

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

VOL. XIII.—No. 313.

SATURDAY, 25th DECEMBER 1880.

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

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

AS is our custom at this festive season—a custom we feel the greatest pleasure in observing—we take the opportunity of wishing our readers, one and all, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Indeed, we can hardly picture to ourselves what manner of man he must be who is slow to express these seasonable wishes. If there are times in the year, when it is considered a kind of necessity for men to differ among themselves more or less warmly, it is certainly desirable there should be also a time when men may sink their differences, and meet each other with the full determination of being as genial and pleasant as their means and opportunities will permit. The mere knowledge that at Christmas the different members of well nigh every family in England will devote themselves to pleasure of a rational character; that they will be gathering round the festive board, enjoying the innocent dance, or giving themselves up to the fun and frolic of Pantomime, or other seasonable entertainment, must be gratifying to all who know anything of the annoyances, the petty jealousies, the miserable spite, and other feelings of even a stronger character which influence different people, and even different members of the same family towards one another under ordinary circumstances. It would, of course, be much better if we could be jovial at all times; but as that seems difficult, if not—having regard to human failings—entirely out of the question, we must content ourselves with hoping and trusting that at Christmas, and during the early days of the New Year, all ill-feeling will be for the moment set aside. If we cannot, amid the cares of life and in the hurry of business, find a little leisure for the practice of that greatest of all virtues—Charity—let us obey its teachings now. In the course of the week which ends this day, the sun, the centre of our system, is supposed to have been for a short time stationary. The longest period of darkness has been reached, and we are beginning to look forward to a greater proportion of Light. Moreover, at the close of the Old Year we may fittingly balance our accounts with those with whom we may have had dealings, quite as well in respect of the feelings we may entertain towards them, as in that of mere ordinary business transactions. And the balance having been struck, we have it clear before us to enter on the New Year with lighter hearts and more kindly-disposed to our neighbours, as well as with new hopes and aspirations, so that if our course has run prosperously, it may continue to do so, even perhaps in an increasing degree; or, if it should have been accompanied by disappointments and losses, we may be able to neutralise the former, and retrieve the latter. Therefore, and quite apart from the ordinary eagerness for enjoyment, there are many and substantial reasons why we should miss no opportunity of meeting all our fellow beings, as we would like to see them meet us, as influenced solely by the dictates of Charity. If we are fortunately possessed of means, we can enable others to forget the sorrows and deprivations which are their unhappy lot. The pleasure we experience in our own particular circle will be proportionately enhanced. If we are not so situated, there is no reason why we should allow any but the kindest feelings to influence us. There may be remedies for a purse with only very moderate contents, but bitterness of spirit towards our neighbours is assuredly not one of them. Hence, be we affluent or the reverse, we may

enjoy ourselves at the present time in sympathy with each other and with the knowledge that, in the eyes of the Supreme Architect, there is no distinction between us. We repeat, therefore, our good wishes and trust that none of our readers will find the realisation of their pleasure fall short of their anticipations.

Having discharged ourselves of this principal duty, let us next endeavour to fulfil one which is only a degree less in importance. This is the opening number of our THIRTEENTH VOLUME, and it devolves upon us, therefore, to express to our friends and supporters our heartfelt thanks for their kind encouragement. We have, as we have remarked before on similar occasions, had an uphill task before us. It is no easy matter for a new journal to establish itself in public favour, or in the favour of that particular class to which it may appeal. Friends are apt to grow a little lukewarm when the first few months are gone and they find the future is not altogether as bright as it should have been. Others there are who hold aloof at the outset, the while they acknowledge there is room to spare for the new journal. They prefer not to commit themselves too soon, though, of course, their support at so critical a time might happen to make all the difference between success and failure. There is further the direct opposition, which but very few new ventures escape. We have, however, surmounted the difficulties thus engendered. Our friends have most loyally backed us up from the beginning. Those who held aloof have gradually extended towards us their sympathy, while the opposition we may have encountered in the beginning is no longer of a character to affect our position to any appreciable extent. For ourselves, we have striven earnestly to support the interests of the Craft. We may not, perhaps, on all occasions have adopted the policy which seemed best to our readers, and we are willing to admit that, in some instances, we may have been mistaken in the course we felt it our duty to advocate or uphold. Still, whatever may have been our shortcomings, we judge, from the regularly-increasing support we have received, either that those shortcomings have not been of a very striking character, or that our friends have graciously overlooked them, on the ground that if we have shown ourselves wrong-headed in this or that instance, we were not wrong-hearted. Still, whatever explanations there may be to account for the friendly reception we have experienced, it is with excusable pride we draw attention to the fact of our now having completed an existence extending over six years. We cannot, of course, as regards the future, say whether or not the number of our constituents will go on increasing. All we can promise is—that no effort will be spared to secure such a result. We shall continue steadily in the path we have pursued hitherto, our one object of ambition being to uphold, as far as we possibly can, the interests of Freemasonry. We shall use our utmost endeavours to observe, as heretofore, the strictest impartiality in the treatment of all questions of a controversial nature. We shall never lose sight of the important fact that a journal which sacrifices its independence of opinion in order to pander to the whims and caprices of a clique is worthless. Even those who differ from us most widely will appreciate us the more, the more they find us free from partiality in this or that direction. And with this determination, and a repetition of our hearty good wishes to all our readers, that they may enjoy themselves thoroughly during the period of festivity now begun, we pass to the consideration of other matters.

PHILADELPHIA, THE PREMIER MASO-
NIC CITY OF AMERICA.—No. II.

By Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

I HAVE no desire to "enjoy the last word" on the question of "*The Mother City of American Freemasonry*," and will endeavour to say nothing that will open up any "fresh bones of contention," in making my adieux to "PHILADELPHOS" and Bro. R. F. GOULD S.G.D.*

Bro. Gould has ably grasped the whole subject, and, as the presiding judge, has skilfully presented the various reasons *pro* and *con* affecting the position of the City of Philadelphia Masonically for 1730-1, and illustrated the argument with most valuable notes and Lists of Lodges.

I should be quite content to let the matter rest, as lucidly arranged and considered in his three most interesting articles, were it not for the fact that in No. 308 my remarks had regard only to the *first* of the *trio*.

1. The reference by Bro. Gould to an early edition of "*Masonry Dissected*" is a good one, and I hope will lead to some being discovered with Lists of Lodges 1731-2-3. The first edition 1730 had none. Others issued in 1730 to 1734 may have had, but they have not come across my path.

2. The "Dublin" Companion 1735 is mainly a copy of the Engraved List of 1734, (reproduced by me, as also the "Dublin" one) and so is Picard's 1735. The first has 79 credited to Philadelphia, the second has the No. *vacant*, and in the third it is duly credited to a London Lodge. Evidently it is well to note the fact of more than one edition of the Engraved Lists being occasionally issued in the same year.

3. It is also curious to note that No. 79 is *vacant* in Dr. Rawlinson's List of 1733, probably a copy of the authorised List; just as it is unfilled in the Engraved List of 1734.

4. Bro. Gould thinks it very likely that a Lodge did exist as No. 78 before the London one he has traced, but does not accept the Philadelphia claimant as the one. He, however, has furnished some capital suggestions in favour of our No. 79, and one especially, which not only is new to me, but to every one else. I refer to the Engraved *signs* of the *Inns* or *Taverns*. The Dublin List speaks of the "*Hoop*," in Water Street, Philadelphia (U.S.A.) Bro. Gould hits the "nail on the head" in remarking that "the *Tun* may have been so pictured in an official list as to have been taken for a *Hoop*." Apparently, the Irish Editor *did so*. At all events, no "*Hoop*" in *Water Street* appears to have been known in Philadelphia,† in 1730-2, but the "*Tun*" was, and in that tavern the Prov. G. Lodge of Pennsylvania assembled 26th June 1732! (*Pennsylvania Gazette*, No. 187, A.D. 1732.) Such unexpected confirmatory evidence, though but of a negative character, is surely sufficient to induce us *all to believe as likely that the Dublin Editor* copied from an *Engraved* List of the G.L. of England, in which No. 79 appeared, and credited it to the "*Tun*," Philadelphia.

5. As Bro. Gould states that some of my conclusions are of a discrepant character, I fear my meaning has not been put quite clearly. Last century it mattered not generally whether the G.M. issued (or granted) the Warrant, or the Prov. G.M. did (as in the case of Boston in 1733, and many others, even at "home"), *so long as it was granted by one or other of those authorities*. Either was a legal Warrant, and so 79, whether granted by the G.M. or the Prov. G.M., would be of similar force or authority.

That Bro. Cadwallader's letter establishes the fact that no English Warrant was sent or received, *is not proved*, though I confess it is not clear on the subject. I do not wish to lay an undue stress on this point, but only desire to exhibit the view, that whether it was received *or not*, or Coxe granted a Warrant as Prov. G.M., *it matters not*, as the legality of the beginning of the Craft in Philadelphia under either hypothesis is assured, and the probability is that No. 79 represented the first Lodge in America.

6. I attach much importance to Bro. Gould's admission

* Vide "FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE," N.S. 305.C-7-12.

† Bro. E. Meyer, Chairman of Library Committee, has just issued a List of Lodges, of which the one at the "*Tun*" of 1730 is the first.

of the *bona fide* character (to say the least) of the Dublin Register, and particularly am I impressed with the ingenious suggestion of his as to the "*Hoop*" being mistaken for a "*Tun*," which says volumes in favour of the view that the compiler had an early list of Lodges before him, engraved, with the "*Signs*" of the Taverns, by order of the Grand Lodge of England.

7. I am most willing to admit that, considering the extraordinary attention, time, and patience which Bro. Gould has devoted to the intricate details (*numerically and generally*) of our "*Old Lodges*," he has the best right of any to speak positively and authoritatively on the subject, and that in the department he has selected in which to exhibit his accuracy of research and fidelity to truth, *he has no equal*.

For him, then, to admit, that "*the balance of argument is perhaps, in favour of the view espoused by Bro. Hughan*," though he introduces several weighty points against my theory, disposes me to believe that it is, so far, the most likely explanation of the puzzle, and that whatever may be the faults of my advocacy, the facts, so far known, tend in favour of my client!

I have to thank the Editor of the "FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE" for the careful reproduction of my MSS., and hope that the subject has proved as interesting to its readers as it has to myself.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS.

WE have latterly had—it would be almost impossible to say we have been latterly enjoying—such variable weather, that whether or not this present Christmastide will be an old fashioned one with plenty of snow on the ground—and in London at all events, the attendant comforts—or whether or not it will be wet and muggy, as has too often been the case for many years past, it is, at the moment of writing, quite impossible to say. For this reason, it would be obviously premature to formulate an opinion as to how those who cater for the outdoor amusement of the public will fare, and whether the excellent provision they have been announcing, for some time past, for the chief among the Christmas holidays will have a fair opportunity of being appreciated. Even those who provide indoor amusement will find the Treasury fuller or less full according as the weather is more or less fine. Still, as there is no knowing the changes which a single period of twenty-four hours may bring forth, it will not be out of place to give a rough sketch of the various entertainments which are promised us.

Pantomimes, of course, as peculiar to Christmas, claim our first attention, and we think it matter for general satisfaction, that it will find a home at so many of our theatres. "Old Drury" promises to present to us "Mother Goose," by the veteran Blanchard, the music being especially composed by F. Wallerstein. The cast in the opening part will include Miss Kate Santley, Miss Emma D'Auban, Miss Marian D'Auban, and Messrs. John D'Auban, James Fawn, Charles Ross, Julian Girard, &c. The principal dancers are Mdle. Palladino and the Misses Percival and Clara Fisher, and the Clowns Fred Evans, the Little Rowella, and Little Bertie Coote; scenery by William Telbin, Henry Cuthbert, and Henry Emden. "Valentine and Orson," by Mr. F. C. Burnand, is the title of the pantomime at Covent Garden; it will have the benefit of Bro. F. B. Chatterton's large experience as stage manager, while the ballet and general pantomimic effects will be arranged by Mr. Cormack. Mr. William Beverley will prepare the scenery; Mr. Karl Meyder provides the music; and among the artists engaged are the Vokes Family, Mr. F. Barsby, H. Payne and C. Laurie as clowns, &c. Costumes by Mrs. S. May and Miss Fisher. The above will be presented for the first time on Boxing-night, but at the Surrey and Grecian a sort of grand public rehearsal has been arranged for Christmas Eve. At the former the pantomime, by Mr. F. W. Green, is entitled "Hop-o-my Thumb," and was to be produced under the joint auspices of Messrs. George Conquest and Holland. Turning to the East of London, we find the Bros. Douglass who, at the Standard, by all accounts are likely to have well sustained their reputation, and the same may be said of the fair proprietress of the Britannia. The first representation of the Crystal Palace Pantomime "Aladdin," by the Brothers Grimm, took place on Thursday, the leading characters being enacted by Mr. Aynsley Cook, Mr. W. Randall, Miss Hudspeth (Mrs. E. Phelps), Miss Edith Bruce, and music by Mr. Oscar Barrett, Harlequinade by Mr. W. Orkins. On Boxing Day at the Alexandra Palace will be performed "Pass in Boots," written by Mr. Frank Stainforth, with music by W. Corri and ballets by John Lauri; principal characters by Miss Julia St. Ledger, Miss Clyfforde, Miss Caroline Parkes; Messrs. Rayner, Lauri, the Great Decona, &c. At the Gaiety was given yesterday the new Christmas burlesque of the "Forty Thieves" by Mr. Reece; principal artists, Misses Farren, Vaughan, Gilchrist, Messrs. Terry, Royce, Dallas, &c. At several of the theatres, such as the Haymarket, the Lyceum, &c., the present programme will be continued; while at the Royal Princess's will be produced on Boxing Night "The Fool's Revenge." At Her Majesty's, Haverley's American United Mastodon Minstrels will re-appear on Monday. Yesterday was fixed for the re-opening of the Mohawks at the Agricultural Hall, with a grand special programme suitable to the occasion, afternoon performances being given at three p.m. on Boxing Day and the day following. The Christy's, at St. James's Hall, open also with a special programme, and at the Royal Aquarium will take place a "Stu-

pendous Spectacular Splendour," entitled "A Night in Pekin." Hengler's Circus, the Royal Polytechnic, and other places of entertainment will also offer many new and attractive items to this ordinary round of amusements. Thus, if the weather is not over propitious for out-door sports and pastimes, there is very little likelihood of there being a lack of choice, to judge from the brief outline we have given above of the spectacular and dramatic representations which are either promised us or have already been begun.

CONSECRATION OF THE WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM LODGE, No. 1883.

THE Rev. A. A. Headley Prov. G. Chaplain, W.M. elect of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 309, Farcham, delivered the following oration on the occasion of the Consecration of this Lodge on Monday, 13th inst.:—Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Masters, Officers and Brethren,—The duty of saying a few words by way of customary oration has now fallen upon me, and let me assure you that I esteem it a high privilege to be invited to address a meeting at which so many brethren of Masonic eminence and ability are gathered together. I feel, in the presence of some who may be well called "Fathers in Israel," that it may appear almost presumptuous on my part to tell them what is the foundation on which Masonry rests, and what is the nature and design of the institution. The words of the great Hooker must plead for me. I must ask you, in his words, "Regard not who it is that speaketh, but weigh only what is spoken." If in anything I am going to say to-day I travel over ground well trodden before, if my oration seem in some respects a thrice-told tale, I must ask your Masonic indulgence for two reasons. First, although the ground may be well trodden, it is for that very reason that I would ask you to pass over it once more. There is but one royal road in Masonry as in everything else, and along that royal road so many men of eminence have passed that we shall do well if we follow in their footsteps. We have a very high authority which bids us "ask for the old paths." Secondly, if the tale be a thrice-told one, what of that? If we really love Masonry the recital of its good qualities will ever be refreshing to our minds. We shall be like children who, having heard us tell a charming story, beg us to tell it over again the very moment we have finished it. The wise man will ever bring out of his treasury things old as well as new. We have met together to-day to consecrate a new Lodge, and, at the opening of a new Lodge the question naturally occurs to many minds, "Why should this Lodge be opened?" We within its walls are at no loss to supply an answer. But what reason can we give to the uninstructed world who are not Masons? When the Masonic clothing has been laid aside, when we have locked our secrets in a safe and sacred repository, when we mingle with the outer world, are we not sure to have the question asked us, "What is the use of another Lodge?" This question is intimately connected with another—"What is the use of Freemasonry?" We must be ready to give an answer. We must remember that we live in an age of inquiry; an age, to a certain extent, of rooting up and pulling down; an age in which the dearest traditions which the human heart can cherish will not be respected, merely because they are traditions in which old institutions will not be preserved merely because they are old. There is a want of reverence in the present generation of which our forefathers knew nothing. There are many who have a genuine contempt for the past. It is dead and gone. It has nothing to teach them, nothing to impart to them in the way of vigour and of life. It has no claims on living, working, thinking men. Do not let us imagine then for one moment that the antiquity of Masonry is in itself a sufficient reason for preserving it in the present day. But there are two ways in which a thing may be old. Look at two trees! The one old, decayed, losing by every winter's storm some of those branches which were its glory, till it becomes a mere wreck of a tree, old and unsightly, an eyesore on the fair landscape. Look at another tree, in whose very age consists its massive beauty. I have such a one in my mind's eye at present—a giant oak, which has been spared while its neighbours have been felled, which has a space cleared round it, so that nothing may interfere with a full view of its magnificent proportions. We need not ask, brethren, which of these trees Freemasonry resembles. Decay and decrepitude and distortion have found no place in the fabric of our noble science. Vigorous and healthful it rears its head above all its brethren of the forest—above any institution in any way claiming kindred with it. It is only while it keeps in this state of vigorous old age that we have an answer to give to the outside world to their questions—Why does Freemasonry exist? Each one who loves Masonry must surely desire that it should be kept in this prosperous condition. How is this to be done? There is one way, and one only, by which it can continue its healthful career, namely, by adhering closely to the ancient landmarks of the Order, by resting firmly on that foundation of which we, as Masons, boast. Dr. Anderson, who was Grand Warden in 1723, declared that "the end and moral purpose of Masonry is to subdue our passions, not to do our own will; to make a daily progress in a laudable art; to promote morality, charity, good fellowship, good nature, and humanity." Whence is it that this end is derived? There can be but one source, the first of those great though emblematic lights which greets each newly-obligated candidate in our Lodges—the Volume of the Sacred Law. That is the real foundation. Do not let me be mistaken. It has been well said that Freemasonry is not a religious society, professing to teach and define theological truth, but a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. It is no more part of her domain to lay down theological truth than it is the part of the musician to prescribe regarding artistic beauty, though music and painting are twin sisters, even as religion and morality must go hand in hand. Freemasonry is a religious society, so far as this—She is founded on the Volume of the Sacred Law. She declares that unless a man believes in a personal God and a future state that

man is not to be entrusted with the sacredness of an obligation, that man is not to be permitted even to cross the threshold of the first degree. Think how important this is! I may have seemed to dwell on this point, but at the consecration of a new Lodge I cannot well do otherwise, because the prosperity of the new Lodge will depend upon the characters of the individual brethren who form it being moulded upon the principal laid down in that sacred volume. The foundation is laid to-day, but the superstructure is left to the brethren who form the Lodge. It is in their hands whether they rise, even as our Grand Master King Solomon did, a beautiful home abounding in glory and excellency, or whether it be marred and disfigured. If each member of this new Lodge be careful in the building up of his own individual temple, the temple of his body according to the principles of Freemasonry, then the united temple, this Lodge, will be fair and harmonious. Let each remember the foundation on which Masonry rests—the Volume of the Sacred Law, let each remember the duties it inculcates—the practice of every moral and social virtue, let each remember the important duties he owes to God, his neighbour, and himself, let prudence direct him, temperance chasten him, and justice be the guide of all his actions—then, and then only, will he be able to give an answer to the outer world, "Why Masonry exists?" "Why this new Lodge has been consecrated?" The best answer of all is the epitaph on our alleged Grand Master Sir Christopher Wren, "Si quaeris monumentum circumspice." Do you want to know what Masonry is? Look around. Regard its unselfish labours of love. It educates the orphan, and cheers the widow's heart. It relieves the distress, and comforts the sorrowing. It helps us all to become better men, wiser men, holier men. Let us at the opening of this new Lodge determine that within its walls the theory and practice of Freemasonry may never be divided, and that its true principles may accompany us when we leave this room and engage in our daily avocations. If this be so, may we not be sure that the William of Wykeham Lodge, at Winchester, will be as great in its day and generation as he after whom it is named was in his.

MEETING OF THE LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

THE Lodge of Benevolence held its monthly meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday evening. The chairs of the President, Senior and Junior Vice Presidents, were occupied by Bros. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B., Senior Vice President, James Brett P.G.P. Junior Vice President, and S. Rawson Past District Grand Master of China. There was a large attendance of brethren. Recommendations to the amount of £500 made at last meeting were first confirmed. There were forty-five new cases on the list, the largest number the Lodge has ever had before it at one meeting. The President called the brethren's attention to this fact, and stated that the Lodge had this year already exceeded its income by £1200. The brethren then considered these cases. After sitting nearly four hours and a half, the list was disposed of. Three cases were deferred, being incomplete. The remaining forty-two were relieved, with a total sum of £958. The amount granted by the Lodge during the year is £9,223, and 308 cases have been relieved.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. E. S. MAIN.

THE services of a zealous member of the Craft were on Thursday evening, the 16th inst., recognised in a manner that must have been highly gratifying to the recipient of a substantial expression of appreciation of his efforts in the cause of Masonry, more especially in connection with the foundation of the Landport Lodge, No. 1776, which is held in the Freemasons' Hall, Commercial-road, Landport, and had already attained a large measure of success. Bro. E. S. Main P.M. and P.Z. P.P.G.D.C. having intimated his desire to retire from the Secretaryship of the Lodge, of which he was one of the Founders, and the duties of which he has performed with conspicuous energy and ability, it was thought that the time had arrived for the presentation of a testimonial. The readiness with which the brethren contributed must enhance the value of the testimonial, which was presented on Thursday evening at the supper which followed the regular meeting, when, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. (Bro. C. G. Adames), Bro. G. A. Green P.M. P.P.G.D.C. occupied the chair, and about fifty brethren were present. The presentation to Bro. Main consisted of a handsome black marble fourteen day clock (supplied by Bro. G. Dimmer, of High-street, Portsmouth). A silver slab bore the following inscription:—

Presented to
Bro. E. S. MAIN, P.M., P.Z., and P.P.G.D. of the County of Hants,
By his Masonic Friends,
In recognition of his great services, on his retirement from the
Secretaryship of the Landport Lodge, No. 1776.
16th December 1880.

A fine tricord piano, by Warne, of the value of £15, was presented to Mrs. Main. The presentation was made in suitable terms by the Chairman, and Bro. Main tendered his thanks in a lengthy speech, relating principally to Masonic matters. A large portion of the evening was devoted to harmony, Bro. Miles, the Lodge Organist, rendering welcome assistance.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Much watchfulness must be exercised at the present time, and the earliest evidences of ill-health must be immediately checked or a slight illness may result in a serious malady. Relaxed and sore throat, influenza, quinsy, coughs, chronic cough, bronchitis, and most other pulmonary affections will be relieved by rubbing this cooling Ointment into the skin as near as practicable to the seat of mischief. This treatment, so simple and yet so effective, is admirably adapted for the removal of these diseases during infancy and youth. Old asthmatic invalids will derive marvellous relief from the use of Holloway's remedies, which have brought round many such sufferers, and re-established health, after every other means had signally failed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE MOTHER CITY OF AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In quoting from Henry Price's letter of Aug. 6, 1755, I have omitted one passage, which with your permission I will now introduce, by re-stating the terms of the said letter, so far, as in my judgment, these bear upon the topic under discussion in your columns.

[Copy of Letter from Henry Price, dated August 6, 1755.*]

"I would inform you that . . . I Rec^d my Deputation from the Right Honble Lord Montague in April 1733 . . . We are the oldest (or first Constituted) Regular Lodge in America . . . Masonry has had as great Success in America Since my settling here as in any part of the World (except England). Here is not less than Forty Lodges Sprung from my first Lodge in Boston . . . I have some remote thoughts of once more seeing London with all Brethren in the Grand Lodge after Twenty Two years absence."

"Boston, New England,
August 6, 1755."

I am desirous of drawing attention to the passage distinguished by italics. According to my view, it is not a little singular, that Bro. H. Bell in 1754, and Henry Price in 1755, should each have employed the term "Regular Lodge," in evident contra-distinction to some other Masonic organisation, with which they were familiar.

Yours fraternally,

R. F. GOULD.

18th Dec. 1880.

* Address upon Henry Price. By W. S. Gardner, Grand Master, p 82.

WITHDRAWAL OF VISITORS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—For the information of "THE IRREPRESSIBLE TOMKINS," I beg to refer him to the report of the proceedings of the Goodwill Lodge, Port Elizabeth, contained in your issue of the 21st September 1878, and to your leader of same date, headed, "Visitors: their Rights and Privileges."

How you, Sir, can reconcile your reasoning of 1878 with that contained in the CHRONICLE of last week is a matter which does not further concern,

Yours fraternally,

JOHN CONSTABLE.

328 Mansion House Chambers,
20th December 1880.

[With all due respect to Bro. Constable, we must point out to him that our article of 1878 and our editorial note of last week are reconcilable. The former was based on certain "ifs," the latter on more precise information contained in our reporter's footnote to his notice of Tranquillity, No. 185, and as yet uncontradicted by Bro. Constable himself. The difference between our position in 1878 and 1880 is, that in the latter year we are in possession of the reason why the W.M. of the Goodwill Lodge requested Bro. Constable to retire, namely, because the business did not concern a stranger. We did not know this in 1878. We will further take the liberty of pointing out that in the report which appeared in our columns of this particular meeting of the Goodwill Lodge, it was mentioned that the W.M. expressed willingness to retract his wish for Bro. Constable's withdrawal if the latter insisted on his rights and privileges, which, be it remarked, only extend to presence during ordinary business; but the offer was declined. Thus Bro. Constable, in the first place objected to the W.M.'s invitation to withdraw, and, in the next place, declined his invitation to remain. Probably, when our brother considers the facts of the case more seriously he will admit either that he should not have objected to withdraw, or that he should have accepted the W.M.'s invitation to remain.—ED. F.C.]

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—As I was requested, by a resolution passed at a public meeting, to act as honorary secretary to a Bazaar in aid of St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, I may be pardoned for asking you to accord me space in your columns to appeal to the public for help.

Charles Reade, the eminent author, says with reference to it, "The

fatal scurvy, the foul leprosy, the maddening eczema, are all skin-diseases, and all far more common than supposed, causing the sufferers to be despised or shunned, whereas internal maladies invite the boon of sympathy. Take the fate of domestic servants so afflicted. Their employers dismiss them, however meritorious, and their friends shun them; mental despair too often follows, and they say with the Patriarch Job, whose bodily affliction, selected by knowledge and malignity in person, was a disease of the skin, 'my misery is greater than I can bear.'

"Against such a weight of suffering, shame and sorrow, what is the special provision in our enormous city? I am acquainted only with one small hospital—that ought to be a great one, and will be in a year if the public pleases.

"This is St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin in Leicester-square, where the medical officers prescribe on an average for nearly four hundred patients every week. It has already admitted 25,175 new patients.

"It is open without payment to all creeds and all races, the sole credentials for admission being disease and poverty. A leper from India, a Jew from New York, a labourer from New Zealand, mariners from Germany, a clerk from France, have been some of its inmates."

The Bazaar will take place in June next. In the meantime St. John's Hospital labours under a heavy load of debt. I beg you, therefore, to let me urge your readers to subscribe now to the Bazaar Fund, and these amounts shall be at once handed over to the Hospital. A more deserving charity does not exist. I shall also be very glad to receive the names of ladies who will work for the Bazaar. Contributions may be sent to the Chairman of the Hospital, the Right Hon. W. N. Massey, M.P., 71 Chester-square, S.W.; to its Treasurer, Major Mercier, 13 High-road, Knightsbridge, S.W.; to the following members of the Board of Management: the Marquis Townshend, Balls Park, Herts; Sir Charles Palmer, Bart., Dorney Court, near Windsor; or Col. Gourley, M.P., Sunderland; also to the London and County Bank, Albert Gate, London, S.W., and the London Joint Stock Bank, Pall Mall, S.W., and to

Your obedient servant,

12 Ovington-gardens, S.W.

ROSA FREELAND,

20th Dec. 1880.

Hon. Secretary.

ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

Ancient Ebor Preceptory, No. 101.—A regular Chapter of this Preceptory was held at York, on Tuesday, The E. P. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett presided, and there were present—E. Fratres Sir James Meek, Wm. Lawton, Rev. W. Valentine, T. B. Whytehead, and J. S. Cumberland; and Fratres Geo. Simpson, T. W. Wilson, E. Houlden and others. The Registrar Fra. T. B. Whytehead reported that the address to the members of Mary Commandery, Philadelphia, decided to be prepared at the last Chapter, had been executed, forwarded, and duly received, and had been presented by E. Fratre C. E. Meyer to the E. Commander and members of that Commandery, and proceeded to read letters acknowledging the gift and thanking the members of Ebor Preceptory for their fraternal remembrance. The election of E. Preceptor then took place, the choice of the members falling upon Fratre Geo. Simpson (Const.) who is one of the oldest members of the Preceptory. E. Fratre T. B. Whytehead was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. Two Auditors were appointed. Some other matters relative to the welfare of the Order in the Province were discussed, the alms were collected, and the Chapter was closed. The installation will take place in the month of March.

Mount Sinai Chapter of Instruction, No. 19.—The weekly meeting of this Royal Arch Chapter of Instruction was held on Saturday evening, 18th December, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Piccadilly. Comps. J. H. Watts M.E.Z., J. B. Docker H., James Long J., C. A. Cottebruno P.Z. Preceptor as S.E., W. Sitch S.N., Haslett P.S., Thompson M.E.Z. elect 619, Edmonds, J. Palmer, &c. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. J. Palmer being the candidate. After some matters had been disposed of, the Chapter was closed, and adjourned until the first Saturday in January, the next regular meeting day being Christmas Day. This Chapter of Instruction is attended by some of the most talented Royal Arch Masons, and any one seeking proficiency in the exalted science will here always find those who are able and willing to give the best instruction.

Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement.—This old-established Chapter met, as usual, at the Jamaica Coffee House, on Tuesday, 21st inst. Comps. Lardner Z., R. Payne H., Lovegrove J., Pennefather S.W., Dottridge P.S. The minutes of the last Convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed in a most perfect manner, Comp. Edmonds candidate. The following were elected to office for the next two meetings—Comps. Bloomfield Z., R. Payne H., Dottridge J., Lardner S.N., Swain P.S. A guinea was voted towards the Christmas Entertainment of the Old Folks at Croydon. It was announced that the ceremony of installation of Principals would be rehearsed by Comp. W. Stephens P.Z. 862 874 1365 1489, Prov. Grand Assist. Soj. of Kent, on the third Tuesday in January, to commence at 6 o'clock punctually. The Chapter was then closed, and the Convocation adjourned until Tuesday, 4th January.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Utopia, a Grand Fairy Romance,—The Electrical Railway,—Great Lightning Inductorium,—a Lecture on Scientific Wonders,—Musical Sketches,—Christmas and its Customs,—Humorous Recitals by Madame Hickson,—Blondin, Teotard,—Diving Bell, &c. Admission to the whole, 1s. Open from 11 till 5, and from 6 till 10.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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YORK LODGE, No. 236.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York, on Monday evening, the 20th inst. Present Bro. W. H. Gainforth W.M., M. Rooke S.W., J. S. Rymer J.W., J. Todd P.M. P.P.G. Reg. Treasurer, G. Garbutt S.D., W. Draper J.D., W. Powell I.G., J. G. Hodgson D.C., and W. Smith Steward; Past Masters—J. E. M. Young P.P.G.C., R. W. Hollon P.G.T. P.G.D.C., F. Rawling, A. Buckle, B.A., P.G.J.D., W. Lawton P.P.G. Reg., T. B. Whythead P.P.G.D.C., G. Balmford P.P.G. Organist, Swann Maltby, A. Haffner, C. G. Padel P.G.O.; Bros. T. S. Camidge P.P.G.O., W. Wilson, J. Redfare, A. Hanson, G. Houlden, W. Thompson, J. Stead, A. M. White, F. H. Bland, W. Nicholson, J. Toes, G. K. Hitchcock, J. G. Turner, Geo. C. Lee, H. Churchill, T. Russell, T. Tuke; Visiting Brethren—Rev. C. E. Camidge Falcon Lodge Thirsk P.P.G.C., A. Wove, W. Flint, R. Graham, and Dr. W. Paley, De Grey and Ripon, 837, P.S.G.W. W. Yorkshire. The Lodge having been opened in due form, it was announced that the Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., Dean of York, Grand Chaplain of England, requested admittance. A deputation of Past Masters was appointed by the Worshipful Master to conduct the Very Worshipful Brother into the Lodge, and upon his entrance he was saluted with grand honours. The W.M., on behalf of the Lodge, expressed his sense of the honour conferred upon it by the presence of the Grand Chaplain, and the gratification experienced by its members when the dignity of Dean of the ancient Cathedral City, in which they were assembled, was conferred upon a brother so eminent and distinguished in the Craft. The Dean, who was most enthusiastically received, after thanking the brethren for the cordial reception given him, said that it afforded him much pleasure to be present on that occasion, to make the acquaintance of his Masonic brethren in York; expressed his regret that circumstances had hitherto prevented his attendance at the Lodge of which he had been admitted a member, and assured the brethren of his deep interest in the well-being and prosperity of the Craft. The minutes of the two previous Lodges were read and confirmed, after which, at the request of the W.M., Bro. Todd P.M. took the chair as Installing Master, and opened the Lodge in the second degree. The W.M. elect Bro. Mark Rooke S.W. was then presented by Bros. Hollon and Lawton, Past Masters; the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, and Bro. Rooke was duly installed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Todd in his accustomed efficient and impressive manner. The W.M. afterwards appointed and invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year, namely, Bros. W. H. Gainforth I.P.M., J. S. Rymer S.W., G. Kirby J.W., the very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., Dean of York, V.W. Grand Chaplain of England, and P.D.P.G.M. Berks and Bucks, Chaplain; J. Todd P.M. P.P.G. Reg. Treasurer, A. Buckle, B.A., P.M. P.J.G.D. Secretary, G. K. Hitchcock Assistant Secretary, G. Garbutt S.D., W. Draper J.D., T. G. Hodgson M.C., T. Tuke Organist, W. Powell I.G., W. Smith S.S., W. Nicholson J.S., W. G. Calvert Tyler. The Lodge was afterwards duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room and partook of supper, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured. The Dean, in reply to the toast of H.R.H. The Grand Master and the Officers of the Grand Lodge, paid a high compliment to the manner in which H.R.H. performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stones of Truro Cathedral, and pointed out to the brethren the great value of Masoury as tending to foster and diffuse what was so much needed in these times—a brotherly and charitable spirit.

The Festival of St. John the Evangelist will be celebrated by a Banquet at the Masonic Hall on Tuesday, the 28th instant.

LODGE ELIOT, No. 1164, ST. GERMANS.

THE installation of the W.M. Elect, Bro. Richard Steed, took place on 16th instant. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. J. B. Kerswell P.P.G.S.B., assisted by Bro. P.M. Joseph Rawling, of 1071. The others of the Board of Installed Masters present were:—J. Cardew P.P.G.S.D., N. Henwood P.P.G.S., J. P. Creber, W. F. Creber, W. H. Maynard, H. Pole, F. S. Hawke, all Past Masters of 1164, and James Pearce the W.M. of Lodge Zetland, 1071, Saltash. The W.M. selected the following for his Officers—F. Johns I.P.M., J. Basset S.W., S. Waviack J.W., R. Q. Betty S.D., W. M. Foreman J.D., P. O'Doherty I.G., P.M. George Barnes Treasurer, P.M. W. F. Creber Secretary; John Hawke Tyler, who was re-appointed. The accounts of the Lodge having been examined and found correct by the auditors, there still remained a balance of £5 5s against the Lodge. Bro. P.M. Henry Pole said that being the only balance of an unpaid debt, he had very great pleasure in handing in a cheque for the amount. The furniture of Lodge Eliot is very good, and there is this consolation that both the Craft Lodge and the Chapter are free from debt. P.M. Pole has been extremely liberal ever since he has been a member. The annual banquet was afterwards held at the Eliot Arms, and reflected great credit on Mrs. Jenkins, the hostess. In addition to the above-named, there were present from Lodge Zetland, 1071, Saltash—Bro. E. C. Vosper J.W., T. D. Deeble S.D., J. C. Kinsman Tyler, Captain J. G. Tomlin and J. Dillon Stewards; and Bro. Bray of Lodge Eliot. The evening was spent very convivially, and it was stated that the meeting and banquet was one of the best ever held in connection with Lodge Eliot.

Dunheved Lodge, No. 789.—At the regular monthly meeting of the members of Launceston Lodge, held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, 14th inst., Bro. John Kittow S.W. was unanimously re-elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. H. M. Harvey was elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Fidler re-appointed Tyler.

Enfield Lodge, No. 1237.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 13th inst., at the George Hotel, Enfield, and there were present—Bros. Oxley W.M., Taverner S.W., Bryant acting J.W., Poore S.D., A. G. Fidler I.G., R. Mathison P.M. Treasurer, J. H. Thompson P.M. Secretary, and a good muster of the brethren. Amongst the Visitors were Bros. Driscoll P.M. 30 and P.P.G.P. Middlesex, Stephens P.M. 754, Goodwin 1623, Reville 1310, Everdell S.D. 1579, Dickerson 177, Horne 1805, Garrod J.W. 754, Smith W.S. 754, Wells P.M. 754, Rowe D.C. 754, and Maller P.M. 754. Lodge having been opened and the usual preliminaries observed, Bro. E. F. Day of the Polish National Lodge was unanimously elected a joining Member. Lodge was then opened up to the third degree, and Bro. Oxley conferred the sublime degree of M.M. upon Bro. Watts. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. J. H. Thompson, who resumed the Lodge to the second degree. Bro. J. A. Taverner was then presented for the benefit of installation, and was duly installed into the chair of K.S. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed, on the return of the brethren to the Lodge, the new W.M. was proclaimed in the three degrees, after which he proceeded to invest his Officers as follow:—Bro. E. Poore S.W., A. Bryant J.W., R. Mathison Treasurer, J. H. Thompson Secretary, A. G. Fidler S.D., F. C. Herbert J.D., J. M. Collins I.G., G. Tegg D.C., Very Tyler. The usual addresses were then given, the whole ceremony being conducted by the Installing Master Bro. J. H. Thompson in a most effective and able manner. The W.M. then initiated into the mysteries of the Craft Messrs. W. Wheelhouse sen., W. Wheelhouse jun., Taverner and Grimley (who had been previously balloted for), in a manner which showed to the brethren their Lodge had lost none of its former prestige by electing Bro. J. A. Taverner as their Master for current year. Other business of a minor character having been disposed of, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, well and substantially provided by Bro. Mathison, the host. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. Bros. Driscoll and Stephens responded to the toast of the Visitors; Bros. Cecil and Thompson to that of the Past Masters. On behalf of the Initiates, Bro. Wheelhouse sen. made a most eloquent and effective speech, expressing the great pleasure and pride he felt at being admitted that evening a member of the honourable and ancient Order of Freemasons. During the evening the W.M. invested, on behalf of the members, Bro. Oxley, the retiring W.M., with a handsome jewel, as a token of their esteem and regard, and of their appreciation of the efficient and admirable manner in which he had performed the duties of the chair during the past year. Other toasts followed, and the brethren separated at an early hour, after spending a most enjoyable and happy evening.

Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction, No. 1278.—

A meeting was held on Wednesday, 22nd inst., at the Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal Green Junction. Bros. Brittain W.M., Chitson S.W., Ward J.W., Hand Secretary, Clark S.D., Abrahams J.D., Sturtevant I.G.; also Bros. Christian, Quigby, S. Clark, Moss, Clement, McDonald, How, &c. Lodge was opened by the W.M.; minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed; the W.M. worked the ceremony of initiation, Bro. How acting as candidate. Bro. McDonald worked the fifth, sixth and seventh sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren.

Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1445.—

Held at Bro. Stevenson's, The Mitford Tavern, near Hackney Downs Junction, Bro. W. H. Myers Preceptor. On Monday last Bro. T. E. Goddard presided as W.M., there being also present Bros. Robson S.W., Franckel J.W., McDonald, Partridge, Breveter, Kimbell, Seymour-Clarke Sec., and others. After the usual formalities Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Partridge was questioned and entrusted. Lodge being opened in the third degree, the ceremony of raising was ably rehearsed by the W.M., and Bro. McDonald worked the three sections of the lecture. Lodge was then closed down, and Bro. J. Robson S.W. was elected W.M. for Monday 3rd January. The Lodge was then closed in due form.

Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, No. 1457.—

This well-appointed Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Friday, the 17th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Buckhurst Hill, when there were present Bros. J. Doyley W.M., Taylor S.W., Sewell J.W., Austen S.D., Day J.D., J. W. Davies I.G., Christian P.M. Preceptor; Bros. Holloway, Clarkson sen., Clarkson jun. Lodge opened in due form, with solemn prayer, after which the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Christian as candidate. Bro. Taylor worked the first and second sections of the lecture, in a manner alike creditable to himself and pleasing to the brethren. Bro. Taylor was unanimously elected to occupy the chair on the 31st inst. He returned thanks in suitable terms, and the Lodge was closed in due form, according to ancient custom. The next meeting falls on New Year's Eve; a rich treat is anticipated from the working of the W.M., who is most popular amongst members of the Craft. Visiting brethren are cordially invited to attend. Lodge opens at 7.30 p.m.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512, Hampton.—

An emergency meeting, for work only, was summoned on Saturday, 18th inst., at six o'clock. Bro. T. W. Ockenden W.M. presided. The Wardens, Deacons and Inner Guard were absent, but each Officer sent an apology for non-attendance. Their respective positions were occupied by Bros. J. C. Jessett I.P.M. as S.W., A. Tozer as J.W., W. Hammond P.P.G.D. of the Province Sec. as Deacon, Messenger as I.G.; and there were also present—Bros. Knowles M.C., Carpenter, F. W. Smith 1656, Henry Tozer 1326, Lane, Tyler, &c. Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the W.M. at once proceeded to initiate Mr.

Marcus Burr into the mysteries of the Craft, and also worked the lecture on the Tracing-board and delivered the Charge. On the proposition of the W.M., seconded by the Secretary, Bro. F. T. V. Honeywell P.M. 889 P.G.D. Middlesex was unanimously elected an hon. member of the Lodge. Bro. J. C. Jessett was duly appointed Steward for the next Festival of the R.M.B.L., and the Lodge heads his list with twenty guineas. Lodge was closed with solemn prayer and in perfect harmony.

Kings Cross Lodge of Instruction, No. 1732.—A regular meeting was held on the 19th instant, at Bro. Devino's, Blue Posts, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square. Bros. N. Valentine W.M., Burgess S.W., P. Silvester J.W., Devino Treas., L. Solomons Sec., L. Jacobs S.D., Ginger J.D., E. Kauffmann I.G., Hemming Treas.; Bros. C. Joseph, Dicketts, Pierdon, Proctor, E. Harvey, Birrell, H. M. Levy, J. Silvester, J. Harvey, Davis, Norman, Wheeler, J. C. Smith, J. Edwards, and Lambonne. Lodge was opened, and minutes were confirmed. The first, second, fourth, and fifth sections of the first lecture were worked. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Birrell acting as candidate. Bros. J. A. Harvey 1314 and E. Harvey 1314 were elected members. The working of the W.M. and the brethren who assisted with the sections deserves praise. Bro. Burgess was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Lodge of Instruction was then closed. Bro. Hemming ably fulfils the duties of Preceptor.

Creton Lodge, No. 1791.—This Lodge—named after the present Grand Treasurer—held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., under the presidency of Bro. J. H. Johnson, supported by Bros. J. Williams S.W., Neilson J.W., E. Thurkle P.M. Treasurer, J. I. Cantle P.M. Secretary, W. Carrington J.D., R. G. Shute I.G., W. Williams D.C., Ferguson and R. H. Rogers Stewards, Col. Creton I.P.M. Grand Treasurer, and a numerous attendance of brethren. The Lodge was honoured by a visit from the R.W. Colonel Sir Francis Burdett Prov. G.M. Middlesex, and Bros. J. T. Rucker P.G.D., S. Leith Tomkins P.G.D., Æneas McIntyre, Q.C., G.R., Philbrick, Q.C., D.P.G.M. Essex, and many other distinguished brethren. Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. J. P. Seagrave Zetland Lodge No. 511 was unanimously elected a joining member. The Lodge was advanced to the third degree, and the W.M. ably and impressively raised Bros. B. Brett, T. Hine, and T. Richards, Bro. Kift playing appropriate music during the ceremony. The election for W.M. then took place. The choice of the brethren was unanimously in favour of Bro. J. Williams S.W. Bro. Thurkle P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Woodcock P.M. Tyler. Bros. Walters, Colville, and Captain Helder were elected Auditors. Bro. Cantle P.M. said that during the past year the W.M. had given such satisfaction to the Lodge, that the gift of a Past Master's jewel had been unanimously sanctioned by the members, the same as had been presented to Brother Colonel Creton I.P.M. on his leaving the chair. He had now the pleasure of presenting it to the Worshipful Master. The Lodge was then closed until the second Thursday in February. A very sumptuous and *recherché* banquet was provided by Bro. A. Best, and served under the superintendence of Bro. Dawkins. Grace having been sung, the W.M. gave the toast of the Queen and the Craft, and the National Anthem was sung, Miss Grace Godolphin sustaining the solo parts. Bro. Col. Sir Francis Burdett responded to the toast of the Grand Officers. Col. Creton, in eulogistic terms, proposed the health of the W.M., who, in his capacity of Warden, had well done what was required of him; and as a Master was fulfilling all their anticipations. He was convinced the brethren would give the toast the reception it merited. After a song by Bro. Cantle, the W.M. thanked the Grand Treasurer for his kind expressions, and the brethren for their hearty reception of the toast. When he was installed into the chair he promised to do his duty, and he trusted he had done so to their satisfaction. He had to tender his thanks to every brother in the Lodge for the support he had received. The next toast was that of the Visitors. The W.M. called upon Bro. R. F. Gould, Grand Deacon, to respond. Bro. Gould briefly acknowledged the compliment, referring, in eulogistic terms, to the way in which the work had been conducted, and to the bounteous hospitality the members displayed. The next toast on the list was the health of the Secretary, who was likewise a Founder of the Lodge. The W.M. said that the members on this occasion entrusted him with a most agreeable duty—that was to present Bro. Cantle with a testimonial, consisting of a clock and two vases; he could have wished that some one of more elevated rank had been entrusted with the duty, but he was fully assured no one could do it with heartier good wishes. In addition, the Officers of the Lodge had requested him, on their behalf, to tender for Bro. Cantle's acceptance, a ring in token of his being wedded to the Lodge and its services. After a descriptive recital by Bro. W. G. Reynolds, Bro. Cantle expressed his acknowledgments. Afterwards the remaining toasts were fully honoured, and able responses made. In due course the Tyler was summoned, and the brethren separated.

General Lawrence has been this month elected to the Grand Mastership of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, U.S.A. The brethren of this jurisdiction work extremely well together, and, we doubt not, will so continue to do under the auspices of their new chief.

DANCING.—Bro. JACQUES WYNMAN, Professor of Dancing, gives daily instruction in all the fashionable Dances to those who are without previous knowledge. Private lessons at any time, by appointment. Families attended. Balls conducted, and first class Bands provided if desired. Assemblies every Monday and Thursday, at Eight o'Clock.

PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION.

ACADEMY—74 NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.

REVIEWS.

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

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The Freemason's Manual; or, Illustrations of Masonry. Containing, in addition to the Rites sanctioned by the United Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England and Wales, the Mark Mau and Mark Master, a full account of all the Degrees included in the Ancient and Accepted Rite; together with the Knights Templar Degrees, the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, the Royal Order of Scotland, and brief notices of the Rites professing to be connected with Freemasonry, &c., &c. By JEREMIAH HOW, K.T. 30°, Past Master of Lodges Nos. 69 and 661, P.Z. of Chapters Nos. 410 and 452; P. Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies of Herts and Surrey. Third Edition. Revised and Illustrated. London: John Hogg, Paternoster Row. 1881.

It is fifteen years since the second edition of this work was published, and, having regard to the extent of the information it contains, we are not surprised that a re-issue should have been called for. It will be a source of satisfaction to our readers to know that it appears under the direct personal supervision of Bro. How himself, who has been aided in his task by several brethren of distinction, and possessing a special degree of knowledge of the section entrusted to them for revision. Under their joint editorship the work has been made as complete as possible as to its information in respect of all the different branches of Freemasonry. Thus, whole chapters or articles have been added on the Royal Order of Scotland, the Order of the Temple as now constituted, the Swedenborgian Rite, the Antient and Primitive Rite, &c., respectively; and these additions, coupled with the emendations made on the previous editions, bear undoubted testimony to the assiduous labours, as well as the ability and research, of Bro. How and his coadjutors. Viewing this Manual as a historical sketch of the various Masonic Rites, we must, of course, enjoin on our readers the necessity there is for not accepting unreservedly the *data* furnished. Indeed, we feel justified in assuming that these particulars, which have been collated from various sources, mostly to some extent trustworthy, are intended to represent not so much a veritable history of various Rites, as an agglomeration of the various records which have from time to time appeared in other works. We do not for one moment imagine, for instance, that Bro. How and his co-editors and reviewers seriously accept the theory that Frederick the Great of Prussia had anything whatever to do with the establishment of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. We have seen it so stated in various works, and with a degree of sincerity which is most creditable to the imagination of their respective authors; but as, in these days, there cannot possibly be more than a few devoted and, we think we may venture to add, misguided enthusiasts who regard this theory with any degree of favour, we conclude that Bro. How's inclusion of it in his article on the A. and A. Rite is not intended as an acceptance of the myth, but merely as indicating that such a myth has been accepted by divers people during the last hundred years or so. In fact, the qualificatives "it is said," which figure in the penultimate paragraph on page 227, and "It appears"—with which the ultimate paragraph begins—would seem to favour this idea of ours, that Bro. How has collected whatever has been written about this Rite in preference to what is actually supportable by evidence. From this it will be seen that our suggestion as to intending readers being cautious in their study of this manual is by no means unnecessary.

Another point to which we think objection will be taken by many of our readers. There is, especially in the chapters devoted to Craft and Arch Masonry, a great deal more said than they will think necessary for the purpose of illustrating the nature and beauty of those degrees. Indeed, the same remark is applicable, to a greater or less extent, to the most generally known branches of Masonry. The utmost care should be taken in making even short quotations—as in the case of a few words or a sentence—and still further care is necessary in describing a ceremony or a lecture.

Having noted what we regard as being most likely to encounter objection, it remains for us to say that Bro. How's Manual as a compilation is very meritorious. There is, no doubt, a large amount of interesting matter bearing upon the history of the different degrees that has been brought together within its pages. We do not say it is all to be accepted—we have, in fact, drawn attention to one theory which, by the majority of sensible brethren, is held to be of no moment whatever. But after all, a Manual must contain a good deal of this class of matter, the one thing needful being not to give too great prominence to what is unworthy of it. The work seems excellently well arranged. In the first chapter is given a rapid sketch of the Ancient Mysteries or Associations analogous to Freemasonry. Then are considered the Masonic Institutions of the Present Era, Freemasonry in its General Application, the Reasons why Masonic secrets should not be revealed and the Importance of those secrets, and the Principles and Government of the Craft. Then are sketched the formation and consecration of a Lodge, with its opening and closing ceremonies, and next the several degrees of the Craft, Arch and Mark Masonry. There are likewise, as we noticed in the beginning of our remarks, articles on the various branches of Masonry, such as the Temple, the Red Cross of Constantine, the A. and A. Rite, &c., &c. No mention, by the way, is made of the Council of the Allied Degree and the Degree of St. Lawrence; at least, if there is, it must be so casual as to have escaped our notice. Other chapters on the Rites of Freemasonry, Solomon's Temple, the Name, Armorial Bearings, Colours, of Freemasonry; and Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty complete the work. An index will enable the reader to find without trouble what he may be in search of. The publisher has done his work well, and we trust will find a reward for his enterprise in the free sale of the edition. It will make a capital addition to the library of the Masonic student.

IS MASONRY DETERIORATING.

FROM THE "FREEMASON'S REPOSITORY."

DEFINITIONS are always called for as preparatory to the comprehensive discussion of any important subject. It is essential, therefore, in order to give an intelligent response to the question placed at the head of this article, that first of all we decide what this word Masonry shall be taken to mean and include; for it is subject to a variety of uses, and may be limited or extended according to what is thought of individual minds. If by Masonry nothing more is intended than reference to the system which bears that name, we shall find it an easy task to make a satisfactory response to the question proposed. Masonic principles and tenets have not deteriorated—are not deteriorating. The distinguishing truths of the Masonic system retain their primitive quality; and, probably, these truths were never better understood or more clearly marked out than at the present time. Brotherly love, relief and truth stand now for just what they did one hundred years ago, and have the same clearly understood bearing upon human character and conduct. And so of all the graces and virtues—the precepts and teachings—which attach to the system, they have not been changed in their import, nor have they faded away into indistinctness. Nothing of great principle or abstract truth has been eliminated from the system which the fathers framed so wisely and well.

But suppose we make the term Masonry apply chiefly to the ceremonial and the technical work by which its instructions are communicated and its bonds of obligation fostered—has there been deterioration in this respect? According to our thought it appears far otherwise. The representation of Masonry in all its varied forms of ceremonial unfolding is much more carefully attended to now than at any former period. Lodges for the most part are better situated, have more abundant resources, and are able to illustrate more accurately and impressively the lessons sought to be communicated. The administration of affairs is generally in able hands, stupidity does not often wield the gavel, and greater care is taken than formerly was the case to have everything done decently and in order. Music and other helps have been called in to render the conferring of the degrees more impressive, and to illustrate and enforce the sublime lessons of the Royal Art. Masonry is not deteriorating in the manner of its presentation to the candidate, nor in anything that has to do with its ceremonial unfolding or technical work.

Masonry may be taken, however, to mean an Institution, no less than a system, and the question may be asked whether, as an organisation, it is not deteriorating? It is not losing ground outwardly—this much is certain. The vitality of the Institution does not seem to be impaired. Nevertheless it is more than hinted in some quarters that a serious deterioration is all the time going on in the organized life of Masonry. The charge is, that while the Masonry of to-day avows the same principles and purposes, formulates the same code, administers the same ceremonial that it did a generation or a century ago, the heart has gone out of the Institution, or at least beats feebly, and so it is said Masonry does not now fulfil its mission to mould and bless the higher nature of its members, and to accomplish a great work of beneficence in the world. Every day we are pointed to the want of friendliness and charity among brethren—to the selfish and base uses to which some seek to pervert the Institution—to the neglect of moral and benevolent work on the part of both Lodges and individual members of the Craft, and we are told that these are evidences which show a lowering of the standard which the fathers set up, a falling away from that exalted position which Masonry once maintained. We cannot close our eyes to these blemishes and shortcomings—and to the dangers to which the Masonic organisation is always liable because of the base material that is mixed with the pure gold in its composition. It by no means follows, however, that these limitations and imperfections of the Order have suddenly grown into such magnitude as to become the signs of a great present deterioration and a quick coming death. There have always been selfish men and Masons, and there always will be while human nature is moulded of common clay. The Apostle reminded his fellow Christians that there were "spots on their feasts of charity;" and in the church, as in every other organisation, there have always been manifest the manifold tokens of an imperfect condition. It is a matter of regret that there are so many Masons in name who are not Masons in fact—that there are so many stupid and careless members of the Fraternity—so many mean and sordid souls whose only regard for the Institution depends upon their being able to use its power for selfish ends. It is likewise a cause of regret that the beneficent ministry of Masonry is not more largely exercised, that more and better work for love's sake and for humanity's sake is not done in its name and under its auspices. We may remember, however, that there has always been occasion for regrets such as these, for the work of Masonry has never realized the grand ideal of the best minds within its lines.

Looking the whole field over, we come then to this conclusion: the best Masonry the world has ever known is that of these latter days. The Masonic heritage received out of the past has been greatly added to as years have gone by, and its blessings and helps have come to be much better understood than was the case a hundred years ago. Masonry is not deteriorating, its influence was never so great as now, its purposes were never more noble and glorious, its work was never more helpful to the mental, moral and social nature of its faithful members, nor did the streams of its practical benefactions ever run broader or more freely than in these closing years of the nineteenth century. Masonry is not deteriorating either in form or substance—in outward manifestation or inner life. Its hold of the imperishable truths of God and heaven was never firmer than now, and it was never better prepared to illustrate and enforce these truths for the edification of its own membership and for the good of the world.

MASONIC LECTURE.—Mr. S. Russell Forbes (son of the late Mr. Sam. D. Forbes, of Portsea), has returned to this country from a successful lecturing tour in the United States. We take the following from the *Newport Journal*, of 13th November:—"At the invitation of the St. Paul's Lodge, Mr. S. Russell Forbes, of Rome, delivered his highly interesting and instructive lecture on the "Traces of Masonry amongst the Roman Antiquities," on Tuesday evening, 13th Nov. A good number of the Masons of Newport and its vicinity responded to the invitation of St. Paul's Lodge, and the hall was crowded. The Worshipful Master, W. H. Cotton, opened the Lodge to the third degree, in his usual impressive manner, and then introduced Mr. Forbes to the assembled members of the Craft. The lecturer referred to his long residence in Rome, and to the excavations of the ancient buildings; to his own discoveries there, and called attention to the shape of the city of Rome and its builders, the material employed, and how it was used. He then dwelt upon the marks found on the old walls, drawings of which were handed round for the inspection of the brethren. He showed the traces of Masonry from the earliest times down to the building of Rome B.C. 753, and then traced it through the Republican, Imperial, and Medieval periods to the present day. He showed, in a clear and concise way, the connection between speculative and operative Masonry, and the object of the Masons' marks. Photographs and drawings of ancient subjects were passed round, which had peculiar interest and told distinctly their story. The lecture was listened to with extreme attention, and at its close Mr. Forbes invited discussion upon his lecture, and answered many questions put to him by the Lodge. A unanimous vote of thanks was given him, and many brethren expressed to him personally the pleasure and profit they had gained by his lecture.—*Portsmouth Times*."

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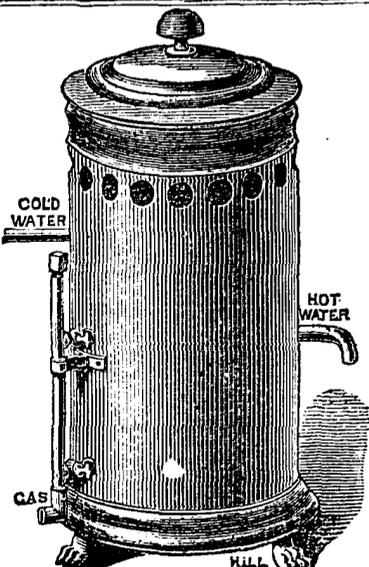
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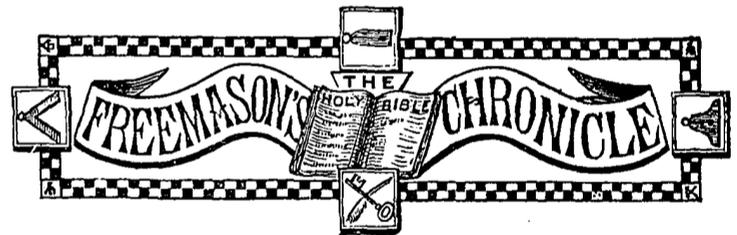
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LODGE HISTORIES.

—:—

ST. MICHAEL'S LODGE, No. 211.

(Continued from Vol. XII. page 247.)

—:—

MISCELLANEA.

Since we completed our sketch of this Lodge from 1823 to the present time, or, in other words, for so long a period as the minutes extend, we have been furnished with a miscellaneous selection of books and papers which have from time to time been in the possession of different Treasurers and Secretaries. The books hardly need to be described, but the papers, though of the most heterogeneous character imaginable, give, here and there, a little insight into the life of the Lodge. Hence we have deemed it worth our while to devote a brief space in order that we may note such scraps as we have been able to collect together. These scraps are, unfortunately, too few in number to perfect the history we have compiled; but many of them relate to the period anterior to 1823, for which, so far as we know at present, no minutes are forthcoming.

The earliest of the papers we have thus been enabled to collate is a bill for £12 0s 6d marked "paid" and dated 28th November 1807, "For a Masonic Throne to the Ionic Order with Castors and Cupboard with lock to do., and 2 Platforms for Wardens." Next is a Stamped Receipt, dated 9th November 1808, for the payment by Mr. S. G. Lewis of £34 6s 3d in respect of "the debt of Lodge 290." This is signed "Hy Quick," (?), so far as it is legible. Following these are several documents relating to the year 1809. These are mostly accounts and are useful to the extent of furnishing us with

the names of brethren who held office in the Lodge or, in the absence of all description, must be set down as members. The earliest of these is an account for the period from 9th March—10th July 1809, showing Receipts amounting to £17, and expenditure, including balance from preceding statement of £25 10, £71 16 9½; so that at the end of said period the Lodge was indebted to its Treasurer—a Bro. Scarlett—in the sum of £24 6 9½. The expenditure is of the ordinary character, if we except one item £1 10 "for 2 Flanel Gowns." From memoranda on the back we find that among the members of the Lodge were Bros. Lewis, Falehard (?), Cornford, Webb, Raine, and Self, which last may stand for either Bro. Treasurer himself or a member rejoicing in the name of Self. The next document is an account to 14 Nov. 1809, and shows indebtedness to the Treasurer for the increased amount of £27 9 1½. However, on the outside are written the names of the principal Officers, namely, Bros. S. G. Lewis W.M., J. Beare S.W., G. Wainwright J.W. Under date 15 November 1809 is a Receipt by Bro. S. G. Lewis W.M. of Three Guineas from Bro. Scarlett "Upon Lodge No. 290's Account for Bro. Gorton's use." We imagine that this may have been a grant by the Lodge to a member in need of help. Yet another account from 13 Nov. 1809 to 9 April 1810 shows the balance due to Treasurer reduced from £27 9 1½ to £23 12 6. In addition are two accounts wafared together, one showing the amounts due by members in respect of dinners, dues, fines, &c. and in the case of Bro. Cornford One Guinea for "Arching" him, to 13th November 1809, and the other a similar document to September 1810, the amount of the former being £15 2, and of the latter £25 9. The following names were entered on their lists, those with a * figuring in both, namely, Bro. Cornford*, Barton*, Raine*, Lewis*, Folkard (probably the same with Falehard already given), Gibson jun., Rich, Clark*, Winkworth, Priest*, Read*, Ballaset*, Withers*, Hughes*, Jones*, Bastable*, Mutlow*, Rutherford, Fisher, Fowler*, B. Webb, Searle, Withington, Scarlett, R. Sanders, Baldwin, Marter, Mason, Dunn, G. Sanders, Roberts, Hadley, Harding, Wonnysit (? Wainwright), and Otley. The last twelve belong to the year 1810. We may also mention that the Quarterly dues appear to have been five shillings.

From a minute-book extending over the period from 4th November 1810 to 20th October 1811, and recording the meetings of the Lodge of Instruction held under the Lodge Warrant, we gather that the brethren met on Sundays, either fortnightly or weekly, at the Angel Inn, High-street, St. Giles's, and that each member contributed nightly towards the expenses of the meeting the sum of ninepence. On the front half of the cover is entered a memorandum as follows: "2 Porter 10d, 2 Ale 1s 8d, 2 Pints Gin 3s 4d, Ingredients 1s, Tobacco 1s," together with 2s 6d and 4d, but for what is not stated. Thus, the study of our lectures then, as it does now, entailed a certain consumption of fluids.

Under date of "Sunday, Febry. 24th 1811," is a letter conched in the most indignant terms, from Bro. G. Ballisat to the "W. Master and Brothers of Lodge 290." Bro. Ballisat complains of having received from Bro. Roberts a letter requiring him to attend the Lodge under the penalty of being reported to the Stewards of Grand Lodge. He states that he has been dangerously ill, that he is prepared to pay his Lodge dues, but that he does not much care if he is reported, as he claims to be quite as independent in spirit as any of his fellow members. With a view to prevent any misunderstanding, he adds that if his health permits, he intends spending a fortnight at the seaside. Poor Bro. Ballisat! We wonder if your indignant letter had the effect of calming "the W. Master and the Brothers of Lodge 290," and inducing them to appreciate your worth. We imagine it did.

A single sheet has written on one side of it certain minutes of the Holy Royal Arch Chapter, dated 10th March (no year is given, but it is evidently 1811). The following are the names entered, namely: The Right Worshipful Bro. R. Humphreys G.C., Bro. Wainwright and Bro. Gorton H. and J.; Bro. Lewington and Bro. Jacobs Scribes; Bros. Winter, Dormer (?), Dart, Gregson, Warner (exalted), and Mason (exalted). The fees paid by the exaltees were one guinea each, the amount otherwise collected was six shillings, and the Bill reached 15s 9d, leaving a balance of £1 12s 3d, to which, however, had to be added the Balance of seven shillings and sixpence for 31st March. It is added "This Chapter adjourned during Pleasure at 6 o'clock in Perfect Harmony." On the other side the minutes relate to the meeting on 31st March 1811. The names entered are Bro. R. Humphreys Grand Chief, Bro. Wainwright H., Bro. Withington Scribe, Bro. Gorton Scribe, and Bros. Cathros (?) 314, Warner, Dart, Kelley, and Suthard (exalted). The cash collected, including Bro. Suthard's exaltation fee of one guinea, was £1 7s. The expenditure, consisting of House Bill 8s, Tyler 1s, and Registering Fee 10s 6d, reached 19s 6d.

There are two documents relating to 1814 and 1815. One is a receipt, dated 13th May 1814, by J. Allen for the sum of £10 14s, being the balance due to his brother by "Lodge 367 late No. 290." The other, dated 10th July 1815, is from Bro. Bagshaw to Mr. Roberts (No. 367), care of Mr. Hopper, Coach and Horses, Compton-street, Soho, stating his inability to attend that evening, and as he has been unable to find a missing bill, that he (Bro. Roberts) had better state it as amounting to £4 15s, namely, "13 dining at 5s," £3 5s, and liquor £1 10s, but subject to future correction if found erroneous either in favour of or against the Lodge. Bro. Bagshaw adds that from this must be deducted the "present apparent balance" against him of £1 8s, and also certain fees or dues which he says are due by him to the Lodge.

We next have a letter dated "Brydges Street, Covent Garden, 14 Jan. 1818, from Bro. G. Bagshaw Secretary, No. 367, to Bro. David Hughes, Apothecary, Northwich, Cheshire, in which he explains the delay in answering the latter's letter of 12th November 1817, as it had only reached the W.M. the previous evening, and promising to remit certificate, receiving amount of fees at withdrawal (12s), cost of G. Secretary's Certificate (12s), and the postage 11d. Bro. Bagshaw requests the remittance may be made free of expense or otherwise it will fall upon him to pay the charges.

Passing on to the middle of the year 1819, we have a series of memoranda, made up in book form, and extending from 13th July 1819 to 13th March 1821. These relate chiefly to sums due and payable or paid by the members, the amount charged per night being mostly eighteenpence, and occasionally half-a-crown. They are valuable chiefly on account of the names they contain, being, with one or two exceptions, where those of Visitors are entered, the names of the members of the Lodge. On page 1 are the names of the following Visitors, namely, Bros. Wilson, Johnson, Willis, and Summers, of the Percy, No. 355; Bros. Coulman, Mann, and Shephard, of Royal Athelstane, No. 19, and Bros. L. E. Thornton, G. Stewards' Lodge; Grayson, Burlington, 152; G. Fraser, Caledonian; Stallard, Temple; Wittington, Unions, 481, and Sanderson, Saddlers' Arms, 399. After these are the minutes: "Lodge opened in due form and with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last Lodge were read and confirmed. Opened in the 2nd and 3rd degree, and a Rasing was gone through *pro forma* in ample form. All Masonic business being over, the Lo. was closed in due form and with solemn prayer." Page 2 contains only the following: "Board and Working Tools of Arch M," and "Speight, 99, Drury Lane." We shall content ourselves with adding the names of the members—presumably they are such—the majority of whom are entered at each meeting. They are Bros. Warner, Bagshaw, W. Smith, Southard, Charles Smith, Brudenell, Humphreys (latterly written as Humphries), Russell, Boothby, Lomax, Dignam, Durley, Fletcher (J.W. 13 Mar. 1821), Gilkes, and Rapden (?) with Murphy and Young, in pencil, in July 1820, and Shephard, Hodges, and Morris in January of the same year.

The following is an "Inventory of Property belonging to the St. Michael's Lodge, No. 367," apparently in the year 1820. "The Warrant of Constitution in a Tin Box"—written against which in another hand are the words "delivered to Bro. Russell, Aug. 8th 1820"—"a Throne; two Chair Boxes for Warden's Chairs; Royal Arch Board and Making Cloth; Banner, Pole and Ball; four Wands; Furniture Chest and two Keys containing—Pedestal, Desk, Cushion, 2 Branches Lock and Key (containing 1 Square, 1 Level, 1 Plumb rule, 3 Past Master's Jewels, 1 Treasurer's, 1 Secretary, 2 Deacons 10 Collars—1 silk), Portable Writing Desk, Lock and Key, two Columns, three Gavels, three Candlesticks, a Bible, Square and Compasses, Square, Level, Rule, and two Foot Rule, two Constitution Books, Book of Rules and Orders, two Swords, three Flannels, Green Baize and Table cover and (Royal Arch), two Crow Bars, two Pick axes, one Shovel, thirteen Shields, six Paintings; an eight-foot carpeted Form, one Large Rummer Glass, fifteen Masonic Glasses. On this inventory are given these names—"Wm. Boothby W.M., W. C. Smith S.W. and J. Brudenell J.W."

Belonging to the period we have sketched in our former articles is a summons to the Master and Wardens to attend an especial Grand Lodge on the 14th December 1825, at Twelve o'clock at noon, to confirm the vote passed at the Quarterly Communication on the 7th instant, for a Grant of £50 out of the Fund of Benevolence for the Relief of the widow of the late Bro. Geo. Belzoni.

Undoubtedly, one of the most interesting among these loose pages is a letter without date of year, month, or day, written by Bro. Gilkes to "the W.M. of 367, Mr. Knight." The mention of the latter Brother's name, however, helps to fix the year as 1828, when Bro. Knight filled the chair of the Lodge. The letter is as follows:—

Carnaby-street, Monday, Noon.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My leaving town for Lynn to-morrow morning will prevent me from taking a personal leave of the St. Michael's Lodge, which I much regret after the favours and honours I have received in it, which I shall ever gratefully remember: as you are in full possession of my reasons for the step, I have taken have the kindness to explain them to the brethren.

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) P. GILKES.

As showing the respect in which Bro. Gilkes was held by the members of the Lodge, a passage in Bro. Hindmarsh's letter of resignation of the 16th December 1834 is worth quoting. It reads thus: "May the shade of our departed Brother Peter preside over the destinies of the Lodge, and incite the Brethren to an emulation of the great Mason who died its Master." There is also another document which bears the distinguished brother's signature affixed only a few months before his death. This is a copy of a return of the members to June 1833, as furnished to Grand Lodge in respect of dues, &c., when the Lodge met at the King's Head, Old Compton-street. It is not a strong one in point of numbers, and contains only the following names:—Peter Gilkes, Joseph Knight, George Simons, Benjamin Edgar, Charles Marks, Edward Pitt—whose signature as Secretary is also attached—W. C. Smith, Samuel Norris, Edward Wynn, Richard Tozer, Thomas Sheldon, — Mott, Richard T. Jacobs, Henry Davis, Edward Owen, Samuel Harding.

There are several circulars addressed to different Masters of the Lodge, requesting support at the Anniversary Festivals of our different Institutions. One of these, on behalf of the Boys' School, mentions that the Festival of that Institution was fixed for 11th of March 1835. In another, relating to the Girls' School, then in Westminster Road, and announcing the Festival for 11th May 1836, the Board of Stewards "beg to observe that several Lodges whose usual meetings fall on or near the day of the Festival, have resolved to forego their private banquets and repair to the Hall on that day, an example which the Board suggest for the consideration of the Lodge." This Board was constituted as follows:—Bro. Rowland Mitchell, No. 6, President; Colonel W. Douglass Clieiland, Prince of Wales, 324, Vice President; Bro. James Savage, S.W. Grand Master's, No. 1, Treasurer; Bro. J. R. Bulmer, P.M. Royal Naval, No. 70, Hon. Secretary; Bro. Bonghey Burgess P.S.G.D., and Bros. Charles Hancock, Antiquity, No. 2, then meeting at St. James's Palace; John Grey P.M. 4; John Lee Stevens, 8; D. Watts and Joshua Gray, 11; S. Wallwyn Darke P.M. Tuscan, 14; Samuel Unwin P.M. Emulation, 21; Samuel Odell P.M. Old King's Arms, 30; J. Anthony Tielans, St. Albans, 32; H. Brayne W.M. Corner Stone, 37; W. Thodey

Smith J.D. Peace and Harmony 72, John Walker S.W. Regularity 108, H. Phillips P.M. Moira 109, J. Mather W.M. Caledonian 156, Fred. Salmon P.M. Honour and Generosity 194, R. Crosse P.M. Union 195, L. Chandler P.M. St. Paul's 229, Lewis Crombie D. Prov. G.M. Aberdeenshire Jerusalem 233, and Charles Schotell St. Andrew's L. East 269. A third, announcing Boys' School Festival for 8th March 1837, has also a list of Stewards, including Bros. W. Staveley G. Master's Lodge 1 President, Stephen Price P.M. St. Albans 32 Vice President, G. Braithwaite No. 4 Treasurer, James Walton Hon. Secretary, J. G. Children 2, J. Mitchell 6, D. Robinson Watts P.M. 11, S. W. Darke P.M. Tuscan 14, Thomas Barker 14, Owen Richards Unity 82, R. Holland W.M. St. John's 107, J. Dubourg Regularity 108, J. Mason Burlington 113, Geo. Mallaloe Lion and Lamb 227, T. G. Sambrooke Jerusalem 323, J. Mortimer Prince of Wales 324, and W. R. Kemp Prince of Wales Chapter 324. The price of the tickets is given as fifteen shillings. A fourth circular appeals for support in behalf of "The Asylum for the Aged and Decayed Freemason," and is signed Robert Field Secretary. It quotes the testimony of Grand Lodge of 6th December 1837, to the effect "That this Grand Lodge recommend the contemplated Asylum for the Aged and Decayed Freemason to the favourable consideration of the Craft." It fixes the date of the Festival for the 15th June 1842, and adds, "For your information I beg to state that the Festivals of this Charity have been always conducted upon such well-considered principles as to tax the purse of those who kindly undertake the office of Stewards as lightly as possible. The Steward's expenses, including his own and two ladies' tickets, have never exceeded Four Guineas." Opinions may and probably will differ as to the alleged lightness of those expenses; at all events, it is double the cost incurred by a Steward now-a-days, who is not called upon to pay for two ladies' tickets as well as his own. But this in passing merely. It is well, however, to note that this Asylum, though it was subsequently amalgamated with the Benevolent Institution, was separate from the latter, which was only established by Grand Lodge in the year 1842. One other circular—on behalf of the Girls' School—remains, dated 15th May 1835, and has been reserved to the last, as it deserves to be reproduced in full. It bears at top the signature "Augustus F., G.M.," and was sent to the W. Masters of Lodges by the then joint G. Secretaries—Bros. W. H. White and Edward Harper—under, as will be seen, very special circumstances. It reads as follows:—

"The Quarterly General Court of the Royal Freemasons' Female School having reported to me, as Grand Master and President of the Institution, the unfortunate and insecure state of the Schoolhouse, occasioned by the decay of the foundation, and the necessity which was thereby created for an immediate general repair of the structure, and formation of new foundation, I felt it proper to bring the subject before the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, the former of which bodies was pleased to grant a sum of £100, and the latter a sum of £52 10s towards defraying the expenses.

"The works are now nearly completed, and altho' every attention has been paid to a strict economy which could subsist with a due regard to stability, the outlay has been much greater than was anticipated, and may now be set down at £2000.

"To meet this unexpected and heavy charge the Funds of the Institution are inadequate without reducing the number of children upon the establishment—a measure which it must be the anxious wish of every Brother to avert; under these circumstances, I am induced to call the attention of the various Chapters and Lodges, and also of the individual members, to the subject, relying with confidence that they will not suffer their excellent Charity to decline from the effects of a misfortune and serious outlay, which was as unavoidable as it was unexpected."

A most admirable procedure on the part of His Royal Highness the Grand Master and President, and one which must commend itself to the regard of brethren of the present day! It should be added that the Annual Festival was held two days after the above appeal, namely, the 17th May.

Among odds and ends is a circular from the lessees, proprietors, or managers of the Star and Garter, Richmond, soliciting the patronage of the Lodge, and announcing in a postscript—"We continue to supply our superior Omnibuses for the return of Parties to Town at night." This is dated May 1841, when a visit to Richmond was a more serious undertaking than it is in these days of railways. We may mention also a printed notice to the effect that the foundation-stone of the Episcopal Chapel of the Reading Cemetery Company was to be laid, with Masonic ceremony, by permission of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master for Berks, on Wednesday, the 26th October 1842. Further particulars to be had of the Wor. Master of the Union Lodge, Reading. This pretty well exhausts the list of documents.

The other remains include Books of Laws, &c., &c. One of these is a copy of the Bye-laws of the Lodge, and is signed by Robert Leslie G.S. The first leaf, with Law I., is missing unfortunately. From these we learn that a candidate was "to be initiated for a sum (not less than Three Guineas)"—the word "Three" is in writing, and in substitution of "Two," struck out—"and 5 shillings" (in writing), "and cloath the Lodge," if required—which means, in brief, gloves all round to the members. This copy is undated. There is also a Copy of the Rules, Orders, and Bye-laws of the Fraternity, according to the old Constitutions, on the Title-page of which occurs the following:—"To which are added the Laws and Regulations of the Holy Royal Arch, Published by Order of the Grand Lodge, London: Printed by Brother Thomas Harper jun., Great New-street, Gough Square. 1813." One rule, as touching on a point which is often the subject of inquiry in our columns, is worth referring to—namely, Rule XIV., which lays it down that "in the Master's absence, a Past Master may take the chair, although it is by right the duty of the Senior Warden, and in his absence, the Junior Warden." The following footnote is added: "It is the right of the Wardens to fill the chair, even though a Past Master be present; but the Wardens generally waive this privilege, presuming that the Past Masters are better skilled in the business of the Lodge." From an Appendix we learn that, on registry of a new made Mason, London Lodges were

called upon to pay the sum of sixteen shillings and sixpence each—to Grand Lodge Fund half a guinea, to Masonic School 5s, and to Grand Secretary 1s, and "one shilling a quarter for each contributing member of the Lodge." In the case of Country, Foreign, and Military Lodges the payment was only eight shillings and sixpence—namely, Grand Lodge Fund 5s, Masonic School 2s 6d, and Grand Secretary 1s, and "one guinea annually to the G. Lodge Fund of Charity." A Grand Lodge certificate cost three shillings; the transfer of a brother's name from one Lodge to another half-a-crown, including Grand Secretary's fee of one shilling; and for registering a brother from any other Grand Lodge, in connection with the Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons, three shillings and sixpence, the Grand Secretary's fee of one shilling being included. It is also laid down that only Grand Officers might wear gold lace, gold fringe, gold embroidery, or anything resembling gold, on their Masonic clothing or ornaments, the dress of Ancient Craft Master Masons being a plain leather apron, trimmed with pale blue silk or ribbon. It is curious to note that a resolution of Grand Lodge of 6th December 1809, cautioning brethren against various publications lately circulated, and attempted to be imposed on the Fraternity, is included. There is also a list of members as follows, the last entry bearing date 23rd May 1814:—"A. Withers, R. Saunders, J. Warner, R. Bold, G. Saunders, M. Bevan, J. Roberts, John Hughes, S. Dart, G. Bagshaw, J. Berry, D. Simmons, C. Kidd, T. Richards, S. Thergood, G. Mac-callar, J. Charles, J. Vaughan, T. Brookes, D. Tombs; Dec. 13th, John Allen (name in pencil), Thomas Hytch (do) rejoined, and Peach (do), Grand and Private Lodge dues paid to December 13th; February 14th 1814, William Smith and James Bowling (in pencil); and May 23rd, William Hopper." The Laws and Regulations for the Instruction and Government of the Holy Royal Arch Chapters, as "Revised, Amended, and Approved in General Grand Chapter at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Strand, London, April 1, 1807," are, as we have said, appended. In these Royal Arch is described as the fourth Degree in Freemasonry; and for the benefit of admirers of uniformity we extract the following Rule XIII.:—"That a general uniformity of the practice and ceremonies of ancient Freemasonry may be preserved and handed down, unchanged to posterity. The Grand Chapter shall elect annually in October, nine skilled Royal Arch Masons, who must be Past Masters, and approved by the Grand Lodge. They shall assist the Grand Officers in visiting the Lodges." But they were not to be considered as members, or as having a voice in the internal affairs of the Lodge, except for reference on any point of the general laws of the Order, in which the members might not be able to determine, and, if necessary, to report to Grand Chapter or the R.W. Dep. G. Master.

One other little book remains to be noticed, namely, an "Abstract of Laws and Regulations for the Order of Royal Arch Masons, London: Printed for the United Grand Chapter, by W. P. Norris, Little Moorgate, A.L.—1790 DCCCXVII." The heading is as follows:—"The Supreme Grand and Royal Chapter. To all the Companions of that exalted and Supreme Degree of Masonry, stiled the Royal Arch, Health, Peace and Goodwill." The Preamble begins, "Whereas our Grand and Royal Chapter, being the Grand Lodge of this Supreme Degree, and having full powers," &c. Unfortunately pages 5, 6, 7, 8 are partly burned, so that the laws cannot be followed throughout.

This completes our task, and our only regret is, that we have not had before us materials that would have enabled us to furnish a complete history of the Lodge.

FAITH LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 141.

THE annual dinner of Faith Lodge of Instruction was held on 14th inst., at the Restaurant, 2 Victoria Chambers. There was a large attendance of members and visitors. After an excellent dinner Bro. Cottebrune, who presided as Worshipful Master, gave the usual Masonic toasts, the Queen and the Craft, the Prince of Wales Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Pro Grand Master, and other Officers of Grand Lodge. Bro. Percival P.M. then proposed the toast of the evening, the Faith Lodge of Instruction, coupling with it the name of their most respected and worthy Preceptor, Bro. Cottebrune. He did not know any Lodge of Instruction which turned out better Officers, more qualified to fill high positions in the various Lodges than the Faith. Their success was entirely due to the energy and kind feeling of Bro. Cottebrune, who was a most able Preceptor and accomplished Mason. Bro. Cottebrune P.M. P.G.P. in response said, it was close now upon twenty-three years since he joined this Lodge of Instruction, and soon afterwards he was asked to become Preceptor. He had worked to the best of his ability, and he must say that he had always received the greatest kindness and attention from the members of the Lodge. Bro. Percival had been kind enough to say that many distinguished Masons had left the Lodge of Instruction qualified to fill the chair in the regular Lodges, but this was as much or more due to their own perseverance as to the efforts of those who were the tutors. The Faith Lodge of Instruction had for some years been very well attended. They had voted thirty guineas to the Charities in three years. He was very pleased to know that they were well supported by members of the mother Lodges, and he hoped that for many years to come his name would be associated with the Lodge of Instruction. The Worshipful Master then proposed the health of Bro. W. Carter, who had for twenty-two years been the Treasurer of his Lodge; he was a genial and good-hearted man, and was an ornament to Masonry. Bro. W. Carter, in responding, referred to the fact that he had been a member of the Faith Lodge for twenty-nine years, and that he had known the Worshipful Master, Bro. Cottebrune, upwards of twenty years. The Worshipful Master then proposed the health of the Visitors, which was responded to by Bros. Mallett P.M. and George E. Saunders. Bros. Taylor W.M. St. Luke's, and Holt W.M. Granite, responded to the toast of Craft Lodges, and after other toasts and some excellent songs, a very pleasant reunion was brought to a successful termination. The Faith Lodge of Instruction meets every Tuesday evening, at the Restaurant, Westminster Chambers, at eight o'clock.

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.

MONDAY, 27th DECEMBER.

360—Pomfret, Abington Street, Northampton. (INSTALLATION)

TUESDAY, 28th DECEMBER.

- 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—Moirs, Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
 141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 54—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.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
 1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1559—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
 117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
 299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
 310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton
 1566—Ellington, Bell Hotel, Maidenhead
 1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1675—Antient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
 R.A. 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 K.T.—Plains of Tabor, Swan Hotel, Colne, Lancashire

WEDNESDAY, 29th DECEMBER.

- 193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
 538—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E., 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—Montefiore, Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, W. (INSTALLATION)
 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, Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal G. Junct., at 8. (Inst.)
 1298—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1791—Creston, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction.)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1083—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)
 1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
 1293—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Horsea, Hull. (Instruction.)
 R.A. 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
 R.A. 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
 R.C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester
 K.T.—Alpass, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

THURSDAY, 30th DECEMBER.

- General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Virivian, 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)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1614—Covent Garden, Nng's Head, James Street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (Inst.)
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
 249—Mariners, Masozic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
 807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
 1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham Street, Rochdale
 R.A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield
 R.A. 1214—Scarborough Hall, Scarborough, Caledonian-road, Batley
 M.M. 31—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester

FRIDAY, 31st DECEMBER.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 834—Kacelagh, 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)
 1153—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
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster

SATURDAY, 1st JANUARY.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 R.A. 308—Afability, Station House Hotel, Bottoms, Stansfield
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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UNITED STRENGTH LODGE, No. 228.

THE last regular meeting of the season in connection with this old and respected Lodge was held on Tuesday evening last, at the Guildhall Tavern, for the purpose of electing the Worshipful Master, Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of other business. Lodge was opened about five o'clock, in accordance with ancient rites, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Robert Snare, and there were also present Bros. G. H. Patmore S.W., A. H. Hickman J.W., J. A. Winsland P.M. Treasurer, Edward Davies P.M. Acting Secretary, H. W. Ilford S.D., F. J. Hunt J.D., G. Bellott D.C., G. Tuinard I.G., William Steedman Tyler. Bros. R. Pearcy I.P.M., Bromley P.M., James Hillhouse P.M., Robert H. Halford P.M., Alfred Colston P.M., G. Hunter, Vilett Rolleston, P. Cox, H. Heinrich, J. Moran, E. H. Johnson, J. F. Quartly, John H. Miller, F. E. Thurland, W. J. Randall, James Everts, Harley, Paine, H. Langley, J. Woodman, A. Woodman, H. T. Sandy, C. Halford, W. Camden, G. C. Fidge, A. C. Woolsey, &c. Visitors—Bros. J. Gladwell J.D. 1470, C. S. Phillips 1586, and A. Timothy P.M. 87. The minutes of the last Lodge having been read and confirmed, the ballot was proposed for Bro. Thomas How Bromley, late a P.M. of this Lodge, as a joining member, on the nomination of Bro. James Terry P.M., seconded by Bro. John A. Winsland P.M., the voting was unanimous, and Bro. Bromley was accepted. The ballot was re-opened for Mr. Alfred Cornelius Woolsey, proposed by Bro. H. Langley, seconded by Bro. James Terry P.M., and for Mr. George Christopher Fidge, whose sponsors were the Worshipful Master and Bro. Edward Davies P.M. Both were accepted and initiated by the W.M., who discharged the duties most satisfactorily. Bro. Francis Edward Thurland, having answered the several questions to the satisfaction of the Lodge, was entrusted; and Lodge having been advanced, he was afterwards passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., assisted by his Officers. Lodge was then opened up, and Bros. Vilett Rolleston and John Henry Miller were raised to the sublime degree, the impressive ceremony being admirably performed and the charges recited with faultless precision by the W.M. The new Bye-laws having been read and adopted, the brethren proceeded to elect the W.M. for the ensuing year, their choice well and worthily falling on Bro. G. H. Patmore, who had so ably discharged the duties of the Senior Warden's chair during the past year. The election was unanimous, and Bro. Patmore, who was much moved by the enthusiastic applause which greeted the declaration of the W.M., said his heart was too full to allow him adequately to express his deep sense of the honour which the brethren had conferred upon him. He could assure them, however, if he had health and strength, he should endeavour to justify the selection they had made, and should exert his utmost in promoting the best interests of the Lodge. Brother John A. Winsland P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Steedman P.M. Tyler. After the transaction of some other business Lodge was closed in form, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a substantial repast was provided, and the customary Loyal and Craft toasts were duly honoured. In proposing the health of the Wor. Master, Bro. R. Pearcy I.P.M. said this was the last time he should have the honour of proposing this toast in his present capacity in this Lodge. He need not tell them how Bro. Snare had discharged his duties during the past year, for that was well known to all the brethren. Suffice it to say, he retired from the chair with all the respect and esteem they could pay him, and they all wished him a brilliant and honourable retirement from office. His year had been most excellent, not only as regarded the working, but also as to the initiates who had been brought into the Lodge. The Wor. Master, in responding, said he had received so many kindly and flattering expressions from the brethren that he really felt at a loss for words to convey to them his gratitude. It had, indeed, been his endeavour, as far as lay in his power, to do his best for the interests of the Lodge; and if he had maintained its prestige he was more than repaid for any slight efforts he had made in that direction. He could not but be sensible of many shortcomings, and but for the kindness the brethren had ever extended to him, he felt he could not have gone through the work even with the small degree of satisfaction and the comparative little amount of credit to himself—(no)—which they had been good enough to acknowledge. But their leniency, kindness, and courtesy rather intensified the debt of obligation which he felt he was under to the brethren of the Lodge. In turn he proposed the healths of the Initiates, the toast being heartily received. Bro. Woolsey was pleased, indeed, to have had the pleasure of meeting the brethren of the United Strength Lodge. It had long been his wish to become a Mason, and he was proud to have been accepted by this Lodge. He was a stranger to most of them, and if he committed himself he hoped they would forgive him: but he was deeply obliged to them for the kind manner in which they had received his brother initiate and himself. Bro. Fidge also replied, and in the course of his observations said he had not entered this grand and mystic fraternity without a due sense of its grandeur and of his unworthiness. He esteemed it an honour to have been admitted a member of this ancient institution, and he should endeavour to follow in the footsteps of those who had become ornaments to the Craft. The Worshipful Master then proposed the health of the Visitors, whom the brethren of this Lodge were always pleased to see, and to whom they always endeavoured to extend the heartiest welcome and the right hand of fellowship. The toast having been received with an enthusiastic fire, Bro. A. Timothy P.M. 87 said he had been a Visitor at this Lodge so many times that he almost fancied he was one of themselves. He was very pleased with the excellent manner in which the ceremonies had been worked, and he congratulated the Lodge upon the efficient way in which the present W.M. had carried out the duties during his term of office. Bro. Snare

had felt himself a little remiss, but the brethren would agree that all must be highly gratified with the excellent manner in which he had discharged the duties appertaining to his exalted position. Bro. Gladwell was very pleased to have had the felicity of being present on the occasion when Bro. Patmore was elected to the chair. That brother was highly respected and esteemed in the provinces, and it had given him unspeakable pleasure to meet Bro. Patmore under such gratifying auspices. Brethren in the country had their little Lodges, and when they had the pleasure of visiting the Metropolis and seeing a Lodge of this kind, they returned laden with information which they conveyed to the brethren, who retailed it out for a considerable time. The fraternal feeling which appeared in this Lodge, and the way in which the working had been carried out, could not be excelled. It was the first time he had had the privilege of meeting the brethren of this Lodge, and he had learned much that would not be easily eradicated from his mind. Bro. Phillips also briefly returned thanks. The health of the Past Masters was the next toast, and suitably acknowledged by the I.P.M. Bro. Pearey. In giving the health of the W.M. elect, Bro. Snare said it was a toast which fell to the lot of a Master only once during his year of office, and the unanimity with which Bro. Patmore had been elected presaged, at any rate, the cordiality with which that toast would be received. He thought he need not add one word to the toast, but simply ask them to receive it as they had received Bro. Patmore in the Lodge earlier in the evening. Bro. G. H. Patmore, who was received with loud cheering, could not say but that he was surprised at the unanimity with which he had been elected by the Lodge as their Master for the coming year. It was with some amount of diffidence a mouth or two back, when he knew the time was coming on when he must choose either between accepting or declining the Mastership; but the kindness he had received from the P.M.'s, and their courteous efforts—knowing perhaps that he was a country member, and had not those facilities of obtaining that information respecting the ritual that were to be obtained in town—to afford him that information had decided him to go on, and he could only say he felt deeply grateful to many P.M.'s for their most welcome counsel and assistance. He took this opportunity of thanking them personally for having given him their kind assurance that they would do all they possibly could to fit him for the office to which he had been elected. He was not so fluent in language as many who had gone before him, but he had been in the Lodge nine years, and had only missed attending on one occasion, and that was caused by domestic affliction in his own family. Nothing on his part should be spared to carry out the working of this grand old Lodge in befitting manner. He loved the old United Strength, and always should do, and he would endeavour to do his best to support its dignity and not disgrace it. Several other toasts were honoured, and some excellent singing tended to brighten the very harmonious and enjoyable proceedings.

SINCERITY LODGE, No. 174.

THE final meeting for the year of the members of this Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 15th instant, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. C. H. Webb. There were also present Bros. G. Jones S.W., F. Brown J.W., J. S. Fraser S.D., A. H. Brown J.D., T. F. Harvey I.G., W. Fraser D.C., J. Miller W.S., S. Rawley P.M. Treas., J. Newton P.M. Sec., P.M.'s C. Lacey, J. Bulmer, J. G. Hilliard, E. Moore; G. T. H. Seddon I.P.M. Visitors—Bros. Geo. Bashford, J. How, G. Brooks P.M., T. S. Watts P.M., R. Hopkins, W. J. Mason, J. T. Robey, J. C. Frank. Lodge having been opened, the ballot was clear for three gentlemen, viz., Mr. W. Henderson, Mr. T. Hantley, and Mr. J. Goll, who, being present, were initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the W.M. Bro. Jay was raised to the third degree. The election of W.M. resulted in a unanimous vote for Bro. G. Jones S.W., that of Treasurer unanimously in favour of Bro. Rawley P.M., and of Tyler in favour of Bro. Very. Two brethren of the Lodge were voted the sum of ten guineas each. The usual Christmas gifts were voted, including one guinea towards the entertainment to the "Old Folks" at Croydon, and one guinea to the Tyler. The Auditors were appointed. A P.M.'s jewel was unanimously voted to the outgoing W.M., Bro. C. H. Webb. Business over, the members sat down at the social board, the dinner being well served in every respect. Afterwards the usual Loyal and complimentary toasts were given, and a very happy evening was passed. In the course of the evening, the W.M. alluded to the fact that this was the last time he should have the honour to preside over them as W.M.; he thanked the brethren, particularly the Officers, for their kindness to him throughout his very happy year of office, concluding by wishing all the members, absent and present, a "Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year." The Visitors bore truthful testimony as to the working in Lodge, and hoped they might have the pleasure of visiting the Sincerity at some future day.

FIDELITY LODGE, No. 230.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 16th inst., at the Ebrington Masonic Hall, Granby-street, Devonport. After the election of a member, the Worshipful Master elect, Bro. Richard Ellis, was installed by the retiring Master, Bro. J. R. H. Harris, assisted by Bro. R. Cawsey, in a Board of Installed Masters consisting of Bros. John Lynn P.M. P.P.G.S.B., J. B. Gover P.M. 70 P.P.G.A.D.C., E. Murch P.M. 202 P.P.G.O., R. Cawsey P.M., D. B. Lynn P.M., J. Rogers P.M. P.P.G. Tyler, R. Pengelly P.M. 70, R. Pike P.M., Thomas Searle P.M. 1091, J. Cassell I.P.M. 1136, Hugh Cameron W.M. 1205, C. Watson P.M. 954. After the ceremony the following Officers were appointed:—Bros. J. R. H. Harris I.P.M., R. Pitcher S.W., J. Whitford J.W., J. Lynn Tr., R. Cawsey Sec., T. Border S.D., W. M. Ridland J.D., R. George Chaplain, E. Littleton I.G., W. Rattenbury D.C., R. Pike Org., T. Boyling and Towan Ste-

wards, and T. Stephens Tyler. The Treasurer's accounts were satisfactory, and it was resolved that the annual banquet take place on 12th of January, at the Royal Hotel, Devonport. Ladies will be invited to attend, as on previous occasions.

NORTH YORK LODGE, No. 602, MIDDLESBROUGH.

THURSDAY, 16th inst., the brethren met in the Lodge-room for the purpose of installing Bro. S. A. Sadler W.M. for the ensuing year. There was a very large attendance, and amongst the visitors present were Bro. George Marwood Right Worshipful P.D.P.G.M. of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, who had kindly undertaken to perform the ceremony, and the following brethren:—T. C. Davison P.M. Marwood Lodge, R. W. Holland P.M. York, R. W. Bolsover P.M. Tees, J. Hinton P.M. Philanthropy, W. Bulmer P.M. Zetland, A. C. Knowles P.M. Tees, John Settle P.M. Tees, W. Nelson W.M. Marwood, J. H. Hart Sec. Stockton, A. Dyson P.M. Marwood, J. M. Meek P.M. Marquis of Ripon, F. E. Streeton Ferrum, J. N. Malcolmson Ferrum, J. T. Belk Ferrum, A. Tanner P.M. Perseverance, H. Tompson P.M., W. Petchell P.M., J. A. Manners P.M., W. H. Cowper P.M., R. Davison P.M., C. Willman P.M., M. G. Collingwood P.M.—all of North York Lodge. The Installing Officer having performed the ceremony in a most efficient manner, the newly-elected W.M., Bro. Sadler appointed the following Officers for the year:—I. Fidler I.P.M., W. Gill S.W., W. R. Gibbs J.W., M. G. Collingwood Treasurer, S. Walker Secretary, A. Hallam S.D., A. C. Wilson J.D., H. Sherwood I.G., W. J. Watson D.C., J. F. Stewart Organist, J. Rushford and R. Wilkinson Stewards, James Ingram O.G. In the evening the brethren sat down to a splendid banquet at the Queen Hotel.

ST. OSWALD'S LODGE, No. 910, PONTEFRAC.

ON Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., the brethren of the above Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John. There was a large muster of members and Visitors, the latter including Provincial Officers of high rank, as well as the W. D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, who is a member of the Lodge. For the first time in the history of the Lodge the ceremony of installation was attended by over two dozen P.M.'s, and the number generally present was so great that the Officers experienced considerable difficulty at times in carrying through the details of the installation. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. I.P.M. Mathers took the chair, and opened the Lodge. He retired to make way for Bro. P.M. Slack, P.G.D.C. of the Province, the Installing Master. This is not the first time by several that Bro. P.M. Slack has installed the Master of St. Oswald's, and on taking the chair he was warmly greeted. The W. Bro. Tew, J.P. D.P.G.M. was introduced, and greeted with the customary honours. At this time there were present in the Lodge—Bros. H. Smith P.G. Secretary, Mason P.G. Treasurer, Simpson P.P.G.S. Works (Charity Steward), MacKay (Castleford) P.P.G. Sword Bearer, Mathers I.P.M., Slack P.G.D.C., Smithers P.G. Steward, Ward (Goole) P.P.G.P., Hall P.P.G. Steward, W. S. Wood P.P.G. Registrar, J. Gill P.P.G.D.C., W. B. Alderson P.P.G.D., Rowlands P.P. Officer of S. Wales; P.M.'s Clark, Lord, Phillips, Holmes, Kassel (Castleford), Harling (Castleford), Cliff (Castleford), Hartley (Wakefield), W.M.'s Hardley (Castleford), Gardiner (Goole). Wor. Bro. Tew, in acknowledgment of the salutation accorded him, spoke at some length. The condition of the 66 Lodges of West Yorkshire, in which there were now some 3300 Masons, showed the progress the Order was making. It had been his privilege, in discharging the duties of his high office—an office he should consent to fill only so long as he had their cordial and fraternal support—to visit many Lodges of late in that Province, and he could but inadequately express his sense of the manner in which they were being worked, and of the cordial spirit that existed amongst the brethren. He had the authority of their Prov. Grand Master Bro. Sir Hy. Edwards, to say that he trusted the Secretaries and Treasurers of every Lodge in the Province would so carry out their duties as to diminish very much, if not extinguish, the list of defaulters. That list of late had seriously increased; an increase due he believed in no small measure to the wave of bad trade which was passing over the Province. He congratulated St. Oswald's on the very distinguished company that had assembled. The Festival on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in London in February next was to be presided over by Bro. Sir Hy. Edwards. He knew the Province would support their Prov. Grand Master well and heartily; but still he mentioned the matter so that Past Masters and members of Lodges that had not lately sent a Steward might take this opportunity of doing so. He held in his hand the balance sheet of the Bentley Shaw Fund, from which he learnt that they had, after raising £1,080, still rather more than £20 in hand. It was Sir Hy. Edwards's and his own intention to place on the agenda paper of the Prov. Grand Lodge, to be held on the 12th January, a motion for placing this sum at the command of Bro. Henry Smith Prov. Grand Secretary, with the view of (when some of his friends had suitably augmented it) his becoming, what he knew he had long wished to become—a Vice-Patron of all their Charities. Thus, while they acknowledged in so slight a manner the valuable services of a brother so widely esteemed and revered, they enabled him to gratify his Masonic wishes by using the gift for the benefit of the Province. In conclusion, W. Bro. Tew congratulated Bro. Quartermaster on his approaching installation to the chair. The ceremony proceeded, and was conducted by the Installing Master in the very able and thoroughly Masonic manner which is a mark of all the work done in St. Oswald's Lodge. The following were the Officers invested:—Bros. Rev. J. Needham S.W., Scriven J.W., G. H. Locking Treasurer, I. Kaberny Secretary, W. H. Wilks S.D., R. Moxon jun. J.D., C. Longstaff I.G., Hall P.M. D.C., J. Simpson Org., Blake Tyler, Pearson and Fisher Stewards. Subsequently, on the motion of Bro. Lord, seconded by Bro. Harling, and supported amongst others by Worshipful Bro. Tew, Bro. Simpson was again

chosen Charity Steward. The other business was of an ordinary character, and the Lodge was duly closed in peace and harmony by the new W.M. At a later hour the brethren sat down to a banquet at the Red Lion Hotel, the W.M. Bro. Quarterman in the chair, he being supported by Worshipful Bros. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M., S. Woolf, M.P., Slack P.M. Installing Master, &c. The health of the Queen and of the Grand Master of England, with the Grand Officers, were very warmly received, the latter being greeted with the honours of the Order. To the next toast, that of the Right Worshipful P.G.M. of West Yorkshire Bro. Sir H. Edwards, the Wor. D.P.G.M. Bro. T. W. Tew, and the Prov. Grand Officers, Worshipful Bro. Tew responded, congratulating the new W.M. on having attained to the honour of the chair after fourteen years careful attention to Masonic duties. Passing on to refer to the fact that many benevolent works outside Masonry in many cases owed their origin to, and were managed by brethren of the Order, he alluded to the recent opening of the Dispensary at Pontefract, a work which was designed by Masons, and built throughout by Masons. This showed that they were not merely Speculative, but were actually Operative Masons. The speech of the Deputy, which proceeded to refer to the principles of Masonry, and the results it had already shown, was listened to with evident appreciation by the brethren present. To the toast of the Archbishop and Clergy, Bro. the Rev. J. Needham replied, and to that of the Borough Members, Bro. S. Woolf, M.P., responded, on behalf of himself and Bro. the Right Hon. H. C. E. Childers, M.P. The W.M. then gave the Installing Master, and Bro. Slack P.M. replied in an able speech. To the toast of the Past Masters of St. Oswald's Lodge and the retiring Officers, which was given from the chair, Past Master Bro. Clark responded in felicitous terms, claiming for the Officers of the past year an intention to discharge their Masonic duties to the best of their ability. The Visiting Brethren was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Rowlands P.P.G. Registrar South Wales, the W.M. remarking, in proposing it, that he was proud to see such an array of Provincial Officers and other brethren at their installation. The Dep. P.G.M. Bro. Tew gave the W.M. and the newly appointed Officers, paying a high tribute to the Masonic character of Bro. Quarterman, who had assisted him very much in the discharge of his duties as Deputy, and who would be still better able to help him now the Lodge had conferred on him the degree of P.M. The toasts of the Masonic Charities, replied to by Bro. Simpson, and the Ladies, given by Bro. Moxon and responded to by Bro. M. Pearrow, ended the toast list. The proceedings were rendered additionally pleasant through the good offices of a Masonic glee party from Batley, as well as by songs from Bros. Cliffe, Wilson, and others.

FALCON LODGE, No. 1416.

THE installation meeting took place in the Masonic Hall, Thirsk, on Thursday, 9th December, when Bro. W. Coltman W.M. occupied the chair, and many distinguished visiting brethren were present, including Bros. G. Marwood, J.P., of Busby Hall P.D.P.G.M. P.M. 543, R. W. Hollon P.G.S.B. England Prov. G. Treasurer, J. S. Cumberland Prov. G.J.W., C. Palliser Prov. G.S. of Works W.M. 1337, W. Paley P.S.G.W. West Yorks, M. Knowles P.P.G.J.D. Durham, J. Hunton P.P.G.J.D. Durham, J. Richardson P.P.G. Pursuivant West Yorks P.M. 1001, F. Smith W.M. 837, P. Donaldson P.M. 837, T. R. Mountain P.M. 837, H. C. Pickersgill J.W. 837, C. Waistell P.M. 1337, R. Pallister S.W. 1337, R. Sootheran J.W. 1337, F. Long 1496, Whitmore York 1611, &c., supported by Bros. Rev. C. E. Camidge P.M. P.P.G.C. West and N. and E. Yorks, Rev. W. C. Lukis P.M. P.P.G.C. West Yorks, G. Ayre P.M. P.P.G.J.D., T. J. Wilkinson P.M., W. Hall, C. G. Kipling, H. Mastorman, G. B. Hall, J. Walton, H. Smith, J. Johnson, R. Atkinson, Z. Wright, H. Longford, L. J. Thompson, &c. Telegrams regretting inability to be present were received from Bros. T. B. Whythead 1611 236 1338 P.M. P.P.G.D.C., and W. H. Gainforth W.M. 236. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. W. Hall S.W. and W.M. elect was presented for installation. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, the ceremony was most impressively performed by W. Bro. George Marwood. On the readmission of the brethren, the Worshipful Master was congratulated, and saluted in ancient form. He then proceeded to invest the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year, addressing to each a few appropriate words:—Bros. W. Coltman I.P.M., C. Greensides S.W., H. Smith J.W., T. J. Wilkinson P.M. Treasurer, J. Walton Secretary, Rev. C. E. Camidge, M.A., Chaplain, Rev. W. C. Lukis, M.A., F.S.A. Preceptor, J. Johnson S.D., Z. Wright J.D., C. G. L. Kipling Supt. of Works, H. Longford D.C., E. Richardson Organist, R. Long I.G., J. Johnson and L. J. Thompson Stewards, G. Ayre P.M. Almoner, J. S. Farmery Tyler. The Lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to W. Bro. Hall's, where a *recherché* banquet was spread, the elegance and completeness of the arrangements, as well as *cuisine* of the viands and excellence of the wines even more than sustaining the ancient reputation of the Fleece Hotel. At the conclusion of the repast the W.M. gave the loyal toasts, which were received with musical honours. W. Bro. R. W. Hollon responded on behalf of Grand Lodge, and W. Bro. C. E. Camidge, M.A., for Provincial Grand Lodge, our reverend brother having served the Office of Chaplain for both the Yorkshire Provinces. W. Bro. Marwood then proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, expressing the great personal pleasure it had afforded him to place in the chair of K.S. one whom he had known for many years, and respected; who was a founder of the Lodge, and with whose family he had been acquainted for three generations. He anticipated for him a happy and prosperous year of office. Bro. Hall W.M. suitably responded, and in proposing the health of W. Bro. Marwood, referred to the many kind services he had rendered to the Lodge from its formation, and expressed the high and affectionate esteem in which he was held by the brethren—a remark which drew forth a most enthusiastic response, and which he in very feeling terms acknowledged. Bro. G. B. Hall, of Oswaldkirk, then in his most

effective style opportunely sang "The Fine Old English Gentleman," the company testifying to the appropriateness of the words by the hearty spontaneity with which they weighted and swelled the chorus. Bro. Knowles, J.P., of Stockton-on-Tees, in proposing the toast of the I.P.M., remarked that there is no body of men so loyal to their chiefs as are the members of the Craft, nor whose mutual intercourse tends more to the maintenance of the principles of law and order. Such gatherings as these are not only enjoyable, but beneficial, especially when they bring brethren for a season away from the fierce democratic spirit of our large manufacturing towns to the quiet and soothing influences of a more retired and contemplative existence, from which they return better fitted for the battle of life and its many conflicting cares. Bro. Coltman, in response, congratulated the W.M. on his excellent selection of Officers, and promised him his best support during his term of office. Bro. Donaldson, of Ripon, in proposing the Officers of the Falcon Lodge, said it had been a peculiar pleasure to him to-day to meet Bro. Marwood, whose name had been a "household word" with him from his boyhood, and whose character commanded an individual admiration and reverence. He had also a strong personal attachment to the Falcon Lodge; it was one of the first Lodges he visited, and his fraternisation with the brethren always proved a source of enjoyment. The Rev. W. C. Lukis, M.A., F.S.A., in replying, spoke of the *esprit de corps* which animated the brethren who had been selected for official duties, and humorously referred to some of the distinguishing qualities of "Falcons" as encouraging the assurance that the interests of the Craft were safe with them. The Rev. C. E. Camidge, M.A., the Vicar, in well-chosen terms proposed "The Visitors," and after referring to the many advantages of Masonry, noticed specially its hospitality and its tendency to promote friendly feeling, smoothing away differences, and affording opportunity for better acquaintance with each other over the social board. Dr. Paley, of Ripon, responding, expressed the interest he felt in the welfare of the Falcon Lodge, congratulated Bro. Hall on his election to the chair, and recognised him as "the right man in the right place." Bro. C. Waistell, of Northampton, added a few words to the same effect, and then the toast-list was brought to a close. The case of "Poor and Distressed Masons" was remembered by a liberal contribution to the Almoner's fund, and one of the pleasantest and most successful meetings of the Lodge happily terminated.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At Bro. Smyth's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, on Saturday, the 18th inst. Present—Bros. G. Ferrar W.M., Gilham S.W., Storr J.W., Percy Preceptor, Fenner Sec., A. Ferrar S.D., Tuck J.D., Cattlin I.G.; also Bros. S. E. Moss, D. Moss, C. Lorkin, F. W. Jones, W. Williams, Birch, Brasted, Weeden, Fysh, &c. After preliminaries, Bro. W. Williams proved himself an efficient F.C., was entrusted, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by the W.M. Bro. D. Moss worked the second and third sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed to the first degree. Lodge was called off and on. Bro. Gilham was elected to preside at the next meeting, which was unanimously fixed for 8th January 1881. A vote of thanks was accorded the W.M. The sum of £1 1s was voted for the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon for Christmas cheer, after which Lodge was closed.

Mount Sinai Lodge, No. 121, Penzance.—At the last meeting of this Lodge Mr. Peter Davies was duly initiated as a member, and Bros. Wellington Dale and Sennett were advanced to the second degree. Bro. James Lovell S.W. was elected W.M., and Bro. C. Read Treasurer, for the ensuing year. The celebration of the Festival of St. John was fixed for Wednesday, 29th December.

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The *Times*, August 13th, 1877. From our own Correspondent with the Russian Army, Okoun, July 25th, 1877. The want of sanitary arrangements in the Russian Camp was dreadful, and had we remained there a few weeks longer, dysentery and typhoid fever would have played more havoc in our ranks than the bombs of the Turks. I myself acquired an unenviable reputation as a doctor, owing to my being provided with a small bottle of **CHLORODYNE**, with which I effected miraculous cures.

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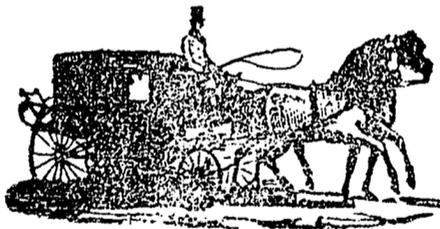
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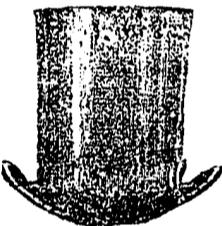
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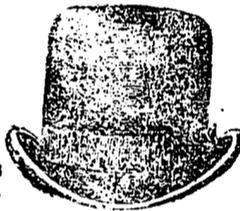
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