brethren:—Bros. J. Blencowe S.W. 1676, J. Burdess S.W. 431, J. Liddell J.W. 48, H. Usher Sec. 541, H. S. Bird Sec. 1664, E. W. Middlemash Sec. 48, J. W. Gibson I.G. 1427, G. R. Leah 1611, A. Simpson 406, &c. The proceedings at the festive board were opened by the W.M., who gave the Queen and the Prince of Wales, which toasts were right royally honoured. The Powers that he was associated with Earl Percy and Provincial Grand Lodge, Bro. Robson P.G.J.W. responding in pleasing language. The W.M. in complimentary terms then proposed the toast of the Visitors, Bros. Osterberg, Catcheside, and Whitfield replying in a suitable manner. Bro. John Usher I.P.M. then submitted the toast of the W.M., which was very warmly received by the brethren, and feelingly responded to by the W.M. Bro. John Duckitt W.M. then proposed the health of his Officers, coupling the name of Bro. W. T. Lowrey S.S., who replied to the toast. The W.M. next gave the Past Masters of the St. Peter's Lodge, associating the name of Bro. John Usher with the toast, and he responded in his usual happy manner. The health of Bro. Page was then submitted by the W.M., and well replied to by Bro. Page. The Tyler concluded the proceedings. Bros. Nicholson, Catcheside, Page, Ford, Cook, Matthieson, Ferry, and Morgan, contributed to the harmony of the evening.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, on Tuesday last, Bros. Smith W.M., Pavitt S.W., Brownsom J.W., Johnson S.D., Watkins J.D., Ives I.G., Worsley Sec.; also Bros. Guy, White, Davis, and others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Guy answered the questions, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Guy candidate. Bro. Worsley worked the 1st section of the lecture. Lodge was lowered, and Bro. J. H. Pavitt was unanimously elected to occupy the chair next week, when sections only will be worked. Bro. P.M. Musto will assist Bro. Pavitt as S.W., P.M. Myers as J.W., and P.M. Cundick as I.P.M. The work will commence at 7 precisely. We hope there will be a good attendance as this will be the first time Bro. Pavitt has worked the sections from the chair.

The Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday evening, 13th November, at the Cannon-street Hotel. Bro. T. Hamer W.M. presided, and the following Officers were present:—Bros. C. Taylor S.W., W. Kibble J.W., N. B. Headon Treasurer, George Blackie Secretary, F. Keeble S.D., T. Baber J.D., F. W. Potter D.C., J. Jenkins Organist, and Steedman P.M. Tyler; P.M.'s Stevens and Seex, and Thompson P.M. 177 and 1558. Lodge having been opened in due form and the minutes of the previous Lodge read and confirmed, Bro. J. Matthews, initiated at the last Lodge, was questioned as to the progress he had made in the science since that time, and his answers being satisfactory, he was afterwards passed to the second or F.C. degree. To fill up an interval of time, Bro. J. Stevens gave an explanation of the Tracing-board of the first degree. Bro. N. B. Headon P.M. and Treasurer then, in very feeling and appropriate terms, brought under the notice of the Lodge the domestic affliction into which Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, the Chaplain of the Lodge, had been plunged by the loss of his daughter, and moved that the Lodge should present to him an address of condolence on his bereavement. The motion was seconded by Bro. C. Taylor S.W., and unanimously agreed to. A petition from a distressed brother was inquired into, and relieved from the Samatan Fund. Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned for light refreshment. After the usual Loyal toasts, Bro. Blackie I.P.M. proposed the health of Bro. Hamer W.M. and said that he felt sure that the brethren were highly pleased up to the present time, and he had no doubt that as he went on he would still merit their good opinion of him. He also wished to say that they must all have derived a great amount of information in listening to the explanation of the Tracing-board given that evening by Bro. J. Stevens. He also alluded to the letters which had appeared in the *Citizen* newspaper on the total ignoring of the Worshipful Masters of all the City Lodges at the late Masonic banquet at the Mansion House, given by the late Lord Mayor to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; but, after all, he thought it was not altogether the fault of the Lord Mayor or of the Grand Secretary, as a letter did not reach its destination to the W. Master, because those by whom it was sent did not know where to find him. He asked the brethren to join with him in drinking the health of the

W. Master. The W. Master, in acknowledging the toast, thanked Bro. Blackie for proposing his health, and the brethren for receiving it with so much cordiality. He was much interested in Bro. Stevens's lecture on the Tracing-board, and he hoped that it would induce members of The Great City Lodge to attend Lodges of Instruction. Possibly, at another meeting they might have a lecture on the Tracing-board of the second degree. He was glad to see so many members turn up at the Lodge that evening, as there was no banquet, but at the next meeting he hoped to show them greater hospitality, and he thanked all the brethren for the cordial manner in which they had drunk his health. The Wor. Master next gave the Visitors, for which Bros. Blake and Stevens responded. The Wor. Master then gave the Past Masters of the Lodge, and said that it was impossible for him to speak too highly of their merits, and especially as regarded Bro. Blackie, for the very creditable manner in which he had instilled into them the ritual of Freemasonry. To him he was indebted for what he knew, and the credit anything he (the W.M.) might do in the chair was due to Bro. Blackie rather than to himself. As regarded the other Past Masters he could speak of them with equal confidence, they were all most assiduous in the performance of their duties. The Past Masters severally returned thanks. A conversation arose as to the late Masonic banquet at the Mansion House, in which it was pointed out that although all the Masters of Freemasons' Lodges in the City had been ignored, some members of the Court of Common Council, although they had never attended or subscribed to a Lodge for twenty years, merely because they set up a claim that they were Freemasons at some remote period of their life, and had almost forgotten it altogether, received invitations to be present, and in some instances they borrowed the "clothing" to enable them to attend on the occasion. This was looked upon as a very questionable way of obtaining admission, and could in no way be considered as giving to the meeting a representative character. The formal toast brought the proceedings to a close. Some capital songs were sung in the course of the evening.

Tredegar Lodge of Instruction, No. 1623.—The proceedings at the regular meeting, on the 8th inst., at the Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, were highly successful. Bro. Stewart the Hon. Sec. was W.M., and was assisted by Bros. T. Wooding S.W., Hammond J.W., Johnson S.D., Wheatley J.D., Hubbert I.G. There were also present Bros. T. J. Tyers, C. Kendall, Clements, Job, Moss, Couture, Robinson, and Past Masters W. Hogg Preceptor, T. J. Barnes acting as Secretary, W. Musto, &c. Lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. Tyer proved his efficiency, and was entrusted. Lodge was advanced, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed in a really able manner by the W.M., especially so considering that Bro. Stewart is but a young member of the Craft. Bro. Moss worked the first, second, third, and fourth sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Wooding J.W. 1306 was unanimously elected to the chair for the meeting on the 15th inst. Arrangements were made for the 29th inst., on which occasion Bro. Musto P.M. will work the Fifteen Sections, supported by some of the best workers.

On the 15th inst., Bro. Wooding was a most able W.M., and was well supported by Bros. Hammond S.W., Clements J.W., Veal S.D., Forss J.D., Tyer I.G., W. Hogg P.M. Preceptor, Stewart Secretary, Past Masters Musto, Barnes, Myers, Andrews and Coleman, and Bros. Scheerboom, McDonald, Day, Magrath, &c. The ceremony of the third degree was capitally rehearsed, Bro. Myers candidate. Bro. Musto P.M. worked the three sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. J. Magrath S.W. 1306 was elected a member, and Bro. Hammond was appointed to fill the chair on the 22nd inst.

Perseverance Lodge, No. 1743.—This enterprising and successful Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday last at the Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct. Bro. Fred. Kearney W.M. occupied the chair and was well supported by his Officers and the members, there being also present a small contingent of visitors. After the usual preliminaries, and the minutes of last meeting had been read and confirmed, Lodge was advanced to the second degree, when Bro. Burnup was interrogated and entrusted, and having retired, Lodge was opened in the third degree, and our worthy brother, on re-admission, was raised to the sublime degree of M.M., in a manner which reflected the greatest credit on Bro. Kearney, and those who assisted him. Lodge having been closed down in the third and second degrees, and resumed to the first, Bro. W. J. Squire was interrogated and entrusted, and in due form passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Lodge having been again resumed in the first degree, a ballot took place for Mr. F. H. Sibold, whose musical ability is so highly and deservedly appreciated in the City. As it proved successful, that gentleman was then and there initiated into the mysteries of the first degree. A letter of apology was read from the I.P.M., who expressed regret at his inability to attend owing to the critical state of his father's health. Bro. Leins having announced his intention of serving the office of Steward at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Lodge voted a sum of ten guineas to be placed on his list. The further sum of one guinea was also voted, on the proposition of Bro. C. Daniel P. Master, towards the expenses of the New Year's entertainment to the old folk at Croydon. There being no other business, Lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a neat little dinner, which was capitally served by Bro. Begbie, manager of the hotel. The cloth having been removed, the toast of Loyalty to the Throne and devotion to the best interests of the Craft, as formulated by Bro. Binckes in substitution of the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts, was given and appropriately honoured. In the absence of Bro. I.P.M., Bro. Leins proposed the health of the W.M., who, in the course of his reply, said he had endeavoured to do his duty to the best of his ability, and though, from indisposition, he feared he had not been quite up to the mark that evening, he felt sure that

any shortcomings he might have been guilty of would be treated kindly, and with that leniency which ever characterised the members of the Lodge. In proposing the health of the initiate, the W.M. congratulated him on having become a Mason, and expressed his belief that he would prove a valuable addition not only to the Lodge of Perseverance, but to Freemasonry in general. Bro. Sibold, in reply, said that for many years it had been his wish to become a Mason, and he could not but appreciate the honour which had been conferred upon him that evening in admitting him as a member. He trusted he should be found worthy of such honour, and that in all circumstances he should prove competent to the fulfilment of whatever duties he might be invited to perform. The Visitors severally responded to the toast of their health, in proposing which the W.M. expressed the pleasure it had given him and his fellow Officers and members to receive them in their Lodge. In the intervals between the speeches, Bros. Goodchild, Hawkins, Eade, and others, added greatly to the entertainment of all present by the songs or recitations they contributed. Bro. Begbie must be congratulated on the excellence of the repast he placed before the Lodge, a repast which, while it gratified as well as satisfied the needs of all who partook of it, had the advantage of being inexpensive. This shows, too, that under the hospitable roof of the Imperial Hotel, and with the able and indefatigable Bro. Begbie as guide, philosopher, and friend in the culinary arrangements, it is not necessary to pay a large sum in order to enjoy oneself. Nor should we be completely fulfilling a pleasant duty, if we missed the opportunity of saying a few words of warm congratulation to the brethren of the Perseverance on the prosperous condition of their Lodge. It has only been in existence a little over two years, yet in that brief period they have cleared off all obligations incurred in furnishing and fitting the Lodge, and there is a healthy balance in the Treasurer's hands, amounting to between £50 and £60. Finally, we give, as nearly as possible, the list of those present:—Bros. F. Kearney W.M., E. Marlet S.W., Joseph Wall J.W., J. L. Mather P.M. Treasurer, W. H. Mollindina Sec., C. E. Sparrow S.D., C. Robinson J.D., Alfred Eade I.G., C. H. Reed M.C., J. Mitchell W.S., Bridgeman—who, in the course of the meeting, was appointed Assist.-W.S.—C. Daniel P.M., Louis A. Leins P.M., F. Goodchild, Burnup, W. J. Squire, F. H. Sibold, &c., &c.; and as Visitors—Bros. B. L. Wilson 1366, C. J. Rich J.D. 65, J. H. Hawkins W.M. 1693, Henry M. Williams Org. 1669, and W. W. Morgan Sec. 211.

Beaconsfield Lodge of Instruction, No. 1662.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Chequers Hotel, Marsh-street, Walthamstow. Present:—Bros. W. G. Hallows W.M., C. B. Carter S.W., T. Upward J.W., G. Clark S.D., J. Edwards J.D., C. Webster I.G.; Past Master T. Franklin, and Bro. F. Hallows. The work comprised the rehearsal of the ceremony of initiation, Bro. F. Hallows candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and questions were put to Bro. F. Hallows, who was entrusted, and the Lodge opened in the third, when that brother was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. Carter was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week.

The William of Wykeham Lodge, Winchester.—After a very considerable delay, the warrant for this new Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1883, has been received from the Grand Lodge of England by Bro. Burchett, the Hon. Sec., and arrangements will shortly be made for its consecration, and the installation of the first W.M., Bro. Everett, P.M., P.P.G.S. It was intended that the new Lodge should be held at the George Hotel, but it seems that objections exist in Grand Lodge to granting warrants to new Lodges if held at hotels. The Provincial Grand Master consequently declined to recommend the Grand Lodge to issue the necessary warrant, and suggested the use of the Masonic Hall in Parchment-street—a suggestion which was accepted, and the meetings of the new Lodge will consequently take place there. *Portsmouth Times.*

The Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744, will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday next, at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, when Bro. F. H. Clemow will be installed as W.M.

The Installation Festival of the Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364, will take place at the Old Town Hall, Hackney, this day, Saturday, at 3.15 p.m. Bro. Augustus F. Lay S.W. is the W.M. elect. The Lodge is called for 2 o'clock.

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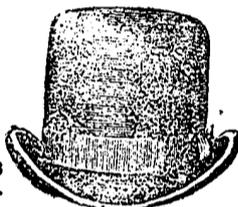
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