

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales,
the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

VOL. XXIII.—No. 592.

SATURDAY, 15th MAY 1886.

PRICE THREEPENCE.
13s 6d per annum, post free.

THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

THE second great Festival in connection with the Charitable Institutions of the Craft is rapidly drawing near, the Ninety-eighth Anniversary being fixed for Wednesday next, at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of Bro. General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., Provincial Grand Master of Surrey. In anticipation of these events, it is usual to take a forecast as to the prospects of success likely to attend the efforts being put forth to secure a satisfactory result; and it would be cheering if that outlook had assumed a somewhat more rosy character than it is our lot to contemplate on the eve of this Festival. From a variety of causes, which it is perhaps difficult to give an adequate account for, those prospects are not so promising as we should desire to see them. It would be absolutely wrong were we dissatisfied with what has been done at the last few Festivals, because the results have in the aggregate exceeded our most sanguine anticipations. At the same time, we have become so enured to grand results that we have been urged on to stretch to the utmost limits, and to such extreme tension, the power for good that is latent amongst the brethren of the Craft that now the very contemplation of a bad result at the forthcoming Anniversary, however slight the ground for apprehension, strikes us with a feeling akin to dismay. But for some reason or other we are inclined to think that the Province of Surrey is not taking the matter in hand with that activity and energy which is essential to the thorough and complete success of the Festival over which its esteemed and popular Provincial Grand Master has consented to preside. We hope we may be wrong in such a calculation, nor do we desire to damp in any way the ardour of those who are doing what they can to make the event of next Wednesday a gratifying success; but whether it is that the supreme effort put forth in the year 1883 on behalf of the Benevolent Institution, followed by the desire to support the Boys' Preparatory School at Wood Green, to a certain extent overtaxed the resources of the brethren, or whether the apparent laxity arises from other causes, there certainly does appear an urgent need for some additional impetus to be thrown into the matter even at this, the eleventh hour. It has been suggested to us from some quarters that the Province of Surrey was hardly prepared to follow up the great efforts to which we refer by another, so soon afterwards, and the circumstances of the case have been rendered all the more difficult in consequence of the indisposition of our estimable Bro. C. Greenwood, Deputy G. Master of the Province, which untoward event is, we fear, likely to prevent the attendance of that assiduous and indefatigable Brother in his capacity of one of the acting Presidents of the Festival of this year. Bro. Greenwood's illness, which all the brethren devoutly hope may be of but a temporary character, coupled with the sad domestic bereavement which he so recently sustained, has had the effect of throwing one of the most powerful propelling powers in such a movement out of gear, for all who know him will be only too eager to admit that whatever Brother Greenwood takes in hand in the interests of the cause we all hold so dear, he leaves no single stone unturned by which to contribute to the entire success of the laudable work. To lose his powerful influence and aid at such a juncture as the present is little short of a

calamity, so far as the excellent Institution at Battersea Rise is concerned; but from all that we can see at present we entertain but slight hopes that the sanction of Brother Greenwood's medical advisers will be given to his attendance at next week's Festival. Under these regrettable circumstances, if the brethren of Surrey will look around them amongst the Lodges of the Province from which no Stewards have as yet consented to render immediate practical aid, there may be still time to produce such a result as shall allay every apprehension as to the outcome of the effort now before them. We only want a Steward to be named from every Lodge, and we are quite sure that between now and the time when the annual account of the Institution is closed, such persuasive pressure will be brought to bear upon the brethren as will relieve the Provincial Grand Master and the executive of the School of all fear as to the means of continuing in their beneficent work being placed at their disposal. We have already touched upon this subject, and should have allowed it to pass without any further word of comment, but as the time approaches it is necessary that every effort should be strained to its utmost to bring about the consummation that is so devoutly to be wished—a "bumper" for the "bonnie lassies" at our Battersea Rise establishment. To add to the perplexities of the situation we bear with sincere regret that the Provincial Grand Master has himself been somewhat indisposed of late; and knowing how thoroughly the gallant General enters into all matters connected with the Craft in general, and his own Province in particular, even this passing and temporary drawback to the prosecution of his efforts is sincerely to be deplored. We all know with what hearty zeal and unwearied assiduity he enters into the hard work of the position he so worthily fills, and it is sincerely to be hoped that Wednesday next will find him completely restored to that health and vigour which is necessary for the fulfilment of such an arduous task as that which he has so generously undertaken. As we recently pointed out, Brother General Brownrigg is not new to the work which will then devolve upon him, for he undertook a similar duty on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution three years ago, on which occasion he proved himself a most capable President, and the efforts he then made, supported as they were by the brethren of the Province, proved most beneficial to the interests of the "Old People's Home" at Croydon. That similar exertions may be made on behalf of the Girls' School is our earnest hope, but there is little time left to the brethren of the Province to rally up to the standard required to make the Festival the brilliant triumph we all desire to see it. We do not profess by any means to take an alarmist view of the situation, even though up to the present the number of Stewards on the list is far below that which should have been returned to headquarters. But it would be a source of unfeigned regret throughout the whole of the Fraternity were the results of the event appreciably short of those of preceding years, and such a contingency may yet be avoided if the brethren will put their shoulders to the wheel in such a manner as to enable our worthy Brother Hedges, as Secretary of the Institution, to announce that so far from there being any falling-off in the support accorded to our favourite Institution, so eminently deserving of all the help that can be extended to it, there is at any rate a continued supply of the necessary means of carrying on the work of that branch of Masonic Charity.

We have had the gratification of recording the fact that in spite of the universal depression of trade, and the proverbially "bad times" experienced by men in all grades of commerce and industry, the subscriptions sent up to these great Masonic meetings have been steadily and substantially maintained; and we look forward hopefully that in the few days yet remaining before the Anniversary of the Girls' Festival there will be such a rustle of activity amongst the brethren that, amidst the applause which will undoubtedly follow the principal speaker next Wednesday evening, the voice of Bro. Hedges may be heard in grateful acknowledgment of the amount of aid which the brethren have by their united exertions sent up to enable the executive to carry on their grandly important work of the coming year. It not unfrequently happens that when a supreme effort is called for, enforced almost upon us, at the latest moment, such is the result of active determination to surmount all obstacles that the result is surprisingly gratifying; and from the depths of our wishes for the successful carrying on of the Girls' Institution, we trust to see that effect triumphantly exemplified on the occasion to which so many of our brethren are looking forward with expectant hopes on Wednesday evening next.

HINTS TO BRO. T. B. WHYTEHEAD.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

EDITORS of Monkish chronicles are generally apt to ignore the superstitious beliefs of their authors. Mr. T. Wright, however, in his preface to the works of Giraldus Cambrensis, did call attention to the credulity of his author. Giraldus possessed a "pound of learning," but needed the "ounce of common sense;" he believed that a wolf spoke to a priest, that a wooden cross in Dublin spoke to the people, that there was a mill that would not grind on Sunday, nor grind corn that was stolen, and some hundred similar wonders besides; among which is the following pretty story, viz. :—

"St. Keivin, during Lent, retired to a cabin in the wilderness, where he gave himself up to contemplation . . . reading and prayer. One morning, having raised his hand to heaven, as was his custom, through a window, it chanced that a blackbird pitched upon it and laid her eggs in his palm, treating it as her nest. The saint, taking pity on the bird, showed so much gentleness and patience that he neither drew in nor closed his hand, but kept it extended and adapted it to the purpose of the nest, without wearying, until the young brood was entirely hatched."

How the saint managed to reach his larder, and to perform the functions of nature during the required time, for laying all her eggs and hatching the birds, does not seem to have puzzled Giraldus at all. However, even in the 12th century, his credulity was criticised. So, in the preface to his second book, Giraldus gave his doubting critic an indignant lecture, and quoted St. Augustine and other high authorities, to prove that belief in miracles should not be doubted nor questioned. Now, I may be wrong, but I cannot help suspecting that Giraldus was a Mason; anyhow, his method of reasoning, when defending his belief in miracles, is precisely like the reasoning of our Masonic writers when defending the antiquity of Masonry, &c. I also believe that if our Masonic degree fabricators had read the works of Giraldus, the blackbird story would have long since been dramatised into a Masonic degree, and the city of York would now have been blessed with an Irish Masonic degree, having St. Keivin for Grand Master, and Brothers Blackbird for Grand Officers. Lest, however, the reader should think that I am a little too sarcastic, I herewith copy from Socrates' Ecclesiastical History a miracle just as absurd as the one above quoted, which is now incorporated into our Masonic degrees, and called "The Order of the Red Cross of Constantine," which is as follows:—

While his (Constantine's) mind was occupied on this subject (the conquest of Rome), he was hesitating what divinity's aid he should invoke for successful conduct in the war; it occurred to him that Diocletian had profited but little by the Pagan deities, . . . but that his own father, Constantius, who had renounced the idolatrous worship of the Greeks, had passed through life far more prosperously. In this state of uncertainty, a preternatural vision, which transcends all description, appeared as he

was marching at the head of his troops. He saw . . . a pillar of light in the heavens, in the form of a cross, on which were inscribed these words—"BY THIS CONQUER." Struck with astonishment at the appearance of this sign, and scarcely believing his own eyes, the Emperor asked those around him if they beheld the same spectacle, and, they all declaring they did, the Emperor's mind was strengthened by this Divine and extraordinary apparition. In his slumbers on the following night he saw Christ, who directed him to prepare a standard, according to the pattern of that which had been seen, and to use it against the enemy as an assured trophy of victory. In obedience to this Divine oracle, he caused the standard, in the form of a cross, to be prepared (which is preserved in the palace even to the present time), and, proceeding in his measures with greater confidence, he attacked the enemy and vanquished him before the gates of Rome."

This story is treated generally with contempt. Even the orthodox Mosheim could not swallow it. I confess to be unacquainted with the arguments used by the first doubters of that story. I shall, however, give my own reasons for disbelieving it. First, because it is very absurd; second, if Constantine had seen the vision in the sky, and Christ in a dream, in the year 308, it seems to me that he would have sought baptism *there* and *then*; but the truth is he could not be prevailed on to submit to that necessary Christian rite before 337, or just before he died; and third, this story was unknown until about one hundred or more years after Constantine died. Now, Eusebius, "the father of ecclesiastical history," as he is called, was a favourite of Constantine, and wrote a short biography of his patron in 337. No one will be surprised at his omitting the cruelties and vices of the subject of his memoir, nor of his overloading him with praise for the good he had done. If, therefore, the Constantine vision was true, surely Eusebius would have known it, and, if he had known about it, I can see no reason why he omitted it from his life of Constantine. The fact that Eusebius did not mention the Constantine miracle is very pretty conclusive evidence that the said story was unknown during the lifetime of Constantine, even to his most intimate friend, and that it was, therefore, an invention from first to last. As already said, rational, as well as religious, writers, disbelieve in the Constantine vision, but our *foppish Masons*, who want to play Knights and Emperors, have made the Constantine story into a Masonic degree, and are ready to swear that it is all "true as Gospel."

Again, in the Middle Ages, some men imagined they could make gold out of certain compounds, and were called *Alchemists*. Some of these really believed in the possibility of what they were seeking, but many of them were mere pretenders. These Alchemists, sincere or pretended, looked very mysterious, and pretended to know the hidden secrets of Nature. In 1616 a wag wrote an imaginary history of a society of Rosicrucians, who were adepts in the mysteries of science. This history was at first believed, and hence people took it for granted that the Alchemists were Rosicrucians, and were, and have been, an organised society. Now, it is very easy to persuade some of our Masons that every society in olden times that had a mystery or secret were Masons, and that their mysteries were preserved among Masons to this day. Accordingly, there is a Masonic Rosicrucian concern in York, in which Bro. Whytehead figures as the "Great Adept," and for some years past he annually repeated his belief in the antiquity of the Rosicrucian Order. To be sure, it is generally known that the very word "Rosicrucian" was unknown before 1616, and that no Rosicrucian Society existed before the Masonic mania for high degrees broke out. But what of it? Reason or no reason, Bro. Whytehead is determined to believe it. In his last address he said—

"As far as we know, this singular mediæval brotherhood was banded together for the purpose of investigating the hidden mysteries of Nature and Science. It met but seldom; it was said to have drawn its members from every quarter of the globe, and its ostensible objects were the amelioration of the condition of mankind, and the judicious communication of knowledge . . . We know that in the latter days, at any rate, of the renowned society its members became subject to derision," &c.

The above quotation proves that when once a story is Masonised, it is defended through *thick* and *thin* by those whose interests it is to keep the concern alive; and, as our good but deluded Bro. Whytehead imagines that we

cannot have too many Masonic degrees, and that the more degrees a man possesses the more scientific he is, and as our brother holds the high Grand office of "Chief Adept" in the Rosicrucian College, hence, by annually repeating the Rosicrucian story, he finally comes to believe that a "renowned" Rosicrucian Society existed in the Middle Ages. The present object of the Rosicrucians, however, Bro. Whytehead says, is not for the purpose of finding the philosopher's stone, but to search "for the true history and origin of Masonry; a mystery which rebuked the wisdom of some of the most learned and talented men of the last century, and which is even now apparently a long distance from disclosure," and, after referring to our old Masonic histories and to the "Old Charges, edited by our learned Bro. Hughan, himself a member of our Rosicrucian Order" (I hope, however, that Bro. Hughan did not pay anything for his Rosicrucianism); and, after intimating that the Old Charges are very old, he then pays the following compliment to Bro. Gould. He says:—

"Bro. Gould's History is, as far as actual information is concerned, absolutely exhaustive. It is in itself an entire Masonic library, and is by far the most able work on the Craft that has yet made its appearance. But Gould has dealt with his whole subject, I think, somewhat too much from his own professional standpoint. It is the business of the legal mind to reduce to its lowest ebb of credibility every statement that is arrayed before it, and reject as unworthy of credence everything that cannot be absolutely and irrefragably proved by facts or figures. Now, although this is a very proper frame of mind in which to approach a mere question of right and wrong, . . . yet I scarcely think it is the best spirit in which to attack the problem of the early and unwritten history of Freemasonry."

And after demolishing his "man of straw," viz., who denies any history to Freemasonry before 1717,* Bro. Whytehead favours us with an entirely original idea of the *unwritten* history of Freemasonry. He says:—

"I believe with Bro. Carson, of Ohio, that up to that period (1717) Freemasonry has been essentially Christian in its teachings, and that what was known of builders, which had previously died out through the process of natural decay and lack of useful objects for existence. (Now for the original.) It was, I suspect, these guilds who learned a certain portion of the ancient Christian mysteries from their employers of the Benedictine Order, and adapted them to their own purpose. It was they who added to those mysteries the Hiram legend, and the symbolism of Solomon's Temple, and converted into the stoneworker's allegory what had previously been an exposition of the story of the fall of mankind, the sacrificial redemption of the human race, and the doctrine of resurrection. The true mystery had been handed down to the Benedictines, and preserved by them, from the early Christians, and before that date had been kept secret and inviolate from the foundation of the world by successive patriarchs and prophets, whose 'schools,' as they are termed in the old Testament writings, were merely what we should term in our own phraseology Lodges or Colleges for the instruction of the chosen initiates."

We see now what kind of a history of Freemasonry would suit Bro. Whytehead's notion. To be sure, he frankly admits that he cannot prove what he believes; but what of it? Whether he can or cannot prove it, he is determined to believe that it is, and ought to be, Masonic history, and that Bro. Gould was guilty of an unpardonable sin for not engraving Bro. Whytehead's notions into his history of Freemasonry. It is natural to one whose mind was cast in a theological mould to like only those histories which chime with his religious dogmas; and such histories have been written again and again, both by religious and Masonic zealots. Now, one who believes in the existence of a Rosicrucian renowned Society in the Middle Ages, and who is infatuated with a "thousand and one" Masonic degrees he has taken, very naturally prefers Dr. Oliver for his Masonic historian. And such is the case with Bro. Whytehead. Oliver, who could write what the elder Dr. Disraeli called "a history of events which never happened," is Bro. Whytehead's ideal historian, but Gould is altogether too prosy and matter-of-fact for Bro. Whytehead's taste;

* Symbolic, or Speculative Masonry, did not exist before 1717, but no one denies the existence of Masons' Trade Unions, or Guilds, in the Middle Ages.

and, although evidence is wanted to prove his "unwritten history," yet he is not going to give it up, for he imagines that he will find evidence in the inscriptions on the old monuments.

Now I have patiently waded through some seven or eight volumes of "The Records of the Past," which are filled with inscriptions taken from the old monuments. I have read Max Muller's Sacred Books of the Hindoos, Rawlinson's "Religions of the Antient World," the Hibbert Lectures, and other works on the same subject, and I nowhere found a Society resembling our Craft in all those books. However, as I have not exhausted all the authorities upon the subject, I will not discourage Bro. Whytehead from further pursuing the inquiry. But I must advise him not to publish another word upon the question at issue until he is prepared to prove that the patriarchs and prophets derived the doctrine of redemption from Adam, that the said doctrine was kept as a secret, and why they kept it secret. He must also prove that the early Christians had mysteries, that the Benedictines derived those mysteries from the early Christians, and communicated those mysteries to the Masons. He must further explain how it was that the said mysteries of the early Christians were confined in the Middle Ages to the Order of Benedictines only? And why the Benedictines imparted their mysteries to Masons only? He must also prove that the Hiram legend was known to Masons before 1717, and that Solomon's connection with the Craft was known before the Matthew Cooke MS. was written, and that Symbolic or Speculative Masonry existed before 1717.

Should Bro. Whytehead succeed in proving all I require, I shall be foremost in congratulating him upon the event. I will concede, without further question, the antiquity of the Rosicrucian Order, the vision of Constantine, that a wolf spoke to a priest, that a cross in Dublin spoke to the Dublinites, that a pious mill would not grind on Sunday, and that a blackbird laid its eggs in the palm of the reverend Irish St. Keivin. Besides which, if Bro. Whytehead proves that his faith in the unwritten history of Masonry was well founded, he will deserve a crown of laurels, and will surely be proclaimed by every Grand Lodge in the world, not only as a "Chief Adept," but as the greatest Masonic historian that ever was.

BOSTON, U.S. 26th April 1886.

It is announced that H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England has just appointed the Right Hon. Lord Henniker Grand Master of the Province of Suffolk, in the room of the late Lord Waveney.

We congratulate Bro. Thomas Vincent, P.M. 1861, P.P.G. Sword Bearer Surrey, on his re-election to the office of Churchwarden of the united parishes St. Margaret with St. Magnus, London Bridge. This is the eleventh time that Brother Vincent has received similar honour at the hands of his fellow parishioners.

Another of our old friends has passed away, in the person of Bro. J. R. Foulger P.M. of the Domestic Lodge, No. 177, whose sudden death occurred on Saturday last. An inquest was subsequently held, when medical evidence was adduced, showing the cause of death to have been heart disease. Bro. Foulger will long be remembered as a competent and painstaking Preceptor.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, under the presidency of Bro. Edgar Bowyer, Past Grand Standard Bearer. The minutes were confirmed, and the Secretary reported the death of a male annuitant. The Warden's report was read, and then a letter referring to one of the male candidates was considered. After full discussion, it was decided that his name should be removed from the list of approved candidates. The retiring members of the Committee were nominated for re-election, and several other brethren were also nominated. The draft of the annual report, to be submitted to the subscribers at the annual meeting on the 21st inst. was then considered, and approved, after which a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a conclusion.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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LODGE OF UNION, No. 414.

A REGULAR meeting of the Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Reading, on 20th April. Bros. F. Blackwell W.M., D. H. Witherington S.W., John W. Martin J.W., R. C. Mount P.M. Treasurer P.P.G.S.W. Berks and Bucks, Albert W. Parry Secretary, C. G. Hawkes S.D., W. Sherwood J.D., J. H. Walters I.G., C. T. Rayner Steward, W. Hemmings Tyler; P.M.'s M. J. Withers I.P.M. Prov. G.J.D. Berks and Bucks, R. Bradley Prov. Grand Secretary Berks and Bucks, C. Stephens Prov. Grand Treasurer Berks and Bucks, Charles Oades P.P.G. Registrar Berks and Bucks, J. Weightman P.P.G.J.W. Berks and Bucks, A. Livings, George S. Galt, B. Ruddock, W. G. Millar, W. Bonny. Visitor—H. Creed J.W. 1101. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Charles Townshend Murdoch, of Buckhurst, Wokingham, banker, M.P., formerly of Leinster Lodge, No. 387, Malta, on the register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, proposed by the Worshipful Master, and seconded by Bro. M. J. Withers, was balloted for, and elected a joining member. A part of the sections in the second degree were worked by the Worshipful Master, Bros. Bradley and Oades, at the conclusion of which the members evinced their appreciation of the admirable working by warm acclamations. Lodge opened in the third degree. The W.M. addressed Bros. Alexander Livings and W. Bonny, giving the complement of the ceremony of raising. Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees, when the W.M., in accordance with notice, moved "that the Treasurer shall, previous to the Lodge held in March in each year, deposit in a separate account at the Bank, from the funds of the Lodge a sum equivalent to 18s 6d for each subscribing member who did not attend the annual banquet in the previous January, and that after allowance had been made for the necessary expenses of the Lodge and payment of principal and interest on the mortgage account, any further sum which, in the opinion of the majority of the brethren present at the November Lodge, can be spared from the general funds, shall also be paid into the same account. The amount so invested to form a Fund of Benevolence, which shall be available for votes to the Masonic Charities, cases of personal distress connected with Freemasonry, or such other charitable purposes, Masonic or otherwise, as the brethren from time to time may determine, and that grants made from such Fund of Benevolence shall be subject to bye-law No. 5." The motion was seconded by Bro. Withers, and a well-sustained discussion ensued; the W.M., Bros. Withers, Bradley, Stephens, Mount, Walters, Martin, Millar, Witherington, Sherwood, and Galt taking part. Bro. Bradley proposed as an amendment, "That the subject be referred to the Permanent Committee for consideration and report." This was seconded by Bro. Mount, and carried. On the amendment being put as a substantive motion, it was declared to be carried by 12 votes—twenty-one members being present. The W.M., in accordance with notice, proposed that the sum of £15 15s be devoted to Charity, and that the sum be given to augment the list of Bro. Wheeler jun. P.M., who would represent the Lodge as Steward at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. This was seconded by Bro. Bradley, and carried unanimously. Business being ended, Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper at the Great Western Hotel. The W.M. presided, and a very agreeable conversation resulted.

THE WINDRUSH LODGE, No. 1703.

THE regular May meeting of this Lodge was held in the Corn Exchange, Witney, Oxon, on Wednesday, 5th instant, the W.M. Bro. S. C. Wakefield Prov. G. Steward being supported by a large gathering of members and brethren from neighbouring Lodges. Advantage had been taken by the W.M. of there being no work before the Lodge to proffer an invitation to Bro. James Stevens P.M. P.Z. to deliver his successful and interesting lecture explanatory of the ritual and ceremonial of the first degree, now so well known to the Craft, under the title of "Knobs and Excrescences." The Lodge was opened by the W.M. and the following Officers:—Bros. H. W. Drinkwater P.M. Prov. G.S.W. Oxon S.W., Harry Robins P.M. Secretary 1703 P. Prov. G.J.W. Oxon J.W., A. T. Matthews I.P.M. P. Prov. G.S.D. Oxon, J. M. Clench P.M. Treasurer P. Prov. G. Standard Bearer Oxon, G. Owens Prov. G. Organist Oxon S.D., S. A. Heath J.D., R. Sheafe I.G., W. H. Tarrant Organist, A. Back Steward, S. Smith Tyler. There was a very fair attendance of members, and amongst the Visitors were Bros. Butler W.M. 1399 P.P.G.S.B. Oxon, J. H. Shale, R. Corden and others from the Alfred Lodge 340, Oxford, A. Pearce S.D., and others from the Bertie Lodge, 1515, &c. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. Wakefield W.M. addressed the brethren and stated that he had thought it advisable, as well in the interest of the Lodge itself as for the good of Freemasonry generally, that the otherwise unemployed evening before them should be made instructive by a Masonic lecture. He had therefore invited a well-known brother, whose efforts in the direction of Masonic instruction were receiving deserved recognition, to attend on this occasion and to enlighten them on many points of ritual, with a view to comparing their own practice in Lodge with the forms and ceremonial which he would expound. He hoped and anticipated that the initiative he had taken would in the result be justified by the pleasure and enlightenment which their visitor would afford them, and might be imitated by many other Masters of Lodges, who had spare evenings at their disposal. Bro. Wakefield then formally introduced Bro. Stevens to the brethren, and requested their kind attention. A very hearty welcome was accorded to the lecturer on his rising, and after a brief acknowledgment of his reception, Bro. James Stevens commenced an address, which during nearly two hours, rivetted, without the slightest interruption, the attentive considera-

tion of his hearers. We cannot, of course, print that which is intended only for utterance under a tyled roof, and must therefore be content with an expression of our conviction that this lecture ought to be heard in every Lodge holding under the United Grand Lodge of England. It deals with the ritual as practised for the past seventy-five years, with the innovations made therein, and anomalies and divergencies which have made the practices of some Lodges, when compared with others, not only ridiculous, but in many instances most injurious to the welfare of the Order. We cannot go into any of these particulars, but we strongly commend the lecture to all who desire to have common sense reasoning for what they do and say in Masonic Lodges. At the conclusion of his address, Bro. Stevens was warmly applauded, and a vote of thanks was unanimously ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge, the W.M., who proposed, and Bro. Drinkwater, who seconded the vote, respectively expressing their high appreciation of the service rendered to Freemasonry by the exposition to which the brethren present had so attentively listened. The lecturer returned his thanks for the compliment paid him, and stated his readiness to accept from any Lodges which might desire to extend the same, invitations for a like purpose. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper, after which the Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Brother Matthews in proposing the health of the W.M. (Brother Wakefield) paid a high tribute to the excellent qualities which not only so well fitted him for his exalted position, but endeared him so much to the members of his Lodge, and especially extolled the interest he had shown on this occasion by his personally inviting Bro. Stevens, and so giving his members the benefit of experiencing one of the most instructive and enjoyable evenings of the many passed by them in the Windrush Lodge. The W.M., in response, stated how pleased he felt to receive such an acknowledgment of his efforts to carry out his duty, and especially that his personal invite had been attended with such satisfactory results. He had heard that if he could secure Bro. Stevens for his lecture, neither he nor his Lodge would regret doing so, and he must say that even his most sanguine anticipations had been exceeded. He would at once propose the Visitors, and couple with the toast the name of the lecturer. The toast was drunk with much fervour, and responses were made by several of the Visitors present, Bro. Stevens contenting himself with a few brief remarks in continuation of what he had previously said in the Lodge. What, however, he lacked in speech he made up for in recitations, and complied with the earnest request of the brethren by delivering the Masonic poems—"The Three Great Lights," "Masons' Vows," and "The Level and the Square." Several excellent songs by other members and visitors added to the social enjoyment of an evening which will doubtless be long remembered by those who shared in the proceedings, and who, at a somewhat later hour than usual, separated with the interchange of fraternal greetings and good wishes.

PRINCE EDWARD OF SAXE-WEIMAR LODGE,
No. 1903.

ON Wednesday afternoon, the 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Portsmouth, there was a numerous and representative gathering of members of the Craft, including several Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and visitors from London, to witness the installation of Bro. Lieutenant James Knowles, R.N. (H.M.S. Hercules, now stationed at Portland) as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. Lieutenant Knowles was one of the founders of the Lodge, which was established five years since, under highly favourable auspices, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught having been present at the inaugural ceremony, at which there was a very large number of Masons, many holding high rank in the Craft. The Lodge has the honour of having on its roll of Grand Officers the M.W. Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who, on the occasion of a Volunteer review being held at Portsmouth, paid a visit to the Lodge. Captain Lord Charles Beresford, R.N., M.P. (from whom a letter had been received, expressing regret that his Parliamentary duties prevented his attendance), was the first W.M., and the office has since been held by Bros. T. Page (two years), Captain Lathom Cox, and H. J. Long. The ceremony of installing Lieutenant Knowles (who has filled the offices of Junior Deacon and Junior and Senior Warden) was ably and impressively performed by Bro. H. Townsend P.M. P. Prov. G. Deacon, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for his services. Then followed a pleasing incident, viz., the recognition of the services of the retiring W.M., also one of the founders of the Lodge, who, after having held various offices, was elected to the chair, the duties of which, as the W.M. remarked, when presenting him with a Past Master's jewel, he had discharged in a manner that had been most satisfactory to the brethren, and had conducted to the prosperity of the Lodge. The W.M.'s eulogistic remarks were warmly received by the brethren, and Bro. Long made a feeling and appropriate response, thanking the brethren for their appreciation of his services, and promising to continue to do all in his power to promote the welfare of the Lodge. The jewel, which is of solid gold, set in diamonds, has the recipient's monogram, is of handsome design, and bears the following inscription—"Presented to Bro. H. J. Long P.M., by the members of the Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge." The W.M. appointed and invested his Officers as under—Bros. H. J. Long I.P.M., W. Royston Pike S.W., J. Livesay J.W., Rev. P. H. Good Chaplain, G. Backler Treas., A. L. Emanuel Sec., E. G. Charpentier S.D., W. Ford J.D., J. Wilson D.C., G. Sylvester Org., A. Long I.G., H. G. Giles and E. Austin Stewards. Upwards of sixty brethren sat down to a *récherché* banquet, which was admirably served by Bro. W. Maybourn, of Ordnance Row, Portsea. The banqueting hall was tastefully decorated with lace curtains, mirrors, plants, and flowers. At the conclusion of the banquet, the customary toasts were honoured. P.M. Townsend proposed the Worshipful Master, referring in warm

terms of eulogy to the great interest which Lieut. Knowles had taken in the Lodge, and the toast, having been received with much enthusiasm, was suitably acknowledged by the W.M. A warm reception was also given to the I.P.M., Bro. J. Long, the toast being introduced by P.M. Page. Bro. Sylvester and others contributed harmony, and a very pleasant evening was passed.

RICHMOND LODGE, No. 2032.

THIS young and highly prosperous Lodge met at the Station Hotel, Richmond, Surrey, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., on which occasion the installation of Bro. W. R. Phillips took place. The Lodge was opened at the appointed hour by Bro. Phillips himself, he being qualified by a previous Mastership to discharge that duty, and the W.M., Bro. C. I. Digby, being delayed in respect of attendance. There were present during the evening, besides the two brethren named, Bros. J. P. Houghton J.W., W. F. Reynolds P.M. and Treas., G. C. Rowlands Sec., E. Dare S.D., H. Sapsworth J.D., H. J. Ireland D.C., J. Marjason I.G., Albert Crew Org., and Banks Tyler. The I.P.M., Bro. B. E. Blasby, and Bros. Thomas Fenn P.G.D. President of the Board of General Purposes, and Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. President of the Board of Benevolence (honorary members) also attended. The members who signed the attendance-book were Bros. J. Aldridge, W. C. Rainbow, T. Covell, F. A. Meeres, F. R. Robinson, S. Abell, D. G. Macrae, T. Keyes, A. Aldin, J. E. Goring, F. C. Monflet, Dr. E. A. Cooke, G. Trinder, H. Clifford, W. Clifford, W. Williamson, H. F. Nash, R. Smith, E. Downs, &c. Amongst the Visitors were Bros. James Stevens P.M. 720 1216 1426, W. H. Lee P.M. 975 Prov. G. Asst. Sec. Middlesex, W. R. Williams P.M. 975, H. S. Hunter P.M. 1321, W. R. Forge P.M. 1793 Prov. G.D.C. Middlesex, J. T. Lucas P.M. 192, J. W. Clarke 1572, Alfred Tucker 1733, S. Hunt 1196, W. Courlander 975, H. C. Landsdowne 1541, F. J. Ruddle 1763, C. Clarke 975, W. Johnson, C. Stewart Stephens 754, E. T. Smith 1768, W. Drewett 859, and W. R. Parker 742. The Lodge was opened, and previous minutes confirmed. Bro. Macrae having proved proficiency, the Lodge was duly prepared for the ceremony of raising; and the W.M., Bro. C. I. Digby, having arrived, occupied the chair of K.S., and, in a most effective manner, duly raised the candidate to the M.M. degree. The ceremony of installation was then at once proceeded with, and in this, as in the previous work, the W.M. proved his great capacity as a careful and earnest worker. Bro. W. R. Phillips P.M., on assuming the duties of W.M. of the Lodge, after courteous greetings from the Board of Installed Masters, and reception of the salutations of the members of his Lodge, proceeded to appoint his Officers, and to invest them in the following order, viz.:—Bros. J. P. Houghton S.W., E. Dare J.W., W. F. Reynolds P.M. Treas., G. C. Rowlands Sec., H. Sapsworth S.D., J. Marjason J.D., A. Crew I.G., Messum D.C., W. C. Rainbow Org., A. Aldin and T. Covell Stewards, and Fryer Tyler. The addresses to Master, Wardens, and Brethren, delivered in a very effective manner by Bro. Digby, completed a ceremony which gave great satisfaction to all concerned. Ballots were then taken for Messrs. William Edwin Marsh, Arthur Clinton Taylor, and Arthur Walker, which, proving unanimous in their favour, secured their introduction into Freemasonry at the hands of Bro. Phillips, who, we were glad to observe, gave to each candidate his "just due" by separate initiation. Amongst other routine business, a motion for an addition to the bye-laws relating to the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge was carried, and the sum of five guineas voted to form the nucleus for such Fund. A like sum was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, to be placed on the list of Bro. Houghton, who will represent the Lodge as Steward at the forthcoming Festival. Hearty good wishes having been expressed by the Visitors, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. A very elaborate menu was placed before the guests on this occasion, but the length of time occupied in the work of the Lodge, but more particularly the delay in service during the repast, interfered sadly with the otherwise enjoyable nature of the evening's programme, and rendered the duties of the W.M. presiding more difficult than need have been the case. To meet the exigencies of necessary early departure by many of the brethren, a portion of the bill of fare was, perforce, abandoned, and the subsequent musical entertainment, in which many talented artistes were engaged, was considerably hurried and shortened. Nevertheless, the brief time allotted to the company generally was of a most enjoyable character, and, except that too much, for an installation meeting, was attempted, nothing but high praise is due to those who had the conducting of the entire proceedings. The customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, after brief but forcible introductions by the W.M. It had been hoped that the toast of the Grand Officers would have been responded to by Bro. Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, and the Consecrating Officer of the Lodge, but, for reasons above stated, that worthy brother had been compelled to leave. In his regretted absence, Bro. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. returned thanks, and expressed wishes for continued success to the Lodge. The I.P.M., Bro. Digby, proposed the health of the Worshipful Master in very eulogistic terms, as to his ability and general capacity for carrying out the duties of his exalted position, and expressed his confidence that he would prove, by the exercise of his skill and his eminent qualifications for the office, and his fitness to rule, advance the interests of his Lodge. Amidst the plaudits of the brethren, he wished him health and the support of T.G.A.O.T.U. in all his undertakings. A feeling response from the W.M., acknowledging the compliment paid to him, and assuring the members of his Lodge that nothing on his part should be wanting to justify the expectations they held, was concluded by his proposing the health of the Initiates, who severally returned thanks for their reception. The Visitors received a very hearty welcome, and the W.M. congratulated his Lodge on so large a number being present. Bro. James Stevens P.M. 1216, &c., returned thanks on behalf of the Visitors, for the pleasure which had been afforded them, both in respect of Lodge

work, admirably performed and the subsequent entertainment set before them. He ventured to express an opinion that the ceremonies performed that evening had been carried out in a manner which would have done credit to Lodges of many years' standing, and was therefore all the more creditable to the Richmond Lodge, which, under the guidance of such qualified brethren as the W.M. and his predecessor, could not fail to merit the success it sought to attain. Bros. W. R. Forge Prov. G.D.C. Middlesex, and Lucas P.M. 192, also replied in terms of high commendation of the Lodge proceedings, and appreciation of their welcome. The health of the Installing Master and Past Master was cordially received, and a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Digby, with best wishes from the Lodge, and hopes that he might live many years to wear it. To this toast Bros. Digby and Blasby severally responded in appropriate terms. The remaining toasts were the Masonic Charities, the Officers, and the Tyler's toast, which brought the proceedings to a close at a somewhat later hour than most of the London brethren had anticipated. It must, however, be admitted that they had every reason to carry away with them remembrance of a meeting such as might induce them to desire its repetition at future installations in the Richmond Lodge. We cannot close this report without a notice of the excellent vocal music, arranged by, and under the direction of, Bro. W. C. Rainbow, the Organist of the Lodge, whose talented company comprised Madame Lita Jarrett, R.A.M., Miss Mary Horton, and Bros. Crew and Abell. The programme was an excellent selection, and the several artistes most effectively rendered their respective numbers. Their services were highly appreciated by all present.

ABBEY LODGE, No. 2030.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, the 10th instant, at the Town Hall, Westminster, when Bro. F. Seager Hunt was installed as Worshipful Master of the Lodge, in succession to Bros. W. Burdett-Coutts and W. H. Baker, the first and second Masters respectively. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, nearly two hundred signing the attendance book. Lodge was opened by Bro. W. H. Baker, who was supported during the meeting by the following Officers of the Lodge:—Bros. Burdett-Coutts P.M., F. Seager Hunt S.W. (W.M. elect), W. Sugg J.W., J. C. F. Warrington Rogers P.M. Treasurer, J. E. Shand P.M. Secretary, W. Bowman Spink P.M., Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G.C. Chaplain, J. Gibson S.D., H. R. Baker J.D., R. E. H. Goffin D.C., H. Mainwaring-Dunstan I.G., H. W. Schartau Organist, C. C. Piper and G. R. W. Wheeler Stewards. The minutes of the regular Lodge of the 8th March having been read and confirmed, the Worshipful Master advanced his Lodge, and proceeded to confer the second degree on Bros. H. Dawson, Morgan, Irving, and Cowley. He then took the ballot for two gentlemen who sought admission into the mysteries of Freemasonry—Mr. Percy George Hodson, proposed by Brother C. Humphreys, and seconded by Brother Richards; and Mr. Joseph Foster, nominated by the Worshipful Master, and seconded by Brother Hambling. The result of the ballot was unanimous in favour of these two candidates, who were subsequently admitted to the light of Masonry. The report of the Audit Committee was received, and formally adopted, after which the ceremony of installation was proceeded with. Bro. Seager Hunt was placed in the chair of the Lodge in the presence of some fifty installed Masters, and in due course received the salutations of his brethren. He appointed the following brethren as the Officers for the year:—Sugg S.W., H. R. Baker J.W., Simpson Chaplain, Rogers Treasurer, Shand Sec., Gibson S.D., Goffin J.D., Mainwaring-Dunstan I.G., Piper D.C., Wheeler A.D.C., J. Browne-Martin and F. J. Smith Stewards, Schartau Organist, and W. Walkley Tyler. Bro. W. H. Baker, who throughout the day, had performed the duties of the chair in a most efficient manner, then concluded the ceremony of installation, bringing his year of office to a most satisfactory conclusion. Lodge was subsequently closed, and the company repaired to banquet. Among the Visitors present were Bros. the Hon. and Rev. Francis Byng, M.A., 1635. Chaplain to the House of Commons, Frederick Binckes Past Grand Steward, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, E. Paetel 1624, G. Pallett 1287, W. C. Page P.M. 1475, J. D. is, 1604, J. Hickman 177, A. Clifford P.M. 1017, J. W. King W.M. 186, E. St. Clair 14, George Evans 172, J. Stephens P.M. 1425, J. J. Thomas S.D. 753, C. R. Wicken W.M. 773, E. Wallace P.M. 907, S. R. Lovett I.G. 3, H. C. Jones 907, Walter Mitchell P.M. 1558, Andrew Edwards S.W. 1323, R. Kirk 1681, G. Jenkins W.M. 72, A. J. Bignold 1624, Albert T. Hayes 1425, J. D. Langton W.M. 2096, J. H. Bishop 1965, W. Herbage P.M. 177 P.P.G.R. Esq., H. J. Weiss, J. J. Woolley P.M. 15, C. Wellard P.M. 1319, S. Pope 1624, A. F. Peacock 177, R. Hewetson 177, F. J. Wray P.M. 1257, H. Phillips 155, H. Holson W.M. 1684, O. Newman, H. Carman 543, G. Hamilton W.M. 1446, G. A. Garrett P.M. 1366, J. Williams 15, George Boulton P.M. 1604, J. Kay W.M. 742, W. J. Bennett 177, C. Dovey P.M. 176, W. Church 1365, W. Shurmur W.M. 1471, J. T. Baker P.M. 1305, E. B. Cox 1563, J. G. Wynn 201, J. J. Pope 1305, W. S. Whittaker P.M. 1572, J. T. Pilditch P.M. 1420, J. H. Tee 1538, W. C. Wigley W.M. 1343, J. Russell W.M. 1572, R. Burlton P.M. 860, S. Godden P.M. 862, G. Groves 55, T. Dodson P.M. 860, W. Richards W.M. 1853, W. Jones 511, H. W. Davie P.M. 173, D. P. Holness P.M. 1471, H. W. Hunt P.M. 1537, W. Worrell P.M. 706, W. W. Lee 1897, J. Oakham P.M. 1853, J. Collins 860, E. Walker W.M. 1766, T. Morris Sec. 177, W. H. Hall W.M. 704, W. G. Burney 1615, H. Henton P.M. 1559, E. Styles 704, D. Haslett P.M. 145, J. E. Rimmer 1609, D. Penderleith 177, F. Rypson 1085, E. Boulouis 1635, F. Butt P.M. 700, J. H. Brass 1681, H. Parkin 1319, T. Griffiths P.M. 1446, H. C. Barker 21, T. Hill 813, E. J. Rose 1766, F. Bevan 1706, W. Draper P.M. 1305, James Richards 1246, C. F. Jenkins 464, C. Greenwood jun., Prov. Grand Sec. Surrey, E. A. Peachey 1928, and others.

An enjoyable banquet having been served, the W.M., Bro. F. Seager Hunt, proceeded with the toasts of the evening, remarking, in introducing them, that the lateness of the hour prevented his giving to them the full attention they deserved. The first toast on the list needed no words of commendation from the chair in such an assembly as was then gathered together, for if there was one society or institution more likely than another to do honour to the toast of the Queen and the Craft, it was the mystic body with which he then had the pleasure of being associated. He therefore submitted the toast, reminding the brethren that the Queen had wrought more good for the country than any other monarch who had ruled the destinies of this mighty empire. The next toast, as given on the list was a most comprehensive one, and, in view of the short time the brethren had at their disposal, the W.M. felt it wise to give it as it appeared on the programme. It was H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M., the Earl of Lathom D.G., and the rest of the Grand Officers Present and Past. This also was a toast which required no words to commend it to those present, for the brethren knew full well the position these illustrious and distinguished men occupied, and they knew full well the manner in which they discharged the duties pertaining to their respective offices. In the discharge of their functions they had won the admiration of the whole of the Masonic brotherhood. The Prince of Wales was a Grand Master unequalled by any who had gone before him, and the present generation of Masons might say that, great as had been the hold which Masonry had had upon the world in bygone times, never in this country had such an impetus been given to the Craft as since the accession to power of the Prince of Wales. In conclusion, he would but repeat a part of the song which, but for want of time, they would now have an opportunity of listening to—

"In the heart of every Mason,
There always will be shared
The prayer that our Grand Master
May long to us be spared."

With the toast was coupled the name of Bro. Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G. Chaplain, who tendered his thanks on behalf of the great chiefs of the Order, and also on his own account, not only for the reception given to him as a Past Grand Officer, but also for the honour conferred upon him by the W.M. again appointing him as Chaplain of the Lodge. Bro. Simpson followed with some well-chosen remarks, based on the Poet Laureate's ode at the opening of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, and concluded with the words—

"Sharers of our glorious past,
Britons, hold your own!
And God guard all!"

The Immediate Past Master then assumed the gavel, and proposed the health of the Worshipful Master. He was sure the toast would be received by the brethren with the greatest enthusiasm. He had intended to make a somewhat lengthy speech, as he had felt that was necessary to do justice to the subject, but the circumstances of the hour prevented his doing so. The brethren were, of course, aware that their Worshipful Master occupied a position in public life, and, although he had intended and had wished to be present during the whole of the ceremonies that day, his public duties had detained him too late to enable him to keep his original appointment. Their Worshipful Master was truly a representative Westminster man, and as such they greeted him as ruler of the Abbey Lodge. He and the members of his family had been identified with Westminster for many more years than any one in the room could remember, and they might rest assured he would maintain the reputation of their Lodge during his Mastership of it. In the name of the members, and on his own behalf, he wished him a happy and prosperous term of office. The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he had been prepared to meet with a certain amount of cordiality at the hands of his brethren, but he was not prepared for so hearty a reception as had just been accorded to him. He had a feeling of diffidence when he was asked to accept the post he now had the honour to occupy, but after the very hearty welcome with which they had received the words of the Immediate Past Master, and the brilliant reception they had accorded to him, he felt he need have no fear about attempting to perform the duties of the office he had undertaken; while any shortcomings which he might evince would be pardoned by the kind friends whom he saw around him. He offered his apologies for not being present in Lodge in time to fulfil his engagements according to the original programme, and asked them to remember that during his year of office he was a Freemason and nothing more. The only explanation he could give, and which he hoped they would all receive as being a true one, was that circumstances beyond his power of governance prevented him from keeping many engagements into which he had entered. Yet one word more with regard to the non-performance of duties; he hoped they would believe that he thoroughly intended to fulfil the duties appertaining to his proud position as Master of the Lodge, and it was only because of the lateness of the hour that he postponed the performance of those duties until they should have the pleasure and privilege of meeting again. He felt deeply indebted to the Lodge for placing him in the position of Worshipful Master. Reference had been made to his birth and parentage, but not to his education. Had that been properly gone into, they would have found that not only was he a Westminster man, and that his father, and grandfather, had lived in Westminster before him, but that he had received his education in the Collegiate School not far from where he then stood. Though he was not actually born in Westminster—and circumstances compelled it to be otherwise—yet he was christened by the then Rector, the Rev. A. Jennings, by whom he and every other member of his family had been married. He was therefore thoroughly identified with Westminster, and hoped he should continue to be so for the remainder of his days. Occupying for the first time in his life the position of

Worshipful Master of a Lodge, he felt it a decided privilege and pleasure. He had no hesitation in saying he was well aware of his shortcomings, but he had only to follow in the footsteps of the two Masters who had been so successful in that chair and he should do well. On the other hand, in consequence of their goodness, his own shortcomings stood out in all the greater contrast. Though he could not compete with them in the discharge of the duties pertaining to the office, yet he could compete with them in admiration of, and reverence for, any general indoctrinism to be discovered in the glorious Ritual belonging to the mystic Craft; and he hoped he had derived from it the means of making himself more extensively useful to his fellow-creatures. When they looked to the great and glorious teachings of their Ritual, they might combat with all the powers of Atheism and Socialism that stared them in the face, and brave any foe that might be brought against them. By following out the principles of Masonry, they would bring into the fold a great number of men who would increase the national strength, and add to the happiness and future greatness of the country. The next toast was the Visitors, and, in proposing it, the Worshipful Master said the Abbey Lodge was a very young one, but during the two short years of its existence it had been presided over by Masters who had performed the duties of the Lodge in so admirable a manner as to win for it the halo of renown it then enjoyed. The members of the Lodge would not wish such an occasion as the present to pass without the presence of Visitors from other Lodges, and he hoped the guests that night would be able to go forth into the Masonic world with a good opinion of the day's proceedings in the Abbey Lodge. He had pleasure in coupling with the toast the names of two distinguished guests, Colonel Edis, who was well known both in the Masonic world and outside of it, and his old friend, the Hon. and Rev. Francis Byng. He hoped that, from what the Visitors had seen of the Abbey Lodge that day, they would be induced to come amongst them on many future occasions. Col. Edis responded in a forcible speech. He especially referred to the fact of there being upwards of fifty installed Masters present at the installation, and to the pleasure the guests felt in seeing the Lodge so prosperous. The Rev. F. Byng followed, making appropriate allusions to his association with the City of Westminster, and to the House of Commons, where he had the pleasure of meeting the Worshipful Master and one of the Past Masters of the Abbey Lodge. Bro. Nairn also responded on behalf of the Visitors, tendering his thanks, and paying a well-merited compliment to the members for the way in which the day's proceedings had been carried out. The health of the Installing Past Master was next proposed by the W.M. The toast was one which needed but few words on his part to commend it to their acceptance, for when they looked at the way in which Bro. Baker had discharged the duties pertaining to his office during the past year, not only the members of the Abbey Lodge, but Visitors from other Lodges would admit that no Lodge had ever possessed a better Master. No brother could have performed his duties with more ability, or in a manner reflecting greater credit upon himself, or more to the satisfaction of the brethren, than he had done. Their being a young Lodge, the number of Past Masters was small, and it happened that their I.P.M. was the Installing Officer of the day. He was the second P.M. only of which their Lodge could boast, but he thought the brethren would say that the two Masters who had reigned in the Abbey Lodge had so fulfilled their duties that, while they had raised the character and renown of the Lodge, they had placed a very hard task upon their successors in office. Great and good was their first Master (Bro. Bardett-Coutts), in whose praise not one word too much could be said, for they all knew how ably and energetically he performed his task, and those who had been behind the scenes, and knew what a vast amount of labour devolved upon the Master of a Lodge, were aware of the immense pains which Bro. Baker had bestowed upon the work that had fallen to his lot. He referred to the zeal, energy, and ability with which these duties had been fulfilled, and said Bro. Baker was equally assiduous in other callings in life, whether at the vestry board or in works of Charity. If any movement was started for a particular and deserving object, no one was more prominent in it than their excellent Installing Past Master. He was only echoing the sentiment felt by every brother present when he said he hoped they should long see the Installing Master of that day not only working with them in the Abbey Lodge, but in the grand old parish and city and liberty of Westminster. The W.M. then, in the name of the Lodge, asked Bro. Baker's acceptance of a Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted him by the brethren, as a token of their sincere and earnest hope that he might long be spared to wear it in their midst, and that he might ever look with pride, pleasure, and satisfaction upon the way in which he had always been received in the Lodge, and the many friendships he had made amongst them. He trusted that harmony and friendliness would be cemented in the Lodge, so that in the future they might be brethren, not only in name, but in earnest. He then fastened on Bro. Baker's breast the magnificent gold jewel, on which was enamelled the words, "W.M. Secundus, 1886," underneath which were the Westminster arms, with the number of the Lodge. On the reverse side was engraved the following inscription:—

"Presented to Bro. William Henry Baker P.M., by the brethren of the Abbey Lodge, Westminster, No. 2030, in token of esteem, and of high appreciation of the services rendered by him as their second Master. 10th May 1886."

Bro. Baker returned his sincere thanks. He had that day been placed in two very difficult positions—one in the Lodge, and one out of it. The one in the Lodge was a position that very few Masters could possibly have undertaken; and he apologised for any shortcomings that might have taken place in consequence. He assured them that the message received early in the evening from their W.M. quite unbugged him, and he scarcely knew what to do, or how to proceed. The second difficulty was that which the W.M. had just imposed upon him, and that was to respond, in adequate terms,

for the kindly, and he feared too flattering, way in which the toast of his health had been proposed, and for the cordiality with which it had been received by the brethren present. No one was more aware than he himself of his shortcomings during the past year. It was all very well to say no, but he had a difficult position to fill, and he had been obliged to follow one of the most distinguished Masons who had ever graced the Craft. He was followed by another equally distinguished, who would fully maintain the reputation and the honour of the Abbey Lodge. It could not be denied that his position, intermediate between the two distinguished brethren he had named, was a very difficult one to fill, but he trusted he had been enabled to fill it with a certain amount of consideration for the brethren, while he had striven to his utmost to maintain the reputation, honour, and stability of the Abbey Lodge. So much with regard to his personal duties in the chair. One word more, and that was to thank them for the splendid jewel which the Worshipful Master had placed upon his breast that evening. He asked the brethren to believe him when he said he should always esteem that as one of the proudest memorials he could have of the regard and affection which the brethren had evinced towards him as the Master of the Abbey Lodge. He should look upon it as a jewel which he could always wear in any Lodge with pride and satisfaction, and he concluded by again thanking them for the very great honour they had conferred upon him. The Worshipful Master then proposed the Initiates, whom he congratulated upon their admission into the Lodge, and whom, he hoped, would follow heartily and sincerely in the footsteps of their predecessors in the Lodge. Bros. Hodson and Foster having replied, the toast of the Past Masters was given, Bro. Bowman Spink acknowledging it. This was followed by the Charities, acknowledged by Bro. Binckes; the Treasurer and Secretary, the Officers, and finally, the Tyler's toast, which latter brought a very pleasant and successful gathering to a conclusion.

EPPING LODGE, No. 2077.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of this flourishing young Lodge was held on Saturday, the 1st inst., at the Cock Hotel, Epping. There were present Bros. J. Salmon W.M., Acworth I.P.M. and Treas., and J. Woodrow S.W., J. London J.W., Fraser S.D., Barns acting J.D., Hughes I.G., W. Dance Sec., Parkinson Tyler, and a number of members and visitors. The minutes of the Lodge of Emergency and ordinary Lodge meeting were read and confirmed, and the Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Sutton Abbott answered the questions leading to the third, and was entrusted and retired. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. Sutton Abbott was duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the work being most impressively performed by the W.M., who was ably assisted by his Wardens, &c. Bros. Roworth, Osell, Taylor, and Miller were passed. Four gentlemen were proposed for initiation. Nothing further offering, the Lodge was closed in due form. The usual banquet followed. The Province has reason to be proud of its new Lodge, and if it continues to prosper in the way it has done since January last, when our esteemed Bro. J. Salmon was installed its second W.M., it cannot fail to become a very strong Lodge, both numerically and financially.

GEORGE PRICE LODGE, No. 2096.

THE regular meetings of this Lodge were resumed on Wednesday, 28th April, at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, when there were present:—Bros. J. D. Langton W.M., H. M. Hobbs S.W., F. T. Ridpath J.W., J. S. Fraser Secretary, E. Samuel S.D., M. C. Laing J.D., W. G. Goode I.G., W. Lane Tyler, W. D. Merritt acting I.P.M., W. G. Oates and S. Oxenham Stewards; also Bros. E. C. Holdsworth, C. Holden, H. Moseley, and D. Guedalla. Visitors—Bros. F. J. Blake P.P.G. Registrar Surrey P.P.G.D. Gloucester, W. H. M. Smith W.M. 463, Maitland H. Dicker W.M. 1470, F. Knight 1185, R. W. Wilson 2054, F. Carter 14, and T. H. Bentley 1248. The minutes of the last meeting, and the emergency meeting held in London in September last were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Dr. Arthur Matthey and Henry David Guedalla and Ernest C. Lemon, and it proving unanimously in their favour, Dr. Matthey and Mr. Guedalla were duly initiated into Freemasonry. The W.M. gave the charge after the initiation. The next business was to elect the W.M., and Bro. H. M. Hobbs was unanimously chosen Master for the ensuing year. Bro. Joseph Langton was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Lane re-elected Tyler. The acting I.P.M. proposed, in appropriate terms, that a Past Master's jewel be presented to the W.M. on his retiring from the chair, and it was carried unanimously. The Audit Committee was then appointed, and after hearty good wishes from the Visitors the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. In the course of the evening the W.M. expressed his regret that his year of office had drawn to a close, and assured the brethren of his appreciation of the high Masonic honour conferred on him in appointing him first Master of the George Price Lodge. He also congratulated the brethren on their choice of W.M. in Bro. Hobbs, who was instrumental in founding the Lodge, and moreover a very hard working Mason. The Master elect, in response, thanked the brethren for the confidence they had placed in him in electing him Master for the ensuing year, and assured them that he would, to the best of his ability, follow in the footsteps of the first Master. The enjoyment of the evening was considerably added to by some capital songs from Bros. Dicker, Bentley, Ridpath, and Guedalla.

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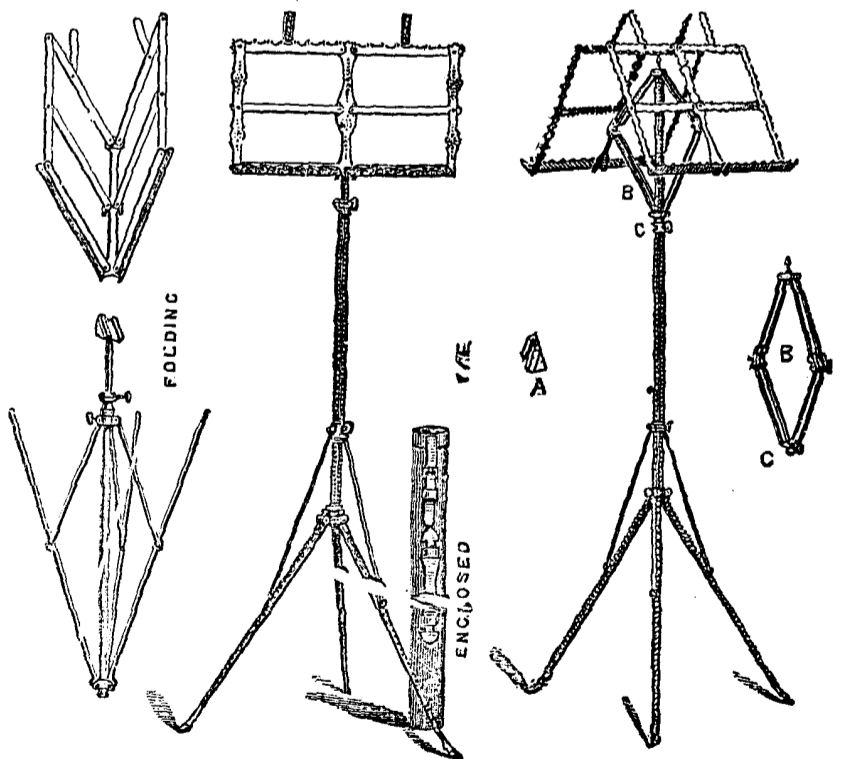
PANMURE CHAPTER, No. 720.

THE twenty-first installation meeting of this excellent working and prosperous Chapter was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell, London, on Monday, the 10th instant. Chapter was opened by Excellent Companions J. W. Watts M.E.Z., W. Wilkins E., H. Baldwin J., and the Past Principals then present, after which Comps. below the chair were admitted. Amongst those who attended, in addition to the above named, were Past First Principals James Stevens, M. S. Larham, T. Poore Scribe E., R. N. Field, B. R. Bryant, J. S. Terry D.C.; and Comps. G. T. Thornes S.N., H. C. Jefferys J. elect, C. Holcroft P.S., H. A. Woodwell, E. Whittaker, G. Treves, W. H. Tilling, S. Richardson, H. Burnell, W. Lane, &c. The Visitors were ex-Comps. S. P. Catterson P.Z. 79 548, H. Maunder Williams J. 1396, and J. Read 279. The minutes of the previous Convocation having been confirmed, Bro. William Lucas, of the Royal Leopold Lodge, was duly exalted into R.A. Masonry. The installation of the Principals for the ensuing year was then undertaken by Ex-Comp. Thomas Poore P.Z. and Scribe E., who, it is needless to say, discharged that duty with all the care and attention to detail for which that veteran Freemason is so justly celebrated. Ex-Comp. H. Wilkins, who we regretted to find still in anything but good health, was installed M.E.Z., Ex-Comp. H. Baldwin H., and Comp. H. C. Jefferys J. The Officers then invested were Ex-Companions Poore P.Z. Scribe E., C. Holcroft Scribe N., B. R. Bryant P.Z. Treas., E. Whittaker P.S., G. Treves 1st A.S., W. H. Tilling 2nd A.S., J. S. Terry P.Z. D.C., and W. Lane Janitor. The report of the Audit Committee, which was of a most encouraging character, was received and adopted, and in the course of the evening the services of the I.P.Z., Ex-Comp. Watts, in promoting during his year the great improvement in the financial condition of the Chapter, were suitably acknowledged by the presentation to him of a handsome P.Z.'s jewel, with appropriate inscription. After the despatch of routine business, the Companions adjourned to banquet, and spent a very pleasant evening after the never yet broken fashion which has characterised the Panmure Chapter throughout its twenty-one years' existence. To this fact Ex-Comp. James Stevens P.Z. bore witness, from practical experience of every such meeting of the Chapter since its consecration; and the visiting Companions, S. B. Catterson, H. Maunder Williams, and J. Read, severally expressed their pleasure in renewing former visits for association with R.A. Masons who so well understood the practice of the principles of the Order in communicating happiness. With earnestly expressed wishes for the restoration to health of their M.E.Z., Ex-Comp. Wilkins, and for the continued improvement of the Chapter, the Companions separated at a reasonable hour, well satisfied with the proceedings of the evening.

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* * Brethren willing to serve the office of Steward are *very urgently* needed; they will much oblige by forwarding their names as *early* as possible to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

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PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

A meeting of the PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE will be held on Saturday, 5th June, at the Town Hall, Twickenham, at 3 p.m. precisely. There will be a short service at the Parish Church, at 4.30 p.m.

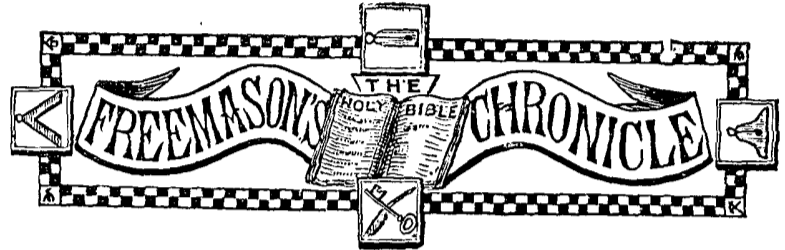
Banquet at the Town Hall, at 5.30 p.m., fee 7s if ticket be taken on or before Tuesday, 1st June; after that date 10s (both exclusive of wine). Application for tickets to be made, with a remittance, to the Provincial Grand Secretary.

By command of the Prov. G. Master,

J. F. H. WOODWARD P.M. P.Z.,

Provincial Grand Secretary.

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CONSECRATION OF THE GORDON LODGE, No. 2149.

ON Tuesday, 4th instant, the Gordon Lodge was consecrated at Hanley, making the 23th Lodge now held in the Province of Staffordshire. The Gordon is an offshoot of the Menturia, the jubilee of which was celebrated two years ago, and most of the founders of the former are still members of the latter. It appears to have been the great success of the Menturia which rendered a new Lodge in Hanley desirable in the judgment of many of the members, who number nearly 80; and although opinion on the subject was divided, it may be assumed that all opposition to the formation of a new Lodge has been withdrawn, and that the two Lodges will work harmoniously. The founders of the Gordon Lodge have all taken office—namely Bros. John Bromley W.M., J. L. Hamshaw S.W., Henry Palmer J.W., E. E. Scrivener P.P.G.S.D. S.D., J. West Jones J.D., John Warner Treasurer, J. B. Piercy P.P.G.S.W. Secretary, Thomas Taylor P.P.G.S.W. D.C., Frederick Mountford P.G.O. Organist, and J. Charlesworth I.G. Prior to the commencement of the proceedings, Bro. Bromley entertained at luncheon, at his residence, The Mount, Penkhull, the founders of the Lodge and the following brethren:—Col. G. S. Tudor P.G.M., Col. Foster Gough D.P.G.M., Dr. J. Clarke P.G.S.W., C. T. Cavendish P.G.J.W., the Rev. F. Lloyd P.G. Chaplain, W. Cartwright P.G.S., H. C. Faram P.G.S.D., T. K. Pedley P.G. Supt. of Works, T. E. Fowke P.G.D.C., E. Croydon P.G.A. Sec., G. W. Walker P.G.S.B., J. Ingham 460 P.P.G.J.D., E. B. Jackson W.M. 418, D. Smith W.M. 637, F. Barlow W.M. 546, G. C. Kent P.M. 546, W. Savage P.M. 451, J. B. Ashwell J.W. 637, the Rev. F. E. Waters Chaplain 418, and Lawton 1031. At half-past one o'clock in the afternoon there was a large assemblage of brethren at the Mechanics' Hall, Hauley, where the interesting ceremony of consecration was to take place. In addition to those whose names are given above, there were present Bros. F. Derry 539 P.P.G.S.W., W. Halse P.P.G.S.W., T. Bickley 418 P.P.G.J.W., A. L. Broad 460 P.P.G.J.W., R. Tooth 637 P.P.G.R., F. W. Tomkinson 451 P.P.G.S.D., F. W. Grove 1492 P.P.G.J.D., W. Maskew 98 P.P.G. Supt. of Works, W. Needam 966 P.P.G. Supt. of Works, J. S. Crapper 418 P.P.G.A.D.C., R. Dain 98 P.P.G.A.D.C., S. Bennett 98 P.P.G.A.D.C., J. F. Pepper 482 P.P.G.A.D.C., J. C. Clemesha 966 P.P.G.S.B., F. Weston 98 P.P.G.S.B., W. Vernon 156 P.P.G.S.B., T. Unwin 637 P.P.G.P., J. Mottram 726 P.G.A.P., G. Woolf W.M. 98, S. Parkes W.M. 419, J. T. Snape W.M. 460, W. Davenport W.M. 966, J. Stevenson W.M. 1942, F. J. Milner P.M. 966, G. Chell P.M. 966, J. Clark P.M. 526, W. Brown W.M. 347, A. J. Wallen P.M. 802, J. S. Furnival P.M. 533, J. Stringer P.M. 418, B. S. Brough P.M. 546, R. Hilditch P.M. 98, &c., there being altogether upwards of 120 brethren present. The ceremony was performed by the P.G.M. Col. Tudor, who having opened the Lodge, addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting, and Bro. Croydon, as A.P.G. Sec., stated that the founders had petitioned for permission to establish a Lodge to be called the Gordon, and they were anxious to have the Lodge consecrated and the Officers installed. The warrant of the Grand Lodge, which was signed by the Earl of Lathom as D.G.M., approved the name, numbered the Lodge 2149, and specified Hauley as the place of meeting. Bro. John Bromley was designated W.M., and Bros. Hamshaw and Palmer Wardens. The other founders having signified their approval of the Officers named, and promised to comply with the laws of the Grand Lodge of England, Bro. the Rev. F. Lloyd delivered an oration on the nature and principles of the Order. Having referred to the proceedings of the meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge at Lichfield a year ago, and at Wolverhampton in October last, he said they had now obeyed the commands of their superiors, and mustered round the standard in the metropoli of the Pottery towns to discharge an agreeable and high duty. The solemn service of that day should lead their minds through the paths of serious contemplation to remember on what principles and for what purposes their ancient Order was founded. Freemasonry had its bitter enemies and its doubting despisers. Some there were who complained it was made a substitute for religion, whereas it was only the handmaid to her

fair graces. Others presumed the labours of Masons were trifling, absurd mysteries, or profane mnemonics, whereas there was no subject existing within the range and grasp of the human intellect into which the science of Freemasonry did not enter in the pursuit of wisdom and knowledge. Some ridiculed the secrets of Freemasonry, declaring them to be either hurtful to society or wrong in themselves, whereas those secrets were bonds of their mutual fidelity, by which they obliged themselves "to trace wisdom and follow virtue." Time was when the members of the Craft were denounced as dangerous, and every man of eminence known to be a Mason was called upon to renounce his connection with the societies. But in the face of all opposition the Fraternity was calm, and the sun of Masonry had dispersed the clouds which darkened her sky so long. Without territorial possessions, without any other coercing power than that of morality and virtue, Freemasonry had survived the wreck of mighty empires, and resisted the destroying hand of time. No other institution could be compared with it. Every other society sank into insignificance when placed by the side of Masonry, Christianity alone excepted. Like Gray's virtuous peasant, Freemasonry kept the noiseless tenour of its way, and rejoiced in the unsullied happiness of doing good. Why did Freemasonry first begin to exist, and why had the institution been thus preserved? Masons' work began with the creation. To understand the measures of weight and light and sound—to unravel, seize upon, and comprehend those unchanging laws by which the earth, the sun, the moon, the planets were sustained in space—to follow up the changes of seasons, and in every step of the investigation, as the intellect climbed from lofty truths to truths still more lofty, to pause in profound admiration, to feel the Creator close to the creature, and to adore—this was the first aim of Masonry, this its task, ever fresh, never ended—a science teeming with new results and adding incentive after incentive to praise and glorify the Great Architect of the Universe. Freemasonry had been preserved because it instructed its members to worship their Almighty Maker, to honour and obey the sovereign of their country, to be peaceful in their stations, diligent in their callings, honest in their dealings, respectful towards their superiors, gentle and condescending to their inferiors, merciful towards their enemies, kind and obliging in all the duties of their common life. Such was the institution which God had preserved to the world, unlimited in its numbers, and scattered over every land and kingdom. The work of the Fraternity to-day was to be true to the original character of the Order; to continue to follow the God of Nature through all the wonderful variety of His works; and to keep the silence and observe the sacred rules imposed upon the Craft by Solomon. It might be said by some scoffer, if Masonry be such a pure and ennobling science, should not all Masons be wise and good and temperate and self-denying, full of piety and good works? The answer was that the fitness of any system was not to be tried and condemned because of unworthiness in some. If any men had been led by an impatient curiosity, without higher motive to place unhallowed feet on the tessellated pavement, if any had turned the hallowed purposes of Masonry into mere convivial meetings, if any had been content with merely acquiring superficial acquaintance with the Craft, let not the system itself be charged with their perversions, their sins or their folly; an unworthy brother would perhaps have been a worse man if he had not been a Mason. He concluded with an exhortation to the brethren to use all the passing hours of this life in works of charity towards their fellow-men and in piety towards God. The Chaplain then read the 1st to the 16th verses of the 2nd Chapter of 2 Chronicles. The Lodge board having been uncovered, the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the P.G. Wardens perambulated the Lodge, and at the appointed times scattered the emblems of plenty, of joy and happiness, and of unity. During the greater part of the proceedings music of a solemn and impressive character was introduced, the P.G.O. (Bro. Moantford) presiding at the harmonium. After the consecration ceremony the P.G.M. vacated the chair, and the W.M. designate was installed in a very able manner by Bro. J. L. Hamshaw. After the business of the Lodge, about 60 of the brethren adjourned to the Saracen's Head Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Hassall. The W.M. presided, and at the conclusion of the dinner he proposed the loyal toasts and the health of Earl Carnarvon (Pro G.M.), the Earl of Lathom (D.G.M.), and other Officers of Grand Lodge. Bro. Foster Gough appropriately responded. Bro. Hamshaw, in eulogistic terms, proposed the health of the P.G.M., which was drunk with great cordiality. Col. Tudor, in responding, acknowledged the heartiness with which he had always been welcomed in North Staffordshire. He spoke of his desire to discharge the duties of his office faithfully and impartially, observing that, with the very best intentions, it was sometimes difficult—not to say impossible—to give satisfaction to all. In all that he did he endeavoured to do that which would be to the advantage of Freemasonry. He (Col. Tudor) then proposed the health of the W.M. and success to the Gordon Lodge, expressing himself gratified with everything he had seen in relation to the Lodge that day, and his firm belief that the Lodge would prosper. The toast was well received. Bro. Bromley acknowledged the toast. He disclaimed any desire on the part of the members of the Gordon Lodge to damage the Menturia, whose interest he still had at heart. But he fully believed there was ample room for both Lodges, and that both would prosper. He proposed the toast of the Menturia Lodge, coupling with it the name of Bro. W. H. Hales, who responded, remarking that he believed the Menturia would continue to maintain the high position it had held for half a century. He trusted that each Lodge would have a large accession of members, for he was sure there was room for both. Bro. the Rev. F. Lloyd proposed the health of Bro. Hamshaw, installing Master, who spoke of the impressiveness of the Masonic ceremonies, and said all his Masonic knowledge had been gained at the Menturia Lodge. Bro. Charlesworth proposed the health of Bro. Foster Gough and the other Officers of the P.G. Lodge, present and past, for whom Bros. Croydon and Lloyd responded. Bro. Palmer proposed The Visitors, and the toast was acknowledged by Bros. F. J. Milner, J. Webber-

ley, and T. K. Pedley. Bro. Jackson presented the toast of the Officers of the Gordon Lodge, on whose behalf Bro. J. W. Jones returned thanks. The health of the P.G. Chaplain, with thanks to him for his splendid oration at the consecration, was proposed by the W.M., and acknowledged by Bro. the Rev. F. Lloyd. Bro. F. Taylor proposed the Masonic Charities. He remarked that in round figures the Masons of the country subscribed £50,000 a year for their three central charitable institutions. In addition, there were many valuable local institutions, including the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, the advantages of which he pointed out. Bro. F. Derry, whose name was coupled with the toast, observed that a grand work was being done by Staffordshire in support of the Charities, and foremost in contributing to that result was the Menturia. The Tyler's toast concluded the list. The speeches, which were brief, were interspersed with some excellent vocal music by the Silverdale Glee party, and the evening was spent very pleasantly.—*Staffordshire Advertiser.*

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville, London, N.

Holiday Haunts in East Anglia. Stratford: Benjamin Perry, Great Eastern Company's Works.

HERE, in the form of a neat little sixpenny handbook, we have presented to us a selection of articles which have appeared in the public Press on the holiday resorts in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, embellished with engravings of the most favourite resorts in each of the three counties named. We prefer this means of disseminating information respecting "holiday haunts" to the stereotyped "guide books" which are to be found in almost every little watering place or sequestered nook which can boast of a local scribe. In such cases the "guide" is invariably an advertising puff, in order to attract visitors, who fail, on arrival there, to realise the glowing descriptions of the author; but from the pens of disinterested correspondents, writing to the newspapers, there is a far better opportunity of judging of the character of the localities that are indicated, and of the best means of utilising one's time most profitably and enjoyably. This little brochure comes very opportunely just at this season, when Paterfamilias is arranging to send "the wife and the dear girls" away on their annual trip; and to those who are revelling in agreeable anticipations of that sort, we cordially commend the work before us. It is not our province to recount the experience of these correspondents of our contemporaries, which are reproduced, "by permission," in the pages of the handbook; suffice to say, if the pleasant explorations of our confrères are read, they will prove an inducement to many to wend their way to the bracing and breezy Eastern Counties where, both at the seaside and inland there are attractions as varied as they are numerous. The articles are capably written, in a chatty vein, and will serve up as matter on which to feast the imagination—or recollection—by those who are either unable to visit these favoured haunts, or who, maybe, have been there in the course of their summer peregrinations on holiday bent.

THE NEW OXLEY (CANADA) RANCHE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE prospectus of this Company, which appears on another page, has just been issued, and from it our readers will perceive that it is intended to raise a capital of £120,000 in 10,000 shares of £12 each, the object being to purchase and carry on the business of the Oxley Rancho, in Alberta Province, N.W.T., Canada. The rancho was established four years ago, and it will strike intending investors that, with such names as the Earl of Lathom D.G.M., Mr. A. Staveley Hill, Q.C. M.P., and Mr. George Baird as the largest shareholders and directors, acting in conjunction with other gentlemen eminent in the commercial world, the undertaking is of a most solid and substantial character. The largest number of shares (3,333) allowed by the rules of the Stock Exchange will be allotted, with £9 10s per share, credited as paid up, to the vendors, in part payment of the purchase money. The directors and their friends have applied for 1,700 shares, and they will be allotted in full, at par. The balance of 4,967 shares are now offered for subscription at par. We are informed that up to the present time the business of the rancho, which is 300,000 acres in extent, has been highly successful and lucrative, the herd having been carefully improved in grade by the admixture of young bulls of the highest class, specially imported from England. The conditions under which the land is held under lease from the Canadian Government are exceedingly favourable, and the profits, both in cattle and horses, have been decidedly good. The rancho is under the most practical experienced management, and, taking a comprehensive calculation of the prospectus issued, we should say the movement is one which should be carefully weighed by those who are casting about them for a safe and profitable investment.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Travellers too and from distant climes would do well to bear in mind that these changes and the altered diet and surroundings of their lives entail manifold risks to health. Occasions are sure to arise in which they will need a remedy such as these renowned Pills and Ointment, and no traveller by land or sea should ever fail to have a supply at hand. Then he may truly be said to have a physician always at his call for the various emergencies of travel. Chills and fevers should be promptly treated, and the printed directions should be carefully studied at the commencement of any illness, for Holloway's remedies can be safely used in all climates.

THE THEATRES, &c.

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The Grand.—We have all heard of the devoted Browning Society, whose mission is the elucidation of the mystic utterances of its titular divinity; and now Shelley, whose name was erst Anathema Maranatha, may rejoice in a band of devotees celebrating "pious orgies" in his praise. To Dr. Furnival the honour is due of founding the society, and it numbers in its ranks such names as Stoford Brook, Mrs. Glyn-Dallas, W. M. Rosette, Mrs. Kendal, Prof. Napier, Miss Alma Murray, Hermann Vezin, a multitude of literary luminaries and Committees of Collegiate Libraries and the Library Committee of Guildhall. "So does the whirligig of time bring about its revenges." Dr. Furnival and his Committee from the beginning were determined that the world should have the opportunity of seeing on the stage Shelley's redoubtable tragedy, "The Cenci." Miss Alma Murray and Mr. Hermann Vezin warmly seconded the project, and especially Miss Murray, who proceeded to use all her influence to warm the sympathies of West End managers in the undertaking; but the W. and S.W. sense of propriety proved too severe, and it was only among the hardy Northmen of Islington that she found the requisite courage. Mr. Wilnot, of the Grand, offered his theatre on the most generous conditions, and the play was produced last Friday afternoon. "The High Street" has rarely seen such an entanglement of broughams and barouches, hansoms and sublime family chariots, as were struggling towards the theatre doors at two o'clock; and it was amusing enough to see the bewilderment of these wanderers from afar as they appealed hopelessly to each other while endeavouring to find their appointed places. Before the curtain drew up, the whole building was densely crowded. A prologue had been written for the occasion by Dr. Todhunter, in which we heard something about the "tinsel woes of the mummer's art," about "tawdry properties," about Mr. Browning in the stalls like "an Archangel holding scales," and manipulating a crucible as a kind of sanatory inspector for the occasion, until the hour (two o'clock) peals out "The Cenci." Mr. Outram had a very difficult task in straggling with his prologue; but wherefore wrap himself up in that great grey dressing-gown? The public is generally inclined to resent a prologue, but "The Cenci" public accepted Dr. Todhunter's patiently, and warmly applauded his allusion to their Browning's birthday, that day, viz., 7th of May. So much has been written in our contemporaries about the morality, or want of it, in the tragedy, that we need not discuss it; but this, however, we will say—that the presentment of sin and crime is moral or immoral only from the point of view. The tale "Dame Aux Camellias" is surely not a moral story. The tale of "The Woman taken in Adultery" is one of the most sublime homilies. Art should surely hold the mirror up to Nature. The beholder must draw what lesson he can; Art should not pretend to improve the occasion. In "The Cenci," Art, great, soul-thrilling and pathetic as her power is, has unhappily lifted her mirror, not to reflect Nature, but a monstrous moral abortion. So that whilst we are thrilled by the poet's and the actor's genius, we resent the spells they throw over us. We feel that the Count Cenci whom Shelley, at war with the world, threw as a defiance at the world he hated—this Count Cenci whom Mr. Hermann Vezin makes to live and breathe, till we accept the poet's nightmare as a thing of life; yet we know it is all a nightmare, all the historical documents notwithstanding. A two-headed nightingale or a pig-faced lady are as fit subjects for Art as the hero of Shelley's tragedy. In Mr. Hermann Vezin's hands this monster is lifted into a Satanic grandeur; rather an embodiment of the spirit of evil seems visible on the scene, than the wretched human monster we associate with Count Francesco's name. If some future Byron Society should ever put "Cain" upon the stage, may we be there to see Mr. Vezin as the Lucifer. How sublime would be his presentment of that abyss of malignity and despair! The Beatrice of Miss Alma Murray was assuredly a revelation of that lady's powers. Her tender dignity and sweet womanliness, even amid her awful degradation and despair, touched the horror of the scene as with the tenderness of soft music. How great her power over the emotion was shown by the complete hold she maintained on the rapt audience during the long Fourth and Fifth Acts, when the whole weight of the play rested on her. She was almost able to conceal the wholly unsatisfactory development of the story after the death of the Count. Shelley most inconsequently makes Beatrice prevaricate and shrink with pitiful cowardliness from the thought of death, when she has declared that life was an unendurable burden. In these same acts we should quite lose the Beatrice we have loved but for Miss Murray's skill in preserving the same sweet embodiment, despite the words put forth from her lips. The cast of the play was efficient. Especially deserving of praise was Mr. Mark Ambiaut, whose Bernardo Cenci was instinct with tender, youthful fervour; a fitting brother of the sweet Beatrice. Mr. Foss was excellent as a "first murderer," especially in the scene when brought writhing from the rack. Mr. Outram, as a villainous priest-lover, showed an intelligent grasp of a difficult part. The scenery was good, and the costumes in excellent taste. "The Cenci" is too monotonous in its gloom ever to take a place as an acting play, but its great power, and the opportunities it gives in its leading parts, would always make it interesting as a dramatic *tour de force*.

Royalty.—When Mr. Dion Boucicault produced his comedy "Lod Astray" in 1874, it will ever be remembered for the remarkable acting of Mr. Charles Thorne, and the success of Miss Helen Barry, who for the first time appeared in a part requiring boldness and strong nervous power. Miss Barry made her first appearance since her return from America last Wednesday week in this popular "Lod Astray," playing the same part as when the piece was first

produced. Miss Barry has played the character of Armande Chandoce so often that she has made it her own, and the way she portrays the romantic, neglected wife, admits of but little room for improvement. With admirable skill Miss Barry suggests Armande's yearnings for the sympathy which is denied her by those from whom she expects it, and depicts with considerable force the various phases of her struggle against the temptation that besets her. At other points she has invested the part with fresh and effective touches; she lays more stress on the wife's endeavour to hide from those around her her pensive sorrow, and the existence of a weakness which never really approaches guilt. All through the piece Miss Barry's part is very interesting, and the applause which is nightly bestowed on her testifies the satisfaction which she gives. Mr. H. R. Teesdale does not make the husband anything but a cowardly sophist, who expects from his wife that fidelity which he does not himself display. Mr. Frederick Lewis causes considerable humour as the good-natured Hector Placido, while the Mount Gosline of Mr. W. T. Hemsley is good. The part of the novelist, George de Lesparre, is entrusted to Mr. Neville Doone, and he plays with that seriousness which the part requires. Mr. Peyton's Irish accent as Major O'Hara is very funny. Miss Gertrude Tempest as Mathilde is somewhat awkward, but withal she acts good naturedly. The part of Susanna O'Hara is made the most of by Miss Grace Arnytage, while the two mothers are represented by Miss Marie Davis and Mrs. De Solla. The piece is splendidly staged, and during its short run a success may undoubtedly be predicted for it.

Toole's.—After running for nearly three months with but little success, "Faust and Loose" has had to be withdrawn. Mr. Toole could not get playgoers to forget the unsuccessful first two or three nights, and as a consequence the burlesque of "Faust" failed to fill the little house in King William Street. Mr. Manager has paid the penalty of producing such a piece before it was ready, and has now put on "The Serious Family," an adaptation from the French, by Morris Barnett, which he had previously brought forward at a matinée. It is nearly forty years since Buckstone appeared as the canting gentleman, who makes such disturbances in the Torrens household, and it might, on account of age, claim to be original to the average playgoer; but, admitting this, public taste has changed so much that it is doubtful if its story will interest an audience of the present day. The husband, who is so borne down by the will of his wife and mother-in-law, that he has to play the hypocrite at home, and carry his gaiety abroad, in the way it is managed in "The Serious Family" is not likely to be over popular. The Aminadab Sleek of Mr. Toole is a part that the popular actor manages to identify himself with, and he is never once betrayed into revealing his own individuality. Mr. E. W. Ward as the husband, is exceedingly good, but looks too manly to be ruled by his wife and mother-in-law. Mr. Billington plays with dash as the Irish captain, who is the means of bringing cheerfulness to "the Serious Family." Miss Marie Linden is excellent as the widow Mrs. Delmain, and Miss Emily Thorne admirably portrays the mother-in-law. "Ici on Parle Français" is the after piece, and this induces considerable hilarity.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE,

A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence.

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales the M.W. the Grand Master of England.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE will be forwarded direct from the Office, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville, N., on receipt of Post Office Order for the amount. Intending Subscribers should forward their full Addresses to prevent mistakes.

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

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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.

—:—

SATURDAY, 15th MAY.

- 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Gray, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8. (In)
 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Cumberwell, S.W.
 1361—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1534—Loyalty and Charity, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1767—Kensington, Courtfield Hotel, Earl's Court, S.W.
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30 (In)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1572—Carnarvon, Albion, Aldersgate Street
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood
 453—Chigwell, Forest Hotel, Chingford
 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Twickenham
 1194—Villiers, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1494—Felix, Clarence Hotel, Teddington
 1556—Addiscombe, Harewood House, High Street, Croydon.
 1861—Claremont, Crown Hotel, Chertsey
 2035—Beaumont, Royal Hotel, Kirkburton
 R.A. 68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol

MONDAY, 17th MAY.

- 1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst)
 1159—Marquis of Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1425—Hyde Park, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Gardens, at 9 (In)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park, at 7.30 (In)
 1507—Metropolitan, The McQueen, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1595—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (In.)
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King Street, Smithfield, at 7 (In.)
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 1910—Shadwell Clerke, Ladbroke Hill, Notting Hill
 2060—La France, 68 Regent Street, W.
 R.A. 1593—Trafalgar, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
 M.M. 224—Menatschin, Criterion, Piccadilly
 K.T. 127—Bard of Avon, 33 Golden Square, W.

- 61—Probity, Freemason's Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 261—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley
 302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hobden Bridge
 331—Phoenix Public Room, Truro
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
 382—Royal Union, Public Rooms, Uxbridge
 408—Three Graces, Private Rooms, Haworth
 424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
 433—Hope, Swan Hotel, Bridlingtonsea
 463—Merit, George Hotel, St. Andrew Baron, Northampton
 467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham
 613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport
 622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
 725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth
 823—Eve to a, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield

- 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
 1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford
 1575—Clive, Corbet Arms, Market Drayton
 1909—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
 1977—Blackwater, Blue Boar Hotel, Maldon.

- R.A. 40—Emulation, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 R.A. 100—Friendship, Crown and Cushion, Great Yarmouth
 R.A. 126—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford
 R.A. 128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury, Lancashire
 R.A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
 R.A. 277—Tudor, Freemasons' Hall, Union Street, Oldham
 R.A. 734—Londesborough, Masonic Hall, Duffield
 R.A. 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
 R.A. 99—Princes, Masonic Temple, Ulverston
 R.A. 10a—Rowley, Masonic Rooms, Atherton, Lancaster
 M.M. 9—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, South Molton, Devon
 M.M. 3—Hunter, Masonic Hall, Sussex Street, Rhyl
 K.T. 39—Fearnley, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury

TUESDAY, 18th MAY.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 55—Constitution, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-street, W.C., at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 111—Fidelity, Victoria Chambers Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 174—Jubilee, Surrey Masonic Hall, Cumberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Champion, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 191—St. Paul, Cannon-street Hotel,
 255—Harmony, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Steppay (Instruction)
 704—Camden, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 857—St. Mark, Surrey Masonic Hall, Cumberwell, S.E.
 860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Farnwell-road, Dalston at 9 (Instruction)
 861—Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)

- 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge
 1446—Mount Edgumbe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8 (Inst)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1510—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
 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, White Hart, Cannon Street, 6.30.
 R.A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 R.A. 46—Old Union, The Albion, Aldersgate Street, E.C.
 R.A. 205—Israel, Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.
 R.A. 228—United Strength, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street
 R.A. 255—Iris, Greyhound, Richmond
 R.A. 704—Camden, The Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 8 (Inst)
 R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1642—Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 M.M. 238—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.

- 126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Barnley
 160—True Friendship, Old Ship Inn, Rochford
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 211—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
 403—Hertford, Town Hall, Hertford
 418—Mentoria, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley
 418—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 452—Frederick of Unity, Freemason's Hall, 105 High Street, Croydon
 463—East Surrey of Concord, King's Arms Hotel, Croydon, at 7.45. (Inst.)
 510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
 624—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 779—Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens, Lancashire
 960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
 986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston

- 1006—Tregulow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall
 1024—St. Peters, Masonic Hall, Maldon
 1052—Callender, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1089—De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Sheerness.
 1113—Anglesea, Bull Hotel, Llangofni
 121—Scarborough, Scarborough Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley
 1276—Warren, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead, Cheshire
 1280—Waldon, Rose and Crown Hotel, Saffron Waldon
 1312—St. Mary, White Hart Hotel, Bocking
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1343—St. John's Lodge, King's Arms, Grays, Essex
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable
 1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6 (Instruction)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Pinstwick
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool
 1726—Gordon, Assembly Room, Bognor
 1764—Eleanor Grays, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton
 1799—Arnold, Portobello Hotel, Walton on the Naze
 1941—St. Augustine's, Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, Mugeley
 2045—Wharton, Willesden
 2146—Surbiton, Maple Hall, Maple Road, Surbiton. (Consecration)

- R.A. 41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
 R.A. 340—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Alfred Street, Oxford
 R.A. 416—Avon, Town Hall, Wells, Somerset
 R.A. 460—Perseverance, Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyne
 R.A. 764—Fawcett, Freemasons' Hall, West Hartlepool
 R.A. 804—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Havant
 M.M.—York, Masonic Hall, Duncombe Street, York
 M.M. 166—East Sussex, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 M.M. 266—Amherst, Masonic Hall, Sandgate

WEDNESDAY, 19th MAY.

- Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C., at 6
 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners, The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 72—Royal Jubilee, 1 Bell Yard, Fleet Street, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge Road, at 8. (Inst)
 174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leatonhall-street, at 7. (Instruction)
 225—United Strength, The Hope, Stanhope Street, Regent's Park, 8 (Inst.)
 53—La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8 (Inst)
 616—Beacon, Greyhound, Dulwich
 700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppan's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 885—Dalhousie, Town Hall, Hounslow
 902—Burgoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 969—Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel, W.C.

- 1278—Urdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Gleggall Road, Cubitt Town
 1475—Kilham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Lake of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
 1601—Ravenbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1604—Wanderers, Adam and Eve Tavern, Palace St., Westminster, at 7.30 (In)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Instruction)
 1731—Cholmeley, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill
 1803—Cornhill, King's Head, Fenchurch-street
 1822—Earl of Bathon, Station Hotel, Cumberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
 2021—Queen's Westminster, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7.45. (Instruction)

- R.A. 111—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Crown Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 720—Panmure, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 R.A. 933—Dove, 292 Whitechapel-road, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1598—Ley Spring, Red Lion, Leytonstone
 M.M.—Theatre, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 144—Grovenor, Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street
 M.M. 181—Francis Basset, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 M.M. 189—Duke of Cornwall, Town Hall, Sandgate

- 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Gratham
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance
 125—Prince Edwin, White Hart Hotel, Hythe, Kent
 128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury, Lancashire
 175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W.
 178—Antiquity Royal Hotel, Wigton
 209—Old Grove, Masonic Hall, Scarborough
 210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Fowl Hall Square, Bolton
 246—Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Quakenham.
 274—Tranquillity, Bear's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
 290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Swan Parade, Huddersfield
 325—St. John's Freemasons' Hall, Edgworth-square, Salford
 342—Royal Sussex, Freemasons' Hall, 79 Commercial Road, Louthport

- 363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
 387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley
 451—Sutherland, Town Hall, Burslem
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury
 592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester
 594—Devonshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 606—Segontium, The Castle, Carnarvon
 625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 683—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Clockheaton
 753—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 795—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead
 816—Royd, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 874—Holmesdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells
 889—Dobie, Griffin Hotel, Kingston
 962—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
- 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffield, Yorks
 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 1129—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale
 1161—De Grey and Ripon, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1246—Holte, Holte Hotel, Aston
 1301—Brighthouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighthouse
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon
 1501—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull.
 1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead
 1634—Starkie, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom
 1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slaithwaite
 1692—Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, at 8.30. (Instruction)
 1734—Trinity, Golden Lion Hotel, Rayleigh
 1971—Aldershot Army and Navy, Imperial Hotel, Aldershot
 1988—Mawddack, St. Ann's Buildings, Barmouth, N. Wales
- R.A. 284—Shakespeare, Masonic Room, 9 High Street, Warwick
 R.A. 288—Loyal Todmorden, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
 R.A. 409—Stortford, Chequers Inn, Bishop's Stortford
 R.A. 481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 R.A. 580—Unity, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 R.A. 632—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Devizes
 R.A. 1000—Priory, Terminus Hotel, Southend
 R.A. 1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Tamworth
 R.A. 1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M.—Newstead Masonic Hall, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham

THURSDAY, 20th MAY.

- House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 55—Constitutional, Inns of Court Hotel, Fleet-street, W.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 495—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 749—Belgrave, The Clarence, Aldersgate Street, E.C. (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 913—New Concord, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
 979—Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (In.)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
- 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1227—Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton
 1278—Burpett Courts, Swan Tavern, Bethnal Green Road, E., 8. (Instruction)
 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tavern, Liverpool Road (corner of Theberton Street) N., at 8. (Instruction)
 1612—West Middlesex, Bell Hotel, Ealing, at 8. (Instruction)
 1614—Covent Garden, Criterion, W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1623—West Smithfield, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1625—Tredegar, Wellington Arms, Wellington Road, Bow, E., at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1673—Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C., at 5.30. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1744—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Gay, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1791—Creston, Wheatsheaf Tavern, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush. (Inst.)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1963—Duke of Albany, Masonic Hall, Shaftesbury Park, Lavender Hill
- R.A. 63—St. Mary, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 R.A. 217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 R.A. 507—United Pilgrim, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 R.A. 742—Crystal Palace, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 834—Andrew, Bell and Anchor Hotel, Hammersmith Road
 R.A. 1216—Macdonald, Head-quarters 1st Surrey Rifles, Camberwell
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyre Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)
- M.M. 7—Carnarvon, Café Royal, W.
 M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8. (Inst.)
- 42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
 56—Howard, High-street, Arundel
 98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem
 100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor, Great Yarmouth
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
 268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lyne
 343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston
 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn
 346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-to-Dale, near Blackburn
 350—Charity, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough, near Manchester
 367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge
 369—Limestone Rock, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Clitheroe
 432—Abbey, Newdegate Arms, Nuneaton
 449—Cecil, Sun Hotel, Hitchin
 456—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter
 462—Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Accrington
 523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester
 600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 605—Combermere, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
 971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial Street, Batley
- 1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford
 1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1125—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Tiverton, Devon
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool
 1320—Blackheath, Green Man, Blackheath
 1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town
 1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon

- 1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Du ham House Northallerton
 1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1587—St. Giles, Royal Oak Hotel, Cheadle
 1817—St. Andrew's, Cambridge Hotel, Shoeburyness
 1872—St. Margaret's, St. Mark's School, Surbiton
- R.A. 97—Strict Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland
 R.A. 107—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, King's Lynn
 R.A. 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 R.A. 244—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 283—Wisdom, Swan Inn, Haslingden
 R.A. 335—Confidence, Masonic Hall, Brownhill Vale, Upper Mill
 M.M.—Canynoges, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol

FRIDAY, 21st MAY.

- House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 25—Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hotel, Great Portland Street, W., at 9 (In)
 143—Middlesex, Albion, Aldersgate-street.
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 9. (In)
 730—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
- 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1118—University, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1135—Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyno Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 9. (In)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ludbrooke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, 79 Ebury Street, Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
- R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 M.M. 355—Royal Savoy, Moorgate Tavern, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7. (In)
 K.T. 43—Komeys Tynte, 33 Golden Square, W.
- 127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate
 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 27—Royal Clarence, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 347—Noah's Ark, Wagon and Horses Hotel, Tipton
 401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaithburn
 453—Clugwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 460—Sutherland of Unity, Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyme
 516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket
 541—De Loraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfrith
 993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme
- 1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield
 1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 1773—Albert Victor, Town Hall, Pentleton
 1993—Wolseley, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester. (Instruction)
 2005—Brooke, Forest Hotel, Chingford
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
- R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
 R.A. 31—Bertha, Masonic Hall, St. Peter's Street, Canterbury
 R.A. 414—Union, Masonic Hall, Greyfriars Road, Reading
 R.A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield
 R.A. 837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 M.M. 65—West Lancashire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 K.T.—De Farnival, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

SATURDAY, 22nd MAY.

- 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8 (In)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1297—West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1679—Henry Muggerside, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In)
 Small Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 R.A. 176—Caveac, Albion, Aldersgate Street
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1044—Mid-Surrey, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
- 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst
 1777—Royal Hanover, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1982—Greenwood, Public Hall, Epsom
 M.M. 14—Prince Edward's, Station Hotel, Stansfield, Todmorden

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- SAVOY.**—Every evening, at 8.35, THE MIKADO; or, THE TOWN OF TITIPU. At 7.45, THE CARP.
- CRITERION.**—Every evening at 8, SCHAMYL.
- PRINCE'S.**—Every evening at 8, MY LOVE AND I. Followed by THE LADY OF LYONS.
- TOOLES.**—Every evening at 7.45, THE LOTTERY TICKET. At 8.30, THE SERIOUS FAMILY. Followed by ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS.
- OPERA COMIQUE.**—Every evening at 8.40, ON 'CHANGE. At 8, THE LOST HUSBAND.
- VAUDEVILLE.**—Every evening at 8, SOPHIA.
- GAITEY.**—Every evening at 7.30, BORROWED PLUMES. At 8, LITTLE JACK SHEPPARD.
- COMEDY.**—Every evening at 8, THE LILY OF LEOVILLE.
- ST. JAMES'S.**—At 7.45, BED OF ROSES. At 8.30, ANTOINETTE RIGAUD.
- AVENUE.**—Every evening at 8, LURLINE. At 7.15, Farce.
- COURT.**—Every evening at 8, BREAKING THE ICE. At 8.30, THE SCHOOLMISTRESS.
- ROYALTY.**—Every evening at 8, LED ASTRAY. On Thursday, THE ESMONDES OF VIRGINIA and HOUP-LA.
- EMPIRE.**—Every evening at 8, ROUND THE WORLD.
- OLYMPIC.**—At 7.45, LITTLE NELL.
- GRAND.**—Every evening at 7.30, Farce. At 8, THE SILVER KING.
- SURREY.**—This evening at 8, THE MOHAWK MINSTRELS.
- STANDARD.**—This evening at 7.30, A BITTER WRONG. On Monday, AFTER DARK.
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Sent, by post, on receipt of stamps, by the Author, Bro. JAMES STEVENS, 112 High-street, Clapham, S.W.; or by Bro. W. W. MORGAN, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville, London, N.

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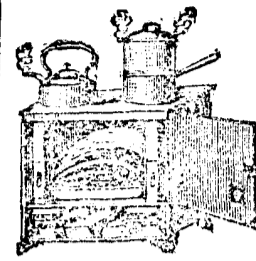
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The Ranche and ranges are situated within 70 miles of Calgary, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and were selected personally in 1882 by Mr. Staveley Hill, and leases were granted to him by the Canadian Government.

The Property is 300,000 acres in extent, and is held under lease direct from the Canadian Government, having 17 years still to run, at the almost nominal rent of £600 per annum, or about a halfpenny per acre. The grass is excellent, and the climate, both in winter and summer, is eminently suitable for Cattle raising.

The Herd has been gradually and carefully formed since 1882, (the last purchase being a considerable number of young cows about a year ago), and has, since its formation, been greatly improved in grade by the judicious mixture of Bulls of the highest class, specially imported from England.

The Herd, numbering, as per Herd Books 11,129 head, composed, approximately, as follows:—Cows, 6,283; Steers, 1,912; 2 Year-Olds and Yearlings, 2,534; Bulls, 400, is now fully matured, and is in the most favourable condition for giving the largest return of profit.

For the protection of the Company, however, the Herd is to be purchased as containing 10,000 head only, at the price of 45 dolls. per head, which number the Vendors guarantee, and will make good in case of deficiency, the Company being entitled to any excess over the 10,000 head without further payment. The Calves dropped since the autumn "round-up," and unbranded, are not to be charged for.

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These Northern Cattle must not be confounded with those of Texas. They are for the most part well bred Shorthorns of a different class, and the selling price of the Beef Steers is practically double.

The Beef Steers sold from the Herd during the last two seasons have realised an average of 60 dolls. per head, delivered on the

Ranche; the chief buyer being the Canadian Government, for the Indian Supply Department, and the Mounted Police.

The Horse Breeding is profitable. The unbroken Horses readily sell for 90 dolls. per head, and sales of broken Horses have been made as high as 250 dolls. per head.

The Ranche Buildings and Corrals are of an unusually substantial and complete character, and much superior to such Buildings generally.

Payment of the purchase money, as shown above, £110,000, is to be made as to £20,000 in 6 per cent. Debentures (or cash, the proceeds of the same), as to £31,663 10s in the shares of this issue (£9 10s credited as paid up on each £12 share) and the balance in cash.

Mr. STAVELEY HILL selected the Ranche, and obtained the lease from the Canadian Government in 1882, and again visited and resided for some time on the property in 1883 and 1884, and Lord LATHOM visited it in 1883. The property is fully described in Mr. STAVELEY HILL'S well-known book, "From Home to Home."

The Manager, Mr. PINHORNE, who resides on the Ranche, is thoroughly competent, and fully understands the business, and possesses the entire confidence of the present Shareholders. Previously to his going out to this Ranche, he had considerable experience of Stock-raising and agriculture in England.

The Cattle having been purchased by *actual count on delivery*, the shortage of numbers, so frequent in the cases of purchases by English and Scotch Companies holding Ranches in the United States, cannot occur.

Another great disadvantage from which many of these Companies suffered was that they possessed little or no land of their own, either freehold or leasehold. This Company has its lease, as before described, direct from the Government, with a practical certainty of a renewal at the end of the 17 years.

The Directors entertain the highest opinion of the prospects of this Company, and believe that the shares form a safe and lucrative investment.

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In cases where no allotment is made, the deposit will be returned to the applicant in full.