

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

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Twentieth year of issue.

SATURDAY, 16th JUNE 1894.

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EFFICIENT REPRESENTATION. —

A CORRESPONDENT recently addressed us on what he considers a fault in the Masonic representative system, and based his comments on a notice which appeared in one of the Scottish Masonic columns, where it was reported that a proposal was formally submitted at a Lodge meeting, that in future the agenda of business of Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge should be read out and discussed from time to time, so that the Lodge might be able to instruct its representatives how to vote.

This, of course, would necessitate the holding of Lodges of Emergency at stated intervals, but our correspondent provides for that by suggesting that the Master of a Lodge should have the power of calling a special assembly of his members at two days' notice, provided there was anything of a really controversial character in the Agenda of Grand Lodge, or as an alternative course he proposes that the programme of Grand Lodge business should be issued one or two weeks earlier than is now done. But, it may be asked, what would be the use of this action, in view of the existing conditions under which Grand Lodge is constituted, neither the Past Masters nor the Wardens who are eligible to attend the deliberations of Grand Lodge being under any obligation to express the views of their fellow members, or in any way act in accordance with their ideas or expressions of opinion. Grand Lodge is, in fact, an assemblage of Masons who have won distinction in the Craft, rather than a body representative of the Lodges of the country, and we cannot see that there is any need for attempting such an alteration in its constitution as would be necessary if the views of our correspondent, or the proposal of his Scottish friends, were to be put into practice.

He thinks there might arise occasions, however, when it would be desirable to ascertain the opinion of the Craft as a body, and then some different system of voting would be necessary than what is at present recognised as sufficient, but the experiences of the past have shown so little necessity for such action that we hardly think it desirable to consider the point at present, although if, as our correspondent endeavours to argue, the Craft is becoming more contentious, and more active in deciding on particular points, it may require careful consideration in the future.

The views of the Brethren we have referred to appear to be based on the idea that Grand Lodge occupies a position towards Freemasonry similar to that enjoyed by the House of Commons towards the Kingdom at large, whereas they should regard it as a Masonic House of Lords, with no recognised body in any way equivalent to the lower House. Whether it may be

found desirable to continue the government of the Craft without the intervention of an elective council is a question to be left to the future, but should it ever be deemed necessary to create something of the sort the adoption of the plan we spoke of last week, of allowing proxy voting for appointments to the Board of General Purposes and other Committees of Grand Lodge, would seem to provide a ready means of meeting the matter, especially if, as would be necessary in order to make those bodies truly representative, the votes were given to particular candidates by different Lodges, as decided by their members at stated meetings, instead of, as is now the case, by individual members of Grand Lodge, without any consultation, or consideration of the views of their fellow members. We are, however, inclined to think the necessity has not yet arisen for any material alteration in the conduct of Masonic affairs so far as the power of Grand Lodge and its officials is concerned, although in so expressing ourselves we know we are acting in direct opposition to the views of certain distinguished Brethren, some of whom promise to test the right of the powers that be to exercise any control over Grand Lodge procedure, and through it over the Craft as a body. Should they persevere in their endeavours the question of more direct representation would almost of necessity come prominently to the front, so that the subject is one deserving of consideration, in order that Brethren may be in a position to readily express an opinion one way or the other, as soon as the time is ripe for doing so.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

IF evidence were needed of the increased popularity of Freemasonry at the present day, as compared with even a dozen years back, it would be found in the numbers who now take part in the more important functions of the Craft, such as the Installation of a new Provincial Grand Master, an event which occurred on Monday of last week, at Wolverhampton, when the Earl of Dartmouth (Lord Lieutenant of the county) was inducted into office as Grand Master of Stafford.

The meeting was one of the largest ever held, beating the well-remembered gathering in West Yorkshire, which has been looked on as establishing the record in point of attendance at a Provincial assembly; the total number of Brethren present last week being 705, including some of the most distinguished members of the Craft.

The Earl of Dartmouth received his appointment as Masonic ruler of Staffordshire some months back, in succession to the late Bro. Colonel A. C. Foster Gough, who enjoyed but a short term of power, he having been appointed as recently as 1889; and the selection gave general satisfaction, Lord Dartmouth's distinguished position in the county, and his personal popularity naturally causing the Brethren to appreciate his selection for the highest office in the Province, their

enthusiasm culminating in the immense gathering of last week, which abundantly proved the esteem in which the new Provincial Grand Master is held.

It will be remembered reference was recently made in our pages to a custom that has prevailed for many years past in this Province—of always holding the meetings of its Provincial Grand Lodge at Stafford, and we are pleased to see the new chief has at once broken through a rule that we consider most undesirable, and, by holding his first assembly at Wolverhampton, has shown to the members of his Province that he regards other Masonic centres of the district as equally deserving with the county town; but we believe another consideration that had equal weight in favour of Wolverhampton was the fact that its Drill Hall, where the meeting was held, is the most suitable public building in the county, and one of the few at which so large a number of Brethren as intimated their desire to be present could be accommodated; while Lord Dartmouth himself, who is but a young Mason, is a member of the Tudor Rifle Volunteer Lodge, No. 1838, the regular meetings of which are held in the Drill Hall, and it is but natural he should desire to be installed as ruler of the district amid the familiar surroundings of his Masonic home.

Additional interest was lent to the occasion by the fact that the Earl of Lathom had consented to perform the Installation ceremony, and the reception accorded the Pro Grand Master fully demonstrated that he is as popular in the Province of Staffordshire as in every other part of the world where the English Grand Lodge holds sway. It is understood Lord Lathom was immensely pleased with the arrangements made for the ceremony, and was most favourably impressed with the position of Freemasonry in the Province of Staffordshire.

The P.G. Lodge was opened by Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Bindley Grand Deacon of England who, as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, has been in charge of the district since the death of Colonel Gough, and had carried out his onerous duties to the general satisfaction of the Brethren. Previous to the arrival of the Earl of Lathom he remarked that that would be a record day in the annals of Masonry in Staffordshire, the Brethren of which could but feel honoured by the presence of the Pro Grand Master, while they must look upon the occasion as one of great importance in the history of their Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Earl of Lathom was received with due honours, and was regularly saluted, as were the following other Officers of Grand Lodge, who were also present: Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale G.Tr., E. Letchworth G.Sec., James Salmon Assist. G.D.C., Captain Walls G.Stan.B., Frank Richardson P.G.D., J. H. Matthews P.D.G.D.C., Abraham Green G.Purs., J. T. Collins D.G.M. of Warwickshire, S. S. Partridge P.D.G.M. of Leicestershire, G. Beech P.G.S.B., Colonel Tudor P.P.G.M. of Staffordshire, &c.

Prior to vacating the chair for the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master thanked the Brethren of the Province for the loyalty they had displayed during the three years the Province had been under his direction. He was sure the same loyalty would be shown to the Provincial Grand Master Designate, Lord Dartmouth.

The roll of Lodges in the Province was called over, when it was found all were represented, while, in addition, there was a very large assemblage of visitors, notably Brethren from the adjoining Province of Worcestershire.

The Earl of Lathom then addressed the Brethren, expressing the pleasure it afforded him to pay a second visit to Staffordshire for the purpose of installing a Master into the chair of the Provincial Grand Lodge. He felt certain the new Master would prove a worthy and capable man in the office he was about to undertake. He then proceeded with the ceremony of the day. On assuming command the Earl of Dartmouth said the Brethren would understand that in addressing them for the first time as Provincial Grand Master he did so with no ordinary feeling of diffidence and with no ordinary sense of responsibility. In accepting the position of head of that important Province, with its teeming population; with thirty-one Lodges having a membership of nearly 1,600, he felt he was undertaking a task any man

might well hesitate to accept. He had the admirable example of the high-minded English gentleman who had preceded him in that position to guide him, and, although he could not hope to attain such a high position, he hoped the service he was willing to render would entitle him to the kindly support of those around him. He would always be prompted by an earnest desire to fulfil the obligations and carry out the duties of the high position he occupied.

Lieut.-Col. Bindley was re-appointed to the dignity of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the other collars being conferred as follows:

W. H. Bailey 624	-	Senior Warden
Major J. Gilbert 1039	-	Junior Warden
Rev. C. L. A. Edgeworth 460	-)	Chaplains
Rev. W. McGregor 1060	-)	
C. A. Newnham 419 and 526	-	Treasurer
Henry Paton 482	-	Registrar
Maj. G. W. Walker 526 and 1838	-	Secretary
H. Percy Smith 526 and 1838	-)	Senior Deacons
F. Dally 526	-	
W. Hampton 418	-)	Junior Deacons
C. J. Nevitt 726	-)	
J. Hackett 1941	-	Supt. of Works
J. Wooldridge 726	-	Director of Ceremonies
James Stone 1060	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
W. Burton 966	-	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
S. B. Wheway 539	-	Sword Bearer
D. H. Dunning 637	-)	Standard Bearers
E. Welsh 1587	-)	
I. Roper 526 and 1838	-	Organist
J. Dunbar Steen 526	-	Assistant Secretary
W. H. Smith 347	-	Pursuivant
F. G. Warburton 1914	-	Assistant Purs.
F. T. Bech 419	-	
Christopher Taylor 2474	-)	Stewards.
E. Martin Scott 696	-)	
John Moseley 539	-	

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Pro Grand Master for his attendance, and the proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

A luncheon was subsequently held in the Exchange Hall, under the presidency of the newly-installed Provincial Master.

We offer our congratulations to the Brethren of the Province on the success of the event here recorded.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE annual Provincial Grand Lodge reported last week was attended by about 250 Brethren, every Lodge in the Province being represented. The returns showed a membership of 1128, an increase of 18 on the year.

The Masonic Institution for Boys was adopted for the support of the Province next year, and Bro. Beeson, Sutton Bridge, and Bro. Barratt, Grimsby, were appointed Charity Stewards.

The P.G.M. appointed and invested the following Officers:

H. Bott (Bourn)	-	Senior Warden
W. G. Loveridge (Barton)	-	Junior Warden
Rev. J. Graham (Asterby)	-	Chaplain
C. M. Nesbitt (Louth)	-	Treasurer
H. Watson (Lincoln)	-	Registrar
B. Vickers (Lincoln)	-	Secretary
W. Shepherd (Louth)	-	Senior Deacon
G. Clarke (Boston)	-	Junior Deacon
A. F. James (Grimsby)	-	Supt. of Works
G. F. Barrell (Spalding)	-	Director of Cers.
W. H. Gane (Boston)	-	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
F. Baines (Gainsborough)	-	Sword Bearer
J. E. Townsend (Long Sutton)	-)	Standard Bearers
W. Hurst (Grimsby)	-)	
W. Dawson (Lincoln)	-	Organist
F. Barratt (Grimsby)	-	Assist. Secretary
J. D. Goy (Lincoln)	-	Pursuivant
J. Smith (Bourn)	-	Assist. Purs.
A. J. Eve (Spilsby)	-)	
B. Coulbeck (Grimsby)	-)	
M. R. J. Behrandt (Crowle)	-)	Stewards
F. A. Aldridge (Sleaford)	-)	
G. Spilman (Scunthorpe)	-)	
G. Kingston (Spalding)	-)	
W. Wonner (Barton)	-	Tyler.

The P.G.M. announced that the P.G. Lodge would next year be held at Lincoln.

At the close of the Lodge a banquet was provided in a large marquee by Bro. H. Bott, of the Angel Hotel, at which about 200 Brethren were present. The usual Masonic toasts were honoured.

CHESHIRE BENEVOLENCE.

THE first anniversary festival of the Cheshire Masonic Benevolent Institution took place on Wednesday, at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Southport, the event being celebrated by a banquet, attended by about eighty guests. Brother the Rev. C. W. Spencer-Stanhope Past Grand Chaplain of England presided, and was supported by a large number of influential local Craftsmen.

The usual loyal toasts having been honoured, Bro. J. Clayton proposed His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., and the Grand Rulers of the Craft. He spoke highly of the services which the Prince of Wales and other Rulers had rendered to Masonry.

Bros. Sillitoe and Salmon replied.

Bro. Andrews proposed the R.W.P.G.M. for Cheshire, the Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, and the Prov. Rulers of the Craft. He expressed his regret that Lord Egerton was not present.

Bro. T. C. Thorburn responded.

Bro. G. H. Brown submitted the toast of the evening, Success to the Cheshire Masonic Benevolent Institution. He mentioned that that was the first birthday of the Institution, and he was sure the directors had the most earnest sympathy and support of those whom he was addressing. That such was the case was evinced by the large number who had attended that festival. It was only fitting that when they were met to rejoice they should call their neighbours together to rejoice with them and he thought those who were with them that day would rejoice that they were able to give a good report of what had been done during the twelve months. He thanked them all most sincerely for the encouragement they had given to the Brethren of that Province in endeavouring to consolidate and build up an Institution which represented to the outside world one of the grandest facts upon which their noble Institution was founded—that of helping one another in time of need; and though they did not profess to be a charitable society, still they were a society of self-help and help towards one another. In the Province of Cheshire, as distinguished from the other districts of England, they had been endeavouring to establish a fund upon which their decayed and indigent Brethren might draw in times of need and sorrow. He was sure, after so noble an effort, and after having put their hands to the plough in connection with it, they would not look back. The Province to which they were proud to belong had for years past gained a name second to none in the cause of Masonic charity, and when the claims of an Institution of that sort was made upon the Brethren they were sure they would always be heartily responded to. He expected that in years to come the seed they were sowing would have grown into a gigantic tree, and that when people saw its wide-spreading branches they would wonder how such a result had been brought about.

Bro. Newhouse read the list of subscriptions, which amounted to £310 4s.

Bro. Cookson, in responding to the toast, said that the amount subscribed that year would enable them to relieve the declining years of such aged Brothers and Widows as might be directed to the fund, and he mentioned that in November next they would be enabled to appoint four annuitants. The question of relief to the aged poor was receiving the attention of eminent statesmen, and their Worshipful Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, had taken an active part in the matter. He assured them that the funds of that Institution had been, and would continue to be, safely employed, and he prophesied that the Institution would have a successful future.—“Liverpool Courier.”

The “South African Masonic Record” for May makes a strong appeal to Rand Masons to establish a United Grand Lodge for the Transvaal, as a step, presumably, towards a United Grand Lodge for South Africa, but also as a safeguard against the admission of improper persons into the mysteries of the Craft, a tendency to which the “Record” has denounced for many months.

FREEMASONRY IN TORQUAY.

(Continued from p. 182.)

THERE are several very remarkable records in the old minute book, as well as a very meagre notice of the general business transacted. Whether it is to the latter defect that we find on several occasions there were only some three or four Brethren present to transact important business in the Lodge, we are unable to state; but I believe that within the past 40 years it has been a difficult matter sometimes for the Brethren to collect the necessary seven members to make the Lodge perfect. Our indefatigable Brother Melliush often found it advisable to personally wait on the Brethren to urge on the members the importance of attending the meetings, and, if he found in the town an unaffiliated member of our Order, that Brother was sure to receive a very pressing invitation to visit the Lodge. I suppose that it was under such circumstances as these that our W. Bro. Morgan was often called upon to attend the meetings in order that a properly-formed Lodge might be held, until eventually Bro. Morgan was proposed as a joining member on the 6th of January 1868. Doubtless the limited number of members in those days made it very difficult matter to form a Lodge; with regard to there being only some three or four members present to transact important business, *that might, in the remote past, be allowed to go unchallenged by Brethren less fastidious than ourselves.* Still we cannot help admiring the Masonic perseverance of the Brethren under such a trial of their fidelity to our Order, in keeping the Lodge free from an unworthy or questionable element, when there was such a strong incentive to increase the number of the members of the Lodge. Another remarkable deviation from our present usage of proposing a candidate for initiation appears on the minutes for 22nd February 1855, where it is recorded that Bro. Wyatt, who was one of the oldest P.M.'s, and also the Secretary of the Lodge, proposed, and Bro Thomas seconded, “That Mr. Henry Banks, master mariner, at present residing at Sulyarde Terrace, is a fit and proper candidate for initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry, and a Lodge of Emergency be called for that purpose to-morrow at 7.” On the following day we find this minute, dated 23rd February 1855, Bro. Thomas, W.M., P.T., and P.M.:—“The minutes of the last Lodge were read and confirmed; a ballot then took place for Mr. Henry Banks, of Sulyarde Terrace. Mr. Banks was unanimously elected and duly initiated into the first degree of Freemasonry.” The foregoing evidently points to the fact that the time allotted for notice, and the form of business in connection with a Lodge of Emergency, are not such as regulate our present usage. There was another feature in the past that we do not recognise in connection with the re-election of an installed master as W.M. of a Lodge. If we take, for instance, so recent a date as the 27th December 1867, we find “that Bro. Bowden was W.M., and that the Brother Melliush ‘proclaimed’ him W.M. for the ensuing year, he having been re-elected W.M. by a majority of one vote in the Lodge on 2nd December. ‘The ceremony of installation not having to be repeated, Bro. Bowden cordially thanked the Brethren for the honour of re-electing him W.M. for the next year.’” This statement clearly proves that the usage with regard to re-elected installed masters differs from the rule that now regulates the Craft. Judging, however, from the few members that were in the Lodge, we need not wonder that the same Brother should so often fill the chair of W.M., and it also appears that on such occasions he was “proclaimed” and not installed for the ensuing year.

Having noticed some of the peculiarities that marked the remote past, let us now trace some of the leading features that led to the present satisfactory financial condition of the Lodge. As we have already stated, to the Building Committee belongs the credit of the erection of this Masonic Hall; the Committee also had the opportunity and the good fortune to let the lower portion of the building to the Natural History Society. From this source of revenue came the funds to pay the interest of the money which was expended upon the erection of the building, and which amounted to some £700. In addition to the rent from the Natural History Society paying the interest on the borrowed capital, the Committee were able also to gradually reduce the debt,

until it was brought down to £300, the amount now resting as a mortgage on the premises. The anxious desire of every member of the Lodge undoubtedly assisted the Building Committee in its responsibilities and labour; but the chief portion of the financial efforts emanated from that Committee. The erection of the Masonic Hall appeared to usher in a new era, for we soon found the number of members so increased that within ten years from that event the numerical position of the Lodge had wonderfully improved. This fact suggested the desirability of opening a new Lodge, that should be an additional source of strength to St. John's Lodge, by occupying the premises as tenants, and thus paying an annual rent, thereby diminishing the liability on the building. The scheme, at first, was regarded by some of the members as being inimical to the interests of the Lodge; while others took a wider range of thought and regarded the step as being not only safe, but one which would develop the best interests of Freemasonry. Among the latter, the Rev. John Huyse Prov. G.M. gave the benefit of his influence. The distinctive feature of the proposed new Lodge pointed out most conclusively that the second Lodge was not intended as a rival Lodge, although some of the members regarded the new effort as boding no good for St. John's Lodge; yet, after the subject had been discussed for several months, it was adopted, and the petition for the Jordan Lodge, 1402, was signed, also granting the use of the building and furniture for a stated sum at a yearly rental. This was carried *unm. con.*, 15 Brethren voting for the resolution and not one against it. A fortnight after this meeting the Secretary read in open Lodge a resolution from the founders of the new Lodge, in which they tendered their thanks to St. John's Lodge for the Masonic and Brotherly feeling in granting the use of their Lodge room and furniture. Had this fraternal spirit been encouraged all round, there might not have crept in the slightest friction. I can testify to the fact that the originator and father of the new Lodge never used one unfraternal expression or forfeited his loyalty to St. John's Lodge. What a marked improvement has taken place in the Lodge since the formation of the second Lodge, for among the 60 members on the roll of St. John's Lodge we find several clergymen, a number of Brethren in the medical and legal professions, schoolmasters, and those holding a high social position, as well as respectable tradesmen who would be a credit to any worthy and warranted Lodge of Freemasons. The fiery ordeal of a new Lodge, considered by some as calculated to be injurious to St. John's, has only proved to me that it has risen Phoenix-like from the ashes that were to consume it, and now it ranks as one of the most important Lodges in the Province.

While dealing with the labours of our Brethren during the past 84 years, and marking their steps, we must not close this condensed historical record without noting the efforts of the Lodge with regard to the Masonic Charities. The Lodge and the members together hold nearly 500 votes in the Provincial and great Masonic Charities. This is a proud position which is only held by one or two Lodges in the Province. It only remains now to chronicle the effort that has just been inaugurated for the total extinction of the mortgage on the building, by donations and a grand Masonic Ball, which is to be held during the coming season. Masonic Charity Balls, under the banner of St. John's Lodge, reach over a quarter of a century, and have contributed very substantial sums to our charities. Let us hope that the coming ball may realise more than its predecessors, and crown the efforts of the Brethren to clear the debt that remains on this building.

The *resumé* of the historical record of St. John's, No. 328, points most unmistakably to the fact that, by exercising a strict supervision with regard to candidates for initiation, the Lodge has held its own when the number of its members was few, and that eventually by that course it has risen to a position in the Craft of which its sixty members have reason to be proud; that, by patient perseverance in well-doing, within the ancient landmarks of our Order, the Lodge has successfully grappled with its financial affairs, so that its future prospects are most bright and promising; that, actuated by the true spirit of Masonic charity, not only in thought and word, but in deed, the Lodge and

its members have, by their united efforts, been able to secure nearly 500 votes in the Masonic Charities; and that, from a Lodge in its 85th year, where there has been displayed such tokens of true Masonic zeal and ability, there should be no difficulty in tracing its ultimate success. Let us hope, therefore, that the benign influence of those grand principles of our sublime Order may shed their hallowed rays over this Lodge in the future, to enlighten it in the paths of virtue and science.

At the conclusion of the lecture, the W.M. and several Brethren expressed their warm appreciation of the efforts of Bro. Chapman, for his excellent history of the Lodge, and, in passing a unanimous vote of thanks, desired him to publish the fruits of his efforts in an unabridged statement of the interesting and instructive facts they had had the pleasure of listening to that evening. The Lodge was then closed, and the Brethren retired for refreshments, that had been provided by the W.M., under the care of Mr. Oliver, of Victoria Parade.—“Devon County Standard.”

There is no more vital principle in Masonry than the truly Christian one of charity. It is the chief virtue of the Order, one in which the Craft delights, and of which it has given many conspicuous examples. Masons know no geographical limits. Necessity is the sole requirement to awaken in them, or rather to stimulate sentiments of the truest kindness and sympathy. We have before us at this moment an apt illustration of the fact. It will be remembered that about a year and a half ago extensive floods devastated Southern Australia. Immense property was destroyed. Amongst the sufferers were many Masons, and in their behalf a special appeal was made to the Brethren generally of this country. In Enniskillen the appeal was generously responded to by Lodge 891, which is ever sensitive to, and liberal in meeting every real deserving demand made upon its consideration and resources. Yesterday morning the post brought to the popular Secretary of the Lodge an unexpected and very gratifying recognition of its individual help as well as of the substantial assistance forwarded by the home Brethren. The letter, which is dated Brisbane, 25th April, states: “The very generous and liberal response made by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the Royal Arch Chapters, the Craft Lodges, and individual Brethren to the appeal from this Provincial Grand Lodge, has been of infinite benefit to many of our Order, their wives and children, a number of whom were literally left by the floods with only the clothes they stood in. The moral effect on the community has been marked, and the estimation in which the Order is held very much enhanced by the prompt and generous aid afforded by our Brethren ‘across the sea.’” In the report which accompanies the letter, and which contains a history of the application of the fund, it is stated that the contributions from Masons under the Irish Constitution amounted to £519 14s 6d. The total estimated loss of the Brethren by the floods was £23,000.—“Fermanagh Times.”

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The Scottish Grand Lodge Annuity Board have had to consider the desirability of delaying grants of further annuities until next January, by reason of the state of the funds.

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We were wrongly informed as to the opening of the Charles Edward Keyser Lodge, which will not be consecrated by the Grand Secretary, but probably by the Grand Master of Hertfordshire. We believe the inauguration will take place on Friday, the 29th inst.

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The first meeting of the London Professional Masonic Lodge of Instruction was held in the Lodge room at the Crown (opposite Lambeth Palace), Lambeth Road, S.E., on Wednesday of last week, and meetings will be held each Wednesday, at 3 p.m. The Honorary Secretary is Brother Maccann, 92 Kennington Road, S.E.

RETURNING FROM THE FESTIVAL.

WHEN we received the letter that appeared in our issue of the 26th ult., signed MIDLAND, we were undecided as to whether we should allow its appearance or not. While recognising that an Editor is not responsible for the opinions of his Correspondents, we were equally alive to the fact that an injury might follow the publication of misleading statements, and on the other hand injustice would be done if we closed our pages to everything opposed to our personal views. It is a pity our correspondent was not more explicit, but he assures us his case was as he stated, and being so he had a right to be heard. We have forwarded him the letter received from the Secretary of the Institution enclosing one from the Railway Company, of which we give extracts below, together with our Correspondent's reply. We may add that our experience in regard to the Festival referred to was hardly in accord with that of our Correspondent. With some friends we caught the 12 o'clock train from Kings Cross, although we had little time to spare, and were probably better acquainted with the means of getting across London than our Correspondent. In any case, there is little need for anxiety on the point, as with such a record as that supplied by the Company there should be no difficulty in visitors catching the midnight trains from London if they so desire it.

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.

—:o:—

THE BOYS SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

To the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Referring to a letter signed "Midland" in your issue of 26th May, as the statements made therein are in such direct contradiction to the facts as known to myself, I forwarded a copy of the paper to the L. B. and S. C. Ry. Co., whose reply I enclose herewith for your inspection. I shall be glad if you will give the same publicity to the Railway Company's statement as you have done to the unfounded complaint of your correspondent, which was calculated to create a prejudice against the Festival of this Institution.

Yours fraternally,

J. M. McLEOD.

P.S.—I may add that both in 1891 and 1893 the Board of Stewards passed special votes of thanks to the Railway Company, for the excellent arrangements they made for the comfort of our visitors, and for the prompt running of the special trains.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

8th June 1894.

(Copy)

London, Brighton and South Coast Railway,

7th June 1894.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of 28th ultimo, I beg to say that I have had enquiry made and from the reports I have received the writer of the letter of complaint signed "Midland" is evidently under some misapprehension with regard to the special arrangements made for the return journey of your party from Brighton last year.

The special trains were advertised to leave Brighton at 9.30 p.m. for Victoria and 9.40 p.m. for London Bridge and they did leave a minute late. The Victoria train arrived at 11.3 p.m. and the London Bridge train at 11.20 p.m.

The Superintendent at Brighton states that the trains were duly labelled with destination boards, and that they were also well called out, and if any one went wrong it was entirely his own fault.

* * * * *

Yours truly,

(Signed) J. HUMPHRIES, Assistant Manager.

J. M. McLeod Esq.,

Secretary Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

To the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am extremely sorry my remarks should have been calculated to injure the prospects of the Boys

School Festival, my desire being in the opposite direction; and I hope the reply of the Railway Company, which you have been good enough to forward me, will repair any injury I may have caused, and restore confidence in the minds of would-be visitors. I was wrong in not saying at the outset that my experiences as a visitor to Brighton were gained at the Festival of 1891, and although I suppose I have only my own stupidity to thank for it I was certainly late for my homeward journey. Of course if the train arrived at Victoria at 11.3 p.m., as it did last year, there should have been no difficulty in the matter. I have no record of the different times, and so cannot further pursue a subject which I again regret having broached in your columns.

Yours fraternally

MIDLAND.

GRAND LODGE ACCOMMODATION.

To the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I quite coincide with your article of 9th inst., relative to the lack of accommodation at Grand Lodge. This has long been felt by the Brethren, but especially so on important occasions, and when a ballot has to be taken for the election of Grand Treasurer or other Officers. On the 6th instant, I arrived at Freemasons' Hall, clothed, and received my carte d'entrée before half-past six, although the Lodge was not called till seven o'clock; and though I had special reason for being present I was debarred from entering by the Brother in charge of the door, on account of the Temple being quite full. I was directed to record my votes for the members of the Board of General Purposes in an adjoining room presided over by Brother Frank Richardson, but after entering I was prevented from leaving unless my voting paper was delivered to the Brother at the door for the purpose of being destroyed. It is needless to say that much annoyance was thereby caused, especially as after Grand Lodge was opened the Brethren in the adjoining or overflow room were still shut out. The result was that several Brethren, many of whom like myself had come some distance, had to retire without having obtained admission. The sooner the accommodation can be extended the better it will be.

I do not remember the date of the opening of the present Temple, but as the number of Lodges continues to increase in so large a degree, while Past Masters and Wardens are created at the rate of say 5000 per annum, the Hall should certainly be enlarged in proportion.

Yours fraternally,

PAST MASTER.

CRITERION RESTAURANT.
EAST ROOM

FOR

RECHERCHÉ
DINNERS & SUPPERS
À LA CARTE.

THE

WEST ROOM,
DINNER, 5/-; SUPPER, 4/-

Instrumental Music 11.0 to 12.30.

Grand Hall 3/6 Dinner,

AT SEPARATE TABLES, 6 TO 9.

Accompanied by the Celebrated

"SPIERPON" ORCHESTRA.

Academy Luncheon in West Room, 2/9.

ROYAL
MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

OFFICE—6 FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.

Grand Patron:—HER MAJESTY. THE QUEEN.

President:—His Royal Highness THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,
M.W.G.M.

THE 96th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

WILL BE HELD AT THE

ROYAL PAVILION, BRIGHTON,

ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH JUNE 1894,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF THE

Rt. Hon. W. LAWIES JACKSON, M.P.,

R.W. Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire, Vice-President
of the Institution.

Full particulars of the arrangements as to special trains, &c.,
may be obtained at the office.

Dinner Tickets (inclusive of First Class Return Fares from
London), for Ladies, 21s; and Brethren 25s.

By Order,

J. MORRISON McLEOD,

Hon. Secretary to the Board of Stewards.

6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

1st June 1894.

The services of Ladies and Brethren as Stewards representing
Lodges or Provinces on this important occasion are earnestly
solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

DORIC LODGE, No. 2359, DIDSBURY.

To-Morrow, SUNDAY, 17th June 1894,

A MASONIC

➤ Musical Service, ➤

In connection with the above Lodge, will be held
at 3 p.m., in

EMMANUEL CHURCH, DIDSBURY,

WHEN

A SERMON

WILL BE PREACHED BY

W. Bro. Rev. HUGH BETHELL JONES, M.A.,

Past Provincial Grand Chaplain,

And a Collection made on behalf of the Masonic Charities.

ANTHEMS AND SOLOS BY A SPECIAL CHOIR,

Under the direction of

BRO. HAROLD MACBETH LOCKE,

Of Didsbury.

Brethren will assemble at the Constitutional Club, Elm Grove,
Didsbury, at 2 o'clock p.m., and appear in full Masonic Craft
Clothing, for which Dispensation will be obtained.

Busses will meet the Trams arriving from the Exchange,
Piccadilly, All Saints, Moss Lane East, Rusholme, Fallowfield,
and Withington, at the Palatine Road, 1.15, 2.0.

BRO. JOHN PROBERT will be happy to provide high class
Music for Masonic Meetings, Consecrations, Installations and
Ladies' Nights. For terms:—Woodville, New Barnet, N.

BOOKBINDING in all its branches. Price list on application.
Morgan, Fleet Works, Bulwer Road, New Barnet.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS.

From ST. PANCRAS and CITY STATIONS.

To SCOTLAND FOR ELEVEN DAYS.

On Friday, 22nd June, from St. Pancras, 10.15 p.m., to
Carlisle, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, EDINBURGH,
GLASGOW, Greenock, Helensburgh, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Newton
Stewart, &c.

Also, for Five or Eleven Days, to STIRLING, PERTH,
Dundee, Arbroath, Forfar, Brechin, Montrose, Stonehaven,
Aberdeen, Inverness, &c., from St. Pancras, 9.15 p.m.

Tickets and Bills may be had at the MIDLAND STATIONS
and City Booking Offices, and from THOS. COOK and Son,
Ludgate Circus, London, and Branch Offices.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

LONDON, CHATHAM, & DOVER RAILWAY.

SHORTEST and MOST DIRECT ROUTE to RAMSGATE,
MARGATE, Broadstairs, Westgate-on-Sea, Birchington-on-
Sea, Herne Bay, and Whitstable, by CHEAP FAST TRAINS,
daily (except Sunday).

	A	B	Sat. only.
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Leave Victoria	9 45	10 10	2 5
Leave Holborn Viaduct ...	9 40	10 2	2 0
Leave St. Paul's	9 42	10 5	2 3

A To Herne Bay, Westgate, Margate, Broadstairs, and Ramsgate.

B To Whitstable and Birchington.

FARES: To Birchington, Westgate, Margate, Broadstairs, and
Ramsgate:—

Single—1 cl., 10s.; 3 cl., 5s. | Return—1 cl., 15s.; 3 cl., 8s.

FARES: To Whitstable and Herne Bay:—

Single—1 cl., 10s.; 3 cl., 5s. | Return—1 cl., 14s.; 3 cl., 7s.

Return Tickets are available for the Return journey on the
same or following day, by any Train except the Granville Express,
by which Excess Fares will be charged; and those issued on Friday
or Saturday are available on the following Monday.

CHEAP TRIP EVERY SUNDAY, commencing 3rd JUNE,
to RAMSGATE, MARGATE, BROADSTAIRS, HERNE
BAY, BIRCHINGTON, and WHITSTABLE, and back the same
evening. Leave Holborn Viaduct, St. Paul's, and Victoria Stations
at 8.0 a.m. Fares for the double journey, Third class, 4s.; First
class, 8s.

A CHEAP EXCURSION every MONDAY from LONDON to
the SEASIDE, will leave Holborn Viaduct at 8.25 a.m.,
Victoria 8.30, St. Paul's (City Station, Queen Victoria Street)
8.28 a.m., for the Kent Coast Seaside places. Fares there and back
(third class), to Whitstable and Herne Bay, 3s.; to Margate,
Broadstairs, and Ramsgate, 4s. Returning from Ramsgate at
7.50 p.m., Broadstairs at 7.59 p.m., Margate at 8.5 p.m., Herne Bay
at 8.30 p.m., and Whitstable at 8.39 p.m.

The tickets are available to return on the day of issue only, and
by the train named. No luggage allowed. Children under 12
half-price.

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PLATINOTYPE, P.O.P., giving best obtainable results, forwarded
without delay. We are also pleased to answer inquiries, and give
information and advice, for which our large experience fully
qualifies us.

Price Lists on application.



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ORIGINAL

CHLORODYNE.

THIS valuable medicine, discovered and
invented by Mr. RICHARD FREEMAN in 1844,
introduced into India and Egypt in 1850, and sub-
sequently all over the world, maintains its supre-
macy as a special and specific Remedy for the
Treatment and Cure of Coughs, Colds, Consump-
tion, Cancer, Bronchitis, Asthma, Ague, Sore
Throat, Influenza, Neuralgia, Diarrhoea, Dysentery,
Asiatic Cholera, Colic, Gout, and all Fevers.

At 1s 1d, 2s 6d, 4s 6d, 11s, and 20s per bottle.
Sold by Patent Medicine Dealers in all parts of
the world.

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.

LONDON & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TO SCOTLAND.

CHEAP Excursions will be run from London (Euston), Broad Street, Dalston Junction, Mansion House, Kensington (Addison Road), Willesden Junction, etc., as follows:—

On Friday, 22nd June.

To EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, Carlisle, Dumfries, Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Wigtown, Whithorn, Castle Douglas, and Kirkcudbright, returning on Monday, 2nd July, and to Aberdeen, Stonehaven, Montrose, Brechin, Arbroath, Forfar, Kirriemuir, Blairgowrie, Coupar Angus, Dundee, Perth, Crieff, Callander, Bridge of Allan, Dunblane, Stirling, and Inverness, returning on Tuesday, 26th June, or on Monday, 2nd July.

For times, fares and full particulars see small bills, which can be obtained at any of the Company's Stations and Town Parcels Receiving Offices.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

London, June 1894.

FAILING EYESIGHT.



PERSONS suffering from Defective Vision (particularly those who have been unable to get suitable glasses elsewhere), should consult Mr. Bluett, who has had 30 years' practical experience in making and adapting Spectacles for every form of defective Eyesight, and for which he has received numerous unsolicited testimonials. The Eyes carefully Examined and Sight Tested FREE. Spectacles from 1/6 per pair.

Ophthalmic F. BLUETT, *[Optician]*
8a GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.
(Four doors from Oxford Street.)

HOTELS, ETC.

—:o:—

EALING—Feathers Hotel.

EASTBOURNE—Pier Hotel, Cavendish Place. View of Sea and Pier. A. TAYLOR, Proprietor.

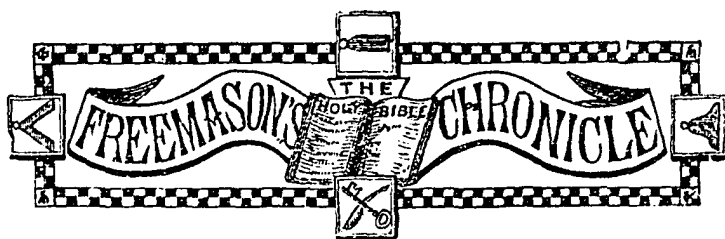
EAST MOLESEY—Castle Hotel, Hampton Court Station. Specimen Menus, with Tariff, on application. JOHN MAYO, Proprietor.

HAVERFORDWEST—Queen's Family and Commercial Hotel. BEN. M. DAVIES, Proprietor.

RICHMOND—Station Hotel, adjoins Railway Station. Every accommodation for Large or Small Parties.

SANDWICH—BELL FAMILY and Commercial Hotel. Good Stabling. J. J. FILMER, Proprietor.

COWES (WEST)—Gloucester and Globe Hotels. G. A. MURSELL, Proprietor.



SATURDAY, 16TH JUNE 1894.

THE INSTITUTIONS, &c.

—:o:—

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

THE annual Athletic Sports will be held at the Institution, at Wood Green, to-day (Saturday), commencing at 3 o'clock, when it is expected a large number of those who take special interest in the welfare and enjoyment of the pupils will be present. The Boys' band of the Strand Union Schools will be in attendance and, with fine weather, a pleasant afternoon should result.

The distribution of prizes, and visit of Stewards to the Institution, will take place on the day preceding the Festival, Tuesday, the 26th inst., when Mrs. W. L. Jackson, wife of the Chairman of the year, will distribute the prizes. The proceedings of that day will commence at 3 o'clock, and, in view of the large number of Stewards, it is anticipated the accommodation of the Hall

will be taxed to its utmost capacity. Among other matters the Rifle drill by the Boys should prove an attractive feature, supplemented as it will be, by the usual entertainment by the pupils.

THE OLD MASONIANS.

THE trite remark that "the world knows least of its greatest men" may be applied with considerable force to the Craft, for it has been our experience, while travelling through the length and breadth of the country, to stumble across, in various places, some excellent Masonic Associations, doing real good work for the noble cause of charity in a quiet and unostentatious manner, of whose very existence the Brethren in general are ignorant. These remarks are called forth consequent on our attendance at a very pleasing and interesting gathering which took place on the 30th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on the occasion of the eighth annual dinner of the "Old Masonians," which association we venture to believe is but little known outside the limits of the metropolis, although we have occasionally recorded its doings.

Established in 1886 by a few energetic young men, of whom Messrs. R. S. Chandler and W. J. Packer appear to have been the moving spirits, deeply grateful for the benefits conferred by the Craft in giving them the advantage of the high class education at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, its objects are to mutually assist all pupils who have passed through the School, who may from time to time be enrolled as members of the Association; to further their interests, and to encourage friendship among them. For this purpose social evenings are held at Anderton's Hotel for ten months of the year, when the "Old Boys" meet one another to their mutual benefit, and enjoy a few hours of rational recreation. Furthermore to practically evince their continued interest in their Alma Mater, they present an annual prize to the Institution, which is competed for by their successors at the School. No one can doubt the benefit of such an Association, and the wonder is that every boy on leaving the Institution does not consider it his duty to join, especially as the subscription is merely nominal. Bearing in mind the remarks of the R. W. Provincial Grand Master of Essex at the Festival of the Boys School last year, there can be but little doubt that "the Old Masonians" would meet with the ready support of the Craft at large were the fact of its existence more extensively circulated.

Considering the circumstances, the numbers at the dinner on Wednesday were hardly so large as might have reasonably been expected, but doubtless the old scholars are now scattered over the face of the globe, as otherwise we are sure they would gladly have embraced the opportunity of meeting their comrades.

The chair was taken by Bro. Jas. Morrison McLeod P.P.S.G.W. Derbyshire Secretary of the Institution and President of the Association; and among those present were the Rev. H. Hebb, M.A., P.P.G. Chaplain Devonshire Head Master of the School, Bros. James Stephens Prov. S.G.D. Bucks., John Strachan P.P.S.G.W. Northumberland, J. Leach Barrett P.M. 1210, Orilton Cooper P.M. 211, &c.

Ample justice having been done the bounteous fare provided, the usual Loyal toasts were drunk with enthusiasm, as both the Queen and the Prince of Wales are Patrons of the Institution.

In submitting the toast of the Old Masonians, Bro. McLeod, who was in his most genial mood, spoke words of wisdom to his audience, encouraging them to go and prosper, exhorting them to keep the grand Masonic principles ever in view, and acting the part of "the candid friend" mildly animadverting on their methods of conducting their affairs. "There can be no doubt," said the worthy President, "that the association is capable of doing a vast amount of good if properly conducted; and the intention of lending a helping hand to a poor struggling schoolfellow to enable him to fight the battle of life is a noble idea, which should commend itself to Freemasons in general." He congratulated them on their increased numbers and the flourishing state of their funds, and gave them some excellent suggestions for getting at the old Boys who had now made their mark in the world, and were on the high road to fortune. As one instance of the feeling of gratitude that was present in all their hearts Bro. McLeod mentioned that one old Boy was bringing up £120 for the next festival from North Wales, where he was now established. This he thought was a complete answer to the implied reproach that the boys did nothing for the Institution after leaving it. He had the pleasure to announce that some new vice-presidents had been secured for the Association in the persons of Bro. Strachan, Bro. James Stephens and Bro. Geo. Kenning, while Bro. Jas. Terry had sent him three guineas to qualify the sixth member of his family as a vice-president. He concluded by wishing prosperity to the Association, which he hoped would flourish root and branch, and resumed his seat amid deafening applause.

Mr. R. S. Chandler, as treasurer, and Mr. W. J. Packer, as Secretary, both responded to the toast, and gave some interesting details as to the working of the Association. They appealed earnestly to the Craft for assistance to enable them to carry on their good work, which might be largely increased were sufficient funds forthcoming.

Mr. C. P. O'Doherty proposed the Vice-Presidents, who were practically the backbone of the Association, and incidentally mentioned that they hoped before long to realise their ambition and found an Old Masonian Lodge.

In reply, Bro. Strachan urged the Committee to bring the Association more before the Craft, and said that had it not been for Bro. McLeod he should have been unaware of its existence.

Bro. James Stephens was so pleased at what he had heard that he announced his intention of asking his wife to become a vice-president as well as himself.

The Rev. H. Hebb, who acknowledged the toast of the Royal

Masonic Institution for Boys, ably proposed by Mr. C. H. Uwins, also gave some valuable suggestions for furthering the objects, and invited the Committee to dine with him at an early date to consider how that could be carried out.

Glancing at the clock while the cheers were resounding through the hall we perceived that "the enemy" had beguiled us so pleasantly that we stood in danger of losing the last train, so with a hurried "good bye" we regretfully left the meeting, which was one of the most pleasant it has been our good fortune to attend. It only remains to add that the speeches were interspersed with some capital songs and recitations, which proved that those accomplishments are not overlooked at the excellent Institution at Wood Green.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE following Brethren were elected members of the Board of General Purposes, at the Quarterly Communication held on the 6th inst.:

Bro. G. E. Fairchild W.M. 173	-	-	-	398	Votes.
J. J. Thomas W.M. 2421	-	-	-	296	"
W. A. Scurrah P.M. 167	-	-	-	285	"
E. C. Mulvey P.M. 179	-	-	-	284	"
Arthur Blenkarn W.M. 2381	-	-	-	242	"
G. W. Verry P.M. 554	-	-	-	241	"
W. J. Mason W.M. 1328	-	-	-	237	"
F. E. Pocock, M.D., W.M. 2410	-	-	-	233	"
E. M. Money P.G.S. P.M. 23	-	-	-	175	"
W. Morley W.M. 1924	-	-	-	156	"
C. W. Carrell W.M. 28	-	-	-	144	"
A. G. Sandberg, M.D., P.M. 3	-	-	-	140	"
John Barnett W.M. 177	-	-	-	127	"
H. Lovegrove P.M. 1507	-	-	-	122	"

Masonic Sonnets, No. 92.

By BRO. CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D., 295 and 2417 (E.C.) Hon. Mem. 1242 (E.C.) and 24 (S.C.).

—:o:—

HONOUR.

HONOUR, heroic actions doth portray!
Faith, Truth and Justice its glad name implies,
For it exalts our Art and dignifies
All who would bend beneath its star-like sway.
The noblest beam that shines from Virtue's ray
Its gladdening Light illumines the darkest skies
And never its bright radiance denies
To those who walk in its refining way.
Most manly impulse of a noble soul.—
The sweetest theme that Masons can inspire;
How lacks the mind in true poetic fire
When one would fain discourse its fadeless scroll.
Still, Brethren, let us never, never tire
To speak its praise and Honour's might extol!

Winder House, Bradford,
13th June 1894.

The Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Evening Star Lodge have made arrangements—in consultation with the President of the Gas Institute—to hold a Lodge of Emergency on Monday next, 18th inst., for the purpose of affording an opportunity to members of the Institute who are Masons, to welcome "as a Mason" Bro. John West (who was initiated in the Lodge in 1878), as well as to witness the initiation into Masonry of the Secretary of the Institute, Mr. F. G. Burfield. On a somewhat similar occasion two years ago, invitations to be present were sent to all members of the Institute known as Masons, and this year additional efforts have been made to ensure a representative gathering. The meeting will be held at the Holborn Restuarant; and dinner will afterwards be served there in the Venetian Room. The well-known "Meister Glee Singers" have been engaged to give a special performance during the evening. The price of dinner tickets is 5s each, exculsive of wine.

o o o

The attention of our friends in Manchester and district is directed to an announcement in another column, to the effect that a Masonic Musical Service will be held to-morrow (Sunday), in connection with the Doric Lodge, No. 2359, at Emmanuel Church, Didsbury, when a sermon will be preached by Bro. the Rev. Hugh Bethell Jones, M.A., Past Provincial Grand Chaplain, and a collection made on behalf of the Masonic

Institutions. The service will commence at 3 p.m., and will probably attract a large number of Brethren.

o o o

The annual meeting of the Anglo-American Lodge, No. 2191 will take place on Tuesday next, 19th inst., at the Criterion, Piccadilly, when Bro. George H. Reynolds will be placed in the chair. The proceedings will commence at 5 o'clock. We hope to give a report in our next issue.

o o o

An interesting service is to be conducted in Bromley Parish Church on the afternoon of the 24th inst., when a choral service, specially for Freemasons, will be conducted, and a sermon will be preached by the Venerable Archdeacon of London, the Grand Chaplain. There will be a collection in aid of the Victoria Park Chest Hospital.

o o o

We offer our congratulations to Bro. John Barnett W.M. of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, on his recent advancements in Masonry. At the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge this month he secured the coveted honour of a seat on the Board of General Purposes, while in the Mark Degree he is to be the new Provincial Grand Junior Warden of Surrey.

TRAVELLING FACILITIES.

THE arrangement, which was inaugurated by the Midland Company at the commencement of the Tourist season last year, for serving luncheons, dinners, and other refreshments en route to first and third class passengers travelling by their afternoon Scotch express trains has thoroughly justified itself by results, and the Company contemplates extending this arrangement to the morning express trains also, between London and Glasgow, commencing on the 2nd of next month.

The trains on which the new dining carriages will run, will be those leaving London (St. Pancras) at 10.30 a.m. and 2.10 p.m., and Glasgow (St. Enoch) at 10.0 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and amongst the points served by them will be Liverpool, Manchester, Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Birmingham and Bristol.

In the "Annual Register" for 1802 (11th May, p. 506) there is the following paragraph:—"In S. John's, Maddermarket, Norwich, age 85, Mrs. Beaton. She was a native of Wales, and commonly called "the Freemason," from the circumstances of her having contrived to conceal herself one evening in the wainscoting of a Lodge room, where she learnt the secret, the knowledge of which thousands of her sex have in vain attempted to arrive at. She was a very singular old woman, and, as a proof of it, the secret died with her."—"Craftsman."

ELECTION TACTICS.

To the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—You have occasionally had remarks under the above heading in your pages, but I think something new was started at the last meeting of Grand Lodge which you may like to include. Brethren who were actively working on behalf of this or that candidate for the Board of General Purposes were exchanging votes, that is to say, one marked his paper for a particular candidate, on condition that the Brother who agreed to the exchange marked his for the other's candidate. A fair exchange, it is true, but hardly the best way to choose the rulers of the Craft, I think.

Yours fraternally,

CAUTION.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS.

From ST. PANCRAS and CITY STATIONS.

TO SCOTLAND, &c., FOR ELEVEN DAYS.

On Friday, 22nd June, from St. Pancras, 8.30 p.m., to Northallerton, Richmond, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle (for the Races), and Berwick.

For other Excursions to the North on the same day, see advertisement on p. 222.

Tickets and Bills may be had at the MIDLAND STATIONS and City Booking Offices, and from THOS. COOK and Son, Ludgate Circus, London, and Branch Offices.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

A MODERN MORGAN.

THE "Milwaukee Tidings" reprints the following episode which is vouched for by Past Master Leroy C. Whitney, formerly of Genesee Lodge, No. 174, Flint, Mich. A member of the "Tyler" staff adds his avowment to the truth of the narrative, and adds a little more to it which seems to be omitted here. He was a member of the above Lodge when the affair took place, and although the names here used are fictitious, the incident is truthful. It took place in 1884, and was published at the time.—"American Tyler."

Elfen Duckberry was born, well, no matter where. It is enough for our present purposes, which demand a hero, that he was born, and passing safely through the ills that environed him in infancy and youth, he passed the threshold of manhood and became an American citizen.

Duckberry is possessed of a fertile imagination, and loves to wander in the fairy fields of romance. This peculiarity it was which led him to adopt the business of a life-insurance agent as the most congenial avocation for the winning of bread. As might be supposed from the above description, our hero has a perfect passion for the mysterious. Legends of necromancers, masked bandits and mystic brotherhoods, bound by solemn compacts, with blood-curdling punishments for their infraction, possessed an indescribable charm for him, and he would linger delightedly over the graphic recitals of mystic rites by secret and blood-bound associations.

Therefore it was that Duckberry desired to be a Freemason. He read about them, made the acquaintance of those whom he met wearing upon their persons the emblems of their brotherhood, and endeavoured to extract from them something bearing upon the ceremonials of the mystic craft. What he obtained only served to fire his imagination and excite his curiosity, until his desire to stand upon the ground floor, to penetrate the chamber, and kneel uncovered within the sanctum sanctorum of the Order, clad with its insignia, and possessed of its hidden secrets, became a mania.

But how to accomplish it? He must first knock at its door, subject himself to the scrutiny of the craft, and, if admitted, could only reach the summit of his desires through long and patient effort, involving self-denial and some expense. Then, too, he might not be permitted to pass the threshold. Duckberry wished to reach the summit at a bound, and stand peer among his fellows. But, how? Aye, that was the question; and anxiously did he seek for its solution, closely watching the movements of the members of the craft, storing in his memory each word and gesture to be repeated to the next met. It was slow progress, and Duckberry was well-nigh discouraged, when one day he made a discovery which caused his pulses to bound and each individual nerve to tingle with pleasure.

He was in a railroad car, and the newsagent, in passing, threw a book upon his seat. It was that book which caused his joy; for, upon opening it he discovered that it contained a full exposition of the secrets of Masonry. The price of the book was paid, and Duckberry, its happy owner, was soon perusing its priceless secrets. For weeks it was his constant companion. He learned its contents, and practiced the signs therein given before his mirror. He had fathomed the mystery and was now a full-fledged "knight-of-the-mystic-trowel." Puffed with his new-born knowledge, he procured a badge, and fixing it prominently upon his breast, he boldly mingled with the craft, eager to make himself known as a Brother.

For a time all went well, and Duckberry congratulated himself upon his success. He knew little of the curious eyes bent upon him—of the suspicious glances and nods which were exchanged between members of the Craft when in his presence. Happy in his fancied success, Duckberry knew not that he had already been posted as a fraud, and that while he was meditating upon an actual visit to a Masonic Lodge, a fearful pit had been dug for his undoing.

In the course of his travels he frequently visited Stoneton, a thriving city, containing many intelligent, enthusiastic, warm-hearted members of the "Royal Craft," upon some of whom Duckberry had sought to impose. They determined to inflict upon him a punishment adequate to his impudent temerity, and one which would effectually cure him of any further desire for stolen honours.

Duckberry had expressed a desire to visit the Lodge at Stoneton, and so a meeting was arranged for him. One afternoon he was approached by a Brother who invited him to a meeting that evening, informing him that there would be some fun on the boards after the Lodge closed. Here was the desired opportunity, and Duckberry determined to embrace it. Accordingly he appeared at the reception room at the hour, and as the Lodge was at labour he sent in his name, claiming to hail from the neighbouring Lodge in the thriving city of Baytown. The name was announced and a committee was sent out with instructions to apply the usual oath, but to require the applicant to tell his own story without question. This was done, and the committee retired to report, leaving Duckberry in waiting. Upon receiving the report the Lodge was closed, the jewels and paraphernalia removed, and two muscular Brothers were sent to the ante-room to introduce Bro. Duckberry, upon whose face was observed a flush of conscious triumph as he was conducted to the centre of the Lodge, and formally introduced. He gracefully acknowledged their welcome, but just at this time it occurred to him that there was not that degree of cordiality exhibited which he had expected. He was not asked to be seated, but instead the Master began to question him; and he did not use the term "Brother." He was asked if he belonged to Baytown Lodge, how long he had been a member, the name of its Master,

etc. Duckberry had posted himself on these points, and answered without hesitation that he had been a Mason about a year, and was made in Baytown Lodge, Bro. Backford Master.

At this a Brother arose and exclaimed:—"Why, Bro. Backford is here this evening. I saw his name on the hotel register, and if I may be excused I think I can find him."

"Is that so?" said another. "He is an old friend, and I know he will come with me. Then he can vouch for the visitor, with whom our committee is not wholly satisfied."

The Brothers were excused and retired. The utmost gravity prevailed, and Duckberry was still standing in the centre of the room. It began to dawn on him that he was in a serious predicament. It was evident that his assertions were doubted, and if Backford should appear, he would at once be announced as an impostor. The thought caused large beads of perspiration to stand out on his forehead. He glanced around the room, but found no encouragement there. The men who surrounded him wore an air of gravity and suspicion. Duckberry's knees smote together, and he resolved to make a clean breast of the matter and "throw himself on the mercy of the court." He asked if he might be heard. The request was granted; he then and there acknowledged all.

During the recital of his story the Craft had gathered around him, and at its close he was in the centre of a solid circle of stalwart men with lowering brows and fiery eyes. The first to break the silence was an aged Brother who advanced and said: "Mr. Duckberry, my only sentiment toward you is that of profound pity that so young a man and one so intelligent, should have voluntarily thrown his life away." And he stepped back, sighing deeply. Duckberry caught his breath and glanced wildly around, his gaze resting on the Master, who came forward, facing him, and said:

"Mr. Duckberry, this is the third instance of this kind I have known in my life. Two of those men still live, but terribly maimed—crippled for life. But your case is so aggravated that I cannot promise you even that. You think you are in a Masonic Lodge, but you are not. You were known to be an impostor, and the Lodge was closed before you were admitted. You have confessed and promised amendment, and I will try to save you, but am fearful that I cannot. You had better be prepared for the worst."

During this address the Craft had divided into knots, talking low, and casting murderous glances at Duckberry, who was as pale as a corpse, trembling in every limb, and the picture of abject fear. Soon a howl was raised, a rope produced, and a rush made for the victim. Some of the Craft attempted to protect him, and a melee ensued, in the midst of which was Duckberry, now on his knees, praying, crying, bellowing, and begging in the most pathetic terms for his poor life. Despairing of this, he requested that he might be shot instead of hanged. In the midst of the terrific mock battle (which was terribly realistic to the Duckberry) the Master whispered in his ear than when he should receive his coat and hat he must make a rush for the door and escape, but at this moment the crowd opened, and without waiting for his clothing, Duckberry made a rush for the door and liberty. Amid many buffetings he reached the outer door only to find it locked, and a crowd of howling, blood-thirsty men at his heels. Here another indescribable scene occurred. A stalwart Brother, clasping the howling, praying, bellowing victim around the neck, swore that he would protect him with his own life, and very considerably lifted and seated him out of harm's way, on top of a hot stove. He was not made aware of his mistake until the poor fellow's shrieks and a strong smell of woolen ascended to the ceiling in company. At this instant the door was opened, and wrenching loose by a violent effort, poor Duckberry rushed out. There were three landings, and each one was taken at a flying leap, utterly regardless of the steps between. On the last he was aided by a kick, and struck at the foot, sitting bolt upright with his head nearly driven between his shoulders. With a heavy groan he arose to his feet and limped into the street, hatless and coatless, on a bitter cold night, only to find himself in the hands of a policeman.

Recovering somewhat, Duckberry pointed towards the lights and asked the policeman, in tones yet tremulous from fear, exertion and pain, what kind of people those were up there. "Those," said the night guardian with a solemn and mysterious air, "You haven't been there, have you? Well, you are fortunate to get out at all." Lowering his voice to a confidential tone, he continued: "They're a hard set. Many a man has been known to go up there and never seen to come down."

Kindly thanking the Officer, Duckberry limped away, fully convinced that he had barely escaped with life, and vowing that he would never play Mason any more. He was chastened and humbled, and for several weeks he lost all appetite for mysteries. He disposed of his badge, and even rejected hash and mince pie at his boarding house, because they smacked of mystery. But with time, this antipathy faded.

Duckberry is still travelling, and has so far recovered from his fright that he occasionally attempts to impose upon credulous members of the craft, thus evincing that the old passion has still a strong hold—but no more Lodge visits with Masons. Duckberry don't like their home customs. Their attentions are too pressing by half.

To the foregoing may be added the fact that the party designated as Duckberry had tried the same game at Lansing previous to "being tried" in Flint, but without success, and the boys in Lansing learning that he was on his way to Flint, put the boys in the latter place "on" with the above result. But Duckberry was bound to be a Mason, and it is stated that he finally succeeded in obtaining the degrees legitimately and made a good Mason.

The "Scottish Freemason" has been started as a monthly publication at one penny, published at Ayr.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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METROPOLITAN.

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TEMPERANCE IN THE EAST LODGE, No. 898.

THE Installation meeting took place on Wednesday, 30th ult., at the Assembly Rooms, Newby Place, Poplar, under the presidency of Bro. W. Bigg W.M., who was supported by Past Masters J. Byford, H. Rogers, G. Graveley, J. W. Pulsford, H. Cooper, J. C. Armstrong, Geo. Shearman, A. G. Duck, G. Sidders, J. J. Carter, Jas. Williams, C. Chapman, J. Gordon, and several Officers and other Brethren. Lodge being opened, Messrs. P. N. Egan and J. Regan were initiated.

Bro. E. F. Williams S.W. and W.M.-elect was then presented, and in a Board of Installed Masters was inducted into the chair according to ancient rite.

The business-like way of the W.M. in appointing his Officers—his first duty—gave great satisfaction to all present. Throughout the whole ceremony, says the "East London Observer," Bro. Bigg was most precise, his delivery of the various addresses and charges being exceedingly clear, earnest, and impressive, and it is generally agreed that no preceding occupant of the chair has reflected greater credit on the Lodge than the I.P.M. In the course of the ceremony he was materially assisted by Bro. H. Rogers, who acted as D.C.

Bro. Pulsford P.M. proposed, and Bro. Armstrong P.M. seconded, that an address on vellum, expressing the appreciation of the Brethren, be presented to Bro. Bigg, and this being unanimously agreed to, Bro. Byford P.M. proposed, and Bro. Gordon P.M. seconded, that a grant of twenty guineas be awarded to the retiring Secretary, Bro. Dr. C. Wyatt Smith P.M., P.Z., in recognition of his able and efficient services to the Lodge in that capacity for twenty-one years, this being the contribution of the Lodge towards a voluntary fund that will be contributed to by the Brethren individually. The proposition was carried.

A jewel was then presented by the W.M. to Bro. Bigg. The W.M. expressed the wishes of the Lodge when he thanked the I.P.M. for his services in the chair, and said it set a heavy task before himself to emulate such a predecessor.

Other Masonic business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the London Tavern, where an admirable banquet awaited them, about 150 sitting down at the table. Owing to the thoughtful arrangements of Bro. Duck every Brother knew his place when he entered the room, and in a very few minutes every seat was occupied.

The Loyal toasts having been honoured, the I.P.M. proposed the W.M., referring to his work in the Lodge in the various offices he had filled, and his creditable way of fulfilling the duties of each as a good augury for his work in the chair.

The W.M. briefly thanked the Brethren, and hoped, with the assistance of the P.M.'s and the able staff of Officers he had appointed, and with the support of the Brethren, to uphold the integrity of the Lodge.

In proposing the I.P.M. and Installing Master the W.M. alluded to his own diffidence in following such a predecessor. He had been most assiduous in all that could promote the prosperity of the Lodge, and had left it in a flourishing condition.

Bro. Bigg, in response, said that he tried to do his duty efficiently as Installing Master, and he hoped that, following in the footsteps of previous P.M.'s, all succeeding W.M.'s would instal their successors. It had a good effect in the Lodge.

Responding for the Past Masters Bro. Graveley said that for several years in succession the chair had been occupied by those who were his initiates. They had proceeded step by step until they were rewarded with the position that was, or should be, the ambition of every Freemason to occupy. The beauties of Craft Masonry grow upon us as we learn them. For his own part, when he had filled the chair of the Rosicrucian College, his round of Masonic duty would be completed.

Bro. Byford could say, as their Treasurer, that the Lodge was in an excellent financial position.

Bro. Duck referred to his initiation ten years ago by Brother Graveley, upon whom he looked as his father in Masonry. In being appointed as Secretary he followed an old and worthy Mason, and would endeavour to fill that most important position to their satisfaction.

Bro. Rogers said he was senior P.M. present. He had been twenty-six years in the Lodge; for sixteen years P.M., and for twenty-four years in office. His infant was Bro. Graveley P.M., for he had first shown to him the light of Masonry. He would stick to them so long as he had health and strength.

For the Visitors, of whom there were between forty and fifty, Bros. Anderson, Gardiner, and Cutchey responded, complimenting the Lodge on its excellent working, and the zeal of its P.M.s. and Officers.

For the Charities, Bro. Pulsford P.M. responded. He hoped to take a good list when he went down to Brighton to the Boys Festival.

Bro. Gordon P.M., although called upon to respond, thought the case in better hands with Bro. Pulsford, who was a better beggar than himself. He thought they had done their duty to the Craft generally in becoming patrons of all the Institutions.

During the intervals, a capital musical programme was carried out under the able direction of Bro. Harry Tipper P. Prov. G. Reg. Herts. P.M. 185, 2054, 2390, &c. Madame Mille Malenoir sang "The Green Isle of Erin" and "The old countrie," with great success; and Bro. H. Tipper gave a finished performance on the handbells of "Good Company," and, as an encore, the "Intermezzo," in

"Cavalliera Rusticana." A violin solo by Miss Gertie Tipper, and the part singing of the "Royal Criterion Glee singers," were also worthy of special mention.

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RAVENSBORNE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1601.

THE annual supper was held at the Rising Sun, Rushey Green, Bro. R. D. Heckols W.M. Ravensbourne Lodge in the chair. After the repast the toasts were honoured, that of the Ravensbourne Lodge of Instruction, given from the chair, being responded to by Bro. G. A. Pickering P.M. P.G. Steward. That of the Ravensbourne Lodge, proposed by Bro. A. A. Drew P.M. met with a suitable acknowledgment from the Chairman. Local Lodges of Instruction was replied to by Bros. Jas. Speller, Walter Martin, and A. A. Drew, whilst Bros. Pickering and Drew replied for the Officers.

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PROVINCIAL.

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SINCERITY LODGE, No. 189.

AT the meeting on the 11th inst., the members presented Bro. Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D., with a silver tea pot, as a wedding gift.

Bro. A. S. Hendry the Secretary, who made the presentation, said Bro. Lemon had obtained high honours in his Lodge and the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the Lodge recently congratulated him on attaining his majority. He was the most bountiful supporter in the Province of Devon of the Great Masonic Charities. They asked him to accept the gift in token of esteem and affectionate fraternal feeling, with which he was regarded by every member of the Lodge.

Bro. F. E. Sach the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M., and Bro. George Hawken was unanimously re-elected Treasurer.

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WEAR VALLEY LODGE, No. 1121.

THE Members of this Lodge, which meets at Bishop Auckland, were favoured on Friday, the 8th inst., by a visit from the Officers of the Province of Durham. There was a large attendance of Brethren, upwards of twenty Lodges being represented.

The Provincial Officers expressed their gratification with the admirable manner in which the proceedings were conducted.

On the Lodge being closed the Brethren adjourned for refreshments, and a pleasant evening of Masonic toasts, sentiment, and songs followed.

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ARCHITECT LODGE, No. 1375.

THE principal business connected with the meeting held at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, on Friday, the 1st inst., was a very interesting and skilful rendering of the Traditional History and explanation of the 3rd Degree Tracing Board, by Bro. Alfred Pickford S.W. From beginning to end there was no halting, or amateurish display of effort, and Bro. Pickford has deservedly added to his reputation as a careful and enthusiastic Officer of the Lodge. His audience consisted of Bros. James Morrison junr. W.M., C. H. Beever I.P.M., Charles Rawle J.W., Henry Nall P.M. Treasurer, Jas. A. Carse J.D., W. T. Hesketh P.M. D.C., Wm. Rushton Org., Sam Tiller, A. Redfearn, Ed. M. Beebe, J. R. E. Birkett, John M. Crone Stewards, J. Coupland I.G., Past Masters Councillor John Bradshaw Prov. G.S.D., James Laidlaw P.P.G.D., Arthur A. Moss, Jno. Southam, Dunbar Murray, Edward Roberts (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE); Baron E. de Minciaky, William Martin, Hugh W. Bloomer, R. Kastner, and A. L. Bateman.

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TRAFFORD LODGE, No. 1496.

THE regular meeting was held at the Western Hotel, Moss Side, Manchester, on Monday, the 11th inst. Bro. Francis Long W.M.

There were also present Bros. John Morris I.P.M., J. Rathbone P.M. (acting) S.W., Ramsey Knight J.W., Geo. Burslem P.M. Treasurer, J. C. Gillman P.P.S.G.D. Secretary, Chris. A. H. Preston S.D., W. Yeadon (acting) J.D., John Done I.G., D. Johnson P.M. D.C., H. P. Jones P.G.R., W. Blears P.M., H. Russell Steward, T. L. Frith, E. Dewsbury, M. Seanor, H. Mogridge, T. W. Hampson, Walter Lees, C. F. Davies, J. Yale-Deeley. Visitors:—J. Schofield 1161, W. Rushton 1375, Edwin Storer 204, H. R. Dresser 1633, R. Box 1633, P. J. Walsh 1147, W. A. Holme 1147; N. Jones Tyler.

The Lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of the last regular and emergency meetings were read and confirmed, when the Brethren adjourned to tea, on re-assembling the E.A. charge was delivered to Bro. J. Yule-Deeley by Bro. Ramsey Knight J.W. in a very efficient manner.

Bro. Deeley subsequently answered the necessary questions and was passed by the W.M. Bro. Burslem P.M. gave the explanation of the second Tracing Board in his usual impressive manner.

After hearty good wishes had been expressed by the Visiting Brethren the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

At the Social Board the health of Bro. Deeley was proposed by the W.M. and, in reply, the newly passed Brother expressed how much he had been impressed with the ceremonies through which he had passed.

The W.M. proposed the health of the Visitors, which was heartily responded to.

Bro. Jones proposed the health of the W.M. and spoke in very eulogistic terms of the way he did his work.

The W.M. proposed the health of the P.Ms. in glowing terms, and spoke of their willingness at all times to give their help and advice when required, and hoped that as the next meeting would not take place till September, that the Great Architect would spare them to meet again on that occasion.

Bro. Rathbone proposed the health of the Officers, and highly complimented them one and all upon the excellent manner of their working.

The interval between the toasts were enlivened with songs and recitations from Bros. Rushton, Holme, Schofield, Hampson, Yeadon, Russell, Rathbone and Lees. Bro. Rushton presiding at the pianoforte.

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MINNEHAHA MINSTREL LODGE, No. 2363.

THE regular meeting was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on the 28th ult. There were present:—Bros. C. H. Beever S.W., C. Harrop J.W., Jos. Hilton Treas., M. Thomas P.P.G.D. Secy., Henry Nall S.D., Fred Hilton P.P.G.D.C. J.D., J. Crompton Wood Chapn., Seth Wrigley D.C., F. Ferneley Organist, Thos. Hamnett Std., Arthur Schofield Std., Thos. Black P.M. P.P.G.D., Sam Luke, W. W. Hitching, F. Todd, G. R. Ward, S. H. Stubbs. Visitors:—Bros. T. H. Black W.M. 1170, Alexr. Meikle J.W. 2320, Rev. F. E. Thomas Chap. 1387, Henry Littlewood 1387.

In the absence, through sickness, of Bro. Brabner W.M., Bro. Seth Wrigley occupied the principal chair. Indisposition also caused the absence of Bro. A. J. Holt, who was due for the ceremony of Passing; Bro. Fred Hilton, however, compensated for these unintentional defections by proposing the names of two Brethren as joining members, who will accordingly be voted for at the next meeting.

Lack of work in the Lodge naturally caused the festive board to be a lengthy one, and as the array of talent available happened to be of a very exceptional kind, some interesting sketches and songs were rendered, the artistes being Bros. Todd, Nall, Meikle, M. Thomas, Harrop, Stubbs, Beever, Littlewood, Rev. F. E. Thomas, and Thos. Black.

Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, Bro. Fred Hilton replying on behalf of the Provincial Officers. He said that this was the first opportunity which he had had of responding as a past Provincial Officer, for it was only recently, after a very busy year's work, that he had been put upon the shelf, and relegated to that position.

Bro. Wrigley proposed the health of Bro. Thos. Black, their recently joined Brother, saying that he was heartily pleased to see that he had at last found time to attend, and felt assured that he would add lustre to the Lodge.

Bro. Black apologised for not being present sooner to respond to the toast of his health. He thanked them for admitting him, and in conclusion spoke very highly of the manner in which the Lodge business had been conducted, which fact he should not fail to mention when visiting other Lodges.

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LONGSIGHT LODGE, No. 2464.

IF the same activity which has characterised this new Lodge since its consecration is maintained for a short period longer, the full complement of members will have been reached. At the meeting held at the Club House, Birch Lane, Longsight, on the 6th inst., there were again two ceremonies,—a first and third. Mr. Charles Coatman, Traveller, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, was initiated into the first degree, and Bro. Arnold Swindells was raised to that of a M.M., both ceremonies being performed by the Worshipful Master, he being assisted in the initiation by Bros. Grimshaw S.W., and Gadd J.W., the former rendering the Ancient Charge, and the latter presenting and explaining the working tools.

At the festive board which followed, loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to in many excellent speeches.

There were present:—Bros. Councillor Thomas Uttley W.M. P.P.A.G.D.C. (West Yorks.), H. Grimshaw S.W., W. Gadd J.W., Frederick G. Berry P.M. Treasurer, Councillor John Phythian Sec., W. H. Wilson Asst. Sec., Ald. Lloyd Higginbottom S.D., E. H. Ritson I.G., and several other members, with a large number of Visitors.

Replying to the toast of the Visitors, Bro. Challender W.M. Derby Lodge reverted to the splendid and efficient manner in which the ceremonies had been conducted. He pointed out that to obtain that high standard of excellence, a perfect, harmonious, and sympathetic sentiment must always pervade the members of the Lodge; the Officers should be cohesive and enthusiastic; the members and visitors should pay modest attention, and give that reverential silence which invests the beautiful ceremonies with that solemnity and impressiveness so necessary to the well-being of all Masonic Lodges, thus creating in the breast of every Mason that peace of mind which renders this sublunary life happy.

Songs, recitations, etc., were rendered by Bros. Hilton, Robinson, E. O. Ritson, Coatman, Wood, Ellor and others.

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ROYAL ARCH.

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HAYLE CHAPTER, No. 450.

ON the 5th inst., Comp. W. Wagner was installed Z., R. S. Read H., and F. W. Thomas J., the ceremony being ably performed by Comp. R. Rowe and W. K. Baker.

The returns showed the Chapter to be the strongest in the Province, and the Treasurer reported a balance in hand. The banquet was provided by Bro. H. Champion in the dining hall.

DINBYCH CHAPTER, No. 1177.

ON the 31st ult. the Annual meeting was held at Tenby, for the installation of Comp. C. S. Allen. The Chapter having been opened, the installation took place, followed by the investiture of Officers.

Afterwards the Brethren dined together at the Royal Gate House Hotel, Bro. H. J. Gregory putting on the table a most enjoyable repast.

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DUNDAS CHAPTER, No. 1255.

THE Annual Convocation was held on the 7th, at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth. Comp. S. J. Daniel was installed Z., W. H. Botterel H., W. S. Warren J. The installing Officers were Comps. J. R. Lord P.P.G.T. and W. Allsford P.P.G.P.S.

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WILBERFORCE CHAPTER, No. 2134.

ON the 5th inst., the members assembled in goodly numbers to take part in the installation of Comps. G. W. Greenwood P.G.S.B. as Z., George Leigh P.P.G.S.B. as H., and T. H. Haller as J. The ceremony was impressively performed by Comp. R. R. Hawley P.Z. P.P.G.S.N., assisted by Comp. W. C. Whiteside P.Z. P.P.G.S.N.

The M.E.Z. invested the Officers.

The annual banquet followed, when the usual toasts were duly honoured.

TRAVELLING IN SWITZERLAND.

THE Jura-Simplon Railway Company (the largest and most important of Switzerland) has made an excellent start in opening a General Agency and Inquiry Office, at 7 Piccadilly Mansions, Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly Circus, London, W., where full and reliable information can be obtained as to the best and quickest routes of reaching interesting parts of Switzerland. At the Agency there are a collection of views and photo-chromos illustrating the finest scenery along the Company's lines, and the would-be visitors to Switzerland will, no doubt, be glad to decide beforehand places where they would like to go and stay, either by the lakes or in the valleys and mountains. The collection includes views from the Matterhorn, Glacier du Rhone, Mont Rosa, Jungfrau, Brunig, and many others equally beautiful. During the summer season, commencing in June, one can reach Lausanne or Berne for Zermatt or the Oberland in less than eighteen hours, either via Pontarlier through Paris for Lausanne or Geneva, or via Calais to Delle, Neuchatel and Berne. When the Simplon Tunnel is completed, London will be sixty English miles nearer to Brindisi.

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Criterion Theatre.—Mr. Charles Wyndham has made a hit in the revival of Justice McCarthy's lively political comedy "The Candidate," and crowded houses greet the wily Lord Oldacre with roars of laughter every evening. This is not surprising because not only in this character is Mr. Wyndham seen at his best, but he is so ably supported by Mr. George Giddens and Miss Fanny Coleman that it is difficult to say who has the better part to play. The scene in the second act where Oldacre is called upon for details of his candidature before he has arranged the particulars with his accomplice is most excellent. We still think that the appearance of Arabella in "propria personæ" would enhance the effect of the denouncement, where the hypocritical Goodeve is exposed, but let that pass. Miss Mary Moore is as charming as ever as Dorothy, and Mr. C. W. Somerset enacts her lover to perfection, while Miss Mirian Clements as Lady Oldacre, and Miss Pattie Browne as Mrs. Mallett assist in making the piece run smoothly. The single scene of the morning room at Oldacre is charming.

The great points about Freemasonry are that it is not free, and it has nothing to do with masonry. It is anything but the easiest thing in the world, even if you can afford the heavy fees, to get admission into a Masonic Lodge. A man needs a pretty white record as far as the members of the Lodge are concerned, to escape the fatal black balls which ostracise him from the brotherhood. What are the benefits of Masonry? Just ask a Mason? You won't get much out of him if he is faithful to his vows. Cassell's "Concise Cyclopædia" tells us that "according to its own peculiar language, the association is founded on the practice of social and moral virtue." Noble objects—would that they were more common among the great mass of humanity! Also, "It professes the exercise of charity in the most extended sense, and demands from the brotherhood truth, mutual help, and brotherly love." Again, splendid! If these be the objects of Freemasonry, the sooner the whole world become members of the Craft the sooner will the millenium arrive.—"Ilkeston Advertiser."

MEETINGS FOR NEXT WEEK.

Monday.

1506 White Horse of Kent, Viaduct Hotel
1719 Evening Star, Holborn Restaurant, at 5 p.m. (Emergency)

61 Probity, Halifax
77 Freedom, Gravesend
89 Unanimity, Duckinfield, Cheshire
236 York, York
248 True Love & Unity, Brixham, Devon
264 Nelson of the Nile, Batley
270 Royal Faith and Friendship, Berkeley
302 Hope, Bradford
307 Prince Frederick, Hebden Bridge
312 Lion, Whitby
359 Peace and Harmony, Southampton
388 Prudence, Halesworth
408 Three Graces, Haworth
424 Borough, Gateshead
433 Hope, Brightlingsea
466 Merit, Stamford Baron
467 Tudor, Oldham
699 Boscawen, Chacewater
872 Lewis, Whitehaven
949 Williamson, Monkwearmouth
986 Hesketh, Croston, near Preston
1030 Egerton, Heaton Norris
1168 Benevolence, Sherborne
1199 Agriculture, Yatton
1238 Gooch, Twickenham
1255 Dundas, Plymouth
1271 Friendship and Unity, Brad.-on-Avon
1272 Tregenna, St. Ives
1286 Bayon, Lincoln
1337 Anchor, Northallerton
1443 Salem, Dawlish
1447 St. Matthew, Barton-upon-Humber
1486 Duncombe, Kingsbridge
1542 Legiolium, Castleford
1564 St. John, Woking
1600 Hamilton, Alford
1631 St. Andrew, Gorleston
1674 Caradoc, Rhyl
1814 Worsley, Worsley
1833 St. Keyna, Keynsham
1977 Blackwater, Maldon
2074 St. Clair, Landport
2086 Dacre, Stevenage
2208 Horsa, Bournemouth
2349 W. Lancashire Century, Blackpool
2425 Ecclesburne, Duffield

Tuesday.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons'-hall, at 4
255 Harmony, Richmond, Surrey
1339 Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall
1695 New Finsbury Park, Viaduct Hotel
2191 Anglo-American, Criterion
223 Charity, Plymouth
299 Emulation, Dartford
378 Loyal Welsh, Pembroke Dock
386 Unity, Wareham
418 Menturia, Hanley
432 Abbey, Nuneaton
448 St. James, Halifax
506 Mundy Grove, Shipley Gate
667 Alliance, Liverpool
779 Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
830 Endeavour, Dukinfield
855 Sympathy, Wotton-under-Edge
958 St. Aubin, Jersey
1006 Tregulow, St. Day
1028 Royal Alfred, Alfreton
1036 Bowyer, Chipping Norton
1067 Royal Forest of Dean, Newnham-on-Severn
1089 De Shurland, Sheerness

1225 Hindpool, Barrow-in-Furness
1256 Fidelity, Poulton-le-Fylde
1266 Honour and Friendship, Blandford
1315 Wey Side, Woking Station
1424 Brownrigg of Unity, Old Brompton
1427 Percy, Newcastle-on-Tyne
1533 Loyalty, Marlborough
1570 Prince Arthur, Liverpool
1587 St. Giles, Cheadle
1787 Grenville, Buckingham
1893 Lumley, Skegness
1903 Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, Portsmouth
1941 St. Augustine, Rugeley
2154 Joshua Nunn, Halstead
2155 Makerfield, Newton-le-Willows
2339 Mistley, Manningtree

Wednesday.

Board of Benevolence, Freemasons'-hall, 5
700 Nelson, Plumstead
1382 Corinthian, Cubitt Town
2140 Huguenot, Criterion
2266 Cator, Beckenham

32 St. George of Harmony, Liverpool
121 Mount Sinai, Penzance
128 Prince Edwin, Bury
137 Amity, Poole
178 Antiquity, Wigan
200 Old Globe, Scarborough
210 Duke of Athol, Denton
221 St. John, Bolton
243 Loyalty, Guernsey
246 Royal Union, Cheltenham
290 Huddersfield, Huddersfield
301 Apollo, Alcester
311 South Saxon, Lewes
325 St. John, Salford
342 Royal Sussex, Landport
372 Harmony, Budleigh Salterton
376 Perfect Friendship, Ipswich
387 Airedale, Shipley
522 Eaton, Congleton
555 Fidelity, Framlingham
581 Faith, Openshaw
591 Buckingham, Aylesbury
610 Colston, Bristol
662 Dartmouth, West Bromwich
681 Scarsdale, Chesterfield
726 Staffordshire Knot, Stafford
750 Friendship, Cleckheaton
795 St. John, Maidenhead
823 Everton, Liverpool
865 Dalhousie, Hounslow
874 Holmesdale, Tunbridge Wells
950 Hesketh, Fleetwood
962 Sun and Sector, Workington
1019 Sincerity, Wakefield
1024 St. Peter, Maldon
1040 Sykes, Driffeld
1089 Walton, Kirkdale
1129 St. Chad, Rochdale
1136 Carew, Torpoint
1161 De Grey and Ripon, Manchester
1179 Rutland, Ilkeston
1212 Elms, Stoke Damerei
1301 Brighthouse, Brighthouse
1334 Norman, Durham
1353 Duke of Lancaster, Lancaster
1363 Tyndall, Chipping Sodbury
1511 Alexandra, Hornsea
1529 Duke of Cornwall, St. Columb
1544 Mount-Edgecumbe, Camborne
1634 Starkie, Ramsbottom
1638 Brownrigg, Kingston-on-Thames
1645 Colne Valley, Slaithwaite
1868 Unity, Oldham
1988 Mawddach, Barmouth
2135 Constance, Consett
2203 Farnborough and North Camp, Farnborough
2258 Western District United Service, East Stonehouse

2259 St. Nicholas, Thorne
2434 Anderida, Eastbourne

Thursday.

House Committee, R.M.I. Girls, Battersea, at 4.30
6 Friendship, Criterion, Piccadilly
1320 Blackheath, Bridge House Hotel
1681 Londesborough, Café Royal
1716 All Saints, Poplar

57 Humber, Hull
98 St. Martin, Burslem
203 Ancient Union, Liverpool
215 Commerce, Haslingden
230 Fidelity, Devonport
245 Mechanics, Jersey
286 Samaritan, Bacup
322 Peace, Stockport
324 Moira, Stalybridge
343 Concord, Preston
345 Perseverance, Blackburn
350 Charity, Farnsworth
361 Industry, Hyde
367 Probity and Freedom, Rochdale
450 Cornubian, Hayle
456 Foresters, Uttoxeter
469 Hundred of Elloe, Spalding
472 Friendship and Sincerity, Shaftesbury
489 Benevolence, Bideford
600 Harmony, Bradford
605 Combermere, Birkenhead
625 Devonshire, Glossop
659 Blagdon, Blyth
758 Ellesmere, Runcorn
802 Repose, Derby
833 Afan, Aberavon
939 Pelham, Worksop
940 Philanthropy, Stockton
971 Trafalgar, Batley
1011 Richmond, Manchester
1037 Portland, Portland
1042 Excelsior, Leeds
1184 Abbey, Battle
1299 Pembroke, Liverpool
1327 King Harold, Waltham Cross
1332 Unity, Crediton
1386 St. Hugh, Lincoln
1393 Hamer, Liverpool
1459 Ashbury, West Gorton
1464 Erasmus Wilson, Gravesend
1514 Thornhill, Huddersfield
1534 Concord, Prestwich
1562 Homfray, Risca, Mon.
1776 Landport, Landport
1869 Sandown, Sandown, I. of W.
1872 St. Margaret, Surbiton
1892 Wellington, Carshalton
2158 Boscombe, Boscombe
2189 Ashburton, Ashburton
2226 St. David, Rhymney
2268 Hallamshire, Sheffield
2302 St. Mary, Southwell
2305 Stour, Ashford, Kent
2341 Clemency, Oldham
2342 Easterford, Kelvedon
2352 Universities, Durham
2390 Exmoor, Minehead
2430 Runnymede, Wraysbury

Friday.

Board of Management, R.M.I. Boys, Wood Green, at 2.30
60 Peace and Harmony, Freemasons'-hall
1712 St. John, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
2371 Felix, Felixstowe

Saturday.

1541 Alexandra Palace, Viaduct Hotel
2353 Broxbourne, Broxbourne
2421 Carrington, Amersham