

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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CHARITY APPEALS FROM NON-SUBSCRIBERS.

IT not infrequently happens that those who are called upon to dispense Masonic Charity are brought face to face with the fact that the applicants never seemed to have a thought for the poor and distressed of the Craft until they found themselves in distressed circumstances. Then they were ready with an appeal, and hoped to arouse the feelings of the Craft on their own behalf. The question very naturally arises, are those who have never contributed a farthing from their own pocket to assist others, eligible for relief in the time of their own misfortune?

The subject has been thrashed out on more than one occasion in connection with the great Charitable Institutions of the Order, and we are pleased to say that in their case true Masonic feeling has been allowed to prevail, the opinion being that all are equal in Freemasonry, and being so are alike entitled to sympathy and assistance if in want, and deserving of it, irrespective of what they have personally done on behalf of others in years gone by. This is the broad principle that should prevail under such circumstances, and we believe any ordinary thinker would be able to convince himself to that effect, if he cared to sink all personalities and consider the matter in its fullest extent, as concerning the whole Brotherhood of Freemasonry.

It is not usual for members of the Craft to look into the past actions of candidates for initiation, before putting their name to the ballot, it being sufficient to know that they are good men in the ordinary acceptation of the term; and on the same principle it should not be necessary to consider all the actions of a Brother Mason before deciding to give him the benefit of Masonic assistance. It is far better to believe that all are equally deserving, and if one Brother has not done so much, publicly, as his fellows, to imagine that he has not had similar opportunities, or been equally provided with the means of helping others.

Besides all this we must not forget that perhaps the Masons who do the most on behalf of their less fortunate companions make the least show. They may prefer to do good by stealth, give in silence, or dispense true fraternal assistance in such a way as to prevent the world knowing what is going on. Are we to exclude all such members of our Fraternity from Masonic Benevolence should they some day find themselves in want? and give instead to the Brother who, with all the ostentation and show that was possible, subscribed perhaps five or ten guineas to some fund where his name was permanently recorded as a supporter of Masonic benevolence, and whose one act in the cause of charity was perhaps afterwards regretted, and never repeated? That would be a serious mistake, and even if only for the purpose of guarding against such a contingency the Craft should never attempt to limit its Benevolence to those who, in more prosperous days, gave publicly of their means in order to help in the relief of distress in others.

Then, again, we must not forget that to make the benefits of Freemasonry in this particular only available for those Brethren who had previously shown a charitable disposition towards others, would place the Order on a par with an ordinary Benefit Society, without any of the safeguards or restrictions imposed in their management, and this would be so opposed to the principles of the Craft as to make such a proposition almost unworthy of consideration, and yet the subject is one, as we have already urged, that is frequently discussed, and is one in regard to which very much may be urged on either side.

In another part of our present issue we record the proceedings at a meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund, held at Plymouth on the 21st inst., when considerable discussion ensued in regard to this particular feature. It was pointed out that it often happened Lodges did not recognise their obligation to contribute to this local fund, in fact, quietly ignored it, until they found themselves in a position to require its help; and a strong feeling was expressed that the Committee should have a discretionary power to reject nominations from non-contributing Lodges, which suggestion will come on for formal consideration at the Annual meeting on Tuesday next, a notice of motion on the subject being given for that assembly.

We think we have said enough to show our Devonshire Brethren what we consider their duty in this particular case. No doubt it is very galling to see Lodges and Brethren claiming, and often receiving, the benefit of charity funds in the promotion of which they displayed little or no interest; but on the other hand it would be unwise, if not unjust, to deny them admission on such a basis; for it may be remembered that although they may appeal without having previously contributed, they cannot derive any benefits—where those benefits are secured by competitive elections—without having done much, either in their own name, or by friends who, for some reason or another, are content to transfer their rights and privileges to them for the time being.

It is in this connection we find the advantage of the system of election that prevails in association with the majority of our Benevolent funds. It is true the most deserving cases may not be elected, but on the well-known principle that those who pay the piper have the right to order the tune, it is very certain that those who are considered the most deserving by the subscribers themselves must obtain the prizes; that is to say, by securing the largest number of proxies they clearly prove themselves to be the popular candidates in the eyes of those who subscribed the money. For this reason, if for no other, there should be no harsh restrictions in the direction proposed, as to who are to be deemed eligible. If the candidates have not personally shown interest in the work there is no knowing what they may have done indirectly, or how far they may have influenced others to render assistance. It is very certain they cannot secure the coveted benefits without proxies, earned by

monetary payments of their own, or by the contributions of sympathising friends.

We look forward with some interest to the meeting of Tuesday next, but we hope no prohibitive rules will be adopted by our Devonshire Brethren, who, we trust, will see the force of the arguments that can be adduced in favour of all being considered equal in this particular offshoot of the Craft, as it is usual to regard them in the main stem of Freemasonry.

LLANGATTOCK LODGE.

AN interesting event took place at Cardiff, on Wednesday, the new Llangattock Lodge, No. 2547, being consecrated by the Provincial Grand Master for the Eastern Division of South Wales (Lord Llangattock) in the presence of over 150 Brethren, from all parts of South Wales.

The Lodge, of which Bro. Thos. Matthews P.M. P.P.S.G.W. is first Worshipful Master, is named after his lordship the Prov. G.M., and promises to become a flourishing branch of the Masonic tree in Cardiff.

Lord Llangattock was accompanied by Bro. Marmaduke Tennant D.P.G.M. for the Eastern Division of South Wales, and Bro. C. R. Lyne (Newport) D.P.G.M. for Monmouthshire, and in the ceremony of consecration Bro. Tennant rendered valuable assistance to the P.G.M.

At the Lodge consecration Bro. J. Ferris Bailey read the Charter, and an eloquent oration on Masonry was given by the P.G. Chaplain Rev. W. Williams, Builth.

Subsequently, the W.M. having been duly installed, he invested his Officers as follows:—Bros. John Shaw P.M. I.P.M., W. E. Miles P.M. P.P.G.Reg. S.W., Charles Jones J.W., Sam Jones Secretary, W. A. Beer Assistant Secretary, Walter James Treasurer, G. Durstan D.C., W. H. Allen S.D., William Rees J.D., George Bull Organist, C. J. Cudlipp I.G., Theo. Edwards and D. Morgan Stewards, and Amos Jenkins Tyler.

The Prov. G.M. was then presented with a founder's jewel, amid great enthusiasm, which was renewed when it became known that his lordship had presented the magnificent banner of the Lodge.

Complimentary remarks having been made in reference to the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M. of the Eastern Division, and the D.P.G.M. of Monmouth, the Lodge was closed in due form.

Subsequently a banquet was partaken of at the Royal Hotel, the catering, which was excellent, being under the supervision of Bro. Judah, the popular manager of the Hotel.

Bro. Matthews (who, together with Bro. Sam Jones, was responsible for the chief work connected with founding the Lodge) presided at the banquet, and was well supported.

No less than twenty candidates are now awaiting initiation as members of the new Lodge.—“Western Mail.”

CANDIDATES FOR THE INSTITUTIONS.

Announcements are inserted under this head at the rate of five shillings per inch, to appear each week from the time the ballot papers are issued up to the day of election, for cash with order.

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BOYS SCHOOL.

Your Votes and Interest are earnestly solicited on behalf of

FREDERICK SAMUEL LANG (Aged 10). Second Application.

Son of the late Frederick Alexander Giles Woolgar Lang, Master Tailor, of 114 Seven Sisters Road, Holloway, N., who was initiated in the New Finsbury Park Lodge, No. 1695, on the 17th October 1882, and was a subscribing member to the time of his death, October 1890. Votes will be thankfully received by Bros. T. G. Hodges, E. T. Mackrill, C. W. Allen; and Mrs. F. Lang, 8 Bird Street, Oxford Street, London, W.

GIRLS SCHOOL.

ETHEL BRANDON STANFORD,

Daughter of the late Edwin Ernest Stanford Past Master of the Paxton Lodge, No. 1686, and Member of the Lodge of Union, No. 166; aged 7½, earnestly desires your vote and interest for the above Election. Her father died suddenly at the early age of 36, leaving a Widow and Three Children unprovided for.

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Your Votes and Interest are earnestly solicited on behalf of

BRO. THOMAS SAMUEL STOCKMAN,

Who was born on 16th May 1826, and who has been a paying member for twenty-three years to True Love and Unity Lodge, No. 248, Brixham, Devon. Bro. Stockman has been confined to his bed with influenza and acute bronchitis for near a fortnight; his wife also for two months; previous to which he has earned very little—a mere pittance—by night watching, to which may be attributed his present illness.

ROYAL ARCH.

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CONSECRATION: HORWICH CHAPTER.

ON Tuesday, the consecration of a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with the Horwich Lodge, No. 2324, took place at the Bridge Hotel, Horwich.

The ceremony was excellently performed by Comp. Goodacre P.G.Std.Br. England, assisted by Comps. J. Slyman P.Prov. G.S.N., Rev. W. H. Baynes Prov.G.S.N., R. G. Bradley Prov. G.D.C. and Comp. Smith as Organist.

The following are the founders:—Comps. T. Forrester P.G.Std.Br. England, P. Yates P.Prov.G.D.C., John Heald P.Z., J. Rogers P.Z., James Coulthurst P.Z., J. H. Holland, Dr. G. H. Whitaker, H. R. Thornton, W. M. Varley, F. M. Palmer, R. Hampson and Jos. Cunliffe.

After the ceremony of consecration Comp. G. H. Whitaker was installed First Principal, H. R. Thornton Second, W. M. Varley Third, and the other Officers were appointed.—“Manchester Courier.”

ST. JOHN CHAPTER, No. 80.

AT the quarterly convocation at the Masonic Hall, Sunderland, on Tuesday, 19th inst., a number of Principals attended by invitation of Comp. R. Hudson Provincial Scribe E., from the Chapters at Durham, Hartlepool, Stockton, South Shields, Gateshead, as well as Sunderland, and the District.

The Rev. J. J. Brown First Principal was well supported. An interesting discussion took place upon several matters affecting the Chapter.

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VALLETORT CHAPTER, No. 557.

THE annual meeting of this Chapter was held on Monday, at Callington, when Comp. J. Gibson was installed as Z. and the Officers were invested.

The ceremony was efficiently performed by Comp. C. T. Pearce P.Z. Among the Companions present was Comp. Rev. W. B. Sayers, of Hills, 372, Ireland.

The Companions afterwards partook of a dinner at Mr. Batten's refreshment rooms, where a pleasant evening was spent.

MARK MASONRY.

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PORCHESTER LODGE, No. 27.

BRO. H. D'O. W. Astley, Town Clerk of Hungerford was, on Thursday, 21st, installed as Worshipful Master of this Lodge.

The installation ceremony, which took place at the Temperance Hall, Newbury, was impressively performed by the outgoing Worshipful Master, Bro. F. J. Harrold.

An excellent banquet was afterwards served at the Queen's Hotel, when the usual Mark toasts were honoured.

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FORTITUDE LODGE, No. 66.

THE annual meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on Tuesday, 19th inst., when Bro. J. Duckett was installed Worshipful Master, the ceremony being impressively carried out by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. G. S. Strode Lowe.

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BENEVOLENT LODGE, No. 316.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge of Mark Masons was held at Teignmouth, on the 21st inst., when among other business the elective Officers for the year were chosen. Bro. G. H. Johnson secured the post of W.M. and Bro. A. T. Crossley that of Treasurer.

The second Annual Supper and Bohemian Concert of the Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227, will take place at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, on Monday, 1st April, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock. Bro. S. Toye W.M. P.M. of the Mother Lodge will preside, supported by his Officers and Brethren. The price of Tickets is 5s each, the attendance of Ladies being specially desired. The Committee includes Bros. W. Richardson Preceptor, S. Toye W.M. P.M. 1227, W. H. Toye P.M. 1278, C. J. Free P.M. Treas. 1227, J. Stroud P.M. 1227, E. Hill P.M. 1227, C. Schmidt P.M. 1227, H. Hyde S.D. 1227, H. J. Tibbatts I.P.M. 2396, C. Gieseke P.M. 1227, E. M. Jeffery S.W. 1227, H. J. Rowberry 1227, A. Butcher 1227, A. Bray J.D. 1227, W. F. Carroll 1227, R. F. Thomson 1227, H. B. Brown I.G. 1227, Libgott, H. T. Willis 2357, and R. Chitson 1278.

OLD Books and Curiosities relating to Freemasonry, Knights Templars, Rosicrucians or other Secret Societies wanted. Address, W. W. Morgan, New Barnet.

A PRIEST ON FREEMASONRY.

ON Sunday week an extraordinary lecture was delivered in a hall in Glasgow by the Very Reverend Father John, Catholic Priest. His subject was "Freemasonry—its history and its aims." Such an indictment surely was never made against any body of men before, and one wonders that a Catholic Priest, who cannot possibly know much of the subject, as he has had no experience, should allow unbridled bigotry to carry him such a length. Yet, "mirabile dictu," this very reverend gentleman at the same meeting denounced bigotry in others. How easy it is to pick motes out of other peoples' eyes when there are beams in our own. Nothing else is needed than this lecture to prove the Very Reverend Father John a bigot of bigots. It is incredible that any man, with a head on his shoulders, whether a Freemason or not, would for one moment believe that Freemasonry, as Father John declared, "was the greatest danger to Christianity;" and with remarkable intolerance he added, "and next to Freemasonry came the Jews." To this priest Roman Catholicism and Christianity are synonymous, and because Freemasonry always opposes Roman Catholics (which we deny) he says Freemasonry is the determined opponent of Christianity. That is arguing in a circle and is unmitigated nonsense. He denounces Freemasons for opposing Roman Catholicism, and yet he does his best to hold Freemasonry up to the abhorrence of the world. He surely could not expect Freemasons to support him when a candidate for the Parish Council. For some idea as to the character of Father John's remarks we give a few extracts from his speech, which was delivered to a meeting of St. Alphonsus' Young Men's Society, Glasgow. He said:

There was no society so antagonistic to the Catholic Church as the Freemasons on the Continent. If we look up Belgium, Germany, Spain, Austria, or Italy, we would find that wherever Freemasons got hold of power they used the influence to destroy the Catholic Church, to persecute the bishops and priests, and to harass those who practise any religion. Take Belgium; when that country first got constitutional government it was favourable to the Church, but once the Freemasons got power they began immediately to destroy the Catholic schools, and tried to oblige the Catholic priests and students to become subject to military laws—to make them serve as soldiers; they tried to ruin the seminaries of the priesthood in this way; they tried to take away the revenues from the Churches and schools, and tried, in fact, to uproot altogether the Catholic Church in Belgium. Take France; whenever they got any power into their hands in this country they invariably exercised that influence in the persecution of the Church. In Italy we found a similar state of things. There are about seventeen million Freemasons in the world at the present time, banded together to carry out by fair means or foul the objects of their Order. We could not make light of these seventeen millions, who were all either bad men, or good men who were the tools of bad men; and we could easily understand that the Church, by the divine light which God gives her, saw the virus that was in this Society—saw with a prophetic eye which only God gives, long before people knew what the Society intended, long before its objects were made public. The Church condemned the Freemasons, and the result of that exercise of their power since had fully justified the Church's condemnation.

The following even is stiffer:—Freemasonry is the greatest danger to Christianity, and next to Freemasonry came the Jews. The Jews were made use of for business purposes; they controlled all the great telegraphic agencies, they had shares in the newspapers even in this country, and they were strong allies of the Freemasons that they might the better assail Christianity. The Rev. Lecturer said the proofs for all his statements were abundantly furnished in speeches of the principals of the Freemason body and by death-bed confession of members; and every proof went to show that the Freemasons were a Society organised against the Catholic Church—against the very name of God. It should be remembered, however, that Freemasonry on the Continent was not exactly the same as Freemasonry in these countries. But people who said the two bodies were entirely different showed they knew very little of the history of Freemasonry, and were only throwing dust into their own eyes. Whatever Freemasonry in England is at the present time it is the same as the Freemasonry 150 years ago on the Continent. The Continental body wished to erase the name of God, even though placed there as a decoy, from their rules altogether. But the devil, who always knew the objects of the Society, was never in a hurry; men may come and men may go, but the devil goes on for ever. So, having gained his point on the Continent, he could wait a couple of hundred years to see the English Freemasons following the example of their Continental Brethren. The Church condemned the Freemasons on the Continent at the very beginning, and she was blamed for doing so, but time had vindicated her action; so, too, the people in these countries

would yet see that the Church had equally good reason for condemning the Freemasons in this country, as she did on the Continent. They knew that in this country the power of the Freemasons had never been exercised for good.

This too is really good:—Of the seventeen million Freemasons all over the world, sixteen million and seven or eight hundred thousand know very little of the real objects and aims of the Society. There were something between forty and fifty degrees in the Society, and most members for their whole lives belong only to the first degree. It was only when they got to about the twenty-fourth degree that members came to know anything about its real objects. To these high degrees those only were admitted who had been well tried and tested. Some of those who had been for a time in the high degrees had described the ceremonies gone through, and the ceremonies were of the most revolting description—with a display of coffins, skulls, and daggers; and in one place it had been described how members had been let down deep into the earth, the strange words they had heard, how daggers gleamed round them in the dark, some pressing near their hearts, and how again they were elevated to a considerable height with similar accompaniments. This process went on for six or eight hours, with the result that the nervous system of the victims was shattered, and for the remainder of their lives they were entirely in the hands of their leaders.—"Kilmarnock Herald."

HALF-AN-HOUR IN A GOLD MINE.

A MINE in full operation is the latest addition to an already long list of attractions at the Royal Aquarium. Its workings are a correct representation of the Saratoga mine, located in the Rocky Mountains, Gilpin County, Colorado, and are an extraordinary reproduction of the various details incident to the acquisition of the precious metal. In appearance, a mountain in miniature divided down the middle, the model shows in motion hundreds of little manikins, with picks and hammers, delving in the depths for gold, a thousand feet below the earth's level, the whole being a marvellous piece of mechanism showing every phase of gold mining in perfect detail. The work, which is the result of many years labour of Mr. William Keast, while himself engaged in the actual labour of mining, eclipses in elaborate mechanical ingenuity even that of the great Strasburg Cathedral clock, being by far and away more complicated and interesting. It has been endorsed by the Denver Mining Exchange, and the Colorado State School of Mines, as perfect representation of a mine in full operation, affording a better knowledge of the underground workings than would be gained in a month spent in a mine itself. On the surface are miniature mules drawing carts filled with ore.

The enclosures are an actual underground mine, with a covering to represent ore; on entering, the customary tools are seen along the dark passages, and the feelings and sensations are those of entering a regular ore producing mine.

The cage shaft runs to a supposed level of 600 feet. No. 2 is a bucket and pump shaft running to a 700 feet level. No. 3 is a prospect shaft, at the mouth of which is a whim from 60 to 100 feet deep. In the bottom of the first shaft are miniature rock drills, run by electricity, compressed air and water power. The drills show the operation of sinking main shafts through the different strata of gold-bearing rock and auriferous soil. At the bottom of the deep shafts there are the usual levels, slopes and drifts or cross-shafts, above the ground are crushers, shaft-house, blacksmith's shop, powder magazine, miners' boarding house, common sense whim, the halladie rope-way, water-fumes, stamp-mills, sluice-boxes, piles of wood for timbering the mine, the dump, ore bins, and all other buildings and appliances necessary to the operations of a great mining plant, including railway track, railways, etc.

The entire workings, both of the surface and underground, are presented in one view; a great object lesson, unique, amusing, instructive, and a practical education in mining.

The Lecturers, Mr. William Keast and Mr. Edwin Drew, who explain the whole thing so clearly that even children may understand, state that the oldest and most experienced miners have been the loudest in their commendation, and that mineralogists, professors and teachers examined it thoroughly, and the universal expression of opinion was one of merited praise for its completeness and simplicity. It was looked upon as the most interesting and attractive exhibit at the Columbia Exhibition of Chicago. They further state that at the Midwinter Fair, California, the miners were never tired of feeding their curiosity and watching its workings and listening. It was acknowledged by the public press of San Francisco to be one of the rarest treats of a lifetime.

Photographs of the mine are carried away as souvenirs of a more than delightful half hour in a real gold mine, whilst not the least pleasurable remembrance is a ride up a real track in a real sled drawn by a real burro. At the entrance are two real drills received direct from New York, which will be of general interest to Miners and Manufacturers.

PORTSMOUTH MASONIC CLUB.

THE fifth and last musical "At Home" of the present season, arranged by the committee of the Masonic Club, Commercial Road, was held in the Banquet-Room of the Club on Tuesday of last week. Mr. William Gunnell was in the chair, and was supported by a large company. A capital programme was provided, and at the conclusion of the evening votes of thanks to the Chairman, the committee, and the vocalists were unanimously passed, and the singing of the National Anthem brought the pleasant proceedings to an end.

The Confidence Lodge, No. 193, gave a very successful Ladies Banquet and Ball on Tuesday evening, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, dancing being kept up until Wednesday morning. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next week's issue.

EPIGRAMS.

(Continued from page 124.)

Incompatibility.

"A nut that is hard with a tooth that is rotten;
A wife that is young with a man that is old;—
Such matches, where fitness has quite been forgotten,
Are hostile to nature, and never can hold."
Lord Neaves (died in 1876).

The Irish criticised.

On the building of a magazine for arms and stores at Dublin, said to have been the last lines written by Dean Swift:—

"Behold a proof of Irish sense:
Here Irish wit is seen;
When nothing's left that's worth defence,
They build a magazine."

A Jacobite Epigram.

The following lines were spoken extempore by Dr. John Byrom, of Manchester, a man well known as the inventor of a new system of shorthand. He was born 1691, died 1763.

"God bless the King, I mean the Faith's Defender,
God bless—no harm in blessing the Pretender;
Who the Pretender is, and who is King,
God bless us all, that's quite another thing!"

Jeremiade.

"[Too old to leap a gate;
Too old to flirt with Kate;
Too old to gaze on gold, and count th' useless treasure;
To laugh, to sing, to talk, forbids my failing breath;
Too old, too old for anything, but death."

Job's Luck.

"Sly Beelzebub took all occasions
To try Job's constancy and patience;
He took his honours, took his health,
He took his children, took his wealth,
His camels, horses, asses, cows,—
And the sly devil did not take his spouse.
But Heaven, that brings out good from evil,
And loves to disappoint the devil,
Had predetermined to restore
Twofold all Job had before,
His children, camels, horses, cows:
Shortsighted devil! not to take his spouse."

Coleridge.

On Kings.

"To this night's masquerade," quoth Dick,
'By pleasure I am beckoned:
And think 'twould be a pleasant trick
To go as Charles the Second.'
Tom felt for repartee a thirst,
And thus to Richard said:
'You'd better go as Charles the First,
For that requires no head.'"

James Smith.

The Latin Gerunds, Di, Do, Dum.

"When Dido's spouse to Dido would not come,
Then Dido wept in silence, and was Di-do-dum(b)."

Porson.

Law.

"Once," says an author, where I need not say,
'Two travellers found an oyster in their way:
Both fierce, both hungry, the dispute grew strong,
While scale in hand, Dame Justice passed along.
Before her each with clamour pleads the laws,
Explained the matter, and would win the cause.
Dame Justice, weighing long the doubtful right,
Takes, opens, swallows it before their sight.
The cause of strife removed so rarely well,
'There take,' says Justice, 'take ye each a shell.
We thrive at Westminster on fools like you:
'Twas a fat oyster—live in peace—Adieu.'"

Pope.

On Sir Wilfred Lawson's Permissive Bill.

"O! 'tis a little simple bill
That seeks to pass 'incog.'
To permit ME to prevent YOU
From having a glass of grog."

Lord Neaves.

On the loss of a watch.

"Fret not my friend, and peevish say,
Your loss is worse than common:
For 'gold makes wings and flies away,'
And 'time' will wait for no man."

Sir Henry Erskine.

A mock Epigram on Epigrams.

"If the man who turnips cries,
Cry not when his father dies,
'Tis a proof that he had rather
Have a turnip than his father."

Dr. Samuel Johnson, (born 1709, died 1784).

It is said of the great lexicographer that he "loved epigrams," and even at one time contemplated writing a paper on the subject. Indeed, during his last illness he employed his time in translating Greek epigrams into the Latin.

A mother's love.

"Ere yet her child has drawn its earliest breath,
A mother's love begins—it glows till death—
Lives before life—with death dies not—but seems
The very substance of immortal dreams."
From the German of Wernicke.

A mutual arrangement.

"Old Lucifer, both kind and civil,
To every printer lends a devil;
But balancing accounts each winter,
For every devil takes a printer."

National Characteristics.

"Germans love beer, their throat than wit is wetter,
The Frenchmen fence, and with sharp points must speak,
Th' English are good, and your Italian's better,
But best at epigram's the ancient Greek."

The one thing needful.

"We may live without poetry, music, and art;
We may live without conscience, and live without heart;
We may live without friends, we may live without books,—
But civilised man cannot live without cooks.
He may live without books—what is knowledge but grieving?
He may live without hope—what is hope but deceiving?
He may live without love—what is passion but pining?
But where is the man that can live without dining?"

Owen Meredith

(Right Hon. Ed. Robt. Bulwer-Lytton, Earl of Lytton).

Oratory.

The agitation produced by Burke's speech, at the trial of Warren Hastings, was such that the whole audience appeared to have felt one convulsive emotion; and when it was over, it was some time before Mr. Fox could obtain a hearing. A friend of Hastings thus satirizes on the occasion.

"Oft have I wondered that on Irish ground
No venomous reptile ever yet was found;
The secret stands revealed in nature's work—
She saved her venom to create a Burke."

O Tempora, O Mores!

The following epigram refers to the institution of the Cross of the Legion of Honour in France.

"In times less pleasant and more fierce of old,
The thieves were hung on crosses, so we're told;
In times less fierce more pleasant, like to-day,
Crosses are hung upon the thieves, they say."

Paradoxical.

"A mechanic his labour is apt to discard
When the rate of his pay he dislikes;
But a clock and its case is uncommonly hard—
Will continue to work though it strikes."

Thomas Hood.

"Three traitors—Oxford, Francis, Bean,—
Have missed their wicked aim,
And may all shots against the Queen,
In future do the same.
For why? I mean no turn of wit,
But seriously insist,
That if Her Majesty were hit,
No one would be so missed."

Thomas Hood.

On Peter Pindar's Epistle to the Emperor of China (1817).

"It is a very easy thing
Indeed to make a King;
But since the reign of Kings began
How hard to make a King a man!"

Pleased.

Bishop Burnet, on account of his vanity, his boasting, and his propensity to blunder, was a fine subject of ridicule to Dean Swift, who was the composer of the following lines:—

"If heaven is pleased when sinners cease to sin,
If hell is pleased when sinners enter in,
If men are pleased at parting with a knave,
Then all are pleased—for Burnet's in his grave."

A similar epigram occurs on Coleman, the Jesuit, executed in the reign of Charles II.

Precaution.

"When I called t'other day on a noble renowned,
In his great marble hall lay the Bible, well-bound;
Nor printed by Basket, and bound up in black,
But chained to the floor like a thief, by the back.
Unacquainted with tone, and your quality airs,
I supposed it intended for family prayers.
His piety pleased, I applauded his zeal,
Yet thought none would venture the Bible to steal;
But judge my surprise when informed of the case—
He had chained it for fear it would fly in his face!"
Cumberland Journal, October 1798.

Puzzled.

"Come, come," said Tom's father, 'at your time of life,
There's no longer excuse for thus playing the rake;
It is time you should think, boy, of taking a wife'
'Why so it is father,—whose wife shall I take?'"

Thomas Moore.

(To be continued).

"Book of Rarities," by Edward Roberts P.M.

WHAT HAS BEEN, AND SHALL BE.

By NILES SEARLS Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of California.

THE FORMULATION OF MASONRY.

(Continued from p. 119.)

The practice of admitting to their ranks men distinguished for their profound learning and their attainments in the arts and sciences prevailed from an early period, and little by little, as this practice continued, and knowledge increased, the rank and file of the Order was filled by men of genius and culture, who, animated by high aims and noble purposes, gave to the body an accelerated impetus in the direction of a broader culture, a grander destiny.

Thenceforth its ranks were sought by men not so much intent upon advancement in a chosen vocation, as by a desire for a higher and broader culture in the social amenities, moral perceptions, intellectual acquirements. It became an educator of the age, an intelligent mental force of the times, around which clustered the deepest thinkers, the greatest philanthropists, the grandest moralists of every land graced by its presence.

Man is a gregarious animal. It is only in the society of his fellows that his higher attributes find full play. In solitude he dwindles into insignificance. Sages may sigh for that solitude as affording opportunity to formulate wise theories founded upon the garnered knowledge coming from contact with their fellow men; a suitable place in which to marshal, count, scan and value the gems of thought gleaned along the busy paths of life. It furnishes no mines of mental wealth in which to delve for hidden treasure.

The gratification of the social instinct inherent in man has opened the avenues for his advancement from the status of the cave-dweller to his present condition.

Speculative Masonry has seized upon this social instinct of mankind and made it the basis of all its action. It has realised that just as certainly as certain game may be found frequenting the salt licks of its environment, so may the average man be found converging to his fellow men in quest of that social pabulum without which he cannot exist.

Where I asked to designate the highest attribute of wisdom exhibited in the formulation of Masonry, I should respond, it was in seizing upon the social instinct and making it the basis for moral and intellectual culture.

I repeat, that the social feature of Masonry has been the basis of intellectual as well as moral culture. Not that sociology, which is but that branch of philosophy which deals with the constitution, phenomena and development of human society, necessarily and directly leads to great mental culture, but indirectly the teachings which lead men to an inquiry as to their true relations as members of society, and prompt them to the exercise of their relative duties to their fellows, tend to that intellectual awakening which eventuates in a broader culture and greater intellectual effort.

Socially, we occupy a pivotal point from which a hundred paths diverge, some of them leading to lofty heights, crowned with a diadem of truth, faith, hope and charity; others lead to the lowest depths of depravity—caverns filled with hateful things, fit abode for the vilest of nature's sons.

The friends we make socially exercise over us a potent influence as to the paths in which we travel. If Masonry did no more than to exercise over its votaries benign social influence it would commend itself to every thinking man competent to judge its merits. Its power in this direction, though silent as the speed of light, is mighty in moulding our lives in forms of beauty.

In its incipency, the influence of Operative Masonry was directed to the advancement of its members in the practical affairs of life, and their growth in the higher and nobler attributes of manhood was largely a sequence of the lessons of form and beauty implanted in their minds.

By the evolutionary process under which Speculative Masonry was developed, an entire change of theory was gradually unfolded, and the rough ashlar has become not an object upon which to bestow manual labour for the purpose of practical results, but a symbol of man's rugged nature, to be brought into harmony with the divine scheme, by diligent culture and a patient practice of the Masonic virtues.

To this end my Brethren, bend all the energies of your natures; cultivate, within the limits prescribed by our rules, the social instinct as a means to the growth and expansion of all the moral and intellectual forces within you, ever remembering that the moral soundness which has honesty and integrity as its basis, is essential to the formation of such a character as should be possessed by every true Mason.

Forms and symbols are useful in conveying to the mind beautiful and ennobling lessons, just as words convey ideas; the latter are as prosy as the mathematics; the former are the poetry of life, and find a rhythm in every responsive soul.

So long as we confound not the altar with the sacrifice, these object lessons are as poems of ineffable beauty to the heart

and mind. After all, they are, like all forms and ceremonies, but a means to an end. They are the rich golden surface prospect, which encourages us to delve deep down for the hidden treasure of the mine.—“Voice of Masonry.”

A DISTINGUISHED INDIAN MASON.

COL. C. F. MASSY District Grand Master of the Punjab, in addressing the Members of his Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, held at Lahore, on 27th December last, thus referred to Bro. Edwin Woodall Parker:

The Right Worshipful Brother's eminence as the most distinguished Mason in India has been fitly recognised by the higher authorities, who have now placed him, for the second time, in a position of the highest trust and responsibility which it is in their power to bestow. And we, Brethren, who have for years in this Province gauged the personal worth of the new District Grand Master of Mark Masonry, well know what a happy choice has been made in the interests of the Craft which Right Worshipful Brother Parker has so long and so faithfully served. He is not a rich man: few of us in this land have the so-called blessing of wealth; but no one ever appealed to him in the name of charity, or turned towards him in the hour of distress, without receiving from him a full measure of relief and kindly sympathy; often, as true charity always ought to be, given at the sacrifice of his own personal wants. This matter, Brethren, I dwell upon because my worthy predecessor in this Chair has the eminently true virtue of doing his good deeds without ostentation, setting his light, so to speak, under a bushel. His motto is: “When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth.” I would continue the beautiful quotation: “That thine alms may be in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret Himself shall reward thee openly.” Now, Brethren, I feel it my duty to dwell on this side of Bro. Parker's character, because it is one which, by reason of his consistent following of this precept of secrecy, is only known to the recipients of his benevolence, and I think it right, because of the lesson it conveys to myself and to all of us, that this beauty in his generous and warm-hearted nature should not for ever remain hidden from his fellow-workers who may know him merely as an able administrator, and a just and upright judge. This admirable trait has many times come to my notice since I succeeded him in the office of District Grand Master, and I now venture to make it public in the hope that it may encourage some of us who are in a position to do so, to follow his example in carrying out this most admirable injunction of our Order.—“Indian Freemason.”

It is stated Sir M. Hicks Beach Provincial Grand Master of Gloucestershire has signified his intention of holding the next Provincial Grand Lodge in Gloucester, on Wednesday in Whit week. There is a probability of the meeting being held in the Chapter House of the Cathedral.

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11.10 a.m., for Oxford, Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, Hereford, Manchester, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Cheltenham, Evesham, Worcester, Malvern, &c., to return 16th April, and from certain stations at option on 15th April.

12.35 noon, for Clevedon, Weston-Super-Mare, Taunton, Minehead, Wells, Yeovil, Bridport, Dorchester, Weymouth, &c.; to return 18th, 19th or 20th April.

Passengers to Clevedon and Weston-Super-Mare can also return on 15th or 16th April.

12.35 noon, and 11.10 p.m., for Bath and Bristol, to return 15th or 16th April.

1.55 p.m., for Gloucester, Cheltenham, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, &c., to return 15th April.

GOOD FRIDAY, 9.20 a.m., for Reading, Oxford, &c.; to return same day. Oxford passengers can also return 15th April.

SATURDAY, 13th April, 3.30 p.m., for Bath, Bristol, &c., to return 15th or 16th April.

EASTER MONDAY, 6.15 a.m., for Bath, Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare, &c., to return same day or 16th April.

6.55 a.m., for Cirencester, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c.; to return same day or 17th, 18th or 19th April.

7.35 a.m., for Reading, Hungerford, Didcot, &c.; to return same day.

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F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

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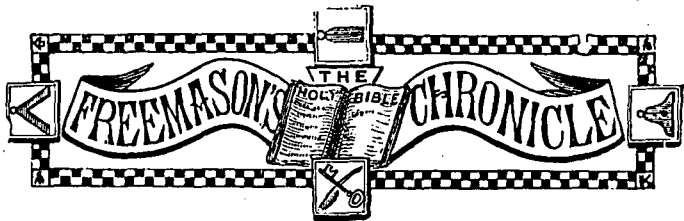
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 Terry's.—8-20, Keep your own Counsel. 9, The Blue Boar. Matinée, Saturday.
 Princess's.—8-30, Hansel and Gretel (in English). Matinée, Saturday, 2-30.
 Strand.—8, Salt Tears. 9, A Loving Legacy. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
 Globe.—8, The Journey's End. 9, Charley's Aunt.
 Comedy.—8, A Breezy Morning. 8-30, Sowing the Wind. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2-30.
 Lyric.—8-15, His Excellency. Matinée, Wednesday, 2-30.
 Prince of Wales's.—7-45, The House of Lords. 8-15, Gentleman Joe. Matinée, Saturday, 2-30.
 Haymarket.—8-10, An Ideal Husband, &c. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2-30.
 Gaiety.—8, The Shop Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Daly's.—8, Dinner for Two. 8-30, An Artist's Model. Matinée, Saturday, 2-30.
 St. James's.—8-30, In the Season. 9, The importance of being Earnest. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
 Garrick.—8, The notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
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SATURDAY, 30TH MARCH 1895.

DEVON EDUCATIONAL FUND.

A MEETING of the General Purposes Committee of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund was held on the 21st, at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, under the presidency of Bro. W. Powell.

The Hon. Treasurer (Bro. J. R. Lord) reported that the total value of the Fund at the end of 1894 was £1,484 13s 6d, as compared with £1,317 13s 4d in the previous year—an increase of £167. This increase, he said, had taken place notwithstanding that they were now maintaining 23 children—the highest number they had ever had on the fund. The increase was largely due to the concert given in Plymouth Guildhall last November, which resulted in an addition to the funds of exactly £100.

Brother J. B. Gover Hon. Secretary reported that three candidates who failed to secure election in October last were still eligible, and that five new applications had been received for the election next month, making eight in all. Four of the new cases were placed upon the list; the fifth was rejected on the ground that it was not a case calling for assistance from the fund. The accepted cases were nominated by Lodges at Princetown, Topsham, Ivybridge, and St. Aubyn's Lodge, Devonport.

Tuesday, 2nd April was fixed for the annual meeting and election, to be held at Plymouth, and it was decided to elect four new candidates on that day out of the eight applicants.

Bro. Allsford called attention to the fact that the return made for the year 1893 showed that eighteen Lodges in the Three Towns and district contributed £285 19s 6d to the fund, that seventeen Lodges in other parts of the Province contributed £117 14s, and that there were seventeen Lodges which did not subscribe a single penny. In the discussion which followed it was stated that repeated appeals had been made to the non-contributing Lodges to help the Fund, but without any satisfactory result. It was not until Lodges found themselves in a position to require help from the Fund that they recognised their obligations to contribute to it. A strong feeling was expressed that the Committee should have a discretionary power to reject nominations from non-contributing Lodges, and a notice of motion to that effect, to be proposed at the meeting in April, was given.—“Western Morning News.”

WOMEN FREEMASONS.

IT is not generally known that there is an Order of Women Freemasons in the United States of America. The Order originated in this manner:—Just over a hundred years ago, a number of French Society ladies formed an organisation in Paris, which they called “The Rite of Adoption.” Among its members were the Duchess of Bourbon, and afterwards the Empress Joséphine. Both these ladies held offices, and became “Grand Mistresses” of the Order. During the American War of the Revolution, very many French Officers served in the ranks of the rebelling Colonists, and their wives introduced the Order into America, where it was known as “Adoptive Masonry.” There it has flourished, while in France, we believe, it has become wholly extinct.

In the United States it is now known as “The Order of the Eastern Star,” and has now over seventy thousand members. Men who are Master Masons are admitted, but it is primarily an Order for women, who must be either wives, widows, sisters, or daughters of a Master Mason. The sister or daughter of one may be admitted to membership and hold office even if her husband be not a Mason; but the widow of a Master Mason who marries again to a man who is not so, is not entitled to these privileges unless she had been previously made a member, and no one may be elected under the age of eighteen. The Organisation has scores of degrees, and its ceremonies resemble those of the Royal Arch Masonry and the olden portions of the Scottish Rite.

The chief of the Order is a gentleman, Robert Macoy, who has held this position since 1868, and he is known as Supreme Patron. There is also a Grand Matron, Associate Grand Matron, a Grand Secretary, and a Grand Directress. The extent of the Organisation may be judged from the fact that the New York Grand Chapter has under it sixty-five subordinate Chapters, of which nine, with a total membership of over one thousand, are in New York City alone.—“Princess.”

The Blue Lodge finds its precedent for burying its dead in the traditions on which the Master Mason's degree is founded: even a “grand procession” is authorised, and the duty to perform this office is in perfect keeping with its traditions and customs, to say nothing about the theory advanced by some that such burying is the final act in the drama of the third and highest degree known to Ancient Craft Masonry.—“Voice of Masonry,”

On several occasions we have heard the Senior Warden of respective Lodges, in investing the newly-initiated Brother, refer to the “Star and Garter.” We would remind such Officers that there is no Order of this name, though it sounds pretty, and recalls pleasant memories of the Thames and “refreshment after labour.”—“Indian Freemason.”

We regret to see the “South African Masonic Record” expired in December. It published its own obituary, the chief cause of its decease—“non-paying subscribers,” many of whom received and read the paper from its commencement, and never paid one penny towards it.

Masonry (Australia) reminds Deacons that it is unnecessary to salute the Chairs when they have the wands in their hands, and speaks of the difficulty of doing so, with dignity.

“A SPRIG OF ACACIA.”

THE various Lodges in Chester sustained a great loss by the death, on Thursday, 14th inst., of Bro. Stephen Smith, who was buried on the 18th, when a large and influential number of Freemasons assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory. Bro. Smith was Past Grand Tyler of Cheshire, and was also Tyler for the three Chester Lodges and the Mold Lodge, as well as St. Mark's, Connah's Quay. Bro. Smith was formerly in the 22nd Cheshire Regiment, and had fought in the Crimea.

THE funeral of Bro. Elom Pierce, of Eastbourne, took place at Ocklynge Cemetery, on the 22nd, and was attended by a number of the members of the Hadrian Lodge, No. 2483, and other societies with which he was connected. Before concluding the service at the graveside, the Rev. W. H. Hewett called attention to certain phases of deceased's character which deserved imitation, among the chief of these being his industry and perseverance, his generosity and his integrity in all his dealings with his fellow men.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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We shall be pleased to receive particulars of Masonic meetings for insertion in our columns, and where desired will endeavour to send a representative to report Lodge or other proceedings.

—:0:—

CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

—:0:—

FITZ-ROY LODGE, No. 569.

WORSHIPFUL Master Bro. James H. Hawkins P.D.C. Surrey presided at the last ordinary meeting of this Lodge, held at the Armoury House, Finsbury, E.C., on 22nd inst., when he was supported by Brothers Davies acting S.W., Dyke P.G.D. Dorset J.W., Wagstaffe S.D., Bertram P.M. J.D., and Hillman I.G.

There was also a good muster of the Brethren, in full uniform, and the following Visitors: Bros. E. Purkiss S.W. of the Chigwell Lodge, E. C. Braquet W.M. of the Etonian Lodge, and Orlton Cooper P.M. of the St. Michael's Lodge.

Unfortunately, considering what a perfect master of the ritual Brother Hawkins is, there was but little work before the Lodge, namely the passing of Bro. Hope Grant, but the ceremony was admirably rendered, the Working Tools being explained at length, and the lecture on the second Tracing Board given.

Bro. F. J. Stohwasser Secretary proposed that the usual sum of five guineas be voted from the funds of the Lodge as a Shooting Prize, to be competed for by the Regiment at the next annual competition for prizes, which was agreed to.

Bro. Hawkins announced that owing to the generosity of the Brethren he had been enabled to take up £86 at the Masonic Benevolent Fund Festival. He subsequently stated that prizes of three Masonic gavels would be given for Shooting teams of Masons belonging to the various volunteer regiments of the metropolis, and he trusted that all qualified Brethren would join in the competition.

The business of the evening being finished the Lodge was closed and the Brethren adjourned to supper.

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KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767.

THE Lodge had a largely attended meeting at the Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, on Saturday, the 16th inst., under the presidency of Bro. W. B. Neville W.M., who was ably assisted by his Officers.

The W.M. fully maintained the reputation of the Lodge by his excellent working, which included the raising of Bros. Ensor and Walker, and the passing of Bros. Glynn, Moss and Scott.

The after dinner speeches were judiciously short, in order to do justice to the excellent programme of songs provided under the efficient conductorship of Bro. Oliver P.M. Organist.

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CLARENCE AND AVONDALE LODGE, No. 2411.

AN inter-Lodge dance was held at the Masonic Hall, Leytonstone, on Friday, 22nd inst., when the Clarence and Avondale Lodge were the hosts. A numerous company gathered, the members of the Craft wearing Masonic clothing.

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WALTHAMSTOW LODGE, No. 2472.

ALTHOUGH so recently called into existence this Lodge has made such progress that already it is being considered advisable to increase the entrance fee for the purpose of restricting the number of members.

This result is doubtless due to those at the head of the affairs of the Lodge, who are good and worthy Masons working assiduously for the benefit of the Craft. Foremost among these is Bro. William Shurmur, who for many years past has been most zealous in promoting the cause in the Province of Essex, taking the greatest interest in the numerous Lodges to which he belongs, and acting as Preceptor to the well attended Lodge of Instruction at Walthamstow.

It was therefore not surprising, when it was announced that Brother Shurmur would perform the ceremony of installation of the W.M., that a numerous assemblage of Brethren met at the Masonic Hall, Walthamstow, last Saturday, to take part in the interesting proceedings. There was a long Masonic programme provided, and the Brethren attended at an early hour.

Bro. Shurmur presided, being supported by the Officers of the Lodge, while among many Visitors were Bros. Thos. Scoresby-Jackson P.P.G.D. Essex, G. C. Vernon Inkpen P.G.Sup. Works Sussex, George Graveley P.M. 996, H. W. Lee W.M. 1056, Henry Massey P.M. 1928, H. W. Lofts 177, W. F. Stauffer J.W. 19, G. H. Pizey 2374, S. C. Bateman J.W. 1707, Archdeacon Dunbar 2374, J. R. Friend 2374, Fredk. Taylor J.W. 2256, C. Thompson I.G. 2192, J. Monger 1260, W. S. Hooper 1487 and 2488, W. A. Sims 1226, A. Holmes 2256, Richard Ward 1590, Orlton Cooper 211.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bros. Lewis Fowler Pool and Sidney Vincent Harris answered the preparatory questions for Master Masons, were entrusted and retired. On their re-admission into the Lodge they were duly raised to the sublime degree, the beautiful ceremony being most impressively rendered by Bro. Shurmur.

The W.M. Bro. William Harris then assumed the chair, when the ballot was taken and proved unanimous in favour of Messrs. Sidney Wright Gillard, Thomas Welham and John Parkinson Watts, and those gentlemen being in attendance were regularly initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Harris.

The next business was the Installation, and Bro. Shurmur having resumed the chair, Bro. S. H. Baker P.M. and Treasurer presented Bro. D. H. McGowan, who had been unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year. Having signified his assent to the ancient charges, a Board of Installed Masters was formed and Bro. McGowan was duly placed in the chair of the Lodge.

Upon the return of the Brethren the new Master was saluted, and then proceeded to invest the following Officers:—Bros. William Gower S.W., J.

Clarke J.W., S. H. Baker P.M. (re-elected) Treasurer, Samuel Herbert Secretary, A. J. Stacey S.D., T. W. Stacey J.D., H. H. Finch I.G., Fredk. Peck D.C., A. Oakden Organist, L. Taylor and T. W. Stroud Stewards, and Grosse Tyler.

The ancient addresses to the W.M., Wardens and Brethren were delivered by Bro. Shurmur, and evoked the hearty approval of those present.

The Report of the Audit Committee was submitted and adopted, and the W.M. having received the congratulations of the Visitors, the Lodge was closed and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent repast was provided by Brother Hallowses.

The usual toasts followed, and some fine singing was given between the speeches, Miss Herbert, the daughter of the Secretary, ably contributing to the vocal entertainment.

Bro. W. Harris I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., said the Brethren had done the right thing in electing Bro. McGowan, who had been connected with the Lodge ever since its foundation, and was a good worker in Masonry and an earnest follower of its teachings. He would be an honour to the Lodge, would give satisfaction to the Brethren, and would fully justify the hopes that had been entertained of him.

Bro. McGowan W.M., in acknowledging the toast, which was drunk with great enthusiasm, said he was deeply indebted to the Brethren for their kindness, and it was a great pride to him to have attained the position of W.M. of this Lodge, in which he had spent many happy hours. Whatever he could do for the Lodge or to make the Brethren comfortable and happy he should do. The Lodge's welfare would be his first concern, and he hoped they would have a very happy year, working with that love and harmony which should always characterise Freemasons.

Bro. McGowan W.M. next proposed the Installing Master and the Past Masters, and dwelt on the great treat the Brethren had experienced that evening in seeing and hearing the ceremonies so ably performed. The work of Bro. Shurmur, to whom they were all so much indebted, was too well known to require comment, but the work was nowhere done better than in the Walthamstow Lodge. The work of the Immediate Past Master was also well known, and it was as creditable to the Lodge as it must have been impressive to the newly made Brethren. Bro. Harris had been a worthy Master, and the Brethren had shown their appreciation of his services by voting him a Past Master's jewel which he had thoroughly earned, and which he (Bro. McGowan) now presented to him.

Bro. William Shurmur P.M., responding as Installing Master, said he was pleased that his performance of the duties of Installing Master had given satisfaction and pleasure, and it was additionally gratifying to him to perform the ceremony when he had to place in the chair, as in the present instance, so distinguished and experienced a Craftsman as Bro. McGowan, who had been unanimously elected by the Brethren to preside over them. He was confident that Bro. McGowan would discharge the duties of his high position in a manner which would redound to the honour of himself and the success and prestige of the Lodge.

Bro. W. Harris I.P.M. also returned thanks, for the kind mention and reception of his name. It was to a certain extent with pain he left the chair, for he had had an exceedingly happy year. The Brethren had been very kind to him and had done their best to help him in making the Lodge prosperous and flourishing. He thanked each and all of them; Brother Shurmur for his great assistance and all the Officers for the ability with which they had performed their duties. The jewel they had so kindly voted to him he should always value, and he could assure the Brethren that as long as he had health and strength he should give his best services to this Lodge.

Bro. McGowan W.M. proposed the Treasurer and Secretary, and said that a great deal of the success of the Lodge was due to these Brethren, who in their own quiet way did an immense amount of work. Speaking of Bro. Baker he was sure he might say he was to the front when anything was required, and when asked for advice would tell them plain and plump what his view was. The balance sheet that night was most satisfactory. The Brethren and Visitors had all been treated well, and yet there was a considerable balance in hand. With regard to Bro. S. Herbert the Secretary, all the Brethren would agree that the Secretarial duties of this Lodge were no child's play, requiring as they did much thought and attention. They had been carried out with great success by Bro. Herbert. No one could find a fault or flaw in the way his duties had been performed, and they all trusted that the Treasurer and Secretary would be spared many years to do their work as they had done it in the past.

Brother S. H. Baker P.M. and Treasurer, replying, said it was to the Secretary and himself a matter of constant and supreme pleasure to find this Lodge so steady in its progress and prospects. One would have thought the Lodge had many traditions to fall back upon seeing there appeared to be so much maturity among the Brethren; but he attributed it to the broader fact that they were all impregnated with the real essence of Freemasonry. If there had not been such founders as Bro. Shurmur and Bro. Wildash the Lodge might not have got on so well; but the other Brethren vied with them, and so conduced to the prosperity of the Lodge. He made these remarks, not for the members of the Lodge alone, but for the Visitors also, because he thought the loyalty of these founders should be recognised. As long as they elected him to the office of Treasurer it would be his happiness as well as his privilege to place himself at the service of the Lodge.

Bro. S. Herbert Secretary said it was a pride to him also to be a founder of the Lodge, and he was very proud to be the Secretary. He was pleased to say, although perhaps some of the Brethren might think he had worried them, that they had readily answered to his call. Many Secretaries had not experience to fall back upon, but fortunately he had that experience in Bro. Baker the Treasurer. With his assistance, and that of Bro. Shurmur, Bro. Harris, Bro. Wildash and Bro. McGowan he was sure he need not go very far wrong.

Bro. Scoresby Jackson, George Graveley, H. W. Lee, Archdeacon Dunbar and others responded to the toast of the Initiates, and the Visitors and the Officers were also given, the Tyler's toast closing the evening.

Bro. David Hugh McGowan the new Master of the Walthamstow Lodge, though a comparatively young man, is an old Freemason. He was born on 28th January 1849, at Belfast, Ireland, and was initiated into the Craft in 1868 (being then only nineteen years old) in the Moneyrea Lodge, County Down, No. 556, Irish Constitution. He subsequently proceeded to the West Indies and then to Demerara, where he joined the Union Lodge, No. 247 E.C. at Georgetown, and eventually passed through the Chair, when he joined the Chapter and became P.Z. He also belongs to the Knights of Malta, is Past Eminent Commander of the Knights Templars, and Past Most Worthy Sovereign of the Rose Croix of H.R.D.M. He is a founder and was first J.W. of the Walthamstow Lodge, and at the recent consecration of the Shurmur Chapter he was appointed acting I.P.Z. With such a record the Brethren may well be proud of their W.M.

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PROVINCIAL.

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BENEVOLENT LODGE, No. 446.

ON Thursday, 7th inst., the fifty-eighth anniversary of the Lodge was held at the Vicars Hall, Wells, when there was a numerous attendance of Brethren.

The W.M. Bro. Robert Norton P.G.W. performed, in an able and impressive manner, the ceremony of installing his successor Bro. John Coates as W.M. for the ensuing year.

The Prov.G.M. Viscount Dungarvan was prevented from attending, by serious indisposition.

At the conclusion of the business of the Lodge, the Brethren dined together at the Swan Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M.

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PORTSMOUTH LODGE, No. 487.

THE Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., and the Provincial Grand Officers attended the meeting of this Lodge held in the Masonic Hall, Portsmouth, on the 14th inst., when Bro. John Brickwood P.M. P.P.G.J.D. was, for the second year in succession, installed as Worshipful Master, the ceremony being performed by the Provincial Grand Master.

After the close of the Lodge the Brethren assembled in the dining hall, where a banquet was served. Bro. Brickwood presided, and the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Bro. R. Eve P.G.Treasurer England responded for Grand Lodge, and referred to the prominent part taken in the proceedings of Grand Lodge by the Hampshire Brethren, especially by their Provincial Grand Master, who was selected to preside over the meetings of Grand Lodge more frequently than any other member of that body.

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COMBERMERE LODGE, No. 605.

THE annual installation took place on Thursday, 21st inst., at the Music Hall, Claughton Road, Birkenhead. There was an unusually large gathering of members and influential visitors, both of Lancashire and Cheshire, Bro. Robert W. Thompson the W.M. presiding.

The new W.M. Bro. J. H. Jackson was duly installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and afterwards invested his Officers. The Installation ceremony was most impressively performed by Brother John Frazer P.M.

The Mayor, Bro. Alderman T. Shaw P.M., in a few chosen words proposed a vote of condolence to the relatives of Bro. Sillitoe, who had been Treasurer for a number of years of the Combermere Lodge, and this being put, was carried in the usual way.

Bro. T. G. Grant P.M., on behalf of the Lodge, then presented Bro. R. W. Thompson with a Past Master's jewel, for which he returned thanks.

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HOLMESDALE LODGE, No. 874.

THE annual meeting and banquet were held on Wednesday, 20th inst., the former at the Masonic Room, and the latter at the Kentish Hotel, Tunbridge Wells. There were a large number of Brethren present, supporting Bro. E. Oliver W.M.

After the customary formal business Bro. W. Roper was impressively installed by the outgoing Master, and then the newly-elected W.M. invested his Officers.

After the Lodge business had been transacted an adjournment was made to the Kentish Hotel, and after dinner the customary toast list was carried out.

Brother Oliver gave the W.M., in congratulatory terms, expressing his conviction that he would well and honourably fulfil the high duties of his office, and thus follow the example set by his worthy father, who was W.M. in 1871.

The W.M., who was cordially received, expressed his earnest desire to follow in the steps of his predecessors, so as to uphold the dignity and honour of Masonry, and the Holmesdale Lodge. He concluded by proposing the Installing Master and Past Masters, alluding to the very efficient manner in which Bro. Oliver had performed his work. Bro. Elers was the father of the Lodge, having been one of the founders in 1862, and had initiated his (the speaker's) father.

Bro. Oliver, in responding, alluded to his pleasant year of office, expressed his indebtedness to the Past Masters for their assistance, and mentioned that no less than twelve of them had been present at the initiation of Brother the Rev. A. T. Scott, a record attendance in this respect.

Bro. Elers, who also responded, referring to the W.M.'s remarks, congratulated the Lodge on its flourishing condition, and said that Major Lutwidge was his first initiate.

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EGERTON LODGE, No. 1030.

THE regular meeting was held at the George Hotel, Heaton Norris, on Monday, the 18th inst., Bro. George Ben Goodfellow W.M. There were also present Bros. Hy. Smith S.W., Abm. Pemberton P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Treas., Jas. W. Abbott P.M. P.P.G.D.C. D.C., E. Lingard P.M. P.P.G.W., Walter H. Vaughan P.M. P.P.G.R., Geo. L. Vaughan P.M., Edward Roberts P.M. 1459, H. T. Fisher, T. B. Brooks, Geo. Ed. Wright. Visitor:—Bro. W. Fielding 44.

Being no important work in connection with the Lodge, an early adjournment to the festive board was made. Here the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were gone through; Bro. Capt. Lingard proposing the health of the W.M., at the same time commending Bro. Goodfellow upon having attained the position of Master. The speaker regretted that the first portion of his term of office had not been prolific of work, but he attributed this fact to the prevailing bad trade, which was beyond their power to remedy.

The W.M. responded, thanking Bro. Lingard for his references to himself, and said he anticipated that ere long there would be work for himself and Officers to perform, and he hoped the latter would attend regularly; he had made up his mind to try and do so, even after the completion of his term of office.

Bro. Lingard proposed the health of Bro. Abm. Pemberton P.M., and wished him many happy returns of this his birthday, to which toast Brother Pemberton very humorously replied.

The proceedings were varied by songs, recitations, &c., given by Brothers Brooks, Roberts, Smith and Wright. Bro. Fielding presided at the piano.

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PEMBROKE LODGE, No. 1299.

THIS Lodge held its annual meeting at Liverpool, on the 21st inst., when Bro. W. Coulthard was installed by Bro. S. Haden Jones.

During the evening a P.M.'s jewel, accompanied by a handsome set of table ornaments, was presented to the retiring W.M. with regalia of his office.

A good musical programme was provided under the direction of Bro. H. Round jun.

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PRINCE LEOPOLD LODGE, No. 1588.

THE annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Stretford, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., Bro. M. B. Salt W.M.

The principal business was that of installing into the chair of K.S. Bro. W. Toombs S.W. The Board of Installed Masters consisted of twenty Past Masters and Provincial Officers, the following occupying the chairs, Bros. W. Boden W.M., William Amery S.W. and W. H. Wakefield J.W.

Bro. Toombs having been presented by Bro. Salt, he was regularly installed into the chair by Bro. Boden, the latter being assisted by Bros. C. Cooper P.P.G.P., and William Cole.

The Officers for 1895-6 are:—Bros. M. B. Salt I.P.M., G. Bell S.W., G. H. Prax J.W., W. Boden P.M. Treasurer, H. Crosby P.M. P.P.G.P. Secretary, R. H. Ibbotson S.D., W. Harrison J.D., H. A. Owles D.C., C. J. Hall Organist, H. Grange I.G., A. Byrom, G. A. Pennington, F. G. Floyd and G. Lumb Stewards, W. Amery Charity Representative.

The ceremony of Installation over, the Brethren adjourned, afterwards proceeding by train to Manchester, a banquet having been provided at the Clarence Hotel, Piccadilly.

Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, these being sandwiched by some very excellent songs, &c., rendered by Bros. Harrison J.D., John Allin 1496, Wood, and E. Roberts P.M. 1459. Very high praise is due to Bro. G. A. Pennington for his musicianly treatment of the violin solos "Fantasia Faust," and "Fantasia Passio nate a Vieuxtemps," which were received with acclamation.

The health of the newly-invested Worshipful Master was proposed by Bro. Salt I.P.M., and elicited an able response.

Bro. Toombs, in the course of his remarks, made especial reference to the good work done by the Prince Leopold Lodge in the matter of charity, adding that for some years past ten guineas had been contributed as a means of endowing the following Offices, viz., W.M., S.W., J.W., I.P.M., Treas., Sec., two Deacons, I.G. and D.C. He also referred to the financial position of the Lodge, which was of a highly satisfactory character, the members having been enabled to liquidate a large debt which stood against it. They had been successful in initiating candidates of good sound principles, and he would make it a strong point to maintain this standard. Personally he was willing to devote whatever time he could spare, and whatever ability he possessed, so that the Lodge might reach that perfection which it was the duty of every W.M. to strive to. Bro. Toombs afterwards proposed the health of his predecessor, and took the opportunity of presenting to him, on behalf of the Lodge, a beautiful gold jewel, which bore the following inscription:—

Presented

by the Brethren of Prince Leopold Lodge, 1588,
to Bro. M. B. SALT P.M. in appreciation of his services as W.M. during his
year of office,
1894-5.

Bro. Salt said, in reply, he could not boast of having done much during his term of office, but what work he had attempted had been performed in the interests of, and for the benefit of the Lodge; he sincerely hoped he might be spared for many years to take a further share in promoting its prosperity.

The toast of the Installing Master, proposed by Bro. Toombs, contained a kindly reference to the ceremony of that day, the W.M. giving a very excellent meed of praise to Bro. Boden, for the careful, painstaking manner in which he had acquitted himself, and when the toast was submitted it was received with a hearty and spontaneous outburst of enthusiasm.

Bro. Boden, in reply, said that being Treasurer of the Lodge he would dwell more particularly upon its financial position. He gave some very interesting details, and also referred to the warm support which had been tendered by the Brethren, concluding a very pungent statement of facts and figures by hoping earnestly that the interest hitherto evinced by the members would not diminish.

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LIVERPOOL DRAMATIC LODGE, No. 1609.

THIS Lodge, which has been in existence for nearly twenty years, has always held a well-established reputation, says the "Liverpool Mercury," for its works of charity and the thoroughly representative character of its members, embracing as it does Brethren who are prominently identified with the drama, music, medicine, literature, and the fine arts.

The meeting at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, on the 26th, was especially interesting, as the assembly represented in a large measure all the professions above named. The gathering numbered about sixty. Bro. Henry Heard being in his place as W.M.

The general attendance of members and visitors included several artistes of note, the whole of the proceedings affording excellent evidence of the harmony and efficiency which mark the career of No. 1609.

The ceremonies of the afternoon, admirably performed by the W.M. and P.M. Round, assisted by the efficient staff of Officers, included the admission and advancement of several well-known local actors and painters.

Before the close of the business a substantial sum was voted in aid of sorrowing relatives of a deceased Masonic musician. An interesting after dinner programme was given by several musical and dramatic Brethren.

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CROOK LODGE, No. 2019.

ON the 27th inst., the Brethren met at the Freemasons' Hall, Crook, for the purpose of installing Bro. W. T. Wanless J.W., of Whitton-le-Wear, as Worshipful Master for the year.

At the conclusion of the ordinary business the W.M.-elect was presented and duly installed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, the

ceremony being performed by Bro. Myles Taylor I.P.M. assisted by Bro. T. Hardy P.M. P.P.G.P. The newly-installed Master then appointed his Officers.

The annual installation banquet was provided by Mrs. Brown, of the King's Head Hotel, at the close of which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Myles Taylor, which was acknowledged in suitable terms. A large number of Visiting Brethren were present.

GODSON LODGE, No. 2385.

ON the 27th inst., the annual meeting was held in the Town Hall, Oldbury, when there was a large attendance of members from the Grand Lodges of Worcestershire and Staffordshire.

Dr. Herbert Manley, West Bromwich, was installed as Worshipful Master, the ceremony of installation being performed by Dr. G. B. Buttery Immediate Past Master.

At the close of the business meeting a banquet took place, Dr. Manley W.M. presiding.

IONIC LODGE, No. 2405.

AT the Masonic Rooms, St. Helens, on the 26th inst., Mr. Seton-Karr, M.P., was initiated as a member of this Lodge. Owing to the absence through illness of the W.M. Bro. J. O. Swift, Colonel White performed the initiation ceremony.

There was a large attendance of Brethren. Afterwards Bro. F. A. R. Neill was installed Worshipful Master for the year.

DUKE OF YORK LODGE, No. 2449.

THE annual meeting and Festival of St. John took place at the Palatine Hotel, Hunt's Bank, Manchester, on Thursday, the 14th inst., Bro. Wm. Boden W.M.

From the nature of the summons issued to the Brethren, a heavy time had been anticipated, two ballots and three Raisings forming a very good prelude to an Installation. The Raisings, however, were abandoned, and only one ballot was proceeded with, that of Bro. John Henry Ratcliffe, Peace Lodge, No. 322, the same being successful.

The Brethren began to arrive soon after 2 p.m., and an early commencement was made. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, the Officers consisting of Bros. Wm. Boden W.M., Jas. W. Abbott P.M. 1030 P.P.G.D.C. S.W., Fred Hilton P.M. 1458 P.P.G.D.C. J.W., and W. B. Russell P.M. 1219 P.P.G.A.D.C. I.G., Bro. W. T. Schofield P.M. P.S.G.D. presented the W.M.-elect (Bro. Warburton) to receive the benefits of Installation. He also addressed the Wardens and Brethren, and invested several of the Officers, the Working Tools of the various degrees being presented and explained by Bro. Bridge Hopkinson P.M.

The Officers for 1895-6 are Bros. Wm. Boden I.P.M., T. T. Hardicker S.W., C. J. Hall J.W., A. Scarlett Chaplain, O. Rushton Treasurer, R. Meggitt Secretary, J. Kinsey Assist. Secretary, Geo. A. Bowden S.D., H. Stott J.D., J. Whittle D.C., B. Hopkinson P.M. Org., A. G. Bryce I.G., T. D. Lightfoot, C. Houston, T. Wooler, Rudolph Stewards.

Many of our Manchester readers may not be aware of the fact that during the last few months the Palatine Hotel has undergone a change of management, which we hope and believe will be for the better. Mr. and Mrs. Ross-Cattanach, who hail from the Imperial Hotel, Cork, may congratulate themselves upon commencing their duties under the most satisfactory auspices, for several important structural alterations, and many desirable improvements, have been initiated and successfully carried out. The electric light has been introduced throughout the building, and a spacious and comfortable commercial and writing room have also been added, while it is in contemplation to shortly open what is expected to be the finest billiard saloon in the city.

The banquet which the management placed upon the tables, and to which over sixty sat down, was of the most recherché description, and received the commendations of members and visitors alike.

Loyal and Masonic toasts were indulged in, the same being agreeably relieved by songs, etc., from Bros. Howard, Blacow, Rushton, Howarth, Maltby, and Stokes. Brother Hopkinson P.M. presided successfully at the piano.

Bro. Schofield proposed the health of the newly-installed W.M. in a very telling speech, to which Bro. Warburton responded.

The latter, in turn, proposed the health of the Installing Master (Brother Wm. Boden), referring to the large amount of work accomplished by him during the last two years. He was not sparse in eulogies which had been well earned, and to show the appreciation of the Brethren of the Lodge, of which Bro. Boden was one of the founders, he presented to him on their behalf a handsome gold jewel, with the following legend:

Presented to

W. BRO. WM. BODEN P.M.,

by the Brethren of the Duke of York Lodge, No. 2449,
for services as W.M.

1894-5.

Bro. Wm. Boden I.P.M. responded. He said that it was very gratifying for him to acknowledge the kind and hearty manner in which the Brethren had received the toast of his health. It had often been said by Masters in the chair of K.S. that this was the happiest time of their lives, and the fact had been demonstrated to him now that he had become a Past Master of the Duke of York Lodge. He trusted that he might long be spared to the Brethren, so that he could render that assistance which they expected from him, and which in turn they had given to him from the period of the consecration two years ago. It was not his intention to make a long speech, but he would do his best to offer a few remarks which he hoped might strengthen the Worshipful Master, and assist him in carrying forward the good work which he had that day undertaken.

During the past year he (Bro. Boden) had had the pleasure of initiating five members, and there had been three Joining Brethren, of whom he could say very confidently that both the Initiates and those who had joined were of that class and calibre of which Masons ought to consist. Indeed they were each and every one of them an acquisition to the noble institution of Masonry. To repeat an old phrase they were "the boys, and of the very best." He might also take this opportunity of expressing to the Officers and the Brethren of the Duke of York Lodge, his heartfelt thanks for their kind and valuable assistance during the past year. They had lessened his labours very considerably by attending to every matter of detail in the ceremonies.

Addressing the Master, Bro. Boden said, I hope, Worshipful Sir, that the selection of Officers which you have made will give you that valuable assistance without which no Lodge can succeed. I feel sure that the Brethren had unbounded confidence in me, and I trust they will have the same faithful confidence in you. And now, Worshipful Master, I come to the concluding portion of my remarks: the greatest trial through which I have passed during the last two years. Words cannot express my feelings, for I love Masonry, and so far as any extra work is concerned, you may depend upon my doing it if placed in my hands. I cannot find words in which to express to you, Brethren, my sincere thanks for this beautiful Past Master's jewel which you have presented to me. I trust that I may long be spared to wear it, for I feel the greatest pride in being the proud possessor of such a token of respect and esteem from the Brethren of the Duke of York Lodge. Other toasts followed.

Besides those mentioned above, there were present, amongst others, Bros. R. H. Whitham, J. W. Heap, A. Sutcliffe, Samuel Kew, W. Leigh, Edward Roberts P.M., John Fairbairn. Visitors: Rev. J. O. Jelly P.M. P.P.G.Chap., A. T. McGregor P.M. P.P.G.D., M. B. Salt P.M. 1588, W. Toombs W.M. 1588, Walter Baron W.M. 1219, S. A. Lever J.W. 2482, Jas. E. Smith I.P.M. 210, W. Dale I.P.M. 941.

YE OLDE MASONIANS BOHEMIAN CONCERT.

THE second annual Bohemian concert of the Old Masonians took place on Saturday, at Auderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, there being a goodly number of ladies and gentlemen present, says the "City Press." The chair was occupied by Mr. C. Heward Uwins. The programme was inaugurated by Miss C. Bowler, who played a pianoforte solo excellently. Mr. A. H. Stephenson contributed the "Night Watch," which was warmly received. Too much cannot be said in praise of Mr. A. B. Whitely, who infused a good deal of humour into his songs, all of which were vociferously encored. The committee were fortunate in securing the services of Mr. William Ditrey, whose recent appearance at some of "the halls" has caused quite a sensation. This gentleman gave a magnificent whistling solo, a recitation of a novel description, and a representation of a Kerry schoolmaster and his wife singing a duet at the piano, whilst the house dog keeps up a tremendous howling and growling as the mistress tries to take out the top notes. All these items created much amusement and were redomanded. Mr. H. Wilkinson, a comic vocalist of considerable promise, excelled himself in "The Millionaire," and the "Nasty Twinkle in her Eye." Amongst the others who assisted were Misses Brown and Blanche Gough, and Messrs. J. Smith, G. Brown, F. Dyer, E. Luke, W. C. Hatfield, Howard Kippax, C. Bruderer, &c. The accompaniments were faultlessly performed by Miss C. Bowler and Mr. J. Edward Fisher.

EASTER EXCURSIONS.

THE Great Western Railway Company issue ordinary as well as Excursion tickets at their City and West End Offices, viz.—193 & 407 Oxford St., W.; 181 Tottenham Court Road, W.; 23 New Oxford Street, W.C.; Gloucester Mansions, Cambridge Circus, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.; "The Piazza," Covent Garden Market, W.C.; 29 Charing Cross, S.W.; 26 Regent St., S.W.; 17 Brompton Road, S.W.; 137 Borough High Street (Nags Head Yard), S.E.; 4 Holborn Circus, E.C.; Minorities (opposite Goodman's Yard); 5 Arthur Street East, London Bridge, E.C.; 82 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.; 67 Gresham Street, E.C.; 4 Cheapside, E.C.; 269 Strand, W.C.; and at the L. B. and S. C. Company's Excursion Office (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar Square, at any of which places tickets can be obtained during the whole week preceding Easter. Tickets can also be obtained at Victoria (L. C. and D. Ry.), Kensington (Addison Road), Aldgate, the stations on the Hammersmith and City Line, and at most of the stations on the Metropolitan and District Railways.

The Booking office at Paddington station will be open for the issue of tickets the whole day on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, before Easter.

Cheap tickets at special low fares and available from 11th to 15th April, will be issued from London to Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Plymouth, Falmouth, Penzance, Yeovil, Dorchester, Weymouth, and certain other stations in the South and West of England. Tickets at 25/- return, available for 14 days, will also be issued for use on 11th, 13th and 15th April, to Guernsey and Jersey.

On Thursday, 11th April, an excursion reaching Exeter in 5½ hours, and Plymouth in 7¼ hours, will leave Paddington at 7.55 a.m. Excursions will also be run on the same day to Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare, Taunton, Yeovil, Weymouth, Oxford, Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Chester, Cirencester, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, Evesham, Worcester, Malvern, &c.

On Good Friday, Cheap trains will run to Reading, Oxford, and other riverside stations. On Saturday, 13th April, an Excursion will run to Bath and Bristol, and on Monday, Excursions will be made to Reading, Bath, Bristol, Cirencester, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c.

In addition to these excursions, cheap trains will be run to London from most of the Provincial towns, and between the principal centres of population.

On the Thursday before Easter most of the long distance trains will be duplicated; the first portion, as a general rule, will take passengers for the longer distances, and the second those for less distant places.

On Good Friday, the trains will run as on Sundays, with the addition of the 5.30 a.m. Newspaper train, which will run as far as Oxford, Exeter and Swansea, calling at the intermediate stations, and connecting at Oxford with trains to the Worcester, Birmingham and Wolverhampton districts, and at Bathampton (by special stop) with the 8.47 a.m. train from Bathampton to the Weymouth line.

Cheap Third Class Excursion Tickets will be issued on Good Friday, Saturday, 13th April, Easter Sunday and Monday, by specified trains from Paddington, Kensington (Addison Road), Hammersmith, and certain stations on the Metropolitan, Metropolitan District and North London Railways, to Windsor, Taplow, Maidenhead, Henley and other popular riverside resorts.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Portsmouth Freemasons' Club, Limited, was held in the Lodge room on Tuesday, 19th inst., when a dividend of four per cent., free of income tax, was declared. The directors were re-elected, and votes of thanks to them and to the Secretary (Mr. E. S. Main) were unanimously carried.

NEXT WEEK.

Further particulars as to place of meeting of the undermentioned Lodges are given in the Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book (published by Grand Lodge, for the benefit of the Charity Fund).

Monday.

- 69 Unity, Inns of Court Hotel
83 United of Prudence, Albion
144 St. Luke's, Anderton's
256 Unions, Freemasons'-hall
1319 Asaph, Freemasons'-hall
1669 Royal Leopold, Surrey Mas. H.
1853 Caxton, Freemasons'-hall
2020 St. Botolph's, Albion
53 Royal Sussex, Bath
107 Philanthropic, Lynn
113 Unanimity, Preston
119 Sun, Square and Compasses, Whitehaven
135 Perpetual Friendship, Bridgewater
154 Unanimity, Wakefield
156 Harmony, Plymouth
199 Peace and Harmony, Dover
251 Loyal, Barnstaple
328 St. John, Torquay
331 Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Truro
338 Vitruvian, Ross
395 Guy, Leamington
422 Yarborough, Gainsborough
428 Sincerity, Northwich
431 St. George, N. Shields
441 Three G. Principles, Cambridge
482 St. James, Handsworth
529 Semper Fidelis, Worcester
622 St. Cuthberga, Wimborne
694 Oakley, Basingstoke
839 Royal Glo'stershire, Gloucester
850 St. Oswald, Ashbourne
928 Friendship, Petersfield
959 Prince of Wales, Ipswich
977 Fowey, Fowey
1045 Stamford, Altrincham
1050 Gundulph, Rochester
1051 Rowley, Lancaster
1070 Starkie, Southport
1071 Zetland, Saltash
1077 Wilton, Blackley
1124 St. Oswald, Oswestry
1180 Forward, Birmingham
1211 Goderich, Leeds
1239 Wentworth, Sheffield
1254 Semper Fidelis, Exeter
1264 Neytune, Liverpool
1302 De Warren, Halifax
1312 St. Mary, Bocking
1434 Nottinghamshire, Nottingham
1452 St. Margaret, Lowestoft
1573 Caradoc, Swansea
1954 Molesworth, Wadebridge
2039 Londonderry, Sunderland
2166 Cotehele, Calstock
2240 Arrow, Kington
2322 East Lancashire Centurion, Manchester

Tuesday.

- Colonial Board, Freemasons'-hall, 4
18 Old Dundee, City Terminus H.
101 Temple, Ship and Turtle
166 Union, Criterion
217 Stability, Anderton's Hotel
1159 Marquis of Dalhousie, Golden Square
1259 Duke of Edinburgh, Limehouse
1261 Golden Rule, Café Royal
1472 Henley, North Woolwich
1693 Kingland, Cock Tavern
2190 Savage Club, F.M.H.
2469 Hortus, Freemasons'-hall
47 Newstead, Nottingham
52 Union, Norwich
70 St. John, Plymouth
103 Beaufort, Bristol
120 Palladian, Hereford
124 Marquis of Granby, Durham
158 Adam's, Sheerness
226 Benevolence, Littleborough
252 Harmonic, Dudley
265 Royal Yorkshire, Keighley
294 Constitutional, Beverley
315 Royal York, Brighton
340 Alfred, Oxford
364 Cambrian, Neath
366 St. David, Milford
393 St. David, Berwick
421 Loyal of Industry, Southmolton
457 Loyal Monmouth, Monmth
493 Royal Lebanon, Gloucester
510 St. Martin, Liskeard
558 Temple, Folkestone
615 St. John and St. Paul, Erith

- 660 Camalodunum, Malton
673 St. John, Liverpool
685 Northumberland, Newcastle-on-Tyne

- 702 Sherborne, Stroud
734 Londesborough, Bridlington
794 Warden, Sutton Coldfield
804 Carnarvon, Havant
814 Parrett and Axe, Crewkerne
847 Fortescue, Honiton
948 St. Barnabas, Linslade
960 Bute, Cardiff
974 Pentalpha, Bradford
990 Neyland, Neyland
995 Furness, Ulverston
1002 Skiddaw, Cockermouth
1072 Aberystwith, Aberystwith
1134 Newall, Manchester
1197 Nyanza, Ilminster
1222 Saint Kew, Weston-super-Mare
1244 Marwood, Redcar
1282 Ancholme, Brigg
1310 Harrow, Harrow
1336 Square and Compass, Wrexham
1367 Beaminster Manor, Beaminster
1488 St. Eleth, Amlwch
1509 Madoc, Portmadoc
1780 Albert Edward, Southampton
1785 St. Petroc, Padstow
1807 Loyal Wye, Builth
1908 Cholmondeley, Frodsham
1970 Hadrian, S. Shields
2001 Narberth, Narberth
2129 Dorothy Vernon, Bakewell
2133 Swan of Avon, Stratford-on-Avon
2136 St. Michael, Bishop's Stortford
2260 Ridley, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2290 Fairfield, Fairfield
2295 Scarisbrick, Southport
2475 Border, Blackwater

Wednesday.

- 511 Zetland, Anderton's
1298 Royal Standard, Highbury
1306 St. John, Guildhall Tavern
1491 Athenæum, Criterion
1687 Rothesay, Frascati
1803 Cornhill, Café Monico
74 Athol, Birmingham
86 Loyalty, Preston
94 Phoenix, Sunderland
137 Amity, Poole
159 Brunswick, East Stonehouse
164 Perseverance, Sidmouth
168 Mariners, Guernsey
258 Amphibious, Heckmondwike
279 St. John, Leicester
282 Bedford, Tavistock
287 Unanimity, Stockport
298 Harmony, Rochdale
320 Loyalty, Mottam
326 Moira of Honour, Bristol
327 St. John, Wigton
329 Brotherly Love, Yeovil
341 Wellington, Rye
368 Samaritan, Sandbach
380 Integrity, Morley
406 Northern Counties, Newcastle-on-Tyne
417 Faith & Unanimity, Dorchester
429 Royal Navy, Ramsgate
464 Cambrian, Haverfordwest
471 Silurian, Newport, Mon.
580 Harmony, Ormskirk
611 Marches, Ludlow
643 Royal, Filey
645 Humphrey Cheetham, Manchester
654 Peveril of Peak, New Mills
678 Earl Ellesmere, Farnworth
697 United, Colchester
818 Philanthropic, Abergavenny
838 Franklin, Boston
910 St. Oswald, Pontefract
929 Waveney, Bungay
970 St. Anne, East Loos
992 St. Thomas, Lower Broughton
1003 Prince of Wales, Jersey
1004 Athole, Douglas, I. of Man
1010 Kingston, Hull
1013 Royal Victoria, Liverpool
1063 Mallory Abbey, W. Malling
1085 Hartington, Derby
1167 Alnwick, Alnwick
1205 Metham, East Stonehouse
1206 Cinque Ports, Sandwich
1274 Earl of Durham, Chester-le-St.
1333 Athelstan, Atherstone
1335 Lindsay, Wigan
1354 Marquis of Lorne, Leigh
1431 St. Alphege, Solihull
1461 Clausentum, Woolston
1478 Longleat, Warminster
1493 Robin Hood, Eastwood
1532 Bective, Carlisle
1549 Abercorn, Gt. Stanmore
1620 Marlborough, Liverpool
1660 Arlecdon, Frizington

- 1736 St. John, Halifax
1783 Albert Edward, Huddersfd.
1862 Stranton, West Hartlepool
2024 Raymond Thrupp, Hampton C.
2042 Apollo, Liverpool
2193 Queen's Jubilee, Nelson
2224 Fairfield, Long Eaton
2283 Euston, St. Neots
2334 Jersey, Bicester
2355 Chantrey, Dore
2368 Alan, Alderley Edge
2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
2391 Orde-Powlett, Middlesboro.
2464 Longsight, Longsight
2490 Amphthill, Amphthill

Thursday.

- 10 Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons'-hall
27 Egyptian, Anderton's
45 Strong Man, Guildhall Tavern
742 Crystal Palace, Sydenham
822 Victoria Rifles, F'masons'-hall
1155 Excelsior, Crystal Palace
1178 Perfect Ashlar, Bridge H. H.
1216 Macdonald, Camberwell
1351 St. Clement Danes, Strand
1672 Mornington, Holborn Viaduct
1707 Eleanor, Liverpool Street
1772 Pillico, Westminster
1790 Old England, Thornton Heath
2271 St. Pancras, Midland G. Ho.
24 Newcastle, Newcastle-on-Tyne
31 United Industrious, Canterbury
38 Union, Chichester
41 Royal Cumberland, Bath
57 Humber, Hull
71 Unity, Lowestoft
110 Loy. Cambrian, Morthyr Tydvil
114 British Union, Ipswich
116 Royal Lancashire, Colne
123 Lennox, Richmond, Yorks
195 Hengist, Bournemouth
208 Three G. Principles, Dewsbury
219 Prudence, Todmorden
230 Fidelity, Devonport
249 Mariners, Liverpool
254 Trinity, Coventry
266 Naphtali, Heywood
269 Fidelity, Blackburn
275 Harmony, Huddersfield
276 Good Fellowship, Chelmsford
283 Amity, Haslingden
289 Fidelity, Leeds
295 Combermere, Macclesfield
300 Minerva, Ashton-under-Lyne
305 Apollo, Beccles
309 Harmony, Fareham
317 Affability, Manchester
332 Virtue & Silence, Hadleigh
337 Candour, Uppermill
360 Pomfret, Northampton
362 Doric, Grantham
419 St. Peter, Wolverhampton
426 Shakespeare, Spilsby
446 Benevolent, Wells, Somerset
462 Bank Terrace, Accrington
509 Tees, Durham
531 St. Helen, Hartlepool
539 St. Matthew, Walsall
630 St. Cuthbert, Howden
633 Yarborough, Manchester
637 Portland, Stoke-upon-Trent
703 Clifton, Blackpool
710 Pleiades, Totnes
792 Pelham Pillar, Grimsby
803 St. Andrew, Biggleswade
856 Restormel, Lostwithiel
913 Pattison, Plumstead
976 Royal Clarence, Bruton
1012 Prince of Wales, Bury
1032 Townley Parker, Chorley
1130 Rutland, Melton Mowbray
1164 Eliot, St. Germans
1231 Savile, Elland
1235 Phoenix of St. Ann, Buxton
1284 Brent, Topsham

- 1304 Olive Union, Horncastle
1324 Okeover, Ripley
1379 Marquess of Ripon, Darlington
1384 Equity, Widnes
1473 Bootle, Bootle
1492 Alma Mater, Cambridge
1504 Red Rose of L'caster, Padiham
1513 Friendly, Barnsley
1557 Albert Edward, Hexham
1565 Earl of Chester, Lymm
1576 Dee, Park Gate, Cheshire
1639 Watling St., Stony Stratford
1770 Vale White Horse, Faringdon
1829 Burrell, Brighton
1874 Lechmere, Kidderminster
1899 Wellesley, Sandhurst
2028 Granite, Narborough
2091 Castleberg, Settle
2169 Osborne, East Cowes, I of Wight
2255 Philbrick, Chingford
2317 Bisley, Woking
2321 Acacia, Bradford
2350 Corinthian, Hindley
2386 Clarence, Chester

Friday.

- 890 Hornsey, Anderton's
554 Yarborough, London Tavern
1489 Marquess Ripon Highbury
1627 Royal Kensington, F.M.H.
2488 Eccentric, Regent Street
44 Friendship, Manchester
242 St. George, Doncaster
291 Rural Philanthropic, Highbidge.
306 Alfred, Leeds
318 True and Faithful, Holston
445 Fidelity, Towcester
516 Phoenix, Stowmarket
521 Truth, Huddersfield
566 St. Germain, Selby
574 Loyal Berkshire of Hope, Newbury
601 St. John, Wellington
698 Ryde, Ryde, I. of W.
709 Invicta of Ashford, Ashford
712 Lindsey, Louth
751 Eastnor, Ledbury
837 De Grey and Ripon, Ripon
936 Adair, Aldeburgh
951 Prince of Wales, Stow-on-the-Wold
1009 Shakspeare, Manchester
1224 Stour Valley, Sudbury
1230 Barnard, Barnard Castle
1232 Hereward, Bourn
1376 Architect, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1405 Southwell, Nottingham
1561 Morecambe, Morecambe
1648 Prince of Wales, Bradford
1664 Gosforth, Gosforth
1754 Windsor, Penarth
1838 Tudor Volunteers, Wolverh'ton
1993 Wolsley, Manchester
2433 Minerva, Birkenhead
2491 White Rose of York, Sheffield

Saturday.

- 1622 Rose, Camberwell
1949 Brixton, Kennington
149 Peace, Meltham
308 Prince George, Todmorden
336 Benevolence, Marple
370 St. George, Chertsey
444 Union, Starcross
1096 Lord Warden, Walmer
1146 De Moulham, Swanage
1223 Amherst, Riverhead
1388 Canynges, Bristol
1458 Truth, Manchester
1460 Thames Valley, Halliford
1466 Hova Ecclesia, Brighton
1550 Prudence, Plymouth
1929 Mozart, Croydon
2054 Wilson Iles, Rickmansworth
2096 George Price, Croydon

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