

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

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SEASONABLE GREETINGS.

BEFORE the next issue of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE reaches our subscribers, the Christmas term of Festivities will be in full swing. To one and all our kind friends we tender our best wishes that it may be a period free from anxiety and trouble. May comfort and happiness reign supreme with them and theirs, and may the new year, so soon to be entered upon, be as successful as any they have yet had experience of.

So mote it be.

AUSTRALIAN FREEMASONRY.

THE Craftsmen of the Australian Colonies are to be commended for the enthusiasm they display in matters relating to Freemasonry, which has been particularly active in their midst during the last few years. Independent Grand Lodges have been formed, and influential support has been secured, with results of the most satisfactory character. Recent advices from South Australia give full details of the installation of the Governor of that Colony—the Right Honourable the Earl of Kintore—as Most Wor. Grand Master, in succession to Chief Justice Way, who had occupied the chair of South Australia since its formation, on the 17th April 1884, and had recently resigned his position—as he often promised he would do—so soon as South Australia had, as the Queen's representative, a gentleman who was a member of the Order, and who would accept supreme power among the local Freemasons. We are heartily pleased that our brethren in this distant part of the Empire should have succeeded in enlisting the good offices of so distinguished a personage as the governor of their colony, not only because of the status it gives to Freemasonry, but also because Lord Kintore is known on this side of the world as a staunch and able Craftsman. There is no fear that South Australian Freemasonry will suffer at his hands, and we know enough of our colonial brethren to be sure that their new Grand Master will lose nothing by the part he has taken in connection with Australian Freemasonry—it is really a case of mutual advantage, with perhaps greater benefits likely to accrue to the South Australian Grand Lodge, than it can confer on the illustrious nobleman now at its head. But he is not the brother to make a hard bargain under such conditions, and we can imagine the pleasure with which he has entered upon his new duties in connection with Freemasonry, and the gratification he will feel in discharging them to the best of his ability.

Soon after his arrival in the colony, Lord Kintore was made the subject of a Masonic welcome, and an address "conveying cordial, loyal, and fraternal greetings" was presented to him. Shortly afterwards he signified his desire to connect himself with one of the local Lodges, his choice falling on St. Andrew, No. 19 (formerly No. 555 under the Scotch Constitution), among whose Past Mast

he is now enrolled. His election as Grand Master followed immediately after, and with it came an alteration in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the office of Pro Grand Master being created. This office has been conferred on the retiring Grand Master, who will, therefore, continue to be practically the working head of the Craft in the Constitution, the members of which will thus retain the valuable services of their first Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge of which Lord Kintore has assumed the head has 37 private Lodges under its dominion, with a roll of 2093 subscribing members, and embraces the entire Craft of South Australia, with the exception of the Leinster Lodge, which still holds allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Ireland. It is expected that next year the Governor of the Colony will assume the position of First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of South Australia, which is now held by his predecessor in the Grand Mastership of the Craft—Chief Justice Way; while it is not too much to expect that some of the outside degrees may secure his lordship's patronage, he having already won high positions in the Ancient and Accepted Rite, besides being a Past Grand Master of English Mark Masonry.

Since the inauguration of the Grand Lodge in South Australia, Masonic differences in New South Wales and Victoria have been peaceably adjusted. Each colony had for many years a local Grand Lodge, but in each case it represented only a minority of the Craft, and was not recognised by the Grand Lodges in the United Kingdom, or the District and Provincial Grand Lodges of the same Constitutions in the colonies. The success of the South Australian movement, however, indicated the mode in which union could be brought about, and the example so set was followed first in New South Wales and afterwards in Victoria. In the former colony a United Grand Lodge was inaugurated on the 16th of August 1888, when his Excellency Lord Carrington was installed as Grand Master, the ceremony being performed by his Honour Chief Justice Way. Early in the present year the United Grand Lodge of Victoria was constituted, and the Hon. Sir William Clarke, Bart., was chosen and installed by Lord Carrington as the first Grand Master. Both of these Grand Lodges, which are junior to that of South Australia, were represented at the installation of Lord Kintore. Lord Carrington and Sir William Clarke played an important part in the proceedings, and they were accompanied by a number of members of their respective Lodges.

The gathering was held at the Town Hall, Adelaide, on the 30th October, the building being admirably suited for the ceremony, and specially decorated for the occasion. It was estimated that considerably over a thousand members of the Order were present, the meeting really being the most numerous and brilliant ever seen in connection with South Australian Freemasonry. The Grand Master (Hon. S. J. Way) and his Officers were regularly saluted on their entrance, and Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, the Grand Chaplain (Bro. the Rev. Canon Poole) giving the prayer.

Next in the order of the proceedings was the reception of the members of other Grand Lodges. The first to be admitted were P.P.G.T. of the Irish Constitution (Bro. his Honour Judge Boucaut), P.P.D.G.M. of the I.C. (Brother Fiveash), and P.D.G.M. of the English Constitution (Bro. A. Hardy). These brethren took their places on the dais to the extreme left of the Grand Master. Next the

Grand Master of Victoria, Bro. Sir William Clarke, and his Officers were received, Sir William being seated on the left hand of the Grand Master. The Grand Master of New South Wales, Bro. Lord Carrington, and his Officers were the last to be admitted. His Excellency was accorded the seat of honour to the right of the Grand Master, while on the left was the Grand Chaplain of New South Wales, the Bishop of Bathurst.

The Grand Master said:—

On behalf of the Grand Lodge of South Australia I have to tender a most hearty welcome to the Most Worshipful Grand Masters, Grand Officers, and brethren of the other Constitutions who have honoured us with their presence on this occasion. The presence of the M.W. Grand Master of Victoria is especially welcome to us. He has come a great distance, at considerable inconvenience to himself, for the purpose of taking a part in the interesting ceremonial. I also desire to thank the M.W. Grand Master of New South Wales most cordially for his attendance. This is not the first occasion on which the Grand Lodge of South Australia has been honoured by the presence of Bro. His Excellency Lord Carrington. He has travelled 1200 miles to be again of great service to South Australian Masonry, and therefore we should be exceedingly ungrateful if we did not accord him a hearty welcome to this Grand Lodge. M.W. Grand Sir, I ask you to honour us by presiding on this occasion, as Installing Master, to induct into his office our M.W. Grand Master elect, Brother His Excellency the Earl of Kintore.

In response to this invitation, the M.W. Grand Master of New South Wales, Lord Carrington, took the chair, and at his request the Grand Secretary read the certificate of the election of his Excellency the Earl of Kintore as Grand Master, and the commission authorising the Grand Master of New South Wales to instal him. At the conclusion of this formal proceeding, his Excellency the Governor was announced, and, the brethren upstanding, was escorted to his seat. During the reception, a grand march was rendered by the organist and orchestra, with vocal accompaniment by the choir.

(To be continued.)

MASONS' OPINIONS ON THE BIBLE QUESTION.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

THE 25th of February 1888 number of this paper has an article of mine about an attempt made in Illinois to expel a brother from Masonry on account of his disbelief in the Bible, with Bro. Robbins' report against the said attempt. Bro. Robbins' report stirred up the ire of some zealots, and to judge from their writings in their reports in 1888 and 1889, one would suppose that Bro. Robbins was the first Mason who maintained that belief in the Bible was not essential to Masonry. In order, therefore, to disabuse the minds of those who may have been misled, I shall give *all the extracts* collected by Bro. Chase, of Massachusetts, in his "Digest of Masonic Law," touching the question at issue, which will show that even what I may call in the dark ages of Masonry, as far as knowledge of history is concerned, for some reason or other prominent Masons maintained the same views on the Bible question as Bro. Robbins does to-day, and if Bro. Robbins is a Masonic sinner he is not the first Masonic sinner in that direction. And now for the extracts:—

1st. "According to what is generally received as 'Ancient Masonry,' a candidate must be 'a good and true, or man of honour and honesty,' and before his initiation must acknowledge his trust in God (an Atheist cannot be made a Mason). In our opinion any further religious test is not necessary, and to require that a candidate profess in a belief in the divine authenticity of the Bible, or a state of future reward and punishment, is a serious innovation in the very body of Masonry."*

"We now hold as our forefathers held, and as we hope our posterity to hold, that from the votaries of Masonry is expected and required a sincere belief in the existence of a God, the Creator and Governor of the world; and that beyond this great principle of faith, it is not lawful to impose any religious test as a requisite for admission to our mysteries."

(Committee of Foreign Correspondence of Virginia 1848, which was endorsed by the C. of F.C. of New Hampshire in 1849.)

2nd. "It is anti-Masonic to require a religious test, other than the candidate should believe in a God, the Creator and Governor of the Universe. (Resolution of the G.L. of Alabama, 1848.)

* For brevity sake the letters "C.F.C." at the end of the paragraphs stand for "Committee Foreign Correspondence."

3rd. "We can find no reason for interdicting any otherwise worthy applicant who firmly believes in the existence of a Supreme Being; nor can we allow any right to interrogate him further as to his religious belief.

(HUBBARD. C.F.C. of New Hampshire, 1857. And the above opinion was endorsed by Bro. O'Sullivan G. Sec. and Sec. of F.C. of Missouri, in 1858.)

4th. "The Grand Lodge of Vermont condemns as un-Masonic the introduction of any test of a sectarian character. The only faith required of a candidate is a belief and trust in God; without this no obligation would be binding on him. (HASWELL, C.F.C., 1849.)

5th. "Resolved that in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the exclusion of any class of men from the privileges of Masonry who believe in the existence and moral government of the Supreme Being, evinces a spirit adverse to the genius of our institution, and that it is an assumption of power not sanctioned by the ancient usages of the Craft. (G.L. Massachusetts, 1843.)

6th. "The true doctrine on this subject has been well laid down by our illustrious brother Prince MURAT, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France. All men who believe in the existence of a Supreme Being, the Great Architect of the Universe; who believes in the immortality of the soul, and consequently in an eternal well being; every man who feels the love of his fellow man vibrate in him is acceptable among us. ([Rob] MORRIS, C.F.C. Kentucky, 1857.)

7th. "Resolved. That this Grand Lodge is clearly of opinion that a distinct avowal of a belief in the Divine Authority of the Holy Scriptures should be required of every one who is admitted to the privileges of Masonry, and that a denial of the same is an offence against the institution, calling for exemplary discipline." (Ohio, 1856.)

Hence, if an Ohio Mason does not believe in the existence of witchcraft, or that the *world moves*, and similar notions that have been exploded by science, *he must be expelled from Masonry*. Mackey, however, did not agree with the Ohio luminaries. He said:

"The Grand Lodge of Ohio attempted to amend, as they supposed, the law, and at once the universality of the institution is destroyed, and none but the Christians become eligible for initiation."

8th. Resolved. That candidates for Masonry should be required to avow their belief not only in the existence of God but in the divine authenticity of His word, as revealed in the Bible. (STOREY, C.F.C. Connecticut, 1858.)

The above resolution was rejected.

9th. "The only declaration of faith necessary on the part of a candidate, before initiation, is the profession of belief and trust in God. But we also say that a man who declares his disbelief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Bible cannot be made a Mason. (BROWN, C.F.C. Florida, 1858.)

10th. "Your Committee believe this (Ohio Resolution) all wrong. The Jews, the Chinese, the Turks, each reject either the New Testament or the Old, or both, and yet we see no good reason why they should not be made Masons. In fact, Blue Lodge Masonry has nothing whatever to do with the Bible. It is not founded on the Bible: if it was, it would not be Masonry, it would be something else; Masonry is a mere charitable institution—nothing else, and it is founded upon tradition. Solomon, to whom it is traced, and who is said to have been the first Grand Master, never heard of the New Testament. He was not a Christian. We must, therefore, either blot out the memory of Solomon, and also that of the other Grand Masters, or we must not insist upon a belief in the authenticity of either the Old or New Testament. The position which Christian Masons assign to the Bible is very natural, but not a necessary one. It is thus to them as Christians, but not as Masons." (SAYER, C.F.C. Alabama 1855.)

11th. "Freemasonry calls no man to account for his belief of any religion on the globe. (Const. of the Grand Orient of France.)

12th. "We would require no express declaration of a belief in either the Old or the New Testament as an open qualification of a candidate; but we feel bound to adopt the views of the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Correspondence of Iowa. Without the Bible there is no Masonry." (DANIEL, C.F.C. Mississippi 1857.)

13th. "Resolved. That the Grand Lodge of Texas declares that a belief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is an indispensable pre-requisite for Masonic admission, and the Grand Lodge does not mean to exclude the Israelite whom it does not regard as being disqualified for the mysteries of Masonry." (Texas, 1857.)

Why Israelites, who disbelieve in what Christians regard as the most essential part of the Bible, are not excluded from Masonry is a puzzle which no one can solve. I must, however, add that Bro. Mellen, Grand Secretary of Mississippi, in his magazine, viz., *The Acacia*, criticised and condemned the action of the Grand Lodges of Texas and Ohio, in both his volumes, published in 1855 and 1856. Yes, quite as severely as Bro. Robbins did.

14th. "No religious test shall ever be required of any applicant for initiation other than a steadfast belief in the existence and perfection of Deity, and no Lodge under this jurisdiction shall receive any candidate without the acknowledgment of such belief." (Constitution of Nebraska.)

15th. "The religious views of a candidate are not regarded at all. It is sufficient if he believes in the existence and providence of God." (C. W. Moore 1849.)

And again :—

"No Christian doubts the authority of the Bible, and in this country we need not trouble ourselves much about any other class of people. We place it upon our altar as the Word of God; the initiate is practically taught to regard it; and we take it and enjoin others to take it as the rule and guide of our conduct. This is enough. If any others who are not willing so to recognize and take it, we are not bound to receive them. Every Lodge is to judge of the fitness of its own candidates; let this suffice, and remove not the ancient landmarks which our fathers have set." (C. W. Moore.)

Bro. Chase, the author of the book I am quoting from, endorses Bro. Moore's letter, but gives no date thereunto, nor where to find the said letter.

16th. "Masonry simply requires of the candidate his assent to one great fundamental religious truth, the existence and providence of God." (*Declaration of five thousand Freemasons of New England, 1831.*)

17th. "Do you seriously declare upon your honour that you believe in the existence of God and a state of future rewards and punishments." (*Regulations in Tennessee from 1823 to 1843.*)—To which the author adds, in a foot note, "It is but just that we inform the reader that this regulation was nearly a dead letter during the twenty years it remained among the regulations."

18th. "It is clearly settled that in the first degrees of Masonry, religious tenets shall not be barrier to the admission or advancement of applicants, providing they profess belief in God and His Holy Word." (*Resolution in Ohio, 1820.*)

19th. "No test except belief in God who governs the Universe, should be exacted." (C.F.C. of Rhode Island, 1850). Similar resolutions were adopted in Ohio in 1850, and Alabama in 1848.

20th. "If the applicant believe in the moral law (the Ten Commandments) and governs himself accordingly, we can require no further." (Rob Morris, *American Freemason, Vol. III., p 121.*)

21st. "By the usages and principles of our Order, he who does not believe in and acknowledge the Bible as a rule and guide of his conduct, ought not to be received into our Order." (HUBBARD, *Ohio 1853.*)

22nd. "With the spirit of the TEXAS resolution we cannot concur. It is not Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry. In the latter, a belief in Deity, in God, or rather trust in God, is all that is required of a candidate." (C.F.C. of Rhode Island, 1858.)

23rd. "The Grand Lodge of Iowa recognises no religious creed or dogma as a pre-requisite to gain admission into the portals of her temple: all she requires is, that the candidate should believe in the existence of God, the Creator of all things, and be freeborn, of lawful age, and well recommended as a good man and true." (PARVIN, 1849.)

24th. "Resolved. That Masonry, as we received it from our fathers, teaches the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, and that the views of candidates on this subject should be ascertained by the Committee of Inquiry, or otherwise, as well as their other qualifications and fitness to be received into the Order." (*Iowa, 1855.*) "We protest against all such innovations," said Bro. Barber, of the C.F.C. of Arkansas in 1856.

25th. "It is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that no man can become a Mason unless he can avow a belief in the principles contained in the Holy Bible, and that the demand for such a belief does not conflict with the universality of Freemasonry." (*Resolution. Nebraska 1858.*)*

The above extracts prove, in the first place, that Bro. Robbins did not originate the idea that belief in the inspiration of the Bible was not essential to Masonry. Secondly, a majority of about two-thirds of the above quotations accord with Bro. Robbins' views on the question at issue. And thirdly, while the names of those who maintained that belief in the Bible was necessary for Masonry are unknown outside of their respective jurisdictions, the names of Mackey, Moore, and Morris had a world-wide reputation during their lifetime, and notwithstanding their faults and shortcomings Masonic students will have to consult their writings as long as Masonic students exist.

Another fact must be noticed. The opponents of Bro. Robbins not only resorted to the style usually adopted by theological debaters of bluffing, &c., but one of them even called Bro. Robbins an unbeliever in the Bible. Now, what Bro. Robbins believes and disbelieves I do not know; but I maintain that the mere fact of his belief about the Bible as far as Masonry is concerned cannot prove his disbelief in the Bible, for otherwise we must assume that Mackey, Moore, Morris, the five thousand Masons in New England in 1831, and all the names mentioned in the above extracts who advocated the same views that Bro. Robbins does, must also have been disbelievers in the inspiration of the Bible.

The fact is our Masonic bigots are imbued with the spirit of the "Holy Inquisition," and I verily believe that if they had the power they would act as badly as the Inquisition did.

Boston, U.S., 4th December 1889.

* Chase's "Digest of Masonic Law," from p 206 to p 210.

MEMBERSHIP OF GRAND LODGE.

THE members of a Grand Lodge are such as are designated members by its "Ahiman Rezon" or "Book of Constitutions." At different eras in the history of the Craft, the Grand Lodges of the several jurisdictions have been composed of different classes of members. As to this each Grand Lodge is a law unto itself. At the formation of the Grand Lodge of England, in 1717, it was composed of Masters and Wardens of all the regular Lodges, with the Grand Officers. Since then various regulations have been adopted. In some jurisdictions, as in Pennsylvania at the present time, the Grand Lodge is composed of "the Grand and Past Grand Officers; the Masters and Past Masters by two years' service, and Wardens of all Lodges lawfully warranted and duly constituted by it and under its jurisdictions, and the elected representatives of such Lodges." In other jurisdictions, the Grand Lodge is composed only of Masters and representatives,—Wardens and Past Masters not being members; while in still other jurisdictions Masters and Wardens are members, Past Masters only being excluded. These variations in practice are due, in the main, to the recognized necessity, in the largest jurisdictions, of keeping Grand Lodge within such bounds as to membership as shall enable it to transact its business with satisfaction to itself. An unusually large deliberative body is always cumbrous. It becomes a question, first, how to seat such a body in a Masonic Temple—for a public hall is not to be thought of for use as a tyed Lodge; and, second, how to readily handle a body which may become so numerous as to amount almost to a mob. Hence it is that in all Masonic jurisdictions which contain a large constituency of Lodges and Freemasons, some modification has been made of the early system, of including all Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters in Grand Lodge.

We have been confronted with this question in Pennsylvania, and three years ago a slight modification and only a slight one, was adopted, to wit, to measurably limit the further growth in numbers of Grand Lodge by including Masters and Past Masters by two years' service only; instead of by one, as theretofore. For three years we have had this system in operation, and as far as our observation has gone the system has worked exceedingly well. Auxiliary and very important advantages have also sprung from it. The two years' service of Masters has the better prepared them to preside over their several Lodges. They have become better workers and superior rulers; they have grown more experienced in all of their duties, and the Craft at large has been advantaged accordingly.

We know of no honour that a Lodge can bestow superior to that of the Mastership of the Lodge. Every Master should be gratified to serve for two terms, and we believe the large majority of them are; but it appears that some of the Wardens do not fancy serving two years as Wardens. If Wardens really desire to be capable, proficient and duly instructed Masters, two years' service is necessary. In Grand Lodge, however, the Grand Officers by re-election have always served two years in each of the four stations, making in all eight years; why, then, should not the officers of the constituent Lodges serve six years?

Let us remember, the great body of the Craft has interests in the welfare of the Fraternity. The Craft will be best served by the capacity and ability of Lodge Officers to perform accurately and strictly their duties. Suppose it should be determined to return to the former practice of Masters serving but a single year. Then we would be immediately confronted with the necessity of limiting the membership of Grand Lodge in some other way. What way should that be, which would be more acceptable to the Craft at large than the present two years' service of Masters to ensure their permanent membership? Shall the Wardens be cut off from membership? Or shall the Past Masters? Some regulation of this kind would be necessary. We have three hundred and ninety Lodges at the present time in Pennsylvania, and these add, under the present regulation, three hundred and ninety Past Masters to Grand Lodge every two years; but if we should go back to the old regulation they would add that number every year.

We invite the Brethren to carefully weigh these considerations, and pause before they proceed to change the present regulation. A Lodge has a far higher purpose than to be a manufactory of members of Grand Lodge—

especially when that body is already so numerous that it would be well if it should be limited to its present number. Limited it must be, as all thinking members will admit, so that if we go back to the old practice of making Masters permanent members after *one year's* service, we must then *ex-necessitate*, adopt some other means of accomplishing that which the present two years' service, in part at least accomplishes. What shall it be? Shall the Wardens in service we cut off from membership, or shall Past Masters, or both? Or shall all of these alternates be avoiding by adhering to our present two years' regulation?

—Keystone.

MASONIC NOVELTIES.

HUMAN nature presents many of the same distinguishing features in all ages and among all nations. The love of the new and strange, appears to be a fundamental element of human character. Man is always an inquirer; he seeks to get outside the beaten paths and make discoveries which shall help him to a wider range of thought, vision, and experience. His curiosity, his ambition, not less than the imagination and mercurial forces of his nature, impel him to make many new departures, some of which are to be counted as helps, and others as hindrances, to his progressive career.

There are people, and classes of people, in whom this tendency shows itself as having more than ordinary influence. The dwellers in Athens two thousand years ago were a very curious people. There congregated the philosophers from all of the then civilized world. There flourished innumerable systems and associations that indicated the ardent search of the Athenians after wisdom. It was commendable that there should have been so much of mental activity displayed, and such abundant provision made to satisfy the investigating temper of the age; but the old Athenians are not to be commended that they were such ardent seekers after new things. Many of the Athenian writers, Demosthenes and Thucydides among the number, censure their countrymen because they were so unsettled in their thought and determinations, and because they were so quickly attracted to novelties of one sort and another. St. Luke, in the Christian Scriptures, makes mention of the fact that curiosity and love of new and strange things were characteristics of the people of Athens; "For they spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell or to hear, some new thing."

One modern society is infected by the same passion, and consequently there is a tremendous rush for new systems theories, forms, and schemes, in business undertakings, the departments of related life, and in the varied departments of ethics, morals, and religion. The old system does not satisfy, the former method does not please, while that which is presented in the form of novelty seems to be invested with a peculiar charm. Members of the Masonic Fraternity, sharing in the common feeling, are attracted to what they deem to be some new and better expression of the system in which they have been instructed, and turn greedily to some organisation, denominated Masonic, that is supposed to far outrank the old Craft institution. Imaginative and curious brethren, looking always for novelties that may be labelled Masonic, are quickly attracted to fanciful schemes and newly formed associations, often manifesting an enthusiasm in their support not shown to the old organisation.

"On what basis does your new society rest, and what are its special recommendations?" was the question addressed not long since to a zealous brother who was advocating a modern association notable for its high sounding titles and large pretensions. "O, it is the best kind of Masonry," was the reply. "Every Craftsman will be sure to like it; I tell you, the Lodge will seem a tame affair after you have entered our new society." Thus extolled by its forwarders and leaders, claiming to be in some way Masonic, but to be a more select and attractive organisation, the pretentious organisation gets a start and flourishes for a time to the satisfaction of all concerned, though it happens, not infrequently, that credulous brethren, who have given their time and money to foster the interests of the new rite, are brought ere long by an unwelcome experience to consider that "All is not gold that glitters."

The present is not the first period in the history of Freemasonry, when systems, rites, and orders, holding a more

or less closely defined relation to the Craft, have been put forth in its name and under its auspices. A hundred years ago Continental Europe was filled with societies claiming a descent from or an alliance with the Masonic institution. Then new rites were instituted, elaborate rituals put forth, systems and organisations being established on a basis of fanciful, often ridiculous, representations, which proved, ere long, to be too great a load for the newly formed societies to carry, and consequently they toppled into ruins, or became merely the adjuncts of a political or selfish crusade. Count Cagliostro projected several such organisations, giving to them special interest and attraction by the Egyptian and Oriental features made conspicuous in their forms and ceremonies. Only Masons were admitted, and they were made to believe that the new society was the latest and highest evolution of their own institution. It was not long, however, before the new movement received a severe check, and soon it was regarded as in no proper sense connected with Freemasonry.

From Cagliostro's day until now there have been seen the flashing of many new lights upon the Masonic firmament. Zealous brethren have sought to originate new schemes and systems for social and beneficial purposes, and calling the new rites or orders by the Masonic name they have found plenty of curious Craftsmen to follow them into the seemingly attractive paths of progress. Legitimate Masonry has suffered sometimes by reason of such new schemes and organisations, and sufficient warning, it would seem, has been given against the misleading lights that from time to time shine out upon the Masonic way. The ancient and well defined system of Freemasonry, as understood and practised by the fathers, may well claim our warmest devotion and best offices. It cannot be greatly improved upon; nor does it require the addition of any new and fantastic forms of expression to commend its principles to those who are first made Masons in their hearts, or to augment the scope of its practical usefulness. Brethren, let us "Prove all things, and hold fast to that which is good."—*Freemasons' Repository*.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

WILL BE WORKED

At the Joppa Lodge of Instruction, No. 188, held at the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C., on Tuesday evening, 21st of January 1890, at 7 o'clock p.m. Bro. S. Dancyger S.D. No. 205 will preside, supported by Bros. B. Da Costa J.W. 1349 S.W., J. Dancyger 205 J.W., W. Richardson S.W. 174 I.P.M. First Lecture—Bros. H. Saqui, J. W. Goodinge, Emanuel, A. J. Marks, S. Lichtenfeld, W. Richardson, H. Lichtenfeld. Second Lecture—Bros. Garrard, J. Dancyger, N. Isaacs, L. Simmons, Speller. Third Lecture—Bros. Sharmur, B. Da Costa, H. Harris.

Bro. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.P.G.J.W. of Devon, Provincial Prior, &c., of Hertford College, Oxford, late Vicar of Buckerell, Devon, having performed the statutable exercises, has by decree of the Convocation of his University, been admitted to the Degrees of Bachelor and Doctor of Divinity, by acclamation.

Bro. C. Woods, No. 1869, P. Soj. elect No. 1275, has been selected by the Evening Class Committee of the London School Board as Organizer and Correspondent for Evening Classes for Chelsea and Westminster.

We learn that with Numbers 327 and 328 of *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, published on the 1st and 8th of January respectively, a complete copyright novel of incident and adventure, entitled "Manleverer's Millions," by Mr. T. Wemyss Reid, author of "Gladys Fane," will be given in addition to the ordinary contents of the *Journal*.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—During every break of wintry weather exertions should be made by the afflicted to recover health before unremitting cold and trying storms set in. Throat ailments, coughs, wheezings, asthmatical affections, shortness of breath, morning nausea, and accumulations of phlegm can readily be removed by rubbing this fine derivative Ointment twice a day upon the chest and neck. Holloway's treatment is strongly recommended with the view of giving immediate ease, preventing prospective danger, and effecting permanent relief. These all-important ends his Ointment and Pills can accomplish, and will surely prevent insidious diseases from fastening on the constitution to display themselves afterwards in those disastrous forms that will probably embitter life till death itself is almost prayed for.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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MOIRA LODGE, No. 92.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 5th instant, at the Albion Tavern, E.C. Present:—Bros. R. W. Tweedie W.M., Colonel Sir Norman W. Pringle, Bart., S.W., G. Greiner J.W., T. L. Wilkinson P.M. Treasurer, Josiah Houle Secretary, J. P. Murrongh S.D., M. F. Tweedie J.D., R. F. Gould (P.G.D.) P.M., Sir Alfred Dent (K.C.M.G.) P.M., W. Noakes P.M., G. C. Andrew P.M., W. Bohm P.M., S. Shorter P.M., Adam Pringle P.M., J. A. Maitland, W. Kidner, J. P. Fearfield, E. Greiner, J. M. Mitchell, M. A. Tweedie, Rev. R. I. Woodhouse. Also the following Visitors:—Bros. Edward Terry Grand Treasurer, E. J. Barron P.G.D., Frank Richardson P.G.D., Col. R. W. Eddis Grand Superintendent of Works, Major George Lambert P.G. Sword Bearer, W. M. Bywater P.G. Sword Bearer, W. H. Rylands P.G. Steward W.M. 2, Lieut.-Col. S. C. Pratt, R.A., W.M. 2076, B. A. Charlesworth 357, George Gardner W.M. 2309, W. Batt P.M. 162, J. E. Page 540, J. W. Noakes 1982, E. North, W. G. Poole 860, C. G. Poole 1892, R. Sheriff W.M. 196, J. H. Smith P.P.G.C., H. Reid P.M. 142, W. Clowes 2012, E. J. Castle, Q.C., P.M. 143, A. Rewtor 1159, G. R. Dusby P.M. 59, S. E. Southgate S.W. 700, G. Boulton P.M. 143, L. Hansard P.M. 1506, W. H. Hooker 1670, T. H. Gardiner 1150, E. Roberts 917, and T. Lawler 1296. Among those who were unavoidably prevented from attending were the Grand Registrar, the President of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Secretary, Bros. Dr. Ralph Gooding P.G.D., P. de Lande Long P.G.D., E. Letchworth P.G.D., Walter Besant Treasurer 2076, Professor T. Hayter Lewis S.W. 2076, Sergeant Robertson, and others. After the minutes of the preceding meeting had been duly confirmed, Bro. Sir Norman Pringle, Bart., W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. T. L. Wilkinson, and installed, according to ancient form, by Bro. R. F. Gould. The following office-bearers were then invested:—Bros. R. W. Tweedie I.P.M., G. Greiner S.W., J. P. Murrongh J.W., T. L. Wilkinson P.M. Treasurer, Josiah Houle P.M. Secretary, M. F. Tweedie S.D., J. P. Fearfield J.D., E. Greiner I.G., and B. Banks Tyler. All business being concluded, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and on the removal of the cloth, the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts met with a due and fervent response. Bro. E. J. Barron P.G.D. replied for the Grand Officers, and Bros. W. H. Rylands P.G. Steward W.M. 2, and Lieut.-Col. Pratt W.M. 2076 for the Visitors. The toast of the evening, the Memory of Earl Moira, the Patron of the Lodge, was proposed in eloquent terms by Bro. Wilkinson. Space altogether forbids our doing justice to this Oration, which will take rank among the best efforts, in a similar direction, of Bro. Wilkinson. But we have much pleasure in reporting the excellent speech of the W.M., with which our notice of this most interesting meeting must be brought to a close. In replying to the toast of the W.M., Bro. Sir Norman Pringle said, Bro. P.M. Tweedie, I thank you for the kind manner in which you have proposed my health, and you, brethren, most heartily, for the cordiality with which it has been received. I have been longer than some of you in climbing to the position in which I now find myself, but the exigencies of military service, by requiring me to be present with my regiment abroad, have operated to a certain extent to my disadvantage, Masonically, by arresting the flow of promotion which in the ordinary case would have carried me through all the minor offices, and rendered me eligible for the chair some years before it has actually been my good fortune to fill it. But I cannot thank you too warmly, or those brethren who kindly stood aside that I might last year be invested with the Senior Warden's collar, thus conveying to me the gratifying assurance that both the members and Officers were conscious of my wish to work up to the chair, and of the causes which had prevented me from so doing. Soldiers who are Masons have to contend with very grave disabilities, from which other sections of our Fraternity are exempt. Prominent among these is the constant shifting of quarters, which renders it impossible for a military brother, except on very rare occasions, to remain at any one station sufficiently long to reap the reward due to faithful service in the subordinate offices by election to the Master's chair. I was appointed an Officer of this Lodge in 1880, but vacated the appointment on joining the headquarters of my regiment at Malta. Returning to England, I again took office, but only to again vacate it by embarking for active service in Egypt. Since then I have been an office-bearer in Lodges at Malta and Gibraltar, and lastly (until my promotion to-night) for the third time as one of the subordinate officers of No. 92. In former days things were very different. At one time almost every British regiment had a Lodge attached to it, and to the influence of these military or travelling Lodges is due much of the Masonic progress of the last century, more especially in America. There was a famous Lodge in my own regiment, formerly the 38th Foot, now the 1st Battalion South Staffordshire, for which a warrant, bearing the number 441, was granted by the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1765. This Lodge had a remarkable history. The records of the regiment, the Lodge-chest, warrant, and jewels were on one occasion captured by the enemy. The regimental records were never recovered, but the property of the Lodge was returned intact. Later in its career its proceedings, from the publicity accorded them, were a common topic of discussion in the Masonic Press. But I shall here only mention that Lodge No. 441, in the 38th Foot, was one of the nine Lodges present at the inauguration of the Grand Lodge of New York, in 1782, and an officer of the regiment and the Lodge, Lieutenant John Studholme Brownrigg, was elected the first Senior Grand Warden of the new governing body. Of these nine Lodges which took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of New York, it is not a little remarkable that no less than six were attached to British regiments then forming a portion of the garrison. I have been unable to resist this passing allusion to an old and distinguished Lodge, attached for upwards of a century to the regiment which I

have so recently had the honour to command. The Lodge was in working order up to 1860, but, owing to our being split up in detachments, then ceased to work. But I must now endeavour to show you that there are other and stronger reasons than the pleasing associations connected with my own regimental career, for the wish I have so long entertained to fill the important office in which I have been this evening so ably installed by Bro. Gould, P.M. Moira Lodge and P.G.D. In England, so far as I am informed, there is no documentary evidence relating to the actual proceedings of Lodges which is of older date than the Grand Lodge of England. By this I mean that there are no Lodge minutes on record earlier than 1717. The W.M. of the oldest English Lodge I am glad to say is present, and at a later period I dare say he will kindly put me right if I am wrong in that supposition. To proceed, however, with my remarks. In Scotland the circumstances of the Lodges were very different, and both minutes and records abound. From these I shall next make a brief selection. It would appear from the oldest minute book of St. John's Lodge, Kelso, which dates from 1701, that in that year, "George Faa was the Master." This name is well known on the Border, being the name of the Royal Family of the Gipsy tribe located there. In the next year, under the date, Kelso, 2nd June 1702, the minutes record that "the Company of Masons have selected the honourable Sir John Pringall to be Master in place of the deceased deacon Faa, and to continue as Master until St. John's day next, when the Company shall again have it under their consideration whether to elect another or continue the said Sir John Pringall." When St. John's Day arrived, Sir John Pringle was unanimously re-elected. And here I must pause to explain why these extracts have never been recited to you. It would seem that in 1702, or fifteen years before there was a Grand Lodge of England, my direct ancestor—at how many removes I cannot at the moment say, without reference to family documents—succeeded either the King of the Gipsies, or one of that royal line, as Master of the Kelso Lodge. One more quotation and I have done. The Grand Secretary of Scotland, in his history of the Lodge of Edinburgh, records under the date of 24th June 1670, the admission of Walter Pringle, Advocate, as "brother and fellow-craft." This Walter Pringle was the brother of my direct ancestor, Sir Robert Pringle, and with his name, I reach the highest point to which I can trace my Masonic pedigree, that is to say, 219 years from the present date. But it will suffice, I hope, to establish the point which I am anxious to submit for your consideration. It is, that the love of Masonry, with which I sincerely trust I am imbued, has come down to me by inheritance, and that in seeking admission into the Craft, as well as in my fortunate selection of a Mother Lodge, I have been guided by an instinctive feeling, which has happily caused my feet to tread in the footsteps of those brethren of my name and family, in the 17th and 18th century, whose connection with the Lodges of Edinburgh and Kelso respectively I have briefly adverted to. Lastly, Brethren, and I hope that I have not fatigued you with my remarks, let me assure you that during my year of office it will be my constant aim to act according to the traditions of this chair, and to fill as worthily as I can a seat which has been well and usefully occupied, both by brethren in the remote past, and by the goodly array of Past Masters now present, in times with which we are more familiar.

FORTITUDE LODGE, No. 105.

THE annual meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on the 9th inst., when the brethren elected Bro. Samuel Edgcombe W.M. Bro. J. T. Browning, declined to allow himself to be re-elected as Treasurer, pleading various engagements. Bro. A. W. Spinney was then elected to succeed him. Bro. W. H. Phillips was re-elected the Tyler. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Browning for the able and efficient services he had rendered the Lodge as its Treasurer for the past five years.

BRITISH UNION LODGE, No. 114.

A LARGE and representative body of brethren assembled at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Thursday, the 5th inst., on the occasion of the installation of Bro. H. C. Casley as W.M. The ceremony of installation was most impressively performed by Bro. Sir John Monckton P.G.S.W. England, the chair of S.W. being occupied by Bro. Peter de Lande Long P.M. P.G.D. The W.M. then invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. R. Tidbury, M.D., I.P.M., Sam. Gooding S.W., Thos. Palmer, Mus. Bac., J.W., R. N. Sanderson Chaplain, W. Boby Treasurer, B. P. Grimsey Secretary, A. F. Penraven S.D., C. E. Tempest J.D., W. Clarke D.C., Thos. Palmer Organist, Thomas B. Read I.G., F. J. W. Wood and J. R. Geard Stewards, George Gould Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony a most recherché banquet was served, in the style for which the British Union Lodge has long been famous. After the usual Loyal toasts, given by the W.M., and received with full Masonic honours, the W.M. gave the Earl of Carnarvon M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Lathom R.W. D.G.M., and the Grand Officers, present and past, coupled with the name of Wor. Bro. Peter de Lande Long, who, in responding, made special allusion to the interest he had ever taken in the administration of the affairs of the Masonic Girls' Institution, and the great benefits derived therefrom by candidates from the Province of Suffolk. The toast of the R.W. Lord Henniker P.G.M., the V.W. Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G. Chaplain, D.P.G.M. Suffolk, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, present and past, was responded to by Bros. Flintham and Tracy. The W.M. then gave the toast of the Installing Master (Wor. Sir John Monckton), who had done him the honour eleven years ago of installing him into the chair of W.M. of the British Union Lodge, and had now come down at no small personal inconvenience to perform the same ceremony. Although Bro. Sir John Monckton was a member of the Lodge, it was no small honour for the brethren to have among them so distinguished a Mason, ranking as he did among the very highest in England, who had on the Continent had a wide-spread reputation, having received distinctions at the

hands of monarchs, who knew his worth. Bro. Sir John Monckton, in responding, expressed the pleasure it afforded him to lend his services to the British Union Lodge, more especially when relatives of his own were in so prominent a position in the Lodge as they now were, and he hoped that he might live to perform the same offices for succeeding generations. Bro. R. Tidbury I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., eulogising Bro. Casley as one of the mainstays of the Province of Suffolk. The W.M. responded in an eloquent speech, in which he exhorted the Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge to assist him in making his year of office one of the most successful in the annals of the Lodge. The Masonic Charities, proposed by Bro. Wm. Clarke, was responded to at some length by Bro. H. M. Harvey. The toast of the Visitors, cordially proposed by the W.M., and received with full honours, was responded to by Bros. S. J. Morley, G. T. Pick, and Hall, the latter brother asserting that if the newly-elected Master showed half the ability in the administration of his Masonic duties that he displayed in the exercise of his municipal office in Aldeburgh, the British Union Lodge had indeed reason for congratulation on his accepting the chair. The toast of the Past Masters, proposed by the W.M., was briefly acknowledged by Bro. G. S. Elliston. For the Officers of the Lodge the S.W. Bro. Samuel Gooding, and the J.W. Bro. T. Palmer briefly responded, and the Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable and successful ceremony to an end. During the evening some excellent songs were contributed, by Bros. Brookes of Norwich Cathedral Choir, Copeland, Henry Miller, and G. T. Pick, the accompaniments on the pianoforte being ably rendered by Bro. T. Palmer, Mus. Bac., Organist to the Lodge.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE, No. 225.

THE anniversary meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Scene Street, on Wednesday, the 11th inst., when Bro. Geo. Powell Price was installed as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. Bro. Geo. Abbott acted as Installing Master. The Officers for the year were invested by the newly-installed Master as under:—Bros. S. G. Morley I.P.M., Rev. S. Maude S.W., W. J. Whitehead J.W., Rev. S. Maude Chaplain, J. Talbot Treasurer, J. Napier Secretary, H. W. Cook S.D., J. Stinger J.D., H. Cockrell I.G., Geo. Abbott D.C., W. Wilkinson Organist, J. Ball Steward, G. Gould Tyler. The installation banquet was held, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, and after an excellent menu had been duly discussed, the Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M. Bro. Capt. Garwood proposed the Right Hon. Lord Henniker P.G.M. Suffolk, Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C. Eng. D.P.G.M. Suffolk, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers Present and Past. Bro. N. Tracy responded for the present Officers, and Brother Byford for the past Officers. The W.M. proposed the Installing Master, and complimented Bro. Abbott upon the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony. Bro. Abbott suitably replied. The I.P.M. Bro. Morley proposed the Worshipful Master, and referred in eulogistic terms to the praiseworthy manner in which Bro. Price had filled the various offices of the Lodge. The W.M. responded in a neat and appropriate speech. Bro. Geo. Abbott proposed the Immediate Past Master, and said St. Luke's Lodge had had a very successful year under Bro. Morley's Mastership. Bro. Morley having responded, Bro. Cook proposed the Masonic Charities, for which Bro. Tracy responded in an able speech, in the course of which he made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the three Masonic Institutions. Bro. Noble proposed the Visitors, for whom Brothers Casley, Younger, and Pick responded. Bro. the Rev. S. Maude proposed the P.M.'s, for whom Bro. Talbot responded. The W.M. gave the Officers of the Lodge, for whom Bros. H. Cool and W. Wilson responded. The speeches were brought to a conclusion with the Tyler's toast. The musical programme included two violoncello solos by Bro. Charles Nairn Price, and vocal selections by Bros. J. Talbot, George Abbott, G. T. Pick, A. Raphael, and W. Wilkinson; a recitation by Bro. Whitehead, and pianoforte selections by Bros. F. Perkins and C. N. Price.

ALFRED LODGE, No. 306.

THERE was a large representative gathering at the annual meeting, on Friday, the 6th inst., to witness the installation of Bro. Tom Batt. The assembly included Bros. Henry Smith D.P.G.M., J. C. Malcolm P.P.G.R., J. W. Foulness P.P.G. Treas., S. Freeman P.P.G.D., and many other Past and Present members of the Prov. Grand Lodge. Bro. Batt was installed by Bro. C. E. Breen. The new Officers were invested, as follows:—Bros. J. B. Jowett S.W., B. Pounder J.W., H. S. S.D., Jarvis J.D., J. Dyson P.M. Treasurer, W. Tate Secretary, the Rev. C. A. Lambert, vicar of Weston, Chaplain, J. W. Cleland I.G., J. E. Mungrove Organist, T. F. Towers and F. P. Cooper Stewards, and S. Ballard Tyler. Afterwards the brethren and visitors dined together, and a pleasant evening was spent.

TEES LODGE, No. 509.

THE annual festival took place at the Masonic Hall, Stockton, on the 5th inst. The Lodge was formed in the afternoon, with Bro. Alexander Inglis W.M. in the chair, when Mr. Councillor F. L. Dodds was balloted for and initiated. Thereafter Bro. M. B. Dodds S.W. (Town Clerk of Stockton) was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. W. M. Watson. The W.M. then invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Alex. Inglis I.P.M., J. Holt S.W., J. Burton J.W., W. M. Watson Treasurer, I. H. Hart Secretary, T. R. Clephan S.D., J. H. Clegg J.D., Alex. Hely D.C., R. J. Talintyre Organist, A. Jobling I.G., W. C. Park and George Grainger Stewards, and B. R. Smith Tyler.

ST. HELEN'S LODGE, No. 531.

THE annual installation of W.M. was held at Hartlepool on the 5th inst. Bro. W. Belk the W.M. elect was installed by Bro. J. Hunter. After the ceremony the W.M. chose as his Officers:—Bros. Walter Shaw I.P.M., J. Vickers S.W., Arthur Hardy J.W.,

P. J. Johnson Treasurer, W. R. Austin Secretary, John Metcalfe D.C., H. C. Marston S.D., W. Price J.D., J. Hall I.G., W. Derry and J. Pounder Stewards, and James Armstrong Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony dinner was served at the King's Head Hotel, the W.M. elect presiding.

BLAGDON LODGE, No. 659.

THE annual meeting was held on the 5th inst., in the Mechanics' Hall, Blyth. The Worshipful Master, Bro. A. H. Lake, presided, and there was a large attendance of members of the Lodge, as well as several visiting brethren. After the Lodge had been duly opened and some business of minor importance transacted, the installation of Bro. Walter W. Horn, W.M. elect, was proceeded with, the ceremony being most impressively given by Bro. A. H. Lake W.M., assisted by Bros. Ed. Forster, Jas. Carmichael, Jas. Eadington D.C. After Bro. Horn had been duly installed into the chair of K.S., the investiture of Officers for the ensuing year took place, as follows:—Bros. Alf. H. Lake I.P.M., A. T. Lynn S.W., John Tweedy J.W., W. Robson Secretary, James Hogg Treasurer, W. L. Johnson Registrar, James Eadington D.C., Thos. Scott S.B., W. Soulsby J.D., Launcelot Carr I.G., Thos. Usher Tyler. After the business of the Lodge had been transacted the retiring W.M., Bro. Alf. H. Lake, was presented by Bro. Ed. Forster with a beautiful Past Master's jewel, subscribed for by the Officers and members of the Lodge. Bro. Lake suitably responded, and the Lodge was closed in due form. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Dun Cow Hotel, where a splendid repast was provided by the proprietor, Bro. Alex. Urwin. The presentation jewel, which was of a most chaste design, bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to Bro. Alfred H. Lake, by the Officers and Brethren of the Blagdon Lodge, as a mark of respect and esteem. 5th Dec. 1889."

CLIFTON LODGE, No. 703.

ON Thursday, the 5th inst., at the County and Lane Ends Hotel, Blackpool, was held the annual meeting of St. John, and the installation of Brother S. Hill S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months. The Lodge was opened at 1.30, by Brother John Nuttall W.M., there being a large attendance of brethren. The Grand Lodge of England was represented by Brother Forrester; and the Provincial Lodge of West Lancashire by Brother Goodacre P.G. Sec., and Brothers Chadderton and Gardner. The Lodge being opened, the previous minutes, &c., passed, the installation ceremony was performed in a very efficient manner by Brothers Hopwood and John Nuttall, retiring W.M. The following Officers were then "collared," and received an address, suitable to each Officer, from P.M. Hopwood:—Brothers W. Peters S.W., J. Bennett J.W., Joseph Hopwood Secretary, Albert Fisher Organist, R. A. Whiteside S.D., S. Beverley J.D., J. Walsh I.G., E. Wolstenholme and J.W. Clayton Stewards, T. Hopkinson Tyler. The address to the W.M. was given by Bro. Hopwood, and to the Wardens and Brethren generally by Brother Winn, of Fidelity Lodge, 1256, after which the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren retired to the banqueting room, which was prettily decorated, and the tables loaded with a sumptuous repast. The Mayor (Brother Alderman Bickerstaffe) on entering the room was very cordially received. A *récherché* dinner was served by Brother H. Nicholson, and the usual toast list was afterwards gone through.

INVICTA LODGE, No. 709.

THE installation festival was held in the Bank-street Hall, Ashford, on Friday, the 6th inst., when Bro. H. E. Austen was duly installed into the chair by his predecessor, Bro. the Rev. G. D. Pagden. There was a large attendance of brethren from all parts of the country, including the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. James Smith Eastes, and other present and past Provincial Officers. The Worshipful Master appointed and invested the following brethren as his Officers for ensuing year:—Bros. Blaxland S.W., B. Snell J.W., C. S. A. Atkinson Secretary, J. Brothers Treasurer, T. Kingsnorth S.D., J. Creery J.D., A. Legge Organist, J. Kingsford I.G., H. J. Bracher and E. Ballard Stewards, J. Cooke Tyler. The banquet was held at the Whitfield Hall, and was served by Bro. A. H. Foster, Kent Arms Hotel. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

DE GREY AND RIPON LODGE, No. 837.

THE installation of Bro. Joseph Brooks Parkin as W.M. of this Lodge was held recently at the Town Hall, Ripon, when there was a good attendance of members of the Lodge and brethren from the Provinces of Durham and of North and East Yorkshire. The installation ceremony was conducted by Bro. F. Smith jun. W.M. The following Officers were appointed for the coming year:—Bros. F. Smith jun. I.P.M., Rev. J. A. Naylor S.W., J. W. Atkinson J.W., J. D. Waller Treasurer, W. B. Smith Secretary, R. Wilkinson S.D., W. E. Dixon J.D., F. Smith sen. D.C., S. Jacob Organist, W. S. Snow I.G., Thorp Tyler, W. Harrison Almoner, A. Tupman Charity Member. The Worshipful Master presented Bro. F. Smith jun. with a Past Master's jewel on behalf of the members of the Lodge.

ZETLAND LODGE, No. 1071.

THE members of this Lodge held their annual banquet on the 4th inst., at Bro. N. Bray's Commercial Hotel, Saltash. Sixty-eight brethren were present. Bro. W. T. Nancarrow, the W.M., presided. The whole of the Past Masters, members and visitors, who attended at the installation on Monday, and all the Officers invested were among the company, with the exception of the I.P.M., Bro. W. R. Rawling, whose official duties unavoidably caused his absence. The Mayor of Saltash, Bro. W. Dusting jun., Bros. J. Douy P.M. Restormel 856 P.G.D.C., W. L. Lavers P.M. 1255, and T. C. Betty W.M. 557, Callington, were also among the guests. The

catering and all other details of the banquet gave great satisfaction. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. A capital entertainment was furnished by musical Brethren, among whom were Bros. W. L. Lavers, T. A. Rawling, Rev. T. W. Lemon, T. D. Netting, W. Dusting, Miller, and Taylor.

SEMPER FIDELIS LODGE, No. 1254.

BRO. A. D. TRUSCOTT was installed W.M. at the Masonic Hall, Gandy-street, Exeter, on the 2nd inst. The following Officers were also appointed:—Bros. G. Clifford I.P.M., J. R. Gibbard S.W., J. Gilbert J.W., J. Sampson Chaplain, W. Gregory Treasurer, C. Clark Secretary, R. W. C. Groves S.D., R. Bayley J.D., J. Tucker Organist, J. Tucker I.G., F. Shapcott D.C., F. Reushaw A.D.C., A. Guest S.S., George Pauckham J.S., F. Shooter Tyler. The charge to the Worshipful Master was recited by Bro. Clifford, and Bro. Gregory recited the charge to the Wardens. The Director of Ceremonies was Bro. E. T. Fulford. At the conclusion of the investment the Worshipful Master presented to Bro. Clifford, a Past Master's jewel, and also a scroll, gifts in recognition of the very excellent Masonic work the I.P.M. has performed during his year of office. Bro. Clifford acknowledged the gift, and said that whatever he could do to serve the interests of the Lodge he would always be willing to carry out.

CLAUSENTUM LODGE, No. 1416.

THE installation of Bro. W. H. Mitchell as Worshipful Master took place at the Masonic Hall, Woolston, on Wednesday, the 4th inst., in the presence of a very large gathering. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Bowyer, who was heartily complimented for his able work. The newly-installed W.M. invested the following Officers:—Bros. W. J. Miller I.P.M., W. Fowler S.W., E. A. Edwards J.W., Rev. G. Hughes Chaplain, J. Methven Treas., W. Bowyer Sec., H. C. Sims S.D., James Martin J.D., W. H. Chapman D.C., W. H. Smith Organist, T. O. Spencer I.G., R. H. Weekes and Jas. Morten Stewards, and C. Henley Tyler. Bro. E. Wise, before quitting the chair of the I.P.M., presented the Lodge with a very handsome set of working tools enclosed in a box, and was warmly thanked for his gift. Thanks were also voted to the retiring W.M., Bro. W. J. Miller, for the admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office during the past year. The annual banquet was afterwards held, the W.M. presiding, a most excellent repast being served by Bro. Henley. The usual Masonic and personal toasts were honoured, and cordial wishes were tendered to Bro. Mitchell for a pleasant and successful year of office.

PRUDENCE LODGE, No. 1550.

THE annual dinner was held on Saturday evening, the 7th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Plymouth, under the presidency of Brother Nathaniel Reed, the W.M. An excellent dinner was provided by Bro. S. Harvey, Steward of the Masonic Club, and the manner in which it was laid and served gave general satisfaction. An instrumental band was present, under the direction of Bro. Lidiard, and greatly added to the enjoyment of the evening by playing a capital programme of music, which included a cornet solo brilliantly played by Bro. Elford. A large attendance of brethren included Bros. A. Goodman I.P.M., C. Philp Treasurer, T. Goodall Secretary, J. R. Lord, G. H. Sellick, J. B. Gover, S. Jew, J. Kinton Bond, F. B. Westlake, T. R. E. Olver P.M. 1247, R. Bird P.M. 1550, F. R. Thomas I.P.M. 189, W. F. Westcott P.M. 70, J. Gidley P.M. 2025, A. Spinney W.M. 105, W. Stenlake W.M. 223, W. King W.M. 70, W. H. Michell W.M. 156, R. Wyatt W.M. 1247, A. Knight Cooper Secretary 1246, W. H. Phillips Tyler, A. C. Titherley S.W., C. Mutton S.D., Godfrey Evans J.D., H. D. Robins D.C., J. W. Penwarth A.D.C., W. F. Rean Organist, E. Budge I.G., T. W. Griffiths S.S., T. B. Leonard J.S., A. Roberts, F. G. Nobbs, J. Cridge, R. Sewell, and R. Brickwood. After the Loyal toasts had been given, Bro. A. Goodman proposed the R.W. Bro. Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon, and the toast was acknowledged by Bro. Sellick Prov. Grand Registrar, and Bro. J. Kinton Bond P.P.D.C. Bro. T. Goodall proposed, in complimentary terms, the R.W. Bro. the Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall, the Earl of Mount Edcombe, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past, and Bro. C. Philp responded. Bro. Titherley, in proposing the Master of the Lodge, Bro. Reed, said Bro. Reed, since he had filled the office of W.M., had discharged his duties with the same ability and courtesy that had marked his conduct in the other offices he had occupied since his connection with Prudence Lodge. The W.M., in responding, said he unfortunately lived some fifty miles from Plymouth, but he did not allow this to prevent him from attending the meetings of the Lodge whenever there was any work to be done. He took a great interest in Freemasonry, and would spare no effort to do what he could to promote the interests and welfare of the Lodge. The toast of the I.P.M. and Past Masters of the Lodge was proposed by the W.M., and acknowledged by Bro. A. Goodman I.P.M. Bro. Lord proposed the Treasurer and the Secretary, remarking that the duties connected with these offices were of a very onerous and responsible character, but Bro. Philp, as the Treasurer, and Bro. Goodall, as the Secretary, had always shewn themselves fully equal to the discharge of their duties, and the excellent position which Lodge Prudence now occupied in the Province was largely due to the admirable manner in which these two brothers had carried out their duties for many years past. Bro. Goodall, as the Secretary, was also the lawgiver of the Lodge, and experience had proved that they could always safely rely upon the advice he gave them. Bros. Philp and Goodall returned thanks. Brother Gover next gave the toast of the Senior and Junior Wardens, and other Officers, all of whom, he said, had shown a strong desire to make themselves thoroughly efficient in their respective offices, and had done their best to qualify for the more important offices which awaited them. The toast was acknowledged by Bros. Titherley S.W., Roberts acting J.W., C. Mutton S.D., and Godfrey Evans J.D. Bro. Sellick proposed

the newly-initiated brother, Bro. William Pryor, who had been initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Order at a meeting of the Lodge held in the afternoon. On behalf of the brethren he extended to Bro. Pryor a cordial welcome, and hoped that as he advanced in Masonic knowledge, so also would he prove himself to be a good and useful Mason. Bro. Pryor suitably responded. The other toasts were the Sister Lodges and Visiting Brethren, proposed by the W.M., and acknowledged by Bro. F. B. Westlake, A. Knight Cooper, and W. F. Westcott; Masons' Wives and Masons' Sweethearts, by Bro. Mutton, and responded to by Bro. R. Sewell; and Our Poor and Distressed Brethren, given by the Chairman. The various toasts were interspersed with some capital songs and recitations, sung and given by Bros. T. Goodall, T. W. Griffiths, J. Kinton Bond, C. Mutton, W. F. Rean, and Miller. Before the proceedings closed Bro. Harvey and his wife were cordially thanked for, and complimented on, the excellent dinner which they had provided. Kindly and sympathetic reference was also made to Bro. J. J. Beer J.D., whose protracted illness has prevented him from attending the Lodge for several months. Strong hopes were expressed that he would soon be restored to full health, and a letter was read from him expressing his great regret that he was unable to be present at the meeting and dinner, and his hope that the brethren would spend an enjoyable evening.

EBRINGTON LODGE, No. 1847.

THE installation meeting was held on the 10th inst., at the Ebrington Masonic Hall, Stonehouse. A gentleman having been initiated into the Order, Bros. Howard and Hosking were passed to the second degree, and Bro. James Mitchell raised to the sublime degree of an M.M. The W.M. elect Bro. J. Thomas Rook, was then installed to the chair of K.S., the ceremony being ably performed by the retiring W.M. Bro. John Griffin, assisted by Bros. W. H. W. Williams I.P.M., James Lose P.M. and Secretary, Richard Lose P.M. P.P.G. Pursuivant, and W. H. W. Macey P.M. The board of Installed Masters being closed, the W.M. invested the following brethren as his Officers for the year ensuing:—Bros. John Griffin I.P.M., John Harvey S.W., G. W. Street J.W., C. A. Nicholson Treasurer, J. Lose Secretary, S. Jew Chaplain, Harold Roberts S.D., Edwin Dawe J.D., Jos. Keast I.G., T. Loigh D.C., Walter Warren A.D.C., Geo. Milford Organist, J. G. Gibson and C. Williams Stewards, and Jas. Bartlett Tyler. The Treasurer reported that, although the year was commenced with an adverse balance, there was now a balance in hand of £25. The Finance Committee expressed their high appreciation of the services rendered by Bro. C. A. Nicholson for the intelligent, accurate, and satisfactory manner in which the accounts had been kept during the past year, and for which they tendered him their sincere thanks. On the proposition of Bro. W. M. Williams P.M., seconded by Bro. A. R. Lethbridge P.M., supported by the W.M., it was resolved to present Bro. John Griffin with a P.M.'s jewel of the value of £5 5s, in appreciation of his Masonic zeal and ability. Bro. A. R. Lethbridge was unanimously re-elected representative on the Committee of Petitions. The annual banquet was fixed to take place on the 15th prox., at Routly's Farley Hotel.

Joppa Lodge of Instruction, No. 188.—On Tuesday, the 10th inst., at the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 8 p.m. Bros. Goodinge W.M., Emanuel S.W., Garrard J.W., H. Saqui S.D., A. J. Marks J.D., S. Dancyger Preceptor, E. Ansell I.G., J. Davis, Reubenstein, &c. After preliminaries the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Davis candidate. Bro. Garrard worked the first and Bro. S. Dancyger the second section of the Lecture.

On Tuesday, the 17th inst., Bros. Emanuel W.M., Richardson S.W., J. Dancyger J.W., H. Saqui S.D., A. J. Marks J.D., Cohen I.G. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Cohen acting as candidate. Bro. Richardson was assisted by the brethren to work the first and second sections of the lecture.

Duke of Cornwall Lodge of Instruction, No. 1839.—On the 10th inst., at the Queen's Arms, Queen-street, Chesham, Bros. Dixie Preceptor, Cox W.M., M. Hart S.W., Kligenstein J.W., Williams Treasurer, Miller Secretary, Davidson S.D., Smith J.D., Wright I.G., &c. The work comprised the rehearsal of the ceremony of initiation, Bro. H. Hart candidate. This was followed by the ceremony of passing, with the same Brother as candidate. With the assistance of the Preceptor and Bro. Belchamber, the first and second sections of the lecture were worked. The fifteen sections will be worked here, by the members of the West Smithfield Lodge of Instruction, on the second Tuesday in January next.

On Tuesday, the 17th instant, Bros. Dixie Preceptor, M. Hart W.M., Cox S.W., Smith J.W., Williams Treasurer, Miller Secretary, Scherer S.D., Saunders J.D., Weedon I.G., and several Past Masters and other brethren. After preliminaries, the ceremonies of initiation and passing were ably rehearsed, Bros. Scherer and Simmonds candidates respectively. The Lodge was lowered to the first, and after routine business was closed in due form.

Mr. Clark Russell's new story, which will be commenced in *Little Folks* for January, is entitled "Master Rockefeller's Voyage." "The 'Little Folks' Autograph Book," which is given away with the January part, contains a portrait and autograph of her Majesty, illustrations representing the seasons, whilst the section for autographs provides spaces for the record of the opinions of young people on favourite occupations, mottoes, books, characters, &c. &c.

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GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY. CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ON DECEMBER 18th, and during the Week, CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS, available on forward journey from December 21st to 25th, and for return up to December 29th inclusive, will be issued, as well as ordinary tickets, at PADDINGTON, Victoria, Battersea, Chelsea, West Brompton, Kensington (Addison-road), Uxbridge Road, Hammersmith, Shepherd's Bush, and Westbourne Park, and at the Company's Receiving Offices, viz.: 193 and 497 Oxford-street, 23 New Oxford-street, Holborn-circus, (Bartlett's-buildings), 26 Regent-street, 269 Strand, 29 Charing-cross, 5 Arthur-street-east, London Bridge, 82 Queen Victoria-street, 43 and 44 Crutched-friars, 67 Gresham-street, and 4 Cheapside, to BATH, Bristol, Taunton, Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, Falmouth, Penzance, &c.; also to the Yeovil and Weymouth districts, and to most of the Stations below Bristol. The tickets will be available by all trains from Paddington except the 11.45 a.m. Express.

Ordinary tickets issued in London between December 18th and 24th will be available for use any day between (and including) those dates.

Tuesday, December 24th.—The 11.45 a.m. from Paddington will carry passengers to the Minchhead Branch. The 1.0 and 5.0 p.m. trains (1, 2, and 3 class) from Paddington to Plymouth will be extended to Falmouth and Penzance.

The 6.20 p.m. from Paddington to Bristol will run to Exeter, calling at Weston-Super-Mare, Bridgwater, Taunton, and Tiverton Junction, reaching Exeter at 11.40 p.m., and will convey passengers for stations on the Barnstaple Branch. In connection with the Weymouth portion of this train, a Special will be run from Witham to Wells.

A Special Fast Train will leave Paddington at 10.0 p.m. for New Milford, calling at the same stations between Swindon and New Milford as the 9.15 p.m. ordinary train, and will convey passengers for the Llandyssil Branch. A Special will leave Oxford at 10.5 p.m., Abingdon 10.0, Radley 10.15, and Culham at 10.23 p.m. in connection with this train, returning from Didcot after arrival of the 10.0 p.m. Special.

A SPECIAL FAST TRAIN (1, 2, 3 class) will leave Paddington at 11.50 p.m. Midnight, on December 24th, for Reading, Swindon, Bath, Bristol, Bridgwater, Taunton, Exeter, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Newton Abbot (for Torquay and Kingswear), Totnes, Kingsbridge Road, Plymouth, and stations thence to Penzance. The cheap tickets will be available by this train.

On CHRISTMAS DAY the usual Sunday service of trains will be run, but the 5.30 a.m. newspaper train will run as on week days to Oxford, Weston-super-Mare, and Swansea. The train will be five minutes earlier than usual between Didcot and Oxford, so as to connect at Oxford with the 7.25 and 7.40 a.m. trains, thence to Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Worcester, Malvern, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton, &c.

For further particulars see special bills obtainable at the Company's Stations and Offices.

Hr. LAMBERT, General Manager.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

To the Patrons, Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and Life Governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

2 Paper Buildings, Temple, E.C.
1st November 1889.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—The Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys having agreed to the retirement of the present Secretary, I intend to offer myself as a candidate for the vacancy which will thus be created.

I have been a Mason over 10 years, and am now nearly 34 years of age.

I was educated at King's College School, London, and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and took the degree of B.A. in the Mathematical Tripos 1879, (M.A. 1885). Shortly after quitting the University, I was appointed Mathematical Master in Truro Grammar School, but retired from that position on being called to the Bar, in 1881, since when I have practised, up to the present time, and have been engaged in the compilation of more than one legal work.

In Masonry I hold the following positions—Past Grand Steward (Eng.); W.M. Tuscan Lodge, No. 14; P.M. and Founder West Kent Volunteer Lodge, No. 2041; Secretary and Founder Argonauts' Lodge, No. 2213; J. Asaph Chapter, No. 1319; P.S. George Price Chapter, No. 2096. Member of the Board of General Purposes, and Life Governor Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

I have for some years been Hon. Secretary of the Langton Masonic Benevolent Association, through which between £1300 and £1400 will, in four years, have been subscribed to the Masonic Charities.

Should I have the honour of being elected I shall always endeavour to discharge my duties with advantage to the Institution and to your full satisfaction.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GORDON SMITH, M.A.

Barrister-at-Law.

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Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

To the Patrons, Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and Life Governors.

Evershot, Dorchester,

13th November 1889.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—In the event of a vacancy occurring in the Secretaryship, it is my intention to offer myself as a candidate for the post, and I trust to be honoured with your support.

I am a solicitor, 37 years of age, a member of the Incorporated Law Society, and for the last eleven years in practice at Evershot and Yeovil, in partnership with my Father.

My Masonic career is shortly as follows:—

Initiated, 1112, Shirley, Hants, in January 1878; Joined 1367, Beaminster, and 329, Yeovil, Somerset, 1878, Member of 1168, Sherborne, and Member of the Correspondence Circle Quatuor Coronati, 2076. W.M. 1367 in 1883, and W.M. 329 in 1887, P.G. Registrar Dorset 1884.

Exalted, 707, Bridport (since removed to Beaminster), 1883, and at present Z. P.G. Registrar (R.A.) Dorset, in 1897. Joining Member of 329.

Advanced in Mark Lodge, No. 121, Bridport, in August 1881, at present W.M. Elect. Joined No. 162, Yeovil, and at present S.D.

Took the 19^o in Weymouth Chapter R.C. in June 1884; at present First Gen. Served as Steward for the Province of Dorset for the Girls' School in 1887; as Steward for the Province of Somerset for the R.M.B.I. in 1888; and as Steward for the Province of Dorset for the R.M.B.I. in 1889. Life-Governor Girls' School; Life-Governor R.M.B.I.; Life-Subscriber Dorset Masonic Charity.

Since July 1887 Hon. Secretary Dorset Masonic Charity.

I hold high testimonials from R.W. Bro. Montague J. Guist P.G.M. Dorset, M.E. Comp. J. M. P. Montague G. Supt. Dorset, and R.W. Bro. Rev. Mortimer Heath P.G.M.M. Dorset; and as to my capacity as an accountant from Messrs. Kain, Brown and Co., Chancery Lane, the well-known Law Accountants; copies of which I shall be pleased to forward if wished.

Besides the above-named, I have the support, amongst others, of the following distinguished brethren:—R.W. Bro. the Earl of Beveie, M.P., P.G.M. Cumberland and Westmoreland, W. Bro. L. F. B. Dykes D.P.D.M. Cumberland and Westmoreland, R.W. Bro. the Earl of Hardwicke P.G.M. Cambridgeshire, R.W. Bro. the Earl of Zetland P.G.M. North and East Yorkshire, R.W. Bro. Lt.-Col. Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett P.G.S.W. D.P.G.M. North and East Yorkshire, W. Bro. M. E. Peck P.G. Sec. North and East Yorkshire, M.E. Comp. Rev. H. Adair Pickard G. Supt. Oxfordshire, and M.E. Comp. Lord Henry Thynne G. Supt. of Wilts, and of the Charity Organisation Committee of the Province of Dorset.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. R. BASKETT.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

To the Patrons, Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and Life Governors.

BRETHREN desirous of supporting the Candidature of Bro. ALFRED CRAVEN GREENWOOD, Assist. Prov. Grand Secretary Surrey, in the event of a vacancy in the Secretaryship, are respectfully solicited to forward their Names to Bro. CHARLES GREENWOOD, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Prov. Grand Secretary Surrey, 12 Serjeant's Inn, Temple, E.C.

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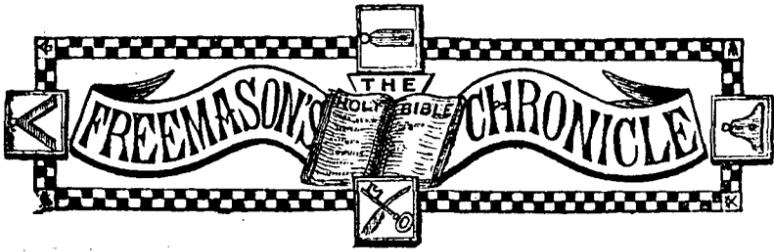
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SATURDAY, 21ST DECEMBER 1889.

CONSECRATION OF THE RAVENSCROFT LODGE, No. 2331.

"LITTLE HERTS" is expanding; that is to say, Masonically speaking. When its present R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., took over the reins of management, in the year 1873, the number of Lodges was eight, or thereabouts; the Lodge consecrated on Tuesday, which will make High Barnet its headquarters, brings up the muster roll to nineteen. At the present time, when so much diversity of opinion exists as to whether or no it is desirable to multiply our Lodges, we do not care to question the wisdom of granting a second warrant for so limited a sphere of operations as is embraced in this suburban locality. If we attempt to draw comparison with similar districts, we candidly confess we do not fear that any clashing of interests is likely to arise. There are—and we are inclined to think there ever will be—Lodges and Lodges; and while the "class" interest prevails, and is imported so largely into our assemblies, we need scarcely look with a jealous eye if strangers invade what we may hitherto have looked upon as especially our own hunting grounds. However, let us quit the field of speculation, and proceed to our record. A strong band of founders applied for the warrant for the proposed new Lodge; these comprised Bros. James Thom, Henry Edwin Fraser, John Hudson, George Arnold, David Baker, T. W. Binteliffe, J. H. Gunn, H. Cronin, S. H. Wright, Mansell Powell, J. H. Catchpole, E. Rawlinson, W. Williams, J. Hume, C. Gammon, C. F. Roworth. In due course the prayer of the petitioners was granted, and on Tuesday, the 17th instant, the brethren assembled at the Red Lion Hotel, High Barnet, at 3:30 p.m. The R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., had undertaken the duties of Consecrating Officer, and he appointed as his Wardens Bro. T. S. Carter and Bro. M. Slaughter, two of the most popular of the Provincial Grand Officers. The Rev. H. F. Oliver acted as Prov. G. Chaplain, and the other Provincial Grand Officers who assisted were Bros. G. E. Lake Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Charles Bullock Prov. G. Secretary, James Terry (P.G. Sword Bearer) Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, and Harry Tipper who acted as Inner Guard. Amongst the brethren who signed the attendance book were:—Bros. A. Phillips Hills, W.M. 2054, R. Burgin S.W. 2136, M. G. Laughlin, 404 P.G.J.W., J. H. Miller W.M. 228, R. Middlehurst J.W. 1327, J. Robins P.M. 1327 P.P.G.J.W., Thomas Wigginton 404 P.P.G.S.W., John Goodchild W.M. 2202, S. R. Timson W.M. elect 504, W. Lovell 504, J. W. Duvall 404, H. Trask 1327, C. J. Grove I.P.M. 742, W. Ball P.M. and Secretary 2278, S. S. Scott I.P.M. 226, A. F. Scholding J.W. 1512, J. Simpson 957, Dr. J. Powdrell W.M. 2271, J. Tydeman P.M. 1327 P.P.G.P. Essex, G. Holdsworth P.M. 1327 P.P.G.R., J. Thomson 2319, G. Cronin 9, J. T. Davies 1348, H. Massey P.M. 619 1928, J. Hemming W.M. 1237, F. W. Hearn Organist 2206, N. Ruffen 2060, C. J. Fox S.W. 1743, W. W. Langley J.D. 2206, A. A. Nottingham S.D. 2206, C. Poston 134, G. J. Holdsworth 1327, E. Heathcote 1563, J. Dix 209, Henry Lindfield W.M. 211, W. W. Morgan P.M. 211, T. B. Smith 1743, H. A. Wheelden 2206, J. H. Dobbs 2206, J. Mason 2206, G. Ransford W.M. 1512, F. Hill I.P.M. 1563, &c. The Provincial Grand Master having assumed the chair, and opened the Lodge in the three degrees, the usual preliminaries were observed, and then the following oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. H. F. Oliver:—

R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN,—Allow me to ask your kind attention and indulgence while I endeavour shortly to allude to some of the purposes for which this Institution, ancient in its foundation, and venerable by many associations, is founded, and to mention some of the characteristics which should mark its members.

I presume that the universal cry of our present existence is a desire for light and information about truth, infinity above and beyond us; and the greater the advance we make in material, philosophical, or religious knowledge, the greater the longing. Masonry, while at the outset she acknowledges that desire, strives, while we follow her guidance, to foster its growth and to lead us ever higher and upward, from material to natural, from natural to spiritual light, till she finally bids us look upward to that bright morning star whose rising brings peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race. And where is true light to be found on earth but in the volume of the Sacred Word which is given to lead us from this sublunary abode even to the Throne of God Himself? Masonry may well be considered one of the greatest helps in the development of a religious life, while the teaching she bids us follow appeals to the better side of our humanity, and urges us to apply the implements of manual labour and handicraft to the perfection of our moral nature and the building up of ourselves in the knowledge and fear of God.

For Masonry reminds us of the two great fundamental truths of religion. Faith in and obedience to a Being infinitely higher and more perfect than ourselves, who deigns to draw us to Himself by processes of gradual development and revelation.

But there is a danger which besets us as we advance in Freemasonry, just as it besets all advances in any direction nearer the truth, and that is the danger of familiarity, which, we are told, breeds contempt. Let us guard ever against allowing familiarity with Masonic ritual and instruction to lead us to overlook the genuine precepts and tenets of the Craft; if we are to persevere in prosecuting the objects of our institution we shall not rest content with outwardly conforming to its ritual in Lodge, but will ever strive, while following its guidance, to learn and practise the lessons it has for us,—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

Thus we may feel that the purposes which underly the foundation of this Institution are calculated to advance each individual to a state of greater perfection, by making him feel a sincere sympathy with others, and leading him to see in them the means of practising virtues which he professes to admire.

And with these thoughts before us permit me briefly to mention what ought to be some of the characteristics of its members—which they should display to the outer world.

I. *Veneration* for what in our best selves we confess to be infinitely above and beyond our present state of existence, and a genuine respect for spiritual revelation, which, in these days of free thought and (as we are pleased to think) great mental attainments, is a virtue we need to cultivate.

II. *Perseverance* to use the light offered to us to overcome our present difficulties and to follow, the steps of those of whom it is written in that most mystical Volume of Spiritual Revelation—"These have passed through much tribulation." If we set before ourselves, as we ought, a high standard to attain to, let us not be discouraged if we need many attempts, and even failures, to reach it. Persevere, and we shall succeed.

III. *Obedience*, a virtue the keeping of which is needful to the happiness of the community, and the practice of which by the individual, he may not like it, yet is decidedly a help in deepening the genuine character of the individual by teaching him the need of self thought, control and self sacrifice, which are helpful for any real strength of moral worth and excellence.

And finally, Brethren, as the consecration of a new Lodge marks the starting of a fresh centre of Masonic life, let it remind us who take part in it that in this state of existence we are all of us serving our apprenticeship. The Grand Architect of the Universe places us in the varied positions of life, where we are all to work for Him. If we are working honestly we may leave the result with Him, in a firm and confident hope that when this life here is ended we may ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the World's Great Architect reigns supreme for ever.

The ceremony of consecration was then completed, and by the direction of the Provincial Grand Master his Deputy Bro. G. E. Lake installed Bro. James Thom I.P.M. 2206 as Worshipful Master. Bro. George Arnold P.M. P.P.G. Supt. of Works Norths and Hunts was appointed to act as I.P.M., Bros. H. E. Fraser W.M. 2206 was invested as S.W., J. Hudson J.W., D. Baker Treasurer, G. Arnold I.P.M. Secretary, T. W. Binteliffe S.D., J. H. Gunn J.D., H. Cronin D.C., S. H. Wright I.G., M. Powell A.D.C., J. H. Catchpole Steward, E. Rawlinson Assistant Steward, and R. H. Goddard Tyler. After the delivery of the addresses the W.M. proposed a vote of thanks and the honorary membership of the Lodge to Bro. Halsey, accompanying the compliment with the presentation of a Founder's jewel. Bro. Fraser S.W. seconded the motion, which, being carried unanimously, was replied to by Col. Halsey, who said that in the honour that had been done him the W.M. had alluded to great services which he (Col. Halsey) had performed in consecrating the Lodge, but he was afraid he must disclaim some of the work, as his Deputy performed the installation ceremony, and during the negotiations and arrangements for the Lodge took a most important portion of the work, in his (Col. Halsey's) absence on a tour in America. At the same time it had given him the greatest pleasure to come and consecrate the Lodge, and to see so large a number of founders and such a good prospect of success. He hoped the new Lodge would uphold the character of Masonry in the Province. With regard to the honorary membership of the Lodge, he accepted it with the greatest pride, and hoped to come frequently among the brethren and witness the long course of usefulness and prosperity it would have. The founder's jewel he also accepted with pleasure, and should wear it in the spirit in which it was given, as a memento of the occasion when a good flourishing Lodge commenced its career. A vote of thanks, with the honorary membership of the Lodge, was also passed to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Secretary, on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the J.W. Bro. G. E. Lake and Bro. Bullock both acknowledged the compliment. The Provincial Grand Chaplain and Bro. Terry Provincial Grand D.C. also received votes of thanks, and returned their thanks. The names of several candidates for initiation were proposed and seconded, and the Lodge was closed with the usual formalities. A banquet, which cannot be too highly praised, was subsequently partaken of, and the customary toasts followed. Bro. James Terry, as Past Grand Sword Bearer, was called upon to reply for the toast which includes the Grand Officers, and he said that in the presence of his Provincial Grand Master he felt a great amount of diffidence in doing so, because Colonel Halsey, as a Provincial Grand Master, took precedence of the Grand Wardens of England. But it was said that modesty did sometimes come to the front, and in that respect an opportunity was now afforded modesty to speak. He thanked the brethren for drinking this most comprehensive toast, which embraced the names of noblemen and gentlemen in high position all over the country, who were honoured with the confidence of Her Majesty, and of Her Majesty's subjects; men who were devoted in their loyalty to their chiefs. As one who was devoted in his loyalty to his chief, he thanked the brethren. He trusted in the absence of other Grand Officers, the remarks he had made might be acceptable. Though there was such a titter round the room when he spoke of modesty, he assured the brethren there was no more modest man than

he, or one who tried more in his own way to discharge the duties of his office. The Worshipful Master next proposed the R.W. Provincial G. Master, Col. Halsey, M.P. for Hertfordshire, whose great abilities the brethren had seen that day. Col. Halsey had left his many other duties to attend at High Barnet to consecrate the Ravenscroft Lodge, and had said that it had been a pleasure to him to come. Many brethren with the will to perform such services had not the ability; but Col. Halsey had the ability, and had made it his duty. The brethren of the Ravenscroft Lodge considered it a great honour, as well as a great pleasure, to have their Prov. Grand Master performing the consecration. Col. Shadwell Clerke performed the ceremonies in the London district, except when he deputed some one else to do it, as in the case of the Hendon Lodge, which Bro. Terry consecrated. But the Provincial Grand Master in flesh and blood, and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Secretary came to consecrate the Ravenscroft Lodge. What more could they expect or desire? Col. Halsey, in reply, said he was overwhelmed by the cordiality of his reception. He again congratulated the brethren on the success of the Lodge's consecration meeting. They had the prospect of being a great addition to his Province. He deduced this from the manner in which the Worshipful Master conducted the Lodge, invested his Officers, and presided over the banquet. It augured a bright and happy future both for the Lodge proceedings and for the banqueting. He sincerely trusted there would be such a future for the Lodge. He welcomed the Lodge as an addition to the ranks of Hertfordshire. The Ravenscroft was now the nineteenth Lodge on the roll of that Province, and it was with justifiable pride that he reflected on the fact that when he was first appointed Provincial Grand Master, fifteen years ago, there were only eight Lodges in the Province. One of the first duties he was called upon to perform, after his appointment, was to consecrate the Halsey Lodge, at St. Alban's. Since that time the Lodges had gone on increasing, and he rejoiced to think although there was the possibility that an increase of Lodges might not be a real increase in Masonry, because one Lodge might be taking the place of another that was going down, he did not think that was the case with any Lodge in his Province. There was scope and room for the Lodges that had been consecrated in the Province, and especially in this town of High Barnet, which was a fairly large-sized town, and he both hoped and believed that there was no reason whatever why there should be any antagonism between the two Lodges. They were different in their scope, aims, and objects, and the arrival of a new Lodge need not be feared by the old. There would be no poaching by one on the preserves of the other, and for what he had seen of the W.M. of the Ravenscroft Lodge, there would be no attempt to interfere in any way with the Gladsmuir; there was no necessity for it. That was his experience at Watford, where both the Lodges that were held there flourished. The only rivalry between them was, which should attain the greater eminence; yet each had acted with the other. The same result ought to take place in High Barnet. To the toast of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Officers, Bro. Bullock Prov. Secretary responded, and in the course of his observations said he did not view with equanimity the growth of Lodges in the Province, as it entailed additional labour on him, even though that labour might readily be given. He looked upon the Ravenscroft Lodge as a little sister, who was glad of a brother's assistance; but little sisters grew up, and brothers were then generally in the way. When the Ravenscroft Lodge little sister grew up, she would perhaps reject the assistance she now was glad of. When young ladies grew up, they did not like to walk alone, but they did not like their brothers to walk with them, as two were considered company, but three none. But, joking apart, he hoped the Lodge would go on as well as it had begun, that it would become an important Lodge of the Province, and that there would be nothing like jealousy, or rivalry, or unkind feeling, on the part of other Lodges. Bro. Oliver Provincial Grand Chaplain also replied, thanking the brethren for their hospitable welcome. Col. Halsey proposed the W.M., and said that the enthusiastic plaudits with which the announcement was made, and from what the founders had seen that day, they would feel that they had exercised a wise discretion in selecting Bro. James Thom as the first W.M. of the Ravenscroft Lodge. Under the auspices of that Brother, the bright beginning and grand start the Lodge had made would continue, and he would hand over the Lodge at the end of his year of office to an excellent successor, who would come into a brilliant heritage. Long might it continue, and he hoped the Lodge would have a career of great prosperity. Bro. Thom W.M. thanked the brethren most heartily for the toast so kindly submitted by the Provincial Grand Master. It was one of the greatest honours to be chosen the first W.M. of a Lodge, more especially considering the easy way in which the Lodge had gained its warrant through the kindness of the Executive of the Provincial Grand Officers of Herts. The founders of the Ravenscroft Lodge knew how much they were indebted to those Provincial Grand Officers, and they heartily thanked them. They had done so much that it was plain sailing for the founders. The warrant was obtained, and the Provincial Grand Officers finished up what they had done by consecrating the Lodge. The ceremony had been performed in perfect fashion by the Provincial Grand Master, than whom none had more ability. He the (W.M.) should devote all his efforts to making a great future for the Lodge. Bros. Dr. Powdrell, Hemming, Scholding, and Langley responded to the toast of the Visitors. Col. Halsey responded to the toast of the Charities, and said that the Province of Herts had piqued itself on its support of the Masonic Charities, at a Festival of one of which it headed the list. Much could be done by energy and determination, and this Province would do its part. Referring to the Herts Provincial Charity Committee, he said it was started some years ago by the late Dr. Wilson Iles, but was not then thoroughly understood. The Province had a large voting power, and the Committee was designed to prevent a waste of that power. Some thought it was intended to deprive them of their free will with regard to their votes, but such was not the case. It was intended

that they should unite, and recommend and support cases, if they had no individual case to support. Every Lodge in the Province was asked to elect a brother to serve on the Committee. He hoped they would put the Provincial Charity Organisation on a proper footing. Other toasts were then given, and the proceedings concluded with the Tyler's toast. The arrangements for the meeting, and the way in which the comforts of those who attended were looked after, by Mr. Phillips, the new proprietor of the Red Lion Hotel, deserve special recognition. The furniture and appointments of the Lodge were supplied by Messrs. E. Stillwell and Son, of Little Britain.

It may be interesting to some of the members of this new Lodge if we supply a few particulars of the worthy gentleman after whom their Lodge is named. Master James Ravenscroft founded Jesus Hospital and endowed the Parish Church, both of Chipping Barnet, in the year 1679. He was a merchant of High Holborn, and, with his parents, is buried in the chancel of Barnet Church. The Church, some 15 years since, was restored and enlarged, the expense being defrayed from funds which had accrued from the increased value of James Ravenscroft's original gift. Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School also participated, while Jesus Hospital was improved. However, what was called Jesus Hospital in 1679, in this year of grace 1889 is better known as the Ravenscroft Alms Houses.

THE THEATRES, &c.

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Savoy.—In a spirit similar to that of the old waiter described by Dickens who when given a holiday went to assist a brother servitor, so the dramatic and musical profession assembled on Thursday afternoon to witness a special performance of "The Gondoliers, or the King of Barataria," the latest success of Mr. W. S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan. So many members had accepted Mr. D'Oyley Carte's kind invitation that the handsome theatre was packed from floor to ceiling, and the utmost good humour prevailed. It was to be expected that such an audience would be more amicable than critical, but to such an extent was appreciation carried that doubtless, in the matter of encores, the brethren and sisters cried Hold! enough; though it is one of the secrets of the Savoy entertainments that the performers appear to enjoy the fun as much as the audience. Sir Arthur attended to personally conduct the second act of the opera, and received quite an ovation, while both Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Carte were warmly greeted at the final fall of the curtain. All the special points of the witty, though often satirical, libretto made their mark, while those that might be taken in connection with the profession were received with roars of laughter. Each artiste was vociferously welcomed as he or she made appearance on the stage, that extended to the new additions of the company being "extra special." Thus, when Mr. Frank Wyatt and Miss Decima Moore entered, the action of the piece was stayed while they bowed continuously their acknowledgments. An equally good reception was accorded to Mr. Rutland Barrington, who once more resumes his old position. The plot of the piece is simple enough, though it is elaborated into two long acts, and narrates the confusion that exists consequent upon the kidnapping of the son of the King of Barataria, who was married as an infant to the daughter of the Duke of Plaza-Toro. The child is presumably looked after by the Grand Inquisitor, and is brought up as a Gondolier at Venice, but a doubt exists as to which of two children is the regal heir. The mystery is solved at length by the discovery that neither is the king, but Luiz, the attendant of the Duke; so matters are satisfactorily arranged as the two Gondoliers had already taken unto themselves wives, and Casilda was in love with Luiz. Mr. Gilbert's delightful humour runs riot throughout the piece, which Sir Arthur Sullivan's music fits exactly. Where all is so good it seems useless to select any of the *morceaux* for greater praise, but Luiz's song, "There was a time," one by Marco, "Take a pair of sparkling eyes"—the quartet "One of us will be a queen," and the concerted piece, "In contemplative fashion," may be commended for special delectation. Mr. Denny is the mildest mannered Grand Inquisitor that could possibly be, and enters thoroughly into the humour of the character. Messrs. Barrington and Courtice Pounds act and sing the parts of the two Gondoliers to perfection, and Mr. Brownlow is well placed as Luiz. Mesdames Geraldine Ulmer and Jessie Bond are so well versed in Gilbertian fun that they could not be surpassed, and Miss Decima Moore is a decided acquisition to the strength of the company. The scenery, painted by Hawes Craven, consists of two charming pictures, while the costumes are bright and effective.

Mr. J. L. Toole returns to his own theatre, for seven weeks, on Christmas Eve, 24th instant, for a series of farewell performances prior to his departure for his Australian tour, and will appear in a round of favourite characters, commencing on Christmas Eve with the adaptation of Charles Dickens's "Cricket on the Hearth," called "Dot." Mr. Toole will appear in his original character of Caleb Plummer. The performance will conclude with "The Steeple-chase; or, Toole in the Pigskin."

The production at the Alhambra of a new grand fantastic ballet, in three tableaux, entitled "Asmodeus," invented and arranged by Signor Casati, the music being specially composed by M. Jacobi, will take place on Monday, the 23rd inst. The part of "Asmodeus" will be represented by Signor de Vicenti, from La Scala, Milan, who will on this occasion make his first appearance in England; and other characters will be undertaken by Signorina Bessone, Signorina Spotti, Signorina Saracco, Mdme. Roffey, Miss Thurgate, and Mdme. Marie. The scenery is by T. E. Ryan, and the costumes (from designs from M. Bianchini, of the Grand Opera, Paris) are by Mons. and Madame Alias. A special matinee will be given on Boxing Day.

LODGE HISTORIES.

THE LODGE OF PROBITY, No. 61.

(Continued from page 370).

IN 1857 Bro. Henry Edwards, who the previous year had been most active as Senior Warden, rose to the chair of Probity Lodge, and it is but natural the members look back to this period as an important one in their history, bearing as it does on the ultimate elevation of Sir Henry Edwards to the Provincial Grand Mastership of West Yorkshire. In 1867 the St. James Lodge (then also meeting at Halifax) decided to build a Masonic Hall on its own account. Probity hearing of this, made such overtures that it was decided the purchase of land and the building of a Masonic Temple should be carried out by the joint Lodges. Every arrangement was properly completed, and it being decided that the ceremony of laying the corner stone should be observed with due solemnity, Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., M.P., then Past Prov. G.S.W., was invited to preside on the occasion. This he did, the ceremonies being performed in regular Masonic style, a dispensation having been granted for the occasion. This was on the 30th June 1868, and on the 16th August of the following year the Lodge of Probity held its first meeting in the new Hall. The Hall, however, was not formally consecrated until 24th November 1869, an emergency meeting of the junior Lodge of the town being held for the purpose.

A third Lodge was warranted for Halifax, 11th July 1870, and was named the De Warren, holding its first meetings at the White Swan Hotel, and continuing its gatherings to the present time.

The great event in the history of Probity Lodge of this period was the appointment of its Past Master (Sir Henry Edwards) as Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire. His installation occurred at a Lodge of Emergency, held in the Drill Hall, 21st April 1875, while his genial rule over this important district is too much a matter of modern history to need further comment here.

On similar grounds we may now conclude our review of the Probity History. No doubt its subsequent actions are well known throughout the Craft, and if they have not been recorded year by year in the pages of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE as fully as some would wish, it must be remembered our field of operations is a large one, and if we do not always do all that is required of us, it is rather from inability than any lack of desire on our part.

Once more we congratulate the Lodge of Probity on the brilliant records of its past career, now collected and presented to the world in handsome form by Bro. Crossley, and while we cannot say that every one of our older Lodges could compile such a record, we are fain to believe that with such a Historian as the Probity has secured much would be possible. From dry matters of fact, dates, and ordinary minutes he has written a most enjoyable Masonic book—the perusal of which has afforded us as much pleasure as ever fell to our lot in connection with a Masonic volume.

We have omitted to mention that on the 4th November 1888 the Lodge celebrated the 150th year of its existence, the brethren attending service at church on that day. We congratulate them on such a celebration, and hope that in due course the members may have an opportunity of similarly rejoicing on the completion of the second century of their Lodge's career.

The first halfpenny weekly number of a large-paper illustrated edition of Archdeacon Farrar's "Life of Christ" will be published on 1st January. The size will be uniform with the halfpenny weekly edition of the "Doré Bible," which has had so large a sale. The work will also be published in threepenny monthly parts.

At the usual monthly meeting of the Coleridge Lodge, No. 1750, held at the Masonic Rooms, Public Hall, Clevedon, on Thursday, the 12th inst., Bro. E. G. Rivers was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. T. Barnes re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. R. Stephens Tyler. It was decided to hold the annual banquet, at the Royal Pier Hotel, on Thursday, 9th January 1890.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years' standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 21 Bedford Square, W.C.

THE LORD MAYOR.

SIR HENRY AARON ISAACS is the subject of a "Celebrities at Home" sketch which recently appeared in the *World*. The first portion of the sketch is devoted to a description of the artistic contents of the new Lord Mayor's private residence, at 27 Belsize Park. Proceeding next to the subject of the article the writer says:—

"Few men have laboured more indefatigably in the best interests of the City during the past quarter of a century than Sir Henry Isaacs, and the drawing-room abounds in tokens of the grateful recognition of his fellow-citizens. The statue of Cupid, by Legrow, was the gift of the Special Bridge Committee; the vases of early Berlin china were presented to him by his colleagues of the 'Markets'; and the silver goblets on the grand piano commemorate his untiring efforts for the federation of the synagogues. Both Sir Henry Isaacs and his wife are accomplished musicians. They possess respectively fine bass-baritone and mezzo-soprano voices, and during the coming twelvemonths their friends in Belsize Park will sorely miss their pleasant evening parties. The figure of 'Moses' once belonged to an Archbishop of Utrecht; the tall centrepiece facing the window is a souvenir from the committee appointed to organise the reception of the Prince of Wales at the Guildhall on his return from India; and on the walls conspicuous places are occupied by one of Savry's cattle-pieces, a moonlight scene by Pether, and a painting of Eve by Rinaldi. Sir Henry Isaacs is probably the first monarch of the Mansion House who has devoted a portion of his leisure to the collection of Lowestoft china. Three days before the Common Council acclaimed him as Lord Mayor he realised one of the dearest wishes of his life by acquiring the three most perfect Lowestoft vases in existence."

"It is from a silver box used by the Heir-Apparent during his visit to the City thirteen years ago that the Alderman of Portsoken extracts a fragrant cigar, which you smoke while he tells you something of a career which has led, step by step, to the highest honour which the greatest municipality in the world can bestow on one of her citizens. His father, Michael Isaacs, was an inhabitant of the Ward of Aldgate fifty-nine years ago, when the future Lord Mayor was born, and his mother belonged to the Spanish family of Mendoza. He went into business very early, and, before he was twenty, married the daughter of a Scotch officer, Alexander Rowland, who, when serving in the 9th Regiment, had twice saved the life of his comrade Colin Campbell, afterwards Lord Clyde. Without neglecting his own affairs, Sir Henry Isaacs soon became a prominent supporter of the various charitable institutions belonging to the Hebrew community, and so far back as 1871 he received a costly testimonial from the Hambro Synagogue, where he had acted as Warden. His work in connection with several important commercial enterprises did not prevent him from becoming a leader amongst Freemasons, an active Common Councilman, and a Master of the Loriners' Company. Five-and-twenty years ago he began to agitate the now popular question of improved dwellings for the poor. He was mainly instrumental in bringing about many much-needed reforms in the Finance Committee of the Corporation, and in 1869 he was appointed to the Chairmanship of the City Lands Committee. Some years afterwards, as head of the Markets Committee, he gave valuable evidence before the House of Commons, and the Tower Bridge now in course of erection owes, in a great measure, its existence to his dogged persistency. After the Chicago fire he drew the attention of the Corporation to the question of precautions against a similar calamity in a convincing pamphlet, and his suggestions resulted in the establishment of a large number of hydrants. In 1871 he was the donor of a bust of the Princess of Wales which is now to be seen in the Guildhall, and three years later he headed the Reception Committee on the return of her husband from India. He has also turned his attention to certain shortcomings in the London water, the qualifications of jurors in the City Courts, and the introduction into England of the oral system of teaching deaf mutes. Upon the last subject his brochure, 'Sounds versus Signs,' is a recognised authority. His earnest protest prevented the appearance of Court Chaplain Herr Stöcker in the Egyptian Hall. Alderman Isaacs is both an able and painstaking magistrate. His crusade against the oppressors of the brute creation struck terror into the hearts of evildoers: he makes a practice of taking careful notes of the testimony adduced before him, and has written trenchant letters on 'Police Evidence' and 'School Board Cases.' The Lord Mayor has also won his spurs as a composer. His ode on the death of the Prince Consort appeared in 1862, but the better-known 'Love Star' is the work upon which the learned judge promptly replied that, in his humble opinion, 'the publication of an original song by a Sheriff of the City of London is an undoubted sign of the progress we are making in civilisation.'"

Among other gifts which have from time to time enriched Sir Henry Isaacs' home, the sketch in the *World* mentions "the Empire candelabra in old bronze and ormolu, the offerings of the City Lands Committee, or the enormous Georgian dish in repoussé work, the reward of twenty years' loyal services to the Ward of Aldgate. The salvagers of the Lodge of Tranquillity and the snuff-box of his Prosperity pupils remind him of the strong probability of his succeeding Sir Edward Inglefield as Master of the Drury Lane Masonic Lodge, within a few weeks of his accession to office in the City. With a reference to Sir Henry's love for paintings, of which he is an accomplished connoisseur, the article is brought to a conclusion.

The Provincial Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will be held at Southampton on the 3rd of February 1890.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meetings, &c., as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

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SATURDAY, 21st DECEMBER.

- 179—Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Marc-street, Hackney
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruct)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruct)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1732—King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel Street, Fleet, E.C.
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In)
 R.A.—Sinai, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
- 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 2035—Beaumont, Royal Hotel, Kirkburton

MONDAY, 23rd DECEMBER.

- 4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 23—Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Atlantic Tavern, Brixton, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Ropemaker St., Finsbury, E.C., at 7 (In)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1227—Upton, Three Nuns, Aldgate, E., at 8. (Instruction)
 1338—Stockwell, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch Lane, E.C., at 6.30. (Inst.)
 1425—Hyde Park, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Gardens, at 8. (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 Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (In)
 1608—Kilburn, 40 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King Street, Smithfield, at 7 (In.)
 1632—Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1707—Eleanor, Seven Sisters Hotel, Page Green, Tottenham, 8. (Inst.)
 1743—Perseverance, 23 Addle Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 2021—Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, Criterion, W., at 8. (Inst.)
- 48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon, at 7. (Inst)
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool at 8. (Instruction)
 899—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1894—Herschell, Masonic Rooms, Slough
 R.A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

TUESDAY, 24th DECEMBER.

- 25—Robert Burns, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 65—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
 65—Prosperity, City Arms Restaurant, 2 St. Mary Axe, E.C., at 7. (Inst.)
 141—Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8 (Inst)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 198—Joppa, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 8. (Instruction)
 212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
 654—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
- 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 860—Dalhousie, Middleton Arms, Middleton Road, Dalston, at 8 (Inst.)
 861—Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Mona Hotel, Henrietta-street, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1446—Mount Edgcumbe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich. (Instruction)
 1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Forough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8. (Inst.)
 1744—Royal Savoy, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1839—Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen Street, E.C., at 7. (In.)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich Road, East Brixton, at 8 (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, White Hart, Cannon Street, at 6.30
 R.A. 704—Camden, the Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 8. (Inst.)
- 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 257—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Dorby
 463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, at 7.45. (Inst.)
 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1343—St. John, Masonic Hall, Grays, Essex. (Instruction)
 1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1638—Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Park Road Norbiton, at 8. (Instruction)
 1675—Antient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 2025—St. George, St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, Devon
 2146—Surbiton, Spread Eagle Coffee Tavern, Surbiton. (Instruction)
 R.A. 103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M. 168—Keystone, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton

WEDNESDAY, 25th DECEMBER.

- 898—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar
 1017—Montefiore, Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, W.
 1056—Victoria, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 R.A. 13—Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood
- 32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 721—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1039—St. John, George Hotel, Lichfield

- 1083—Townley Parker, Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby. (Instruction)
 1219—Strangeways, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1283—Ryburn, Central Buildings, Town Hall Street, Salford Bridge
 1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley Street, Bury, Lancashire
 1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1953—Prudence and Industry, George Hotel, Chard, Somersetshire
 1967—Beacon Court, Ghuzee Fort Hotel, New Brompton, Kent
 R.A. 225—St. Luke's, Freemasons' Hall, Soane Street, Ipswich
 R.A. 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough
 R.A. 274—Fidelity, Boar's Head, Newchurch
 R.A. 606—Segontium, Carnarvon Castle, Carnarvon
 R.A. 1356—De Grey and Ripon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M.—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 M.M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 M.M. 174—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham

THURSDAY, 26th DECEMBER.

- General Committee Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford
 M.M. 118—Northumberland, Masons' Hall, Brsinghall-street
- 51—Angel, Three Cups, Colchester
 78—Imperial George, Assheon Arms Hotel, Middle-ton, Lancashire
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Darlington
 286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
 348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon
 807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre Street, Norwich
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington Square, Salford
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
 1325—Stanley, 214 Great Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, nr Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1628—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 2131—Brownlow, Town Hall, El'esmere, Shropshire
 R.A. 57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull
 R.A. 113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Church Street, Preston
 R.A. 216—Sacred Delta, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 279—Fortitude, Freemasons' Hall, Halford Street, Leicester
 R.A. 314—Royal Architect, Bull Hotel, Church Street, Preston
 R.A. 394—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Albion Terrace, Southampton
 R.A. 431—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields
 R.A. 442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough
 R.A. 1037—Portland, Masonic Hall, Portland, Dorset
 M.M. 34—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester

FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 6
 167—St. John's, York and Albany Hotel, Regent's Park, N.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surroy Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery, Cannon-st., E.C.
 765—St. James, Princess Victoria Tavern, Rotherhithe, at 8. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith. (Instruction)
- 1058—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1223—Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone. (Instruction)
 1293—Royal Standard, Builders Arms, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (In)
 1345—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, Montpelier Hotel, Choumont Road, Peckham, at 8. (Inst.)
 2030—The Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. at 7.30. (Instruction)
- R.A. 95—Eastern Star, Hercules Tavern, Loadenhall Street. (Instruction)
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 890—Hornsey, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Square Paddington, W. (Instruction)
- R.A. 1275—Star, Stirling Castle, Church St., Camberwell, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Oushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 M.M. 355—Royal Savoy, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30. (In)
- 453—Chigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton
 1303—Pelham, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes
 1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth
 1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
 2039—Londonderry, Y.M.C.A., John Street, Sunderland
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham, at 8
 R.A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's Place, Halifax
 R.A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster
 R.A. 680—Softon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 1036—Walton, Skolmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

SATURDAY, 28th DECEMBER.

- 179—Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1283—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7. (Inst)
 1871—Gostling-Murray Town Hall, Hounslow
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In)
 R.A.—Sinai Union, Air Street, Regent Street, W., at 8. (Instruction)
- 1462—Wharnclyffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone

Brother C. W. Drew has been unanimously elected Worshipful Master of the Foundation Lodge, No. 82, in succession to Bro. C. L. Baylis, the Master for the year now closing.

At the meeting of the True and Faithful Lodge, No. 318, on Friday, the 6th inst., Bro. Joseph Pascoe J.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Wm. Ellis Treasurer, and Bro. R. James Tyler.

The last meeting for the year of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Robert Grey, President of the Board, presiding. The Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents, Bros. James Brett and C. A. Cottebrune, occupied their respective chairs. Bros. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke Grand Secretary, A. A. Pendlebury Assistant Grand Secretary, W. Dodd, and W. H. Lee represented Grand Secretary's office; there were also present Bros. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Perryman, Lucking, Mercer, Garrod, Brown, Monteunis, Chapman, Belton, Grieve, Shedd, Hogard, Woodward, Bunker, Taylor, Letchworth, Devan, Birch, Newton, Mote, Archer, Grice, Webber, Dehane, Powell, Spinks, Bateman, Massey, Cox, Brooke, Clark, Adams, Ransford, Salter, Lister, Mayer, Shepherd, Wing, Darck, Dickey, Bilby, Weeks, Graham, Parker, Orme, Dodner, Douglas, Farwig, Cantle, Harbord, Emblin, and Sadler. The brethren first confirmed recommendations made at the former meeting to the extent of £170. There were thirty-nine cases on the new list. Five of the cases were deferred, being incomplete, and one was dismissed, not being within the rules of the Board of Benevolence. The remainder were relieved with a total sum of £782. There were in this sum two recommendations to Grand Lodge of £50 each; five to the Grand Master of £40 each; and six of £30 each. There were also 11 immediate grants of £20 each; two of £15 each; four of £10 each, two of £5 each, and one of £2.

A recent issue of the *Universe* contains the following:—

The Freemasons of Portugal are much shocked at the impiety of the patriarch of Lisbon, Cardinal Neta. It appears that in the course of his funeral sermon His Eminence remarked that the deceased King had need of the prayers of his subjects, as it was evident, notwithstanding his many virtues, that he must have committed many venial sins in his lifetime, and might therefore be still in purgatory. Now, of course, no Catholic who remembered his Catechism, or who attended to his religious duties, would see any thing strange in the patriarch's remarks; to pray for the soul of the deceased monarch would seem to him to be the most obvious and practical way of showing his affection for him. But the Freemasons of Portugal and France are indignant at the suggestion that King Luis's soul did not ascend straight to eternal bliss. This is refreshing to hear from members of an Order which has expunged the name of God from its books—whose motto is, *Ni Dieu ni Maître*—"Neither God nor Master."

Even our very respectable contemporary, the *Paris Figaro*, is horrified. Listen to its plaintive protest:—After having been the model of constitutional Sovereigns, after having proved himself a good son, a good husband, a good father, having left to his subjects the memory of all his virtues, and being regretted by them as no other King could be, having died a sincere Christian, with the Apostolic Benediction, and after having a whole nation regretting him and praying for the repose of his soul; all this is of no avail, it would seem, for King Luis's soul is still in purgatory. The *Figaro* is evidently much disturbed in its tonsorial soul at the possible consequences of the patriarch's sermon; it might even bring about a schism in Portugal, and what grief and consternation there would be in the Lodges throughout Europe. But the most comic part of the article is where its writer explains to the public the grave significance of the patriarch's utterance as being no less than a "formal disavowal of the absolution pronounced over the dying King by the Pope's Nuncio." We strongly recommend this theme for development by our Protestant contemporaries in England.

We often wonder how our ancestors, of the "good old times," used to create an appetite, or add to the taste of the good things provided for their use. They had none of the sauces and other delicacies which at the present day seem indispensable, and yet we are told they enjoyed life to a good old age. We are afraid this statement must be accepted with great reserve; no doubt many of our forefathers enjoyed good appetites and good digestion, but many more of them must have suffered a martyrdom which, happily, is not forced upon us at the present day. Among the many good things provided in order to tempt us to a meal, help us to relish it, and at the same assist digestion, may specially be mentioned the productions of Messrs. Gordon and Dilworth, a firm long established and well known in America, who are now represented in this country, at 119 Minorities E.C., by Mr. Elias Jessurun. Among the specialities of the firm are their Tomato Catsup and Sauce, both of which are excellent, and well worthy a trial. The Catsup is made but once a year, in Tomato season, from the whole fresh Tomatoes, and has a particular piquancy attained only by the new process of this firm. It is the only sauce on the market made entirely of Tomatoes, and is really the popular national sauce of America. Among the many other good things provided by this firm may be mentioned Preserved, Canned and Brandy-Fruits, Fruit-Jellies, Syrups and Jams, Vegetables, Salad-Dressing, Blackberry Brandy, Mince Meat, Plum Pudding, Olives and Capers, Sweet Pickles, Wine Jellies, Soups, Sauces, &c., but we strongly advise our readers to send for a full illustrated catalogue and price list, or ask their local tradesman to procure them one.

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371 The Constitutions of the Freemasons. Containing the History, Charges, Regulations, &c., of that Most Ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity. For the use of the Lodges. London: Printed by William Hunter, for John Senex at the Globe, and John Hooke, at the Flower-de-Luce over-against St. Dunstan's Church, in Fleet-street, in the year of Masonry, 5723. Anno Domini, 1723. This was the first Edition of the Constitutions published.	10 10 0	327 Oliver. History of Freemasonry. 1841.	0 7 6
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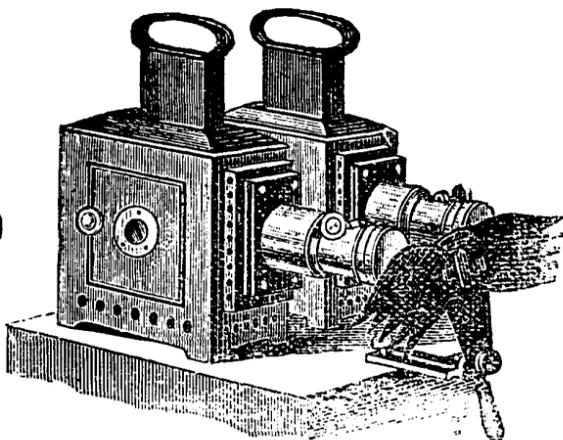
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