

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. XV.—No. 365.

SATURDAY, 24th DECEMBER 1881.

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

TO OUR READERS.

WHEN these few remarks appear the season of Christmas will, to all intents and purposes, have begun. Many of the theatres will have a kind of dress rehearsal in public of the pantomimes they have been preparing for during the last few weeks. The festive arrangements are about complete, and the Christmas presents have been bought and are ready for distribution to the intended recipients, or, perchance, are already being conveyed by post or carrier to their respective destinations. The youngsters are home from school, and are filled already with glorious visions of plum pudding and mince pies. Houses and churches look bright and cheerful with their floral decorations, and the misletoe hangs temptingly in its appointed place, no doubt many having already anticipated its osculatory virtues. Indeed, it only needs that the clerk of the weather should show himself just a little more considerate than he has done of late, and the cup of most people's pleasure will be filled to the brim, if not to overflowing. There are also abundant signs that, in the midst of all these preparations, the needs of the poor are not being lost sight of. Everywhere dinners are being provided for the less fortunate amongst us. The usual liberal contributions are finding their way into the different poor boxes. Christmas clubs are distributing coals and warm clothing. In short, whatever is possible is being done, so that the force of Sir Walter Scott's words may be realized—

"A Christmas gambol oft would cheer
A poor man's heart through half the year."

For ourselves, we take leave to join in the general congratulations and hearty good wishes, and in all sincerity we trust our friends and readers will enjoy a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

By a coincidence which, by the aid of a little mental calculation, can easily be accounted for, the present is the first number of our Fifteenth Volume. We are consequently in a position to combine our customary Christmas greetings with the cordial thanks we owe to our readers for their long-continued support of this journal. During the seven years we have been before the Masonic public we have, of course, experienced those vicissitudes of fortune which, more or less, befall every publication of the same or a similar character. We have had our "downs" as well as our "ups," our disappointments as well as successes, that were in a measure unanticipated. In and out of season, however, we have striven to the best of our ability to make the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE an impartial exponent of Masonic opinion, as well as a fair medium for the dissemination of Masonic news. We have some reason to believe these efforts have not been wholly unsuccessful. We judge so, at least, from the continuance of most of that support which was extended towards us at the outset, as well as from the periodical additions that have been made to our subscription list. We have had those losses which are inevitable from death and other causes; but these have been sufficiently compensated by the new friends that have taken their places, so that we enter on our new volume with the sense of having done our part to the best of our ability, as well as with a determination to make, if

possible, still stronger the claim we have succeeded in establishing on the goodwill of the Craft.

To one point, however, we would draw attention. Regrets have occasionally reached us from different quarters as to the absence from our columns of a report of this or that Lodge. Now, we invariably observe one uniform rule as to visiting. If we receive an invitation, we make a point of being represented; if no official invitation reaches us, we carefully avoid even the semblance of being thought intrusive. Under these circumstances, we wish it to be clearly understood that wherever and whenever our presence is desired at a Lodge meeting, an *official* intimation to that effect should be forwarded to our Offices at 23 Great Queen-street, and it will receive attention.

We trust our readers will receive these and our foregoing remarks in all kindness of spirit. It is in this sense we offer them, and it is in this sense that we repeat our earlier greeting of a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

VOTING IN GRAND LODGE.

THE motion which Brother C. J. Perceval has brought before United Grand Lodge (and which has been referred to the Board of General Purposes for their report), relative to the alteration or mode of voting on divisions, has excited considerable interest and comment in Masonic circles. And there can be little doubt that upon the report of the Board, when it is presented, great diversity of opinion will be expressed before the matter is finally settled. Without wishing in the slightest degree even to suggest to the General Purposes Committee, there are two or three points which it may be desirable should be explained, as they are freely exercising the minds of a no inconsiderable section of the brethren.

Brother Perceval suggests that when divisions occur on any question under debate in Grand Lodge, two tellers on either side shall be appointed, to record the votes as members pass out. No doubt that would be the most satisfactory method, if it could be made practicable and convenient; but are there not many formidable obstacles in the way, which it would be wise to consider before any solution of the question is arrived at? Those who know the difficulty which frequently happens in the way of seating members in Grand Lodge will see at once what confusion might arise in the egress and ingress of the brethren upon divisions. When the Hall was first designed, it was amply sufficient for the requirements, not only of the time, but of a period far in advance, according to the ratio at which Freemasonry was then increasing. But it must be recollected that, more especially since the accession of our M.W.G.M., the Institution has made giant strides, and consequently the attendances at Grand Lodge have far outgrown anything that could have been anticipated when Freemasons' Hall was built. Hence the crowding of brethren at each successive meeting, and the increasing lack of seat accommodation—a fact which was painfully apparent at last Grand Lodge, when so many brethren were compelled to stand during the greater part of the proceedings. The question, then, comes, when the brethren file out of the hall, and are noted by the tellers, where are

EPPS'S (GRATEFUL COMFORTING) COCOA.

they to go to? Where is the retiring accommodation? We all know that in the Houses of Parliament, and the Court of Common Council, when divisions take place those in favour of a motion file out by one door, and those against it by another; and there are rooms into which the opposing factions retire. But there is no such facility at present afforded in Grand Lodge, which has only one entrance, and, moreover, there are no ante-chambers into which voters may pass. Even if there were such accommodation, the method suggested is, in the opinion of many of the brethren, undesirable, as it would tend to destroy the great principle of voting by ballot, which has always been observed in Masonic Lodges.

We assume, for the purposes of Grand Lodge, it would be only necessary to count the numbers, and it is scarcely to be imagined that the tellers would disagree on that point. Those present would conclude that the votes were honestly recorded, and there would be no necessity to ask everybody's name, but simply for the tellers to record "for" or "against" the motion, as the case might be, as the brethren each and individually declared on passing out. This may at first sight appear a fair and easy method. But not only is it undesirable that brethren—always on the most friendly terms—should know how each other vote; it is equally objectionable that the voters should even be recognised by the tellers themselves.

A point upon which some stress was laid at the meeting to which we refer was with regard to the structural difficulties that present themselves in Grand Lodge, in the way of such a scheme. Without any disrespect to the Grand Master in the chair, we question whether, having got all the members out of the Hall, it would be easy to recall them without interfering somewhat with the comfort and progress of business; whether there would not be lingerings in congenial nooks until the result of the division was declared. To obviate this somewhat, and to prevent the interruption of business as brethren are retaking their seats, it might be possible to open the room which exists opposite the entrance to Grand Lodge, and clear those present into it, the tellers to record the votes *as the brethren return to their places*, instead of as they emerge from Grand Lodge. This would effect no little saving of time, as when all the votes have been deposited with the tellers G. Lodge would have been reformed, and ready to proceed with the business. In the Court of Common Council, which consists of about 250 members, a division invariably occupies from a quarter of an hour to twenty minutes—and this with two means of exit and ingress, as before observed. How much longer would it take, and consequently how much greater the delay in proceeding with the business on the agenda, under the conditions now available at Freemasons' Hall?

The most feasible suggestion we have heard is, that when a division is called, the brethren should all be invited to leave the Hall, and as they pass out each should be presented with a "bone." All that would then be wanted is a box, with two divisions, placed at the door "for" and "against" the motion, and the number of "bones" in these boxes respectively would denote the verdict of the brethren upon the question at issue. We know these discussions frequently occur in Grand Lodge, and it is often repugnant to the feelings of members to vote openly, as not being in accordance with the Masonic version of the mode of voting. By providing a box such as suggested, all this delicacy of sentiment would be met, and the strict principle of the ballot would be maintained. It might be advanced that mistakes would not be impossible, in consequence of some brethren misunderstanding the exact way in which they were voting—just as it has happened at times that an aspiring candidate has been "pilled" in Lodge by a brother who in reality intended to say yea to his admission. But this is a very rare occurrence, and it would be still more so amongst brethren who have gained sufficient experience to entitle them to attend Grand Lodge. The same misunderstanding might occur in any method of telling, and thus the objections which might be urged against the "bone" system are disposed of.

There are by no means few instances in which a brother is almost obliged to vote against his own convictions, out of pure kindness and sympathy towards one who is sitting next him, and who may entertain contrary views, or towards the Lodge of which he is a member. Out of deference, therefore, to that charitable feeling which pervades every Lodge when a benevolent grant is proposed,

a brother who might possibly not coincide with it should not be compelled, out of delicacy and respect for his neighbour, to show in which way his vote is given.

If the "bone" system were adopted, it would, of course, not be imperative for those to go out who do not wish to vote; and it need not be feared that Grand Lodge would lack a sufficient number of "bones" for the purposes of a division. Moreover, although, of course, it must necessarily be an unwritten law, it should be made a matter of mutual understanding that members on their return from voting should be entitled to the seats they had vacated before leaving Grand Lodge. This would save a vast amount of confusion, and prevent not only delay, but also the little natural feelings of disappointment which one hears expressed when members lose their seats as a penalty for rising to do their duty.

We would add that the matter is now fully before the Craft; that some alteration in the mode of division is imperatively needed has been admitted on every side. On three or four occasions recently there has been some dispute as to the counting of votes; with this fact before them, in addition to the desirableness of economising time, and ensuring the comfort and satisfaction of the brethren who attend Grand Lodge, it is sincerely to be hoped that some wise solution may soon be found of a problem which has vexed the Craft now for a considerable time. We hope that some of our correspondents may be able to throw out suggestions which may assist the Board of General Purposes to arrive early at such a decision as shall prove satisfactory to Grand Lodge and to the Craft generally.

OUR CHRISTMAS LODGE OF EMERGENCY.

ONE hundred initiates in one night!

To many brethren, I have no doubt, the idea may seem far-fetched; still that such a glorious result is not a very great stretch of the imagination, after all, I intend to prove by the following incidents, which are related to me as being not altogether devoid of foundation in fact. The precise locality of the achievement may be omitted, as of no particular moment to the story; but I only wish it could be multiplied a hundred-fold.

A wild, tempestuous night had set in, when, in obedience to a hasty and unexpected summons from their Worshipful Master, a party of Masons, loyal and true, might have been seen entering a cosy hostelry in the Midlands, and shaking the snow and sleet from their coats and mufflers as they stepped over the threshold, each with a look of wonder and enquiry on his weather-beaten visage.

The wind howled and rattled against the casements, and that there was "something in the wind" every brother admitted, though what it could be was as inscrutable as the very darkness that reigned without.

The Master had not yet appeared, but like the gallant old king of the seas after whose name the Lodge had been christened, he had called his crew together, and when his cheery face was seen—his beard and garb diamonded with snow—a veritable old Father Christmas—all hands were piped, and soon there was a cry for general orders.

I do not use these expressions in at all a Bacchanalian sense; though, like a true Briton as he is, our Worshipful Master evinced a strong belief in the maxim which teaches us that when a good deed is to be attempted the mind and temper should be in perfect accord.

Cheery Boniface had evidently been advised by some preliminary counsel, as his preparations showed, for a huge Yule-log blazed gaily on the wide-mouthed hearth, spluttering its sparks up the open chimney, and causing the shadows to cut merry capers upon the whitewashed walls.

Refreshment before labour in such a case was no overstraining of the fourth degree, and as the steaming wreaths curled up from the punch-bowl—and our pipes too—all the fury of the outside blast was forgotten, for were not the red curtains drawn close, shutting out even the whisper of a draft?

Bro. Junior Warden performed his duty well; and, as soon as the glow of genial warmth had once more taken possession of our veins, each began inquiring, in whispered breath, what could have induced the Wor. Master to have drawn us from our own firesides on such a boisterous night. Was it merely to enjoy his hospitality, always so lavish and so free, or had this gathering some deeper hidden meaning?

There was a merry, mischievous twinkle in his eye as he caught the glances of wonder we exchanged; and then bidding "mine host" tyle the door, and officiate as Outer Guard, he proceeded to explain.

It is hardly necessary to add, we listened with rapt attention.

"Brethren," said he, "by virtue of the power I possess, and which you have so generously bestowed upon me, I have called you together, in order that you may have the inestimable privilege of exercising that virtue which may justly be denominated the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart—I mean Charity."

We meekly bowed assent.

"In two days hence," he continued, "Christmas Day will be upon us, a day which from time immemorial has been regarded by Christians as a period of universal rejoicing, of peace and goodwill to men. But I need hardly remind you that, amidst the scenes of hilarity and joy

which always come at this season of the year, there is the darker side of the picture, where pinching misery and want stand shivering at the portals of our glee, and appeal to us for aid. To assist in such a work is a privilege and a joy, but it likewise requires a perfect freedom of inclination in every one who takes a part. Are you therefore willing to help forward so laudable an enterprise?"

Chorus of assent, headed by the Treasurer, who has long borne the soubriquet of the "sturdy beggar," from his great and earnest zeal in the cause of Charity.

"Well said," almost roared the W.M., as he dashed his fist in triumph upon the oak table. "Right well I knew you would. And now, seeing that we are not actually in Lodge, but still *en camera*, I will tell you a Christmas story, which may perhaps whet your appetites for the work to which you have put your hands.

"And as a Christmas story must always have a ghost or goblin, let me at once inform you I have seen

"A TERRIBLE GHOST."

"None of your ordinary churchyard spectres, with long white shroud and blanched face, who, with outstretched hand and pointed finger, beckons you on to mystic scenes, and to some dreadful goal of possible perdition. Worse, far worse, than that. Shall I proceed, brethren?"

Never shall I forget the enthusiasm that lighted up the old man's eyes as he perceived how eagerly we caught the interest of his tale. He seemed to draw himself erect in his high-backed chair, and puffing away with increasing gusto at his pipe, he surveyed us with a benignant paternal smile, as though proud of scholars who were so apt.

"Are you all charged?" was his lusty inquiry.

The Wardens gave the usual reply, and then the old man went on:

"Only a night or two ago I was returning from a long and tedious journey, driving over yonder heath. The snow fell in huge feathery flakes, which blinded me almost, and rose above the tyres of my gig wheels.

"Old Bob—dear old faithful nag, who would carry me anywhere—shivered in his harness as the sweeping gusts of wind drove the snow like sheets into our faces, while the moaning across the bleak common sounded like the voices of the dead, crying out in the frenzy of remorse.

"Before us, and around, was the dreary snow-drift, with not a tree, a habitation, a living soul in sight. And the thought came over me of cheery firesides and of household games, little children warmed into new life by the gambols and games prepared for them by loving parents and friends at this glad Yule-tide.

"The scene was altogether so weird and wild that, in spite of all my natural courage, I felt afraid and benumbed with cold.

"Press on, brave Bob!" I said to the poor old nag; and, as if cheered by a well-known voice amidst the howling of the tempest, he started on afresh, although it was now almost impossible to discern the road, so thick had grown the carpet of snow.

"How long I had turned over the thoughts which haunted me thus I scarcely know, but all at once I descried, curled up under a tuft of stunted furze, the figure of a man!

"Instinctively I pulled up, and on nearing the figure, by the light of my lamp I saw a pale-faced youth, dressed in a sailor's tattered garb, without shoes, and in a semi-stupor. He had been beaten by the blast, against whose power he could not stand, and he had evidently laid down either to sleep or die.

"Hastily administering some brandy, the poor fellow was soon sufficiently restored to acquaint me he was on his way to M——; and with some difficulty I raised him into the gig, and set forth again as rapidly as we could.

"With new life infused into him, the lad, whom I found to be more intelligent than I could have hoped, told me his wretched story. He had been well brought up, and his father was a Mason.

"But circumstances of unavoidable calamity and misfortune had reduced him to the lowest ebb of poverty and distress. His business failed, and he was overtaken with paralysis, and, continued the lad,—

"Poor mother had to earn her living as best she could for me and the little ones, and as soon as I was old enough I resolved to go to sea and try to help.

"They didn't like parting with me, sir; but I had made up my mind to go—and I went. I have been to Australia, and as my little earnings accumulated in the chest my father made me, I thought of the trifling happiness I might be able to carry home to make Christmas happy—for I knew I should reach home on Christmas Eve. But when we were nearly home we were wrecked, and brought to England in another ship, having lost all we had.

"Still the dear old folks will be glad to see me, even in this dreary plight. We live half a mile this side of the town, and if you will drop me near the door I will go home and ask them to bless you, sir, for saving my life. But for your kindness I should have died almost at their very door."

"In a short time we saw a light, which the unhappy youth said was at his mother's cottage, and so affected was I at his tale of woe that I could not resist alighting. Possibly I might be able to render some assistance.

"With a bound the lad was at the open door, and with a wild shriek the mother clasped him in her arms.

"Then all was hushed a moment, and in a minute more both mother and son threw themselves in an agony at my feet. *Father had died that very day!*"

* * * * *

"Shall I tell you the rest, brethren?"

"By all means; proceed, Worshipful Master."

"Having sent my family to rest, I packed up some things, which I sent by messenger, and poor old Bob had to go another journey in the storm.

"But by the powers, brethren, he was only too glad to go! Bless the old nag for that. He's a thorough Mason!"

And down came the old man's fist again upon the table, with a life and power no gavel can possess. We could not but shout our applause at the quaint, but well-meant eulogy.

"I couldn't go myself," he continued, "a repetition of such gratitude as I had already received would have killed me.

"Well, during the time my man was gone, I must have fallen asleep by the fire, for such a train of varying visions rose up before me—of houses all aglow with light, and luxury, and pleasure; of hovels such as I had seen, stricken down with poverty, into which the Angel of Death had entered!

"I heard the prattle of happy children, dancing and frolicking in warm lighted rooms, amidst the festive dance and glistening Christmas trees; and when these passed away, I saw the pale, wan faces of others, huddled into the corners of filthy rooms, where bread would have been hailed as a luxury. Then came pictures of happy homes, where parents and children were sitting round the Christmas fire, telling glad some tales; then other circles, half naked, wallowing in the mire, and wailing forth their woe. In the changing vista there dawned scenes of glad Masonic festivity, where brethren joined, and as they pledged to each other, in goblets of sparkling wine, they spoke of *Charity!*

"That awoke me, and in my heart I resolved to see what could be done. The terrible ghost of which I spoke is that of penury and want, existing far and wide, at our very doors, and which it is our duty by the professions we hold to help to relieve.

"That ghost stalks stealthily abroad amongst us, and as it has summoned away our Brother, lying now in yonder cot, how know we what we may do to help destroy his power? You have promised to help."

"Agreed," we shouted, one and all. But how was it to be done? The story of the "Ghost" had somewhat subdued us; the thought of our W. Master's idea of "laying" it rekindled our mirth.

"Are you all charged?" again demanded "Master Neptune," as our burly Master is called; and the voices of the Wardens sounded pleasantly.

"Then I request our Junior Deacon to station himself in the north-east corner of this room. I need not remind the brethren what they are not to bring there.

The hint was sufficient, and the jovial laugh went round as the "poor and penniless" deposited their paper in the Junior Deacon's hands. Our W.M. watched the ceremony with intense delight, and when the last cheque had been handed in, he cried in triumph, "Now, brethren, we will close this Lodge."

Immediately the door was untyled there was a shuffling in the stone passage, and serving men who had been engaged for the purpose filed in, in procession, each bearing prodigious baskets, laden with provisions of every shape and kind. Geese, fowls, huge joints of meat, puddings of laughable obesity, vegetables, cakes, groceries, and other luxuries, too numerous to mention, were brought in and landed in the centre of the spacious kitchen, amidst such a chorus of delighted cheers that might well make the heart of every true Mason leap in unison.

Our W.M., in his forethought, had provided all these in secret, and merely observed that if he had not had the support of the brethren—though he had never doubted it for an instant—he should have as secretly taken them round to the poor families himself.

We each then tried to think of some deserving poor of our own acquaintance; and it was wonderful what a long list each and either of us could make.

The Secretary took the names and addresses, as they were called out, and arrangements were made for initiating them into the mysteries provided for them.

It is hardly necessary to say our meeting closed in harmony, and not a man amongst us felt anything but unbounded pleasure at having been summoned to that "Christmas Lodge of Emergency;" and having our hearts' impulses stirred into active exercise by the curious story of a "Ghost," which, though terribly real, is allowed far too much liberty.

Before next day had fairly dawned there was not a cottage or impoverished dwelling in the town but was rejoicing in the prospect of what they had not enjoyed for many a year—a rare good Christmas dinner. There were over a hundred such families—all deserving, for those who were of known bad character were left out—who blessed an unseen hand that Christmas Day for benefits not the less relished because they were unexpected.

The story of the "early morning cart" going round laden with good things, sent by some mysterious hand, spread like wildfire through the place next day. Mothers related how that, having retired on Christmas Eve, frenzied with the thought of little or nothing to eat on the festal day, found all her wants supplied! Children, who had not even so much as a wooden doll, realised that Santa Claus had really come, for their stockings were filled with toys and sweets, all hung up in orthodox fashion at the feet of their humble bedsteads! Fathers, "snowed-out" by the prolonged winter, and in despair because their wives and little ones were so scantily clad, felt strange emotions of gratitude as they sat around well-filled tables, their families dressed as well as fed by unseen hands.

It would prolong my story too far to relate a tithe of these tales of gratitude which reached the ears of the brethren in various ways, but as our Worshipful Master observed at our next meeting, they had made at least a hundred initiates at that Christmas Lodge of Emergency. They could not all be obligated, but this was quite compensated for by the approving smile which they might be convinced they would receive from the G.A.O.T.U.

The success of the experiment was so complete that it was resolved to repeat it the next year; and it is hardly needful for me to add that, whilst a due tribute of respect was paid to our deceased brother at the cottage, and provision made for the family, the poor sailor lad was not forgotten who had been the means of engendering in the mind of our dear Worshipful Master the idea of enrolling a hundred initiates at our Christmas Lodge of Emergency.

T. J. A.

REVIEWS.

The History of the Lodge of Unity, No. 183 (formerly 441, 376, 289, 290, 242, 305, 215). Extracted from the Minutes and other Documents of the Lodge, and from the Records and Register of Grand Lodge. by George William Speth, P.M. London: George Kenning, the Freemason Office, 16 Great Queen-street, W.C. 1881.

NONE but a harsh critic, and certainly no Masonic critic, would dream of dealing otherwise than gently with what he is told is the maiden literary effort of the author. Yet Bro. Past Master Speth need not have been at the pains of claiming the indulgence of his readers on the score of his inexperience. As invariably happens to all who attempt the task of compiling the history of a Masonic Lodge, he was met at the very threshold of his labours with the old, old story of lost Minute Books, imperfect registers, and a general absence of trustworthy information, at certain periods more or less prolonged. In the case of this *Unity Lodge, No. 183*, there is, first of all, a period of twelve years, from 1769 to 1781, of which no particulars are to be found, even in the archives of Grand Lodge. Some kind of record, in the shape of a "Quarterage Book," appears to have been kept from 1782 to 1811, but the earliest available minute belongs to the year 1806; and, to make matters still worse, there are no Minute-Books relating to the twenty-three years from 1815 to 1838. If we add to this that it was not till 1855, on the appointment to the post of Secretary of the late Bro. Speth (the author's father), that the minutes were kept with anything like a regard for accuracy, our readers will be able to appreciate the difficulties that must have been encountered in the compilation of this history. That anything like a connected and acceptable narrative should have been put together from materials so scanty is a matter on which we, who have had no small amount of experience of this kind of labour, beg to congratulate Bro. Speth most cordially. He has done his work admirably, and should he try his no longer prentice hand at writing the history of any other Lodge in which he may be interested, and where there is something like a connected series of minutes, we are convinced it will be a success.

Having noticed only the most salient facts in the history of the Craft from 1769, the year in which the warrant for the Lodge of Unity, No. 441, was granted by the Duke of Beaufort, the then Grand Master of the "Moderns," Bro. Speth almost immediately sets about the task of questioning the accuracy of the view entertained by the authorities of Grand Lodge, namely, that the *Unity Lodge* had no real existence until 1781, or, in other words, that the Duke of Beaufort's warrant of twelve years previously remained all that time unacted upon. He, first of all, points out with much show of reason, that "the probability of any brethren petitioning for a Warrant, receiving it, and then taking no steps for twelve long years, is hardly conceivable." These being, after all, only "negative reasons" in favour of his theory, he goes on to adduce "stronger and positive ones" in its behalf. He points out that the Lodge is included in Cole's engraved List of Lodges for 1769, as "No. 441, Ratcliffe Highway, Ap. 11, 1769." It is described almost in the same words in the list issued by order of the Grand Master in 1770, "Ship Tavern, Ratcliffe Cross," being given as the place of meeting, and "No. 376" through the closing up of the Lodges in that year as the number. In 1781 it is said to have been located at "The Vine Tavern, Broad Street, Ratcliffe," and had become "No. 289." The year following, owing to the omission of a Lodge, it was altered to "No. 290," and met at "The King Henry's Head, Whitechapel." But, as Bro. Speth very sensibly remarks, a Lodge that was dormant could not well have moved from one tavern to another, neither would it, at the successive closing-up of Lodges, have retained its place on the roll of Grand Lodge. Now the Grand Lodge authorities base their assumption, that the *Unity Lodge* had no real existence till 1781, on a statement inserted in the margin of the aforementioned Quarterage Book against the year 1773, to the effect that "Bro. Hughes, Master of the Lodge, certifies that to his knowledge none were made or admitted from 1769 to 1781." The value of this statement, however, is very materially weakened by a counter argument of Bro. Speth's, that the marginal note in question, which was inserted in connection with some inquiries as to the doings of the Lodge prior to 1781, does not belong to the year 1783, to which it is assigned, but to 1790, when Bro. Hughes, who was not admitted into the Lodge till 1782, was its Worshipful Master. "How then," very pertinently asks Bro. Speth, "could he know of his own knowledge what took place before 1781?" His testimony "may probably only mean that he knows of none having been made—he does not assert that none were made; indeed, he could not do so"—not having been admitted a member till 1782. We will not go so far as to affirm that the author's arguments are conclusive. Cole may have fancied the Lodge met as stated in his lists when it was really dormant, the result being that, in the estimation of our authorities, Grand Lodge lists are less valuable as an authority than the unsupported testimony of a member of the Lodge, who was not even a member during any part of the period of which he speaks. But though Bro. Speth's argument may not be absolutely conclusive, he certainly has the greater show of reason in his favour.

The amount of information contained in the Quarterage Book, 1782-1811, labours under the twofold disadvantage of being scanty and apparently inaccurate, or, at all events misleading, as regards the members of the Lodge. Yet, limited as the information is, it is not without its interest, and Bro. Speth has, after much painstaking research, been able to extract more than might have been looked for under the circumstances. The book shows the professional or business status of the members, so that we can judge for ourselves what kind of men they were who constituted the Lodge of Unity. The description is tolerably comprehensive, and includes gentlemen, coal merchants, tallow chandlers, bakers, painters, oilmen, and tobacconist, engraver, draper, bricklayer, pewterer, poulterer, coppersmith, dancing-master, attorney, hatter, shoemaker, &c. Most of them lived east of Aldgate Pump—chiefly in Whitechapel and Ratcliffe. Gradually, however,

"merchants from Mincing-lane, gentlemen from the suburbs, and lawyers from the Inns of Court, put in a goodly appearance—brethren, doubtless, of more refined manners and better education, than our first members," and Bro. Speth very naturally comments on this—"That in the beginning of this century, when class distinctions were more marked than now, we should have attracted this infusion of the upper classes, is perhaps somewhat remarkable, especially as, neither then nor since, was Ratcliffe a very desirable neighbourhood. There must have been sterling stuff and good Masonic qualities in our ancient brethren to have attracted these new members, and this fact, whilst gratifying to us, redounds to the honour of Masonry as the great institution for promoting good fellowship amongst all ranks of life." Many years later, the Lodge was largely recruited "by brethren hailing from salt water." What is still more noteworthy, however, is the fluctuation in the number of members. Thus 1784 closed with a membership of sixty, "yet, if we could ascertain at what dates during the year the twenty-eight members were admitted, and the forty-nine resignations took place, it is very probable that at some or other we may have numbered over 120 members." However, in 1803 the number had dwindled to eleven, in 1805 it increased by twenty-two, and the year following by seven more. Towards the close of 1806 "no less than thirty-six members left the Lodge," the greater number, Brother Speth surmises, "on account of the expense," the initiation and subscription fees having been raised to five and four guineas respectively. This surmise is so far borne out that in 1807, when the fee for making was reduced to three guineas and a half, many old members rejoined, being specially invited to do so without expense. A second period of dwindling dates from 1819. In 1822 Bro. Gill, a pillar of the Lodge for many years, died. From 1823 to 1830 "only one member was made, and he resigned the same year." In 1824 there were only five members, who continued to form the Lodge till 1829, when two of them disappeared from the list, and the Lodge was composed of three, namely, Bros. R. Ackroyd, C. M. Demages, and Josiah Edwards, the two that disappeared being W. Claremont and Charles Conder. In 1833 "six new Masons were made, and thirteen joined; but in 1834 the Lodge once again fell off to seven; in 1835 there were eight, and in 1836 again seven members. By 1839, however, there had been a recovery to fourteen, while since 1840, the year of the late Bro. Barmeister's initiation, the fortunes of the Lodge may be said to have recovered, and have since remained on the whole prosperous."

The Lodge Bye-laws, as entered in the Quarterage Book in 1782, like most we have seen, are distinguished by an absence of grammar, and a charming indifference to the laws of spelling. Their tenor is of the usual character, and some of the rules may profitably be noted in brief or at length. Thus article 1st enacts,—“Without order and Decency in this Society a dissolution must be the consequence therefore at the third stroke of the Master's Mallett profound silence shall be observed and no private Committee held and any Brother who swears curses or talks obscenely disputes about Politicks is disguis'd in Liquor or becomes disguis'd therein or offers to lay Wagers dispose of Play-house tickets sits down unclothed hisses at what another brother proposes or debates or refuses to stand up and address himself to the Master in anything he may have to relate such behaviour shall be publicly reprimanded by the Master for the first offence and for a second offence shall be fined two shillings and sixpence if the majority of the present members confirm the same which if he refuses shall be dealt with as they think proper.”

Article 2nd provided that the Lodge night should be the fourth Monday in every month, the hour of meeting being from 6 to 9 p.m. from Michaelmas-Day to Lady-Day, and from 7 to 10 p.m. from Lady-Day to Michaelmas, "and never to exceed eleven;" in the absence of the Master "the Lodge to be opened by the Past Master Wardens as soon as there is a sufficient number of brethren." By Article 3 the liquor drunk during Lodge hours and the beer drunk at supper by the brethren, "not exceeding a pint each," was to be charged in the bill of expenses for the night; "but no liquor called for before or after Lodge hours shall be allowed by the Lodge except on account of making &c. &c. no person shall be admitted to sup in the Lodge-room during Lodge hours." Other Articles provide for the payment of a quarterage of three shillings and sixpence, one quarter in advance, any one in arrears for four quarters to have his name erased; visiting or travelling brethren to pay eighteen pence each to the Tyler for the use of the Lodge before admission; for being made a Mason two guineas, and ten shillings for registration; any one proposing an appropriation of any portion of the Lodge funds "to any party affairs, whether for or against Church or State," to be fined half-a-crown the first time, and to be excluded for a second offence. By Article 9, new officers were to be elected by ballot on the Lodge nights nearest the Festivals of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist respectively. Article 10 provided for the election of Tyler, and Article 11 for an allowance to the Master when attending the Committee of Charity of half-a-crown, and with his Wardens at the Quarterly Communication, or when summoned, five shillings. Under Article 14 landlord of house where the Lodge meets to have no interest in the furniture of the Lodge beyond that of an individual member, and by Article 15 landlord to forward any letter or message left for the W.M. under penalty of a fine of half-a-crown. By Article 16 a member on being elected W.M. paid half-a-crown for a bottle of wine, the Treasurer a like sum for the same purpose, while the Wardens paid such sum between them, "but nothing when re-elected," the qualification being applicable, we presume, to all three offices. By Article 19 any one breaking the rules to be fined a sum not exceeding five shillings, if the W.M. and a majority so thought fit, and a refusal to pay such fine resulted in exclusion. Article 20, and last, directs that the laws should be publicly read on certain occasions in open Lodge, the Master, in the event of non-compliance with this law, being liable to the extent of half-a-crown. The occasions are mentioned as being "the last Lodge night in every quarter" and "before the election of Officers."

[To be continued.]

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

—:0:—

SAINT LEONARD LODGE, No. 1766.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge was held on 14th inst., at the Town Hall, Shoreditch. Bro. C. F. Barham the W.M. presided, and was supported by the following Officers:—Bros. Elias Benjamin S.W., J. A. Jones J.W., H. G. Henderson Chaplain, C. Stevens P.M. Treasurer, Joseph Cox Secretary, A. Clements S.D., J. Funston J.D., F. Matthews Director of Ceremonies, G. C. Young Organist, and R. Drysdale and H. G. Thrower Stewards. The following Past Masters were also present:—Bros. G. T. Barr I.P.M., Louis Stean and James Terry and W. Clarke G.P. (hon.) There was a very good attendance of other members and a large muster of Visitors among the latter being Bros. H. G. Buss Assistant Grand Secretary, G. Wade 1310, T. Farnham, W. Musto P.M. 1349, E. Thomas Lynn 1310, Joseph Little 1607, George F. Stutchbury 186, C. A. Beckett 1365, Henry V. Clements P.M. 754, H. B. Holliday P.M. 1076, J. Dorton P.M. 1076, H. B. Taylor 1531, L. V. Walker 22, G. J. Woodman S.W. 1599, James Mitchell S.W. 1076, W. H. Lee P.M. 975, R. Jennings P.M. 907, J. Oddy 754, Smither 193, John Roberts, T. W. Francis 55, C. Rawson 28, W. Balls 77, J. Emmerson 276, Alfred J. Martin 111, Bolton 1601, E. Claxton 1604, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, J. W. Moore 49, J. Smith J.W. 193, F. Brien P.M. 1076, C. Brien 1076, W. W. Morgan jun. J.W. 1107, G. T. Turner S.W. 183, James Smith 1107, W. F. Smithson P.M. 1001 Prov. S.G.D. West Yorks, Joseph F. Mayfield 1298, &c. The Lodge having been opened with the customary formalities, the minutes of the last regular Lodge and of a Lodge of emergency were read and confirmed. The report of the audit Committee was submitted and received, it showed the Lodge was in a flourishing condition. The ballot, taken for Messrs. Alfred Charles Critchfield and Henry Josephs, proved unanimous in their favour. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Elias Benjamin, the W.M. elect, was duly Installed into the chair by the retiring Master, in a very impressive manner. There were nineteen Installed Masters present at the Board. On the re-admission of the brethren, the W.M. was saluted and in due course invested the Officers for the year, the following brethren receiving the respective collars:—Bros. Jones S.W., Clement J.W., Stevens Treasurer, Cox Secretary, Henderson Chaplain, Funston S.D., Walker J.D., Matthews I.G., Drysdale D.C., Thrower and Tidball Stewards, Young Organist. The ceremony of installation was then completed, Bro. Clarke G.P. giving the address to the Wardens, and Bro. P.M. Stean that to the brethren. The W.M. in appropriate terms presented to the retiring Master an elegant jewel, as a recognition by the brethren of the ability he had displayed during his year of office, and as a mark of the respect he is held in by every member of the Lodge. He trusted he might live for many years to wear it, and that the brethren might long have the pleasure of his company. Bro. Barham, in appropriate terms, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the gift. The W.M. then announced that of the three candidates on the agenda, one only was present, and that gentleman (Mr. Henry Josephs) was initiated by the new W.M., who performed the ceremony in a manner which showed that the brethren had made a wise selection in electing him to the chair. Letters of apology were read from Bros. Col. Sir Francis Burdett Prov. G.M. Middlesex, &c. McIntyre G. Reg., Shadwell H. Clerke G. Sec., &c. The W.M. informed the brethren that the Senior and Junior Wardens had undertaken the duty of Stewards for the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and he hoped they would be well supported by the Lodge members. Heartly good wishes having been tendered by the Visitors, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren proceeded to the banquet, and this concluded, the Master proposed the usual toasts. With that of the Grand Officers he had the pleasure of coupling the names of Bros. Buss and Clarke. Bro. Buss in replying, expressed the pleasure it afforded him and the Grand Officers generally to visit Lodges such as the St. Leonard, and witness the progress made in them. It must be a source of great pleasure to the brethren around the table to see the way in which the Lodge of the old parish of St. Leonard was going on. Bro. Clarke followed. He thought that any brother who was present at Grand Lodge on the occasion of its last Communication would agree that to some, at least, of the Officers of Grand Lodge the duties were more than mere name. He and his assistants had that evening admitted upwards of 700 brethren, and to do the work thereby entailed as it should be done was no light task. He thanked the brethren for their reception of the toast. Bro. Barham then took the gavel, to propose the health of the W.M. He had known Bro. Benjamin for some few years, and could safely say that during his connection with the Lodge no brother had worked harder for the good of the Craft generally than he. He felt all must agree that in Bro. Benjamin the Lodge had a brother who would fulfil the duties of the chair to the satisfaction of the brethren, and act for the advancement of the Lodge. The W.M. tendered his most sincere thanks. He should do all that lay in his power to advance the interests of the St. Leonard Lodge and its members. It would not be for want of purpose if he did not show the Lodge in a more prosperous state at the end of the year than it was then in, and generally improve the condition of it. If he did not succeed in this desire it would be rather from want of ability than from any lack of interest. He next gave the health of Bro. Barham, the Installing Master. He felt that some of the brethren might have been disappointed at the work of his predecessor that night, but he did not think that any brother who knew how much he had to do would really be surprised at his performance that evening, but rather at the fact of his having attempted anything in addition to what he was really pledged to perform. He occupied the position of Most Excellent in his Chapter, was churchwarden of the parish, W.M. of the Lodge, and besides all this, superintendent of the banqueting arrangements of the latter. The brethren who knew him could testify to the able manner in which he fulfilled those duties, and all present having had the opportunity of judging of what he could

do in one branch, might imagine that in all others he could be equally efficient. He (the speaker) had a specially pleasing duty to perform. The brethren, bearing in mind the amount of work entailed on Bro. Barham in superintending their banquets, feel that he is deserving of some special recognition beyond the jewel already given him, and for that purpose have had an expression of their feelings engrossed on vellum, and framed for his acceptance. On behalf of the members, one and all, the Master felt he might wish Bro. Barham every enjoyment that this world afforded, and he hoped that the small testimonial he now presented him with would be looked on, by him and his family, as a true expression of the sentiments of the Lodge, and that it might serve as an incentive to his children to emulate the example of their father, and lead them to deserve such a testimonial for themselves. The testimonial, which was one of the most handsome pieces of work we ever remember having seen, was in the following words:—

SAINT LEONARD LODGE,
No. 1766,
Town Hall, St. Leonard,
Shoreditch.

The Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Officers and Brethren of the above Lodge take the opportunity of the retirement from the chair of the late Worshipful Master, Bro. Charles Frederick Barham P.M., to present him with this slight testimonial of their esteem of him as a brother, and their appreciation of the very admirable manner in which he has performed the duties attaching to the office of Worshipful Master, and the ritual of the Lodge, and also their sense of their great obligations to him for the very valuable services and unremitting attention which he has displayed while governing the Lodge, for the promotion of the comfort and enjoyment of the members and Visitors on every occasion, and congratulate him upon the high state of organization and prosperous condition of the Lodge at the close of his official year.

(Signed) ELIAS BENJAMIN W.M.

LOUIS STEAN P.M.	JAMES FUNSTON S.D.
G. T. BARR P.M.	E. WALKER J.D.
J. A. JONES S.W.	FRANK MATTHEWS I.G.
A. A. CLEMENTS J.W.	R. DRYSDALE D.C.
C. STEVENS Treasurer.	HENRY J. THROWER S.
A. H. G. HENDERSON Chaplain.	G. C. YOUNG Organist.

JOSEPH COX Secretary.

December 1881.

Bro. Barham expressed his thanks in feeling terms. He had received that evening testimonials he had hardly expected, and they made him feel satisfied with what he had done. The gifts of the brethren he felt sure would be highly prized by the members of his family, and he felt he might hand them down with credit to those who would follow after him. In reference to his share of the work of catering—at the commencement of the Lodge's existence that had been entrusted to a firm, who certainly did not give satisfaction; but the climax came at the end of the first year, when the affairs almost collapsed. Discussion followed, and it may have been on the spur of the moment only he had said, he would do it better himself, if no one else could be found. The brethren had taken him at his word, and they were now in a position to judge for themselves how far they were justified in so doing. As I.P.M. he felt he could safely retire from the chair on his laurels, and was convinced that the present Master would carry out the duties of the chair in as able a manner as they had ever been done in the past. The toast of the Past Masters followed, to which each responded. Bro. Stean in the course of his remarks said he really felt somewhat sorry that he was a Past Master of the Lodge, he should have liked to have been in the chair that night, so that he could have had the pleasure of presenting to Bro. Barham the testimonials he so richly deserved. He hoped the Lodge would continue in the future to be as great a success as it had been in the past. Bro. Barr was pleased to feel that during his term of office he had gained the esteem of the brethren. Although he had not been able to entertain them as well as had the other Masters, still he felt that he did as much as the condition of the Lodge justified, and was proud to say that he left to his successor a larger balance than that with which he started his year of office. He fully approved of the way the Lodge had been conducted since he left the chair, and was only too pleased that Bro. Barham had been enabled to do what he had for the brethren. He felt that so long as the Lodge was conducted as it had been in the past, it would be able to meet any demands made on its funds, and support future Masters in anything they might think necessary for the comfort of the brethren. The Master then gave the toast of the initiate, regretting the absence of the other two brethren whose names appeared on the summons; he was sorry to say that in both cases sickness was the cause. After a reply from Bro. Josephs, the Master gave the Charities, to which Bro. Terry forcibly replied. He referred to the support given by the Lodge to the Institutions during the three years it had been in existence, viz.:—£10, £14, and £105 respectively, and was glad to hear that one hundred guineas had been promised for the Old People next year. It really did him good, as it must any one similarly circumstanced, to reply for the Charities in such a Lodge as the St. Leonard, and he hoped that the members would support their Wardens in such a manner as to add to the reputation of the Lodge in this particular. Speaking of the Benevolent Institution, he might say, that day the committee had had before them no less than twenty-four applications for a mission to the benefits of the Fund, and it must be remembered that in all cases an applicant must be sixty years of age, or, as was the case with one of those before the committee that day, afflicted in some way or other. The case he referred to was of a young man, thirty-five years of age, suffering from blindness, and he felt that no one would say he was not worthy of any help his brother Masons could give. Another was an old lady who a few years since had an income of £3000 a year, now she had not so many farthings. It was on behalf of her

and others similarly circumstanced that he appealed for all the aid the brethren could possibly afford. The toast of the Visitors followed, and being acknowledged, the Officers were complimented, and the meeting brought to a conclusion. We must congratulate Bro. Young, the Organist of the Lodge, on the musical fare he provided. He, Bro. Weige and Bro. Cohen, by their ability, added no small share to the general success which attended the meeting, which we should also mention was held under the influence of the electric light. Two Pilsen lamps were used, the mechanism and current being provided gratuitously by Messrs. Wells and Co., electrical engineers, from their works in Shoreditch. We were very pleased to observe several members of this firm present, and think the general approval of those present was the best expression of opinion they could have of the working of this light, for which they possess the English and French patents.

LODGE DE LORAIN, No. 541.

THE installation meeting of the above Lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 16th inst. There was a very large attendance of visitors, owing to the meeting of P.G. Chapter just having concluded. The Lodge being opened, and all formalities gone through, the P.G. Master Earl Percy and Officers of the P.G. Lodge were announced, and received in due form. The ceremony of installation was then gone through; Bro. T. Blinkensop performing the ceremony in a very perfect manner. Bro. Henry Usher, the newly-installed W.M., then appointed his Officers, as follow:—Bros. Read S.W., Keeney J.W., R. Smail P.P.G.S.W. Treasurer, Brown Secretary, Cambell S.D., Stergns J.D., T. Blinkensop P.M. D.C., R. Watson Organist, Dove I.G., Michals S.S., R. Bell J.S., Curry Tyler. Heartly good wishes were tendered to the Wor. Master by representatives (amongst whom was Earl Percy) from about twenty Lodges. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Royal Scotch Arms to banquet. Amongst the Visitors we noticed Earl Percy P.G. Master, R. H. Holman D.P.G. Master, Colonel Shadwell Clarke G. Secretary, Colonel A. Potter, C.B., P.G.S.W., Smail P.P.G.S.W., Adam Robertson P.P.G.S.W., E. D. Davis P.P.G.S.W., J. H. Bentham P.P.G.S.D., John Spearman P.P.G.S.D.W., M. Bell P.P.G.A.D.C., G. J. Dean P.P.G.J.D., J. O. Smith P.M., J. Wood P.M., Ogilvey P.M. S.D., J. Brethwaite P.P.G.S.D., J. Page P.P.G.S.B., J. Duckett P.P.J.W., Nicholson P.G. Organist, Cooper P.P.G.P. 991, H. S. Bird S.W., 1512 G. S. B., Bell Sec. 406, Cumming S.W. 1676, S. M. Harris S.W. 406, &c.

LONDESBOROUGH LODGE, No. 1681.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 15th December, at the Masonic Hall, Ayr-street, Regent-street, Bro. Robert Burleton W.M. presided, supported by his Officers, members, and the following visitors:—Bros. J. C. Stateley P.M. 1624, G. B. Edmeston 1818, J. Stock P.M. Ranelagh, T. Pim 860, H. Lipson 860, G. Foster 190, J. Lawrence 186, C. Dairy P.M. 140, H. Thompson 1426 P.M. 177 and 1158 M.E.Z. 619, J. McLeod P.M. 1624, G. Draper I.P.M. 130, W. G. Dickens P.M. 860, J. B. Dodson P.M. 860, W. Vincent P.M. 1614, G. Biggs P.M. 435, E. W. Davis P.M. 172, W. H. Gray P.M. 704, T. H. Cock P.M. 222, W. Clarke 114 P.G.P. P.D.C. Suffolk. The ordinary business had been disposed of at a Lodge of Emergency, and nothing remained to be done to-day but to instal Bro. Duncan H. Harrison. Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, Bro. Harrison was presented to receive from his predecessor the benefit of installation. The brethren below the chair having retired, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Burleton W.M. most ably rendered the ceremony of installation, for which he received the unanimous approval, not only of the Installed Masters, but of every brother present. Having been saluted in the customary manner, the newly-installed W. Master appointed his Officers, as follow:—Honeyball S.W., Netherholt J.W., Barfield P.M. Treasurer, Read P.M. Sec., Jackson S.D., Ball J.D., Oliver Organist, Jones I.G., Bott D.C., Holland and Heath Stewards. The usual addresses to the Wardens and brethren having been given, the Worshipful Master said that the first duty he had now to perform was a most pleasing one, it was to present Bro. Burleton, their I.P.M., with a jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him by the members of the Lodge. He was gratified in having the duty cast upon him of attaching this jewel to his breast, and he trusted that he might long live to wear it. Bro. Burleton thanked the brethren for this mark of their esteem, and assured them that when he looked upon that jewel it would always remind him of the many happy hours he had spent as W.M. of the Lonsborough Lodge. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and an adjournment took place to the large dining hall for the banquet. The banquet having been disposed of, the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts, that of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master being followed by "God Bless the Prince of Wales," admirably sung and accompanied on the pianoforte by Bro. Oliver, the Organist of the Lodge. Bro. Clarke G.P. responded for the Grand Officers, and said that they had no light duties to perform; on the night of the Grand Lodge they had no less than about 700 members to look after, and to give offence to none; he believed that greater accommodation would on some future day be required for the increased number of members who now attended the Grand Lodge. Bro. Burleton I.P.M. said it was his privilege to give what might be considered the toast of the evening; it was the health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Harrison. From the time the Lodge was formed he had the pleasure of working with him, and as they had all seen how Bro. Harrison had discharged his duties in the different offices, they knew what they had to expect of him during the year that he would occupy the chair as Worshipful Master. The toast was drunk with great cordiality. The Worshipful Master, in responding, said he begged to return thanks for the kind manner in

which the toast had been proposed and received, and also for his election as Worshipful Master of the Lodge, which had given him the greatest pleasure. He might say that he had been present at every Lodge, had never missed a single meeting, having resolved always to get to the front. Now, however, that he could get no further, and had arrived at the position of Worshipful Master, he was resolved to do his duty, and he hoped that his Officers would work with him. It was very pleasing to him to return thanks for this toast; the ordeal he had just passed through had been somewhat serious, but he must go through the duties to the best of his ability. He must say that he was very much indebted to the brethren for the position he then held, for he was not initiated in this Lodge, but in the St. Clement Danes, into which he was introduced by Bro. Barfield, their esteemed Treasurer. He thanked the brethren most sincerely for drinking his health, and hoped to see them many times in the future. The next toast was that of the Visitors, for which Bro. Davis P.M. and Treas. of the Eastern Star Lodge, and two other brethren returned thanks. The health of Bro. Burleton Immediate Past Master followed; he, in responding, thanked the brethren for the very handsome jewel they had given him that evening; one that he should always wear with great pleasure. He did not precisely know how many initiates he had had during his year of office, but he hoped that his successor might have as many. He was going up as Steward for the Lodge at the next Festival for the Old People, and three of their members had given him five guineas each; indeed he had not met with a single refusal. He begged to give them as a toast, the Masonic Charities, for which Bro. Dairy returned thanks; he said that if every brother gave a shilling each time the Lodge met, that would provide all required for their support. It was stated that Brother Burleton, on going round the room that evening, had collected from the members the magnificent sum of £51. Some other toasts were given and responded to, and the evening was spent in complete harmony, in short everything passed over without a single hitch in any of the proceedings. It should not be omitted to be stated that the jewel with which the I.P.M. was presented contains the Lonsborough Arms, beautifully designed, is indeed a choice work of art.

Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 1288.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when Bro. J. Rothschild acted as W.M. He was supported by Bros. Hickman S.W., Radcliffe I.P.M. 211 J.W., Morgan S.D., Wolf J.D., Eldridge I.G., Percy Preceptor, T. Goode Secretary, Evans, Morgan jun., Scott, Osborn P.M. 1602, R. Baker W.M. 188, Williams, Alford, A. Mullord Treas., and others. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Morgan acting as candidate, and at the conclusion of the degree Lodge was called off. On the resumption of business, Bro. Morgan read a paper on the Rise and Progress of the Masonic Charities. The S.W. was elected to fill the chair at the next meeting (3rd January 1882). A vote of thanks was passed to the W.M. for his occupancy of the chair—the same to be recorded on the minutes—it being the first occasion on which he had done so, and the manner in which he had fulfilled his duties left nothing to be desired. On the motion of Bro. Percy, a like compliment was paid to Bro. Morgan for his interesting and instructive paper. Bro. Percy dwelt at some length on the various points referred to by Bro. Morgan, and felt convinced that if more addresses were delivered, especially in Lodges of Instruction, they would be greatly appreciated by brethren. Bro. Mullord followed. He considered the particulars they had that night heard from Bro. Morgan were of a most instructive nature. He felt he might safely say that not one brother out of every three in the London District really knew what the Masonic Charities were. They might possibly be aware there were such institutions, but as to their foundation and requirements, the majority were comparatively ignorant. He hoped that Brother Morgan might find it possible to read his paper in many other parts of the Metropolis, more particularly in Lodges of Instruction, where brethren usually had more time to devote to such subjects than was the case in regular Lodges; in doing so he felt that very great assistance would be rendered to the Charities, of which Freemasons were justly proud. The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation, and was suitably acknowledged. Bro. Radcliffe I.P.M. 211 was admitted a member of this Lodge.

At the desire of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the date of the afternoon concert, to be given in the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, has been altered from Thursday, the 15th, to Saturday, the 7th January prox.

On Saturday, Sir Albert Woods (Garter), G.D.C., visited Windsor, for the purpose of placing the banner and regalia of the King of Sweden, Grand Master of the Swedish Freemasons, who has been created a Knight of the Garter, in St. George's Chapel.

The Marquis of Hartington, M.P., was present on Saturday, at the opening of a new Liberal Club, at Brierfield, near Accrington. In the afternoon he addressed a large meeting of his constituents at Nelson, near Burnley.

The Earl of Denbighmore has decided on leaving Knockloty, Co. Tipperary, and residing abroad.

A special private meeting of the Court of Common Council was held at the Guildhall, on Monday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. His Lordship made a statement with reference to the contemplated Irish Property Defence Fund, and a long and animated discussion is said to have followed the proposal of a certain resolution. Ultimately the Court adjourned.

A very successful meeting was held at Leeds, on Monday, under the presidency of the Mayor, the object being to assist the Irish Ladies in Distress Fund, recently started by Lord Mayor Ellis.

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN HENRY HALE.

WITH feelings of very great regret we recently heard of the decease of Bro. Hale, which sad event took place on the 24th ultimo, at Wellingborough. He was well known in the various Lodges and other Masonic bodies in the neighbourhood wherein he resided, having been connected with the Craft about ten years, during which period he took a very great interest in all that concerned the Order. Two years since he passed the chair of Wentworth Lodge, No. 737, and at the time of his decease was Worshipful Master of the Perseverance Lodge, No. 455. He was Master of the first Mark Lodge (St. Simon de Montford), formed at Northampton, and was Second Principal of the Chapter held there. He was connected, in one way or another, with most of the Masonic bodies of Northampton, Nottingham, and Leicester, and a few weeks before his death took the thirtieth degree. In the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire he occupied the position of Past Senior Grand Warden, and was one of the Stewards who represented that district at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February last. Our departed brother leaves a wife to mourn his loss, and with her and the other members of the family we most sincerely sympathise. From our relations with the deceased, we considered him one of the worthiest brethren of our acquaintance; and knowing, as we do, the position he occupied in his family, where he was really idolized, we are enabled to express to those nearest and dearest to him the greatest sympathy, not only of ourselves, but of all those connected with the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

The Sheffield Freemasons have presented the Parish Church of Sheffield with a beautiful granite and bronze font, bearing Scriptural figures, as their contribution towards the recent restoration. On Thursday, the font was unveiled by the Officers of the Provincial Lodge, in the presence of Bro. Tew, the Grand Master of West Yorkshire. The brethren of the Britannia, Brunswick, Wentworth, and Ivanhoe Lodges were also present, and wore the regalia of the Craft. There was a procession from the vestry to the south aisle of the chancel, where the font has been fixed, and afterwards several children belonging to local Freemasons, were baptised by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Blakeney, who is the Provincial Grand Chaplain of West Yorkshire.—*Daily Chronicle*.

At a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxfordshire, held on Saturday, at the University Masonic Hall, a vote of congratulation to his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G., Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire, on his approaching marriage, was moved by Bro. R. Bird, M.A., seconded by Bro. the Rev. H. A. Picard, M.A., and carried unanimously. It is intended to present, by subscription, a testimonial from the brethren of the Province to his Royal Highness.

Bro. W. Purkiss, of the Royal Music Hall, besides engaging a talented company for the forthcoming Christmas season, has also added greatly to the convenience of the public by providing four extra private boxes and a new lounge, and establishing a fine gallery of pictures by some of the most distinguished artists.

The Earl of Jersey P.G.M. presided at a conference held on Monday, at Bicester, under the auspices of the Church of England Temperance Society.

His Royal Highness Prince Leopold reached Salisbury on Monday afternoon, on his way to West Park, as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Kennard.

Tuesday being "Doctor's Day" at Merchant Taylors' School, the distribution of prizes to the successful scholars took place, accompanied by the customary recitations. Lord Mayor Ellis presided, and with him were the Lady Mayoress, Alderman and Sheriff Hanson, the Masters and Wardens of the Merchant Taylors' Company, &c.

Herr Wilhelm Ganz P.G.O. had charge of the musical arrangements at the sixty-fourth anniversary dinner of the German Society of Benevolence, held on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, under the presidency of Count Munster, the German Ambassador.

The meetings of the "Chigwell Lodge of Instruction," No. 453, have been adjourned until the 6th proximo.

The Duke of Connaught has been elected a Chevalier of Justice of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

MEETING OF THE LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

THE Lodge of Benevolence held its last meeting for 1881 on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bros. Joshua Nunn President, James Brett jun. Vice-President, and Rev. A. F. A. Woodford P.G.C. occupied the chairs of President, and Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents. The Lodge was numerously attended. The brethren first confirmed the recommendations of the last meeting of Lodge, to the amount of £775. They had then before them the reconsideration of a case sent back by last Grand Lodge. Having recommended a grant of £150, an opposition was raised to it in Grand Lodge, and Grand Lodge resolved to have the case inquired into. After a patient hearing of several witnesses, the Lodge of Benevolence rescinded the grant, with the exception of the £10 granted on account. There were twenty-nine new cases on the list. After sitting nearly four hours, the Lodge granted a total sum of 890. Two cases were deferred.

THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE.—On Boxing Day, ROBINSON CRUSOE.

COVENT GARDEN.—On Boxing Day, LITTLE BO PEER, LITTLE BOY BLUE, AND THE LITTLE OLD WOMAN THAT LIVED IN A SHOE.

LYCEUM.—On Monday, at 7.30, THE CAPTAIN OF THE WATCH. At 8.30, THE TWO ROSES.

ADELPHI.—At 7.15, A LAD FROM THE COUNTRY. At 8, IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7, A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT. At 7.15, THE LIGHTS OF LONDON.

GLOBE.—THE RIVALS.

GAIETY.—At 7.5, OPERETTA. At 7.30, BUBBLES. At 8.30, WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT.

STRAND.—At 7.15, PARADISE VILLA. At 8, OLIVETTE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, MARRIAGE BELLS. At 8.15, THE HALF-WAY HOUSE, &c.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.15, PLOT AND PASSION. At 10, A LESSON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.50, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.10, THE COLONEL.

ROYALTY.—At 7.15, THE FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER. At 9.30, PLUTO.

COMEDY.—At 7.30, SEEING FROU-FROU. At 8, THE MASCOTTE.

SAVOY.—At 8, MOCK TURTLE, and PATIENCE.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 8.15, COUSIN DICK. At 8.45, HOME. On Thursday, THE SQUIRE.

CRITERION.—At 8, WITHERED LEAVES. At 8.45, FOGGERTY'S FAIRY.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.45, BLACK CROOK.

COURT.—At 8, AWAKING. At 8.45, ENGAGED.

HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—Daily at 2.30 and 7.30.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, &c. On Monday, PANTOMIME, &c. HOLIDAY ATTRACTIONS. Open Daily. Aquarium, Picture Gallery, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, PANTOMIME, BLONDIN, &c., &c. Open Daily.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE,

A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence. Sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of England.

Price—13s 6d per annum, post free.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE will be forwarded direct from the Office, 23 Great Queen Street, W.C., (opposite Freemasons' Hall), on receipt of Post Office Order for the amount. Intending Subscribers should forward their full Addresses to prevent mistakes.

Post Office Orders to be made payable to W. W. MORGAN, at High Holborn Office. Cheques crossed "London and County."

Advertisers will find THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE an exceptionally good medium for Advertisements of every class.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

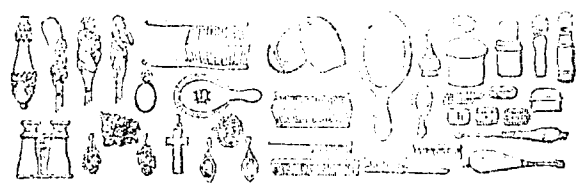
Per Page... .. £8 0 0

Back Page... .. £10 0 0

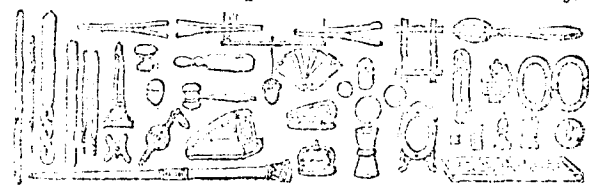
Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1s per line.

General Advertisements, Trade Announcements, &c. single column, 5s per inch. Double Column Advertisements 1s per line. Special Terms for a Series of Insertions on application.

IVORY HAIR BRUSHES
Mirrors & all other Ivory Work Articles.



IVORY GOODS IN GENERAL,
Wholesale & for Exportation & the Trade only.



MR HENRIC BROS. Ivory Works,
11, HIGH STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Designs and Prices of Brushes and
Mirrors, &c., on Application.

Worn Ivory Brushes Re-tipped and
Repolished to look Equal to New.

ROYAL
MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION
FOR
AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS,
CROYDON.

Patron and President:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

OF THIS INSTITUTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON

TUESDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY 1882,

AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,

UPON WHICH OCCASION.

Lieut. - Colonel J. A. LLOYD-PHILIPPS,

R.W. PROV. G.M. FOR SOUTH WALES (Western Division),

has been pleased to signify his intention of presiding.

Brethren are earnestly invited to accept the Office of Steward upon this occasion, and they will greatly oblige by forwarding their Names and Masonic Rank, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

JAMES TERRY, Prov. G.S.W. Norths and Hunts,
Secretary.

4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

ESTABLISHED 1802.

SODA WATER AND SELTZER MANUFACTORY.

PAUL & BURROWS,
WILSON STREET and ENDELL STREET, LONG ACRE, W.C.

TRADE
MARKS.

{ SUPPLY—Always regular.
QUALITY—Best possible.
PRICES—Lowest consistent with
FIRST CLASS ARTICLES.

G. WISE & SONS,
Seedsman, Florists and Herbalists,

17 MILE END ROAD, LONDON, E. AND

302 CALEDONIAN ROAD, N.

GOLD, SILVER AND RIVER FISH,

The Largest Stock in London.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN FERNS, FERN CASES, AQUARIUMS.

Peat Mould, Shingle, Virgin Cork.

EVERY REQUISITE FOR THE FERN CASE & AQUARIUM.

FLORAL DECORATIONS for FANCY FAIRS, FETES, &c

ESTABLISHED 1859.

JOSEPH STOCK & CO.
Water & Electro Gilders & Platers,
14 COBOURG STREET, SKINNER STREET,
CLERKENWELL, E.C.

Spécialité—Masonic Jewels, Furniture and Regalia
Renovated, and made Equal to New.

PAST MASTERS' JEWELS MADE TO ANY DESIGN.

BORD'S PIANOS.

CHAS. STILES & CO., the well-known Importers of these celebrated Pianos, have Removed to

42 Southampton-row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Where may be seen a large and varied assortment of Instruments, of New and Artistic Design, at Low Prices, with

Twenty-Five per Cent. Co-operative Disc't. for Cash,

OR ON

THE THREE YEARS' SYSTEM,
From 15s per Month.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED LIST.

Second-Hand Pianos on the Three Years' System, from 10s 6d per Month.
Full Value allowed for Old Instruments of any kind in Exchange.

AMERICAN ORGANS,
CHEAPEST AND BEST,

BY the STERLING ORGAN CO., DERBY, CONN., U.S.A., at
Low Prices, with Twenty-Five per cent. Co-operative Discount for Cash;
or on the THREE YEARS' SYSTEM, from 10s 6d per Month.

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED LIST TO

CHAS. STILES and CO.,

42 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

These Organs are eminently suited for use in
MASONIC LODGES.

MASONIC HALL, CROYDON,
HAREWOOD HOUSE, 105 HIGH STREET.

THIS Hall has every requirement for Masonic purposes. It contains a large Organ, blown by hydraulic power, and has an excellent cellar for Lodges to keep their own wines. The following Lodges, &c. hold their meetings here:—Frederick Lodge, No. 452; Addiscombe Lodge, No. 1556; Mozart Lodge, No. 1929; Croydon Mark No. 198; Frederick Chapter, No. 452.

For terms, &c., address—

JOHN RHODES P.M.,

P.P.G.O. Surrey, and P.P.G.M.O. Middlesex and Surrey

T. & T. GATES,
GOLD BEATERS,

AND

FOREIGN GOLD LEAF IMPORTERS.

English Gold 45s and 47s 6d per 1000,

Foreign Gold 41s and 43s do.

Bronze Powder 3s 6d and 5s per lb.

44 HATTON WALL, LONDON, E.C.

Merchants and Shippers supplied.

Crown 8vo, price 2s 6d, cloth lettered.

Uniformity of Masonic Ritual and Observance.

By Bro. JAMES STEVENS, P.M., P.Z., &c.

"May be read with advantage by the whole Craft."—*Sunday Times*.

"Grand Lodge should at once set to work to secure the desired uniformity."—*Sheffield Post*.

"The subject is ably argued by the author."—*Western Daily Mercury*.

"Useful and valuable in the highest degree."—*Exeter Gazette*.

"Will have a material effect on the future of Masonic Ritual."—*South Western Star*.

"The author adduces many variations in the language used by different Preceptors."—*Coz's Monthly Legal Circular*.

"Ought to be in the hands of every Mason."—*Northampton Guardian*.

"To Freemasons generally it will be found useful and valuable, and we commend it to their notice accordingly."—*Surrey County Observer*.

"Bro. Stevens' motion for a Committee on the subject of Uniformity of Ritual was carried by a large majority."—*Freemason's Chronicle* report of Grand Lodge meeting, 3rd December 1879.

Sent, by post, on receipt of stamps, by the Author, Bro. JAMES STEVENS, 112 High-street, Clapham, S.W.; or by Bro. W. W. MORGAN, 23 Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

Eleventh Edition, post free, One Shilling.

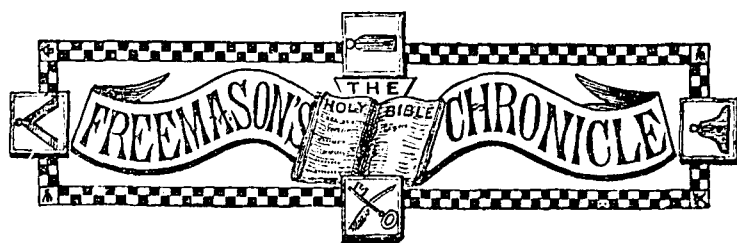
DR. WATTS on ASTHMA. A Treatise on the only Successful Method of Curing this Disease. By ROBERT G. WATTS, M.D., F.R.S.L. F.C.S., &c., 5 Bulstrode-street, Cavendish-square, London.

London: C. MITCHELL AND Co., Red Lion-court, Fleet-street.

BRO. R. HIRST engages to provide, at short notice, an efficient Band for Annual Banquets, Dinners, Excursions and Quadrille Parties. For terms apply to "R. Hirst, The Three Crowns, 237 Mile End Road, E."

RHEUMATISM.

THE only real remedy for this complaint is the Northern Cure (patent). In bottles 1s 1½d each, to be had of all Chemists, Proprietors and Manufacturers, Edwards and Alexander, 29 Blakett-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.



23 GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.

OLD CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS, SUPERSTITIONS, &c.

FATHER CHRISTMAS, with his portly figure, his snow-white locks, and his ruddy countenance, is once again in our midst, and the feasting and revelry which accompany him may be said to have begun this day. But though the spirit of kindness and hospitality; which is so appropriate to this eventful season as strong as ever it was, and all classes of the community give themselves up to a close observance of its customs, there are those who think such customs are far more prosaic than they were formerly. The many quaint observances of our forefathers have died out, except perhaps in some of the remoter country towns and districts, while those that have succeeded them, albeit more in accordance with the genius of our time, are very far from being as impressive or as calculated to bring together the different classes of the community. The revelry of former days may have been more boisterous, but it would seem to have been more picturesque. There were no gorgeous pantomimes and Christmas cards, albums, annals, and the like were necessarily unknown, but high and low mingled together in one common festivity, so that, as we have hinted, class distinctions may be said to have almost wholly disappeared for the nonce. It is not, however, our wish to draw comparisons between old and present customs, to the disadvantage of either, so much as to give our readers some idea of what the said old customs were like, so that they may judge for themselves whether the Christmas of this nineteenth century is more or less attractive than it was in earlier days.

Christmas, now as formerly, extends over the period from 24th December to 6th January, which is called Twelfth, or Old Christmas, Day, but there is more of sameness now in the celebration of the season, with the exception, perhaps, of Christmas Day proper, New Year's Day, and Twelfth Day, and even in the case of these the fea-

tures which distinguish them from the rest exist rather in name than in reality. Formerly there seem to have been the general rejoicings, which lasted throughout the whole of the season, and at the same time special customs and observances peculiar to some of the more prominent days. Thus the revels over which presided the Lord, or, as he was sometimes called, the Abbot of Misrule, lasted the greater part of the holidays; so did the ceremonial connected with the election and reign of the Boy Bishop, an institution said to have been derived from the Festival of Fools. On the other hand, the King of the Bean ruled only on Twelfth Day, having been elected to his office the evening previous, while the King of the Cockneys was duly honoured on Childermas or Innocents' Day. But to give a description of some of these old customs.

Many writers are of opinion that the Lord of Misrule was peculiar to England, foreigners especially considering him a personage rarely to be met with out of our country. Strutt, however, thinks he was "well known on the Continent, where he probably received his first honours," and he adds, "In this kingdom his power and his dignities suffered no diminution; but on the contrary, were established by royal authority, and continued after they had ceased to exist elsewhere. But even with us his government has been extinct for many years, and his name and offices are nearly forgotten." Holinshed, with reference to Christmas, speaks of it as "what time there is always one appointed to make sporte at courte, called commonly lorde of misrule, whose office is not unknown to such as have bene brought up in noblemen's houses, and among great housekeepers which use liberal feasting in the season." Stow writes, "At the feast of Christmas, in the King's Court, wherever he chanced to reside, there was appointed a lord of misrule, or master of merry disports; the same merry fellow made his appearance at the house of every nobleman and person of distinction, and among the rest the lord mayor of London and the sheriffs, had severally of them their lord of misrule ever contending, without quarrel or offence, who should make the rarest pastimes to delight the beholders. The pageant potentate began his rule at Allhallow Eve, and continued the same till the morrow after the Feast of the Purification, in which space there were fine and subtle disguisings, masks, and mummeries." Occasionally, it happened, as in the fifth year of Edward VI.'s reign that a gentleman of position and ability was appointed to preside over the pastimes. On this occasion it was a certain George Ferrers, who was a lawyer, a poet, and an historian, of whom Holinshed remarks, "And he being of better calling than commonly his predecessors had been before received all his commissions and warrauntes by the name of master of the King's pastimes; which gentleman so well supplied his office both of show and sundry sights, and devises of rare invention, and in act of divers interludes, and matters of pastime, played by persons, as not only satisfied the common sort, but also were verie well liked, and allowed by the Council and others of skill in lyke pastimes; but best by the young king himselfe, as appeared by his princely liberalitie in rewarding that service." On the other hand, Philip Stubbs, in his "Anatomic of Abuses," speaks in the reverse of complimentary terms, showing how "the wilde heades of the parish . . . chuse them a graund captaine of mischiefe, whom they innoble with the title of Lord of Misrule, and him they crown with great solemnity and adopt for their king." The newly "annoynted" sovereign chooses a number of followers like himself, who are invested with their liveries and bedeck themselves "with scarffes, ribbons, and laces, hanged all over with gold ringes, pretious stones, and other jewels," as well as with bells on their legs, and "rich handkerchiefes in their handes, and sometimes laid acrossse over their shoulders and necks, borrowel, for the most part, of their pretie Mopssis and loving Bessies." A procession is formed, and they march to the church with "their hobbyhorses, their dragons, and other antiques," as well as with their pipers and their thundering drummers, "dauncing and singing like devils incarnate." Those who gave them no money were "mocked and flouted shamefully," many being "dived over heade and eares in water, or otherwise most horribly abused."

At Cambridge the functions of Lord of Misrule were entrusted to a Master of Arts, who was regularly elected to superintend the annual representation of Latin plays by the students, and also took general charge of their games and diversions during the Christmas season. He was styled *Imperator*, or *Prefectus Ludorum*. A similar custom prevailed at Oxford, and the Templars regarded the office as an honourable one, while in 1635 this mock representative of royalty is said to have expended in the discharge of his duties no less a sum than £2,000 out of his own purse. In consideration of this munificence he was knighted at the close of his brief reign by Charles I. at Whitehall.

Richard Evelyn, father of the famous author of the "Diary," and a Deputy Lieutenant for Surrey and Sussex, has left on record his rules defining the functions of a Christmas Lord of Misrule on his estate at Wootton:—"Imprimis, I give free leave to Owen Flood, my trumpeter, gentleman, to be Lord of Misrule of all good orders during the twelve days. And, also, I give free leave to the said Owen Flood to command all and every person or persons whatsoever, as well servants as others, to be at his command whenever he shall sound his trumpet or music, and to do him good service, as though I were present myself, at their perils . . . I give full power and authority to his lordship to break up all locks, bolts, bars, doors, and latches, and to fling up all doors out of hinges, to come at those who presume to disobey his lordship's command. God save the King."

The custom of electing and investing the Boy Bishop was, as has been suggested, derived from the Festival of Fools, and is traceable as far back as the fourteenth century. One of the choir, habited in episcopal vestments, took the title of Bishop on the Feast of St. Nicholas (6th December), or that of the Innocents (28th December), or both. His fellows, dressed like priests, obeyed him, and he performed all the offices of a bishop and his prebendaries, except that of the mass. The custom was abolished by proclamation of the King and Council in 1542.

Strutt, quoting from Dugdale, makes mention of the Society of Lincoln's Inn having had anciently an officer, chosen at this season, who was honoured with the title of King of Christmas Day, because he presided in the hall upon that day. This temporary potentate had a Marshal and a Steward to attend upon him. The marshal, in the absence of the monarch, was permitted to assume his state, and upon New Year's Day he sat as king in the hall, when the Master of the Revels, during the time of dining, supplied the marshal's place. Upon Childermas, or Innocents' Day, they had another officer, denominated the King of the Cockneys, who also presided on the day of his appointment, and had his inferior officers to wait upon him.

Another quaint old custom, which still survives in a modified form, is associated with the King of the Bean, whose reign commenced on the vigil of the Epiphany, or the day itself, 6th January. "It was a common Christmas gambol in both our Universities, and continued"—at the commencement of last century—"to be used in other places, to give the name of king or queen to that person whose extraordinary good luck it was to hit upon that part of a divided cake which was honoured above the others by having a bean in it." According to another version, derived from an old Calendar of the Romish Church, and referred to by the author we are quoting, "On the fifth of Jannary, the vigil of the Epiphany, the Kings of the Bean are created; and on the sixth the feast of the kings shall be held, and also of the queen, and let the banqueting be continued for many days." It appears from an entry in a *Computus* of the 8th year of Edward III. that in that year "this majestic title was conferred upon one of the king's minstrels." At least there is in it an entry to the effect that "sixty shillings"—a very considerable sum in those days—were given by the king upon the day of the Epiphany to Regan the trumpeter and his associates, the Court Minstrels, in the name of the King of the Bean."

We have already referred to Childermas day and the custom in Lincoln's Inn of electing a King of the Cockneys, a person of some distinction, as Douglas mentions an order issued in 1717 by King Henry VIII. regulating the service that should be done him and the order to be maintained by his officers. One other custom there was, however, the abolition of which our young friends will not regret, namely, that of whipping the children on the morning of this festival, so that "the memorial of Herod's murder of the Innocents might stick the closer, and so, in a moderate proportion, to act over the cruelty again in kinde." The infliction of such a memorial may have been impressive, but it must also have been a little painful. The day in question, too, was regarded as of ill-omen, and hence the superstition against being married on its anniversary, and also the belief that it was unlucky to put on new clothes, pare the nails, or begin anything of moment.

Boxing Day, though it has latterly been elevated to the rank of a Bank Holiday, and enjoys the further honour of inaugurating the Pantomime season at the principal theatres, has its drawbacks in the sight of many people. The custom from which it derives its name is not so ancient as some we have enumerated. Yet as far back as 1731, we find a writer in a well-known work on London in the eighteenth century recounting his experiences in a somewhat doleful strain. "By that time," says he, "I was up, my servants could do do nothing but run to the door. Inquiring the reason, I was answered, the people were come for their 'Christmas Box;' this was logic to me; but I found at last that because I had laid out a great deal of ready money with my brewer, baker, and other tradesmen, they kindly thought it my duty to present their servants with some money for the favour of having their goods. This provoked me a little, but being told it was 'the custom,' I complied. These were followed by the watch, the beadles, dustmen, and an innumerable tribe; but what vexed me the most was the clerk, who has an extraordinary place, and makes as good an appearance as most tradesmen in the parish; to see him come a boxing, alias begging, I thought was intolerable: however, I found it was 'the custom,' too, so I gave him half-a-crown, as I was likewise obliged to do to the bellman, for breaking my rest for many nights together." But even "boxing" may be set down as tolerable, especially when we think of the poorly-paid postmen and others, to whom the shillings or half crowns we disburse are veritably a godsend.

Of the general character of the festivities we are on the eve of indulging in we need say little. What they were last year and the year before, that will they be now and for years to come. The spirit of old Father Christmas is unchangeable. No matter how great or how modest the attractions of the festive board, his aim is to imbue all who surround it with the same kindly feeling towards their fellow-creatures. He knows no distinction of persons, but greets all alike with the same jovial welcome. And our reception of him is equally jovial. We are glad to see him again among us; as glad as were our forefathers in their day; as glad, we doubt not, as will be our descendants.

We have little to add, and that little shall take the form of an old song, said to be the first drinking song composed in England, and in Hone's opinion an abridged version of an old Christmas carol in Norman-French, which has been translated by Mr. Douce. It would be difficult to find a more appropriate conclusion to these jotting about Christmas.

"Lordlings, from a distant home,
To seek old Christmas are we come,
Who loves our minstrelsy—
And here, unless report mis-say,
The greybeard dwells; and on this day
Keeps yearly wassel, ever gay
With festive mirth and glee.
"Lordlings, list, for we tell you true,
Christmas loves the jolly crew
That cloudy care defy;
His liberal board is deftly spread
With manchet leaves and wastel bread;
His guests with fish and flesh are led,
Nor lack the stately pyc.

"Lordlings, it is our host's command,
And Christmas joins him hand in hand,
To drain the brimming bowl;
And I'll be foremost to obey—
Then pledge me, sirs, and drink away,
For Christmas revels here to-day
And sways without control.
Now Wassel to you all! and merry may you be,
And foul that wight befall, who drinks not *Health* to me!"

THE DUKE OF ALBANY AND THE FREEMASONS.

ON Saturday evening a special meeting of the Friends in Council Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, No. 1383, was held at the Hall of the Supreme Council, 33 degree, Golden-lane, for the purpose of installing his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G., as First Principal of the Apollo (University) Chapter of Oxford, to which office he has been unanimously elected by the members of that Chapter. His Royal Highness, who occupies the position of Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire in the Craft Degree, has lately been appointed by the Prince of Wales as Superintendent of that Province in the Royal Arch degree, and his installation in that important office will shortly be held, though the day is not yet fixed. The ceremony of Saturday may be considered as preliminary to that event, and the Companions of the Order mustered in goodly numbers to witness it. The assemblage was, as might have been expected, a distinguished one, and, as all those present had attained to very elevated positions in the Royal Arch, the spectacle was most imposing, the rank of the different companions entitling them to wear an abundance of elegant jewels. Among the Royal Arch Masons present, none of whom were below the rank of an Installed Third Principal, as the meeting was called only for Installed Principals, were Lord Tenterden, Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Sir John B. Monckton, Sir Michael Costa, Sir Erasmus Wilson, General Brownrigg, C.B., Major-General Henry Clerk, Lieut.-General C. W. Randolph, Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, Captain N. G. Philips, Montague Guest, M.P., Comps. McIntyre, Q.C., M.P., Philbrick Q.C., the Revs. C. W. Arnold, Ambrose W. Hall, R. J. Simpson, H. Adair Picard, T. F. Ravenshaw, and R. P. Bent, J. W. Waldron, R. W. H. Giddy, J. M. P. Montagn, E. J. Barron, H. C. Levander, Capt. Bott Cook, Wilhelm Ganz, Raphael Costa, Frank Richardson, J. Lewis Thomas, Robert Gray, Thomas Fenn, John H. Scott of Brighton, Magnus Ohren, Ernest E. Wendt, Joshua Nunn, Charles A. Murton, H. G. Buss, H. Massey, Hugh H. Riach, H. R. Cooper Smith, George Lambert, John A. Racker, Peter de Lande Long, R. F. Gould, Reginald Bird, W. Coppard Beaumont, J. M. Case, A. J. Duff-Filer, John Read, and H. Sadler. The Friends in Council Chapter was first opened, Lieutenant-General Randolph as Z., J. W. Waldron as H., Major-General H. Clerk as J., Hugh D. Sandeman as S.E., Colonel Burney as S.N., Giddy P.S., Ralph Costa as 1st Assistant, W. C. Beaumont as 2nd Assistant, Frank Richardson as Director of Ceremonies, and G. Austin as Janitor. Gen. Randolph informed the Companions that the Duke of Albany had been elected as First Principal of the Apollo Chapter at Oxford, but that as it would be inconvenient for him to attend at Oxford for installation he had selected, as he was privileged to do by paragraph 59 of the Royal Arch Regulations, another Chapter in which to take the degree. He had, therefore, honoured the Friends in Council Chapter for the purpose, and had requested Colonel Shadwell Clerke to perform the ceremonies. Shortly after this, the Duke of Albany arrived, and Colonel Shadwell Clerke took the First Principal's chair, Lieutenant-General Randolph taking the second chair, and Comp. John Read presiding at the organ. When His Royal Highness entered the Chapter, he was presented for installation by Captain N. G. Philips. As he had not previously been installed in either of the three Principal's chairs it was necessary that he should pass through the whole of the three ceremonies. Colonel Shadwell Clerke therefore installed him first in the lowest chair, next in the second chair, and lastly in the chair of the Most Excellent of the Chapter, the Rev. C. W. Arnold acting as Chaplain. All the ceremonies were faultlessly performed, and appeared to make a profound impression on the Duke of Albany. At the conclusion of the ceremony he announced that he had appointed Comp. H. O. Wakeman to act for him as Pro Most Excellent in the Apollo Chapter, and directed the Rev. H. A. Pickard, a Past Most Excellent of the Chapter, to notify the fact to the members. General Randolph then, in the name of the Friends in Council Chapter, thanked his Royal Highness for having selected that Chapter for his installation, and the Duke of Albany in return thanked the Companions of the Chapter for their courtesy in allowing him to be installed in their Chapter. Thereupon, on the motion of Captain N. G. Philips, seconded by Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, the Duke of Albany was elected an honorary member, and the Duke having thanked the Chapter for this distinction, Comp. Sandeman announced he had received letters expressing regret at not being able to attend from the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Lathom, Comps. John Havers, John M. Clabon, ex-Sheriff H. Hutton, Hutton Gregory, Colonel Creton Grand Treasurer, Bevan Grand Superintendent of Westland, New Zealand, W. W. B. Beach, M.P., the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, J. Ebenezer Saunders, and the Rev. C. J. Martyn Grand Superintendent of Suffolk. The Duke of Albany then left, and the Chapter was closed in due form.

Lord Mayor Ellis has gone into residence at the Mansion House, and a series of entertainments are already announced. Thus, on the 9th January will be held the annual Plough Monday dinner; on the 13th following, the Lady Mayoress will give a juvenile ball, and on the 17th the Aldermen will be entertained at a banquet.

FREEMASONRY IN NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland took place on Thursday, 15th December. The meeting was held in the Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, under the banner of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Lodge, No. 24. Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at three o'clock, by the Right Honourable Earl Percy, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. There was a very large attendance of past and present Provincial Grand Officers, besides a great concourse of brethren from all parts of the Province. Worshipful Bros. Col. Shadwell Clerke Grand Secretary, and F. Binckes Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, were also present. The brethren having saluted the Grand Officer, the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge were read and confirmed. The Provincial Grand Master, in proposing a resolution of sympathy with the family of the late Bro. L. M. Cockcroft D.P.G.M., expressed his sympathy with the family, and regretted the sad and almost irreparable loss the Province had sustained by the death of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The Treasurer's report was next read; it showed a balance of £235 7s 3d in his hands. Upon the report being adopted, the sum of £84 was voted to Masonic Charities, and £87 3s to Local Charities. Bro. T. Anderson was then unanimously re-elected Treasurer. The installation of the new Deputy Provincial Grand Master was then proceeded with, the patent appointing Bro. R. H. Holmes to that office having been read, Bro. Colonel Shadwell Clerke G.S. performed the ceremony in a most impressive manner. The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the following Officers for the ensuing year:—Colonel Adderson Potter, C.B., S.W., George Cockburn J.W., Rev. J. Lister Chaplain, B. J. Thompson Secretary, T. Anderson Treasurer, R. L. Armstrong Registrar, Corder S.D., J. Duckett J.D., Dr. Lang Supt. of Works, E. D. Davis D.C., G. Ogilvey A.D.C., Jeffery Sword Bearer, J. Nicholson Organist, R. Symons Pursuivant, Brewies Asst. Pursuivant, and Curry Tyler. The Stewards appointed were Bros. C. B. Ford, F. R. Richardson, R. A. Dodds, D. G. Anderson, J. Wilson, and R. Jackson. The Master announced that the next Provincial Grand Lodge would be held under the banner of the Walker Lodge, No. 1342. Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren, to the number of about 150, adjourned to the Queen's Head Hotel, where they dined together, presided over by the Prov. G.M. Earl Percy. The usual toast list was gone through, and a very pleasant evening spent.

ROYAL ARCH.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

A SPECIAL Convocation of this Chapter was held on the 16th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Provincial Grand Chapter was opened at 1:30 by Comp. Shadwell H. Clerke G.S.E. as Z., Banester as H., and R. H. Holmes as J. There was a very large attendance of visitors, amongst whom were Comps. Earl Percy and Colonel Collingwood. Colonel H. Shadwell Clerke explained the object of the meeting, which was for the purpose of installing Comp. Addison Potter, C.B., into the office of Provincial Grand Superintendent, to which high rank he had been appointed by His Royal Highness the first Grand Principal, in the place of the late lamented Comp. L. M. Cockcroft. He therefore ordered a deputation to be formed to fetch Comp. Potter into the Chapter, which being done, Comp. E. D. Davis P.G.D.C. presented Comp. Potter to the Grand Scribe to receive the benefit of installation at his hands, and the ceremony was most impressively gone through by Comp. Clerke, who also installed the two other Principals. After these appointments, the newly-installed Grand Superintendent spoke feelingly of the memory of the late Prov. Grand Superintendent, and said he would rather have remained one of the Royal Arch body of this Province, serving under him, could he have been spared. A resolution of condolence was duly passed. The Provincial Grand Superintendent then appointed and invested the following Companions as his Officers:—R. H. Holmes H., John Spearman J., J. H. Bentham S.E., J. Wood N., Dr. Luke Armstrong P.S., Robinson 1st Asst. Soj., Montgomery 2nd Asst. Soj., R. L. Armstrong Treasurer, T. J. Armstrong Reg., W. M. Bell Sword Bearer, T. R. Richardson Standard Bearer, E. D. Davis D.C., Nicholson Org., and Curry Jan. Upon the motion of Comp. E. D. Davis, seconded by Comp. Hotham, it was carried by acclamation that Comp. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke be made an associate member of this Provincial Grand Chapter. Comp. Shadwell H. Clerke acknowledged what he was pleased to call a most unusual compliment. The Right Hon. Earl Percy was also gratified to accept a similar compliment, which he acknowledged very gracefully by a few well-chosen remarks. Provincial Grand Chapter was then closed in due form. The Companions nearly all adjourned to the Installation Meeting at Lodge 541, which was held at 3.30.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON CHAPTER, No. 1602.

AN emergency convocation was held on the 16th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, for the purpose of installing P.M. Weston 1602 as M.E.Z. of this Chapter, and exalting Bro. Dillon into Royal Arch Masonry. The ceremony of installation was performed by Comp. James Terry acting as M.E.Z., Osborn H., Hobbs acting as J. At a previous regular meeting, Comp. Osborn was installed as H. by P.Z. Stevens, and P.Z. Cozan (now present, although suffering from an accident) as J., Comp. J. Greenfield was invested as S.N., Thomas as Janitor. Other investments were postponed at both meetings, in consequence of the non-attendance of the Companions elected to several other offices in the Chapter. After the ceremony of Installation, Bro. Dillon having been regularly balloted for, was exalted in a very able manner, and it is no flattery to state

that the impressive style, delivery, and work of the newly installed M.E.Z. could not be surpassed in any Chapter; this opinion was subsequently expressed in a most forcible speech by Comp. James Terry. Business being ended, and Chapter closed, the Comps. adjourned to a plain, substantial, and well served dinner, after which the usual toasts were given. That of the Visitors was responded to by Comps. Forge and Percy, the latter of whom kindly acted as P.S. in Chapter and at dinner. It is to be regretted that in this Chapter, as in the Lodge, some brethren accept office and do not attend, thus leaving their work to be done by others, as well as retarding the progress of competent members who attend regularly.

North London Chapter of Improvement, No. 1471.—

The weekly meeting of the above Chapter was held at the Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, on Thursday, the 15th instant. Present:—Companions G. Davis M.E.Z., N. Moss II., E. Rogers J., J. Osborn S.E., D. Stroud S.N., S. Smont jun. P.S., T. C. Edmonds Preceptor; also Companions J. E. Sheffield, H. Higgins, G. Gregory, R. Percy, J. Weston, G. W. Knight, and others. The Chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the previous Convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Companion Edmonds acting as candidate. As on this occasion the offices, with the exception of that of S.E., were occupied by some of the members of the Earl of Carnarvon Chapter of Improvement, who had accepted an invitation from this Chapter to work the ceremony of exaltation, a cordial vote of thanks was recorded on the minutes to Companion Davis and the members who accompanied him for their kindness in attending and working the ceremony in such an admirable manner; and to mark their appreciation of his services, Companion Davis was unanimously elected an honorary member of this Chapter of Improvement. It was also carried that a letter of condolence be forwarded to Companion Moss, a much respected member of the Chapter, on his late severe illness. The Chapter was then closed and adjourned. This Chapter will not meet during the Christmas week, but will be adjourned to Thursday, 5th January, at 8 p.m.

THE MYSTERIOUS ORGANIST.

A LEGEND OF THE RHINE.

FROM THE MASONIC REVIEW.

YEARS ago, at the Grand Cathedral overlooking the Rhine, there appeared a mysterious organist. The great composer who had played the organ so long had suddenly died, and everybody, from the king to the peasant, was wondering who could be found to fill his place, when, one bright Sabbath morning, as the sexton entered the church, he saw a stranger sitting at the crape-shrouded organ. He was a tall, graceful man, with a pale but strikingly handsome face, great, black, melancholy eyes, and hair like the raven's wing for gloss and colour, sweeping in dark waves over his shoulders. He did not seem to notice the sexton, but went on playing, and such music as he drew from the instrument no words of mine can describe.

The astonished listener declared that the organ seemed to have grown human—that it wailed and sighed and clamoured, as if a tortured human heart were throbbing through its pipes.

When the music had at length ceased the sexton hastened to the stranger and asked:

"Pray, who are you, sir?"

"Do not ask my name," he replied; "I have heard that you are in want of an organist, and I have come here on trial."

"You'll be sure to get the place," exclaimed the sexton. "Why, you surpass him that's dead and gone, sir."

"No, no, you overrate me," resumed the stranger, with a smile; and then, as if disinclined to conversation, he turned from old Hans and began to play again. And now the music changed from a sorrowful strain to a grand old psalm, and the mysterious organist—

"Looking upward full of grace,
Plays still from a happy place—
God's glory smote him in the face,"

and his countenance seems not unlike that of St. Michael, as portrayed by Guido.

Lost in the melodies which swelled around him, he sat with his "far-seeing" eyes fixed on the far distant sky, a glimpse of which he caught through an open window, when there was a stir about the church door, and a royal party came sweeping in. Among them might be seen a bright young girl, with a wealth of golden hair, eyes like the violet's hue, and lips like wild cherries. This was the princess Elizabeth, and all eyes were turned towards her as she seated herself in the velvet cushioned pew appropriated to the court. The mysterious organist fixed his eyes upon her, and went on playing. No sooner had the music reached her ears than she started, as if a ghost had crossed her path. The blood faded from her crimson cheek, her lips quivered, and her whole frame grew tremulous. At last her eyes met those of the organist in a long, yearning look, and the melody lost its joyous notes, and once more wailed and sighed and clamoured.

"By faith," whispered the king to his daughter, "this organist has a master hand. Hark ye, he shall play at your wedding."

The pale lips of the princess parted, but she could not speak—she was dumb with grief. Like one in painful dream, she saw the pale man at the organ, and heard the melody which filled the vast edifice. Ay, full well she knew who it was, and why the instrument seemed breathing out the agony of a tortured heart.

When the services were over, and the royal party had left the Cathedral, he stole away as mysteriously as he had come. He was

not seen again by the sexton till the vesper hour, and then he appeared in the organ loft and commenced his task. While he played a veiled figure glided in, and knelt near a side shrine. There she remained until the worshippers disappeared, when the sexton touched her on the shoulder and said:

"Madam, everybody has gone but you and me, and I wish to close the doors."

"I am not ready to go yet," was the reply; "leave me—leave me!"

The sexton drew back into a shady niche, and watched and listened. The mysterious organist still kept his post, but his head was bowed upon the instrument, and he could not see the lone devotee. At length she arose from the aisle, and moving to the organ loft paused beside the organist.

"Bertram!" she murmured.

Quick as thought the organist raised his head. There, with the light of a lamp suspended to the arch above falling full upon her, stood the princess who had graced the royal pew that day. The court dress of velvet, with its ermine trimmings, the tiara, the necklace, the bracelets, had been exchanged for a gray serge robe and a long thick veil, which was now pushed back from the fair, girlish face.

"Why are you here, Bertram?" asked the princess.

"I came to bid you farewell; and as I dare not venture into the palace, I gained access to the Cathedral by bribing the bell-ringer, and having taken the seat of the dead organist, let my music breathe out the adieu I could not trust my lips to utter."

A low moan was the only answer, and he continued:

"You are to be married on the morrow?"

"Yes," sobbed the girl. "Oh! Bertram, what a trial it will be to stand at yonder altar, and take upon me the vows which will doom me to a living death."

"Think of me," rejoined the organist. "Your royal father has requested me to play at the wedding, and I have promised to be here. If I were your equal I could be the bridegroom instead of the organist; but a poor musician must give you up."

"It is like rending my soul and body asunder to part with you," said the girl. "To-night I may tell you this—tell you how fondly I love you, but in a few hours it will be a sin! Go, go, and God bless you."

She waved him from her, as if she would banish him while she had the power to do so, and he—how was it with him? He arose to leave her, then came back, held her on his heart in a long embrace, and with a half smothered farewell, left her.

The next morning dawned in cloudless splendour. At an early hour the Cathedral was thrown open, and the sexton began to prepare for the wedding. Flame-coloured flowers nodded by the wayside—flame-coloured leaves came rushing down from the trees and lay in heaps upon the ground; and the ripe wheat waved like a golden sea, and berries drooped in red and purple clusters over the rocks along the Rhine.

At length the palace gates were opened, and the royal party appeared, escorting the princess Elizabeth to the Cathedral, where her marriage was to be solemnized.

It was a brave pageant—far brighter than the untwined foliage and blossoms were the tufts of plumes which floated from stately heads and festal robes that streamed down over the housings of the superb steeds. But the princess, mounted on a snowy palfrey, and clad in snow-white velvet, looked pale and sad; and when, on nearing the church, she heard a gush of organ music, which, though jubilant in sound, struck on her ear like a funeral knell, she trembled and would have fallen to the earth had not a page supported her. A few minutes afterwards she entered the Cathedral. There, with his retinue, stood the royal bridegroom, whom she had never before seen. But her glance roved from him to the organ loft, where she had expected the mysterious organist. He was gone, and she was obliged to return the graceful bow of the king, to whom she had been betrothed from motives of policy. Mechanically she knelt at his side on the altar stone; mechanically listened to the service and made the responses.

Then her husband drew her to him in a convulsive embrace and whispered:

"Elizabeth, my queen, my wife, look up?"

Trembling in every limb, she obeyed. Why did those eyes thrill her so? Why did that smile bring a glow on her cheeks?

Ah! though the king wore the royal purple, and many a jewelled order glittered on his breast, he seemed the same humble person who had been employed to teach her music, and had taught her the lore of love.

"Elizabeth," murmured the monarch, "Bertram Hoffman, the mysterious organist, and King Oscar (the royal Freemason) are one. Forgive my stratagem. I wished to marry you, but I would not drag to the altar an unwilling bride. Your father was in the secret."

While tears of joy rained from her blue eyes, the new-made queen returned her husband's fond kisses, and for once two hearts were made happy by a royal marriage.

E. Surrey's Almanack and Pocket Companion for 1882.—We heartily congratulate compiler, printer, and, above all, Mr. Surrey, tobacconist, of 21 Great Queen-street, W.C., on the success of their joint efforts in connection with this pocket companion. There is an abundance of useful—we ought rather to say necessary—information as to postal arrangements, foreign money, places of amusement, &c. &c.; the matter being well arranged and clearly printed, while the Companion itself may be carried in the waistcoat pocket. There are also blank pages for the insertion of casual memoranda, and a price list of the goods vendued in wholesale and retail by Mr. Surrey. Of the cigars and tobaccos we can speak from personal trial of their merits. Only the best qualities are offered for sale, and we feel assured that brethren who may give Mr. Surrey even a portion of their custom will have no reason to complain.

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.

—:O:—

SATURDAY, 24th DECEMBER.

1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney, (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8

TUESDAY, 27th DECEMBER.

205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
1744—Royal Savoy, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
209—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, Town Hall, 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, Colno, Lancashire

WEDNESDAY, 28th DECEMBER.

193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
223—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
538—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst.)
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
867—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
1185—Lewis, Kings 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.)
1321—Emblematic, Goat and Star, Swallow Street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)
1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 518 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst.)
1604—Wanderers, Black Horse, York Street, S.W., at 7.30 (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)
M.M. Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 7 (Instruction)

32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire
163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
1039—St John, George Hotel, Lichfield
1083—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)
1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley, near Manchester
1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
1283—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull. (Instruction)
1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
1638—Brownriggs, Sun Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, at 8. (Instruction)
R.A. 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
R.A. 1356—De Grey and Ripon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
M.M. Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

THURSDAY, 29th DECEMBER.

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—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
211—St. Michael's, 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)
902—Burgoyne, Cock Tavern, St. Martin's-court, Ludgate-hill, at 6.30. (Inst.)
1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8. (Inst.)
1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington Road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30. (Inst.)
1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James Street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (Inst.)
1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (In)
R.A. 1471—North London, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Inst.)

111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colno
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
337—Candour, New Masonic Rooms, Uppermill, Saddleworth
344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Rudcliffe, Lancashire
636—D'Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
816—Royal, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
936—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. German's, Cornwall.
1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southgate, Lancashire
1576—Dee, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
1590—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction)
1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
R.A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham Street, Rochdale
M.M. 31—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester

FRIDAY, 30th 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, Un. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 Inst.
834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
1056—Metropolitan, Portland Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
1153—Belgrave, Jernyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
1299—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction) at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, (Inst.)

453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton
1143—Royal Denbigh, Council Room, Denbigh
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
R.A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster

SATURDAY, 31st DECEMBER.

1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
7308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood.
1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

—:O:—

HOWARD LODGE OF BROTHERLY LOVE, No. 56.

THE installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year, and the annual banquet of the above Lodge took place on 15th instant, and proved a most successful gathering in everything except numbers. The time of year has always proved an inconvenient one to many of the brethren, and the unpropitious weather helped to detain those who came from a distance, and especially visitors. Of these latter there were only two—Bro. Elverstone W.M. Carnarvon Lodge, Havant, and Bro. Chamberlaine P.M. Lord Warden Lodge, Deal. Bro. A. H. Smith, the outgoing Master, installed his successor, Bro. E. Francis, P.M. 804, in excellent style. The Officers appointed and invested by the new W.M. were Bros. Smith I.P.M., Thompson S.W., Mardon J.W., Price P.M. Secretary, Nunn Treasurer, Rev. Dunlop Chaplain, Neame S.D., Ceal J.D., Mitchell I.G., Auckett Steward, and Robertson Tyler. The W.M. then presented Brother Smith with a P.M.'s breast jewel, which had been unanimously awarded to him by the Lodge for his services as Master during the past year. The whole party then adjourned to the Norfolk, where an excellent banquet was partaken of, supplied by Brother Barkshire in his usual style, and a very pleasant evening spent. In addition to the Officers, who were all present, with the exception of the Chaplain and the Steward, there were present:—P.M.'s Bros. Evershed, Garwood, Street, and E. Collings.

LODGE OF HARMONY, No. 156.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, at the Huyshe Masonic Temple. The W. Bro. W. H. Pike, who had been previously unanimously elected, was installed as Master. The ceremony was conducted by the retiring Master, Bro. D. Banks, and W. Bro. W. K. Michell P.M. P.P.G.D.C., in a large and influential Board of Installed Masters, amongst whom were Bros. Admiral F. H. H. Glasse, C.B., William Derry, E. Aitken-Davies, H. F. Hearle, D. Box, P. B. Clemens, W. C. Howard, J. Manning, E. Manley, W. Marsh, F. Hall, J. B. Gover, L. D. Westcott, W. S. Hearley, C. Cooper, F. Aubrey Thomas, J. Russell Lord, J. Kinton Bond, George Firks, W. G. L. Pearce, Byron Elliott, Thomas Goodall, James Rendle. The ceremony having been completed, the W. Master invested the following brethren as the Officers for the ensuing year:—D. Banks I.P.M., J. F. Young S.W., George Whittley P.P.G.O. J.W., Rev. W. Whittley P.P.G.D. Chaplain, H. F. Hearle Treasurer, W. K. Michell Secretary, E. B. Thompson S.D., W. C. Cuddeford J.D., Edmund Coppin I.G., William Skardon D.C., John Little A.D.C., Thomas Parker Organist, Thomas Welch S.S., John Parkhouse J.S., W. H. Phillips Tyler. Bros. H. F. Hearle, W. K. Michell, W. Whittley, D. Banks, and W. H. Pike were appointed as the representatives of the Lodge on the Committee of the Associated Lodges. The Rev. W. Whittley was unanimously re-elected to represent the Lodge on the Committee of Petitions. Friday, 6th January, was appointed for the banquet, and this will take place at Bro. Walter's, Farley Hotel. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed, and recorded on the minutes, to the I.P.M., Bro. Banks, for the perfect way in which he had carried out his duties.

YORK LODGE, No. 236.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday last. At 4 p.m. the brethren assembled, under the gavel of Bro. M. Rooke W.M., who proceeded to open the Lodge in the first and second degrees, after which the chair was assumed by Bro. J. Todd P.M. P.P.G.R., who appointed Bro. T. B. Whytehead P.M. Senior, and Bro. G. Balmford P.M. Junior Wardens. The W.M. elect (Bro. J. S. Rymer) was then presented for installation, by Bro. William Lawton P.M. P.P.G.R., and in due course the Lodge opened in the 3rd degree, and a Board of Installed Masters was opened in full form. The W.M. having been installed, then invested his I.P.M. (Bro. Rooke), and was duly greeted, and the Board closed. The brethren were then re-admitted, and the W.M. was saluted and greeted in the three degrees, and duly proclaimed. The working tools, in the three degrees were given successively by Bros. M. Rooke P.M., W. H. Gainforth P.M., and A. Buckle P.M. The W.M. then appointed and invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. G. Kirby S.W., G. Garbutt J.W., Very Rev. the Dean of York (Grand Chaplain) Chaplain, J. Todd P.M. Treasurer, A. Buckle P.M. Secretary, S. Border Assistant Secretary, W. Draper S.D., W. Powell J.D., W. Smith M.C., T. Tuke Organist, T. G. Hodgson I.G., W. G. Calvert Tyler, W. Biscomb and J. B. Sampson Stewards. The addresses to the Officers were given by the W.M., and those to the W.M. and brethren by the Installing Master. The Lodge was then closed amid hearty good wishes. Amongst the brethren present, in addition to those already named, we noticed:—Bros. Rev. W. Valentine P.M. P.P.G. Chaplain, J. A. Barstow P.M., F. Rawling P.M., Capt. Cavenagh, Major Thornton, W. H. Godley, A. White, J. Redfare, C. A. Burdekin, W. T. Gowland, W. G. Thomas, E. Houlden, W. M.

Kay, C. Anderson, T. S. Camidge, G. C. Lee, T. J. Russell, and J. Young. Amongst the Visitors were Brothers G. Simpson W.M. 1611, Col. Nasin 44, J. W. Marshall W.M. 660, J. Marshall P.M. 660, W. Constable, W. Wood P.M. 495, J. S. Cumberland P.M. 1611 P.P.G.W., J. Kay 1611, M. Millington 1611, A. T. B. Turner 1611, J. B. Jackson 1611, J. Mennell 1611, &c. After the close of the Lodge, about fifty of the brethren and their Visitors sat down to a banquet, provided by Bro. Tew, and at which a number of toasts were honoured. The W.M. gave the usual preliminary toasts, and then the health of the Provincial Grand Master and Officers, which was responded to by Bro. W. H. Gainforth Provincial G.D.C. Bro. W. Lawton P.M. gave the health of the W.M., who he was sure would worthily fill the chair in which he had been placed. He was a Mason of some fourteen years' standing, and they were all aware of his great abilities, and the high estimation in which he was held. The W.M. in responding said he felt it a great honour to be placed in the chair of a Lodge whose age was over a century, and it would be his earnest endeavour to emulate the good example of those who had preceded him in the high office. Bro. Alderman Brown proposed the Immediate Past Master, Bro. M. Rooke, and the Past Masters, and Bro. Rooke in responding took the opportunity of thanking the brethren for the generous support they had given him during his year of office. It had been a year of unmixed pleasure to him, and he hoped to be spared to give his utmost support to Masonry in general and the York Lodge in particular. The W.M. then gave the toast of the Installing Master, Bro. J. Todd P.M., and alluded in terms of high praise to Bro. Todd's services to the Lodge. He had been to many of them a trusted guide and monitor, he occupied the responsible position of Lodge Treasurer, and he was happy in the knowledge that Brother Todd's aid and advice would always be at his disposal. Bro. Todd in responding alluded to the progress the Lodge had made, and said that he was happy to announce that it was the W.M.'s intention to represent the Lodge at the next Festival of the Boys' School, and he hoped the brethren would enable him to carry up a good list. Bro. Backle P.M. proposed the Masonic Charities, and referred to the practical education which was given to the girls in the School, cookery and other useful arts being there cultivated. He mentioned the high opinion which he had heard expressed by Mr. Buckmaster of the management of these Schools. Bro. J. S. Cumberland responded, as Provincial Charity Steward, and pointed out at some length to the brethren the importance of supporting most loyally their own Provincial Charity Association, without which they could never hope to succeed in carrying their candidates. He also showed that, although the Province had done well of late years, it should go on improving and increasing its contributions, if it was to keep pace with the rest of the Masonic Provinces. Bro. T. B. Whytehead proposed the Visitors, and briefly showed that York from the very earliest times must necessarily have been the goal to which visiting Masons would gather. Referring to the late British Association gathering, he said every visitor there present must have taken away with him the most gratifying recollection of the hospitality of York Masons. Bro. Wood P.M. (Wakefield) responded in a neat speech. The W.M. proposed the Sister Lodges, and Bro. J. T. Sellar, I.P.M. Eboracum Lodge 1611, responded. The proceedings soon afterwards terminated. The evening was enlivened by a series of excellent songs and glees, by Bros. J. Todd, J. S. Cumberland, G. Kirby, J. B. Sampson, T. G. Hodgson, G. C. Lee, and others, Bro. T. Take presiding at the piano-forte.

LODGE OF FIDELITY, No. 230.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Ebrington Hall, Granby Street, Devonport. Bro. R. W. Pitcher was installed as the Master, the ceremony being performed (in the unavoidable absence of the Master) by Bro. J. R. H. Harris I.P.M., assisted by Bro. Richard Cawsay P.M. and Secretary, in a Board of Installed Masters comprising Bros. John Lynn P.M. and Tr. P.P.G.S.B., D. B. Lynn P.M. P.G.S., R. H. Burt P.M., R. Pike P.M., A. Rowe P.M., W. G. Swiss P.M. (all of 230), J. Baxter P.M. 954 P.G.S.B., T. Searle P.M. 1091, H. Cameron P.M. 1205, Anthony Lethbridge P.M. 159, Owen Knowles W.M. 159. The Officers appointed were:—Bros. R. Ellis I.P.M., John Whitford S.W., John Border J.W., John Lynn Treasurer, R. Cawsay Secretary, W. M. Ridland S.D., E. Littleton J.D., E. Rattenbury I.G., J. Pike Organist, Gorey Chaplain, Meadley D.C., J. Toms S. Steward, C. Hunt J. Steward, W. H. Burt 3rd Steward, A. D. Cawsay Assistant Secretary, Jones Assistant Organist, Orchard A.D.C. The Wor. Brother R. Cawsay was unanimously appointed to represent the Lodge on the Committee of Petitions, and the banquet was appointed to be held at the Royal Hotel, Devonport, when, as is usual in this Lodge, the ladies will be invited, and there will be a ball and concert.—*Western Daily Mercury*.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At the Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, on Saturday, 17th inst. Present Bros. Percy W.M., Wolf S.W., R. P. Forge J.W., Trewinnard acting Preceptor, Fenner Secretary, E. Woodman S.D., Gribbell J.D., R. M. Jones I.G., also Bros. C. Lorkin, G. Ferrar, Brasted, A. M. Marks, Wenborne, Fysh, &c. The ceremonial work comprised the rehearsal of the ceremony of the third degree, including traditional history, Bro. G. Ferrar acting as candidate. Bro. Fenner worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge resumed to the first degree, and Bro. Wolf was elected W.M. for the next meeting, which will be on Saturday, the 7th January 1882. The sum of £1 1s was voted to the Old People at Croydon towards their usual Christmas entertainment. The sum of £2 2s was also voted, to be placed on Bro. Forge's list, he going up as a Steward for the R.M.B.I., after which Lodge was closed and adjourned.

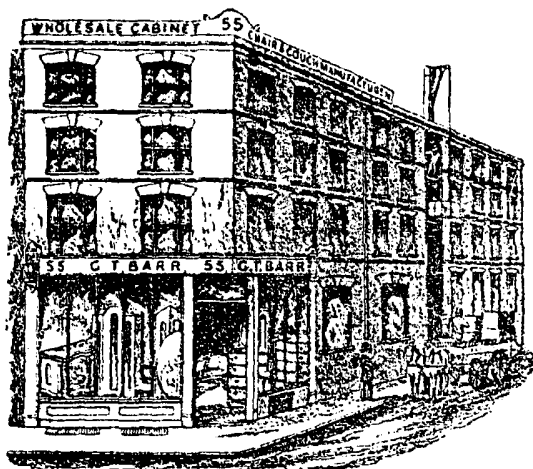
Star in the East Lodge, No. 650.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was rendered specially interesting by a visit from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D. On 13th inst. there were present Bros. T. Jennings P.G.J.D. W.M., W. O. Ward P.M., R. Clowse S.W., H. Everard J.W., M. L. Sanders Secretary, J. R. Watson J.D., B. Hutchinson D.C., C. R. Salter Organist, T. Dunn I.G., R. Barlow Tyler. The Visitors were W. Bros. Thomas J. Ralling P.M. 51 P.G. Secretary, John J. C. Turner P.M. 51 P.P.G.O., and Bros. A. C. Parsons, H. Simpson, and J. Smith, of St. Luke's Lodge, No. 225, Ipswich, while the members of Lodge No. 650 included Bros. F. R. Hales, J. Howard, G. W. Pickering, C. Hempson W.M. 1799, R. Wilson, W. Oxenham, A. De Wil, W. Rule, G. Sealey, W. Sealey, H. Cant, and I. C. Pratt. The ceremony of raising having been impressively performed by the W.M., some conversation took place as to the candidature of one of the children of the late Brother Basham for the Masonic School, in the course of which W. Brother W. O. Ward read a letter from the High Steward of the Borough (Brother E. W. Garland), promising all the help he could give, and enclosing a cheque for £5, to be applied towards forwarding the case in any way the Lodge deemed best. A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Brother Garland for his kindness. The W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master took occasion to call attention to the new Provincial Charity Committee, the object of which was to assist cases like that of Bro. Basham's child, and they hoped that when thoroughly established the organisation would prove a valuable aid to the cause of Masonic Charity in the Province. Bro. Pratt brought forward the case of the widow of a former member of the Lodge, who he said needed help, and it was adjourned till next meeting for further enquiry. The W.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the D.P.G.M. for his kindness in coming amongst them, which, having been seconded by Bro. Hales, was carried by acclamation. W. Bro. Philbrick acknowledged the vote in his usual genial manner. An adjournment was then made to banquet, which was well served by the host of the Pier Hotel. The toast of the evening was that of the D.P.G.M., which was given by W. Bro. W. O. Ward, and heartily responded to by the brethren. In the course of his reply, Bro. Philbrick expressed the pleasure it had given him to make the acquaintance of Lodge Star in the East, to witness its excellent working, and to find that it was in so flourishing a condition.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—On Tuesday, 20th inst., at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Glass W.M., T. Clark S.W., Dignam J.W., Edwards S.D., Christian J.D., Smyth I.G., F. Carr Secretary, Brasted Acting Preceptor; also Bros. Lamb, Robinson, C. Lorkin, and Wallington P.M., &c. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Lamb acting as candidate. Lodge was opened in the 2nd; the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Wallington Preceptor of the Lodge. Bro. Lamb, a candidate for raising, was interrogated and entrusted; the Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree, and Bro. Lamb was raised to the sublime degree of Master Master; the W.M. giving the traditional history. Bro. C. Lorkin worked the 3rd section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Glass again took the chair, and the Lodge was resumed to the first degree. Bro. Clark was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The sum of one guinea was unanimously voted towards the expenses of the "Old People's" Christmas Festival, and a cordial vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes for the very able manner in which the W.M. had performed the duties of the chair, it being the first time in any Lodge. All Masonic business being ended, Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

Elliot Lodge, No. 1164.—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held in the hall at St. Germans, on Wednesday. Bro. Dr. J. B. Kirswill P.G.J.W., who had been re-elected, was installed Master. The ceremony was conducted by Bro. H. Pole P.M., assisted by Bro. George Barnes P.M. P.P.G.P., and Bros. W. F. Creber P.M., R. Stead P.M., N. Henwood P.M., W. H. Maynard P.M., J. Creber P.M., F. Johns P.M., F. Hawke P.M., all of 1164; E. Aitkin-Davies P.M. P.P.G.S. of Works, G. Roseveare P.M. 970 P.P.G.S. of Works, E. Herring W.M., and W. H. L. Clarke P.M. Zetland. The Officers appointed were Bros. R. Stead I.P.M., B. Warwick S.W., W. N. Foreman J.W., H. Pole Treasurer, W. T. Creber P.M. Sec., R. G. Betty S.D., G. Trethewy J.D., F. Hawke Org., J. O. Kinsman I.G., J. Hawke Tyler. The brethren adjourned to the Elliot Arms for the dinner. The W. Master presided, and in the course of the evening he was presented with a very handsome gold jewel (Provincial Grand Junior Wardens) in recognition of his services to the Lodge.

St. John's Lodge, No. 1247.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 15th inst., at the Hyshe Masonic Temple. Bro. J. Kinton Bond was unanimously elected as the W. Master for the ensuing year, as also was Bro. J. Russell Lord as Treasurer; and, by the unanimous vote of the Lodge, Bro. J. R. Lord was appointed to represent the Lodge on the Committee of Petitions for the Province. Bro. Firks was appointed the Charity Steward for the Devon Masonic Educational Fund. There was a very pleasing episode, and, from being unexpected, therefore the more gratifying, Bro. Lord being presented by the members with a memorial of their fraternal remembrance. Bro. W. H. Phillips was appointed Tyler, and the installation was fixed for Thursday, 29th inst., at 7 p.m., when the day for the banquet will be arranged.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Dyspepsia, Jaundice.—These complaints are the results of a disordered liver, which secretes bile in quality or quantity unsuitable for digestion, which requires a free flow of healthy bile, to ensure which Holloway's Pills and Ointment have long been famous, far eclipsing all other remedies. Unsuitable food, irregularity of living, unhealthy climates and other causes are constantly throwing the liver into disorder, but that important organ can, under all circumstances, soon be regulated and healthily adjusted by Holloway's Pills and Ointment, which acts directly upon its secreting cells. The Ointment rubbed on the skin penetrates immediately to the liver, whose tissues it rectifies. One trial is all that is needed; a cure will soon follow.



ESTABLISHED 1857.

G. T. BARR,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL

CABINET MANUFACTURER AND UPHOLSTERER,
SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO SHIPPERS, AND GOODS
ORDERED FROM DESIGNS.

55 CURTAIN ROAD, E.C.

Two doors from Great Eastern Street.

A large stock always on view, to which the attention of those about to furnish is particularly directed.

CANNON STREET HOTEL, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Has been thoroughly renovated; the Railway advantages, in direct communication with the Hotel, render this establishment unequalled in the Metropolis for

MASONIC BANQUETS, PUBLIC & PRIVATE DINNERS, BREAKFASTS, &c.
DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENTS, PUBLIC MEETINGS, ARBITRATIONS, &c.

THE LARGE HALL IS CAPABLE OF SEATING UPWARDS OF TWELVE HUNDRED PEOPLE.

VISITORS AND FAMILIES visiting LONDON, for LONG or SHORT PERIODS, will find the APPOINTMENTS, and ACCOMMODATION UNRIVALLED.

E. H. RAND, MANAGER.

PIANOFORTE MANUFACTURER.

ILLUSTRATED
PRICE LISTS FREE
ON
APPLICATION.

JUSTIN BROWNE
Invites the attention of the Trade to his STOCK of FIRST-CLASS PIANOS.
Every Instrument being made of thoroughly seasoned materials and under his immediate supervision, he can guarantee a SOUNDNESS of CONSTRUCTION, PURITY of TONE, ELASTICITY of TOUCH, and a GENERAL ELEGANCE of DESIGN unattainable elsewhere at the same moderate Price.

237 & 239 EUSTON ROAD, LONDON.

OIL COOKING STOVES,

FOR BACHELORS, BOATING, CAMP, AND FAMILIES IN SUMMER,
HEATING BED-ROOMS and GREENHOUSES in WINTER.

Stove and Kettle from 3s 6d. Illustration Free.

HOOPER & CO., 121 NEWGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

MASONIC JEWELS FOR ALL DEGREES.

MINIATURE WAR MEDALS AND DECORATIONS.

ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD IN ALL SIZES.

ATHLETIC SPORTS MEDALS AND BADGES.

A. D. LOEWENSTARK & SONS, Medallists, 210 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

MANUFACTORY--1 DEVEREUX COURT, STRAND.

LARDNER AND LARDNER, WHIP MANUFACTURERS,

24, 25, & 26 HOSIER LANE, SMITHFIELD, LONDON, E.C.

Wholesale, Retail, and for Exportation.

SPECIAL ATTENTION TO ORDERS SENT BY POST.

ADAM S. MATHER,

GAS ENGINEER, GENERAL GAS FITTER AND BELL HANGER,
MANUFACTURER OF BILLIARD LIGHTS
AND OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF GAS APPARATUS FOR COOKING AND HEATING
Bath Rooms Fitted up. All the Latest Improvements Introduced.

MANUFACTORY--12 CHARLES STREET, HATTON GARDEN, E.C.;

AND AT 278 CALEDONIAN ROAD, ISLINGTON, N.

ESTIMATES GIVEN.

J. BARNARD & Co.'s

NON-CONDUCTING COMPOSITION,

For Covering Steam Boilers, Pipes, Cylinders, Vacuum Pan-Jacketed Pans, or any Steam Heated Surface, preventing the radiation of heat, and condensation of steam; thereby causing a great economy in fuel, and a quicker production of steam, and rendering the Boiler House or Stokehole very much cooler.

It is non-combustible, self adhesive, and can be easily applied with a trowel, by any expert mechanic. It is supplied in casks ready for use, and can be put on while steam is up, so that no stoppage of the engine is necessary.

J. BARNARD & Co., having recently extended their Works, and added largely to the machinery employed, are now enabled to supply any quantity of the Composition on the shortest notice. Ships' Boilers, Super-heaters, Railway Locomotives, &c., coated by experienced workmen immediately on receipt of order.

Price £6 per ton, delivered in London.

1s 2d per square foot, if put on the boiler, including a coat of Black Varnish.

Can be painted and grained if required, at a cost of 3d per square foot extra.

To be obtained only of the Sole Manufacturers, J. BARNARD & Co., 170 High Street, Stratford, Essex, E.

WORKS:--SUGAR HOUSE LANE, STRATFORD, E.

To whom all applications should be addressed.

SHIPPERS and AGENTS SUPPLIED.

SMOKE
CHARLESWORTH & AUSTINS
TOBACCOS
BORO'S E. CIGARS
Old Chums 2^d
Favourites 2^d & 3^d
Golden Shag 4^d & 5^d

SILVER, ELECTRO PLATE & CUTLERY.**HENRY YOUENS,
PRACTICAL SILVERSMITH, & C.**

From the CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLY ASSOCIATION,
371 BRIXTON ROAD (ADJOINING LONDON & COUNTY BANK),

Supplies the above in the Newest Designs and Best Quality, at
Stores' Prices for Net Cash.

22 Carat Gold Wedding Rings, Hall Marked	...	6/6 per dwt.
9 and 18 Carat Gold Keepers	...	from 12/6 each
Silver Tea Spoons	...	64/ per doz.
" Fruit Knives, for Pocket	...	2/4 each
Electro Plated Table Forks and Spoons	...	20/ per doz.
" " Dessert "	...	14/6 "
" " Tea Spoons	...	7/ "

Table Cutlery, Scissors, Pocket Knives, Razors, &c. all the best Sheffield Manufacture.

N.B.—TO ENSURE DESPATCH, ALL ORDERS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REMITTANCE.

SODA WATER MACHINERY AND APPURTENANCES TO THE TRADE.

Fruit Juices, Essences, Extracts, Syrups, Lime Juice Cordial, Ice Cream
Freezers, Ice Safes, Gum Extract for producing Foam, and every
requisite connected with the Trade.
Pure and Sparkling Lemonade, Ginger Ale, Lincade, Champagne Cup,
Aerated Apple Juice, Soda Water, Seltzer, Potass, Vichy, &c., &c.

MINERAL

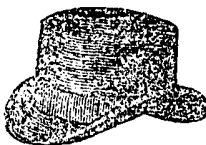


ALSO GOLD MEDAL.
CATALOGUES POST FREE.

WATERS.

Messrs. DOWS, CLARK, & Co., 46 & 47, Frith Street, London.

J. FORTESCUE,
HAT MANUFACTURER.
129 FLEET ST.; 114 & 115 SHOE LANE,
(One door from Fleet Street)
6 EXMOUTH STREET, CLERKENWELL, E.C.
215 SEVEN SISTERS' ROAD, N.
And 143 Mare Street, Triangle, Hackney
Gents' Silk Hats from 5/6 each. Second best 6/6 7/6 8/6
Superfine quality, 10/6 12/6 & 16/. The very best made 21/.
Felt Hats, hard and soft, in all the newest shapes,
from 3/6 to 10/6.



PIANOFORTES, £19 10s.
AMERICAN ORGANS, £9 5s.
HARMONIUMS, £5 15s.

Perfect in Tone and Touch. Elegant Walnut Cases. Every Instru-
ment warranted to stand any extreme climate.

SHIPPERS AND DEALERS SUPPLIED.

Before deciding on purchasing, write for a descriptive Price List and Testimonials to G. LINSTEAD, Manager.
CORDEN PIANOFORTE COMPANY, 18 & 19 Eversholt Street, Camden Town, London.

G. W. KNIGHT,

Carver, Gilder, and Picture Frame Maker,
LITTLE BELL ALLEY, BACK OF MOORGATE STREET, CITY,

AND

38 CHAUCER ROAD, BRIXTON.

CORNICES AND FRAMES OF ALL KINDS REPAIRED AND REGILT.

PIANOFORTES AND HARMONIUMS ON EASY TERMS.

GROVER & GROVER

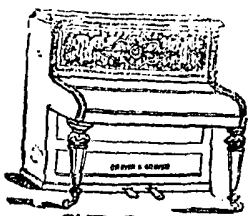
LET ON HIRE, WITH OPTION OF PURCHASE,

BEAUTIFUL AND PERFECT INSTRUMENTS.

PURCHASERS CHOOSE THEIR OWN TERMS,

FROM 15s TO £3 3s PER QUARTER.

The Advantages of a Trial, with the Convenience of the
Three Years' System at Cash Price, by Paying about a Quarter
of the value down, the Balance by Easy Payments, from
15s per quarter.



GROVER & GROVER (late AVILL & SMART),
TABERNACLE SQUARE, FINSBURY, E.C.
ESTABLISHED 1830.

R. BENSTEAD,
9 St. Martin's Street, Leicester Square,
PAPER HANGER, PAINTER AND DECORATOR.
Estimates sent free on application.
CHARGES MODERATE.

NEXT OF KIN — 1881 EDITION.
A DESCRIPTIVE INDEX
(of 25,000 names) to
Advertisements for Next of Kin, Chancery Heirs,
Legatees, &c. from 1700, 2s 6d, by Postal Order.
Address W. CULLMER,
17 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY
Limited, 7 Bank Buildings, Lothbury, E.C.
General accidents. Personal injuries.
Railway accidents. Death by accident.
C. HARDING, Manager.

ESTABLISHED 1851.

BIRKBECK BANK.

Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane.
Current Accounts opened according to the usual
practice of other Banks, and interest allowed on
the minimum monthly balances when not drawn
below £25. No commission charged for keeping
Accounts.

The Bank also receives money on Deposit at three
per cent. interest, repayable on demand.

The Bank undertakes for its Customers, free of
charge, the custody of Deeds, Writings, and other
Securities and Valuables, the collection of Bills of
Exchange, Dividends, and Coupons; and the pur-
chase and sale of Stocks and Shares.

Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued.

A Pamphlet, with full particulars, on application.

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.
31st March 1880.

The Birkbeck Building Society's Annual
Receipts exceed Four Millions.

HOW TO PURCHASE A HOUSE FOR
TWO GUINEAS PER MONTH, with imme-
diate Possession and no Rent to pay. Apply at the
Office of the Birkbeck Building Society.

HOW TO PURCHASE A PLOT OF
LAND FOR FIVE SHILLINGS PER
MONTH, with immediate possession, either for
Building or Gardening purposes. Apply at the
Office of the Birkbeck Building Society.

A Pamphlet, with full particulars, on application.
FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.
Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane.

**THE WAREHOUSEMEN AND CLERKS'
PERMANENT**

BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY,

Offices—2 Church Passage, Gresham Street, E.C.

Established for the purpose of making advances
on Freehold and Leasehold Property, or on any
other Good Securities.

No Premium, Bonus, Fees, or extra payments of
any kind. All classes are eligible to become bor-
rowers. Write for Prospectus.

ARTHUR RUMBELOW, Manager.

Bro. A. OLDROYD, Stratford, London,
MANUFACTURER OF TOBACCO POUCHES,

With any name in raised letters.
CAN be obtained direct from the Maker,
at the undermentioned prices, on receipt of
P.O.O. payable at Stratford.



No.	Price	Will take a name of
3	2/0 ...	9 letters
4	2/6 ...	11
5	3/0 ...	12
6	3/6 ...	13
7	4/0 ...	
8	4/6 ...	
9	5/0 ...	

A. OLDROYD,

Agent for Algerian Cigars, and Importer of
Havana and Continental Cigars,
64 HIGH STREET, STRATFORD, LONDON.

ALL WHO SUFFER

FROM

GOUT AND RHEUMATISM

Should immediately have recourse to

FADE'S CELEBRATED GOUT AND
RHEUMATIC PILLS.

Known throughout the world as the safest and
most effectual remedy for the instant relief and
rapid cure of Gout, Rheumatism, Rheumatic Gout,
Lumbago, and all Pains in the Head, Face, and
Limbs.

OF ALL CHEMISTS, 1s 1½d and 2s 9d,

GEORGE FADE,

SOLE PROPRIETOR,

72 GOSWELL ROAD, LONDON.

BLAIR'S GOUT PILLS.

The Great Remedy

FOR GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.

THE excruciating pain is quickly relieved
and cured in a few days by this celebrated
Medicine. These Pills require no restraint of diet
during their use, and are certain to prevent the
disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all Chemists at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d per box.

10,000 PICTURES. — GREAT
BARGAINS.

10,000 PICTURES. — ALL
QUITE NEW.

10,000 PICTURES. — THE
No. 4 GUINEA PARCEL OF EN-
GRAVINGS; Pair by Turner, Pair by Landseer,
Pair by Frith, pair by Wilkie, pair by Hunt; suffi-
cient to furnish two large rooms.

G. R. having purchased a very large stock at a
great sacrifice will give the public the benefit.
GEO. REES, 41, 42, 43, Russell-st., Covent Garden;
(Opposite Drury Lane Theatre.)

New Edition, Enlarged, Crown 8vo., Cloth, 5s.

WAIFS AND STRAYS, CHIEFLY FROM
THE CHESS BOARD, by Captain Hugh R.
Kennedy, Vice-President of the British Chess
Association.
LONDON: W. W. MORGAN, 23 GREAT QUEEN STREET

THE HIRE SYSTEM FURNISHING COMPANY.

OFFICES—224 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON.

SEND FOR PROSPECTUSES.

TERMS—

£5 worth	...	...	10/	Premium	...	...	4/	Weekly Hire
£10	"	...	30/	"	...	...	5/	"
£15	"	...	50/	"	...	...	7/	"
£20	"	...	70/	"	...	...	8/	"
£30	"	...	100/	"	...	...	10/	"
£40	"	...	140/	"	...	...	12/	"
£50	"	...	200/	"	...	...	15/	"
£100	"	...	500/	"	...	...	22/	"

The Goods become the Property of the Hirer when the Premium, with the Weekly Rentals Cover the Value of Goods sent.

Twenty Per Cent. lower than any other House.

H. T. LAMB,

MANUFACTURER OF

MASONIC JEWELS, CLOTHING AND REGALIA,
5 ST. JOHN SQUARE, LONDON.

PRICE LIST, CONTAINING 20 ILLUSTRATIONS,
POST FREE ON APPLICATION.

JOSEPH J. CANEY,

DIAMOND MERCHANT, AND MANUFACTURING JEWELLER AND WATCH MAKER,
44 CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

MASONIC JEWELS, CLOTHING AND FURNITURE.
Specialité—First Class Jewels—Artistic—Massive—Best Quality—Moderate in Price
CATALOGUES POST FREE.

A LARGE STOCK OF LOOSE BRILLIANTS FOR EXPENSIVE JEWELS.
Diamond Rings, Brooches, Studs, Earrings and bracelets in Great Variety.

DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER.

HIGH CLASS FURNITURE,

Cheapest in London.

ART FURNITURE.

Artistic and
Inexpensive.

J. STRINGER,

209 & 211 OLD STREET, E.C.
(Near Moorgate Street Station).

J. E. SHAND & CO.

Wine Merchants,

(Experts and Valuers of Wines and Spirits.)
2 ALBERT MANSIONS, VICTORIA ST., LONDON, S.W.



PRICES DELIVERED IN LONDON.

SHERRIES 21s, 30s, 36s, 42s, 48s, 54s	SPARKLING MOSELLES 42s, 48s, 54s
PORTS 21s, 30s, 36s, 42s, 48s, 54s	CHAMPAGNES 3's, 42s, 48s, 54s, 60s
CLARETS 16s, 18s, 21s, 24s, 30s, 36s	BURGUNDY 20s, 24s, 30s, 36s, 42s
STILL WOCKS 21s 30s, 36s, 42s, 48s	BRANDIES 42s, 48s, 54s, 60s, 66s
SPARKLING do 42s, 48s, 54s, 60s	WHISKIES 20s per gall., 42s per doz.

COUNTRY ORDERS OVER £3 CARRIAGE FREE.

"FAIR TRADERS."
REGISTERED MAY 1879.

Every other description can be supplied.
Wines and Spirits matched or valued.

SAMUEL HOLLIDGE, (Inc. and Ch.)

Watchmaker, Jeweller and Silversmith,

125 UPPER STREET (Opposite St. Mary's Church), ISLINGTON, N.

Masonic Jewels and Clothing, Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, Silver and Electro Plate, Musical Boxes, Optical Goods, &c., &c.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Every description of Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, Musical Boxes, &c., &c., carefully cleaned and repaired, by skilful workmen, on the premises.

Any article securely packed and sent post free to any part of Great Britain upon receipt of remittance.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF CLOCKS AND OTHER ARTICLES SUITABLE FOR TESTIMONIALS.

The Black Autocopist.

By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

Latest Invention for

INDELIBLE

BLACK REPRODUCTIONS

Of Letters, Circulars, Music, Drawings, &c.

PRICES.

Octavo	...	16/	complete
Quarto	...	20/	"
Foolscap	...	21/	"
Folio	...	28/	"

PUBLIC TRIALS FREE AT

36 FARRINGTON STREET, LONDON, E.C

HOUGHTON,**THE BOOT MAKER,**

243 & 244 WHITECHAPEL ROAD,
LONDON, E.

Lasts made to the Feet.

—:o:—

SPECIALITÉ,
EASE, ELEGANCE AND DURABILITY.

HOTELS, ETC.

CARLISLE—Bush Hotel.
SUTCLIFFE HOLROYD, Proprietor

EALING—Feathers Hotel

EASTBOURNE—Pier Hotel, Cavendish Place.

View of Sea and Pier. A. TAYLOR Proprietor

Kew—Star and Garter. Good accommodation for

Lodge & Dinner Parties. J. BRILL Proprietor

SANDWICH—Bell Family and Commercial Hotel.

Good Stabling. J. J. FILMER Proprietor

LONDON.

GREEN DRAGON—Spring Garden-place, Stepney
Wines and Spirits of the best quality. Billiards;
Banquets provided for large or small parties.
Yarborough L. & C. 554, and Temple Mark L. 173
held here. Lodge of Instruc. (554) meets every
Tuesday at 8. A. WALTER Proprietor

MOORGATE TAVERN.

15 FINSBURY PAVEMENT, E.C.

Banquets provided for large or small parties.

St. John of Wapping Lodge, No. 1306.

Friars Lodge, No. 1319.

Rose of Sharon Senate K.H. No. 6.

Hold their regular meetings here.

The following Lodges of Instruction

Metropolitan, No. 1507.

Islington, No. 1471

Prince Leopold, No. 1445.

St. Michael's, No. 211.

Also hold their meetings here.

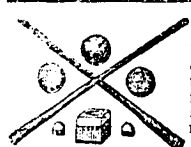
H. KINGSTON, Proprietor.

PORTUGAL HOTEL.—Fleet-street, E.C. Wines
and Spirits of the best quality. Banquets pro-
vided for large or small parties. Special
accommodation for Lodge and other meetings.
For terms apply to the Manager, Mr. J. G. Shaw.
Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1056,
meets here. A. YATES, Proprietor.

CONCERTINAS.

ENGLISH AND ANGLO-GERMAN.

G. JONES, 350 Commercial-road, Lon-
don, E., inventor of the Anglo-German with
chromatic scale. His tempered steel notes never
get out of tune. Used by the leading performers.
Price List of Musical Instruments of every descrip-
tion free. Established 1850.



BILLIARD BALLS, Chalks, Cues
and Tips, at HENNIG BROS.,
Ivory Works, 11 High Street, Lon-
don, W.C. Cheapest house in the
trade for billiard-table requisites and
ivory goods in general. Old balls
adjusted or exchanged, and tables
recovered. Price Lists on application
Established 1862.



Printed for the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE PUBLISHING COMPANY
LIMITED, and Published by BRO. WM. WRAY MORGAN JUN., 23
Great Queen Street, London, W.C., Saturday, 24th December
1881.