

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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WATCHFULNESS.

FROM our earliest association with the Craft we are exhorted to be watchful. Watchful over our own conduct, and ever careful to foster and promulgate the welfare and happiness of the human race. In bearing this charge in mind we should, however, remember it is not expected that we are to sacrifice the comfort and independence of those with whom our family relationship is of the closest character, or that we should overlook the more imperative calls of those nearest and dearest to us. Our care for those outside our immediate circle should not be allowed to take precedence of, but should be subservient to, our natural calls. We often hear such remarks as, "Brother A. is a splendid fellow; one of the most zealous workers in the cause of charity. Get him to promise to assist you and your case is assured." This may be so, but does Bro. A. always exercise that watchfulness that has been so pertinaciously impressed upon him, and is he equal to the strain—if we may use such a term—that such a reputation too frequently compels him to undergo? We fear not; in too many cases the excess of zeal that has secured for the possessor of such a reputation his high position, exhausts itself and leaves but a string of mental regrets and a bitter train of disappointments.

In entering upon a Masonic career we strongly advise all our young friends to study the somewhat contradictory aphorism, "make haste slowly." Make haste, by all means, but let watchfulness regulate your speed. When you have settled upon a pathway, look for a foothold that will enable you to advance, and when you have reached any given stage of your journey let there be no repinings as to opportunities lost or time unnecessarily wasted. We have often heard it said that such and such a brother was initiated only twelve months back, and he is capable of working the Fifteen Sections and rehearsing the whole of the Craft ceremonies. This intelligence has not at all times afforded us the gratification that he who made it desired to convey. When the "prodigy" thus referred to has been personally known to us the thought has naturally intruded itself, at what sacrifice has he achieved all this? Has it been at the expense of his business, which in too many of such cases will be found to have been seriously affected, or has he been neglecting the more pressing claims of those nearest and dearest to him? In far too many cases we have reluctantly had to arrive at the conclusion,—Yes, in both cases.

Another important stage of a young Mason's career wherein watchfulness should be exercised is, when the consideration as to how far and how soon shall he seek advancement demands his attention. With some there is but one aspiration; it is this, that they shall pass through the several degrees at the earliest possible opportunity. To us the fact that a brother has joined the Royal Arch, has been advanced in the

Mark Degree, and is expecting still further to push forward to the higher grades, is not in all cases a recommendation. We want to know to what extent he has profited by his connection. Has he fully mastered the details of the preliminary stages, and has he proved his worthiness and capacity for the higher position he aims at? Does his social status warrant the cost that must necessarily follow, an outlay that in far too many cases was never anticipated by him when he took his first step in a Masonic Lodge? At this period of a student's career we would most emphatically exhort him to be watchful.

Our more advanced members, also, may bear the precept in mind, with advantage both to themselves and to the Lodges with which they are associated. When a Lodge has a careful Treasurer and an energetic Secretary, backed by a competent Worshipful Master, it will invariably be found that both income and expenditure are carefully looked after. In far too many cases where heavy arrears on the subscription account appear in the balance sheet it will be found that a laxity has been displayed by the officials to whom more especially the responsibility has been entrusted for these items. Where the Officers are in "touch" with the members, and carry out their work in a conscientious spirit it can have but one result,—that of imparting happiness to all with whom they may be surrounded in their Masonic relationships.

FREEMASONRY'S FRUITAGE.

Freemasonry's Great Age, Teachings and Influence for Good. From Out this Temple Comes the Perfect Man. Freemasonry's Disinterested Spirit and Purpose is building to the Future. An Oration by Albert G. Brice, at the Dedication of the new Masonic Temple in New Orleans, Louisiana, 24th July 1892.

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THE next important building was the ark. To construct such a vessel knowledge was required in ship-building and naval architecture. Was it the work and invention of a single ship-builder, or the combined knowledge of many masters? Was it the knowledge of an art obtained in a single generation and by one mind, or the result of the experiences of many? Were iron and brass employed? It is said the Lord gave to Noah the form of it; did the Lord directly superintend and instruct the workmen, or were they already skilled in boat-building, in caulking and pitching vessels? Are we to assume it was a special work of Deity? I put the interrogations—you will answer as your minds may suggest.

One other example of buildings in stone constructed since the flood is noteworthy. They are monuments of a remote age, standing, many of them, to-day in all their freshness

as of the yesterdays—out of the beaten track of the general traveller—in land seldom visited. This particular spot, which has been denominated “the land of sacred romance,” is a small territory lying east of the upper Jordan and the Sea of Galilee. In the Scriptures this territory is called “the land of giants.” Here a wonderful development of Masonry appears, administering more to the needs of man than to his religious sentiments. This spot contains, perhaps, not more than three thousand six hundred square miles. It is the famous land of Bashan, the land of the giants of whom we read, in Numbers xiii. 33: “And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.”

When the Israelites came up out of Egypt, this land was already divided into provinces; it had wonderful and numerous walled cities and villages. Over four thousand years ago Bashan was in its glory. Out of its hundreds of walled cities we may mention Burak, Kenath, Carnain, Suweideh (its ancient name has been lost), Kerioth, Selcah, Bozrah, Argob, Edrei. A description of one dwelling will suffice for all.

Mr. Porter, in his interesting work entitled “The Giant Cities of Bashan,” page 26, says: “I could scarcely believe in the reality of what I saw. * * * The house seemed to have undergone little change from the time its old master had left it; yet the thick nitrous crust on the floor showed that it had been deserted for long ages. The walls were perfect, nearly five feet thick, built of large blocks of hewn stone, without lime or cement of any kind. The roof was formed of large slabs of the same black basalt (volcanic rock), lying as regularly, and jointed as closely as if the workmen had only just completed them. They measured twelve feet in length, eighteen inches in breadth, and six inches in thickness. The ends rested on a plain stone cornice projection about a foot from each side wall. The chamber was twenty feet long, twelve feet wide, and ten feet high; the outer door was a slab of stone * * * It hung upon pivots formed of the projecting slab, working in sockets in the lintel and threshold; and though so massive, I could open and shut it with ease.” Other chambers and spacious halls, with ceilings twenty feet high, he also describes, as well as palaces, and temples—evidently for worship.

In these ancient cities numerous dwellings are standing to this day, desolate and unoccupied, yet as perfect as the day they were erected. Who taught these giants the art of Masonry in a land far away from the seas, a land without great rivers and without commerce? In the little Province of Argob alone were sixty of these walled cities, “with gates and bars”—great solid stone buildings, the wonder of the traveller, monuments of ages now long since gone into history! “There were giants in the earth in those days, * * * the same became mighty men, which were of old men of renown.” For what were these men renowned? We are not told, nor are we told how far back in the ages these men of renown lived. Were the giants of Bashan the descendants of the giants spoken of in Genesis vi. 4?

How far the Rephaims were advanced in science, what was their religion, their mode of worship, we have nothing from which to obtain any accurate opinion beyond what these massive walls tell us.

In Genesis we read that the kings of the east smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim. Ancient history tells us that Ashteroth was the goddess of the Phœnicians. This fact may suggest to us their form of worship. So far as our knowledge of ancient history extends, this is the only land where habitations kept pace with the buildings of palaces and temples; and we have reason to believe that these are among the oldest monuments built in stone on the earth. We learn that the goddess Ashteroth was worshipped here long prior to her being introduced into the worship of the Egyptians. From this fact it is reasonable to conclude this land had grand buildings in stone, and a form of religion antedating that of Egypt and Greece.

I have wandered thus into most ancient history in order to emphasize the answer to a preceding question. Were the men who were organised, at a later period, into Lodges of Operative Masons, different from the people from whom they sprung? Were they men of inquiring minds, seeking for truth? Did they wish to obtain correct ideas concerning God and their duty to Him and one another? Were they wholly egotistic or were they altruistic?

Cain and Abel offered sacrifices to God. Noah, after leaving the ark, “built an altar unto the Lord * * * and offered burnt offerings on the altar.” From that period down to the date when the colleges of Operative Masons are first mentioned in history, men everywhere, so far as our knowledge extends, had altars and monuments for sacrificial purposes. Whether the altar was a single stone, as in the case of Jacob, when he set up the stone he used for a pillow during the night and poured oil upon it and consecrated it to the Lord, to the more complex forms of later days, and in all lands, the same spirit animated the generations and peoples of the earth to come nearer to God. In Egypt altars grew into immense proportions; and we have description of a temple where thousands could gather within its walls for the worship of Isis and Osiris. So we see how man's effort to seek a form of worship has grown from the single-consecrated stone to gorgeous temples, with colonnades and all the ornaments of architecture.

But the forms of human thought were rarely uniform. The ruling authority might determine the forms of public worship to be observed; but no power could fetter the mind. In the contemplation of nature in all her aspects, whether in her soft and gentle tones, or in her lowering portents of evil, she was ever productive of thought and suggestive of the Supreme, of a power presiding over the destinies of earth and men. Of Him the teachings around these altars, monuments, and in the temples, were ever unsatisfying to the soul.

It was from this cause that Pythagoras, Solon, Plato, Aristarchus, Euclid, Erastosthenes, Ptolemy, Galen and a host of great minds, all sought for light in the Eleusinian and Egyptian mysteries.

The same sentiment that provoked the spirit of inquiry into these mysteries, as well as to “earn wages,” brought together men in the succeeding years to organise themselves into associations. Membership into these was by initiation, service, trial—the lessons esoteric as well as exoteric. Such was the case with the Order of Operative Masons. For admission to these Lodges, Bauhutte, or whatever name they used, and by which they were known, preparation and ceremony preceded membership. What this ceremony was could only be known to the members. When Sir Christopher Wren was Grand Master, he objected to the admission of candidates who were not Operative Masons. In this very objection there is the negative pregnant with the affirmation that speculative, or esoteric teachings, constituted part of the teachings of the Order.

What inducement was there for Masons, educated only in its speculative tenets, to join an association of Operative Masons, if the Order taught no lessons beyond the practical use of tools, as masons and builders? The speculative novitiate could have no place in such an Order, if this was the *all* of its existence. There could be no inducement for such to apply for membership; and within its walls such members would be without kindred spirits or associates. No order from Sir Christopher Wren would have been needed to exclude the Speculative Mason, for no purely Speculative Mason would have applied. After the death of Grand Master Wren, the doors were open to both Speculative and Operative. There was enough for both to learn, and enough taught within the Lodge to benefit both.

The force of this historical fact will not be destroyed by the assertion that the esoteric ritual of Masonry sprang into existence by chance, complete in all its legendary and traditional beauty, at a convocation held in 1737. The statement bears upon its face the evidence of fabrication. And it is also at variance with the truth of history, which truth is confirmed by the “Book of the Constitutions of the Freemasons of 1723,”—the authorities for which are now too well known to be disputed.

If further evidence is needed to establish the untruth of this assertion, several are at hand, well authenticated in history.

Henry VI. succeeded to the throne of England in his infancy, 1422. In the third year of his reign Parliament passed an act changing the Masons with controverting a law of the realm, by fixing in their chapters the price of labour; A.D. 1425 another act Parliament was passed, making it a penal offence for Masons to meet. These statutes do not seem to have been enforced, but five years later a Lodge was held at Canterbury, under the patronage of the Archbishop himself. And, shortly therefrom, the

King, having attained his majority, "not only permitted the Order to hold their meetings without molestation, but even honoured the Lodges by his presence as a brother. Before he was initiated, however, into the mysteries of the Order, he seems to have examined with scrupulous care the nature of the Institution, and to have perused the charges and regulations of the Fraternity, which had been collected from their ancient records."

We are informed, also, that Henry VII., in the fifteenth century, became a member of the Order, and its Grand Master, to which office he was succeeded by no less a personage than Cardinal Wolsey. Under William III. the Order again began to show considerable life, and Sir Christopher Wren was confirmed as Grand Master.

There is also a strong fact, although of a negative character, not to be overlooked. Up to comparatively recent date, Freemasons had the encouragement of the Roman Pontiffs and potentates of all Europe. Upon the Fraternity were conferred most important privileges, which "allowed them to be governed by laws, customs and ceremonies peculiar to themselves." Early in the eighteenth century this encouragement was withdrawn by the Pope, and the Order fell under the ban of the Roman See prior to A.D. 1737. The reason assigned was "the spirit of Freemasonry was hostile to the principles of the Church of Rome."

Two important conclusions are forced on the mind by this act of the church: 1. The Masons, so early as 1737, must have been a body of men considerable in numbers and in influence, to have attracted the notice and invited the adverse favour of the Romish Church. 2. If the Operative Masons had no esoteric teachings, but were, up to 1737, only a practical school to learn the art of hewing timber and squaring stones for buildings, what object could the Roman Pontiff, Clement XII., have had in fulminating his edict of excommunication, 27th April 1738, against simple artizans, humbly following the laudable occupation of dressing and manipulating stones and material to be used in the construction of cathedrals and churches?

The fact is, the Order "was composed of peoples of all nations, Italian, Greek, French, German and Flemish artists. They were everywhere known and received as Freemasons."

The edict discloses the reason: Their assemblies are particularly composed of persons of divers nations and conditions, worship and degrees of morality, admitted without distinction; they cannot free themselves from the suspicion that their assemblies are gotten up to arrange the destruction of not only thrones and governments, but even religion itself."

Not the work of the hands, but the wisdom, the esoteric work of the Order, its rituals, symbols, and ceremonials, its philosophy, its freedom of thought, its grand moral lessons—these were the objective points at which the church hurled its anathemas. We see, therefore, the esoteric teachings were in *esse* anterior to 1737, as they exist to-day, in all their force, power and beauty.

SPECULATIVE MASONRY.—WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Speculative Masonry teaches how the grander temple is to be erected. With the trowel in his hand, governed by the plumb-line of rectitude, the Mason is taught to spread the cement of brotherly love, relief and truth. Actuated by these principles, how grand is the Mason's mission!

Very much has been accomplished, and yet the work has just begun. All the nations of the earth are to be taught—What? Practical lessons in which love to God and love to man are the underlying principles. It teaches that the happiness and dignity of man depend more on his own merits than on the merits of others. Masonry, therefore, teaches that the man is to acquire merit for himself. It is in this direction, in this way, the novitiate is taught to place the foundation of his Masonic Temple on the firm rock of Truth. While the Operative Mason builds for years, the Speculative Mason builds for eternity—the works of the Operative Mason in time will crumble and decay; the Speculative Mason shall carry the materials of his moral temple through the eternities. To be well builded the whole moral structure should go up, column, wall and spire, the perfection of symmetry, grace and purity. God should dwell in him, not in the form of dogmas, but as the Father-God, the God of humanity and of use. Thus is interwoven in Masonic lives a religion, so to speak, of working habits. In such healthy mental soil fine

pure thoughts will take root and grow, and multiply and produce higher thoughts; ere long such mental and moral gardens will be overspread with living green, and studded with flowers of the loveliest tints and sweetest odours.

The love of God is visible everywhere, operating most potently in that grandest parterre in nature—the human mind.

To aid in pushing forward this great work the army swells to grand proportions, when we contemplate the number of Masons in the civilised world—counted now by the millions. What has already been accomplished is written on the pages of the world's history, extending to the period when force held the place of right, and truth was permitted only to appear veiled in the garments of mystery. But the work before us is none the less important. There are yet mountains of errors upon the face of the earth, made visible by the shadows from the sun of heaven.

I pass over, without specific data, the large sums annually spent by Masons in charity. The sick, the destitute, the widow and the orphan throughout the world are the living witnesses of the Mason's usefulness in this great field. These shall testify of them when "faith is lost to sight and hope ends in fruition."

I am not unmindful of the fact that the Institution of Masonry has its enemies, who would destroy it; that these enemies are sleepless and vigilant. But it stands upon a rock and cannot be shaken. As it is the oldest organisation in the world, and for centuries has stood the test, the judgment of the best of men in all ages, and is to-day more firmly established in the hearts of men than at any time in its long history, it would seem idle waste of energy to attempt to pull down and destroy this grand temple, dedicated only to the best needs of humanity.

Blot out the sun in the heavens, darken the moon, drive out all that is good from the face of the earth; while there is one human being to be benefited, Masonry will remain on the earth, a power and worker to complete its great mission.

An institution that has had upon its roll, and counted among its supporters, a Wren, a Warren, a Franklin, a Putnam, La Fayette, a Marshall, a Patrick Henry, a Clinton, a Jefferson, a Clay, a Madison, a Monroe, a Livingstone, a Locke, a Wellington, a Jackson, a Garfield, and a host of others too numerous to mention, cannot be successfully assailed. Each one of the witnesses named herein will outweigh armies of such as would attempt to batter down the walls behind which, for so many centuries, Masonry has been safely entrenched.

One witness I may here introduce, for we know of him as the enemies of Masonry cannot. He was one of us.

It is a common saying that great occasions call forth great men. They rise when the needs demand them. If born amid the throes of revolution, they become leaders and founders of government. Such men surprise us by their serenity in storms and dangers; captivate us by their moderation, displayed amid the allurements of passion or the tempting prizes of worldly glory. We realise they are men like ourselves, but of truer instincts, and more wisely constituted than we. We recognise in them the serene intellect, the impassioned energy, the self-reliant spirit, the inspiring genius, guided by integrity, moderation and patriotism. These are they who write their name on the scroll of fame—

"Poets and sages, and stern heroes who,
In the grand temple of the builder, Time,
Do covenant for niches of their own."

Is it fitting for us as Masons, when our grand Institution is assailed, to put forward one of such men to testify as to the value of Masonry?

Pre-eminently did the one to whom I allude exemplify the qualities of true greatness by his splendid life, and ere his death prepared for us and left with us the evidence of his love and veneration for Masonry and for its great moral and religious principles. Not that Washington stood alone in his love for the Order, but from the greater fact that he stands out on the pages of our country's history, its grandest figure; and that his life history is so interwoven with our national existence that, like the great Emperor of Germany, he splendidly illustrates the nation and enlarges the boundaries of Masonry.

Not with a deeper sense, but from a sense which touches the Masonic heart, we bring him here in this sanctified presence to testify of us. He was our frater, one of our number, and by his life exemplified the preceptive and moral grandeur of our noble Order.

He believed in God, his accountability, and faithfully performed his duty to his fellow men. This was the lesson taught him in the Lodge. And his testimony of Masonry was written so early as January 1793. I copy but two sentences of his letter. He says: "The grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race." "The principles are founded in the immortal laws of truth and justice." What a volume is contained in them! Let me re-read them: "The grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race." "The principles are founded in the immortal laws of truth and justice."

POWER OF INFLUENCE FOR GOOD.

I come now to the question that more nearly concerns each of you. Know you the power for good, the possibilities for improving, refining and civilising, that each Masonic brother possesses?

In the state of Louisiana there are four thousand five hundred Masons. They are related to the family, to the home, to the society in which they live. Each possesses influences for good that can be as lasting as the everlasting hills. Four thousand five hundred teachers, teaching, proclaiming: "Let there be light."

In the United States there are seven hundred thousand Masons. They all believe in God, teach immortality, accountability, and the brotherhood of man. They have been taught to hate no man on account of his religious belief. The Mason is taught that religion is a divine attribute, and that the most untutored nation has some conception of God and duty to his neighbour. Out of the East have come the great religions of the world. And when examined without prejudice they impress the mind with one important truth—that man is pre-eminently a religious being. In all the long centuries, from Confucius to Mohammed, the supreme question of his mind has been a determined effort to find a satisfying religion. As the twentieth century dawns upon the world, it finds that art, science, in the civilised portions of the globe, have made great modifications in religious beliefs. The modifications of thought on supposed opinions as to the age of the earth, its shape, its relation to the solar system, its motions and revolutions, have been as complete as the earlier beliefs in what inspiration taught, concerning these subjects, were false. It is not improbable that very soon another war, now raging, will subside, and evolution find its place among the admitted truths of science. But in all this march of science, religion with less of dogmatism, and purer and grander by reason of its clearer insight into nature, marches in the van, carrying the destiny of millions who seek after truth. Progress is the law of the universe. As we grow wise we look down on the little wonders that amazed our ignorance. We begin to learn that man is incomparably the grandest building in the universe, the mansion in which the immortal spirit dwells; that by birthright he is a child of a glorious household, whose boundaries are infinite and the law of whose government is love.

Endowed with all these qualities and capabilities, he is made conscious that insphered in his frame are all the problems of the skies. His mission is to do good, to lift up his brother man.

He who joins in the work should ever bear in mind that gone before him are a long line of heroes, who honoured the Institution by devotion to duty; that what is taught in the Lodge has been tested by the wisdom of centuries, and thus every tenet has stood the test of severest scrutiny, and is to-day as fresh and potent for good as when symbolised three thousand years ago. If asked what does Masonry teach, the answer is easy, and can be told without circumlocution. A belief in God, immortality and accountability; that the Holy Bible is the inestimable gift of God to man as a rule and guide of his faith; it teaches the practice of brotherly love, of granting relief; it encourages learning, the study of the sciences, geometry and the fine arts; that truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue; it commands the observance of the moral law, and of the golden rule, to do unto others as you would that others should do to you.

Belief in the above makes man a Mason in heart; the observance of these teachings, and he is a good citizen, a good neighbour, a good husband, a good father. Such a man believes in the purity and sanctity of home, of the family; is the defender of virtue, and labours to promote peace, prosperity and happiness among men. These are the tenets of Masonry, and he who derides them derides

the teachings of the Bible, is worse than infidel, and is not a friend of humanity.

The moral influence that permeates the Lodge, society and home of the Mason bears abundant fruit. Society is made better by its teachings; homes grow more sacred; prejudices disappear; sectarian walls of bitter hate, built mountain high, are dissolved or dissolving; benevolence, charity, fellowship, are substituted for inhumanity, indifference and enmity.

Noiselessly the great work goes on. The reign of law, the sweet influences of peace, triumph over wrong, the standard of morality is elevated, human thought is broadened and deepened; the man is brought immediately into rapport with noble and inspiring ideas; these ideas permeate the Fraternity, the home, society, and lead to purer and to higher aims. It brings individuals closer together, teaches trust, self-reliance and self-assertion; it uproots evil, wrong, selfishness, hate, and substitutes for these passions, love, compassion, benevolence, charity, forbearance. These moral forces extend from the Lodge to the family, to society, to the human race.

The great thing in human motives which gives to human efforts the dew of the morning and the hallowed power of the evening, which elevates and perpetuates their memory, is their disinterestedness. When Cicero would praise a fellow man with high encomium, he said of him: "He has planted a tree of one berry of which he will never partake." The meaning, the underlying thought of Cicero was, that whatever is done for the future has the attribute of this ennobling feeling.

And so we dedicate, not alone with the forms and ceremonies of our Order but with its disinterested spirit and purpose, this building to the future—to those who in all coming time shall, with hearts beating as do ours to-day, with the solemn and sacred aspirations and principles of the Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Louisiana.

As we go forward in the path of duty, let us not forget how much we owe to the ages ago for the treasures it has garnered up for us, all of which may be ours if we but will it. In the language of the poet:—

"Bid India from her Sanscrit speak; let all
The Vedas wide unroll their parchment gates.
Gather the wisdom of the Pyramids,
The secrets that Egyptian Hierophants
Practised in crypts and caverns, which they veiled
In many a rite and symbol—none forgot.

* * * * *
Gather the ripe fruit of all sciences
Until thy plenteous board gleams rich and rare
With clustered branches of Hesperian gold.
Let every heart stand in its perfect form
And preach the gospel of invention to
The eager intellect. 'More light! More light!'
Be this thy motto; yoke the patient years
To plough the fallow fields of history
For buried treasures, gems and precious coins;
And marbles, that shall come from out the dust
To tell how beautiful Antiquity
Sat on her ivory throne; how looked, how spake
The hero-ages of departed time."

—Voice of Masonry.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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TAUGHT TO BE CAUTIOUS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—While personally of opinion that the production of a certificate ought not to be an indispensable preliminary to the admission of a visitor who can properly prove himself, yet I should like to hear in your column from the brother whether he considers the Lodge would have been acting legally in admitting him.

As an old Preceptor he can doubtless tell us what the authorities consider to be the true reading of Art. 150, and especially of the "or" in line 4?

Was there not a circular sent out a few years back from Grand Lodge warning Lodges against admitting any strange brother, however perfect he might appear to be, until he had produced his G.L. certificate?

Yours fraternally,

LEX SCRIPTA.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

CRAFT.

GREY FRIARS LODGE, No. 1101.

THE installation of the Worshipful Master of this Lodge took place on Wednesday, the 16th inst., when there was a large and important gathering of the Craft to witness the interesting ceremony of the installation of Bro. H. G. Sherwood, who was elected to fill the chair of K.S. at the regular Lodge in October. Bro. T. P. Stewart, Worshipful Master, opened the Lodge at four o'clock. The Secretary (Bro. W. B. Reed) read the dispensation from Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Lodge, allowing the installation meeting to take place one week later than fixed by the Bye-Laws of the Lodge. The minutes of the last regular Lodge were read and confirmed. There was little business on the agenda. A ballot was taken for an initiate, who was approved. The ceremony of installing the W.M. elect was then proceeded with by the Board of Installed Masters, and on the Lodge being resumed the W.M., after thanking the members for electing and installing him, proceeded to invest his Officers, as follow:—Bros. T. B. Stewart I.P.M., S. Briggs S.W., R. E. Hodder J.W., J. T. Strausom Treasurer, W. B. Reed Secretary, E. W. Ridley S.D., J. D. Brown jun. J.D., J. Greenaway P.M. Dir. of Ceremonies, W. B. Biddles Organist, E. J. Lewis I.G., W. B. Biddles, W. H. Kidgell and D. N. Heron Stewards, W. Hemmings Tyler, R. Dowsett Almoner. At the conclusion of the business the Lodge was closed according to ancient custom, and the brethren retired to the Great Western Hotel, where a banquet was provided by Bro. Flanagan P.M. in his usual excellent style, and to which about fifty members of the Craft sat down. Bro. H. G. Sherwin W.M. ably filled the chair, and the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were done ample justice to. In addition to many members of the Grey Friars Lodge, the following were among the visitors:—Bros. J. T. Morlaud Deputy Prov. Grand Master in charge, J. T. Martin Provincial Grand Secretary, E. Margrett Provincial Grand Charity Secretary, J. M. McLeod Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, W. G. Millar W.M. 414, C. E. Hewett W.M. 2043, R. E. Davey W.M. 1566, H. Ponking W.M. 1887, W. Craig P.M. 1425, D. F. Gellion P.M. 1425, A. W. Deacon P. Prov. Grand Chaplain and S.W. 1887, Coates P.M. 414, W. Bonney 414, C. Oades P.M. 414, and the following Past Masters of the Grey Friars Lodge:—Bros. W. Ferguson, W. Flanagan, R. Dowsett, Chas. Slaughter, W. Ravenscroft, A. Welch, J. Greenaway, W. Hickie, T. R. Stewart I.P.M. Members.—Bros. R. Kemp, W. A. Hukins, J. Sparrow, E. H. Salmor, A. Callas, Thos. Mackrill, W. Margrett, E. O. Farrer, W. H. Kidgell, and W. C. Long. Between the toasts the "Minnesingers" gave a capital selection of songs, and Bro. H. Powell, of Wokingham, some good recitations.

TRUTH LODGE, No. 1458 (MANCHESTER).

A MOST enjoyable social meeting was organised at Bro. Tom Wood's, Whentsheaf Hotel, on Friday, the 18th inst. Invitations were given to members of the Lodge by the genial host, the following being present—Bros. Fred Hilton W.M., Archdale S.W., Burgess J.W., Vincent P.M. Treasurer, T. H. Hall P.M. Secretary, Alfred Hebden P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Dir. of Cors., Hyde Tyler; P.M.'s Needham, Taylor; Bros. Cooper, Hirsch, and Bishop. In addition to the members of the Lodge above enumerated Bros. Barlow and Schofield, of the Minnehaha Minstrel Lodge, and Bro. Lisenden were present. At eight o'clock the brethren sat down to a capital supper, to which ample justice was done. Bro. Fred Hilton W.M. sat at the head of the table, supported by the W.M. elect, Bro. Archdale, and the J.W., Bro. Burgess. After supper Bro. Hilton proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, and after some capital musical items had been rendered, Bro. Hebden proposed the health of Bro. Fred Hilton W.M., whose too brief reign over them was rapidly drawing to a close. Bro. Hebden said he was quite sure all the members of the Truth Lodge agreed that no worthier member of the Craft ever sat in the chair of K.S., and no one more competent to perform the duties of that high and important office than Bro. Hilton. His affable, courteous manner had endeared him to all, and it was impossible for them not to feel regret at the termination of his term of office; at the same time he (Bro. Hebden) felt sure they should still have the pleasure of seeing him regularly amongst them, ready to render any service he could for the benefit of the Truth Lodge. In conclusion Bro. Hebden called on all present to rise and drink heartily the health of Bro. Hilton, wishing him long life and prosperity. Bro. Hilton in reply, after thanking the brethren for so cordially responding to the toast, said that as they were met that evening for conviviality and to enjoy Bro. Wood's hospitality, he should not inflict a speech upon them, but simply endorse what had been suggested by Bro. Hebden, viz., that he should continue to take as much interest in the welfare of his Lodge in the future as in the past, and do all in his power to promote its prosperity, trusting in the words of the song just sung by Bro. Buckley Carr, that when the Truth Lodge attained its majority he should be "green and hearty." Bro. Hilton then proposed the health of the W.M. elect, Bro. Archdale, whom he said had always shown an earnestness of purpose in the various offices he had fulfilled, and there was very little doubt but that their new W.M. would do his utmost to maintain the good reputation the Lodge enjoyed. Bro. Archdale subsequently replied in appropriate terms. The other toast was the health of Bro. Tom Wood, proposed by Bro. Hilton. In the course of his remarks Bro. Hilton enlived the keen interest their worthy host took in all matters appertaining to the welfare of the Lodge, and the ever readiness he evinced to do all in his power for the comfort and enjoyment of the members. He was pleased to take a hint and act

upon it when the interests of the Truth Lodge were involved, and the hospitality they had that night enjoyed from his hands was a graceful compliment to the members, who thoroughly appreciated it. Bro. Wood made an appropriate reply, shortly after which the National Anthem was sung, and the brethren separated, having spent a pleasant evening. The following brethren contributed to the harmony:—Bro. Schofield, who played a selection on the mandoline, accompanied by Bro. Bishop on the piano; Bro. Leopold Hirsch, who played a selection on the zither; Bro. Taylor sang "Love's old sweet song;" Bro. Fred Hilton sang "Six Husbands;" Bro. Cooper gave "There is a Tavern in the Town," and "Where did you get that Hat?" Bro. Buckley Carr gave "The Monarch of the Woods;" Bro. Alfred Hebden recited "At Home and Abroad;" Bro. Lisenden recited "Little Bill" and "The Little Nipper," and Brother Bishop rendered valuable aid at the piano.

ASHBURY LODGE, No. 1459 (WEST GORDON).

THE annual installation was held at the Justice Birch Hotel, on Thursday, the 17th inst., the following being present:—Bros. W. H. Oglesby W.M., W. Drabble S.W., T. L. Wolfenden J.W., G. W. Davies Secretary, John Smith S.D., J. Orme J.D., John Jee I.G., J. Townley Trotter Steward, Wm. Bee P.M. P.P.G.S. Preceptor, I. Harlow, C. R. Phillips, F. W. Burgess, Thomas Baker, George Robinson, E. J. Spence I. P. White, A. Reid Wells, S. Chamberlain, Watson Dyson, A. H. Barber, Alfred Haigh, W. Williamson; Past Masters:—Thomas Hughes, W. H. Beastow, Clement Walworth, J. W. Abbott P.P.G.D.C., E. J. Cumings P.P.G.S.B., and E. Roberts (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE). There was a conspicuous absence of the usual galaxy of Provincial Officers, and representatives from neighbouring Lodges, and it was suggested inferentially that the foggy weather prevailing was the cause. It is a pity that this should have been so, as the Officers of the Ashbury Lodge annually send out a number of invitations, and requisite provision is furnished for the entertainment of their guests. Besides the vocalists, one of whom was a former member of the Lodge, the only visitors *en evidence* were Bros. Knott W.M. 1030, Thew W.M. 210, and Swift 581. The W.M., who was Installing Master, opened the Lodge at 3 p.m., the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, and the Lodge opened in the second degree, Bros. Thos. Hughes, W. H. Beastow, and E. Roberts, being delegated to the respective positions of Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Inner Guard. Bro. W. Bee the Assistant Installing Master, and Installing Deacon, presented to the W.M. Bro. W. Drabble W.M. elect to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. The W.M. then recited to the candidate the qualifications necessary for the occupancy of the chair of K.S., and called upon the Secretary (Bro. G. W. Davies) to read the fifteen ancient constitutional charges, to all of which the W.M. elect assented by the usual sign. Bro. Drabble was then obligated with regard to the duties and government of the Lodge. Brethren who had not attained a higher rank than that of M.M. were requested to retire, after which the Lodge was opened in the third degree. The same formula was now repeated with respect to those whose rank was below that of P.M., exception being made in the person of the W.M. elect. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, the W.M. elect was duly obligated, installed, and invested by Bro. Oglesby, the Installing Master. The first duty of the newly-invested W.M. was the investiture of his Immediate Past Master (Bro. Oglesby), and this was satisfactorily performed, after which Bro. Bee delivered the address to the I.P.M., this bringing to a close the work of the Board of Masters, which was accordingly closed, and all brethren who were eligible to enter in the higher degree were re-admitted to hear the usual proclamations. The same ceremonial was observed with regard to the other degrees, and the re-admission of F.C. and E.A. Masons. The working tools of the first degree were presented and explained to the newly-appointed W.M. by Bro. Bee, whilst those of the other degrees were presented by the Installing Master. The ancient charges to the Master, Wardens, and Brethren, were recited by the Assistant Installing Master. It was fully anticipated that a prominent Past Master of the Lodge would deliver the Master's address, but through some unexplained cause, he at the last moment declined to do so, and the additional duty fell upon Bro. Bee. The latter, who was for the moment surprised, immediately plunged into the subject, and acquitted himself in a most admirable manner, receiving at the finish a perfect storm of applause. The W.M. now appointed, and Brother Bee invested the following Officers:—Bros. T. L. Wolfenden S.W., John Smith J.W., G. W. Davies Secretary, J. Orme S.D., John Jee J.D., F. W. Burgess, A. E. Burgess (by deputy), and I. Harlow Stewards. It was the especial request of Bro. Clement Walworth that he be privileged to invest Bro. J. Townley Trotter as I.G., and Bro. Henry Dawson as O.G., which he accordingly did. Bro. S. C. Richardson was unanimously chosen as Treasurer of the Lodge, and in his absence invested by deputy, and the choice of Charity Representative falling upon Bro. Bee, he cheerfully accepted the position. The balance sheet was submitted by the auditors, Bros. Trotter, F. W. Burgess, and Wolfenden; "heartily good wishes" were expressed by visiting brethren, and the Lodge closed in peace and harmony by Bro. Drabble W.M., at 6 p.m. The banquet which followed, was provided by Bro. H. W. Pitt (the host). Bro. Pitt has attained a celebrity as a successful caterer to the sybaritic tastes of his numerous visitors, but on this occasion he was particularly happy in his choice of edibles, and the menu evidenced the dainty spread of one who could excel in *petites surprises*. At the festive board, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk; the health of the Worshipful Master being proposed by Bro. Oglesby, who, in a capital speech, adverted to the diligence and patience which Bro. Drabble had shown in the various offices through which he had passed. Bro. Drabble, Worshipful Master, in responding, thanked the brethren for the very enthusiastic way in which they had received the toast of the W.M., and assured them that he had every prospect of a success.

ful year when he looked at the names of the Officers who had been appointed to support him. If they would only apply themselves diligently to their various duties, and follow the instruction of their worthy Preceptor (Bro. Bee), they would be able to render a good account of themselves upon the termination of such duties. The Past Masters of the Ashbury Lodge were a tower of strength themselves, and in Bro. Bee and the I.P.M. they had two teachers equal to any, and excelled by none in the Province. The other toasts were the visiting brethren, proposed by Bro. W. H. Beastow, the Immediate Past Master and the rest of the P.M.'s, by Bro. C. Wallworth, the Masonic Charities, by Bro. G. W. Davies Secretary, and responded to by Bro. Bee, the Officers, by Bro. Councillor John Hutt, and responded to by those who had received appointments during the day, and the Tyler's toast. During the discharge of these functions, advantage was taken by Bro. C. Wallworth to present to the I.P.M., on behalf of the Ashbury Lodge, for services rendered, a beautiful Past Master's jewel; and by Bro. W. H. Beastow to adorn the breast of Brother Thomas Hughes with a Past Treasurer's jewel, the latter bearing the dates 1885 to 1890. The vocalists were Bros. W. H. Beastow, Thomas Baker, and W. Williamson, the latter rendering the songs of "Madoline," and the "Pilgrim of Love," in a very pleasing manner. The accompanist was Bro. Charles Jackson 2156. Some very fine recitations were given by Bros. W. H. Oglesby, Clement Wallworth, and J. Townley Trotter. A capital adjunct to the evening's entertainment were the following impromptu lines on the newly appointed Officers, which were rendered so effectively by the author, Bro. J. Townley Trotter, as to call forth universal commendation from the brethren present.

Time with our Lodge has ta'en a leap,
And we have met again,
The sweet rewards of toil to reap,
As Masons and as men.

In Brother Drabble, now our guide,
We hail a Master new,
Who will perform with proper pride
The work he aims to do.

Our I.P.M. we'll not forget,
His Master's work is o'er,
He did it well, and we may yet
Expect him to do more.

The Senior Warden Wolfenden
We greet on his advance,
And doubt not he will now and then
Work well his post t'enhance.

Our Brother Smith has proved to you
He's ever punctual been,
And as a Junior Warden true
Each night will still be seen.

Your noble Scribe retains his post
For just another year;
Friend Davies is himself a host,
The Craft to him most dear.

The Deacons who're appointed now,
To posts important here,
May they to Constitutions bow,
And all our laws revere.

Of me, your present Inner Guard,
The least we say the best,
Last year my duties, seldom hard,
Were always at the feast.

And they who occupy to-night
The post which I held then,
Tho' Stewards now, next year, by right,
Will clamber up again.

The Tyler we will not forget,
Our P.M. Dawson, true,
To lose his aid we should regret,
So send him forth anew.

Our members number forty-one,
A hale and hearty set,
And may the year we've entered on
Add numbers to them yet.

The Treasurer, and Brother Bee,
And all our Masters Past,
We hail with pleasure, and with glee,
Not least, although they're last.

CONCORD LODGE, No. 1534 (PRESTWICH).

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 17th inst., at Chester Bank, Bro. W. Willoughby Briggs W.M. There were present—Bros. William B. Midgley J.W., Edwin S. Dono J.D., Ed. W. Ogden I.G., John Wardle P.M. Secretary, Walter M. Simons Steward, Jno. W. Thompson P.M. P.P.G.S.B., R. Hothersall P.M. P.G.D.D.C., Edward Hilton I.P.M.; Past Masters—Robert Bennett, E. P. Mead, John Walkden, E. Roberts (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), Albert Summersgill. Visitor—Bro. F. H. Mentha 1045. In the absence of the S.W., Bro. Bennett assumed the position, after which the W.M. opened the Lodge and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Brother Albert Summersgill, who expressed a desire to be passed to the second degree, answered the usual questions, was entrusted with a test of merit, and retired. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the candidate, who had been properly prepared, was again admitted, and passed to the degree of a F.C. At the festive board which followed, Loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

THE THEATRES, &c.

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Globe.—Magnificently mounted, charmingly costumed, and played by performers who have made their mark in lyric history, the new comedy opera "Ma Mie Rosette" was successfully launched upon the sea of popular favour on Thursday, the 17th inst., and we see no reason why it should not have a prosperous voyage. The story has been neatly adapted from the French, by Mr. George Dance, while the music by M. Paul Lacombe has been interpolated with several morceaux by Mr. Ivan Caryll. Rosette is a farmer's pretty daughter, about to be married to Vincent, the man of her choice, when "the gallant king," Henri de Navarre, stops at the farm for refreshment. Rosette presents him with a glass of milk, and in return the king pays her some compliments which fill her young head with ambitious ideas. After the royal retinue has departed she quarrels with her lover, and then flings herself down to rest upon a wheatsheaf. In the second act she is found at the Chateau de Nerac, where the King gives a ball in her honour, greatly to the annoyance of his favourite Corisandre, loads her with presents and makes her a marquise. Meanwhile her lover, who had gone off to the wars, returns to find her in the king's embrace. He draws his sword upon the monarch, but is seized by the guards, who take him off to execution, when, hey presto! the scene suddenly changes to the farm house, and we see Rosette calmly sleeping on her wheatsheaf, watched over by Vincent. The exciting incidents are but the "baseless fabric of a vision"; but the dream teaches Rosette the folly of listening to flattery, so that when Henri returns she declines his favours. The honours of the opera are undoubtedly carried off by Mr. Eugène Oadin, whose splendid voice and courtly impersonation of Henri de Navarre elicited the somewhat too demonstrative applause of the audience. Mdlle. Nesville makes a winsome little Rosette, her admirable acting, especially in the second scene, more than compensating for the thinness of her voice. Miss Jenny McNulty was well placed as Corisandre, and Mr. Courtice Pounds sings capitally as the rustic lover. Miss Jessie Bond, a husband hunting widow, and Mr. Frank Wyatt afford considerable amusement by their singing and dancing. An admirable orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Caryll, does full justice to the music, which is graceful, light and pretty, while the chorus have been exceedingly well trained.

Criterion.—The feeble story and mild comedy running through Mr. Haddon Chambers' new piece, "The Old Lady," produced last Saturday at the Criterion, forms a somewhat startling contrast to the rollicking fun generally to be enjoyed at this popular house. The heroine is Miss Lund, spinster, whose age and infirmity compel her appearance in a bath-chair, not a very laughable sight truly, but the old lady is both wise and foolish. She comes to Monte Carlo to look after some relatives in danger of becoming dopes to adventurers, but succumbs to the attentions of a canny Scotchman on the railway and loses all her money at the gaming tables. Her nephew, Colonel Lund, is engaged to Mdlle. Le Grande, an ex-circus rider, whose accomplice, passing as the Count de Chartes, seeks to elope with Margery Lund, a wealthy heiress. These complications are dissolved through the instrumentality of Charley Arathoon, himself in love with Margery; and the old lady having found a stray 500f. note wins back half her money, and the curtain falls upon a denouement more implied than carried out, as Miss Lund determines to return to Devonshire and take her relatives with her. The dialogue in the first act is exceedingly good, and it is to be regretted that the remaining two do not fulfil the promise thus hoped for. The acting, on the contrary, is worthy of a better play. Mrs. John Wood, as the elderly, sharp-tongued spinster, is well placed, but we miss her well-known dry humour. Mr. W. H. Vernon as the impecunious Colonel, Mr. Herbert Standing as a chevalier d'industrie, Miss Ellis Jeffreys as Margery, and Miss Rosina Filippi as the adventuress, are all most excellent in their respective characters, and make the most of them. Mr. F. Keir as Charley Arathoon has a still better chance, and does exceedingly well, while Mr. D. S. James as the hypocritical Scotchman, Mr. Welton Dale as the ambitious bank clerk, and Mr. S. Valentine as Miss Lund's attendant, are also good in minor parts. We cannot predict that "The Old Lady" will have a long life.

The last nights of "Lady Windermere's Fan" are announced, the last matinee this afternoon, and Mr. Carton's new comedy, "Liberty Hall," is fixed for production on 3rd December.

"The Lights of Home" will shortly be withdrawn from the Adelphi programme, and Messrs. Gatti have decided to present an American play, entitled "A Lost Paradise," in which Mr. Charles Warner will appear. By a curious coincidence the name of his character is identical with his own.

We are very pleased to hear that Bro. Harry Nicholls is now progressing favourably towards recovery. It is to be hoped that this popular actor will yet be able to appear in the next Drury Lane pantomime.

Several novelties are being prepared for the Haymarket. The first piece will be "Hypatia," for which Mr. Alma Tadema has designed some of the beautiful scenery. Then a new play by Oscar Wilde, called "A Woman of no Importance," is promised for the New Year. Ibsen's "Evening of the People," a new version of "Robert Macaire," and an adaptation of Gutzkow's "Uriel Acosta" may also be looked for during Mr. Beerbohm Tree's season.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—The MAGIC MIRROR contains invaluable advice on an important subject to men contemplating marriage. Information in matters you ought to know. Send for it to-day, Gratis and Post Free, Address, THE SECRETARY, 4 Fitzalan Square, Sheffield.

AN EVENING WITH "OUR BOYS."

THE Old Masonians (ex-pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Wood Green), started their seventh season with a ladies concert, on Friday, the 18th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C. Bro. Richard Eve P.G. Treasurer, Patron and Trustee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and President of the Association, occupied the chair, and was supported by Bros. J. M. McLeod, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, W. M. Stiles, and other influential Masons. The hall was well filled, about 300 members and friends being present. The President, in a few opening remarks, expressed his pleasure in filling the chair on that occasion, and congratulated the Association on its past success, and hoped that its future career would be equally as prosperous. The following gentlemen rendered valuable services in the first portion of the programme:—Mr. Maudsley Edenborough giving a well rendered solo on the banjo, Mr. H. J. Grosse, a rising baritone, singing in his usual form, and Mr. A. B. Whiteley, O.M., pleasing the audience with the humorous element. Mr. A. J. Ryman gave every satisfaction at the piano. The second part consisted of a minstrel entertainment by the Clapham Blackbirds, who kindly gave their services. Sentimental and humorous songs, interspersed with the usual jokes and conundrums, kept the company in convulsions of laughter. During the interval the Chairman announced that on the 2nd of December (Friday), the first of a series of three Cindrella's would take place, at which it was hoped many present would see their way clear to avail themselves of the opportunity of a dance with the Old Masonians. Prices of tickets for each dance were—double 5s, single 3s (including light refreshments); tickets could be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretaries, Anderton's Hotel. Dancing to commence at 7.30. An enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the band playing the National Anthem.

We have to state that a change in the Officers of the Association took place at the last general meeting of members. Mr. C. R. Uwins, who had held the position of Treasurer since the formation of the Association, resigned on account of his inability to give the necessary time to the working of its affairs. Mr. R. S. Chandler, who has served office as Assistant Secretary 1889-1890, and Secretary 1891-1892 has been elected Treasurer, and Messrs. W. J. Packer and E. A. B. Gough the joint Secretaries for the ensuing year.

A dramatic performance in aid of the funds of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, will be given in the Theatre Royal, Manchester, (kindly granted for the occasion, free of cost, by Brother Thomas Ramsay W.M. Manchester Dramatic Lodge, No. 2387), on Monday, 19th December 1892, under distinguished patronage. Dispensations will be obtained to wear full Craft or Royal Arch clothing. Admission by ticket: stalls, 6s, reserved and numbered; lower circle, 5s, reserved and numbered; upper circle, 2s 6d, unreserved. Admission without ticket: pit, 1s; gallery, 6d. Early application for tickets is recommended, and may be obtained from any member of the Executive Committee.

Madame Worrell announces that her annual evening concert will take place on Monday, 5th December, at Gresham Hall, Gresham Road, Brixton, when she will be assisted by the following artistes:—Madame Madeline Hardy, Miss Susetta Fenn, Miss Edith Nott-Bower, Brother Henry Guy, Brother Sinclair Dunn, Brother Egbert Roberts, Mr. Wingrove Ives, Mr. Percy Shephard; piano, Miss Annie Puttick; violin, Miss May Duval-Worrell; banjo, Mr. Ernest Homer and Mr. Bartlett; recitations, Miss Minnie Guy and Mr. Frederick Upton. Conductors, Bro. Walter Hedcock and Mr. F. N. Abernethy, Mus. Bac., Oxon.

The Royal Arch title of Companion Ed. Letchworth, who played the leading part in an interesting Masonic ceremony on Monday, the 15th inst., is but one amongst many curious appellations which are used in the highest walks of Masonry. Mr. Letchworth is described as a "Grand Scribe;" but this is quite modest when compared with "Prince," "Prophet," "High Priest," and "Sojourner," which are common to every Chapter. In the cross degree of Knights Templar Druids the names of the Officers vary in different "Encampments." Among them are Priors, Orators, Prelates, Chaplains, Drapers, Preceptors, Heralds, Almoners, Hospitaliers, Marshals, Bailiffs, Equerries, and Admirals, the prefix "Grand" being used with great frequency. Then we have in addition to the Architects, the Secret and Perfect Masters and the other creations of Mark Masonry, the orders of the Noahites or Prussian Knights, of the Red Cross Sword of Babylon, of the Knights of the Sword of the East, of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, of the Knights of the White Eagle or Pelican, and, lastly, of the Rosicrucians—the *ne plus ultra* degree of Masonry. The brethren of the Rosy Cross are known as "Most Respectful Knights" and the superior Officer is the "Most Wise."

—Morning Leader.

FUNERALS properly carried out and personally attended, in London and Country, by Bro. G. A. HUTTON, 17 Newcastle Street, Strand, W.C. Monuments erected. Valuations made.

MASONIC SONNETS.—Nos. 23-24.

By BRO. CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D., 2417.

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To BRO. W. W. MORGAN, P.M. 211.

ON THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTHDAY,
25TH NOVEMBER 1892.

I.

I greet thee well, my brother—and to-day
I take thee by the hand, and wish thee well;
I wish thee joy along thy future way,
And more of peace than earthly words can tell.
Three score long years their devious length have sped
Since the Great Architect sent thee below;
Three score long years thou hast by Him been led
Along thy path of mingled bliss and woe.
Thou hast the true Masonic Heart, and thou
Hast all the Craftsman's interests in mind;
Masonic toil has wrinkled o'er thy brow,
Yet better laurel brow could never find;
For he whose task portrays Masonic ways,
May well rejoice to wear these furrowed bays.

II.

May nought of care bestrew thy future life;
May nought of woe unhappiness impart;
May Friendship, Truth and Love prevent all strife;
May Charity e'er follow where thou art.
May length of days be thine; days free from pain—
Days full of Trust in God—devoid of sorrow;
Days full of Hope—days with no Larsh complain
To make thee fear of what may be to-morrow.
And when the Great and Grand Geometrician
Takes up his Gavel to sound forth the blow
To tell thee 'tis the time for thy transition
To Higher Realms, from this poor sphere below,
Thou wilt not fear, when yielding up thy breath,
To cross the Valley of the Shadow—Death.

Winder House, Bradford.

[We cordially thank Bro. Dr. Forshaw for the above graceful tribute. We look forward with especial gratification to the fact that we may hope within a few days to greet him within the Metropolitan area.—Ed. F.C.]

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, London, Brothers Robert Grey President, James Brett Senior Vice President, and C. A. Cottebrune Junior Vice-President (now resigned) being in their several places. Lord Amthill Prov. G.M. Beds, E. Letchworth G.S., A. A. Pendlebury A.G.S., W. Dodd, W. H. Lee, S. Vallentine P.G.P., D. D. Mercer P.G.P., Henry Garrod P.G.P., S. V. Abraham G.P., Thos. Minstrell A.G.P., J. H. Matthews P.G.S.B., W. P. Brown G. Standard Bearer, Dr. H. J. Strong, Sir J. B. Monkton, F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Alderman Frank Green, and a very large number of other brethren were present. When the business of the Board of Masters, which was first taken, was completed, Bro. James Brett, it being the last meeting of the year before the election of new Officers, proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Robert Grey for the able and courteous manner in which he had presided over the Board for the past twelve months, and stated that though a few years ago Brother Grey took the presidency of the Board as a comparative stranger it was not long before he convinced them that he was not only a most excellent President, but that when it was necessary to refer to the Laws of the Board he had them at his fingers' ends. He applied those laws with wisdom and firmness, combined with courtesy and kindness. Bro. Grey was the same Bro. Grey now as he was when he first came among them—the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. He hoped Bro. Grey would long preside over them. Bro. Cottebrune seconded the motion, and Bro. Grey, after it had been put and carried, sincerely thanked the brethren, and said that he should not have presided with so much pleasure as he at all times did, if he had not had the assistance of the brethren who came there—many of them, he was proud to say—regularly. The brethren then confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master to the amount of £280 made at the former meeting, and afterwards proceeded to deal with forty-nine new cases. They dismissed one, and adjourned four; but they voted £1,040 to the remainder in sums of £100, £75, £50, £40, £30, £25, £20, £15, £10, and £5, according to what they esteemed the merits of the respective cases.

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The Right Hon. the **MARQUIS OF LORNE, K.T.**

writes as follows:—

OSBORNE, 22nd August 1892.

DEAR DR. FORSHAW,—Many thanks for your little Lake Tour. It recalls pleasant memories, and is set with pretty sonnets as the Lakeland hills are set with their bright gems of water.

Yours faithfully, LORNE.

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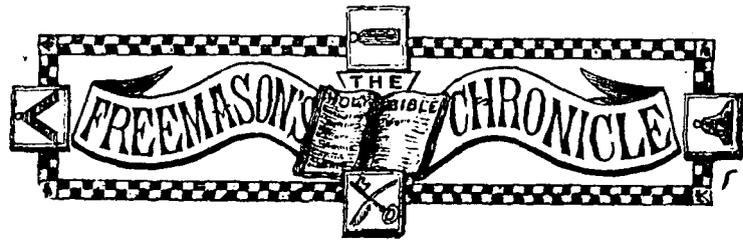
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SATURDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER 1892.

ROYAL ARCH.

—:0:—

**PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF
WEST YORKSHIRE.**

AT a convocation of Prov. Grand Chapter, holden in the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield, on Friday, the 11th inst., at 3.30 p.m., by the invitation of Chapter Perseverance, No. 375, there were present the following Provincial Grand Officers:—

Comps. Charles Letch Mason acting Prov. Grand Superintendent, William Harrop as H., William Hy. Jessop J., Richard Carter, J.P., H.; Thomas Raddock, Frederick Laxton and Thomas R. Vaux P.J.'s, Henry Smith S.E., John William Balme S.N., Edward Armitage, J.P., and James Bedford Past S.N.'s, Hy. T. E. Holmes and George Marshall P. Treasurers, Isaac Kaberry Registrar, John Seed Prin. Sojourner, Cornelius Wheawill 1st Assistant Sojourner, William Haigh 2nd Assistant Sojourner, J. W. Monckman and William Watson P. Sojourners, William Bingham Sword Bearer, Reuben Williamson P. Sword Bearer, William Hy. Milnes Standard Bearer, Richard Nelson P. Standa d Bearer East Lancashire, Edwin Billington Dir.

of Cere., W. T. Beauland as Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Hy. North Crowther, W. F. Smithson, J. Read Dore, John Barker, Edmund Lord, Tutor Trevor and Robert Hy. Armitage P. Directors of Ceremonies, George Frederick Carr as Organist, George Carbert and Thomas A. Marsh P. Organists, Herbert G. E. Green Assistant S.E., Thomas Chester Janitor, William Fisher Tasker Steward, William Laycock as Steward, J. P. Hewitt and A. H. J. Fletcher Stewards. Also Principals, Past First Principals, and Companions of the following Chapters, viz.:—61, 139, 154, 208, 258, 264, 265, 275, 289, 290, 296, 302, 304, 306, 308, 337, 380, 387, 448, 495, 521, 600, 652, 827, 904, 974, 1001, 1019, 1042, 1283, 1462, 1513, 2069. Visitor—Comp. A. S. Townsend P.Z. 120.

Apologies for absence were received from the following Provincial Grand Officers:—Comps. Thomas Wm. Tew, J.P., Grand Superintendent, T. W. Embleton Prov. G.H., Thos. Uttley and John Shoesmith Prov. G. Stewards, Jas. Terry Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and 146 Companions. Comp. C. L. Mason P.Z. 380 P.P.G.H. acting Grand Superintendent, and Officers, entered at 3.30 p.m., and Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form, after which the acting Grand Superintendent and the Provincial Grand H. and J. were saluted. The roll of Chapters was called, and 32 out of 40 answered, after which the roll of Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers was called. The minutes of the meeting held at Sheffield, on Wednesday, 11th May 1892, were presented for confirmation, when it was moved by Comp. J. R. Dore, seconded by Comp. H. T. E. Holmes and resolved "That the minutes be taken as read." Comp. W. Harrop moved, Comp. W. H. Jessop seconded, and it was resolved "That the minutes be confirmed." The acting Grand Superintendent then delivered the following address:—

Companions, in assuming the chair to preside over you at this your Provincial Grand Chapter, allow me in the first place to express my great regret, and I feel sure I may say your regret also, at the continued illness of our Grand Superintendent, Comp. T. W. Tew. We all thought at the first that the illness of our revered chief was only of a temporary nature, and that ere long we should again welcome him in our midst, but as time passes along and he is still absent our hopes grow less and less, yet "while there is life there is hope," and we can only leave the matter in the hands of the Most High, praying and trusting that He will direct all to His glory and the welfare of our Order. I must therefore kindly ask you to bear with me while I endeavour to discharge the duties that have fallen upon me, for although I may not hold in your hearts the same affectionate place as our revered chief, yet you may be assured that there is no one who takes a greater interest in the prosperity and welfare of our order than he who now addresses you.

We have, Companions, a special object in our visit to Huddersfield to-day, viz: assisting in the celebration of the Centenary of the Perseverance Chapter, No. 275. I shall shortly have the pleasure of calling upon our Companion Henry Smith Prov. G.S.E. to present on behalf of our Grand Superintendent, the Centenary Warrant to the Companions of the Chapter under whose Banner we meet to-day.

I think I cannot better employ the few minutes placed at my disposal than by giving you some information as to the past history of the Chapter. Our excellent Companion A. H. J. Fletcher read an address to the members of the Perseverance Chapter, No. 275, which address he has most kindly placed at the disposal of the Province, and from it I extract the remarks I am now about to give:—The Charter of the Chapter was granted by the Grand Chapter on the 15th March 1792, and was number 86 on the roll, being the seventh warranted to meet in West Yorkshire, the others being.

No.	Chapter	Warranted	To meet at
No. 62	Holy Cross	15th August 1788	Knaresboro'
" 72	Unity	October 1790	Leeds
(did not however hold any meetings till 1796)			
" 73	Sincerity	22nd November, 1790	Halifax
" 74	Unanimity	October 1790	Wakefield
" 76	Judea	24th February 1791	Keighley
" 83	Cumberland	27th September 1791	Ripon
" 86	Perseverance	15th March 1792	Halifax

The Charter for this Chapter was originally granted to the town of Halifax. That town seems to have been very active in Masonry, for out of the seven above-named Chapters, two were granted to that town, one in 1790, and the other in 1792. I need hardly remind my hearers that both Lodge Harmony, 275, and Chapter Perseverance, 275, were warranted to Halifax, but were removed to this town in 1837.

The original minute book from 1792 to 1802 has been lost, but fortunately many entries relating to Royal Arch Masonry are entered in the Lodge minute books, which are perfect from 1789. There appears to have been a very close connection between the Lodge and the Chapter throughout. In the Lodge account 20th February 1792, the following entry appears: paid to Bro. Cure for R.A.C. £3 10s. This no doubt, was for the warrant. On 10th September 1792, cash from R.A.C. £3 16s 6d showing repayment of the amount advanced.

On the 11th November 1793, the Lodge minutes record the following:—"John Briar passed the chair." This is a similar entry to others which occur in many other Lodge minutes. It is hardly necessary to remind the Companions that at this period, no one was eligible to be exalted a R.A.M. unless he was an Installed Master. It soon became evident that no degree could flourish that could only be recruited from so select a body as the Past Masters, so the expedient was hit upon of conferring the degree without having

served the office of Master, when he was said to have "passed the chair," and thus became eligible for exaltation. E. Companion Fletcher states that this continued in this Province till 1850, and the last Brother who thus "passed the chair," was Bro. Thomas Collins, lately deceased. The Lodge, from the minutes, appears to have held frequent meetings during its early existence, the only business being "passing Brethren through the chair," and sometimes Brethren were "passed" who had only been raised the night before. This convenient "passing" did away with the requisite twelve months' probation now required before proceeding to the R.A. The Chapter, it is thought, met at the same place as the Lodge, which is confirmed by the oldest minute book in the possession of the Chapter, viz.: That the meeting in February 1803 was held at the "Lower George," the same Inn at which the Lodge assembled. I think we must all join E. Companion Fletcher in his regret that the minutes of the Chapter are so very meagre, hardly anything, he states, is entered, but names. Our ancient Craftsmen respected their obligation of secrecy, yet much could have been recorded which at this distance of time would have been of deep interest to us. From a note in the minute book of October 1805, it is recorded that the Companions of the Chapter, opened a Chapter at Batley. This would be No. 129 Chapter, "Industry" Warrant dated 26th February 1805, and which had but a short existence, only made one return and soon became extinct.

Companion Fletcher calls attention that about this date (1805), it was agreed, "nem con," that the degree of Super Excellent Mason shall be annexed to the Chapter. There is nothing in the minutes to show how this degree was worked, but evidently it was worked quite distinct from the degree of R.A. Frequent accounts of its being conferred appear for many years after this resolution, and even after the transfer of the Chapter to Huddersfield.

In 1806 the fees for the Super Excellent Degree and Royal Arch were £1 10s 6d, and not more than 5s was to be spent at the exaltation of any Brother. At this time the meetings were held with great regularity, towards the end of every month, and the average attendance exceeded 15. There is nothing recorded in the minutes of much interest until 1813, when the following appears among the transactions: "Unanimously agreed that no further registering fees shall be paid to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England from this body, until proper accounts be given of the expenditure of the same." During this year the Union of the two Grand Lodges took place, shortly followed by the settlement of Grand Chapter. In 1814 the opening of the Prince George Lodge at Bottoms is noted, and every Companion attending the Ceremony was to have 2s 6d.

A copy of the Chapter Bye-laws, of about 1816, are still in existence and in the possession of the Chapter, the 13th Law shows something at that time of the inner working of the Chapter. It reads:—"neither shall any in office or out of office call for any liquors to drink without the consent of the Principals," and in June of the same year, there is a minute, "any member coming into the room after the Chapter and Books are closed, shall not be entitled to any liquor, but at his own expense." E. Companion Fletcher remarks, "we are, I think, irresistibly led by these minutes to see that labour and refreshment were in those days taken together, without the formality of adjourning from the one to the other."

In 1822 the Chapter obtained the Charter under which they at present work, and which is now hanging on the walls. Curiously enough, there is no trace of the application for this warrant in the minutes, nor is there anything on the Warrant to show that the Chapter commenced work prior to 1822, except that the date of the first meeting of the Chapter is left blank on the Warrant, nor is there any record of the surrender of the old Warrant, which was required to be done in order to obtain the new one.

Interest in the Chapter was well maintained until about the year 1830, but from that time until the transfer to Huddersfield, in 1837, it considerably declined. In 1835 there are only three meetings recorded and none after that year till 1838. The Companions, however, still regarded themselves as a Chapter, retained their warrant and paid contributions. In 1837, the Chapter which then met or had last met at the "Lower George Inn," Halifax, was transferred to Huddersfield. The inventory of its possessions is still preserved, and includes, "Pillars," "Arch and Box," "Six Crowns," (these Companion Fletcher remarks, cannot have been of gold, for they were only valued at 10s, "Three Minute Books," showing there must have been one from 1792 to 1802), and last "Chains and Handcuffs." All the Companions who moved the Chapter from Halifax to Huddersfield are described as "Joining Companions," thus showing that they considered the Chapter alive and able to be joined. The names are all familiar ones to the Lodge of Harmony, and the two bodies, the Lodge and the Chapter, were at that time practically identical, the Chapter smaller than the Lodge, and drawing its members almost exclusively from the Lodge.

There is an entry in 1839, that Bro. S. T. W. Gawthorpe "passed the veils," and that he was then exalted to the "Excellent and 'Super Excellent' degree." Gradually the distinction between the Excellent and Super Excellent Masons and the R.A. had become more and more confused. In 1841 the degree of R.A. is called for the last time Super Excellent, and after that date there are only records of the R.A. being conferred. In 1843 Bro. C. W. Brook was exalted, who is still living. It is to be regretted that he is no longer a working Companion, and that he is not with us to-day, as probably he might give us reminiscences not at all uninteresting.

In 1845 there are records of an alteration in the working of the Chapter. In this year E. Companion Armitage, whose Masonic jubilee has just been celebrated in the Harmony Lodge, 275, was exalted a Royal Arch Mason, and whom we welcome amongst us to-day. In 1847 new Bye-Laws were framed, and the state of the Chapter does not appear to have been altogether satisfactory, as a Committee was appointed to report on it. In 1848 there are several mentions of excellent "oyster suppers," which (as E. Companion Fletcher states) seem to have taken the place of work. In 1852 a Companion from Hull was present "to install the Officers according

to the system authorised by the Supreme Grand Chapter, after a conclave of Installed Principals had been duly opened according to ancient form."

Our worthy and E. Companion Fletcher has not carried the history of the Chapter further and into more recent times, as he states there are many Companions who, without the assistance of Minute Books, can speak of the glories of the Chapter, only observing that as time has passed along, the Lodge and Chapter seem to have drifted farther apart than they were years ago, which is due to a variety of causes, but for his part he would like to see the old touch resumed, and that every Master Mason should consider it not only a privilege, but also his bounden duty, after he has passed his twelve months' probation, and proved himself worthy to be exalted to this Supreme degree, and thus in reality complete his Masonic Initiation.

I am sure, Companions, you will all join in thanking E. Companion Fletcher for this statement of the history of the Chapter, and utter an earnest prayer that, as the True and ever living God Most High has preserved the Chapter for the past 100 years, He will continue to preserve and bless it in the future and will grant to all the members thereof health, happiness, and prosperity.

Before I conclude may I make a few general remarks. Since we last met two additional Chapters have been added to our roll. On the 26th of June last, the Prudence Chapter, No. 2069, Leeds, was consecrated by our M.E. Companion Ensor Drury, of Sheffield, and our worthy and esteemed Companion the Rev. Thomas Cartwright Smyth, D.D., Past Grand Sojourner of England, installed as First Principal; and on the 25th of October last, the Pentalpha Chapter, No. 974, Bradford, was consecrated by our M.E. Companion Edward Letchworth Grand Scribe E., and our worthy Companion William Charles Lupton was installed First Principal. As this was the first visit of the Grand Scribe E. to this Province, it gave no little eclat to the proceedings, and all who were present and saw the kind and genial manner of our Grand Scribe E. will not soon forget it, but will ever remember it with pleasure. We must offer our congratulations to E. Companion Lupton, the worthy Chairman of our Charity Committee, on his appointment as First Principal, under such favourable auspices. As one who takes a great interest in Royal Arch Masonry, I am glad of, and welcome these additions to our roll of Chapters.

I think there is no one who has studied our Masonic ritual but will be struck with the abruptness and the incomplete manner in which the third degree ends. I do not intend to dwell upon the vexed question as to the origin of the Supreme degree, whether it formerly formed part of the third degree or not. I for one shall be glad if some more learned Companion will, at one of our Provincial gatherings, give us a lecture or an address on this subject; suffice it to say, that it must be admitted that the R.A. is in reality a completion of the Master Mason's Degree. That while the three degrees of Craft Masonry represent the Birth, Life, and Death of man, the Royal Arch deals with that unknown future towards which we are all so fast tending, or to speak in its own language, "The Eternal welfare of man is considered in every part, point, or letter of its ineffable mysteries." In this, as in every other calling in life, let us be thoroughly in earnest. As trusty workmen and faithful Companions, let us use our working tools aright and perform our allotted task while it is yet day. With the pickaxe—Let us clear away the ruins of a fallen nature. With the trowel—Let us build up a fairer shrine for the reception of truth and virtue. With the Sword—Let us fight for the weak against the strong, for the oppressed against the oppressor, for the good against the evil, for the true against the false. And with the shovel—Let us bury the rubbish of the old Adam, so that our spirits may be purified, to arise, when summoned by our tremendous but merciful Judge, to life eternal, immortal, and never-ending happiness.

The Provincial Grand Scribe E. then said—

Companions, I had the pleasure to spend an hour with our Grand Superintendent, at Carleton, on the 10th inst., and he charged me to say to you how deeply he felt his enforced absence, and assure you of his sympathy and unabated interest in his Masonic duties; he desired me to say how heartily he congratulated Chapter Perseverance, No. 275, on obtaining its Centenary Warrant, and commissioned me, on his behalf, to present that precious document: a pleasing duty which I readily undertake. Companion William Murphy, I now entrust this Centenary Warrant to your care and keeping, and to all who may follow you in the chair of 1st Principal of Chapter No. 275; I cannot conclude without a word of congratulation to Companion A. H. J. Fletcher, who has so ably and intelligently traced the Records to the day of its birth.

I find you have a muster roll of 38 members, of whom 20 have filled the 1st Principal's chair, this presentation will doubtless be an incentive to other Chapters to preserve their records and regularly make their Annual Returns. Chapter 275 is the second Centenary Warrant in West Yorkshire.

I hope every first Principal has himself seen that the official Register has been posted up to date. On 1st December every Chapter will receive its forms for annual returns, fully written out by Provincial Grand Scribe E., so that there is not a shade of excuse for delay in making the returns on 1st January 1893, for the year 1892, then closed.

We have to deplore the loss, by death, of the following Companions:—22nd March, Jonas Craven, Chapter 275; 24th April, John Gill, 495; 27th June, John Booth, 258; 27th July, William Schefield, 290; 5th August, G. C. Scholtou, Z. 495; 16th September, Henry Fountain, 1513, Prov. G. Organist; 14th October, Robert Drake Kendall, 1283; 5th November, Geo. Sykes, 290; 6th November, Samuel Reader, 600.

Comp. W. Murphy Z. 275, said: I gratefully accept the trust on behalf of Chapter Perseverance, and feel confident that future generations of Royal Arch Masons will equally value and as carefully preserve this Centenary Warrant.

It was moved by the acting Grand Superintendent,

seconded by Comp. W. F. Smithson, and unanimously resolved—

"That this Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire desires to express its deep sympathy and condolence with the widow and family of their late E. Companion Jones Craven P. Prov. G. Registrar, and prays that the True and Ever Living God may be pleased to support and comfort them under their severe bereavement."

It was moved by the acting G. Superintendent, seconded by Comp. the Prov. G. Registrar, and resolved—

"That a most hearty vote of thanks be accorded to E. Comp. Wm. Murphy Z., and Companions of Perseverance Chapter, No. 275, for their kind invitation and excellent arrangements."

On the motion of Comp. William Harrop, seconded by Comp. W. H. Jessop, it was resolved—

"That this Grand Chapter desires to express its satisfaction in the improvement in the Prov. G. Superintendent's health, and earnestly prays for his speedy and complete restoration to health."

There was not any invitation for May meeting 1893.

The Provincial Grand Chapter was closed at 4.30 p.m.

Tea was provided in the dining hall, at five o'clock, which was partaken of by about sixty Companions, the acting Grand Superintendent presiding the first part of the evening and Comp. Edward Armitage the remainder.

PROV. GRAND CHAPTER OF DEVON.

THE Provincial Grand Chapter was held on Saturday, the 19th inst., at Newton, under the banner of the Devon Chapter, No. 1138. The Town Hall was handsomely fitted up as a Royal Arch Chapter. There was but a limited attendance, the day being inconvenient. Among those present were Comps. W. G. Rogers 112 P.G.H., who presided, acting as the Prov. G. Superintendent, supported by the Rev. Dr. T. Lemon 189 P.P.G.P.S. and P.P.G. Third Principal as H. pro tem., W. Vicary 1138 P.P.G.S.E. as J. pro tem., Major G. C. Davie 251 P.G.S.E., Dr. F. A. Gray 847 P.G.S.N., A. J. Truscott 1284 P.G. Treas., J. Olver 1138 P.P.G.P.S. P.S. pro tem., W. Packham 112 P.G. 1st A.S., J. Gidley 1205 2025 105 P.G. 2nd A.S. pro tem., L. Bishop 106 P.G.S.B., J. R. Lord 1247 P.P.G.T. P.G.D.C. pro tem., E. Tout 70 P.G.A.D.C., J. Parkhouse 156 P.G.O., H. Shooter 112 P.G. Janitor, also numerous Past Principals. The Provincial Grand S.E. reported that all the Chapters had made their returns and paid their dues for 1891. Some of the returns had, however, been sent in rather late. The Provincial Grand Treasurer, Comp. A. J. Truscott, read the audited report, which showed a balance in hand of £41 14s. From that sum ten guineas had to be deducted, five guineas being, by a bye-law, paid each year to the Fortescue Fund and Devon Masonic Educational Fund. A net balance of £31 14s was left at the disposal of the convocation. Comp. Fulford proposed that twenty-one guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and placed on the list of Comp. F. Luget, of Exeter, St. George's Chapter, 112, a Steward for that Institution for the year. That proposition was unanimously adopted. Comp. Davies proposed that five guineas, about half of the remaining balance, be voted to the Devon Masonic Educational Fund, an institution much in want of funds. At the recent election there were six deserving candidates, but only three could be relieved. Comp. Lord considered the proposition illegal, as a yearly vote of five guineas to the fund was provided by the bye-laws. Comp. Major Davie considered that the annual five guineas was voted to avoid any further claims in aid of the fund that should be set up. Comp. W. Vicary considered Comp. Davie's proposition perfectly legal. The annual five guineas voted from the Chapter to the Educational Fund was the minimum standing aid provided from the Chapter. It was certainly never intended that the annual five guineas should control the maximum. Comp. Rogers thought it would not be advisable to vote away any more of the balance, as there were claims against the Chapter to meet. The proposition was not put to a vote. Comp. Charles Stevens P.Z. and S.E. of the Devon Chapter, No. 1138, was elected Treasurer, and Companions C. Pope and Herbert Martin, of the same Chapter, were appointed auditors. The Officers were then invested:—

Comp. W. G. Rogers 112	...	...	2nd Principal
W. Vicary 1138	...	...	3rd Principal
Major G. C. Davie 251	...	...	S.E.
Courtenay Edmunds 444	...	...	S.N.
C. Stevens 1138	...	...	Treasurer

Dr. Haydn 1125	...	...	Registrar
T. C. Lewarn 223	...	...	Prin. Soj.
H. P. Tardrew 251	...	...	1st Soj.
R. Dickson 1205	...	...	2nd Asst. Soj.
G. Merrifield 282	...	...	Sword Bearer
B. Knight 328	...	...	Standard Bearer
J. R. Lord 1247	...	...	Dir. of Ceremonies
A. W. Palk 1358	...	...	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
F. J. W. Crowe 710	...	...	Organist
H. Shooter 112	...	...	Janitor

Thanks were voted to the members of the Devon Chapter for the admirable accommodation provided.

CALEDONIAN CHAPTER, No. 204, (MANCHESTER).

THE bi-monthly convocation was held on Thursday, the 17th inst. in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, when amongst those present were Comps. W. Willis M.E.Z., Charles Swinn H., W. B. Russell J., William Aldred Treasurer, Edgar Towell S.E., J. Mamelok S.N., Martin Thomas P.S., Thomas Shorrook 2nd Asst. Sojourner, P.Z.'s R. A. Eldershaw, Nathaniel Dumville, Jno. Cliffe P.G. Standard Bearer, and Andrew; Comps. Sawyer, Barclay, Savage, Sugden, Lowry, Richardson, Laurisoh, Jackson, and Lisenden Janitor. The Chapter was opened in due form and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed, after which the Companions adjourned to tea. On re-assembling, Bro. Gordon, of the Caledonian Lodge, who had been balloted for at the last meeting, was exalted to the Royal Arch degree by the M.E.Z., assisted by his Officers. This being the night for electing the new Officers, the following was the result of the ballot:—Comps. Charles Swinn M.E.Z., W. B. Russell H., Edgar Towell J., S. Mamelok S.E., Peter Jackson S.N., William Aldred Treasurer, Martin Thomas P.S., Thomas Shorrook 1st Asst. Soj., J. L. Savage 2nd Assistant Sojourner, John Cliffe Standard Bearer Dir. of Cers., R. R. Lisenden Janitor. There being no further business, the Chapter was formally closed.

ALEXANDRA CHAPTER, No. 993 (MANCHESTER).

THE bi-monthly convocation, installation of Principals, and investiture of Officers, took place on Monday, the 13th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall. A well known clever worker in Royal Arch Masonry acceded to a request to perform the ceremony of installation. We allude to Comp. J. H. Sillitoe Prov. Grand H. and Past Grand Deputy Director of Ceremonies England, whose study of the ritual and correct performance of the various ceremonies has won for him not only almost the highest honours that are in the power of Provincial and Grand Chapters to bestow, but also the golden opinions and high esteem of zealous Freemasons in East Lancashire and neighbouring Provinces. The following Companions were present:—Comps. W. H. Peak M.E.Z., C. D. Cheetham P.P.G.D.O. H., Buckley Carr J., E. Ehlinger S.E., H. Clulow S.N., A. B. Outram P.Z. P.P.G.T., W. T. Allitt P.S., John Stovold P.Z. P.G. Sojourner, W. H. Wilson P.Z., J. M. Moss, A. Pearce, R. Poole, Ward, R. E. Walker, Davies, and R. R. Lisenden Janitor. Visitors—J. H. Sillitoe P.G.H. P.G.D.D. England, George Sam Smith P.Z. 645 P.G. Organist, Jno. Cliffe P.Z. 204 P.G.S.B., and T. H. Hall P.Z. 581. The Chapter was formally opened at 6 o'clock, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. Comp. J. H. Sillitoe then took the chair, and after the usual preliminaries, installed the three principles respectively, as follow:—Comps. Buckley Carr Z., E. Ehlinger H., W. T. Allitt J. Comp. Sillitoe invested and addressed the following Officers for the ensuing year:—Comps. A. B. Outram S.E., Clulow S.N., W. H. Peak P.Z. Treasurer, J. M. Moss P.S., H. G. Ward 1st Asst. Soj., Motham 2nd Asst. Soj., R. R. Lisenden Janitor. Comp. Sillitoe also addressed the Principals and Companions, performing the whole ceremony with that smoothness and finish for which he is renowned. Bro. George Sam Smith P.G. Organist presided at the organ during the ceremony in a satisfactory manner. After Comp. Sillitoe had been saluted and retired, the Chapter was closed. After supper the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured. Comp. Buckley Carr Z. proposed the health of Bro. Sillitoe and praised his performance of the ceremony in eulogistic terms, calling upon the Companions to rise and drink heartily to the toast. Comp. Sillitoe, in reply, thanked the Companions for the hearty manner they had responded to the toast of his health, assuring them it was at all times a pleasure to come amongst them and perform any service that laid in his power. He regretted his inability to stay longer with them, having to catch his train to Southport, but if at any time he could be of service to the Alexandra Chapter he should be pleased to render it. The healths of the three Principals, the Visitors and Officers were proposed and responded to, a pleasant evening being spent. A special toast, viz., the health of Comp. Geo. S. Smith Prov. Grand Organist was proposed by Comp. Buckley Carr, who commented upon the appreciated and valuable aid he had rendered that evening, both at the organ and piano, for which they all returned him their hearty thanks. Comp. Smith acknowledged the compliment in appropriate terms.

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N.B.—Lord Chancellor Selborne, Lord Justice James, and Lord Justice Mellish decided in favour of FREEMAN'S ORIGINAL CHLORODYNE, and against Brown and Davenport, compelling them to pay all costs in the suit.—See Times of 24th July 1873.

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, 26th November.

- 1584 Loyalty and Charity, Star and Garter, Kew
1679 Henry Mugeridge, Anderton's, Fleet Street
1706 Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant, W.C.

- 308 Pr. George, Station Hotel, Bottoms, Eastwood
336 Benevolence, Jolly Sailor Inn, Mirple
1462 Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown H.t., Penistone

Monday, 28th November.

- 4 Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
26 Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, W.
28 Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

- 1615 Bayard, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden Square, W.
1632 Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
1745 Farringdon Without, Holborn Viaduct Hotel

- 48 Industry, Masonic Hall, Gateshead
61 Probity, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax
62 Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
85 Faithful, Swan Hotel, Harleston

- 1110 Tyrian, Gildredge Hotel, Eastbourne
1177 Tenby, Masonic Hall, Tenby, Pembroke
1218 Pr. Alfred, Commercial, Mossley, Manchester
1280 Walden, Rose and Crown Hot, Saffron Walden

Tuesday, 29th November.

- 1141 Faith, Anderton's Hotel, E.C.
160 True Friendship, Old Ship Inn, Rochford
209 Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
310 Unions, Freemasons' Hall, Carlisle

Wednesday, 30th November.

- House Committee R.M.B.L., Croydon, at 3
898 Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar
1768 Progress, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

- 86 Loyalty, King's Arms Ho., Prescott, Lancashire
163 Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
187 Royal Sussex of Hospitality, F.M.H., Bristol

- 1083 Townley Parker, Grand Hotel, Manchester
1119 St. Bede, Masonic Hall, Jarrow
1219 Strangeways, Old Boar's Head, Manchester
1233 Ryburn, M.H., Central Bldg., Sowerby Bridge

- R.A. 322 Hope, Vernon Arms Hotel, Stockport
R.A. 329 Brotherly Love, Choughs Hotel, Yeovil
R.A. 376 Royal Sussex of Perfect Friendship, M.H. Ipswich
R.A. 625 Devonshire, Norfolk Arms Hotel, Glossop

Thursday, 1st December.

- 10 Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H., W.C.
27 Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
45 Strong Man, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.

- 1351 St. Clement Danes, 225 Strand
1361 United Service, Regent M.H., Air Street, W.
1425 Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven Road, Paddington
1672 Mornington, London Tavern, Fenchurch St.

- 24 Newcastle-on-Tyne, F.H., Newcastle
31 United Industrial, Mas. Rooms, Canterbury
38 Union, Council Chamber, Chichester
41 Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath

- 251 Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Cove try
266 Naphthi, Navigation Inn, Heywood
269 Fidelity, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
275 Harmony, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield

- 1000 Priory, Middleton Hotel, Southend-on-Sea
1012 Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancs.
1032 Townley Parker, Town Hall, Chorley
1164 Eliot, Masonic Hall, St. Germain's, Cornwall

- 1324 Okeover, Market Hall, Ripley
1379 Marquess of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington
1344 Equity, Central Hotel, Widnes
1473 Bootle, 80 Merton Road, Bootle, Lancashire

- R.A. 187 Charity, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol
R.A. 302 Charity, New Masonic Hall, Bradford
R.A. 429 Thanet, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
R.A. 581 Rectitude, Midland Hotel, Acton High R.

Friday, 2nd December.

- Board of Management, Boys' School
705 Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich
890 Henry, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
1275 Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich

- 44 Friendship, Albion Hotel, Manchester
242 St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster
306 Alfred, Masonic Hall, St. George St., Leeds
318 True and Faithful, Freemasons' Hall, Holston

- 516 Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stow market.
521 Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield
566 St. Germain, M.H., the Crescent, Solby
574 Loyal Berkshire of Hope, Coun. Ch., Newbury

- 1009 Shakespeare, F.M.H., Cooper St., Manchester
1034 Ecclehill, Freemasons' Hall, Ecclehill
1074 Underley, Masonic Hall, Kirkby Lasdale
1095 Lord Warden, St. George's Hall, Deal

Saturday, 3rd December.

- Council, Boys' School, F.M.H., 3
142 St. Thomas, City Terminus Hotel, E.C.
1572 Carnarvon, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
1622 Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell

- 149 Peace, New Masonic Hall, Meltham
209 Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor
1146 De Moulham, Mowle n Institute, Swanago
1362 Royal Albert Edward, Town Hall, Rothill

INSTRUCTION.

Saturday, 26th November.

- 87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's Park, near Nunhead Junction, 7-30
179 Manchester, 8 Fotherham Court Road, W.C., 9
198 Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8

1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Stanley, Hackney,
1624 Eccleston, 13 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, 7
2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith, W.
R.A. Sinai, Red Lion, King Street, Regent St., W.

Monday, 28th November.

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
382 Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge
543 Wellington, White Swan, High St., Deptford, 8
733 Westbourne, Red House Hotel, St. John's
Wood Road, N.W., 8
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 Hotel, corner of
Eastbourne Terrace, and Bishop's Rd., W. 8
1445 Prince Leopold, 212 Whitechapel Road, E., 7
1449 Royal Military, Masonic Hall Canterbury,
1480 M. of Ripon, Queen's Hot, Victoria Park, 7.30
1507 Metropolitan, The Moorgate, E.C., 7.30
1586 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
2030 Abbey Westminster, Town Hall, S.W., 7.30
2192 Walthamstow, Chequers Hotel, High Street,
Walthamstow, 8

Tuesday, 29th November.

25 Robert Burns, 8 Tottenham Court Road, 8
55 Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Holborn, 7
74 Abhol, M.H., Severn Street, Birmingham, 6.45
141 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, S.W.
177 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 7.30
188 Joppa, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street, 8
212 Euphrates, Mother Red Cup, Cambridge 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, 8
920 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
1416 Mount Edgcombe, Three Stags, Lambeth Rd., 8
1471 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., 7.30,
1472 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich
1473 Boots, 146 Berry Street, Bootle, 6
1540 Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High St.
1638 Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Norbiton, 8
1695 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav, N.
1839 Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, E.C., 7
1919 Brixton, Prince Regent East Brixton, 8
2146 Surbiton, Maple Hall, Surbiton
2411 Clarence and Avondale, M.H., Leytonstone, E.
Metropolitan Chapter, White Hart, Cannon St., 6.30
R.A. 704 Camden, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., 8
R.A. 1365 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 8
R.A. 1842 E. of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting
Hill, 8

Wednesday, 30th November.

3 Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, 8
30 United Mariners', Lugard, Peckham, 7.30
65 Prosperity, Old Parr's Head, Knightrider St.
72 Royal Jubilee, Mitre, Chancery Lane, W.C., 8
73 Mount Lebanon, George Inn, Borough, 8
193 Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Lundenhall St., 8
228 United Strength, Hope, Regent's Park, 8
538 La Tolerance, Portland Hot, Gt. Portland St., 8
594 Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 7
673 St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 8
720 Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, 7
791 Merchant Navy, Silver Tav, Burdett Rd., 7.30
813 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Rd. 8
862 Whittington, Red Lion, Fleet Street, 8
902 Burgoyne, King's Arms, John Street, Bedford
Row, W.C., 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
1682 Beaconsfield, Chequers, Walthamstow, 7.30
1681 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, May Fair, 8
1692 Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, 8.30
1791 Creaton, Wheatsheaf, Shepherd'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, Hendon, 8
R.A. 177 Domestic, 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, Mark Masons' Hall, W.C.

Thursday, 1st December.

144 St. Luke, White Hart, Chelsea, 7.30
147 Justice, Brown Bear, Deptford, 8
263 Clarence, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C.
749 Belgrave, Albion Tavern, Russell St., W.C., 8
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, 8
1179 Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, S.E. 7
1182 Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool, 7.30

1259 Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, Commer-
cial Road, Limehouse, E., 7.30
1273 Burdett Courts, 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, 8
1558 D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Cambe w. II, 8
1571 Leopold, City Arms Tavern, E.C., 7
1580 Cranbourne, Red Lion, Hatfield, 8
1602 Sir Hugh Myddelton, 45 Upper Street, N., 8
1611 West Middlesex, Bell, Ealing Dean, 7.45
1614 Covent Garden, Criterion, W., 8
1622 Rose, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8
1625 Tredegar, Wellington, Bow, E., 7.30
1673 Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 5.30
1744 Royal Savoy, Blue 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, 2nd December.

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
765 St. James, Princess Victoria, Rotherhithe, 8
780 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, 8
834 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith
1056 Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, 7
1185 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, Wood Green, 7.30
1228 Becontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8
1293 Royal Standard, Castle, 81 Holloway Rd., N., 8
1365 Clapton, G.E. Hotel, Liverpool Street, 7
1391 Kennington, The Horns, Kennington, 8
1457 Bagshaw, Public Hall, Loughton, Essex, 7.30
1612 E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, 8
1901 Selwyn, Montpelier, Choumont Rd., Peckham, 8
2021 Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, The
Criterion, W., 8
R.A. 95 Eastern Star, Hercules Tavern, E.C.
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

Saturday, 3rd December.

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' Tav, Southgate Rd., N. 8
1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E. 7
1238 Finsbury Park, Cook Tavern, Highbury, 8
1364 Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Hackney, 7
1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Stanley, Hackney, 8
1624 Eccleston, 13 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, 7
2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith, 7.30
R.A. Sinai, Red Lion, King Street, Regent St., W.

Eton and Harrow Cricket Match has been
fixed to be played at Lord's on July 14th and
15th next.

We are compelled to hold over an interest-
ing report of the installation meeting of the
Albert Victor Lodge, No. 1773. We shall,
however, insert it in our next issue.

At a general meeting of the Institute of
Painters in Oil Colours, held on Wednesday
evening, Messrs. Frank Brangwyn, Alexander
Munn, and J. A. Lomax were elected
members.

We have received a copy of the new price
book of Spiers and Pond's Stores. It is
tastefully got up, and contains over 1000
pages, with numerous illustrations of their
varied and extensive stock. As we under-
stand that it is supplied free on application,
our readers will do well to obtain a copy.

Wednesday was the sixth birthday of
Prince Alexander, son of Prince and Princess
Henry of Battenberg.

The Earl of Radnor has made the Congrega-
tionalists of Folkestone a gift of a piece of
land at the west end of the town, valued at
about £1,000, for the erection of a Church.

The Queen has decided to spend her Con-
tinental holiday next spring at the Villa
Palmieri, Florence. Her Majesty will leave
England for Italy sometime between the
middle and the end of March.

The Queen has been pleased by letters
patent under the Great Seal to grant unto
the Hon. George Denman, late one of the
Judges of the High Court of Justice, an
annuity of £3,500 for life, to commence on
17th October 1892.

Bro. William Liddell, the senior Freemason
of Scotland, died at Dunbar, on Saturday, 12th
November, at the age of 102 years and nine
months. For the greater part of his life he
was employed in a local distillery, but
latterly he had lived in retirement.

The Clapton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1365,
meets every Friday evening, from 7 to 9
o'clock, at the Lodge room, Great Eastern
Hotel, Liverpool Street. Brethren of other
Lodges are cordially invited. Bro. W. Finch
P.M. 1365 is the Preceptor, and Bros. W. D.
Church P.M. and J. Gaskin P.M. the
Secretaries.

A lecture on Freemasonry will be delivered
at the regular meeting of The Great City
Lodge, No. 1426, at Cannon Street Hotel, on
Saturday, 10th December, by Bro. George W.
Speth P.M. 183 and 2076, &c., a Founder
and present Secretary of the Quatuor
Coronati Lodge, on "The Degrees of Ancient
(pre 1717) Masonry." The lecture will
commence at 4.30 p.m., and conclude at
about six o'clock. The brethren will dine
together after the Lodge is closed. Tickets,
5s. each (inclusive), may be obtained, not
later than the 9th December, on application
to Bro. James Stevens P.M. and Sec., Evelyn,
Catford, S.E.

Our readers will doubtless remember the
law suit for slanderous defamation of Free-
masonry which took place on the 4th
February 1891, between the Freemasons and
Jesuits of Madagascar, before the Court of
the Residence General of France. And they
will also probably recollect that judgment
was given condemning the Jesuits to a fine
and costs. This judgment was appealed
against by the Jesuits. The appeal being
made to the Superior Court of Rannion, with
the result that the decision of the Court of
the Residence General of France was re-
versed. The Freemasons then appealed to
the Cour de Cassation at Paris, and gained
the day. The Jesuits, determined not to yield,
finally referred the case to the Appeal Court
at Aix, so that it should be again tried on its
original grounds. This has been done, and
the Supreme Court has confirmed the
judgment of the Court of the Residence
General.—*Madagascar News.*

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214 Freemasonry, its Two Great Doctrines, The Existence of God, and a Future State; also Its Three Masonic Graces, Faith, Hope, and Charity. 8vo. cloth (pub. at 10s).	0 5 0	404 An account of the early history of Freemasonry in England, with illustrations of the principles and precepts advocated by that Institution. By Thos. Lewis Fox. 1872.	0 5 0
216 Dupuy. Condamnation des Templiers. 18mo., front. Brussels, 1702.	0 10 0	407 Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror. First Vol. of 1858.	1 1 0
221 Lawrence, Archer. Orders of Chivalry. Large 8vo. (Only 100 were printed). London 1871.	1 1 0	408 Rowbottom. Origin of Masonic Ritual and Tradition. A Lecture on the Three Degrees. 1830.	0 3 6
223 Harris, Thaddeus Mason. Discourses illustrating the Principles, &c. of Freemasonry. 8vo. front. Charlestown, Mass., 1801.	0 15 0	409 Secret Societies of the Middle Ages. 1873. ...	0 10 6
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229 Oliver, Theocratic Philosophy of Freemasonry. 8vo. calf, tooled. London, 1840.	0 12 0	411 Ahiman Rezon, or a help to all that are, or would be, Free and Accepted Masons, containing the Quintessence of all that has been published on the subject of Free Masonry. With many additions, which renders this work more useful than any other Book of Constitution now extant. Second Edition. By Lau. Dermott, Secretary. With frontispiece. In good condition. 1764.	7 7 0
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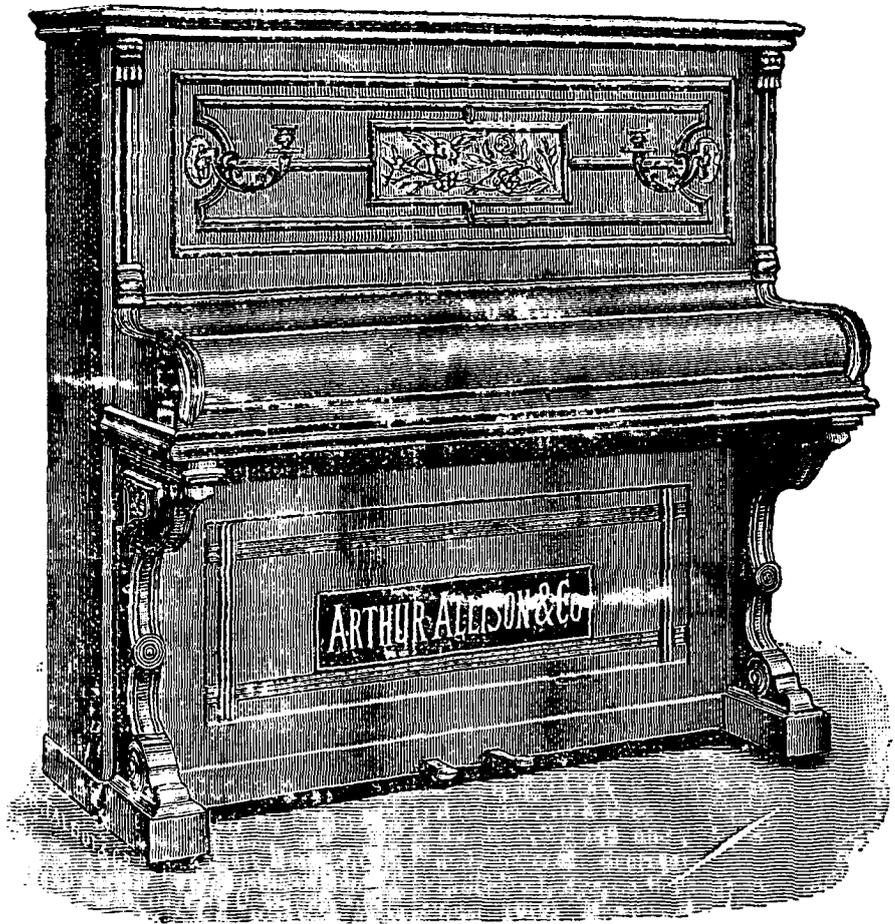
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