

THE
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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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MASONIC INTEREST IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

GLANCING at a recent issue of a non-Masonic paper published in Canada—the *Quebec Weekly Chronicle*—we chanced to light on a reference to the Masonic brotherhood. Although made in connection with an event that happened some eighty-four years since, and which was then carried out with Masonic ceremonial, it may justly be referred to at the present time, when recent Masonic doings, in England at least, enable us to prove that the writer in our Canadian contemporary is somewhat in error in the tone of his remarks. The article in question is headed "A Red Letter Day in Olden Times," and has reference to the laying of the corner stone of the Provincial Court House, at Quebec, on the 11th November 1799. The writer, who regrets he is not a member of the Mystic Circle, having referred to the absence of any detailed or even brief account of this "city incident of undoubted interest in its day—both from its object, as well as from the exalted rank of those who witnessed or took part in it," remarks, that "'tis possible some desirable and dainty tidbits of information might be gleaned from a perusal of the registers of the Quebec Masonic Craft—the usual and zealous attendants at all pageants of the kind in olden times." From this it will be seen that our contemporary implies that the regular and zealous attendance of the Masonic Craft at such ceremonies is only a relic of the past, whereas we, as Freemasons, think we can prove that at no time did Freemasons take more interest in such public events than at the present, and it is not necessary for us to do much more than refer to the Masonic doings of last week to confirm our assertion. On Monday, the 16th inst., a Masonic contribution, in the form of a pulpit, was formally made to what may be looked upon as a national undertaking—the restoration of St. Albans Abbey, while on Wednesday, a Special Grand Lodge was held at York, at which the M. W. G. Master presided, when the Memorial Stone of the York Institute of Art, Science and Literature was laid. These are but recent instances of the good work that Freemasons are continually doing in the present, as indeed we may say they have done for ages past, and, we trust, will ever continue to do.

It has been the peculiar privilege of Freemasons, so long as the Order has been in existence, to take a prominent part in the commencement of the principal public buildings which have been erected, and it is not very difficult to trace the origin of the custom which associates the members of the Order with such undertakings. The Freemasons of to-day are descended from the Operative Masons of the olden times, and retain the custom of inaugurating new buildings as one of the mementoes of the past. Their co-operation is also sought as giving additional importance to what is at all times an impressive work, while the lessons which are illustrated by the ceremony are of a character intended to improve us in our every day life, and may not be without effect on the general public, although, perhaps, not to the extent they are on members of the Craft.

The ceremony at York was of the most gratifying character. Connected as that city is with the earlier history of Freemasonry, a visit to it is always a matter of interest to the members of the Order, but when that visit is asso-

ciated with a Masonic celebration the enjoyment becomes much greater. It has been our pleasure to visit York on more than one occasion, to take part in Masonic celebrations, and on each the Grand Old City has maintained its reputation, but on Wednesday last, the ceremony performed was of a nature capable of showing to greater advantage the doings of the Craft, and, accordingly, it seemed to make a greater impression than was previously the case. In addition to the greater display possible on the present occasion, the Grand Master and his Officers were present in their official capacity, while the popularity of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, both as a member of the Royal Family and as Grand Master of the Masonic Order, also weighed heavily in the scale of attractions. Everything seemed to combine to render this latest Masonic work one of which we may justly boast. Although a considerable distance from the homes of most of the Grand Officers, that body was very largely represented, as it generally is whenever a call is made on them, while the number of lay brethren who attended was among the largest ever known in the district. In closing our remarks in reference to this most interesting event, we cannot do better than quote the following, which appeared in the *Yorkshire Gazette* of Saturday last, and which we have little reason to doubt was written by one who took a most prominent part in the arrangements of the day.

Next to the Holy City itself, there is no place whose traditions are so closely mixed up with those of Freemasonry as the ancient capital of the north. Foreign members of the venerable Craft look towards York in much the same spirit as the pious Mussulman gazes in the direction of Mecca, and a Masonic pilgrimage to York is regarded as a *sine quâ non* by every active American Mason who visits the mother country. It was in York, according to the earliest traditions, that, under the Saxon Kings, grand annual assemblies of Operative Masons were held, and by one of them a charter was granted to the guild of builders of that day, and it is at the present day in York that some of the earliest known records of Freemasonry are still preserved. At one period during the last century there was a Grand Lodge existing in York, and many of its documents and minute books are still preserved. There was a Lodge in York in existence in 1705, which is several years before the present Grand Lodge in London was formed, ruled over by Sir George Tempest, who was called "the President." When the Grand Lodge in London was formed in 1721, the Masons of York regarded the step as an infringement of their rights, and declared themselves to be "The Grand Lodge of All England," by immemorial right. The southern rival, however, was too strong for its northern sister, and after a very chequered and often feeble existence, "The Grand Lodge of All England" at York died of inanition about 1792, the Grand Master of that day being Mr. Edward Woolley, a York solicitor. In the meantime the York Masons do not seem to have entertained a very exalted opinion of their own Grand Lodge, since they sought authority for other Lodges, not from their own Grand Lodge, as might have been expected, but from the Grand Lodge in London. About 1765 there was a Lodge meeting at the Punch Bowl, in Stonegate, under a London warrant, and in 1773 there was the Apollo Lodge meeting at the George Hotel in Coney-street. Both these Lodges died out, but in 1777 the Union Lodge was founded under a London warrant, and is in existence at the present day, having changed its name to "York" Lodge in the year 1870. At no time have more than three Lodges been in working existence in York, and at the present day that number of Lodges are in full play: the York Lodge 236, the Eboracum Lodge 1611, and the Agricola Lodge 1991. When the Grand Lodge at York expired in 1792 many of its properties and documents became scattered, but at intervals the most important of these have been brought to light, and have been handed over to the custody of the York Lodge, in whose possession they now remain. It will thus be seen that at no place could a Masonic ceremony be held with greater propriety than within the walls of old Eboracum.

The last occasion on which a meeting of the Grand Lodge of England was held in York was on the 20th October 1841, when H.R.H.

the Duke of Sussex opened a Grand Lodge in the State Room of the Mansion House, the late Earl of Zetland, Prov. Grand Master North and East Yorkshire, being present as Pro Grand Master, and Bro. Timothy Hutton D.P.G.M. as Deputy Grand Master. The Grand Officers' chairs were filled by the corresponding Provincial Grand Officers. Addresses were presented to His Royal Highness by the brethren of the two Yorkshire Provinces, and a banquet was afterwards held in the Guildhall, at which the Grand Master presided, the Master of each Lodge having been previously presented, and received from the Grand Master the right hand of fellowship.

MARK MASONRY IN CANADA AND ENGLAND.

WHERE there is no canon law, no inspired record to govern an institution, there is sure to be a struggle for authority among rival claimants. In matters of religious faith, the appeal is to the law and to the testimony, but where are these to be found of such an age and weight as to become acceptable in a general or reliable sense to the Masonic body? Tradition has preserved the genius of Freemasonry; it has handed down its spirit, it may be from countless ages; but no fixed laws either for constitution or working. That there were laws in the old time there is reason to believe, that the ceremonies of to-day may be the same in character as they were two thousand years ago is also possible. What must be admitted is, that there is no proof, nothing but speculation of an imaginative character. The spirit is present; what shape it shall take, and how be controlled, has been left to the decision of those who are the children of circumstances, and who have determined according to the exigencies of each case. Hence it is that there is not one Grand Lodge only, but many Grand Lodges, each claiming equal right to its charter of independence, and each recognising a common ground of communion. That is so far as Craft Freemasonry is concerned. When a departure is made from a settled foundation to one not recognised, or regarded as doubtful, then the seeds of contention are sown, and bitterness and strife are likely to succeed. As is sown, so shall the reaping be. It is very difficult to decide between rival claims when liberty of choice is almost unbounded. Only conviction, gained by knowledge and experience, can furnish ground for decision, and time alone can consecrate custom and make it law. Unfortunately the rivalry of contending systems makes the work slower and less complete than it otherwise would be. Men neglect the Craft for a while in order to bestow time, praise, and attention on other, and as some deem them, higher degrees. The Royal Arch is now the accepted climax of English Freemasonry. The Mark Degree, against which nothing here is said, or meant to be inferred so far as its purpose is concerned, has no part or lot in the Craft. It stands alone in England, a law unto itself, the arbiter of its own faith and practice, and so far as that practice is known it has been fruitful of good work. It is well understood that Mark Masonry, although patronised by men of high estate in the realm, some of whom hold leading positions in the Craft, is not regarded as a necessary part of the fundamental system of Freemasonry that has now received the seal of time and the sanction of usage. It is not likely to become incorporated with the Craft, nor is it desirable that such a union should take place. Indeed, Mark Masons themselves disclaim any desire now to disturb the present arrangement. Those who know most of Freemasonry, who have the greatest right to speak with authority, contend that the three degrees contain all that is essential, and sure it is that he who can grasp their spirit, master their details, and act up to their teachings and requirements, is fitted to be a God among men. The Royal Arch is said to put the finishing stroke to the system; the cap to the pedestal. It supplies something that is lacking in form, and it may be in spirit, but the essential principles, the requisites for the cultivation of the noblest development of morality and true religion are contained in Craft Masonry. Still it must not be forgotten that the Royal Arch is a noble portion of the whole recognised structure, and those who have passed through its forms and ceremonies consider that their Masonic education would not be complete without acquaintance with the mysteries of the Chapter. One thing is certain, that Arch brethren are not worse Masons for their increased knowledge; on the contrary, they profit by their enlarged experience, and probably take a warmer interest

in the Craft in consequence of their Arch knowledge than they otherwise would have done. The Arch is a recognised branch or outcome of the Craft, it is governed upon the same lines and is solidly founded. Even were the merits of the Arch less than they are, its position would command confidence; as it is it boasts authority and beauty, and claims completeness. Whatever advantages the Mark degree may possess, it is and must ever be considered to be something outside of the established order of Freemasonry in England. Good of itself, as no doubt it is, yet it must depend upon its own merits for sustenance, and if it flourishes at all it must be by nourishment self-contained, so far as this country is concerned.

There is so much heartiness among Freemasons in Canada and America, so much that is noble, earnest and generous, that it seems ungracious to mar the picture with dark lines and ugly features. It is the nature of the people to go ahead. They have all the energies of Englishmen quickened, and unfortunately their failings are in the same degree accentuated. They love liberty, and sometimes mistake it for license. At any rate they carry its exercise to the verge of extravagance. Less scrupulous than their English brethren, the Grand Chapters in Canada and America have taken the Mark degree under their jurisdiction, and just now a dispute is pending which has already aroused much ill blood, and which it is feared will not terminate without causing a breach that time alone can heal. Bro. Frederick Binckes asks that judgment should be suspended, and he nobly adds: "Surely, where the real spirit of Freemasonry prevails means of adjustment of any differences which do exist, or may be supposed to exist, can readily be found." The hope is worthy of Bro. Binckes, and every true Mason will be glad if it should prove to be well founded. It is not the purpose here to excite the contention that has sprung up, to add fuel to the fierce fire that burns in the breast of Bro. John H. Graham, P.G.Z.G.C. of Quebec, but only to put the facts briefly, and to illustrate the ill effects of trying to combine elements that would be best kept separate. The Grand Chapter of Quebec claims complete and absolute jurisdiction over the whole Province. A few years ago, as representatives of Mark Masonry as well as of the Chapters, they entered into amicable communion with the Grand Lodge of Mark Masons in England. Whether the rights held by each were determined at the time, or even discussed, does not appear, and up to about two months ago all was peace and goodwill between the two bodies. It transpired, however, that the Grand Lodge of Mark Masons in England in May issued a warrant for a new Lodge in Montreal, and also created a new Province. These acts were done, it is alleged, without the slightest intimation to, and in defiance of, the Grand Chapter of Quebec. The mode of carrying out the acts as well as the acts themselves have aroused a strong opposition in Canada, and Bro. Graham, who appears to be the mouthpiece of the Quebec Grand Chapter, has hurled forth an anathema worthy of the powerful days of Popedom. Assuming that his contention is right, it is scarcely warrantable on his part to indulge in the intemperate language that he has used in his letter to Bro. Lord Heniker, M.W.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales. His curses are likely to be as effective as they were in the case of the Jackdaw of Rheims; it is to be hoped they will not be quite so ridiculous. It is impossible to judge justly until all the facts are known; at present there is only an *ex parte* statement to go upon. When the Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England has been heard in defence, it will be time enough to draw conclusions, and if necessary to take up cudgels in self-defence. Just now patience and forbearance is necessary in order that what is now considered an intemperate outburst should not degenerate into a lasting cause of severance and enmity. The *Freemason* points out what may prove to be a very serious evil affecting the constitution of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. It is asserted that this Chapter is not a legal institution according to the laws of Canada, and as a consequence is not entitled to recognition. That may be so, but it cannot alter the moral obligations of the Mark Grand Lodge of England. As far as the evidence goes at present, the question of legality was not in dispute when the two bodies entered into communion, and the conditions then entered into and implied hold good in the present dispute. As a matter of abstract justice it is perfectly right that Freemasons all over the

world ought to set an example of obedience to the law of the country in which they reside; but when a compact is made, it is not competent for one body to draw back or screen itself under a plea that did not arise at the time of the compact, and which affects one of the bodies over which they cannot possibly have any control. The legality or otherwise of the Grand Chapter of Quebec is for the Canadian authorities to settle. This uncertainty complicates the matter in dispute, so far as the latter body is concerned, but the present contentions may lead to the clearing away of the cobwebs of the law, and to a better understanding in the future. The question as it stands must be decided upon the original terms of understanding, and the prayers of every good Mason should be in behalf of moderate and wise counsels.

RECRUITING CANDIDATES.

THERE is no principle of Masonry more clearly defined, or better understood by the Craft generally, than that which requires that all who seek admission into this time-honoured institution must come of their own free will and accord. This regulation has existed from time immemorial, not as a part of the written law of Masonry, but as an invariable rule of action, handed down from one generation to another, which every member should observe in his intercourse with those who are not Masons. The necessity of this rule is so apparent to every well informed brother that he requires no written law to compel obedience to it. He well knows that every applicant for Masonry must make a solemn declaration, upon his honour, before he can cross the threshold of a Lodge, that he comes unbiassed by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives. Such a declaration cannot be truthfully made if the candidate has been persuaded to present his petition through the solicitation of any one, and the Mason who asks his friend to send in his petition to a Lodge by that act compels him to make a false statement, or to answer interrogatories that precede his entrance into the Lodge in such a manner as would debar his admission. No true Mason would desire to place himself in that position toward his friend, nor could he conscientiously permit him to enter the Lodge after having brought him to the door, knowing that he had not truthfully answered the questions propounded to him in the preparation room.

There may be some ready to inquire in surprise if Masons are ever guilty of violating a rule of so great importance to Masonry. It would hardly seem possible that one could be found who would do so wilfully, and yet there have been instances in which we have been forced to that conclusion. To decide otherwise would be giving them credit for a less knowledge of Masonry than they claim for themselves. Only a few days since we were told by a young man in this city that he had been repeatedly solicited to send in his petition. In two instances blank petitions had been placed before him, and arguments used to obtain his signature. The persons mentioned by him as having presented these petitions are well known Masons, of high standing, who would be unwilling to plead ignorance in matters of Masonic law and usage.

We have cited this case to show that the practice of recruiting candidates is sometimes indulged in by Masons with more zeal than discretion. Other evidence might be presented, showing that this evil exists to a greater or less extent in quite a number of Lodges. It cannot be too soon suppressed for the good of Masonry. No Lodge can long prosper that has recruiting agents in the field to keep up a supply of work. It may do so for a time, while it is thus sowing the seeds of discord and contention that will eventually cause it to fall to pieces.

Much more might be said upon this subject, but simply calling attention to it ought to be sufficient to eradicate so apparent an evil. Think of the matter, brethren, and take heed that no charge of undue solicitation may be ever laid at your door.—*Masonic Advocate.*

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Notable Facts.—Summer heats augment the annoyances of skin disease and encourage the development of febrile disorders wherefore they should, as they may, be removed by these detergent and purifying preparations. In stomach complaints, liver affections, pains and spasms of the bowels, Holloway's unguent, well rubbed over the affected part, immediately gives the greatest ease, prevents congestion and inflammation, checks the threatening diarrhoea and averts incipient cholera. The poorer inhabitants of large cities will find these remedies to be their best friend when any pestilence rages, or when from unknown causes eruptions, boils, abscesses, or ulcerations, betoken the presence of taints or impurities within the system and call for instant and effective curative medicines.

HOLIDAY HAUNTS.

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THE EASTERN COUNTIES.

ONCE upon a time, within memory of the present generation, the Great Eastern Railway was said to be about the worst-managed line in England. A journey to Norwich or Yarmouth was considered quite an undertaking, and as for Cromer, that was only to be approached after a lapse of time and an expenditure of money and patience, reminding one of the old coaching days, when haste and comfort were not so much desired as in these modern times. Norfolk, like some other counties, paid the penalty of rash railway speculations. It was, and still is, too slow for the times, and but for the new life that has been imparted to the Great Eastern Railway management it would have suffered still more than it has done. It may safely be averred that the Great Eastern Railway has done more than anything else to save the Eastern Counties from the full effects of agricultural depression, and in the cases of some towns it has actually saved them from stagnation. This is particularly true of Harwich, and in a great measure of Norwich. This latter city scarcely realises the good improved railway communication has done it, but it is nevertheless a fact, and one for which the citizens should be grateful. It was scarcely possible to improve the carrying trade of the railway without opening up new places of interest to the pleasure and health seekers. As commercial centres have prospered, owing to increased facilities of locomotion, so have sea-side resorts grown, until now in number, excellence and variety the East Coast abounds in attractive spots, scarcely equalled and certainly not surpassed on any other wave-washed shores. These assertions are capable of easy proof, and in order to convince our readers we ask them to take the very excellent map that is attached to the Great Eastern Railway Time Table, which can be had for a penny, and accompany us as we go from spot to spot, pointing out the numerous places that dot the coast from Hunstanton to Maldon.

At the north-east corner of the Wash, and facing Boston on the Lincolnshire coast opposite, is Hunstanton. This is quite a new foundation, and is fast growing in size and population. It is a very cosy little watering place, quiet, pretty, and moderate in charges. The old village is a mile or two away, and the walks to it, either by the road or along the cliff, are very enjoyable. Sandringham is close by, and an easy railway journey takes the visitor to Wells, a small sleepy little town, but possessing a history and attraction worth attention. To get to Cromer, the next place on the coast, by rail, the journey must be taken by Walsingham and Fakenham to Wroxham, thence to charming Cromer, one of the most delightful places in England. Before dwelling upon this gem of the East coast, we would direct our reader's attention to Walsingham, where a stay should be made in order to see the ruins of the Chapel of our Lady of Walsingham, once the most gorgeous and richest votive shrine in the country. Visitors who make the call will thank us for the suggestion. Leaving this scene of decayed grandeur and desolate shrines, we will return to Cromer, the way of reaching which we have indicated. Those, however, who are fond of walking would find the ramble from Wells, through Holkham, the beautiful home and extensive domain of Lord Leicester, and Walsingham (a rather long detour), to Cromer very interesting. The coast is somewhat wild, yet not deserted, and the villages that are to be met with are not without their charms. Once at Cromer, all other thoughts, except those of pleasant scenes, lovely walks and drives, pure bracing air and sun-tinted sands and waves, should be forgotten. A whole paper might be written about Cromer without exhausting its beauties, and if the Great Eastern Railway had done nothing more than open up this lovely spot they would have deserved well of the public. Leaving Cromer, a railway journey to Brundall, through Acle, will lead to Yarmouth. Formerly it was necessary to go on to Whitlingham or Norwich before reaching the Yarmouth line, now the junction has been formed at Brundall. The journey is shortened, and the line passes through the very centre of the angler's Eldorado. It brings the river Bure and the Broads abounding in the locality within a new railway service, and thus adds to the advantages of visitors, especially of the disciples of Izaak Walton. We need not describe Yarmouth. Where are such sands to be found, stretching as they do from the Harbour mouth, at Gorleston, as far as the eye can reach? Here Bohemianism is seen in full force, and 'Arry and 'Arriett are as happy as their richer pleasure seekers. There is a decent observance of the laws and courtesies of life, but there is a freedom and a boisterousness that set Paritanical notions at defiance, and which claim affinity with rude Neptune himself when shaken by wind and storm. It is only a few miles to Lowestoft, and all is changed to comparative quiet and the decorum of the drawing-room. This Suffolk town is very pretty, nevertheless, and possesses attractions peculiarly its own. Lowestoft is termed the Queen of the watering places on the East coast, and certainly the Great Eastern Railway Company have done all in their power to make it worthy of the name. It is a growing place, and a few years hence it will be really worthy of the high-sounding name it now bears. As it is, it is a very pleasant resort, and one where those who desire a moderate amount of excitement can be gratified. It is a famous place for a sail, and has the advantage of communication with Oulton Broad by means of Lake Lothing. The broad is the haunt of yachts, and affords agreeable sailing as well as good sport to the angler. The walk from Lowestoft to Oulton is very pleasant, but that from Lowestoft to Corton is still more so. The fern and bracken-clad cliffs, the green denes below, and the splashing sea beyond, form an attractive picture, especially when lighted up by the sun or toned down by the sober light of the moon.

Leaving Lowestoft we plunge deeper into Suffolk and approach some places that had a history as sea-side resorts, and which had played parts in the drama of life centuries ago. Southwold is a charming little spot, full of green knolls and rich in carvings of the

domestic order. It boasts a fine church, pure air, quietude and cheapness. The immediate neighbourhood is not very cheerful, owing to the presence of ruins of former prosperity, but the country beyond is pretty. Aldeburgh, the birthplace of the poet Crabbe, is another old-fashioned watering place, another relic of the glories of the past. It is more pretentious than Southwold, but lacks its verdure and country-like aspect. Aldeburgh reeks of the sea; there is a rudeness about the place which harmonises with the restless waves, and a wild eeriness that fascinates the visitor. The air is splendid, and those who want to take in a good stock of ozone, who love breezy walks, and can let the imagination of the past supply the absence of the present attractions, could not do better than go to Aldeburgh, with its quaint old Moot Hall, once surrounded by the busy haunts of man, now standing alone on the beach as a monument of far off times. Passing by Woodbridge, a dull town, washed by an arm of the sea, by means of which a large trade is carried on, we come to Felixstowe, a growing popular resort. It is just opposite Harwich harbour, and may be said to stand sentinel at its mouth. Beyond Harwich, and reached by a picturesque walk, is Dovercourt, a small bathing station. No one who goes to Harwich or Felixstowe should omit the trip up the Orwell to Ipswich. The old Suffolk town is particularly interesting, but the river that leads to it is extremely beautiful. A pleasanter journey we could hardly conceive, and in order to meet the wants of the public and to provide for their pleasures the company's steamers run to and fro frequently. To thoroughly enjoy the trip the visitor should know a little of the locality. There are plenty of guide books to be had. Those who have read "Margaret Catchpole" will find their interest increased upon visiting Ipswich, where many of the incidents recorded in that intensely interesting romance of real life occurred. Further on is Walton-on-the-Naze, a place of many natural advantages, and just suited for persons of moderate means and for school trips. Its neighbour, Clacton-on-Sea, revels in modern pretensions. Everything about it, except the everlasting sea and the cliffs, is new and fresh. It wears an air of prosperity and gentility that once blessed its now less fortunate rival. It is most favourably situated, and the owners of the land immediately adjoining the sea are enterprising as well as ambitious. The future of Clacton is full of promise, and one day it will rank among the foremost places of fashionable resort along the East coast. From Clacton it is but an easy walk to St. Osyth's Priory, the ruins of which are well worthy a visit. The journey may be continued, either by road or water, to Brightlingsea, where the oyster culture is carried on with success. There is nothing particular to see in the place itself, but as the inhabitants are chiefly fishermen, there is plenty of sport and sailing to be had. Further on still is Maldon, situated on an extreme arm of the sea, that penetrates inland a considerable distance. The town is small, but it figures in the historic page, and a visit to it would not be time ill-spent.

We commenced due north, and we have traversed the coast along the east to set south, the whole of which district is served by the Great Eastern Railway. Branching inland from the watering places are towns possessing surpassing interest. From Maldon it is easy to reach Dunmow, memorable for its old associations, and made notorious by the late Mr. Harrison Ainsworth, who revived the ceremony of presenting a fitch of bacon to the happy married couple who never knew what it was to nag at each other. Connubial bliss was perpetual, but there are some who contend that such pleasure is insipid compared with the joy of making up a quarrel. Continuing in the same direction, and not far from Saffron Walden, is Andley End, and further on still is Cambridge, with its colleges, its park-like demesnes, and river. From the other places we have mentioned between Maldon and Felixstowe, Colchester is a short journey. It is a pleasant town, and has some sights to boast of. Then there is quaint little Sudbry beyond, with the river Stour winding along through rich meadows and picturesque scenery. Both Gainsborough and Constable, celebrated landscape painters, were natives of this charming old town. It abounds in lanes and pretty nooks, from which the artists we have named drew their inspiration. Clare lies a little out of the direct route, but it should not be missed. We need say but little about Bury St. Edmunds. It is crowded with interest. Gateways and churches front the remains of an ancient Priory, that at one time was the glory of England. The remains still afford food for contemplation and admiration; art, in the shape of the Botanic Gardens, has been invoked to lend enchantment to the scene; but, after all, the chief attraction centres in the two glorious gateways, and beautiful churches. Busy, pretty, sporting Newmarket is not far away. What stories could be told of this village-town since racing was first established there, we believe in the time of one of the Charles'. What scenes of riot and regal profligacy have been witnessed. Even in modern days much takes place at Newmarket to make the judicious grieve; yet, withal, it is a very pleasant, clean, delightful little spot. Quiet, monotonous Ely lies still farther inland, among the fens that once were the strongholds of the Saxons; where Hereward the Wake held mighty sway, and defied his enemies. Framlingham, with its ruined castle and stately church, is but a short trip from Aldeburgh, and would well repay a visit. Lynn, Wisbeach, and Peterborough are all within hail of Hunstanton. Each place has attractions of its own, but the Cathedral at Peterborough possesses an especial charm. To our mind Ely Cathedral is the most beautiful of all the monuments of the devotion of a bygone age in the eastern part of England, not even excepting Lincoln Cathedral, grand as that pile is. We know of nothing approaching in chaste beauty and elegance the interior of the Lantern Tower at Ely. It is a superb work of art, and is worth a pilgrimage to see. Then there is the Lady Chapel, "a thing of beauty," but to be "a joy for ever" it needs the generosity and loving care of old times expended upon it. The palace adjoining is another choice picture that helps to fill up the canvas of charms that are presented in the otherwise dull and straggling town. An hour's ride from Cromer, Yarmouth, or Lowestoft, would take the visitor to the city of Norwich, the capital of East Anglia. The city itself is pretty, but the suburbs are delightful. Take Thorpe for instance for variety and cultivated beauty, and

Mousehold Heath above it for wildness, with the sinuous river Yare winding along the valley below. Newmarket Road is a grand promenade, and from the hill westward, out by the Dereham Road, a splendid view is obtained of the city, the towers of the many churches standing out like beacons in the sky, the spire of the cathedral and the massive square battlemented castle being particularly conspicuous. The cathedral is unfortunately situated in a hollow, and can best be seen from Mousehold Heath. The gate entrances to the west are interesting monuments, notably the Erpingham Gate, which leads direct to the western door of the cathedral. Once inside the building, guides will be found to point out the many beauties that are to be seen. Visitors should take a good glass with them so as to examine the bosses in the roof. We believe they are unique. They should not forget either to turn up the seats in the choir, where they will be rewarded with the sight of some very quaint carving. Space forbids any further detail in this direction, especially as we have to deal with other matters of interest, that are to be found within the limits of the Great Eastern service. We know of no railway in the kingdom that embraces a district so rich in pleasure and health resorts, and the present managers of the line seem to be fully aware of their advantages. Their programme for the summer season meets every want, but so numerous are the details that we must refer our readers to the comprehensive timetable issued by the company for particulars. They will find pretty nearly every want anticipated, from that of the man who has but a day or two to spare and little cash at his command, to those who indulge in the usual fortnight's holiday, or who have time and money enough to enable them to extend their journeys and prolong their stay.

We have spoken of the Brundall Junction on the Great Eastern line from Norwich to Yarmouth, and of the new railway made through Aole to Yarmouth.* This new line not only shortens the distance between Norwich and Yarmouth, but it leads to the district where the Broads abound, or at least to the River Bure, or North River, as it is frequently called, out of which branch the finest Broads. We shall not attempt to describe these unique expanse of waters, how they came, how they are sustained, and the history they tell. They are called lagoons by some, lakes by others; they are best known as Broads, a term, as far as we know, used nowhere else except in the Eastern Counties. These fine apparently natural wastes of waters are full of fish life, grandly endowed by nature, and are so situated as to make it a pleasure to get at them. There are two Broads close to Brundall Station on the Yare, and, although they afford happy illustrations of the rushey mazes, and wild freedom always more or less to be found in the Broads, they are but small examples of the whole, which chiefly abut on the Bure. It is only about half an hour's ride from Norwich to Wroxham, where is situated one of the most charming specimens of Norwich lake scenery to be found. Indeed, Wroxham Broad has no compeer in the county for size and beauty combined. It has wood, slopes, and seclusion, with water nearly as deep at the sides as in the middle. What that means to the yachtsman we need hardly say. It is a splendid place for a sail, for sport, and for quiet enjoyment. From Wroxham a pleasant water trip could easily be arranged, and some of the wildest and prettiest Broads visited. There are plenty of boats to be had. We found Mr. Loynes, of Elm Hill, Norwich, the best caterer for this kind of traffic. His boats are specially built for the Broads, and as he has a station at Wroxham, he offers facilities that no one else does as far as we know. Mr. Wright, King-street, Norwich, is another trustworthy guide. We mention these facts because boating arrangements are apart from railway accommodation. The Great Eastern Company take passengers to large centres, to branches and sidings; they do the main work, and leave the filling up to be provided by others. A day, or even two days, might be spent in the journey we have named. There are sleeping places to be had, and if somewhat rude, are clean and comfortable. To see certain Broads it would be necessary to go to Stalham, easily reached from Wroxham by rail; then there are others which can best be approached from Catfield, a station on the same line of railway as Stalham. There are a cluster of Broads, however, which have only one slight connection with the river, and that is by a ditch called Muck Fleet, only navigable to very small craft, and then under great difficulties. There are three Broads in one, of irregular shape; they are like the Octopus, all feelers. Once across Filby Broad and Ormsby and Rollesby Broads branch out in the most puzzling fashion. They present bays and nooks, and pretty little snatches of scenery. Wood, water, rushes, lillies and flowers unite to form a picture such as can only be seen where nature is uncontrolled by the hand of man. The best way to get to these Broads is from Yarmouth to Ormsby. A line beforehand to Mr. Moncey of the Eel's Foot (a charming little public house by the side of the water); or to Mr. Richmond, of the Sportsman's Arms, Rollesby Bridge, will command the services of a trap. The distance from the station is about three miles, a pleasant walk, but too far for some people. The Broads are breeding ponds and homes for fish; they afford excellent sport to the angler, and under certain conditions to the gunner. They are fruitful sources of wealth to the naturalist, and the artist never need despair of finding something new and beautiful for his brush or pencil. The Great Eastern Company have made these natural attractions possible to most people. They offer special facilities to anglers, for whom the Broads and rivers have such a charm. Those who desire further information about these lakes or lagoons should get Bro. Fieldson's little book, a series of articles reprinted from a Norwich paper, entitled "The Broads and Rivers of Norfolk," which can be obtained at 84 Fleet-street, or at Smith's bookstalls on the Great Eastern line.

We have hitherto confined our references to what the Great Eastern Company do for home sight-seers. They have been scarcely less successful in opening up Holland and Belgium, and speaking of Books, we commend the "Tourist Guide to the Continent," with map and numerous illustrations, issued by the authority of the Company, and published at the low price of sixpence. It is an excellent work,

the cheapest and best of its kind we have seen. Those who contemplate a trip to Amsterdam or to Antwerp, and the various interesting places that are to be reached from there, should get this handy guide book. With it and the Great Eastern Time Table there would be no difficulty in arranging for the journey. Those who formerly used to go to the Continent *viâ* Harwich have anything but a pleasant recollection of the pier accommodation. It was of the rudest character; too small for the traffic as it grew, and altogether uncomfortable. Now all is changed. The reforming hand is seen everywhere, and in no place has it worked such wonders as at Harwich and its neighbourhood. Those who know the harbour will remember that there was no room for the extension of the landing piers on the old spot. Other ground had to be sought on another side. A swamp has been transformed, and at the present time a new pier has been erected capable of accommodating seven large steamers at one time. A new station and hotel have been built, wharves and a timber dock have been made, and shortly a town will spring up adjoining, uniting probably with Harwich and Dovercourt, the whole forming one large community little dreamt of a few years ago. Lines branch out of the main railway, which convey passengers to the new pier, now known as being situated in Parkeston, a name given to the place in honour of the chairman of the company, Mr. Parkes. The pier and station are united by a covered way; the whole is illuminated with the electric light. Every comfort has been provided for the traveller, and in order to accommodate the growing traffic two large new steamers have been built, one of which, called the "Norwich," made a trial trip last week. Seeing that this new venture has cost the company from first to last something like half a million of money, they must have large expectations to recoup them in interest alone. Their anticipations are great, and if they are realised Harwich will become one of the most important towns in the kingdom. A few years ago grass was growing in its streets; it is not very lively now, but it is gradually emerging from its stagnation, thanks to the Great Eastern Company. We have dwelt upon this subject because such enterprise as we have described is worthy of record, and it has been carried out quietly, too quietly perhaps. Now that it is complete, it is right that the public should know what has been done for them. If we have assisted to that end, and in guiding holiday seekers to pleasant spots, we shall be amply repaid for the time we have devoted to the subject. Having dealt with the Eastern Counties, we shall in other papers treat of other and attractive localities.

"COMING OF AGE" CELEBRATION.

A VERY gratifying *réunion* took place a few evenings ago in connection with the coming of age of the eldest son of Bro. J. E. Fells, wine merchant, of Henry-street, Tooley-street (Immediate Past Master of the Confidence Lodge, No. 193). In anticipation of the happy event the employés of the firm had decided to give their young master a surprise, and subscribed amongst them a sum sufficient for the purchase of a handsome cabinet writing desk; and on learning of their intention Bro. Fells, with his wonted generosity, determined to add zest to the occasion by entertaining his workmen and others at dinner. Accordingly, the spacious vaults were gaily decorated with bunting and other embellishments, which gave to the usually dingy place quite the aspect of a superb dining saloon, and here a sumptuous repast was provided for the employés of Mr. Fells, and of Messrs. Spooner and Co., of Laurence Pountney-lane, numbering altogether over 120. The founder of the feast had invited several old friends to join the happy party, and amongst the guests were Bro. Robert Candlish, of Seaham, Durham, proprietor of the Londonderry Bottle Company, who remained in London specially for the ceremony; Mr. J. J. Candlish, the London representative of the Company; Mr. A. C. Hartley, of Laurence Pountney-lane; Mr. A. Goggs, Mr. Scarth, Mr. J. Macdonald, Mr. William Heath, Mr. F. L. Linkley, Mr. Thomas Stone, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. W. Mist, of Ightham, Kent, and other gentlemen. A sumptuous repast was spread by Mr. Garrett, of Tooley-street, at the conclusion of which the customary loyal toasts were honoured. Mr. R. Candlish having spoken of his long and agreeable connection with Mr. Fells, said it afforded him great pleasure to be among their number on that auspicious occasion. In congratulating Mr. A. J. Fells on attaining his majority, he trusted that gentleman, who would now take a more active share in the responsibilities of the firm, would gain the esteem and good feeling that his father had so long enjoyed, and if he followed his father's footsteps he might reckon himself pretty certain of success. He then asked Mr. Arthur to accept the present which had been arranged for by the employés of the firm, and trusted he might be blessed with long life, happiness and prosperity. In conclusion, he said he had been desired by Mrs. Fells to express the great pleasure it afforded her to see her two sons so well respected by all who were in the employ of her husband, and hoped they might always endeavour to keep that position and do their utmost to add to the success of their then growing business. The toast was received with immense enthusiasm, and Mr. Arthur Fells, who appeared to have been much affected by the ovation given him, returned thanks in suitable terms for the handsome present which had been made to him, and the kindly expressions which had fallen from the various speakers in making the gift. He should ever esteem it a great honour, and look back upon the event with pride and gratitude. The health of the Founder of the Feast was then proposed in felicitous terms, and Bro. Fells suitably responded, extending a hearty welcome to the many visitors who had kindly assisted on that very happy occasion. Several other complimentary toasts followed, and amidst an abundance of harmony a most enjoyable evening was passed.

FUNERALS.—Bros. W. K. L. & G. A. HUTTON, Coffin Makers and Undertakers, 17 Newcastle Street, Strand, W.C. and 30 Forest Hill Road, Peckham Rye, S.E.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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UNIFORMITY OF WORKING.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have announced, by a letter to your contemporary, the *Freemason*, the termination, as far as I am concerned, of the lengthened controversy which has been sustained for so many years past on the above subject. An appeal, "for the sake of peace and rest to leave the matter where it is," has had much more force than any other argument could possibly have had with me; and I feel that it would ill become me as a Freemason to disregard the obvious wish of a majority that interference with "the lawful independence of Lodges" should cease.

When, in 1869 I first introduced the question of "Uniformity of Working," my proposals met with a considerable amount of support, and for a time the efforts of myself and others were crowned with success, which justified continued perseverance. Towards this result your journal greatly contributed, and throughout you have been a consistent advocate, as far as the limits of journalistic propriety would admit. To you, therefore, in this moment of farewell, I feel bound to communicate my intention, and to thank you for your assistance in the past; and I would beg of you, and through you all the brethren who have sympathised in the efforts I have made, not to misunderstand this surrender on my part. I am as much as ever in my own mind convinced that "Unity of Working," and a definite establishment of "the same usages and customs" are practicable, and the "intense difficulties" with which the movement is surrounded not altogether insurmountable. But the feelings of the brethren towards the attainment of the object I had in view in 1869-70 are not those of the Craft generally in 1883, and consequently I am in duty bound to retire, unless prepared by the sanction of my own example to raise a standard of discord and disunion. This I could not think of, and would rather appear defeated altogether than disturb the peace and harmony which belong to our Order by any fractious resentment of not having my own way.

I thought never to have done this, but my dream is over; and practical good sense teaches me that its realization, either now or in the immediate future, cannot be. So, good bye, Uniformity!

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

JAMES STEVENS, P.M. 1216, P.Z.

HOW MOLEHILLS BECOME MOUNTAINS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Looking down from my tower and perceiving what was in contemplation, I was among the first to sound the tocsin of alarm against the proposal to purchase the spare land adjoining the Girls' School at Battersea. Without the slightest attempt at co-operation or unity of action, there was a wonderful consensus of opinion against giving £36,000 for nine acres of land not worth above half the money. The monstrous nature of the demand was seen through, and the Quarterly Court, held on the 14th inst., dashed the hopes of the vendor, and once more proved their fitness for the trust reposed in them. Even Bro. James Stevens is complimentary. He was on the side of right, as no doubt he always desires to be, but he not unfrequently mars good intentions by some strange fatality. He did good service by giving the Court the advantage of his practical knowledge. He knows the value of land in the South of London especially, and was just the man to advise the Court. As it happened his knowledge squared with his opinions, and he approached the matter like a giant refreshed with new wine. I cannot share Bro. Stevens' thoughts about the House Committee. There was nothing in their action to warrant the conclusion that they were either favourable or unfavourable to the purchase of the land. Their duty was simply executive, and they discharged it in a manner worthy of loyal men to a great trust reposed in them.

The question is so far settled, but it is only scotched, not killed. The vendor of the land will most likely look out for other purchasers, and if he feels the sting of his recent failure he may, perhaps, consent to such conditions of sale as to make matters very unpleasant for the School. I am merely referring to a possibility. I know nothing of Mr. Whiting, and hope I may be altogether wrong in supposing for a moment that other than business ideas would influence him. But I cannot quite escape from that conclusion, because it is admitted that some of the land is necessary for the Schools, and that under certain circumstances it must be had. How far this knowledge will operate remains to be seen. The purchaser of that portion of the ground abutting on the School will not forget the necessities of the case, and it may be that the present refusal will lead to a future difficulty hardly less serious than the one now overcome. I was not particularly struck with the liberality of the discount offered, namely, £100 per acre. Sometimes these gifts are powerful bribes to the unwary; like sugared and gilded pills they conceal the poison or the purge, but they never fail to nauseate or to gripe. This principle of rebate, if I may use the term, is a valuable means sometimes of helping a charity, and if Mr. Whiting had made a more generous offer—say £250 per acre—he might have been successful. The money for the purchase in all probability would have been raised as a separate fund, and as the appeal would be for the

gross sum, all beyond the absolute requirements of purchase would go to swell the general fund of the charity. The effort would have been worth while for between £2,000 and £3,000, but for £900, well, it is better to bear the ills we have than fly to others we know not of. This molehill, then, already shows signs of growing, and one of the results may be the removal of the School to some other site. I will not speak *ex cathedra* on this matter, but I think the remarkable facts mentioned at the Quarterly Court with regard to the price of land in other and far more beautiful localities than that of Battersea Rise cannot fail to awaken hope of the future. If the land at Battersea is so valuable, or is likely to become enhanced in value to anything like the extent of £1,000 per acre, it will become a question whether another site shall not be selected for the Girls' School, in which accommodation shall be provided for a larger number of occupants out of the profit made of the sale of the present building and ground. Matters have not yet reached this stage, but who will say that such a contingency may not occur? At any rate, recent facts teach the most important lesson of caution, and if out of the speculative present there arises a practical future, the Masonic body may thank the extravagant demands of Mr. Whiting for the opportunity afforded.

There is another matter, Sir, that is at present but a very small molehill, and yet methinks it will grow into something totally different. I allude to the Almshouses at Croydon. A brother, only a few days ago, went so far as to describe them to me as a "white elephant," and he suggested that they should be dealt with as the Government of the day dealt with Greenwich Hospital. I am inclined to believe he is right in fact, but his example was a most unfortunate one. The magnificent buildings at Greenwich were erected as a national home for our brave sailors, as a heritage to which they were entitled by virtue of service and of their wounds and scars. Greenwich Hospital was the embodiment of national sentiment, of the pride and glory of a people living in an island home, whose bulwarks were the wooden walls of old England, and whose gallant defenders were our sailors. When the Greenwich pensioners were disbanded, sentiment was cruelly wrenched, and a fatal blow was struck at national pride. The Almshouses at Croydon are associated with wrecked fortunes and troublous times. It is true they are a haven of rest for the weary world-tired wayfarer, but they are also reminders of more prosperous times. The bane is equally present with the antidote, and unfortunately the cost is out of all proportion to the good that is done. I think the time has come to consider whether it would not be kinder to our poor distressed brethren to let them keep their little homes, or reside with their friends, and while recipients of secret charity shall be free in the sight of the world from the badge of dependence. I may some day return to this subject; at present I shall content myself with saying that economy, as well as kindness, point to the change I have indicated.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

WATCHMAN.

THE PRICKED WINDBAG.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I should very much like to be introduced to Brother "WATCHMAN," and to shake hands with him for giving me the dressing which, in the innocence of his mind, he thinks I deserve; and also for the little bits of sugar with which he administers the dose. I can assure Brother "WATCHMAN" that nobody will be more ready and willing to make the most ample apology that can be required if the charges that I have made are incorrect; if the brethren I have complained of, in open Lodge or by letter in the Masonic papers, where I have made my charges, state that the one brother did not purposely prolong his arguments on the New Zealand question, and that the G.D.C. did not, with watch in hand, urge the latter to continue speaking so that no new matter might be brought before the Grand Lodge that night. I am quite willing to accept their words as men and Masons, but until that be done I shall be of the same opinion still,—that it was as plain a case of obstruction as ever took place in the House of Commons or elsewhere.

With regard to the Executive, whom I blame for the manner in which they did, and did not, give notice of their intention to call a Special Grand Lodge, Bro. "WATCHMAN" uses a very mild term when he says, if they did not give proper notice; it only amounted to a want of courtesy. Let us look back a little. A Revise Committee from the Board of General Purposes took upon themselves a necessary work, unbeknown to the Craft; this evidenced, in the first instance, a great want of respect to the members of Grand Lodge; and, secondly, when the Revise was referred back to them for re-consideration, with instructions that a report was to be given at the Quarterly Communication in June last, they fail to make any report whatever, thus making a breach in the duty which the Grand Lodge had entrusted to their care. Bro. "WATCHMAN" forgets that the Provincial Brethren had, only just a short time before, been up to and had returned from the Girls' Festival, and that they had also returned home from the Boys' Festival; now, while they were attending here, the summons was awaiting them at home. Does Brother "WATCHMAN" know that there are about 310 London Lodges (putting aside the nine Time Immemorial Lodges, and those in the Home Counties, many of whose members have their business in London and their Lodges in the country), that the average age of the Matrons is 45½ years, and that in the ordinary course of events there would be some 14,000 Past Masters besides Wardens, take off half for deaths, and those who have relinquished Freemasonry, also take off another half who cannot attend from various causes, and you leave the respectable number of 3,500; once more divide that, and you will have not less

than 1,750 entitled to attend Grand Lodge, and I feel certain that I am within the mark when I state that a large majority of the last are business men, to whom Friday is the most important day of the week, and the hour fixed for the meeting the most important of the day. Of course, to some fortunate individuals the amount of postage may be a perfect matter of indifference, though to others it is not. Bro. "WATCHMAN" makes facetious remarks about the sentence "half the brethren;" perhaps in his category there are no such things as printers' errors, but it so happened, I suppose, owing to the illness of our Brother Editor, I did not receive a proof of my letter, which I had asked for, and at other times have invariably received. That fact sufficiently accounts for this one error; there were others, but watchful "WATCHMAN" has been gracious enough to pass them over. As to the trouble the worthy Editor took about the Revise, I perhaps know as much, or more, than Brother "WATCHMAN," as I sent sets of manuscripts of the old and new editions, with remarks and suggestions, which the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE was good enough to return me afterwards, and I have them with me now. I also had the Revised Book of Constitutions interleaved, and I then gummied the corresponding paragraphs of the Book of Constitutions on the opposite page, so that I know pretty well what our brother had to do before he completed his task. With regard to the whole substance of my former letters, to which Bro. "WATCHMAN" has taken such exception, I am ready and willing to apologise for any incorrect statement—that shall be proved to be so—in as public a manner as I have made them; I bear no animosity to any man; the slights, errors, or whatever he may please to call them, were I consider not to me personally but to the Craft at large, and I only wish some more able writer had taken up the thankless task of exposing what may be thought faulty in the administration of affairs; but what is everybody's business is nobody's business, and unless some one makes a start, there will be no redress for grievances,—real or fancied. I think Bro. "WATCHMAN," who with such ability shows that he holds the pen of a ready writer, might very possibly, if he lent the weight of his name, do some good. At the same time, I hope he will have the good taste to choose a more euphonious, though equally expressive title to his communication, than that of "A PRICKED WINDBAG." *Palmarum qui meruit ferat.*

Yours fraternally,

P.M. 1607.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex will meet at Parkeston, near Harwich, on Wednesday next. Brethren who purpose attending can secure Return Tickets at a single fare on production of their summonses at any of the Stations of the Great Eastern Railway. Prov. Grand Lodge will be opened at One o'clock punctually.

A meeting of the North London Chapter was held at the Canonbury Tavern, St. Mary's-road, Islington, on Thursday evening last. Comps. Higgins Z., Sheffield H., R. Bird J., Edmonds S.N., Gregory P.S. Taking into consideration the season of the year, and many of the Companions enjoying their holidays, there was a fair attendance.

The Consecration of the Greenwood Lodge, No. 1982, will take place at the Public Hall, Epsom, this day, Saturday. The ceremony will be performed by General Brownrigg, C.B., Provincial Grand Master Surrey, assisted by Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., P.G. Chaplain and P.D.G.M. Bro. Joseph Steele is W.M., and Bros. Charles Rowland Ellis and Spencer Pidcock the Wardens designate.

The *Evening News* says, "The fate of poor Captain Webb takes away from us a brother Mason, and Neptune Lodge, No. 22, has to mourn the loss of a brother who was initiated in it immediately after his great swimming accomplishment from Dover to Calais. On the occasion of his initiation he made a capital speech, and he became a great favourite with the brethren of his Lodge."

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

Ancient Ebor Preceptory, No. 101.—A special assembly of this Preceptory took place at the Masonic Hall, York, on the 24th inst. By desire of Lord Lonsborough, V.E.P. Sir Kut. T. W. Tew presided, assisted by his Officers from the Province of West Yorkshire. About 100 American brethren and Templars were present, and were received with the greatest cordiality. The Lord Mayor of York afterwards received the Sir Knights in the Banquet Hall of the Mansion House, and at half-past eight a grand banquet was served in the Guildhall to about 130 Sir Knights, who were entertained in a most sumptuous manner. Many excellent speeches were made in response to the toast given in honour of the Visitors. The proceedings did not conclude till nearly midnight. The Pilgrim Sir Knights have since left York for London.

FESTIVAL OF THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND.

TAKING into consideration the vast strides made by the Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, during the last few years, and bearing in mind the popularity that attaches to this Festival—which has been over and over again described as “The most enjoyable meeting of the year”—we are not astonished to find that we have to chronicle another success as regards the gathering of Wednesday last. The Chairman whom the Executive had secured for the occasion, to use his own words, had no great stomach for making a speech, but if they would set some work before him, he felt he could show them how it could be carried out. However this may be, we are inclined to accept Bro. Matier's assertion that Sir Pryse Pryse had not been an idle man, when he stated that he left Paris on Sunday, and in the interval had attended a Masonic meeting in South Wales, whence he had to return, by the “Flying Dutchman,” to keep the appointment at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday last. One source of regret was prevalent throughout the evening;—the absence of Bro. Frederick Binckes, who is endeavouring to recruit his overtaxed energies at quiet little “Clacton-on-Sea.” It is not too much to say that the Mark Benevolent Fund owes much of the success that attaches to it entirely to the zeal of the Grand Secretary of the Mark Degree, and we feel no one could possibly have regretted enforced absence on such an occasion as this Annual Festival more than our esteemed brother. The Chairman of the day was supported by Bros. the Baron de Ferrieres, M.P., and Alfred Williams P.G.D., who filled the Vice-Presidents' chairs; Rev. J. Marsden D.P.G.M. South Wales, J. Moon Old Kent Lodge, W. Barkley P.M. 59 P.G. Steward, J. H. Banks P.M. 151 60 G.I.G., H. R. Hatherley G.M.O. P.G.S. Notts., C. S. Lane P.G.D., J. Jenkyn Jones W.M. 116, W. Watkins G. Std. Br. Prov. Grand Sec. Monmouthshire, F. Davison Grand Treasurer, D. M. Dewar Assistant Grand Secretary, C. F. Matier P.G.W., J. H. Wynne P.G. Steward, W. Maple Old Kent Lodge, John Lane W.M. 319, Edgar Bowyer W.M. 315, J. McDavis W.M. 265, C. Conpland P.M. 226, G. Powell Treasurer 1, G. Hollington P.M. 173, W. March 173, F. Laurence P.M. 13, R. Thrupp P.G.J.O., A. H. Jefferis 32, Henri Brett S.W. 235, T. J. Pulley P.M. 235 266 54 75 Prov. Grand Secretary Berks and Oxon, John Skinner Old Kent Lodge, William Lake P.M. 78 Provincial Grand Registrar Cornwall, H. Massey, W. W. Morgan, &c. &c. After the banquet, which gave every satisfaction, the chairman gave the Loyal toast—the Queen and Mark Masonry. Frequently as this toast is given, it never is put forward with more acclaim than among Mark Master Masons. In speaking to the second toast—the Most Worshipful Mark Master Mason, the Right Hon. Lord Henniker—the chairman said that, punctual, painstaking, thoroughly understanding his work, as Lord Henniker did, he at the same time possessed a clear perception which enabled him to win the esteem of all with whom he was associated. It was well recognised that the Grand Mark Master was untiring in his endeavours to promote the welfare of the degree. Now, if any of his Lordship's coadjutors would give him an intimation to the effect that should he at any time pay a visit to the far-off Province of South Wales, he (Sir Pryse Pryse) could assure him the brethren there would give him a cordial welcome.

Baron de Ferrieres, M.P., proposed the next toast.—The Past Grand Mark Master Masons, the Duke of Albany, Lord Leigh, the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Holmesdale, W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Canon Portal, Earl Percy, the Earl of Limerick, and the Earl of Lathom. According to the custom of the Mark Degree the Grand Masters only presided over them for the space of three years, consequently there was a series of Past Masters on the roll of whom all Mark Masons were justly proud. In drinking their health the brethren had to remember that the Past Grand Masters had done much for Mark Masonry, and through their efforts the degree stood much higher than it did some years ago. Thanks were due to them for their zeal in the cause, and the exertions they had made in promoting its success. As to the Duke of Albany, although he was the youngest of the Past Grand Masters, yet his social rank entitled him to be placed first on the roll. He had done much for Mark Masonry, and the brethren were pleased at the position he had taken. For the other Past Grand Masters, nothing could be said of them but would redound to their credit.

Bro. Edgar Bowyer proposed the next toast—the R.W. Deputy Grand Mark Master Mason, the Earl of Kintore, and the rest of the Grand Officers Present and Past. All recognise the zeal of the Earl of Kintore, while the other Grand Officers have fully evinced the interest they take in the advancement of the Order. Bro. Matier, in responding, said this toast was one of the most comprehensive character that could possibly be proposed in Mark Masonry. It was the health of those who had carried on, and who would continue to carry on, the work of the Order from day to day, and from week to week. Lord Kintore at some future day, probably not very long distant, would be the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the English Mark Degree, and he was certain that when the brethren found his lordship in that position, they would find him the same genial, hearty, and earnest ruler that they had found him in the position of Deputy Grand Master. So far as regarded himself he could say but little, but let him call the attention of the brethren present to the services of some of the other Grand Officers who were present, and of others who were absent. He asked the ladies and the brethren to give a cordial recognition to the services of Bro. Frederick Binckes, the Grand Secretary, who, unfortunately, owing to illness, was absent for the first time since these Festivals of the Mark Benevolent Fund were established. He was sure all regretted his absence, and hoped he would be speedily restored to health and strength. He would now ask them to pay a tribute of respect, of well-deserved admiration, to one who was present, the Assistant Grand Secretary, his good friend Brother Dewar. No one knew better the atten-

tion Bro. Dewar bestowed upon the duties which devolved upon him; no one knew better than he did how faithfully and honestly those duties were discharged.

In proposing the health of the Chairman Bro. Matier recounted the heavy labour Sir Pryse Pryse had gone through in order that he might fulfil his engagement that evening. The amount of energy he had displayed demanded from the brethren the largest recognition, and he was sure they would give it. The Chairman assured the brethren that when he was asked to fill the post that he now held he consented with great reluctance; he might say at once and openly, he was a very bad hand at after dinner speeches or talking generally. In his own Province he was willing to undertake any work; but he wished to be left alone after dinner. If he had his own way he would like to have the speaking got through before dinner, as he might then not suffer from dyspepsia. He should prefer having to work all the ceremonies in the Degree than to make a speech. He trusted that the fund had not lost from any lapse on his part; indeed, he thought he might say it had not. He believed the fund would benefit to-night more than it did last year, and the result be nearer £1000 than it was last year. After a Welsh melody, tastefully rendered by Bro. the Rev. Jonathan Marsden, the Chairman proposed the toast of the evening—Prosperity to the Mark Grand Benevolent Fund. He felt some difficulty about this toast; he took great blame to himself because he thought it was essential to the duty of a Mark Master Mason, let alone one in the position he now held, to know the working of the Charities of Masonry, so that they might, at any rate, be able to answer any questions or explain any points that might be put to them about the disbursement of the funds, and any other points regarding it. The bye-laws of the fund laid down the principles on which it was distributed, and in respect to this the Assist. G. Secretary had given him some figures. The fund was instituted in 1868, and from that time the sums collected and invested with interest thereon amounted to £3,850. During that period 66 petitioners had been relieved, with grants amounting to £938, and there had been transferred to the Educational Fund a sum of £1,018, and to the Benevolent Fund £1,800. There had also been invested on account of the Benevolent Fund another sum of £900. The subscription list last year was large, but he believed this year it would be larger. Eleven boys and two girls were educated at the expense of the Educational Fund, at an annual cost of £106, and there were three more candidates for those benefits. The children were not removed from the charge of their parents, but were educated near their homes. He now came to an item which he thought spoke for itself, as it showed how economically the fund was administered. Hitherto the working expenses had been only £74. He knew something about accounts, and he was sure nothing could be worked more economically than this fund. With these few words he proposed the toast of Success to the Mark Benevolent Fund.

In responding, Bro. Dewar said he had that day received a note from Bro. Binckes, who was staying at Clacton-on-Sea, saying that he felt in such very uncertain health that he thought a few days more rest advisable. Bro. Dewar then read the list of subscriptions, which were as follows:—

	£	s	d
Crawshaw Bailey (Monmouthshire)	52	9	6
George Dalrymple (Cumberland and Westmoreland)	26	10	0
Charles S Lane (Northumberland and Durham)	28	7	0
John Lane (Devon)	15	15	0
Rev J Marsden (South Wales)	40	0	0
Rev C J Martyn (East Anglia)	-	-	-
J W Woodall (N and E Yorkshire)	22	1	0
Chas H Driver (Four Kings' Council, Allied Degrees)	31	10	0
E B Florence (Bon Accord T.I.)	21	0	0
H R Hatherley (Newstead T.I.)	20	17	6
James Moon (Old Kent T.I.)	61	7	6
George Lambert (Grand Masters' Lodge)	5	5	0
Wm March (Unattached)	10	10	0
Alfred Williams (Unattached)	5	5	0
William Barkley	No. 59	10	10
J H Banks	60	26	2
H G Barwell	92	15	15
Edgar Bowyer	315	10	10
Henri Brett	235	27	6
Charles Conpland	226	43	13
J Mc N Davis	265	16	4
Henri Faija	144	10	10
Edwin Gilbert	223	-	-
John Harrison	62	21	15
George Hollington	173	12	0
A H Jefferis	32	10	10
S. G. Kirchoffer	54	10	10
G F Lancaster	305	47	7
F Lorraine	13	26	5
H C Miller	34	13	0
Wm Morris	257	6	1
George Powell	1	5	5
John Smith	302	21	5
W E Stewart	7	21	0
John Tomkins	225	21	5
G. L. Woodley	38	5	10

Two years ago, Bro. Dewar said the subscription list amounted to £553; last year it was £557. They had not anticipated a very large increase on that amount; but it was his privilege and pleasure to announce that, under the presidency of Sir Pryse Pryse, the subscription list this year amounted to the magnificent sum of £723 1s. When the Fund was established, £100, £120, or £130 was regarded as a liberal subscription; and when they received as much as £500 it was considered they had got as much as they might expect. The contributions now exceeded their most sanguine expectations.

The other toasts were the Board of Stewards, responded to by Bro. James Moon; The Ladies, proposed by Bro. Alfred Williams, and responded to most eloquently by Bro. R. P. Spice.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ESSEX.

THE RIGHT HON.
THE LORD BROOKE, M. P.
 Right Wor. Provincial Grand Master.
 THE WORSHIPFUL BROTHER
FRED. A. PHILBRICK, Q. C., P. G. D.
 Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the ANNUAL PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE will be holden at the RAILWAY HOTEL, PARKES-TON (near Harwich), on Wednesday, the 1st day of August next.

The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened punctually at one o'clock. The Treasurer's Accounts will be audited at Noon.

By command of the R. W. P. G. M.

THOS. J. RALLING,
Provincial Grand Secretary.

Colchester, 24th July 1883.

BANQUET at the GREAT EASTERN HOTEL, HARWICH, punctually at Four o'clock. Tickets, Fifteen Shillings each, including Dessert and Bottle of Wine.

The Great Eastern Railway Company have kindly consented to issue RETURN TICKETS at SINGLE FARES to Brethren attending this Meeting, on production of Summons, and to stop the 9.1 p.m. Train from Manningtree at Ardleigh, Witham, and Romford, on notice being given at the preceding stopping Station.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL SPECIAL BUILDING FUND. SPECIAL PRIVILEGES.

In connection with such Special Fund, attainable until 31st December 1883.

Any present Life Governor of the General Fund, or any Donor who may qualify as such up to the date named above, will receive—

TWO VOTES,—instead of One Vote, for LIFE, FOR EVERY FIVE GUINEAS contributed to the "SPECIAL FUND."

Lodges, Chapters, &c., similarly qualified may secure Two Votes instead of One Vote—for every Ten Guineas contributed to the "SPECIAL FUND."

* * Ladies, and "Lewises"—being minors—similarly qualified, and all Vice-Presidents, will receive FOUR Votes for every Five Guineas so contributed.

Contributors of less than Five Guineas, to the "SPECIAL FUND," will be entitled to Votes as under ordinary conditions.

FIRST AND LAST APPLICATION.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

YOUR VOTES AND INTEREST are earnestly solicited on behalf of AMY MARGARET LEE, daughter of the late Bro. THOMAS VINCENT LEE, of the Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13.

MARGARET J. LEE, Bull and Last, Highgate Road, N.

NOTICE.—FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL.

THIS fire has not touched in the least any part of the Freemasons' Tavern, and will not cause the slightest interference with any arrangements made or pending for Masonic or other Banquets, Balls, Public Meetings, or any purpose for which the establishment is devoted. Orders can now be received for Masonic and Regimental Dinners, Public Festivals, Private Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, Evening Parties, Balls, Soirees, &c., and the Spacious Hall is, as usual, available for Election and other Public Meetings.

The business will in every respect be conducted as heretofore.

SPIERS AND POND (Limited).

4th May 1883.

FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL!

LARGE photographs of the Temple, taken immediately after the fire, on 4th May (suitable for framing), 5s each; or framed in oak, securely packed, sent to any address in the United Kingdom, carriage paid, on receipt of cheque for 15s. Masters of Lodges should secure this memorial of the old Temple for their Lodge rooms.

W. G. PARKER, Photographer, 40 High Holborn, W.C.
 Established 25 years.

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MANUFACTURERS OF
 SODA WATER AND SELTZER WATER,
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FIRST CLASS QUALITY ONLY.

WILSON and ENDELL STREETS, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.
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DR. WATTS on ASTHMA and BRONCHITIS. A Treatise on the only successful Method of Curing these Diseases. By ROBERT G. WATTS, M.D., F.R.S.L., F.C.S., &c., 5 Bulstrode-street, Cavendish-sq., London.
 London: C. MITCHELL AND Co., Red Lion-court, Fleet-street.

WANTED, by Advertiser (a Freemason of some years standing), a situation as Book-keeper, or any appointment of responsibility. Good references. Salary moderate. J. J. T., 1 Chiltern View Villas, Uxbridge.

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."

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

NORTH WALES AND LAKE DISTRICT.—The Summer Service of Trains in the Lake District, and on the North Wales Coast is now in operation. The Express leaving Euston at 10.30 a.m. will be found the most convenient for Lla dduno, Rhyl, Penmaenmawr, Aberystwith, Barmouth, Dolgelly, &c., as well as for the English Lake District.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class Tourist Tickets, available for two months, are issued at all the Principal Stations on the London and North Western Railway.

For full particulars, see Tourist Guide (124 pages with Maps, price One Penny), which can be obtained at the Stations, or on application to Mr. G. P. NEELE, Superintendent of the Line.

G. FINDLAY, General Manager.

Euston Station, July 1883.

THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON,

Adjoining the TERMINUS of the LONDON CHATHAM and DOVER RAILWAY, but distinct from the Viaduct Hotel.

THE BEST FURNISHED AND MOST COMFORTABLE HOTEL IN LONDON.
 HOT & COLD WATER LAID ON IN ALL BED ROOMS:
 The appointments throughout so arranged as to ensure domestic comfort.

EVERY ACCOMMODATION FOR MASONIC LODGE MEETINGS,
 Public Dinners & Wedding Breakfasts.

THE CRUSADERS LODGE, No. 1677, AND PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 1743,
 HOLD THEIR MEETINGS AT THIS ESTABLISHMENT.

GOOD COOKING. FINE WINES. MODERATE CHARGES.
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TARIFF on APPLICATION to Bro. A. BEGBIE.

THE CAFE MONICO,

(Proprietors—The Brothers Monico, London Lodge, No. 108.)

15 TICHBORNE STREET, PICCADILLY CIRCUS.

THIS magnificent and commodious Restaurant has been entirely refitted and artistically decorated. The Proprietors beg to inform their numerous friends that the

PARISIAN RESTAURANT

was opened to the public on the 1st May.

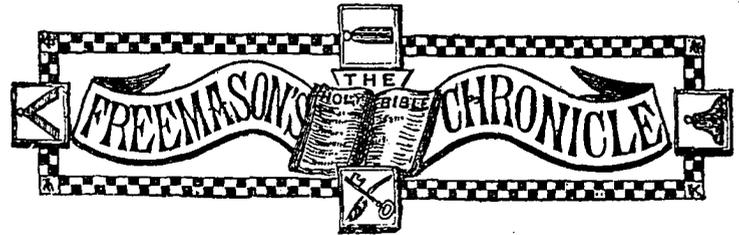
The services of one of the most expert Chefs, from Paris, has been secured, and they feel confident of being able to sustain the reputation they have so long enjoyed, both as regards cuisine and wines. The cellars of the Brothers Monico are acknowledged as of the best in London.

THE GRILL AND GRAND HALL,

not to be equalled in the style of its appointments and as regards its size,

Open for Suppers till 12.30.

It can be claimed for this establishment,—that Omnibuses from every part of the Metropolis pass this well known thoroughfare until a late hour.



PROVINCE OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

WE have pleasure in laying before our readers the full text of the sermon preached by the Rev. W. O. Thompson, G. Chaplain, at St. Alban's Abbey, on the occasion of unveiling the Memorial Pulpit presented by the Freemasons of England.

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light."—Acts xxvi. 18.

We are met together to-day, my brethren, to dedicate to the honour and glory of Almighty God a necessary addition to the work of restoration that has been going on for years in this ancient sanctuary. It was thought that some distinctive portion of that work should, with the permission of those in charge of the building, be undertaken by the Freemasons of England. This time-honoured Order claims to be particularly connected with this historical Church through the person of its founder and patron saint. However that may be, I trust it is at least conceded on all hands that in seeking to associate the Craft with the restoration of this ancient Abbey we have been but trying to give public expression to our principles, and to exhibit to the Christian world our deeply-felt conviction of the importance of religious teaching and worship, as well as to create one more tie between the Order and the Cathedral churches of our country. It has fallen to my lot to speak to you from this place, and I am deeply sensible of the responsibility that has been placed upon me, while I welcome the privilege. In considering what portion of the sacred volume would best serve to point the word of exhortation to-day this divine commission given by the Lord to the Apostle of the Gentiles presented itself before me. We claim that for ourselves, as well as for St. Paul, these words were spoken. We as Masons claim that the principles of our Order are designed to produce this conversion in men's hearts, while we all as Christians admit that to preach Christ and Him crucified is the divinely-appointed means of teaching the truth that is able to open the eyes of the blind and to

turn men from darkness to light; and no fitter portion of this work, I conceive, could have been proposed for us to supply than this Pulpit, whence the principles of Divine truth may be eloquently enunciated. Only here in this third recitation before the heathen Agrippa of the events of that wondrous turning of the heart of the persecutor Saul from darkness to light are these words recorded; spoken to him as they were from the centre of the light of exceeding brilliancy which outshone the light of even the midday sun. From that moment the whole current of his life was changed; an entirely new future opened out before him; that for which he was then commissioned to be the instrument of producing on other hearts was accomplished in his—he was turned from darkness to light. Of course I am not forgetful that many among you, my brethren, will recognise our own symbolical use of these words, a use justified by the whole tenour of the sacred volume, and perhaps nowhere more pointedly so than here. Let us think of this; and first we remember how remarkably Light is used in the Bible as a symbol and type of God. From the time when first the creative voice of God is heard sounding through the darkness of chaos, calling light into existence, down almost to the concluding words on the last page of the Book of Revelation, the symbolical meanings and uses of light are scattered broadcast over the sacred page. Called first out of the darkness that brooded and hung over chaos, we see light perfected at last in the city of God, the Grand Lodge above, wherein the servants of God and of the Lamb shall know no light, neither shall need any candle nor light of the sun, for their light shall proceed from the centre of that glorious temple, where everlastingly dwells in effulgent beauty the presence of the Lord God himself. And, as if to intensify this truth, we notice that the creation of light preceded in order of time the appointment of the greater light to rule the day, or the lesser light to rule the night. Science also recognises this from her deductions. When the Almighty Being willed out of the depths of his own eternity to call forth into being a world in which His own life might be manifested, He did so by bidding His own self-existent light first spread itself over the formless void; and ever since, when He would specially bring to the world He thus formed and to the human beings He then first made, the knowledge of His will, or the power of His majesty, or the sense of His love for souls, it was by a special exhibition of His own uncreated light, exceeding in power and brilliancy even the light of the created sun. We see this light in the flaming sword of the avenging Angel of light that kept the way of the tree of life at the symbolical east of the Garden of Eden; we see it when the horror of great darkness fell upon Abram in his deep sleep, when his faith was failing, and it came to pass that when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between the pieces of the sacrifice; it was the condemning light of the All-holy One and All pure. One, giving warning of the punishment that should fall, as Jeremiah tells us, on those who should break the terms of the covenant made with the Most High; we see it in the burning bush and the flame of fire, when the Lord appeared to Moses, and warned him that the place whereon he stood was holy ground; we see it again, my brethren, in the dazzling light that beamed from Moses' face, when he returned to the people from the presence of God; we see it in the pillar of fire that led and protected the children of Israel in their journeys, the symbol and sign of the protecting Providence of God; we see it too, I think, in the light of the Angel ascending in the flame of the altar of Manoa's sacrifice; we see it in the translation of Elijah in the midst of the divine light alive into heaven; we see it, too, in our Lord, when those two old Testament saints, who were so signally under its powers in their time, shared also the glory of the everlasting light on the Mount of the Transfiguration; we recognise it again when the eye of the first martyr, St. Stephen, pierced straight through the cloud to the essential centre of being, and searching round the light of the Eternal Presence, fixed itself on the glory of God; and we see this special display of it, the great light from heaven, in the conversion of the persecuting Saul. Can we doubt that there is a light which essentially belongs to the being of God Himself, and that when He would in some marked way communicate with His creatures, it is by this special manifestation of His own self? Can we doubt that there is indeed for us a light far exceeding that of the sun, eternal and everlasting, which, as it has ever been, shall for ever shine forth, even though heaven and earth shall pass away, "shining more and more unto the perfect day." Yet still the word goes forth, "Let there be light." What means this? There is the thick cloud of spiritual ignorance and sin that man's sinful nature has suffered to brood over the bosom of the earth; there is the dense veil of vice and immorality that man's perverted faculties and passions have drawn between himself and the Almighty God of love; there are the chill and impenetrable mists of sorrow and of misery that yet envelope each one of the human race. To dispel and remove these has God's love ever striven; every age has had its own summons to cast off the works of darkness, and put on the armour of light. Yes, and every heart has had its own impulse to respond to those strivings within it of the Spirit of God, which would have men everywhere to repent and turn to Him. "O, House of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord." This, as it was Isaiah's appeal, is also the aspiration of every stricken heart in its moments of awakening, as it symbolised the expectation and the hope of every devout Jew that "the Day-spring from on high would visit him," and "the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in his wings." You, my brethren in Masonry, know well when this was the predominant wish of your hearts; when in the darkness of ignorance, though buoyed up by hope, you stood in the centre from east to west, from north to south, on the pavement of the world, beneath the blue vault and canopy of heaven. Then your wish was for "light." You know well how, later on in your career, you were taught that by following the precepts of your noble Order, you would be inspired with a holy confidence that the Lord of Life will enable you to trample the King of Terrors beneath your feet, and lift your eyes to that bright Morn-

ing Star whose rising brings peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race. The turning from darkness to light is thus a change of the whole man from selfishness to love, from sin to God, for absence from God is darkness, presence with God is light, for God is light, and light is God. God is love, and love is God, and the life of the incarnate God is the light of men. You will perhaps ask me, therefore, do I not thus make Masonry a religion? or exalt it into the place of one? Let it be replied at once, we make no such claim for it, but, founded as all its principles are on the volume of the sacred law; being a system of morality, taught by allegory, and illustrated by symbol; we hold that in the Bible alone is the key to the interpretation of the allegories, and the clue to the right meaning of the symbols. And if I read the teachings of Masonry aright, I am bold to assert that the high moral suggestions it continually affords are calculated not only to make the man who is already a Christian look with increased veneration and love upon the truths of the Gospel, and cling to them more closely, but to make the stranger to Christianity crave that enlightenment which nothing but God's revelation in Christ can effectually give him. If there is thus, as we know and feel, a power in Masonry when conscientiously and strictly followed, to turn men from darkness to light, it is not enough to-day that I should stop there. Standing in this sacred place, and invested, however unworthily, with a sacred office, I may not hesitate in view of the special occasion that has brought us together, to point to Him who has said of Himself, "I am the light of the world," or to the gift of the spirit of God, the greatest display of God's own eternal light as the one regenerating power of humanity, better, far better, that Masonry had never existed than that the Gospel of Jesus Christ should waive any of its pretensions or be shorn of any of its glory. Masonry may be of use to the secular, moral, and social instincts of men; the Gospel alone can save souls, and provide for their eternal interests; the Holy Spirit of God can alone open our eyes and turn us from darkness to light. But this we do say, that though the brotherhood of Masonry is distinctly a human and social association, and Christianity is emphatically a divine religion, founded upon supernatural facts, having to do with eternal interests, seeking to restore fallen man from the misery and the darkness of sin, and to fit him to dwell in the happiness of the light of God for ever, they nevertheless may exist together—the human institution and the divine institution; the one immeasurably inferior to the other, it is true, yet serving as the handmaid, ministering secondary though powerful motives to induce men to lead Christian lives, affording hints by its symbolic teaching that may be helpful reminders of the love which the spiritual man professes for Christ's sake. Our blessed Lord, in his ministry on earth did both the divine and the human work, and does so still, and after his example we need not forego the spiritual work because we recognise moral and social obligations, nor need our spiritual relations to Jesus Christ take us out of the world and its bonds of labour and social usefulness. We only claim that the Masonic brotherhood may help us, as that which is inferior being made helpful to attain that which is superior, to realise the obligations and duties of the Christian brotherhood more perfectly, for "he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" One bright light kindled and shining in our homes will transmit its rays to another, and this shall reproduce itself until from heart to heart, and from home to home, the light shall spread, and the darkness be dispelled. We need more sociality in our Christian brotherhood; brother with brother striving together for each other's welfare, clinging together in mutual love, because each is imbued with the love of God in Christ, one with another working as members of one family, brethren, fellow heirs of the same grace and hope, all taking heed together that the light that is in them be not darkness. Thus may the spirit of Masonry and the spirit of Christianity be united together to turn men from the darkness of selfishness and sin to the glorious light of God's own love and salvation. And, I ask, was not this the very principle that St. Paul himself, when faithfully fulfilling this his divine commission at Athens trusted to the turn of the over-scrupulous Athenians from darkness to light? He preached to them that "God hath made of one blood all nations of men, that all should seek the Lord." Their common humanity was the very reason that they should have but one Lord and one faith, and to preach this one Lord and Him crucified, to teach this one faith, to tell of the one Spirit, is the divinely appointed means whereby men all over the world should be turned from darkness to light, and have their eyes opened to see the things that belong to their eternal peace. Preaching was St. Paul's interpretation of the commission he received when anointed with that sudden blaze of heavenly light: "Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but showed first unto them at Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." And this is the work that is to go on now from this place. Thankful should we be that we have been permitted to provide a pulpit more worthy of the work, more suitable from its magnificence for God's service, more appropriate to this noble building; praying at the same time that those who shall henceforth speak for God to men from this place may have strength and power given them to touch men's hearts and souls: that the word spoken by their mouths may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain; and that those who hear may have grace to profit by the word preached, and to bring forth fruit with holiness, remembering the promise of the Lord Jesus that "he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." Yes, my brethren, there is an illumination of the heart for which all should crave, and there is this One, gentle in speech, tender in manners, loving in heart, who has declared himself the enlightener of all who come to him. He is the subject of our preaching. It matters not to what stage of the spiritual life we have yet attained, we all need that light to guide us more and more unto the perfect day. Let not year by year go by, and find us listening to the same appeals,

and yet no further from the old darkness, no nearer the blessed light. If we have inducements for exertion, let the contradictions of our own nature preach to us, for what are these indeed but the broken rays of a light that once burned steadily—the imperfect reflections of a once perfect nature, linking us to the old Paradise of Eden, and to the new paradise beyond the grave and gates of death. But when the way of salvation is shown so clearly; when gospel truths are so faithfully preached, as they are in our pulpits to-day, how blameable must we all be if we refuse to hear the word of God, and decline to mould our lives by the precepts of the volume of the sacred law. Rather let Masonry and Christian teaching unite to turn men from darkness to light, for—

“Clear before us, through the darkness,
Gleams and burns the guiding light:
Brother clasps the hand of brother,
Stepping fearless through the night.
Oh, the light of God's own presence,
O'er His ransomed people shed;
Chasing far the gloom and terrors,
Brightening all the path we tread.”

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

A QUARTERLY Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter will be held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Wednesday, the 1st day of August next, at six o'clock in the evening.

The Minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes (as follows) will be submitted to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 18th April, to the 17th July 1883, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Balance Grand Chapter	912	14	5	Disbursements during the quarter	201	2	10
„ Unappropriated Account	209	7	4	Balance „ in Unappropriated Account	1043	14	1
Subsequent Receipts	332	5	0		209	9	10
	£1,454	6	9		£1,454	6	9

which balances are in the Bank of England, Western Branch.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following Petitions:—

1st. From Companions Thomas Pickles as Z., James Alexander Parr as H., Benjamin Preston as J., and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Nelson of the Nile Lodge, No. 264, Batley, to be called “The Nelson of the Nile Chapter,” and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Park Road, Batley, Yorkshire (Western Division).

2nd. From Companions Osborne Hambrook Bate as Z., George Brooke Attwell as H., William Darley Hartley as J., and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Buffalo Lodge, No. 1824, East London, to be called “The Sinai Chapter,” and to meet at East London, South Africa (Eastern Division).

3rd. From Companions Frederick Flood as Z., Thomas Wood as H., Benjamin Hicklin as J., and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Dorking Lodge, No. 1149, Dorking, to be called “The Dorking Chapter,” and to meet at the Public Hall, Dorking, in the County of Surrey.

The foregoing Petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have also received a Petition from the Principals and Members of the Amphibious Chapter, No. 253, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire (Western Division), praying for a Charter of Confirmation, the original being lost.

The Committee also recommend that a Charter of Confirmation for this Chapter be granted.

(Signed) JOHN CREATON, P.G.Pr. Soj.
Past Grand Treasurer,
President.

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.
18th July 1883.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

A SPECIAL Grand Lodge will be holden at Freemasons' Hall, W.C., on Wednesday, the 8th August, at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of resuming and continuing the consideration of the Report of the Board of General Purposes on the Amendments on the proposed Revision of the Book of Constitutions, referred to the Board by Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication of the 7th March last, for consideration and report. The Grand Lodge will be opened at Five o'clock precisely.

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 Meetings, &c., as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

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SATURDAY, 28th JULY.

- 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
1297—West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
1384—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
1541—Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Flury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1679—Henry Muggerridge, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
1482—Wharnciffe, Rose and Crown Hotel Penistone
1484—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst
1777—Royal Hanover, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
1965—Fastes, Parish Rooms, Bromley, Kent
1982—Greenwood, Public Hall, Epsom (CONSECRATION)

MONDAY, 30th JULY.

- Grand Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, 81 Red Lion Square, W.C.
22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
45—Strong Man, George Hotel, Australian Avenue, Barbican, at 7 (Instruc.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
186—Industry, Bell, Carter-lane, Doctors-commons, E.C., at 8.30 (Inst.)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
1425—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (In.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In)
1507—Metropolitan, The Moot-gate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
1623—West Smithfield, Farringdon Hotel, Farringdon-street, E.C., at 8 (Inst.)
1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
1745—Farringdon, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
82—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
148—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
1177—Tei by, Tenby, Pembroke
1440—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
R.A. 310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle Street, Carlisle
R.A. 321—Faith, Crewe Arms Hotel, Crewe
R.A. 1205—Elliott, 1 Caroline Place, East Stonehouse

TUESDAY, 31st JULY.

- 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
111—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1380—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
1391—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
1408—Mount Edgcombe, 19 Jernyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1471—Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
1540—Chancer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
1553—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
310—Unions, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
1358—Torba, Town Hall, Plaignton
1566—Ellington, Town Hall, Maidenhead
R.A. 510—St Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard

WEDNESDAY, 1st AUGUST.

- Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 6
15—Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
73—Mount Lebanon, Horse Shoe Inn, Newington Causeway, at 8. (Inst)
103—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
228—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
539—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)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
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, 516 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—Creaton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
R.A. —Camden, The Boston, Junction Road, Holloway, at 8.30. (Instruction)
R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)
Prov. Grand Lodge of Essex, Railway Hotel, Parkeston, near Harwich
74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Sovern-street, Birmingham
298—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, Rochdale
326—Moira, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol
327—Wigton St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne
417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester
591—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
645—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
678—Earl Ellesmere, Church Hotel, Kersley, Farnworth, near Bolton.
838—Franklin, Peacock and Royal Hotel, Boston
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
992—St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton
1013—Royal Victoria, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland. (Instruction.)
1063—Malling Abbey, Bear Inn, West Malling, Kent
1055—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
1091—Erme, Erme House, Ivybridge, Devon
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Clayport-street, Alnwick
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street

1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea
 1335—Lindsay, 20 King-street, Wigan
 1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh, Lancashire
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Instruct.)
 1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester
 1431—St. Alphege, George Hotel, Solihull
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1519—Abercorn, Abercorn Hotel, Great Staamore.
 1620—Marlborough, Derby Hall, Tue Brook, Liverpool
 1903—Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, Masonic Hall, Portsmouth
 R.A. 126—Nativity, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
 R.A. 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton
 R.A. 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 R.A. 533—Warren, Freemasons' Hall, Congleton, Cheshire
 M.M. 36—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Duke-street, Barrow-in-Furness

THURSDAY, 2nd AUGUST.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, Collyer-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
 742—Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (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.)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shoreditch, at 8 (Instruction)
 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, Constitution, Bedford-street, W.C., at 7.45 (Instruction)
 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, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury Place, at 8. (Inst.)
 M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8.30 (Inst.)

24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
 123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 266—Naphthali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood
 269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn
 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 294—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks
 295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield
 300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel Wolverhampton.
 446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire.
 509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
 637—Portland, Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent.
 792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Great Grimsby
 974—Pentalpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Eiland
 1282—Anchorme, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire
 1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Topsham, Devonshire
 1384—Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes
 1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich
 1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms Hotel, Padiham, near Burnley
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1807—Loyal Wye, Bulth, Breconshire
 R.A. 187—Charity, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 496—Mount Edgecumbe, Masonic Rooms, St. Anstoll
 R.A. 631—Rectitude, Corporation Hotel, Tipping-st., Ardwick, Openshaw, Man
 R.A. 687—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 R.A. 758—Bridgwater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 M.M. 53—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

FRIDAY, 3rd AUGUST.

Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 8.30.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruct.)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruct.)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8 (In.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 833—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1159—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyn Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond Road
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1716—All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1815—Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A. 65—Prosperity Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall St.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, (Inst.)
 M.M. —Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 K.T. 134—Blondel, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.

41—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
 219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
 837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 998—Welchpool, Railway Station, Welchpool
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1528—Fort, Masonic Hall, Newquay, Cornwall.
 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
 1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
 1648—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 1664—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Gosforth
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, at 5.30
 R.A. 214—Hope and Unity, White Hart, Romford
 K.T.—Loyal Volunteers, Queens Arms Hotel, George-street, Ashton-under-Ly

SATURDAY, 4th AUGUST.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Primico, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 1223—Amhorst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent
 1458—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

GREYFRIARS' LODGE, No. 1101.

ON Tuesday, the 17th inst., the Annual Summer Outing of the brethren of the above Lodge took place at Wallingford. In years gone by there have been many of these annual trips, of which pleasant remembrances remain to this day, but the excursion on Tuesday was generally considered to be one of the most successful and enjoyable. The programme was as follows:—At 9.30 a steam launch would leave Caversham Lock for Wallingford, where several brethren from Oxford had signified their desire to meet those from Reading; dinner would be provided at Bro. Lawrence's, the Lamb Hotel, at 1.30; at 3.30 the W.M. and brethren of St. Hilda Lodge, No. 1887, proposed extending to the travellers their greeting in Lodge; at the close of this short ceremony, by kind permission of Mr. Hedges, the Castle Gardens and Grounds would be thrown open to the brethren, and at 5 o'clock the launch would leave again for Reading, arriving there in due time.

Punctually at 9.30 the steam launch, "Wild Rose," was at the starting place, and a well-appointed horse and cart, the latter bearing a well-known name, was in waiting by the river side. Soon the genial W.M. of Greyfriars appeared on the scene, and directions were speedily given to transfer the contents of the aforesaid vehicle to the cabin of the "Wild Rose." Before these interesting proceedings were ended, several brethren arrived, and true Masonic greetings were exchanged all round. At length the party was complete, except one brother who was expected from London by the 9.46 train, and a move on board was made. Still anxious glances were turned towards the railway, and presently the train was seen approaching. The most melodious whistle of the "Wild Rose" sounded loud and long, and hands were waived, but no response appeared from either of the carriage windows, and so the word was given to start. The party at this time consisted of Bros. Dowsett W.M., Ridley S.W., Hawkes J.W., Stransom Treas., Ivey P.M. Secretary, Ravenscroft J.D., Hickie Organist; P.M.'s Flanagan and Pulley, and Bros. Bennett, Greenaway, Hammett, Parkes, Sparrow, &c. Visitors—Higgs 414, Brett 1436, Westall 1714, and Brinkworth 1658.

Caversham Bridge was soon passed, and the magnificent scenery on the right came into view, looking its best in the brightness of the beautiful, though rather cloudy morning. The brisk breeze was just enough to make a light overcoat acceptable, and its effect on the appetite was quick and extreme. The worthy W.M., however, was soon to the rescue and sandwiches appeared and disappeared with wonderful celerity. The welcome adjuncts were also at hand, and refreshment after labour proceeded right merrily. The "Roe Buck," in its renovated condition, one of the prettiest places on the river, was soon left behind, together with the old ferry, and Mapledurham in all its summer wealth of foliage and tints. All on board seemed to be quietly enjoying the lovely surroundings, and, indeed, the scene was eminently calculated to awaken poetic feelings in every breast. But, alas! interruptions will come and worldly incidents will break in. The "Wild Rose" was proceeding merrily on her way and calmness prevailed, when a sudden gust of wind swept across the boat, a quick cry was heard, and every eye was turned the way we had come. A moment of intense excitement ensued, for in the near distance a black object could be seen bobbing gently up and down. A glance round the boat sufficed to prove that our number was complete, but one head was bare. A hat, not a man, was overboard? It is generally considered wrong to laugh at the misfortunes of others, but on this occasion the unfortunate one laughed as loud as any, and very quickly the laugh became general. What was to be done? Dickins, in his immortal *Pickwick*, has given some elaborate directions as to the best way of recovering a blown-away hat, but none of these could be put to the test on the present occasion. Fortunately a small fishing boat was near, the "Wild Rose" was stopped, and after various fears had been expressed lest the hat should sink, the occupiers of the boat were hailed. Answering quickly to the summons, the gentlemen pushed off from the shore, and the hat was soon again on board with its owner; not, however, to occupy its former exalted position, but to be consigned to a space beneath the table to drain and dry. The friendly skipper came to the rescue with a straw brimmer (which had seen better days), and this, secured by a strong piece of string, adorned the brow of the unfortunate one for the remainder of the day. Shortly after this exciting episode, Mapledurham Lock hove in sight, with an immense boat waiting to go through. The gates were opened, the big craft went in and the "Wild Rose" followed. It was then seen that the other boat was occupied by a large party from Reading, among whom many familiar faces were recognised. A move on was soon made, and quickly passing our fellow passengers (who were drawn by a horse), friendly greetings were exchanged, and they were soon left far behind.

The river scene by Hardwicke House on to Pangbourne and Stratley has been written, sung and painted many times, but too much in praise of it has never yet been recorded. It would be difficult to discover a better way of spending a few days than in boating and fishing in this charming locality, and many appear to be of this opinion, if the numerous small craft flitting backwards and forwards may be taken as evidence. There is only one drawback to the straightforward trip, and that is the number of locks between Caversham and Wallingford. The whistle of the "Wild Rose" was sounded every now and then, and locks followed each other in rapid succession. But a trip on the river is not like a journey by rail, and time is of not so much importance. Shortly after noon Cleeve Lock was passed, and then the far-famed riverside hostelry, the Beetle and Wedge, came into view. Moulsoford Asylum next was seen on the left, and then Wallingford Bridge was distinguished. Passing the bridge, a sharp turn brought the "Wild Rose" to the landing stage, punctually at one o'clock. Here Bros. Margrett P.M., Prickett S.D., and Creed, all of 1101, joined the party, accompanied by some

brethren of the St. Hilda Lodge, No. 1887, including Bro. Captain Trollope Prov. G.S.B. Berks and Bucks, W.M., who very cordially welcomed the Reading brethren to Wallingford.

On inquiry it was found that the Oxford party, who were likewise coming by water, had not arrived, and so to wile away the time a stroll was taken through the Market place, and the very pretty church of St. Mary was visited and duly admired. The Grammar School was also looked at from the outside, and then a hint was given that the "Lamb" might be waiting to receive its guests. The distance was quickly accomplished, and the kindly host and hostess were in readiness with everything prepared for a good dinner. After the three hours' ride on the river this was most welcome, but the Oxford brethren not having arrived a further delay ensued. At length the question, that a commencement be made, was put and carried by acclamation, and a commencement was made accordingly. The usual preliminaries were scarcely over before the Oxford party arrived, and were duly welcomed to the dining-room. They were Bros. Dormer I.P.M. Alfred Lodge, 340, Lucas S.W., Ryman Hall P.M., Thompson P.M., Bowden, Dorney, Gee, Adamson, Wheeler, Badcock and Foster, Osmond P.M. 1763, Benham 723. Bro. Fisher Secretary 1887 having arrived the party was complete, and ample justice was done to the good things abundantly provided in capital style by the worthy host, Bro. Laurence. Dinner ended, Bro. Dowsett rose to propose the Queen and the Craft, which was received with all honour. A few other toasts followed, but no attempt at speechmaking was made, as time was on the wing and the brethren were due at the St. Hilda Lodge at 3.30. What was wanting in words, however, was made up in cordiality, and shortly after the time appointed a move was made to the Lodge, which having been opened in due form a cordial greeting was extended to the visiting brethren. The question of building a new Lodge-room was discussed, and various preliminaries arranged, the result of which will be that very soon the St. Hilda brethren will be in possession of an edifice supplied with all the conveniences for holding their meetings. The Lodge was then closed in accordance with ancient form, and the brethren proceeded to inspect the picturesque Castle, gardens and grounds, which were most kindly thrown open by Mr. Hedges.

Wallingford at present is not one of the most thriving towns in Berkshire. Undoubtedly it suffers from a great disadvantage through scanty railway accommodation, and blame has been attached to the powers that were, but have since passed away, for not having used their influence at the right time, to get the main line of the Great Western Railway to pass through, or at any rate, nearer the town. But notwithstanding all this, the fact remains that much interest attaches to the town, and there exists strong evidence to show that in the time of the Romans it was a place of note, strongly entrenched and probably a military station. Much interest, too, attaches to the Castle which could boast unquestionably of great antiquity, and like most other edifices of the kind first served the purpose of a fortress, then a royal residence, and in after times a State prison, which ultimately degenerated into a place of confinement for criminals of the ordinary class. As a fortress it was considered to be impregnable, and, indeed, withstood the attacks of the Parliamentary forces for sixteen weeks. Leland gives the following description as the result of his own observation in the sixteenth century:—"The castle joineth to the north gate of the town, and hath three dykes, large and deepe and well watered. About each of the two first dykes, as upon the crests of the creastes of the ground cast out of, runneth an embattled wall, now sore in ruin, and for the most part defaced. All the goodly building, with the towers and dungeon, be within the third dyke." In the beginning of the last century, the castle precincts were let by the Crown on lease to Thomas Renda, Esq., who represented the borough of Wallingford in Parliament in the years 1709 and 1712. It has since then changed hands at various times, and now the entire estate is in the possession of Mr. John Kirby Hedges, through whose kindness the gardens and grounds were thrown open on Tuesday last.

The Oxford brethren had to leave early in consequence of their journey homeward being against wind and stream, and could not therefore avail themselves of the opportunity of visiting the Castle Gardens. Farewells were exchanged, and shortly before six o'clock the landing stage was reached, where the "Wild Rose," with steam up, was in readiness. All were soon on board and the homeward journey commenced. Close to Goring Lock a boat was seen approaching, and, on its passing, the gentlemen who had so kindly recovered the lost hat were recognised, and a laugh and friendly reminder were exchanged. A short distance before Pangbourne Lock, the huge craft we had passed in the morning was seen, and the "Wild Rose" was put on at her utmost speed to pass it and reach the lock first. This proved an easy task, and again friendly greetings were exchanged, and the horse-propelled monster was again lost in the distance. At the Roebuck a halt was made, and a boat brought to land one of the party who resided near. Curiously enough here a catastrophe occurred to the head-gear of another of the passengers, but this time it was not a tall black hat, but a white helmet. The article in question was, however, quickly recovered and restored to its rightful owner, none the worse for the occurrence, and the "Wild Rose" sped on her way, arriving in Caversham Lock in safety shortly before nine. The party soon landed, the black hat, all drained and dried, again occupied its wonted position, and cordial good nights were exchanged, all admitting that a more successful outing had never taken place, and that all present had enjoyed it "like brothers every one."—*Reading Observer*.

William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766.—Held at the St. Andrew's Tavern, Baker-street, Manchester-square, W., on Friday, 20th inst. The regular weekly meeting was rendered somewhat more interesting than usual by the attendance of Bro. Lieutenant H. Smith (I.G. Port Elgin, 350, G. Register Canada), and Bro. D. Smith (Ionic, 52, Quebec Register), both members of the Canadian team of Volunteers who have, during the last fort-

night, been under canvas at Wimbledon. Bro. G. Read P.M. 511 and Sec. 1681 occupied the chair, assisted by the following officers and brethren:—Bros. Chalfont W.M. 1425 S.W., Dehane W.M. 1513 P.G.S.D. Essex J.W., Jones S.D., R. E. Cursons J.D., Mote I.G., G. Coop Preceptor, H. Moore Sec., G. Tribbel P.M. 1227, Taylor W.M. 1767, Festa P.M., Sedgwick P.M., Wickens S.D. 436, Lee 511, Weatherill, Robinson, C. Bellerby, F. Smith, A. Philips, D. Wilson, R. Parsons, B. Wilson, E. B. Cox, &c. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed in a very able manner. Bro. Tribbel being candidate, Bro. Jones gave the charge. The Lodge was then called off, and on resuming labour was opened in the second degree. Bro. Tribbel being a candidate for the third, was examined and entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the third, and the ceremony of raising most admirably rehearsed, together with the traditional history. Five brethren were elected members, and honorary membership was conferred on the Canadian visitors, who expressed the pleasure it afforded them to visit the Lodge, and their cordial greetings, hearty good wishes, and best thanks to the brethren for the manner in which they had been received amongst them. A vote of thanks to the W.M. for ably fulfilling the duties of the chair was unanimously passed, and the Lodge closed in due form and perfect harmony.

PAXTON LODGE, No. 1686.

THE summer outing of the brethren of the above Lodge was held on the 21st inst. An assemblage took place at London Bridge Station, and gruesome were the glances cast at the threatening clouds as the brethren awaited the coming of their esteemed W.M., Bro. G. R. Dodd, while some doubts and fears were expressed that the threatening aspect of the morning had prevented his appearance. But, punctual to the hour he drove up, and tickets for their destination were taken for the party. Boxhill was the *locus in quo*, and to Boxhill the brethren were determined to go, let the weather do its worst. This was a happy determination, as the result proved.

Scarcely had the train left the platform before the clouds burst and such a deluging downpour came on that the carriages were unable to keep the wet entirely out, and for a short space a travelling shower bath was the order of the course. No rain could, however, damp the spirits of the Paxton brethren. The amount of Mark Tapleyism, good humour and harmony, which hitherto have been their distinguishing characteristics, stood them in good service now.

In the course of the journey the charming influence of old Sol again asserted its might, and the beautiful landscapes on either side of the rail, the varied scene of moving meadow, cornfield, stream, and mill in the glory of summer sunlight, had an exhilarating effect upon the party. Boxhill was in due time reached, and its summit gained, when the capricious weather again changed, and a thunder storm was witnessed, the grandeur of which was alone worth coming to see and hear. The massive piles of cumulous cloud, the sudden shaft of light and deep diapason of the thunder reverberating among the distant hills, the pleasing rain, glimpses of distant sunlight where the storm had not reached, were things to be held in memory for many a year.

Convenient shelter was found by the brethren, a well-supplied hamper was unpacked, and its contents done ample justice to. No need of bitters to sharpen appetite after that climb.

Toasts were given and responded to in a few words, for each felt there was an eloquence in the scene around him compared with which the tongue of the best orator was tame and dull. The sunlight again enlivened the scene; cigars were lit, and strolls made about the hill, dingle and rocky dell, ending a delightful afternoon, healthfully and delightfully spent. In the calm and quiet of the beautiful summer evening, a stroll was made to the station, and in due course London Bridge was again reached, the brethren declaring that the summer outing of 1686, A.D. 1883, was a thing to be remembered for ages.

IRON BOUND CLUB OF INSTRUCTION.

THE members of the above Club, which takes its title from its place of meeting, at Bro. W. Musto's Iron Works, Baker-row, Whitechapel, had a very pleasant outing on Monday last, through the kind invitation of Bro. Henry Marks 1306. The members of this Club meet every Sunday morning, and avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded to study the Ritual of Freemasonry, and young Masons thereby are enabled to qualify themselves for the different offices they hold in the parent Lodges. The brethren took the steamer at London Bridge, and after a very pleasant run up to Eel Pie Island, Twickenham, began to indulge in various kinds of sport until 4.30, when they were summoned to the banquet which had been provided. Twenty-five guests sat down, and were very ably presided over by Bro. Marks. Bro. Myers P.M. was Vice President, and Bro. Musto supported the Chairman on his right. After a very sumptuous dinner, which did great credit to the host, Bro. Andy Anderson, the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts. Opportunity was then taken advantage of to present Bro. Musto, P.M. 1306, with a mark of the brethren's appreciation of his services as Preceptor to the Club. This presentation consisted of a very handsome snuff box, cigar case, and fusee box, which had been subscribed for by a few members of the Club. The Chairman, in an eloquent speech, remarked how Bro. Musto had, during his Masonic career, devoted his time to teach the brethren what was required of them in their respective offices. He at all times had done so with a vast amount of patience, and good feeling; indeed, the brethren could not fail to recognise and appreciate his indefatigable services. In the name of the brethren of the Club, and at their request, he had great pleasure in presenting this slight token of their esteem. Bro. Musto, in response, said the kindness of the brethren took him entirely by surprise; until the moment of the

presentation he had not the slightest idea what was about to happen. It, however, afforded him great pleasure to receive this mark of the brethren's appreciation of his services; he would strive to maintain and uphold the good opinion which the brethren now entertained for him. The health of the Chairman was duly honoured and ably responded to. The Visitors' toast was acknowledged by Bro. J. Capp. Bro. I. Cohen responded for the absentees, and in the name of the brethren thanked the Master for his kind invitation. The brethren then repaired to Twickenham, and took train for town, after spending a very enjoyable day.

United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 507.—This Lodge of Instruction held its weekly meeting on Friday, the 20th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. Brother J. B. Sarjeant W.M. The Officers were Brothers Bate S.W., Johnson J.W., Hughes S.D., Bain J.D., P'ooler I.G., Stevens P.M. and Preceptor, Pooré Secretary, Chapman and others. The Lodge was duly opened in the three degrees, and the ceremony of raising was effectively rehearsed by Brother Sarjeant, whose progress in Masonic working is very satisfactory. Lodge was closed down, called off for entry drill, and called on. Friday the 27th being "Preceptor's" night, Brother Stevens gave place for that evening to Brother Bates, who purposes to work the three ceremonies on that occasion. Officers were appointed in rotation, and after "hearty good wishes," Lodge was closed and adjourned.

PENGE LODGE, No. 1825.

THE annual installation meeting of this popular young Lodge was held on Friday 13th instant, at the Thicket Hotel, Anerley, when there was a goodly muster of the brethren and visitors to witness the installation of Bro. A. J. Cox into the chair, in succession to Bro. J. Bird. Amongst the visitors were Bros. H. E. Frances P.P.S.D., F. Dunn P.M. 72, H. Turner P.M. 1589, F. Carter J.D. 1893, T. G. Lawton I.G. 749, E. Williams 72, J. E. Dibble 141, S. Hardiman 217, G. Barsdorf 1329, A. Kenningham 1706, and Kempton 1706. Lodge having been opened in accordance with ancient rites, and some preliminary business disposed of, Bro. Cox was duly presented as Worshipful Master elect, and the brethren below the rank of Installed Master having retired, the impressive ceremony was performed by Bro. R. Jackson, who discharged the duties in the most effective manner. On the readmission of the brethren, the newly-installed W.M. was greeted and saluted in the customary manner, and then proceeded to invest his Officers for the year, as follow:—Bros. G. Bird I.P.M., G. M. Downie S.W., R. Nunnerley J.W., H. J. Francis Treas., T. West P.M. Secretary, W. Ramsay S.D., G. W. Stevens J.D., R. Jackson P.M. M.C., W. J. Barnard I.G., G. Cook Organist, R. A. Tidman W.S., and A. B. Church Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony the W.M. said his first duty, and the most pleasurable one the Master of a Lodge could have to perform, was to present, on behalf of the brethren, a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Bird, as a small recognition of the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge during his successful year of office, and for the assistance and kindly bearing he had ever extended towards the whole of the brethren. The Immediate Past Master briefly but appropriately returned thanks for the compliment paid him, and for the kindly expressions which had fallen from the lips of the Worshipful Master. Lodge was then closed in form, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, served in excellent style by Brother Lassam, whose catering well sustained the reputation which this well-ordered establishment has so long enjoyed. At the conclusion of the repast grace was sung by the choir, and the usual Loyal and Craft toasts were given from the chair in a few happily-chosen sentences, and duly honoured. The I.P.M., in proposing the health of the newly-installed Worshipful Master, wished him a happy and prosperous year of office, and in reply, Bro. Cox, said he felt it no easy task to follow such excellent Masters as those who had preceded him, but it should be his study and aim to maintain the prestige which the Lodge had so long enjoyed. A cordial welcome was extended to the Visitors, on whose behalf Bros. F. Dunn, G. Barsdorf and others suitably responded. Bro. H. E. Frances, who consecrated the Lodge, proposed, in felicitous terms, the health of the Installing Master, and spoke highly of the manner in which the working in Lodge had been carried out. Bro. Jackson briefly returned thanks, and other toasts followed, interspersed with music and singing. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was passed.

DEATH OF A MASONIC PATRIARCH.

A RECORD such as that of the life of the late Brother J. Whyte Melville, of Bennoch and Strathkinness, is rarely met with. The history of his career is fraught with lessons of the deepest interest, and shows how happily duty and responsibility are at times united to the honour of the subject and the well-being of mankind. Brother Melville was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, to use a familiar expression. He never knew the gnawing anxiety that attends the race for wealth, nor the terrible struggles of the poor that drain the sap of life and turn men too frequently into Ishmaelites. He was born 86 years ago, and died on the 16th inst., full of honours. Educated at Cambridge, Bro. Melville subsequently held a commission in the 9th Lancers. When twenty-two years of age he married Lady Catherine Osborne, youngest daughter of the fifth Duke of Leeds. This lady was the friend and companion of the Princess Charlotte, daughter of George IV., and must have been in possession of much information that has since found record in some recent autobiographical works. The wife as well as the issue of the marriage, predeceased the subject of our sketch. His son—Major Whyte Melville—the genial author of some stirring romances, was killed in the hunting-field in 1878. Like his father, he was very popular, and his death was mourned by all who knew him, and that was a very wide circle indeed. It would be impossible, in the limited space at our command, even to catalogue the many important

functions discharged by our deceased brother. He was a keen sportsman, and shared all the honours the chase could give. He was an adept curler, and up to a late period of his life was a votary of golf. Even up to February last he played the national game of Scotland on St. Andrews Links, which were within an easy distance of his residence, at Mount Melville. He was Convener of the county of Fife, was an active member of the Episcopal congregation of St. Andrews, and took a lively interest in the University. In all his relations he was just and upright, one in reality who

"Bore without abnse
The grand old name of gentleman."

He was a kind, considerate landlord, and bestowed bounteous charity in a modest but generous manner. His Masonic career, which will have most interest for our readers, was a grand one, and deserves to be given in full. Bro. J. Whyte Melville was initiated in the Lodge Holyrood House (St. Luke), Edinburgh, in 1817, was made a member of the Royal Clarence Lodge, Brighton, in 1819, and received the appointment of Provincial Grand Master of Fife and Kinross in 1842, an office which he has ever since continued to hold. He was the oldest Provincial Grand Master in Scotland, as well as Past G. Master of the G. Lodge of Scotland, and Past G. Principal of the Supreme G. Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland. He became Junior G. Warden in 1840, Senior Grand Warden in 1841, a post which he filled until 1846, when he was elected Deputy Grand Master. This office was held by him for the long period of eighteen years under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Athole; and, in consideration of the invaluable services rendered by him, he was elevated to the Throne in 1864, which he filled with great ability for three years. He was succeeded by Fox Maule, the eleventh Earl of Dalhousie. While Grand Master the singular coincidence occurred of Bro. Whyte Melville being at the head of all the various Masonic bodies in Scotland, and at his death he was Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for Scotland of the thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Grand Master of the Religious and Military Order of the Temple, and Deputy Grand Master and Governor of the Royal Order of Scotland, a post which he has held for twenty-five consecutive years, and in which he will in all likelihood be succeeded as head of the Order by the Earl of Rosslyn. He was also Hon. President of the Resicrucian Society of Scotland. When he retired from the Mastership of the Grand Lodge its members manifested their respect for him by presenting Lady Catherine Whyte Melville with a bust of her husband, a duplicate of which was also presented to the Grand Lodge to perpetuate his connection with the Craft. The execution of this work of art was entrusted to Bro. Hutchison, R.S.A., and it still adorns, with others, the Freemasons' Hall in Edinburgh. For many years he was engaged in the work of his several offices, such as laying foundation-stones, consecrating new Lodges and presiding at Masonic gatherings. His name was always foremost in the cause of charity, and to him was due the honour of originating the Fund of Scotch Masonic Benevolence in 1846, when he was in the position of Substitute Grand Master. His last appearance in Grand Lodge was on the occasion of the election and installation of the Earl of Mar and Kellie as Grand Master of Scotland on the 30th November 1881, when Sir Michael Shaw Stewart retired from office. No wonder he was beloved by the Craft, and his name deserves to be held in lasting remembrance by all who respect faithful service loyally rendered.

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* Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Degrees from the 4^o to 32^o inclusive, under the Supreme Council 33^o of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England and Wales, and the Dependencies of the British Crown, together with a List of Members. Corrected to 30th June 1883. Office of the Secretary General, 33 Golden Square, London, W.

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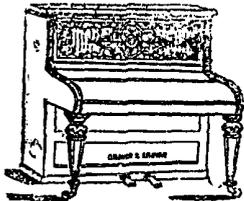
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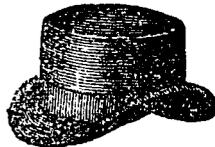
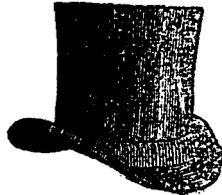
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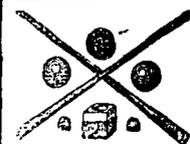
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