

# Freemason's Chronicle;

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## FREEMASONRY AS A BENEFIT SOCIETY.

A WRITER in a contemporary hazards the opinion that many Freemasons are beginning to think that the Craft should be worked more after the system of the Oddfellows, helping each other out of the Lodge funds when necessity compelled, and giving fixed benefits under certain conditions. This question has been discussed on many occasions, but so far no good case has been made out by those who would like to see a departure from the system of the past. It may be true there are many Freemasons among us who would support any proposal for the change, but large as may be their number they would find themselves opposed by an overwhelming majority in favour of a continuance of existing arrangements. Without a doubt there is a general feeling among members of the Order that Freemasonry should be kept wholly distinct from benefit society principles pure and simple, and left to work its way for the good of its members, and mankind in general, on loftier lines than those of mere monetary considerations. Like every topic of this character there is much to be said on both sides, and at first blush, when one takes into consideration the amount of misery and distress to be found among Freemasons and their families, it is impossible to think otherwise than that some efficient method of rendering financial aid as a matter of right would prove beneficial, and would gladden many homes which are now sorely in need of assistance, but the claims of which cannot be brought under notice, or if they are, it is only to be answered in the negative, because there is no fund available from which to draw relief.

In considering this subject due credit must be given for the help already accorded by the Order to those associated with it who find themselves in distressed circumstances. Last week we gave a summary of the amounts received during the past year by the three central Charities of the Craft, as well as a record of the amounts voted by the Board of Benevolence at its monthly meetings. In addition to these sums must be considered the grants made by Provincial and Private Lodges, and the amounts annually disbursed by Provincial Charity funds, so that it is safe to say that at least £100,000 a year is contributed by the English Brotherhood for the relief of distressed members of their Order, their widows and their orphans, the whole of this large sum being subscribed freely and voluntarily by members of the Order who, actuated by the finest principles of brotherhood, give what they are able in order to help their fellows who are in straitened circumstances. We say the whole of this large amount is given freely and voluntarily, because we do not regard the small contribution made by each member towards the Fund of Benevolence as being sufficient to stamp the

system as one of compulsion, but even if we omit consideration of that item we shall have almost as good a case for consideration, and probably the purely voluntary disbursements of the Craft for a twelve-month would actually reach the sum we have mentioned. Now, let us suppose that a system similar to that of the Oddfellows was adopted in connection with Freemasonry. Would it then be possible to even solicit a continuance of these voluntary gifts, much less expect to receive them? Certainly not, and such being the case, we ask the advocates of the fixed benefits principle what tax they would propose to impose, in order to do only as much as the Craft is now doing, without making any provision for rendering other assistance, or meeting the benefit claims they propose to legalise? On this basis alone we consider the project of placing Freemasonry on a Benefit Society footing must fail, even if the proposition to alter its character was ever seriously brought before the Craft, which is very unlikely to happen.

Turning to the other side of the picture, we may ask what amount of benefit could be conferred on necessitous members of the Order if a "Benefit Fund" was in existence? We must first recognise that the three great Institutions of the Craft would have no possibility of continuing their work, and accordingly we should have to stop the benefits now conferred by those Charities on a large number of old people, girls and boys, and provide for them in some other way. We should take away their comfort and happiness, and what could we give them in return? Will any one suggest that a Benefit Society principle would allow of such annuities or such education and maintenance as is now afforded to the large number who have been elected to the several Institutions? No general tax would be tolerated that would produce an amount sufficient for the purpose, and as we have already said the assistance at present rendered would fail, without any possibility of other benefits being created to take their place. Besides all this, the majority of the present members of English Freemasonry do not belong to the class which needs benefit payments in the general acceptance of the term, and it would be absurd to create a system of benefits merely for the purpose of attracting the class who do, especially as it would be necessary to enforce payments from all alike, in order to secure the funds necessary to pay the claims that would arise. On the whole it is best to recognise that Freemasonry does more at the present time, in a voluntary manner, than would be possible under any system of compulsion, and beyond this the converting of Freemasonry into a benefit society—taking such title in connection with a system of fixed monetary payments under certain eventualities—is so opposed to the general ideas of its members as to be beyond the range of what may be regarded as future possibilities.

## R.M.I. FOR GIRLS.

THE Quarterly Court of Subscribers and Governors was held on Thursday, 7th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Frank Richardson P.G.D. in the chair. There were also present Bros. J. H. Matthews, James Brett, Alfred C. Spaul, H. Massey, W. G. Kentish, Peter de L. Long, C. H. Webb, Wm. Morley, J. S. Cumberland, G. Adamson, E. M. Money and F. R. W. Hedges (Secretary). The Chairman said that the 10 guineas voted to the children's New Year's entertainment was well laid out, for on Monday a most enjoyable and successful evening was the result, and the company, including Bro. Sir Joseph and Lady Savory, were much pleased with the arrangements of the Institution. After the reading of the various minutes. Bro. J. H. Matthews P.G.D.D.C., Patron, moved:—

"That in consequence of vacancies caused by children elected in October not being of age to be received into the School, that the four next highest unsuccessful candidates be admitted, under Law LX."

He said the object of the motion was that no bed should be vacant. Another reason was that the fourth child to be taken in was a last chance case, and he had, as all others had, great sympathy with last chance cases. He asked the Secretary to let him look at the petition in this fourth case, and when he saw it he ascertained it was a good one all round. Bro. Morley seconded the motion, which was carried. The following motion was then adopted:—

"That the three eligible candidates remaining from the last election, together with the 20 whose petitions have been since approved, be placed upon the list of candidates for the April election, and that 16 vacancies be declared."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

The first meeting of the year of the Council of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held at Freemasons' Hall on Saturday last. Amongst those present were Bros. John Glass, J. S. Cumberland, W. A. Scurrah, H. Dickey, Samuel H. Parkhouse, J. J. Thomas, W. Adams, J. W. Burgess, George Everett Grand Treasurer, H. Massey, J. E. Le Feuvre, Stanley J. Attborough, J. H. Stock, James Brett, George Corble, W. D. Church, Robert Martin, H. W. Green, John Barnet, jun., Robert W. Bourne, Rev. H. A. Hebb (Head Master), and J. Morrison McLeod Secretary. The Council recommended to the Quarterly Court the adoption of thirty-eight candidates for the April election, and the declaration of twenty vacancies in the School. Bro. Eve moved a resolution of condolence with the widow and family of the late Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke Grand Secretary. The Craft at large had sustained a severe loss by the death of the Grand Secretary, who brought to bear on the decision of cases a judicial mind seldom found, while, as a rule, his judgments gave satisfaction to all. Bro. Scurrah seconded the motion, which was carried. The Council's proceedings were then closed.

The fourth annual ball in aid of the Benevolent Fund attached to the Barnato Lodge, No. 2265, will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on Thursday, 11th February, and will, no doubt, be as great a success as any of its predecessors. An efficient body of Stewards has been formed, and a dispensation granted by the M.W. Grand Master for brethren to wear either Craft or Royal Arch clothing. The price of the tickets, which includes refreshments, wines, spirits, and a champagne supper, are: gentlemen £1 10s, ladies £1 1s, double tickets to admit lady and gentleman £2 5s, and as the number will be strictly limited, early application should be made, to any member of the Lodge, or to Bro. Tom Honey, No. 1 Drapers' Gardens, E.C., Hon. Secretary to the Ball Committee.

The Berkshire Freemasons held a special Provincial Grand Lodge on Wednesday afternoon, at the Masonic Hall, Reading, under the presidency of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Brother John T. Morland, for the purpose of considering the question of making a suitable presentation to the Duke of Clarence Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire, on his approaching marriage with Princess May. The thirteen Lodges in the Province were well represented, and the proceedings proved most hearty and unanimous. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master

proposed that an address of congratulation be presented by the Freemasons of Berkshire to the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, on his approaching marriage, and that such address be accompanied by a suitable wedding gift. Brother Tomkins Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to. A resolution was afterwards adopted appointing an influential committee to carry out the arrangements. Before separating the Deputy Provincial Grand Master paid a high tribute to the personal qualities and official ability of the late Grand Secretary Colonel Shadwell Clerke, and a resolution was passed expressing the sense of the brethren of the great loss Masonry had sustained by his much lamented death, and sympathy with his bereaved relatives.

It was arranged yesterday that the Corporation of Edinburgh shall celebrate the wedding of the Duke of Clarence with Princess Victoria of Teck by providing a dinner for 600 poor people, and presenting the Princess with a gift, the nature of which has not yet been decided. A general holiday will be declared, and the city will be illuminated. A great bonfire will be lighted on Arthur's Seat, which will form one of a series of fires from various hills illuminating the whole of the east coast of Scotland beyond Edinburgh.

## THE OLD FOLKS AT CROYDON.

THE New Year's entertainment to the annuitants of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution resident in the buildings at Croydon was given on Wednesday, when those who take an interest in these special gatherings left London in saloon carriages provided by the South-Eastern Railway Company.

Among those present were Miss Harriet Cotter, Mrs. Jennings, Dr. H. J. Strong, Mrs. Horsdail, Bros. Charles Frederick Hogard, Hugh Cotter P.M. 554, Robert D. Cummings P.M. 2168, and W. J. Crutch P.M. 1278, Bro. John Oldis P.M. 1288 and Mrs. Oldis, Bro. Wm. Lawrence 2168 and Mrs. Lawrence, Bro. George F. Cook 1580, Bro. J. T. Briggs P.M. 157, Bro. Alexander Mullord P.M. 1288, Mrs. Mullord, and Miss Alice Mullord, Bro. W. H. Hubbert P.M. 1625, Bro. Edward James Anning P.M. 1625, Mrs. Anning, and Miss Anning; Bros. Henry Massey P.M. 619 and 1928, and Charles Kempton P.M. 1287, Miss M. E. Raiker, Miss L. Raiker, Miss A. G. McKenzie, Miss Terry, Bros. Dr. Wayte, Robert Griggs, J. G. Stevens, John Mason, and Smart; Bro. Bowyer and Mrs. Bowyer, Bros. Geo. Smith, W. M. Wheeler, J. Chudderworth, and W. Sycklemore.

Bro. Terry, who came that morning from Dudley, received the party, and wished each "A Happy New Year," a greeting which was heartily extended to the annuitants a few minutes later when they assembled at dinner. Dr. Strong presided, with Bro. Terry in the vice-chair.

The feast, for such it deserves to be called, was followed by the toast of the Queen, Patroness of the Craft and of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, proposed by the Chairman, who next proposed the Founders of the Feast; he was sorry to miss the faces of many old friends who had assisted in these entertainments by their presence, by their pockets, and in kind. But they were not away in spirit; it was only in their person, through illness, the terrible influenza keeping several away, and doing no good to any one,—but the doctors. It was an ill wind that blew nobody any good, so he supposed he must not say much about it.

Bro. Mullord said it was a great treat to be able to minister to the happiness and gratification of one's fellow creatures; he and all those who assisted at the day's enjoyment were only too thankful that they were able so to do.

Success to the Institution and the worthy Secretary, Bro. Terry, was the next toast; Dr. Strong said Bro. Terry had travelled all the way from Dudley in order that he might not be absent from this New Year's meeting.

Bro. Terry, in responding, said the present year was an eventful one in the annals of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. There were two great events which had taken place in 1891—one the Jubilee of this Institution, and the other the 50th birthday of the Prince of Wales. He had not the slightest doubt that the Queen, if she knew this Institution was founded in 1841, thought it right that she should present the nation with a son to celebrate its foundation. Therefore those two events certainly marked an epoch in history. What the result of the Festival might be which was to celebrate the 50th year of the Institution could not possibly be foretold, but up to that morning there was a list of 919 Stewards—the largest ever known at these Festivals. Well, if each of these Stewards brought up £40 there would be nearly £37,000. Of course it would be wholly out of place to think of having Freemasons' Tavern for holding the Festival; and casting their eyes about for a suitable place there were to be found but two in London—one the Albert Hall, the other Covent Garden Theatre, which belongs to Bro. Sir Augustus Harris P.G. Treasurer. Which of the two would be chosen by the Committee he could not say, but whichever it was, he hoped it would be for the benefit of the Institution. As Dr. Strong had informed them, he (Bro. Terry) was the night before at Dudley, and when he told the brethren there that £16,000 was annually required to pay the annuitants who were on the books of this Institution; that there were at present on the list of candidates for next year 150 persons, and only

27 vacancies for the annuity, they could see at once there was a very strong ground for him to appeal for support. He need scarcely say he did extract a pound or two from the brethren before he came away. Sir Edmund Lechmere the Provincial Grand Master sent a wire from Stourport, saying he would give 15 guineas, and Br. Godson the Deputy Provincial Grand Master not to be outdone, said he would give 15 guineas. Well, they raised £170 in the room. Therefore, he thought the circumstances of the Secretaries of the Institutions going out was recognised at Dudley on Tuesday night. For the fourth time in the lives of the three present Secretaries of the Masonic Institutions, those three Secretaries had met together at a great Masonic gathering. It was a good thing for them to go out, they made themselves known. To say that, as a modest man, was something. The Secretaries had a great deal of correspondence with brethren in the country, and in the course of that correspondence occasionally it was difficult to understand a brother. Perhaps a correspondent might appear to be crusty, and one felt inclined to resent his tone. But when you got introduced to the brother and came to know him, he probably turned out to be one of the best fellows living, and you and he were the firmest friends ever after. To go to another subject in connection with the Benevolent Institution. He would not like to sit down without mentioning the name of Miss Norris, the worthy Matron. A great deal rested on the shoulders of Miss Norris, and the brethren and ladies had only to look round to see how well everything was managed; that all was done in a spirit of love, and there was no word of command given. The Institution was blessed first of all with a modest Secretary, and secondly with a good Matron. If there could be anything done to evince their regard and esteem for that lady in the Jubilee year, it would be by a large subscription. They might take it from him it would be flattering to her. A little later in the day he would say something financially, but he might now inform the company that Dr. Strong was retiring from the active medical supervision of the Institution, though not from his hearty co-operation in its affairs. Year by year, and again this year, they had his genial presence among them, and Mrs. Strong and her two daughters were generally there. This year, however, they were absent. One of Dr. Strong's daughters was married on Tuesday. He was sure every one present would desire to tender to the happy pair their sincere congratulations, and wish them every blessing. To revert to the Institution, he hoped if there was any one in that assembly who had not yet parted with a £5 note that he intended to give he would hand it over to him.

Dr. Strong acknowledged for Miss Norris the kind remarks made by Bro. Terry with respect to her, and said she ruled not with a rod of iron. With regard to what Bro. Terry had said of him, he was entering on his thirty-second year of office in the service of the Institution. He had been in practice since 1854. He did not, however, relinquish his connection with Croydon, for although he had a marine residence, he continued to have a residence at Croydon, and would be there once a week.

The dinner party then rose, and the ladies paid visits to the residents, and afterwards partook of tea. The brethren who had attended to the serving of the dinner subsequently dined together, Bro. C. F. Hogard Past Grand Standard Bearer presiding.

Bro. Terry, in replying to the toast of Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, proposed by the Chairman, said Bro. Hogard had informed the brethren that he (Bro. Terry) perhaps had some interesting statistics to give. Well, just as to the history of the past year, so far as regarded the finances of the Institution, the brethren were aware the Institution had a very heavy fight against the recent Festival of the Boys' School, which had the great honour of receiving nearly £30,000. When the Benevolent Institution came to total up its amount at the end of the year, the announcement at the Festival being over £15,000, there was only the difference between the amount announced as received for the Boys' School £27,000, and the total £22,000, of the Old People of only £5,000 when the year of both of them terminated. That was a great result to achieve in the face of such a grand success as the Boys' School had. In the future the Benevolent Institution could only make a guess; it was impossible to say what the amount might be; but with the 919 Stewards at £40 a piece a total of £37,000 would be got. But when it was known that ladies were working as well as brethren, and that the Provinces were working most energetically, he hoped the average total of £40 per list would be considerably exceeded. If that should be the case the total announcement would be very much increased. The average list of the Benevolent Institution taken the last 10 or 11 years had always been in excess of that of the Boys' or the Girls' School. It had sometimes got up to from £50 to £52 per list; the Boys' and Girls' had been £40, and averaged from £32 to £36. Therefore in this coming year great efforts being made, and additional voting privileges being given, people and Lodges would increase their subscriptions, and he was sanguine enough to hope that £36,000 or £40,000 would be below the mark. The Chairman had said he saw no one round the table who was not a Steward; but casting them up he found 12 were Stewards, which was a large proportion. There were others who had been Stewards last year, and it could not be expected that they would take that burden on themselves again. One took up over £200 last year. Dr. Strong was one and brethren right and left of him were likewise Stewards. The Festival he hoped would be a success. Its President was the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe the New Deputy Grand Master. Seven Stewards would come up from Cornwall. Lord Mount Edgcumbe's Province, and every Lodge in the Province, would send a Steward. Devonshire, which was immediately connected with Cornwall, would come forward and support his lordship. The place in which to hold the Festival had not yet been fixed upon by the Committee. The Crystal Palace and Brighton were out of the question, and the Committee had to choose within a four-mile radius of London. The Albert Hall and Covent Garden Theatre were the two to select from, as Her Majesty's Theatre, not having been used for a long time, would require too much money to

be spent on it. But in the event of Covent Garden Theatre being selected it was to his mind best adapted, as it was now arranged for fancy balls; 1350 people could dine on the floor of the house, and then there was the magnificent crush room, and the whole house would be at their disposal. Very advantageous terms had been kindly offered by Sir Augustus Harris for a three days' occupation. In case of that house being decided on, he ventured to say the scene would be one that Freemasons had never seen the like of. Reference had been made to his services, and to the fact that on Tuesday he was on the other side of Birmingham, and on Thursday would be at Northampton. He could assure the brethren that nothing except in the way of health would stand in the way of his doing all he could for the Institution; but, just in passing, permit him to say, as almost the only graceful acknowledgement he could make to the services of his coadjutors, Bros. Mason and Stevens had been doing their best—Bro. Mason in Birmingham, where he was well known, and Bro. Stevens in London, where he was equally well known, night after night getting Stewards. They were very successful, and as Secretary he thought it but right to give praise where praise was due. The Benevolent Institution stood in a different position to the Boys' School and the Girls' School Officers, in which there was no man who was a Mason but the Secretaries. The Benevolent Institution was in the position of having so to speak three Secretaries, each at a different place at the same time. He had he thought nothing further to say than to express the earnest hope that this time next year all the brethren present might congratulate themselves on the good health of the residents of the Institution. Bro. Terry then made special allusion to the services of Dr. Strong in looking after the residents, and to the cheerful entertainment which was given to the old people, which reminded them of days when they were able to provide comforts for themselves.

Bros. Mason, Stevens, Dr. Strong, and Hogard replied to speeches made in compliment to them; Bro. Dr. Wayte promised 10 guineas, and Bro. Anning another 10 guineas; and the party adjourned for a short time to tea, while the room was being prepared for the evening entertainment.

In the evening a musical programme was performed under Bro. George Smith by Miss Amy Sargent, Miss Lilian Close, and Bros. W. H. Wheeler and W. Syckelmore.

#### FREEMASONRY IN ITS RELIGIOUS ASPECTS.

THIS was the subject of a lecture recently delivered by Mr. John Gibbs, before the members of the St. Mary's Lodge of Freemasons, Inverness. Mr. Gibbs said that a careful consideration of the designs of Freemasonry would prove that although its morality at first sight appears more particularly adapted to Christianity than to any other religion, it was in reality cosmopolitan, and could be claimed exclusively neither by the Christian nor any other faith. The real aim and design of Freemasonry was to unite all nations, creeds, and sects, by a covenant of brotherly love and truth, and thus to form the whole human race into one great brotherhood, firmly united by mutual love, confidence, and esteem. It is a mournful but indisputable fact that there does not exist a more striking example of the sectarianism of religion than Christianity affords, nor a stronger proof of the impossibility of Freemasonry ever accomplishing its great design, if it should attain the form of a religious institution. Where can be found such an utter absence of brotherly love as between the different denominations of Christians? Masonry forms a beautiful auxiliary to religion, and to every system of faith which man's freedom of thought has projected to carry him to the one happy home which is the common goal. Had Masonry not been connected with religion, its existence, its name even, would have long since disappeared. Empires and kingdoms have fallen, creeds and churches have ceased to exist, but Masonry still held high its head, resting its sole foundation upon the Holy Volume. Masonry strictly enjoins Masons to interfere with no religious faith, but to be alike friendly to all; to the loyal and patriotic, conforming to the Government under which they may dwell, by obeying the laws which yield them protection, and by rendering strict justice in all their undertakings.

#### ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

A MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Order for the West of Scotland was held on Tuesday, 29th ult. in St. John's Hall, Glasgow. Companion Dalrymple Duncan Provincial Grand Master occupied the chair, and among the other brethren present were Sir James Buchanan, Bart., D.P.G.M.; Francis W. Allan S.W., J. D. Hedderwick J.W., D. S. Miller Secretary, &c. The following candidates were admitted members of the Order:—The Hon. Thomas Cochrane, John M. Ross, John H. Ross, John Sanderson. After the meeting the Companions dined together at the Central Hotel.

The remains of the late Mr. George Frederick Newmarsh, formerly a solicitor of this town, and for many years Deputy Prov. G.M. of the Gloucestershire Freemasons, were interred at the Cemetery on the 29th ult., having been conveyed the same day from London, where his death occurred, after a short illness, on the 24th ult. The ceremony was conducted by the vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Hayward. In addition to the relatives there were present a large number of the members of the Cotteswold and other Gloucestershire Lodges. The deceased gentleman, who was greatly respected, was 74 years of age.

On Friday, the 1st inst., the members of the St. George's Lodge, Doncaster, through Bro. Hartley, presented to Bro. Walker a Past-Master's jewel. There was a large muster of brethren to witness the presentation, and to show their appreciation of the services rendered by Bro. Walker.

## MUST LIVE IN THE PRESENT.

*Freemasonry now must not be paralysed by the withered hand of the dead past—W. J. Duncan  
New York City.*

THE antiquity of Freemasonry has always been, and must continue to be, a fruitful theme for writers and speakers. Men of thought have given careful study, and scholars have devoted much time to searching the musty tomes of the far back ages, to learn something of this mysterious society, whose very birth and early history is as much a problem as the secrets of its ceremonials. There is something attractive and interesting about antiquity. We stand beside a mummy, and run back in our imagination to the days when the Egyptian Mysteries were practised upon the banks of the Nile. We wonder whether that brown, dried up burlesque on humanity was ever a Mason. Did he ever pass through the solemn ceremonies of the symbolic degrees? Did he worthily wear the lambskin, the badge of a Mason? He belonged to the age of antiquity, and, dead and repulsive as he may now appear, after three thousand years of slumber, more or less disturbed by the curious gaze of living men, we feel an interest in him, bandaged and coffined though he is. He belongs to the dead past. Masonry is hoary with age, but no one has yet been able to tell how many frosty winters have added their whitening touch to its ever increasing years. Its doctrinal antiquity is coeval with man himself, and is as strong and powerful to-day as when from Sinai's mountain the Almighty thundered his disapproval of man's iniquity, and gave to him a moral law which has been the fundamental principle of all governments in all ages.

From out the dead past come legends of languages that have long since been buried; records in tongues to-day unintelligible, except to those few who patiently study to decipher the mystery of unrecadable hieroglyphics. The earliest story of Masonry is told in this uncertain character—the withered hand of the dead past. We find the figure of a square and compasses graven upon an obelisk, or a mason's mark upon some ancient tomb, and, reading between the lines, we discover evidence, more or less convincing to our credulous minds, of the existence of the society in those prehistoric days. We give life to the inanimate figure, and clothe the mummy with beauty.

The early written history of Masonry, as given to us by those painstaking scholars who have dug deep into the treasure-house of the past, refers more to its government than to its ceremonials of initiation. What the forms and ceremonies observed in teaching the neophyte in those early days were, we can only conjecture. It is folly to suppose that what is practised in the Lodges of Freemasons to-day is the same that was observed then. But while there is doubt as to the particular ceremony through which the candidate was conducted in those ancient times, there can be none as to the fundamental principles taught for trooping down the ages, gathering strength and beauty with every advance of thought and education, every broadening and widening influence of civilization, every forward step of scientific research, are the same sublime doctrines of divine truth. Truth, the sovereign good of human nature, is eternal. It existed before sects, is more ancient than schools, and, like its twin sister Charity, older than mankind. From out of the womb of history it is born anew with every generation. There is no withered hand in its everlasting, triumphant existence. It stands the colossal figure towards which all eyes in all ages are turned. It may be seen under many lights, and the different points from which it is viewed impresses the beholder with its many and varying interpretations. A misty atmosphere of ignorance may conceal its salient points. An impaired vision of perversion will not recognize its beauty; a selfish bigotry distorts its real meaning; but it stands unchanged, inscrutable in its greatness, rising above all evil, all perversion, all ignorance, all bigotry, and with its uplifted torch—for Truth rejoices in the light—frightens into hiding the hydra-headed enemy of the human race, Falsehood.

This great principle is found in the very foundation of Freemasonry, and no matter when in the dim ages of the dead past that foundation was laid, its creative, genial and luminous influence has been preserved in the institution

and remains as powerful as ever. We cannot overstate our debt to the past, but the present moment has the supreme claim. The past is for us, but it must not be esteemed above the present. It must be subordinated to the all-important, only present now.

Masonry, to be of any value to its votaries, must be practical in its workings. The surviving elements of its organization, that come from the past, must be used to emphasize the present. The past, like death, is unchangeable and eternal; the present is active, and the future dependent upon the past and present. The world, since it came from the plastic hand of its Creator, never knew so active an age, so restless an epoch as this in which we live. There is more thought to-day, because there are more people to think. There is a greater variety of doctrine, because men are more ready to ask the why and the wherefore of things around them. The people of to-day are not satisfied with the *ipse dixit* of some self-appointed censor of thought and doctrine. They weigh assertions and demand proofs. They compare doctrines and assent to what their own sense of right, after careful study, dictates. Conscience is enlightened by the increasing glory of revealed truth.

Any institution, to be of real use to humanity, must be abreast of the times. The withered hand of the dead past must be thrown aside, except as it may serve as a warning for the present. It is the present that concerns the men of to-day. A tenacious clinging to the dead past, and veneration of its hoary doctrines has a charm for all. We pride ourselves upon belonging to an organization that has existed from time immemorial, and we trace it through numberless forms and ceremonies. We call it "Ancient Mysteries," "Essenes," "Roman Collegia," "Culdees," "Druids," "Operative," "Speculative,"—all these various streams flow into and are lost in the Freemasonry of the present. Do we not often hide the beauty of the institution in the mystery of antiquated societies? Do we not cover up the truth with the accumulated dust and rubbish of the ages? Do we not curtail its usefulness by holding on to its primitiveness, and living in the past rather than the present? Do we not lose much of the real benefit of the golden thread of Truth that runs unbroken through its history, by relegating it to the past?

Times change and men change with them. Times change, and societies, to be of utility to humanity, must keep pace with advanced thought and increased intelligence. Masonry has changed with the changing ages of the world. It has gone forward, extending its arms of beneficence and enlarging its capabilities with every enlarged demand. No Mason of to-day would recognize the Masonry of the Revival—1717—as the institution with which he is acquainted. The ceremonies are different, the language of its ritual has been altered to suit the changed idioms of the race of mankind. The golden thread of truth has been burnished by the friction of passing years. The rough quaintness of a century ago would be a comedy to the æsthetic taste of the present time. The withered hand of the dead past is a useless member. As we walk about some old graveyard and read upon the crumbling tombstones the names, but dimly legible, of men who were once the earnest, active members of the community, we call to mind their living virtues, but they, the men, are dead. They are no longer earnest, active participants in the affairs of the busy world. They performed their labour well, and served their day and generation acceptably, but they were not dead then. They were what was needed at that time, what is needed now, what is needed in every age—strong, vigorous, active, moving men, with a hand for every work and a heart for every good.

The past is dead; all past is dead; yesterday is in the sepulchre of memory. It is no longer an active element in the world. There is no progress in the past. Its whole work, of whatever character, good or bad, is finished. Each completed day is a bound volume, and not the Infinite Himself can change a word of its record. Memory is the charnel house of disappointment and shame, and there are more hideous images in its expanding halls than beautiful pictures upon its walls. We cannot live upon memory, nor indeed is its atmosphere at all times healthful, for the overshadowing gloom of its broken promises and heart-breaking regrets sickens and enfeebles. So in Masonry we may not prosper on the memory of the past.

Masonry is an active institution, and every active institution must experience changes. The youngest

veteran of to-day can point out many differences between the practices of the Fraternity now and when he first beheld the light in the Lodge-room. Charity is dispensed in a very different manner from that of a quarter of a century ago. There were no Boards of Relief to which the worthy could apply and be assured of assistance, and which were at the same time a safeguard to the Lodge and a terror to the impostor. The changing times demanded this change, and with advancing necessities it was made.

The ceremonies have all changed. New degrees have been formulated, and whether those who cling to the withered hand of the dead past, content with the limited vision afforded in the circumscribed ancient and venerated symbols, will have it so or not, these other degrees have been engrafted upon the old tree and are become a part of it, spreading farther and farther the growing branches, casting a wider and more genial shade, and yielding more abundant fruitage of eternal Truth. In the primitive days, when the last century was young, the initiate was introduced into a society of good, whole-souled fellows, who taught their morality at the public inn, and dispensed their charities over a mug of ale. The times demanded no more. The ceremonies of one or two degrees were sufficient to satisfy the cravings of the comparatively unlearned and unthinking world of that time. A few years later, as education advanced and enlightenment spread, there was a desire for more ceremony, and a third degree was added. This was the topmost branch of the parent trunk. This soon became too limited for the curious, and other ceremonies were prepared further illustrating the truths already suggested. And so from age to age, as the demand grew stronger for more pictures of Masonic truth, have the ceremonies and degrees been increased, and but few to-day question their legitimate character. If to the single degree, uncertain as its origin may be, and indefinite as its ceremony appears at this remote period, could be added a second and a third, why not a fourth and fifth, and so on others, as the changing times and the desire of inquiring minds demand? Certain it is that somewhere in the dead past such changes were wrought in the institution, and as man increased in knowledge and enlightenment, Masons had a desire to increase their facilities for imparting truth.

Who of those who are so tenacious in adhering to "ancient landmarks," and who cry out against any change in the vernacular of the ritual, would be satisfied for one moment with the degrees as promulgated by Dr. Desaguliers? The many old manuscripts that have been dug out of the past are the strongest evidences of the change and progress that Masonry has made in its forms and general government.

It is folly to be so wedded to the antiquity of the Fraternity that we will not admit of rational changes and legitimate progress. Those whose skill in word-craft have led them into descriptions of the beauties of Masonry, have invariably left the dead past with its quaintness out of their writings, and have come down to our own intelligent language. It requires but a cursory glance at the history of Freemasonry to convince any one that changes have been made, and he who will adhere to the old saws because he feared to countenance an innovation, would cause the wheels of progress to stop and the world to stand still. He would measure the hours of the day by the shadow of the sun dial or the sand in the hour glass. He would dispel the darkness of night with the pine torch, and illumine the streets with the tallow-dip.

If Freemasonry is to be governed by intelligence rather than ignorance; if thought and unfolded truth, as enlightenment presents them, are to characterize it at the present and in the future, then we must admit the greater light of this advanced age into its workings. There are doctrinal truths—tenets of our profession—that some call Ancient Landmarks, which must be preserved, and will only be strengthened by the revelations of these days of thought and activity. They are not Ancient Landmarks; they are the scintillations of Truth that shine out in all ages and belong alike to the present and the past. They are the links of that unbroken chain, whose ever increasing length only makes it the more precious, as we see that the real Freemasonry of the present is the same everlasting Truth. This hand, reached out from the dead past, is not withered. It will never wither. The forms and ceremonies, meaningless without some vital force of morality in them, must perish if not made to appeal to the growing needs of man.

Then let us be in touch with all of the grand advancement that is going on in the world at this time, that the Fraternity may fill that measure of usefulness that its sublime teachings make possible for it, and not be paralyzed by the withered hand of the dead past.—*Voice of Masonry.*

French Freemasons are making more progress than ever in their efforts to eclipse the Church in the matter of matrimonial ceremonies. The most pompous wedding that has ever taken place according to the new Masonic Ritual has occurred in the Grand Orient Lodge of the Rue Cadet. A young man belonging to the Brotherhood had been married by the Mayor to the lady of his choice. The members of his Lodge accordingly assembled on Friday, the 1st inst., at three o'clock, and after having effected due and formal cognisance of the official marriage certificate resolved to regard the bride as a sister. The ceremony took place on a platform hung with drapery, and decorated with a raised bust of the Republic, surrounded by eight tricolours and plenty of flowers. Watching events were many Masons, with their wives and families, the bride and bridegroom being in another room, while behind a screen were a dozen or so of musicians who performed at intervals. The real ceremony began by the solemn entry of the members of the Lodge of *Vrais Experts*, with their swords and banners. These gentlemen formed the "Arch of Steel" with their weapons, and a speech was made by M. Lepelletier, a journalist, who cast ridicule on religious rites and superstitions, and affirmed that these would be supplanted by the new Masonic Ritual. He concluded his discourse with the cry of "Vive la République!" and the organ pealed forth the strains of the Wedding March as the bride and bridegroom, with their followers, entered the Hall, and took their seats on the platform. The presumably happy man wore his "Masonic apron," the lady being attired in the conventional white satin, or *peau de soie*, with orange-blossoms. When everybody had sat down, the "Vénérable" made a speech on the advantages of Civil Marriage and the Law of Divorce, a peculiar mixture of subjects, which must have given the bride and bridegroom some food for reflection. The "Grand Architect" next threw over the pair a nuptial sash as a token of their union; hung a Masonic emblem round the neck of the lady, and gave the bridegroom the wedding ring, which the latter placed on the bride's finger. The "Celebrant" now showed the wedded pair a glass ring, which he broke on the ground as a symbol of the fragility of badly-assorted matrimonial matches. The ceremonies did not end here, for all the Masons marched up and deposited their insignia on a table before the couple; a glass of wine was given to the bridegroom, and one of water to the lady; a chain of union was formed by the Brethren, and also another "Arch of Steel"; the wedding presents were bestowed, and finally more speeches were made. The rites were not concluded until five o'clock.—*Daily Telegraph.*

At a meeting of the Loyal Veterans' Encampment, of Knights-Templar, held at the Masonic Club, Plymouth, on Tuesday, 29th ult., Emt. Sir Knt. John Wallis was elected E.C. for the year ensuing; E. Sir Kt. J. R. Lord P.F.C. Treas., and E. Sir Knt. W. H. Phillips Equerry. Bro. Archibald Roberts has been elected W.M. of Fortitude Lodge of M.M.M., No. 66; Bro. Samuel Jew P.M. P.P.G. Treas. re-elected Treas., and James Gidley P.M. P.G. Tyler Tyler.

A Special Provincial Grand Lodge for the Province of Berkshire has been convened by the Provincial Grand Secretary to consider the question of making a suitable present to the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, Provincial Grand Master for Berkshire, on his approaching marriage with Princess Victoria.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.**—Indisputable Remedies.—In the use of the medicaments there need be no hesitation or doubt of their cooling, healing and purifying properties. The Ointment stands unrivalled for the facility it displays in relieving, healing and thoroughly curing the most inveterate sores and ulcers, and in case of bad legs and bad breasts they act as a charm. The Pills are the most effectual remedy ever discovered for the cure of liver complaints, diseases most disastrous in their effects, deranging all the proper functions of the organs affected, inducing restlessness, melancholy, weariness, inability to sleep, and pain in the side, until the whole system is exhausted. These wonderful Pills, if taken according to the printed directions accompanying each box, strike at the root of the malady, stimulate the stomach and liver into a healthy action, and effect a complete cure.

## NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

## HUMBER LODGE, No. 57.

ON Monday, 28th ult., Bro. Dr. A. E. Kessen, of Hull, was installed Worshipful Master by Bro. Geo. Wilson P.P.G.D. in the presence of a large gathering. The following brethren were invested as Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Henderson I.P.M., J. Wildbore S.W., Thos. Morrill J.W., D. J. O'Donoghue P.P.G.W. Chaplain, T. Thompson P.P.G.W. Treasurer, G. D. Storry P.P.G.O. Secretary, J. Milestone S.D., Thos. Hart J.D., W. C. Bradley Dir. of Cers., H. J. Oldroyd I.G., J. R. Stringer P.P.G.O. Organist, C. C. Bristow Steward, Wm. Cuthbert Tyler, J. Priest Assist. Tyler. The brethren then adjourned for the annual banquet. The Worshipful Master presided.

## RICHMOND LENNOX LODGE, No. 123.

THE anniversary meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, 28th ult., when the Festival of St. John was duly celebrated. The brethren assembled at the Masonic Hall, in Newbiggin, and Bro. the Rev. J. E. Torbett, vicar of Hudsell, was duly installed Worshipful Master, the ceremony of installation being performed by Bro. Orde-Powlett, J.P., D.L., P.G.W. of England, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire. The newly-chosen W.M. then appointed the following Officers:—Bros. Peacock S.W., Murray J.W., Procter Treasurer, Spence Secretary, Close I.P.M., Donham D.C., Schofield S.D., Gilling J.D., Barber Organist, E. S. Close Inner Guard, Brown Steward, Hayward Junior Steward, and Grieves Outer Guard. The members then adjourned to the King's Head Hotel, where a banquet was provided. The customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured with enthusiasm. Songs were sung, and a very pleasant and harmonious evening was spent.

## LODGE OF INTEGRITY, No. 163 (MANCHESTER).

A MEETING took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, on Wednesday, 30th ultimo. Present—Bros. Bedson W.M. P.G. Organist, Sparkes S.W., Schofield J.W., Sinclair P.M. P.P.G.D. Treasurer, Wildgoose P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Secretary, Blamey S.D.; P.M.'s Warburton P.P.G.D., Studd P.G.D.C., J. E. Williams, Ben. Williams, and Macpherson; Bros. Gardner, Wood, Carr, Clemmey, Hiller, Hepworth, Mead, Sparkes, Pike, Moorhouse, Nield, Taylor, Slee, Chorley, Mitchell, Isaac Taylor, and Yates. After the Lodge had been opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, Bro. T. Sparkes was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Sinclair re-elected Treasurer. There being no further business the Lodge was closed.

## LODGE OF JOPPA, No. 188.

THE installation meeting of this ancient Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday last, a large number of the members and other brethren assembling to take part in the interesting ceremony. Bro. H. Lazarus W.M. presided, and was supported by Bros. Cohen S.W., Garrard J.W., Hogard P.M. P.G. Standard Bearer, Abrahams P.M., Dodson P.M., Botibol P.M., Dewanap P.M., Wall P.M., Gardner P.M., Lewis Lazarus P.M. Secretary, Lyons Treasurer, Henry Hyman P.M., Herring P.M., Rev. S. J. Roco Chaplain, Weigel, Nalak, Jacobs, Dancyger P.M., Ruffin, M. J. and S. Swersee, M. A. Hyman, Loewenstark P.M., Reed, Nathan, C. W. Rayner, Cook, Marks, H. Massey P.M., Orton Cooper, Myers P.M., and Ralph Solomons the father of the Lodge, having been a member for upwards of forty years. The Lodge was duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Treasurer read and presented the annual balance sheet, which was accepted, as was also the report of the Benevolent Fund. The ballot was then taken and proved in favour of Messrs. Julius Aarons, R. S. Parkes, Solomon Anijah, and John Bassett. These gentlemen were then initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, the ceremony being admirably rendered by Bro. H. Lazarus. The next business was the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Arthur Cohen, who was elected by the brethren for that position, was brought before the Lodge, and signified his assent to the usual conditions. This ceremony was likewise performed by the W.M., who thus carried out his duties to the last, and gave the various addresses in a masterly manner. The newly-made Master then appointed and invested the following Officers:—Bros. W. Garrod S.W., B. Weigel J.W., S. J. Roco Chaplain, Lewis Lazarus P.M. Secretary, J. S. Lyons Treas., M. Seigenberg S.D., P. Frantz J.D., Davey I.G., Dodson D.C., H. S. Onken A.D.C., Rosenberg, Hart and Thomas Stewards, Gaskell Tyler. On the W.M. rising for the second time the Secretary read a telegram from the Montefiore Lodge, at Brussels, sending hearty good wishes and congratulations to the new Master. Bro. Cohen then presented the Lodge Past Master's jewel to Bro. H. Lazarus; after which Bro. Barr, on behalf of the initiates during the past year, offered a handsome gold hunting watch and chain to the I.P.M. as a mark of their respect and appreciation of the manner in which he (Bro. Lazarus) had carried out the various ceremonies. Bro. Lazarus, in returning thanks, said he was deeply gratified at receiving the last-mentioned present, which was quite unexpected, but he should cherish both that and the jewel as marks of affectionate regard by the brethren. It may here be mentioned that the recipient of these gratifying testimonials is a son of Bro. Lewis Lazarus, the Secretary of the Lodge. Assistance having been granted to a distressed brother, the Lodge was closed and the company adjourned to dinner. At the conclusion of the repast the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bro. C. F. Hogard responding for the Grand Officers. Bro. H. Lazarus gave the Worshipful Master, and said his past record as an Officer of the Lodge was a guarantee that his year as Master would be a successful one. Brother Cohen, in returning thanks, stated his intention of

maintaining the high position of the Lodge to the best of his ability. They had started that night with four new candidates, so there was plenty of work before him, and he hoped there would be others to follow them. In replying for the Joppa Benevolent Fund, Bro. Lewis Lazarus said that it was established fifty years since, by their highly respected Bro. Chantag, for providing relief for distressed members of the Lodge instead of their applying to Grand Lodge. Sums of between £200 and £300 a year had been voted away, and he was glad to say the fund had been the means of replacing the recipients in their old positions. Bro. H. Lazarus in a few well chosen words responded for the Installing Master; he considered that evening one of the most eventful in his career, for he had now passed the chair of his Lodge, and had evidently given satisfaction to the brethren, by the handsome presents accorded him. He hoped he would long be associated with them, and would always gladly render any assistance in his power. The W.M. then proposed the initiates remarking that it was seldom that four brethren were made at one time. He trusted they would so conduct themselves that in a few years they would become Masters of the Lodge. Bro. Parkes said he should try and do his duty so as to be a credit to the Order. Bro. Anidjah thanked the Lodge for conferring the honour upon him; he would endeavour to prove deserving of it. Bro. Bassett observed that he would do his best to become a popular member of the Lodge. Bro. Aarons said it was a double pleasure for him to be a member, as several of the brethren were old acquaintances of his. Bros. Dancyger, Asher Myers, Loewenstark and H. Massey then returned thanks for the Visitors, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a pleasant termination. During the evening songs were given by Miss T. Blaney, Miss Flora Edwards, and Bros. Frank Swinford and Alfred Crofts.

## PHENIX LODGE, No. 257.

THE Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., attended the annual meeting of this Lodge held in the Lodge Room, High Street, on Wednesday, the 30th ult., and installed Bro. T. A. Bramdon as the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Colonel Shadwell Clerke, the Grand Secretary of the Craft, who had consented to perform the ceremony, died a few days previously, and a feeling reference was made to the great services rendered by him for many years past. During the evening a P.M.'s jewel of handsome design, subscribed for by the members of the Lodge, was presented to Bro. John Brickwood the retiring W.M., in recognition of the zeal displayed by him during his year of office.

## UNION LODGE, No. 310.

THE members, with a number of visiting brethren, met in their hall, Castle-street, Carlisle, on Tuesday, 29th ult., for the purpose of installing Bro. Graham as Worshipful Master for the year. The installation ceremony was performed in excellent style by Bro. Bowley. The new Master invested the following:—Bros. Wharton I.P.M., Clark S.W., Ratsey J.W., Grant S.D., Ritson J.D., Bostall I.G., Graham O.G. The brethren afterwards dined together at the Coffee House, under the presidency of the newly-installed Master. The usual toasts were duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

## WIGTON ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 327.

THE 84th anniversary was held on Saturday, 26th ult. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Nanson, Richardson and Graham, from Carlisle. Bro. Pearson was installed W.M. The brethren afterwards dined together at the Lion and Lamb Hotel, where the Lodge has been held ever since its formation.

## PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 345.

THE festival of St. John was held at the Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn, on the 17th ult., when the Officers for the year were invested by Bros. Holt P.M. and Halliwell P.M. P.P.G.O., the installing Officers. The Officers for 1892 are:—Bros. Sosbe W.M., Parkinson I.P.M., Hilder S.W., Howard J.W., Rev. J. C. Webb Chaplain, Scott P.M. Secretary, Green S.D., Margerison J.D., Thomas P.M. Dir. of Cers., Williams Organist, Whewell I.G., Butterworth S.S., Tyrrell J.S., Hillgrove Tyler. Subsequently the brethren dined together, and a long programme of toasts, songs, &c., was satisfactorily gone through.

## SCIENTIFIC LODGE, No. 439.

THE celebration of the festival of St. John was held in the Masonic Rooms, Bingley, on the 30th ult., when Bro. Greenwood was installed as W.M. in the presence of a distinguished company of Freemasons from all parts of the Province. The R.W.D.P. Grand Master, Bro. Henry Smith, honoured the Lodge with his presence, and there were representatives from sixteen other Lodges. The ceremony was impressively rendered by Worshipful Bro. G. R. MacGregor, M.D., who acted as Installing Master, assisted by Bro. T. M. Holmes F.M. P.P.G.S.B. The W.M. afterwards invested the following Officers:—G. R. MacGregor I.P.M., C. H. Haste S.W., C. Sugden J.W., H. S. Wood P.M. Treasurer, A. W. Ramsden P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Secretary, Sam Johnson Chaplain, J. A. Kershaw S.D., A. Platts J.D., E. Hallas P.M. Dir. of Cers., A. Ingham Organist, R. Armistead Supt. of Works, J. C. Willis I.G., F. Slicer and T. Blaushard Stewards, W. Slicer Tyler. The ceremony was followed by a banquet, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to.

## FRIENDSHIP AND SINCERITY LODGE, No. 472.

IT is customary for the members to hold their annual festival on St. John the Evangelist's Day, but the day of that Saint falling this year on a Sunday the Lodge was held on the previous Saturday.

The Worshipful Master of the past year (Bro. Captain Chaloner) was re-elected, and the following brethren were appointed to the various offices:—Bros. Morgan I.P.M., Benjfield S.W., Strange J.W., Rev. L. K. Hilton P.M. P.P.G.C. Oxfordshire Chaplain, Morgan Treasurer, Soppitt P.M. Secretary, Gavin S.D., Hartgill J.D., Carpenter Dir. of Cers., Ayres Organist, Woodford I.G., Phillips and Hiscock Stewards, Belbin Tyler. The W.M. Captain Chaloner entertained the brethren at the Grosvenor Arms Hotel, and a very pleasant and convivial evening was passed.

#### PRIORY LODGE, No. 1000.

THE annual festival will be held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Thursday, 14th inst., when Bro. Thomas will be installed as Worshipful Master, in succession to Bro. Hood. The ceremony of installation will be performed by Bro. Fred. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar, Deputy Provincial Grand Master Essex.

#### SHAKESPEARE LODGE, No. 1009 (MANCHESTER).

A MEETING was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, on Monday the 4th inst. Present—Bros. Crosland W.M., Pringle S.W., Southwell J.W., Enticknap P.M. Secretary; Past Masters Halden, Brookes, and Rome; Bros. Bennison, G. O. Brookes, Corby, Gilbert, Smith, and Horslem. Visitors—Ward 993, Spencer J.W. 317, and Lisenden P.M. 317. The Lodge was opened at 5 o'clock and the minutes of the last regular meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Lane to become a member of the Lodge, and announced favourable. The ballot was also favourable in the case of Bro. James, of the Wharncliffe Lodge, as a joining member. Bros. Corby, Smith, and Lewis being ready and willing to take their second degree, were interrogated as to their proficiency in the first, and having answered withdrew. They were subsequently passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., after which the Lodge was called off, and the brethren adjourned to tea. On resuming labour Mr. Till, who had been balloted for at the emergency meeting, was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., who subsequently performed the same office for Mr. Lane, and delivered the E. A. charge to both candidates in a very impressive manner. A fair night's work concluded with raising Bro. G. O. Brookes to the third degree, by his Brother, Past Master Brookes, and there being no further business the Lodge was closed.

#### CALLENDER LODGE, No. 1052 (MANCHESTER).

A MEETING took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street. Present—Bros. Lofthouse W.M., Wrigley P.M. acting S.W., Smith J.W., Ontram P.M. Secretary, Thorp S.D., Williams Organist, Brierley I.G., Lisenden P.M., &c.; Past Masters Jordrell, Jones, Walker, Williams, and Nathan; Bros. Breakell, Roworth, Hardicker, Roscoe, and Grocock; Visitor—Bro. Hilton W.M. 1458 Secretary 2363. The Lodge was opened at 7.15, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Grocock being present to take his third degree, had that honour conferred upon him by the W.M., and there being no further business, the Lodge was closed. A vote of sympathy was ordered to be sent to Bro. Leach on account of his long and painful illness.

#### TOWNLEY PARKER LODGE, No. 1083 (MANCHESTER).

A MEETING was held at the Grand Hotel, on Wednesday, 30th ult., when there were present Bros. Armitage W.M., Selby S.W., Parker J.W., Taylor Treasurer, Sinister Secretary, Birkbeck S.D., Edmondson Organist, Hoyland P.M. Dir. of Cers., Chalmers I.G.; P.M.'s Higham P.P.G.D.C., Hassall, Wand and Goldsmith; Bros. Tunaley and Fitzsimons. The Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. This being the night for electing a W.M. for the ensuing year, the choice of the brethren fell on Bro. Selby, who returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. Bro. Taylor was re-elected Treasurer, and there being no further business the Lodge was closed.

#### BROWNRIGG LODGE, No. 1424.

THE annual festival was celebrated in the Lodge-room, at the King's Arms Hotel, Brompton, on Tuesday, 22nd ult. There was a large attendance of Brethren. The Brownrigg Lodge is one of the few Service Lodges in England, its members being composed to a great extent of Freemasons connected with the Military Service, whilst in numbers it is the largest Lodge in the province of Kent. Bro. H. Chalfont was installed the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being ably carried out by Bro. S. E. Morgan P.M., a Past Provincial Grand Officer of Kent. The following brethren were then appointed the Officers of the Lodge, and each duly invested with the collar and jewel of his office:—Bros. Long S.W., Greener J.W., Salt P.M. Treasurer, Brown P.M. Sec., Monro S.D., McEwan J.D., Burroll I.G., Pressnail D.C., Moynard Organist, Haslam S.S., Knight J.S., and Rose Tyler. A valuable P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Salt I.P.M. in appreciation of the able manner in which he had presided over the Lodge during the past year. At the annual banquet, which subsequently took place, the attendance included several distinguished brethren connected with the province.

#### WHARNCLIFFE LODGE, No. 1462.

ON Tuesday, 29th ult., at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone, Bro. Stone S.W. was installed W.M. by Bro. Billington P.M. The following were invested as Officers:—Bros. Ruff I.P.M., Rev. Canon Turnball P.M. Chaplain, Taylor S.W., Dunstan J.W., Beanland P.M. Treasurer, Holden P.M. Secretary, Dunstan D.C., Cockcroft Organist, Bottamley S.D., Normansel J.D., Clarke I.G., Sykes,

Askwith and Jubb Stewards, Shere Tyler, being his 19th time of election. Afterwards the brethren sat down to an excellent repast, provided by Mrs. Bradley.

#### EBRINGTON LODGE, No. 1847.

THE members held their annual banquet, on the 5th inst., at Bro. Parr's New Market Hotel, Cornwall-street, Plymouth, the handsome dining-hall being tastefully decorated. Sixty-five brethren were present. Bro. Harold Roberts W.M. presided, supported by Bros. J. Harvey I.P.M., G. Milford S.W., C. J. F. Williams J.W., S. Jew P.P.G.T., C. A. Nicholson Treasurer, J. Lose Secretary, J. G. Gibson S.D., J. Keast J.D., J. Mitchell I.G., W. O. Hosking D. of C., G. J. Easterbrook Assist. D. of C., L. James Org., E. Howard, A. Dyer, A. Matthews and R. Purdie Stewards, J. Bartlett Tyler; P.M.'s A. R. Lethbridge P.P.G.Supt. Works, R. Lose jun., W. H. W. Macey, W. H. Williams, John Griffin. Among the visitors were Bros. Rev. Dr. Lemon P.P.G.J.W. Chaplain, R. B. Twose P.P.G.T., C. H. Cooper P.P.G.J.D., E. G. Dyke P.P.G.O. Cornwall; L. C. J. Livermore, W. King, E. Tont 70; T. R. E. Oliver, T. S. Eyre 1247; H. Roberts, H. Mortimore, N. Radmore, T. Stoner 159, R. Bassett, W. Sweet W.M. elect 1212; F. R. Thomas 189, H. Warren S.W., W. Luscombe J.W. 159, H. Reynolds S.W. 2025. To the I.P.M. a Past Master's jewel was presented, with inscription:—"Presented to W. Bro. John Harvey P.M. by the brethren of Lodge Ebrington 1847, in appreciation of his Masonic zeal, January 1892." The banquet was satisfactorily catered by Bro. Parr. A capital entertainment of songs and recitations was given by brethren. Among the entertainers were Bros. Dyke, J. Lose, E. J. F. Williams, R. E. White, T. S. Eyre, W. H. W. Macey, R. B. Twose, S. Jew and Rev. Dr. Lemon. Cornet solos were played by Bros. Elford, bandmaster, 3rd Devon Regiment; and organette solos by Bro. C Soper, musical director of Lodge 223.

#### CORNISH LODGE, No. 2369.

A MOST successful meeting of this Lodge, which is just entering on the second year of its existence, took place at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, W.C., on Saturday, the 19th ult., under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. Roberts, who had been installed in the chair at the previous meeting in October. The members present were Bros. West I.P.M., Ninnis, M.D., acting S.W., St. Anbyn J.W., Shuttleworth, M.A., Chap., Lake Treasurer, Greenwood Secretary, Burgess S.D., Rawle J.D., Curnow, M.D., D.C., Barrett I.G., Bullen Steward, Wilson W.M. 1529, Long, Richards, Passmore, Penberthy, Rev. H. V. Tyrrel, Thomas, Richards, Sergeant, Mably, Hill, M.D., Davey, Pool P.M. 450, James, Widger, Clarke, Geard, Hookin, Williams, Rogers, and the following visitors: Bros. Rotter 2191, Samlier, Hart 142, Adams P.M. 181, Voisey P.M. 1329, Hammond J.W. 2184, Margetts J.D. 1598, Schadler P.M. 65, Harbord 1541, Smith W.M. 357, and Palmernittle P.M. 1685. A full agenda paper showed that the Three Degrees were to be conferred, besides the ordinary business of the Lodge. The W.M., although in indifferent health, performed the whole of the ceremonies, and announced that he was going up as a Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at the next Festival, and as it was the Jubilee year of the Institution, he trusted the brethren would give him support worthy of the occasion. The Lodge had already voted the sum of 10 guineas to be placed on his list. Bro. Ninnis then proposed, and Bro. Carus-Wilson seconded, a vote of £5 toward the Gould Testimonial Fund, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Lake Treasurer then rose to propose that in view of his distinguished services to Masonry Bro. Hughan, of Torquay P.S.G.D. England, P.S.G.W. and P.P.G. Secretary of Cornwall, should be placed on the roll of the Lodge as an honorary member. Bro. Lake referred to the labours of our distinguished brother in every phase of Masonic work during a period of nearly 30 years. It was not only as an historian of the Craft, a practical worker, and an energetic promoter of the Charities that they desired to honour Bro. Hughan; his fame had already received recognition in every part of the world where Masonry was known and practised. Nothing that they could do as a Lodge would enhance the reputation that Bro. Hughan had already acquired, but it was as Cornishmen that they desired to express their appreciation of the valuable services he had rendered to the county during the long period he had been connected with it, using his great influence always to further the best interests of the Craft. As a lifelong friend who had been intimately acquainted with Bro. Hughan, and who knew his worth as a man and a Mason, he (Bro. Lake) felt proud of submitting the name of one so honoured in Masonry as an honorary member of their Lodge. The proposition was seconded by Bro. Ninnis acting W.M., and supported by Bro. West I.P.M. After the usual routine business of the Lodge had been disposed of, the brethren adjourned to a banquet, presided over by the W.M.

Wednesday, the 20th instant, has been appointed for the reception of Works of Art intended for the Spring Exhibition (the Twenty-sixth) of the 19th Century Art Society, at the Conduit Street Galleries.

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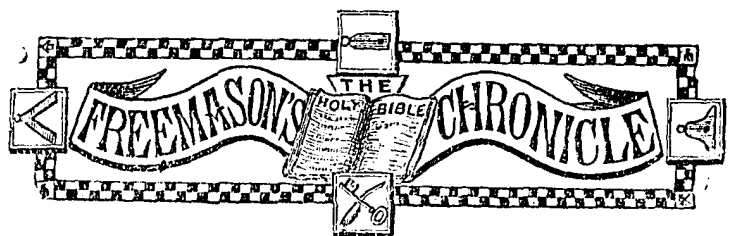
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SATURDAY, 9TH JANUARY 1892.

**PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF  
HEREFORD.**

**B**Y the command of the Right Worshipful Bro. Sir Joseph Bailey, M.P., Provincial Grand Master, the annual meeting was held on Monday, 28th ult., at the Green Dragon Hotel Assembly Room, under the banner of the Palladian Lodge, No. 120.

A Craft Lodge having been opened by the W.M. of the Palladian Lodge, the Provincial Grand Master and his



Officers were received with the customary honours, and they opened Provincial Grand Lodge in due form. The muster roll showed there were 64 brethren present, members of Lodges in the Province, together with ten visiting Masons. The annual accounts recorded a satisfactory balance to the credit of the Province. Reports from the five Lodges of the Province showed that the number of subscribing members was 221, an increase of 26 over the Lodges' returns in February 1890. Another report stated that during the last twelve years the brethren of the Province had contributed, through their Charity Association, nearly £800 to the London Masonic Institutions, in addition to the donations sent direct from Lodges and individual members.

Bro. Beddoe was re-appointed Provincial Grand Treasurer, and Sir Joseph Bailey, subsequently invested him, and also the new Provincial Officers:—

C. J. Saxby	Senior Warden
Thomas Handford	Junior Warden
Rev. T. Thistle	Chaplain
William Earle	Secretary
Thomas Matthews	Registrar
Edward Maddison	Senior Deacon
Thomas Blinkhorn	Junior Deacon
J. Archer White	Supt. of Works
F. S. Collins	Dir. of Cers.
B. Callwick	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
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G. R. Sinclair	Organist
W. T. Sale	Pursuivant
C. A. Stephens	Tyler
W. Parly	} Stewards
J. Meredith	
J. B. Hill	
W. S. Langford	
Rev. Evan Williams	

A grant of £10 was made to the distressed widow of a deceased Hereford Freemason. Ross was named as the place for the next annual meeting.

A banquet was afterwards served, to a company of nearly sixty brethren, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master. He proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, and his Deputy, Bro. Piper, gave the toast of the Officers of the Grand Lodge.

The health of the Chairman was proposed by the Rev. J. Buckle, who referred to him in affectionate terms as a good and true man in every station of life.

In response, Sir Joseph alluded feelingly to the great loss sustained by Freemasons in the death of Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary of England. Colonel Clerke kindly attended at Hereford in 1880, at the occasion of his (Sir Joseph's) installation, most effectively rendering the beautiful ceremonies of the Craft, the knowledge of which he had at his fingers' end. In conclusion, the Chairman proposed the health of the D.P.G.M.

The Rev. T. Thistle proposed "The Visitors." He observed that hospitality was a great Masonic virtue, of the experience of which in this and other countries he could speak in the warmest and most grateful terms.

Brother T. Duckham responded, as one of the oldest Masons in the Province.

In proposing the toast of the Masonic Charities, Bro. William Earle the P.G.S. said it was a comprehensive one, as it embraced those great Masonic Institutions which annually expended more than £40,000, of which about one-half was devoted to the clothing, education, and maintenance of about 550 children of Masons, and the other half in payment of substantial annuities to aged brethren and widows of brethren who had been worsted in the battle of life. It was almost impossible, he thought, to estimate the amount of good effected and of sorrow alleviated by the judicious action of the Committees of the Institutions. Those Institutions supplied practical evidence of the fraternal sympathy of Masons for the young, and for those who were in distress. From the report of the Provincial Masonic Charity Association, of which he had the honour to be the Hon. Secretary, it would be seen that the Association had remitted about £800 during the past twelve years to the various Charities, and the Committee hoped that the liberal subscriptions would be maintained, if not indeed increased considerably. Bro. Earle took the opportunity of referring to the assistance rendered to the Association by Bros. H. C. Beddoe and C. Rootes, who was a Past President, and coupled the names of those brethren with the toast.

Bro. Beddoe, in his reply, extolled the work of Brother

Earle, as founder and Hon. Secretary of the Herefordshire Masonic Charity Association, and Bro. Rootes endorsed his remarks.

#### 1891 IN THE WEST.

THE English Craft has had a busy, prosperous year, and the West of England has fully participated in the general progress. The most remarkable event affecting the Fraternity locally, as well as generally, has been the appointment of the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe as Deputy Grand Master of England, the vacancy having occurred through the decease of the lamented Lord Carnarvon in the previous year. Lord Mount Edgcumbe being well known and esteemed in Devon and Cornwall, both counties have heartily taken part in the felicitations on the special honour thus conferred on the beloved Prov. Grand Master of Cornwall; and the most westerly county is also now raising a fund to make a presentation to the daughter of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe on her marriage. A large sum could easily and promptly be obtained, but that would not meet with the approval of the Prov. Grand Master; so the gift will be rather representative than fully expressive of the feelings of the Brotherhood.

The Prov. Grand Lodge of Devon was held at Tavistock, that town being selected because it was the Centenary year of the Bedford Lodge, formed in 1790. The Cornish "annual" was convened at St. Austell, and both assemblies passed off well, as usual, all the reports being very satisfactory. The local charitable funds are in a healthy condition, and numerically the Lodges are holding their own, there being some 4,500 subscribing members in the two counties.

Several halls have been dedicated, or are in preparation, it being the exception now for any Masonic meetings to be held in hotels or houses of public resort; and the buildings thus set apart for the Fraternity, and owned by the brethren, are a credit to all concerned. This much-needed reform has taken time to complete, but practically the Craft in the West have now their own halls, or the use of private buildings for their gatherings, and the respected Provincial Grand Master of Devon, Viscount Ebrington, M.P., with his Deputy Brother W. G. Rogers, have done their part to help on such a good work.

The Royal Arch meetings at Exeter and Liskeard were duly congregated, but there is still need for increased vitality in connection with this degree. Bro. Hughan's lecture at Totnes was the only attempt during the year to promote the study of this beautiful ceremony.

Mark Masonry is as active as ever, under the local rulers (Sir Stafford H. Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., and Sir Charles B. Graves Sawle, Bart., M.P.) The Provincial Grand Lodge for Devon met at Devonport, and that for Cornwall at Liskeard, and a new Lodge has been consecrated at Camborne, and another at Kingsbridge, the total membership being about 1,000.

In Knight Templary the lethargic condition remains, and has almost become chronic. There were two Preceptories in Cornwall, but only one now remains, and the six in Devon have only a roll of membership that might well belong to one of the subordinations. The Rev. Dr. T. W. Lemon is a most zealous Provincial Prior, and should have more generous support from the Fraters. Possibly the union of Devon and Cornwall, as was once the case, might be of advantage, and certainly the last annual was one of the best that has been held for years, showing there is no lack of vitality if its outward manifestation could be more generally secured. The meeting was held at Torquay, and being the Centenary of the existence of the present Great Priory, was a most interesting occasion.

The Charities in London have been well supported, the total receipts amounting to some £53,000, towards which noble sum Devon and Cornwall contributed about £750.

In Masonic literature during the year Devon has done its part, as testified by the handsome volume issued by Brother John Lane on "Centenary Warrants and Jewels," which is nearly all subscribed for; and Bro. Hughan has been the European editor of a colossal History of Freemasonry, which is having an enormous sale, especially in the United States, where it is published, some 20,000 copies having already been purchased, and the work is likely to reach a circulation of six figures.

The Craft has been called to mourn the loss of several distinguished brethren, including the Archbishop of York, Alderman Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., M.P., and Colonel Clerke Grand Secretary; and locally the brethren deplore the decease of Bro. E. T. Carlyon for long Provincial Grand Secretary of Cornwall.—*Western Morning News.*

#### A HUDDERSFIELD FREEMASON'S JUBILEE.

THERE was a very large assemblage of Freemasons at the Masonic Hall, South Parade, on Tuesday, 29th ult., to celebrate the Masonic Jubilee of Bro. Edward Armitage P.P.G.W. West Yorkshire, who resides at Edgerton, Huddersfield. He was initiated a member of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 275, exactly 50 years ago that night, namely, on the 29th December 1841, and has continued a subscribing member ever since. The opportunity was taken of celebrating the jubilee by presenting to Bro. Armitage an illuminated Bible, containing an illuminated appropriate address in recognition of his fidelity to his Lodge and his long service to Freemasonry generally. The gathering was most enthusiastic, and many good wishes were expressed for the long life and future happiness of Bro. Edward Armitage.

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 "Six Melodious Studies," by G. Augustus Holmes.  
 "La Campagne," by Pierrot Lassalle.  
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 "Zuleika." Waltz. By Florence Fare.  
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 "The Hunter's Horn." By Henry Smart.  
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 "Love to the Last." Song. Words by Clifton Bingham, music by J. M. Capel.  
 "On Silver Waters." Song. Words by Ellis Walton, music by Joseph Roedel.  
 "The Ingle Nook." Song. Words by Nicol Pentland, music by J. Harold Carson.  
 "Which will you Wed." Song. Words by R. S. Hitchens, music by Howard Talbot.

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THE second batch of music which we have received from these publishers is of excellent quality, and, as before, is for all kinds of musicians. Messrs. Cocks seem to go in for pleasing all, and if we may judge from the above varied parcel, they are sure to succeed in their desire. Taking them as we have written them above, we come first of all to Otto Peiniger's Violin Method, which is a large quarto book of 147 pages, costing only 3s 6d. This work is a useful one, and by a careful study of its contents the student cannot fail to materially improve his playing on the violin. The Morceau de Salon, "Chant D'Amour," by the same composer, is for the violin and piano; this will make a capital selection when properly played. The same applies to "The Humming Bird," for violin and piano, likewise by Otto Peiniger. The "Serenade" for violin or violoncello, with accompaniment for piano, is well worthy of Leo Stern, while the "Mazurka" in La, for violoncello and piano, is sure to attract attention. Another piece for violoncello and piano, by Leo Stern, is the "Gavotte Ancienne," which we feel sure will be heard frequently during the season. Two capital dances, a "Polish Dance" and a "Hungarian Dance," both by G. F. West, are tuneful and attractive, and can be recommended. Number 1 of "Six Melodious Studies," for piano, by G. Augustus Holmes, is a capital piece of music, and will be eagerly sought after, and we may say the same in reference to the first of six morceaux for piano, "La Campagne," by Pierrot Lassalle. A splendid fantasia on Scotch melodies for the piano is "The Gathering of the Clans," by H. F. Henniker. This is not too difficult, but very effective, and cannot fail to become popular. Florence Fare has given us another of her charming waltzes, "Zuleika," which is bound to command the attention of programme compilers. E. Boggetti has composed a pretty rondo schottische, "The Mountain Rose," which will make its mark, while the first of a series of twelve popular songs for classes, arranged by Alfred J. Caldicott, entitled "The Hunter's Horn," by Henry Smart, makes a capital chorus. We now come to the songs, the first of which, "The Miller and his Wife," is a theme in the old style, by J. M. Capel, with words from the pen of R. S. Hitchens. There is good work in this, but we are not struck with it. "Love to the Last," by Clifton Bingham and J. M. Capel, with violin and violoncello accompaniment, should certainly make its mark in the concert room; while "On Silver Waters," by Ellis Walton and J. L. Roedel, with its swinging refrain and really catching music, cannot fail to gain an encore whenever sung. N. Pentland is responsible for the words of "The Ingle Nook," and has written a most pretty song, dealing with Christmas time. J. Harold Carson supplies the music, and has accomplished his work in a praiseworthy fashion. The last on our list is "Which will you wed?" a pretty love ditty, with words by R. S. Hitchens and music by Howard Talbot. This is a catchy little song, well worthy of a singer's abilities, and one that should be heard frequently. Messrs. Cocks and Co. are to be congratulated on the way they have produced the above pieces, and we feel sure if any of them are purchased they will give satisfaction.

**New Olympic.**—This Saturday morning, 9th January, at 2:30, and for following matinees, every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, Mr. W. Kelly will revive "Heartsease," as adapted by Jas. Mortimer from Alexandre Dumas' famous novel "La Dame aux Camélias." Miss Grace Hawthorne will impersonate Marguerite Gautier (Camille), the part in which she scored so great a success five years ago at this theatre. "Oliver Twist," in consequence of its enormous success, will be retained in the evening bill for the present, with Miss Grace Hawthorne as "Nancy," and Bassett Roe as "Bill Sikes."

**Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614.**—The usual weekly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on the 31st ult., when there were present:—Bro. G. H. Foan (Assistant Preceptor) W.M., W. Hoggins S.W., C. O. Burgess J.W., G. Reynolds Treasurer and Secretary, T. C. Seary Organist, T. W. Hambley S.D., W. Jones J.D., J. H. Keen I.G., G. H. Reynolds, A. Cogliati, N. Dakas, R. Kirk, F. J. Bonham, J. Wise, and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. G. H. Foan was presented as W.M. elect. The W.M. appointed and invested his Officers. Bro. G. H. Reynolds gave the three addresses. Bro. F. J. Bonham offered himself as a candidate to be raised, was duly examined, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. On rising, Bro. F. J. Bonham, of the Marylebone Lodge, No. 1305, was unanimously elected a member of this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. W. Hoggins S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

**Walthamstow Lodge of Instruction, No. 2192.**—The weekly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, 28th ultimo, at Bridge Chambers, Hoe Street Railway Station. Present—Brothers Westfield P.P.G.S.B. W.M., Lambert S.W., Fortescue J.W., Shurmur P.P.G. Treasurer Preceptor, Bateman S.D., Tracey J.D., Fielder I.G., Bestow Secretary, Collett Steward, Trickett, Hamilton, Ives P.M., Short, Griffith, Gray jun., Cropley, Clark, Allen, King, Mann, Herbert, Peck, Falford. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed and the Ancient Charge delivered, Bro. Clark as candidate. Bro. Lambert was unanimously elected to occupy the chair at ensuing meeting; he appointed his Officers in rotation. To the intense delight of all present, the satisfactory announcement was made that the Deputy Prov. Grand Master F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar had graciously accepted the office of President of this Lodge of Instruction. The Preceptor, in most feeling terms, referred to the decease of the Grand Secretary Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, and it was resolved that a letter of condolence should be sent to the bereaved family. Brother Westfield P.P.G.S.B. was deputed to attend the funeral to represent the Lodge of Instruction, and the Shurmur Lodge, both of which ordered a handsome wreath to be supplied.

Bro. Robert Burns's father, William Burns, was a plain, simple, right-minded man, staid in his temperament and demeanour, deliberate in his way of thinking, and, from his early training, and according to his light, devout and religious. They were a serious family, somewhat too serious it may be, for Burns, when he began to think for himself and go about among the young people of Lochea and Mossgiel. But however this may have been, and whatever the wisdom or unwisdom of his father's conscientious care of him, his character was moulded in the home circle, which strengthened if it could not broaden it. There was in him the same pattern of manhood as in his father, the same sense of duty, the same sincerity and honesty, and the same self-respect and pride. Burns was happier in his parentage than Byron, for though a poor, unlettered farmer, William Burnes was what Captain Byron was not—a gentleman. The impression I have formed of Burns after reading him for years, and comparing him with other poets of earlier and later date, is that no British poet ever owed so much to his own genius and so little to the genius or talents of others; or, to put it differently, so little to books. Tolerably read for a man in his station, he had no conception for literature as literature; his mind was vigorous and his gifts were great; but he was not literate. He held his own among the great at Edinburgh—among the literati, the professors, the judges, the lords and ladies, not by virtue of what he knew, but of what he was. "The attentions he received during his stay in town," said Dugald Stewart to Dr. Currie, "from all ranks and descriptions of persons, were such as would have turned any head but his own. I cannot say that I could perceive any unfavourable effect which they left upon his mind. He retained the same simplicity of manners and appearance which had struck me so forcibly when I first saw him in the country; nor did he seem to feel any additional self-importance from the number and rank of his new acquaintances."—Richard Henry Stoddard.

A meeting of the stewards of the Masonic Ball was held on the 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, Bro. A. J. Bamford, C.C., presiding. There was a very large attendance. The business was the election of Captain and sub-Captain of the Stewards. Bro. W. R. Sweetman was appointed Captain and Bro. A. Kirkpatrick sub-Captain. Lord Lathom has signified his intention of being present at the ball, and it was decided by the stewards at their meeting to confer upon him the special honour of receiving him under the "Arch of Steel," by the Knights Templar and the Knights of Malta. Those brethren desiring to participate in this ceremonial are requested to notify their desire to the secretaries of the ballot.

On the 29th ult. the funeral of Bro. W. Devin, who was well-known in musical circles in Brighton, and who died at his residence in Victoria-road, Brighton, on Christmas Eve, took place at the Parochial Cemetery, in the presence of a large number of people. Bro. Devin was a member of the Royal York Lodge, and many of the brethren were in attendance, as well as Colonel Chatfield, Major E. Noble Edwards, and a number of non-commissioned officers of the 1st Sussex Artillery Volunteers, of which corps he was for many years bandmaster. The deceased was fifty-six years of age.

**THE FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL CENTENARY BAZAAR.**

A MOST successful meeting, attended by her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn, for the purpose of furthering the objects of the coming Masonic Female Orphan Centenary Bazaar, to be held in Dublin in May, under the patronage of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, was held in the Maseno Hall, Omagh, on Monday 21st ult.

Major Henry Irvine, J.P., who presided, explained the objects of the meeting, after which W. F. Black, Esq., D.L., in an eloquent and lengthy speech, fully set before those present what it was intended for the Provincial Lodge of Tyrone and Fermanagh to do in connection with the Centenary Bazaar. He stated that the whole question had been carefully gone into by the brethren, and that after long and serious consideration they considered it more advisable not to have a separate stall for the Province, but to give all contributions to the stall of the Grand Master of Ireland, his Grace the Duke of Abercorn. He urged upon the Masonic brethren present that they, their wives, sisters, and friends, should work to the best of their ability to further the objects they had in view.

A ladies' committee was then appointed, to receive contributions and to meet monthly.

A committee of Masons was also appointed to receive the report of the ladies' committee and contributions sent them, and to transact general business.

At the conclusion, on the motion of Sir John M. Stewart, Bart., P.G.M., a vote of thanks was accorded to her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn for her kindness in being present.

The visitors were afterwards entertained to evening tea by the brethren of the Omagh Lodges.

**NEW HALL FOR KILWINNING**—The annual meeting of Mother Lodge, No. 0, was held at Kilwinning, on the 21st ult. Bro. the Hon. Thomas Cochran R.W.M. presided. There was an excellent turn-out of members. It was resolved to exact annually from members of the Mother Lodge a test fee of 2s, which, however, might be commuted for a lump sum of £1. The R.W.M. stated that there were three proposals before the Lodge with reference to new premises. The first was that the present building should be altered and renovated, at a cost of about £800; the second, that premises be rebuilt entirely on the present site; and the third, that a Lodge-room, hall, &c., be erected on a new site. Bro. Patrick Burns submitted a report, plan, and estimate of probable cost of new buildings on a site belonging to the Earl of Eglinton, between the Abbey tower and the main street. The Earl had agreed to grant the site at a nominal feu duty, and the heritors had also agreed to patronise the scheme by giving off a small corner of the churchyard. The estimated cost was £1250; their available funds amounted to £850, and he was willing to guarantee that the balance necessary should either be raised or borrowed. This announcement was received with applause, and, on the motion of Bro. the Rev. W. Lee Ker, seconded by Bro. W. F. Allan, Glasgow, Bro. Burns' proposal was unanimously adopted. A committee, vested with full powers to proceed with the building of the new premises, was then appointed. The Office-bearers were re-elected as undernoted:—Bros. the Hon. Thomas Cochran R.W.M., and as such Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire; Scott D.M., Jack S.M., Boyd S.W., Clark J.W., Wylie Secretary, Matheson Assistant Sec., Conn Treasurer, Rev. Lee Ker Chaplain, Aird S.D., Lang J.D., Stevenson S.S., Murray J.S., Armour (Irvine) and Wilson (Glasgow) Architects, Aitken I.G., and Gamble Tyler. An adjournment was afterwards made to the hall of the Eglinton, where deputations from Sister Lodges were entertained.

By the deeply lamented death of Colonel Shadwell Clerke, the great Masonic Fraternity sustains an all but irreparable loss. Singularly well qualified for the peculiar and multifarious duties devolving upon the chief permanent official of an organisation so powerful, wealthy, and influential as the Freemasons under the English Constitution, Colonel Clerke combined great power of work with infinite amiability, tact, courtesy, and an ever-ready desire to oblige, and was as thoroughly efficient and popular as it was possible for a man in his position to be. The position of Grand Secretary to the Freemasons of England, rendered vacant by the death recorded, is one by no means easy to fill efficiently. It is technically in the gift of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, but the Craft is eminently a constitutional body, and the appointment will be doubtless made as heretofore, by long tradition, on the recommendation of the responsible advisers who form the Grand Master's Council. Upon the wisdom of their selection much of the prosperity and stable contentment of the Order depends; and its well-wishers are already hoping that the personal qualifications and special fitness of candidates may be carefully weighed, and that fantastic claims of whatever kind may be as carefully ignored. It will be difficult, indeed, to replace the widely loved, respected, and versatile Shadwell Clerke, but his loss need not be embittered by the appointment of a successor who would be condemned as unqualified by the popular voice.—*The World.*

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire (Bro. John Morland) and other distinguished members of the Craft, were present, on the 1st inst., at the installation meeting of the Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, at Newbury. The Senior Warden (Bro. Harold), who has had Masonic experience in America and Hong Kong, was installed as Worshipful Master by Past Master Stephen Knight Past Prov. Senior Grand Warden. The outgoing Worshipful Master (Brother Maples) was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel. A banquet in the Council Chamber followed the Lodge business.

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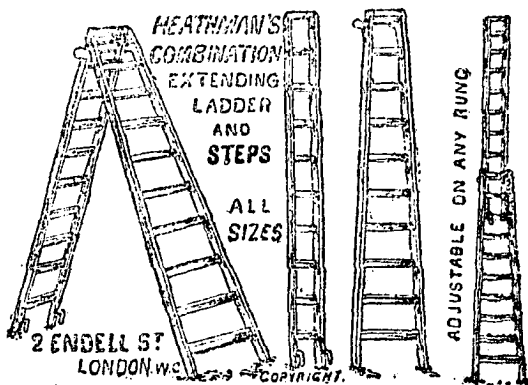
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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

Saturday, 9th January.

- 176 Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street
1426 The Great City, Cannon Street Hotel
1553 Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

Monday, 11th January.

- 5 St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H., W.C.
29 St. Albans, Albion, Aldersgate Street
58 Felicite, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street

Wednesday 13th January.

- Committee R.M.B.L., Freemasons' Hall, 3
11 Enoch, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
13 Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Woolwich

Friday, 15th January.

- 6 Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St James's
143 Middlesex, Albion, Tavern Aldersgate Street
201 Jordan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

Saturday, 16th January.

- 715 Panmure, Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.
1329 Sphinx, Surrey M.H., Cumberwell
1614 Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Cumberwell

INSTRUCTION.

Saturday, 9th January.

- 87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's Park, near Nutehead Junction, 730
179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C. 8

Thursday, 14th January.

- 91 Regularity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
295 Friendship, Ship and Turtle, E.C.
233 Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

Tuesday, 12th January.

- 46 Old Union, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
180 St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall W.C.
168 Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall St., E.C.

- 93 Social, 23 St. Giles Street, Norwich
126 Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Barnley
131 Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro

**Monday, 11th January.**

22 Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, 7.30  
 27 Egyptian, Atlantic Tavern, Brixton, S.W., 8  
 45 Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Ropemaker St.,  
 174 Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch St., 7  
 180 St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant, 8  
 248 True Love & Unity, F.M.H., Brixham, Devon,  
 332 Royal Union, Chequers' Hotel, Uxbridge  
 548 Wellington, White Swan, High St., Deptford,  
 823 Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 7.30  
 975 Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, 7.30  
 1227 Upton, Three Nuns, Aldgate, E., 8  
 1339 Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 6.30  
 1425 Hyde Park, Prince of Wales's Hotel, corner of  
 Eastbourne Terrace, and Bishop's Rd., W. 8  
 1445 Prince Leopold, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., 7  
 1449 Royal Military, Masonic Hall Canterbury,  
 1489 M. of Ripon, Queen's Hot, Victoria Park, 7.30  
 1507 Metropolitan, The Moorgate, E.C., 7.30  
 1585 Royal Commemoration, Railway Ho, Putney  
 1608 Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, W., 8  
 1623 West Smithfield, Manchester Hotel, E.C., 7  
 1693 Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., 8.30  
 1707 Eleanor, Rose and Crown, Tottenham, 8  
 1743 Perseverance, Deacon's Tavern, Walbrook, 7  
 1891 St. Ambrose, Baron's Ct. Hot, W. Kensington, 8  
 1901 Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich, 8  
 2192 Walthamstow, Bridge Chambers, Hoe Street  
 Walthamstow, 8

**Tuesday, 12th January.**

25 Robert Burns, 8 Tottenham Court Road, 8  
 55 Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Holborn, 7  
 141 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, S.W.  
 177 Domatio, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 7.30  
 188 Joppa, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street, 8  
 212 Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, 8  
 241 Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool  
 463 East Surrey Lodge of Concord, Greyhound  
 Hotel, Croydon, 8  
 554 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, 8  
 700 Nelson, Star and Garter, Woolwich, 7.30  
 753 Prince Fred. William, Eagle Tav., Maida Hill,  
 820 Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, 7.30  
 829 Sydney, Black Horse Hotel, Sidcup, 7  
 860 Dalhousie, Middleton Arms, Dalston, 8  
 861 Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle St., 7  
 1044 Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Wandsworth, 8  
 1321 Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8  
 1343 St. John, Masonic Hall, Grays, Essex  
 1349 Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, 7.30  
 1448 Mount Edgumbe, Three Stags, Lambeth Rd., 8  
 1471 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., 7.30, 8  
 1472 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich  
 1473 Bootle, 148 Berry Street, Bootle, 6  
 1540 Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High St.  
 1638 Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Norbiton, 8  
 1695 New Finsbury Park, Horusay Wood Tav, N.,  
 1839 Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, E.C., 7  
 1949 Brixton, Prince Regent East Brixton, 8  
 2146 Surbiton, Maple Hall, Surbiton  
 Metropolitan Chapter, White Hart, Cannon St., 6.30  
 R.A. 704 Camden, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., 8

**Wednesday, 13th January.**

R.A. 1365 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 8  
 R.A. 1642 E. of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting  
 Hill, 8

3 Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, 8  
 30 United Mariners', Lugard, Peckham, 7.30  
 72 Royal Jubilee, Mitre, Chancery Lane, W.C., 8  
 73 Mount Lebanon, George Inn, Borough, 8  
 193 Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall St.,  
 223 United Strength, Hope, Regent's Park, 8  
 538 La Tolerance, Portland Hot, Gr. Portland St., 6  
 591 Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 7  
 673 St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 8  
 720 Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, 7  
 751 Merchant Navy, Silver Tav, Burdett Rd., 7.30  
 813 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Rd.  
 862 Whittington, Red Lion, Fleet Street, 8  
 902 Burgoyne, Essex Arms, Strand, 8  
 972 St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, 8.30  
 1037 Portland, Portland Hall, Portland  
 1269 Stanhope, Fox and Hounds, Putney  
 1356 Toxteth, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool, 7.30  
 1475 Peckham, 516 Old Kent Road, 8  
 1511 Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull  
 1601 Ravensbourne, Rising Sun, Rusby Green, Cat-  
 ford, 8  
 1604 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant,  
 S.W., 7.30  
 1662 Beaconsfield, Chequers, Walthamstow, 7.30  
 1681 Loudesborough, Berkeley Arms, May Fair 8  
 1692 Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, 8.30  
 1791 Creaton, Wheatshoaf, Shophord's Bush, 8  
 1922 Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell  
 New Road, 8  
 1963 Duke of Albany, 153 Battersea Park Road, 7.30  
 2206 Hendon, Welsh Harp, Houdon, 8  
 R.A. 177 Domatio, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8  
 R.A. 720 Panmure, Goose and Gridiron, E.C., 7  
 R.A. 933 Doric, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., 7.30  
 M.M. Grand Masters, 8a Red Lion Square, 7

**Thursday, 14th January.**

144 St. Luke, White Hart, Chelsea, 7.30  
 147 Justice, Brown Bear, Deptford, 8  
 263 Clarence, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C.  
 754 High Cross, Coach and Horses, Tottenham, 8  
 879 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe  
 New Road  
 890 Hornsey, Masonic Room, Lewisham, at 8  
 1017 Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8  
 1158 Southern Star, Sir Syd. Smith, Kennington,  
 1182 Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool, 7.30  
 1278 Bardet Counts, Swan, Bethnal Green Road, 8  
 1306 St. John, Three Crowns, Mile End Road, 8  
 1360 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales, Wimbledon, 7.30  
 1426 The Great City, Masons' Hall Avenue, 6.30  
 1558 D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Camberwell, 8  
 1571 Leopold, City Arms Tavern, E.C., 7  
 1580 Cranbourne, Red Lion, Hatfield, 8  
 1602 Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse, Liverpool  
 Road, N., 8

1612 West Middlesex, Bell, Ealing Dean, 7.45  
 1614 Coven Garden, Criterion, W., 8  
 1622 Rose, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8  
 1625 Tredegar, Wellington, Bow, E., 7.30  
 1711 Royal Savoy, Bino Posts, Charlotte Street, 8  
 1950 Southgate, Railway Hot, New Southgate, 7.30  
 1677 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Road,  
 Clerkenwell, 9  
 1996 Priory, Constitutional Club, Acton  
 R.A. 753 Prince Frederick William Lord's Hotel,  
 St. John's Wood, 8  
 R.A. 1471 North London, Northampton House,  
 Canonbury, 8

**Friday, 15th January.**

Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, 6  
 General Lodge, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, 8  
 167 St. John's, York and Albany, Regent's Park,  
 507 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 7.30  
 733 Westbourne, Swiss Cottage Tavern, Finchley  
 Road, N.W., 8  
 765 St. James, Princess Victoria, Rotherhithe, 8  
 R.A. 820 Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, 8  
 R.A. 890 Hornsey, Prince of Wales's Hotel, corner of  
 Eastbourne Terrace, and Bishop's Road, W. 8  
 R.A. 1275 Star, Stirling Castle, Church Street,  
 Camberwell, 7  
 780 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, 1  
 834 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith  
 1056 Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, 7  
 1185 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, Wood Green, 7.30  
 1223 Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8  
 1293 Royal Standard, Builders' Arms, Canonbury,  
 1365 Clapton, Navarino Tavern, Hackney, 8  
 1381 Kennington, The Horns, Kennington, 8  
 1457 Bagshaw, Public Hall, Loughton, Essex, 7.30  
 1642 E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, 8  
 1901 Selwyn, Montpelier, Choumont Rd., Peckham, 8  
 2021 Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, The  
 Criterion, W., 8  
 2030 Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, S.W., 7.30  
 R.A. 95 Eastern Star, Hercules Tavern, E.C.  
 R.A. 1275 Star, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8,

**Saturday, 16th January.**

87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's  
 Park, near Nunhead Junction, 7.30  
 179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C., 8  
 198 Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8  
 1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E.,  
 1283 Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, 8  
 1364 Earl of Zeland, Royal Edward, Hackney, 7  
 1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Stanley, Hackney 8  
 1624 Eccleston, 13 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, 7  
 2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith 7.03  
 R.A. Sinai, Red Lion, King Street, Regent, St. W. 8



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| 501 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.  | 10  | 10 | 0 | 531 History of the Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65. London, 1891. † Scarce.  | 0  | 12 | 6 |   |
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