

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

VOL. XLIV.—No. 1132.
22nd year of issue.

SATURDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER 1896.

PRICE THREEPENCE.
13/6 per annum, in advance.

CLOSING TIME.

THE commencement of the Masonic season seems a particularly appropriate occasion on which to address a few words to the Craft on the question of late hours, which so often mar the most enjoyable entertainments in Freemasonry, and not only brings it into disrepute among outsiders, but is a serious drawback to its members, and little or no advantage to anyone.

The root of the evil is probably to be found in the very general practice of unpunctuality in starting proceedings, but that is not alone the cause of the mischief, for many meetings are so arranged at the outset as to preclude the possibility of their completion until a late hour, the Master or others responsible for the programme having no necessity or desire to conclude until the last moment, unmindful of the fact that some of the members of the Lodge, or some of the visitors, may have trains to catch or long journeys to make, necessitating their early departure.

The fact that so many of our Lodge meetings become almost deserted about half-past ten o'clock would seem to demonstrate that that hour is the popular one for closing, and it would be well if those who have to arrange our meetings would consider the point in that light. We really have no desire to lay down any hard and fast line as to the hour for concluding, but each Lodge has an opportunizing of judging for itself and if each was managed on the basis of what previous experience has taught it we believe there would be less to find fault with on the score of long protracted sittings.

DURHAM.

THE annual convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter was held at Gateshead, in the Masonic Hall, Jackson Street, on Monday, under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Superintendent Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart.

The roll of Chapters was called and responded to by the principal Officers in each instance.

The Prov. Superintendent, in addressing the Companions, feelingly referred to the loss the Province had sustained in the decease of Comp. T. Dunn P.G.D.C. The Chapters maintained their numbers, and he hoped the Province would continue to prosper. He thanked the members for their presence in such large numbers, and alluded to the excellent accommodation provided by the Officers of the Industry Chapter for their comfort. Before leaving, Sir Hedworth Williamson invested Companion Richard Luck, M.A., as P.G.H. and W. R. Staveley as P.G.J.

Having to leave, Comp. H. J. Turnbull P.P.G.H. acted for Sir Hedworth, and invested the remainder of the Officers as follow:

Comp. R. Hudson (re-appointed)	-	-	Scribe E.
Richard Hopper Holme	-	-	Scribe N.
B. S. Bechwith	-	-	Treasurer
Dr. Atkinson	-	-	Registrar
G. Harland	-	-	Principal Sojourner
W. C. Barron	-	-	Assistant Sojourners
F. Wade	-	-	
T. Gibbon	-	-	Sword Bearer
C. T. Watson	-	-	Standard Bearer
T. R. Jobson (re-appointed)	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
George Craven	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
Jos. Robson Pattison (re-appointed)	-	-	Assistant Scribe E.
T. Grieve (re-appointed)	-	-	Janitor.

The Chapter was afterwards closed in due form.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge will be held on Tuesday, 27th October, at Stroud. The meeting is usually held at Whitsuntide, but it was this year postponed until the autumn, in consequence of the condition of Gloucester in the earlier months of the year.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE installation of Bro. John Owen Marsh P.G.S. England as Provincial Grand Master took place at Abergavenny, on Wednesday, 9th inst., under the banner of St. John Lodge, in the presence of a distinguished gathering of members of the Degree. The installation ceremony was performed by the Earl of Euston Pro G.M. assisted by Bro. C. F. Matier Grand Sec. England and Past Warden of Scotland, and Colonel Lyne P.G.M. (Craft) Monmouthshire.

CHESHIRE CHARITY.

ON the occasion of the recent festival of the Cheshire Masonic Charitable Institutions, at Knutsford, after the usual loyal toasts had been honoured, Colonel Dean said he had been honoured with the duty, the very pleasing duty, of submitting the next toast on the programme, which was that of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire—the Right Honourable Lord Egerton of Tatton, President of the Institutions, who was beloved in Freemasonry throughout Cheshire, where they were persuaded that throughout the Craft there was no better Provincial Grand Master than their own. No work was commended to him without at once commanding his support, and if, as they were fain to admit, Freemasonry in England had progressed under the régime of the Prince of Wales, they likewise attributed its progress in that Province to the sympathy and interest taken in its purposes by their worthy Provincial Grand Master. Lord Egerton had rendered very material assistance to his Royal Highness in that work of which they had heard, the re-construction of Guy's Hospital. He but reflected the wish of every Brother in that room and in the Province when he said he hoped that their worthy Provincial Grand Master might long be spared to them, and that they might for many long years to come have the benefit of his advice and help in Cheshire.

Lord Egerton, on rising to respond, was received with vociferous applause. He said he could but feel gratified with the warmth with which the toast of his health had been received. He was greatly obliged to them for the support they had on all occasions extended to him as Grand Master of the Province, and for the warmth and sympathy with which the toast of his health had been received. He could not forget that last year when he presided over one of the great Institutions, the Province had helped him to the extent of over £2,000, and it gave him great satisfaction that the Masonic charities were so well supported by the Brethren. He was very proud to see so many taking an interest in them. It was the best evidence that they did not mean to let them die. He had alluded to the fact that his Royal Highness had attained to his twenty-one years service, and in commemoration of that fact he, as Grand Master of the Province of Cheshire, had been authorised to invest five Brethren in the Province with Past Grand rank, that number being in proportion to the arrangement of one to each ten of the Lodges. They would know what a difficult thing it was to make such a selection, but as it had been made on the grounds of merit, and the honour had been accorded to Brethren who had laboured hard in the cause of Freemasonry in the Province, he thought the list would give general satisfaction. The Brethren whom he had determined to nominate were Bro. John Clayton, Bro. F. K. Stevenson, Bro. Dr. Renshaw as P.P.G. Senior Wardens, Bro.

J. Cookson as P.P.G.J.W., and Bro. W. J. Nash as P.P.G.S.D. He again thanked them for their support that afternoon. He regretted that the weather did not allow more of them to visit the grounds at Tatton, but he hoped at some future and more favourable opportunity to see them in much larger numbers.

Later on Bro. Alan de Tatton Egerton expressed his appreciation of the interest that had been shown in his travels in South Africa, where of late years Freemasonry had progressed by leaps and bounds, faster in fact than in any Province he knew in England. It was true they were for a short time in great danger when shut up in Gwelo, but they made the best of the circumstances by which they were surrounded, and did all they could to promote confidence and comfort. He had heard with very great pleasure of the progress of Freemasonry in England, and especially in their own Province, but he did not think there was a place in the world where Freemasonry was going so strong as in South Africa. He thanked them all for the very kind way in which the toast of his health had been received.

The last toast on the list, the Cheshire Educational and Benevolent Institutions, was submitted by Lord Egerton. His Lordship said that the amalgamation of the two had already been fraught with profit and advantage by getting large numbers together, and by stirring up an excellent spirit in every Lodge in the Province. The best proof was found in looking round that room. His Lordship proceeded to cite the excellent work the Institutions had done and were doing, and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Clayton, who, as Chairman of the Committee, had rendered a most invaluable and unselfish aid to the Institutions.

HEREFORDSHIRE CHARITY.

THE nineteenth annual meeting of the members of the Herefordshire Masonic Charity Association was held at the Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. Thos. Smith P.P.S.G.W. President, the chair was taken by Bro. H. C. Beddoe D.P.G.M.; other members of the Association present being Bros. G. R. Sinclair, Edwd. Maddison, and the Hon. Secretary W. Earle.

The following report and statement of accounts was read and adopted:—"The Committee have the pleasure of submitting their report for the year 1895, and have again to thank Bro. T. G. Chance P.M. 120, and his partner, Mr. Tangye, for 200 copies of the report for 1894. At last year's meeting the ballot for votes resulted in six life subscriptions, which were obtained by the Palladin R.A. Chapter and Bros. W. W. Robinson, A. J. Gifford, W. C. Whitfield, W. T. Marvin, and W. J. Grant, all of whom elected to take votes for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Since the formation of the Association, in August 1878, it has remitted the following sums to the Masonic Institutions, viz.:—To the Boys School, £372 15s; to the Girls School, £283 10s; to the R.M.B. Institution, male fund, £162 15s, female fund, £141 15s; total £960 15s. An average of £53 a year. These remittances have secured 170 life subscriptions, giving yearly 340 votes for the Masonic Institutions, of which few only would have been obtained without the aid of this local Association, as previously the number of votes in the Province did not exceed 100. The additional sum of £42, now in hand, will make £1,002 15s, and the Committee are much gratified that by the exertions of the Hon. Secretary the sum of £1,000 has been reached, which for some years past has been his aim. Sir J. R. Bailey, Bart., R.W. Prov. G.M., who has always been a warm and generous friend to the Institution, has this year increased his subscription, and in his letter to Bro. Earle says 'It seems to me an excellent plan of securing votes for the Province, and I only wish it had more support.' This Province certainly ought to do more than it has done for the Masonic Institutions, inasmuch as our successful candidates have received much more than we have ever remitted. The Treasurer's cash statement for 1895 is presented herewith.

T. Smith P.P.S.G.W. President for 1895.

W. Earle P.P.S.G.W. Hon. Secretary."

Cash statement for year ending 31st December 1895:—Subscription account: To balance from last account, £3 3s; to members' subscriptions, £38 17s; £42. By Secretary of the Boys School, £36 15s; by balance carried forward, £5 5s; £42. Management account: To entrance fees, 5s; by postages, &c., 5s. Audited and found correct this 31st August 1896.

T. Smith
Thomas Blinkhorn } Auditors.

The ballot was then taken, and resulted in the following life subscribers to the Masonic Institutions, viz., Bros. Sir J. R. Bailey, Bart. (two votes), A. Cutfield, M.D., G. R. Sinclair, E. C. Gurney, W. T. Sale, and the R.A. Chapter. The Masonic Charitable Institutions are the Boys and Girls Schools, and the

Institution for granting substantial annuities to Aged Freemasons and Widows of Masons, and each of the members successful in the ballots elect the Institution in which he wishes to have a life vote at all elections of candidates. The Committee for the ensuing year was then appointed as follows:—President Bro. A. Cutfield, M.D., Vice-President Bro. Edward Bellow, Treasurer Bro. H. C. Beddoe, Secretary Bro. W. Earle; for Palladian Lodge, Bro. W. W. Robinson; for Vitruvian Lodge, Bro. Chas. Rootes; for Royal Edward Lodge, Bro. W. T. Sale; for Eastnor Lodge, Bro. E. Maddison; for Arrow Lodge, the W.M.; Auditors Bros. Thomas Smith and Thomas Blinkhorn. A cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Smith (President), Bro. Beddoe (Treasurer), and Bro. Earle (Secretary) brought the proceedings to a close.

It appears that until the year 1878 the Province of Herefordshire was somewhat noted in the Masonic world for the smallness of the sum it had contributed to the Institutions above referred to, although several Herefordshire children had been boarded and educated in the Masonic Schools, and some of the ancient local Brethren and their widows had for many years received annuities from the Institutions. In the year referred to, Bro. Wm. Earle, during his mastership of the Palladian Lodge (Hereford) took the preliminary steps towards forming the local Association, and has since continued the Honorary Secretaryship, and the Committee's report showed with what amount of success.—"Hereford Journal."

CHARITY FUNDS.

ONE of the main objects of the Masonic organisation, and the principal reason for its existence, is to afford relief to those in need of assistance. The best method for dispensing Masonic charity has been for many years a subject of much discussion in the Grand Lodges of the United States. The two principal methods adopted among the Grand Lodges are the erection and maintenance of Masonic homes for needy Masons, their widows, and orphans, on the one hand, and the providing of a fund for the direct assistance and relief of such needy Masons, their widows, and orphans, at their homes, on the other. After a discussion on the subject in its various phases for many years, the Grand Lodge of Iowa, two years ago, unanimously adopted the latter method. The Grand Charity Fund thus provided for has, by its judicious expenditure under the direction of the Trustees, abundantly proven the wisdom of the action of the Grand Lodge. The reports of the Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund, made at the last session of the Grand Lodge, and at this session, show that the temporary fund provided for has been carefully expended for the relief of needy Masons of Iowa, and their widows, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that every dollar that has been paid out of this fund has been used directly and solely for the personal relief and assistance of some needy Brother or his widow, and that no part of it has been used in the erection or furnishing of costly buildings, or for the payment of interest upon the fund invested or borrowed for the erection of such buildings, or for the payment of salaries, expenses, and support of officers and employees to manage and care for said buildings and their inmates.

We have the satisfaction of knowing that the relief that has been furnished under this system has been in almost every case by the payment of a much less sum than would be necessary for the total support of the persons thus assisted. Had the same persons been sent to a Masonic home the whole expense of their support must have been borne by the Grand Lodge. As it is, they have remained at their homes with their families, and with their own friends, and the amount paid, though much less than would have been necessary to support them in a Masonic home, has undoubtedly been of much greater benefit to them by reason of their being permitted to remain with their families and friends. This feature of our system is one that commends it most highly to our consideration, and were the expenses as great as in a Masonic home, it would, in my judgment, still be much more preferable, and much more satisfactory to the beneficiaries of our charity to furnish them the needed relief in their own homes, and among their friends and acquaintances, when it can be done, than to send them to a Masonic home among entire strangers, and employees who have no personal interest in their welfare.—Grand Master Geo. W. Ball, Iowa, in "Canadian Craftsman."

WHAT MASONRY HAS BEEN AND IS.

By S. M. Yoran Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Oregon.

FROM a study of the history and character of the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, I am forced to the conclusion that, whatever may have been the nature of its earliest or-

ganisation, or the means employed for the accomplishment of its purposes, they proceed from a uniform cause, which is discernible only in the moral nature of man, through which alone we may account for its origin and its preservation. The mind that is divested of prejudice, and possessing the patience and intelligence to consistently study the history of this wonderful society, will realise an intense desire for knowing more of an institution which has survived through many centuries, being loved and supported by millions of our Brethren under whose loyal devotion it has grown in usefulness as the years have rolled into centuries. There has been much patient research by many eminent scholars and scientists into the mysteries and traditions concerning the origin of this most ancient and honourable society, for the purpose of discovering the foundation principles upon which its social structure rests. The scientist and the philosopher start from accepted facts and circumstances, as the evidences of that which has been, and work their way into an understanding of the facts of the remotest ages, by the light of indisputable traces of former truths, that lead to others of similar character, resulting from corresponding causes.

The modern evolutionist has joined with these in their endeavour to make the discovery of the first effort producing cause; but none of these has been able to reveal any other standing ground than upon which Masonry is planted: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Our Masonic career began in the acknowledgment of God, as the only creative power and administrator of the law that governs the universe, and, while darkness was yet upon the face of the deep, "God said, Let there be light; and there was light." Other light hath no man, whereby he may discern either the material or moral universe, than that which was communicated from the only light and life-giving source.

All the knowledge we possess regarding the primitive condition of man, resulting from scientific discovery, or the philosophy of untold ages, cannot dispel the conviction that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and by His command the light dispelled the darkness, and man was introduced in His own image, and made the special object of His merciful care. All Masonic writers agree that Masonry is a moral institution, teaching a spirit of loyalty to God, our country, our neighbour, and ourselves, which is illustrated by symbols that bring the most sublime truths within the scope of our understanding. Our Masonic pilgrimage having begun in satisfactory evidence of belief and trust in a Supreme Being, and of a future state of existence, its rites and ceremonies would necessarily be of such a nature as to dispel the ignorance and doubt besetting every footstep, in our endeavour to attain to a knowledge of Divine Truth, and the mysteries that lie beyond our present state. Its greatest mission is the promotion of a knowledge of a Supreme law, and the practice of obedience thereto. Its only creed is trusting in God, and doing His will toward our fellow men. Whatever changes in its ritualistic forms or ceremonies may have been made, does not change these fundamental facts.

It is comparatively easy to account for certain conditions of the present and their relation to the earliest utterances to which we ascribe the dignity and majesty of Divine law; but it is not so easy to link them together by an unbroken chain of events and circumstances of which authentic record has been preserved. The evidences that mark the progress of mankind through past centuries, in either a material or moral advance, are to the scientific observer as beacon lights to the storm-tossed mariner. He never ignores any of the established signals erected along the pathways of the navigable deep; by these he guides his onward course, patiently watching through calm or storm, until an entrance to the harbour of his destination is reached. Notwithstanding our modern scientific and literary attainments, there is no epoch in recent history so accurately recorded by consecutive events and circumstances as to preclude the necessity of a liberal exercise of credulity to supply the fact that there was a continuity of influences culminating in final results.

From these preliminary considerations we may proceed, without any strain upon the imagination, to connect all that is vital in Masonry of to-day, with the earliest enunciated law which it is doing so much to impress upon the minds of men. Among the earliest recorded incidents illustrating the origin and spirit of fraternity in our society, we find the address of Abraham to his nephew, Lot: "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdsmen and thy herdsmen, for we be Brethren." This interpretation of the principle of Brotherhood as a fundamental condition through which peace on the earth becomes attainable, stands second only to that of fatherhood, with which our subject began. A practice of this noble precept is one of the most important Masonic duties, and if, by reason of circumstances, we can have peace only by turning to the right hand, or to the left, we are assured the whole is before us for occupancy.

Following the history of our ancient Brethren, until the reign

of Moses, we witness the lights and shadows of their joys or sorrows, until we almost become participants in the joy of their deliverance from bondage in Egypt, to begin their journey toward the promised land. But they became despondent and disobedient toward their leader, and trusted not in the Lord for a fulfilment of His promises. Although they were the special objects of Omnipotent care, they disregarded the councils of their Great Deliverer, for which He called His servant Moses to prepare them for the trumpet tones that should announce the coming of law, for the government of man in his relations to God, and fellowship with men. The grand and awe-inspiring description of the ascent of Moses to meet the Governor of the Universe upon the glory-crowned summit of Mount Sinai, is none too thrilling a picture of an event that gave to the world those engraven tables of the law, that should stand as the governing statute of His people forever: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbour as thyself. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt neither covet nor do violence to that which is thy neighbour's."

Continuing on to the reign of David, we hear the psalmist bemoaning the sinfulness of his people, and repeatedly exclaiming, "In Thee, O Lord, do I put my trust!" for which he makes known his reason when he exclaims, "the statutes of the Lord are right."

His son and successor enters upon the discharge of a duty long conceived and cherished, of erecting an earthly temple wherein God might dwell, and His name be glorified by his people forever. He was grandly supported by the King of Tyre, who also sent Hiram the Tyrian, a member of a society of artificers, who became the chief architect and organiser of that stupendous enterprise. It is presumed by many that the fraternity of Freemasons dates no farther back in the history of the world than the time of the building of the temple; which we will admit, only so far as organisation and the adoption of rules for its government are concerned. That proposition may be correct, in the same degree only that it would be correct to say that the spirit of civil and religious liberty had its birth at the time of promulgating the Declaration of Independence of our own great American Republic.

From the period of seven years devoted to this enterprise, Masonry appropriates the attendant circumstances and incidents to impress upon the mind the beauty of a system of organisation and moral instruction, which has come down to us through subsequent ages, unallied to any of the sectarian creeds or forms of political philosophy that obtained prestige or power at any time in succeeding centuries. The perfect preparation in the forest, or in the quarry, of all material for the temple, so that no jarring sound was heard in its construction, becomes to Masons a most beautiful symbol of a life prepared and finished on earth, in obedience to the designs of a Supreme Architect, for place in that temple not made with hands. The writings of Josephus, the Jewish historian, afford us a most interesting description of that period of ancient history, from which we have chosen a few signal lights to illustrate the origin and course of Masonry. He is corroborative of Scripture, and minute in his narration of the influences culminating in the joy, or distress, of our ancient Brethren. Passing over a few centuries, we witness the destruction of this temple, the captivity of our ancient Brethren, and their overwhelming suffering and sorrow for their disregard of Divine law, until our hearts are moved in contemplation of their distress, as they hung their harps upon the willows and sat down by the rivers of Babylon and wept.

But a brighter page in their history is written at the expiration of their captivity, from which we learn of the matchless diplomacy of Zerubbabel, in gaining an audience with Darius the King, and, by an unanswerable argument in defence of the truth, which was from the beginning, is now and shall continue unchangeable and everlasting, secured the King's commission for the rebuilding of their city and temple, and the liberation of all his people.

(To be continued.)

A narrow minded man is out of place in a Masonic Lodge. There must be some breadth of thought and ideas in the true Mason. He should have magnanimity and generosity of feeling. He should have respect for the opinion of other people. The teachings of Freemasonry, by word and symbol, are very poorly illustrated by those Craftsmen who are full of prejudices, and who would like to force their Brethren to follow their wishes in all matters. Freemasonry bears the stamp of tolerance and liberality, and its best representatives are those Brethren who do not cherish resentments, who take broad views of all subjects, and who can walk and work with their Brethren of different religious creeds and political opinions.—"Illinois Freemason."

o o o

The installation meeting of the Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488, will be held at the Criterion, on Friday, 2nd prox., the proceedings commencing at 5 p.m., to be followed by a banquet at 6.30.

THE POPE AND THE CRAFT.

THE following is a full translation of the letter sent by Pope Leo XIII. to Signor Alliati, President of the Directing Council of the Anti-Masonic Union and of the Committee for the Organisation of the International Anti-Masonic Congress which is to be held at Trent from the 26th to the 30th inst.:

Beloved Son, Greeting and the Apostolic Benediction.—It has always been pleasing to Us that the Catholics should assemble under the auspices of the Episcopate to defend and promote the interests of religion. And God having most graciously seconded Our desires, such congresses, having various objects in view, have so greatly increased in number that there is no movement which makes for the advantage of the Church that has not received an impetus from them. And now, beloved son, you have announced to Us that your association has resolved to call together at Trent Catholics invited from different nations that they may consider and study the means of combating the Masonic sect—which is daily showing greater audacity—and of animating their own courage and exciting others to struggle with greater earnestness. Passing over every other reason, there is one special cause why this project should be heartily approved of. It is this—that it indicates clearly that the conviction is growing among the people that secret societies have designed most serious injuries against civilisation and religion. These injuries, which have in part actually taken place, and which are partly yet to appear, We have on every suitable opportunity pointed out, and we have referred to them more particularly in our Encyclical Letter Humanum Genus and in the other Letters which were specifically directed to the Italians in 1890 and 1892. We were not disappointed as to the results of our efforts, and we reckon amongst them the proposal to hold this congress, which we are confident, both in point of numbers and in the influence of those who will attend, will have such success as is demanded by the gravity of the subject and the advantages that are to be expected. In order that the issue may fully correspond with Our desires, it is absolutely necessary that those who will be present at the congress should place their hands on the root of the evil and should diligently search out the means of more efficaciously opposing the progress of the sects. Of those means we have treated at length in the Encyclicals already mentioned, but they may all be summed up in this recommendation: that the defence should be made where the attacks of the Masons are most violent. These documents, based on Pontifical authority and affording guidance, should be duly considered and regarded as secure standards which are best observed when, assembled in council, you devote your earnest attention to the subject. It is certain, as we have said on another occasion, that the dogmas which this sect puts forward with audacious impiety and the wicked arts of which it makes use will produce less evil, and will gradually cease of themselves, if Catholics endeavour with increased energy to unmask Freemasonry, because all its strength consists in lying and secrecy, and when its deceptive mask is torn away it will be easy for all right-thinking persons to discover and oppose its iniquity.

Moved, therefore, by the love of Christ and of souls, We congratulate you on your undertaking, and We heartily pray God to favour it. We have full confidence that the congress will give fresh stimulus to Catholics, so that, whilst pardoning the erring, they will not pardon error, and will not permit in any way the violation of those precious privileges which Christ bestowed upon man. That all this may come to pass according to Our desires, We impart, with affection in the Lord, the Apostolic Benediction as a sign of Heavenly favour and a proof of Our good will to you, beloved son, and to all who will be present at the congress.

Given at St. Peter's, Rome, on the 2nd Sept. 1896, the nineteenth year of Our Pontificate.—LEO XIII., POPE.—“Catholic Times.”

CHRISTIANITY AND FREEMASONRY.

THE following further letters have appeared in the “Church Times,” in answer to the one we recently extracted:

SIR,—Allow me to remind Mr. Horsley that the epithet “infidel” in my letter to you was a quotation, and he ought to have known that it was used in the same sense as St. Paul used it, i.e., an unbeliever in Christ. Also that his remarks about purely secular societies are outside the question, as they make no profession of religious faith, do not inculcate a morality, nor seek to found a universal brotherhood, and so trench upon the prerogatives of the Church of Christ. Also that he presumes too much on the ignorance of those who differ with him, as I, for one, am not so ignorant as he supposes, having like “Once a Mason” found by experience that Masonry was incompatible with my Churchmanship.

ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I do not write to discuss the subject, but to call to remembrance an admirable article in the “Christian Remembrancer” for July 1847, which demonstrates the necessary incongruity between Freemasonry and Christianity.

C. F. S. WARREN.

Longford, Coventry.

SIR,—Is it lawful for Christians to join in prayer addressed to the “Great Architect of the Universe,” omitting all reference to our Lord's mediation, and using language purposely such as Mahometan, Parsee, Buddhist, or any false believer can join in? The God thus worshipped is surely not the God of Christian revelation, and the worship is dangerously akin to falsehood.

Many real Christians, perhaps from old custom, do not see this; but may we worship any other God than him Who has revealed Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, not as the “Great Architect?”

HENRY DE ROMESTIN.

SIR,—Your correspondent “Sigma” reiterates the statement that “it is a hindrance to the Faith for good Catholics to be Freemasons.” I gratefully recognise the kindly tone of his letter, but neither he nor anyone who agrees with him has attempted to deal with the fact to which I drew attention in my last letter, viz., that Freemasonry exists in all parts of the Queen's

dominions, and all over North America. Is it not better and wiser for Catholic minded Churchmen to assist by their influence as members in preserving it as it is rather than to stand aloof and leave it (perhaps) to drift away from its present honoured and honourable position into the miserable state which we see it in on the Continent—or at least in some parts of the Continent?

I assure “Sigma” and “Offeiriad” that in many respects the influence of English Masonry is certainly good rather than bad. Moreover the higher degrees are Christian, and show how the emblems and symbols of the Jewish (i.e., the first three) degrees point on to Christ. The point however which I wish to press is:—we cannot do away with Masonry; therefore it is unwise to do as foreign ecclesiastics have done and leave it to drift.

CATHOLIC.

Referring to the reply given by the Editor of “Tit-Bits” to a correspondent concerning his connection with, and experience of Freemasonry, our contemporary publishes the following, which it has received from another member of the Craft:—

“I think your reply a very fair and straightforward one. Is your correspondent quite sure that he has not in some way forfeited his claim upon the Fraternity? He ought to know that, under certain circumstances and eventualities, it is quite possible to bring this about. My own experience is widely at variance with that of your correspondent. More than once during the ups and downs of a very unsettled and somewhat isolated life I have been indebted to the Craft for literally everything I possessed for the time being. On one occasion, without my asking or expecting such a thing, a loyal Mason friend of mine came forward and gave his name as security for a certain sum of money, relying simply on my good faith towards him in the matter. I had absolutely no claim upon this friend, and I am in a position to say that such instances of practical sympathy are not so rare as your correspondent would lead outsiders to suppose. At the same time, I may be permitted to add that Freemasonry is not a passport to a life of indolence and idleness, and that the man who thinks so may find some day, when it is too late, that he has been sadly mistaken and very ill-advised.”

MASONIC VISITORS TO NEWCASTLE.

THE Royal Kent Preceptory received the honour of a visit from the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston G.C.T., accompanied by V.E. Knight C. F. Matier K.C.T. and G.V.C. of England, and E. Knight Charles Belton K.C.T. of England, on Monday, 7th inst., and held a meeting in the Masonic Hall, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle.

On the following morning a number of Knights of the Preceptory accompanied the distinguished visitors in a private river saloon steamer from the landing stage, Quayside, up the river to the works of Sir William Armstrong and Co., where they were met by E. Knight T. Purvis, who conducted them over the extensive premises. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was passed to their worthy cicerone and the directors for the pleasure derived in inspecting the world-renowned ordnance factories.

The Visitors then proceeded down the river to Tynemouth, and on returning to Newcastle visited the “Chronicle” office, where they were received by Mr. R. B. Reed, general manager, and his son, Mr. Joseph Reed, works manager, and made a complete tour of the departments, including the extensive range of offices, which have recently been increased by the addition of the fine block of new buildings, forming a new wing, and completing the T shape of the “Chronicle” offices, which formerly were fashioned like the letter L. They were first conducted through the commercial offices, and then through the literary departments, comprising well-equipped rooms for the managing editor, assistant editors, literary writers, sporting staff, and reporters. Afterwards they were taken to the spacious composing room, where the whole of the editions of Daily, Evening, and Weekly Chronicles are set up by means of the linotype. The operators were engaged in setting into type the special edition of the evening paper. The room, with its incessant musical clicking of the machines, moved by the busy fingers of operators, was really a hive of industry. The visitors appeared to be deeply interested in the sight, and each before leaving was given a line of type containing his name. From this part of the premises they were taken to the stereotyping department, where they saw the pages of the special edition cast; and from thence they were conducted to the machine room, and there saw the printing machines turning out printed copies of the edition with marvellous rapidity. At the close of the inspection the visitors were received by Mr. R. B. Reed in the “Chronicle” Office Library. Mr. Reed said, on behalf of his principal and himself he gave them all a hearty welcome. Indeed, he might say he was very proud of their visit, and hoped it would not be the last occasion when he would have the pleasure of seeing them, for at all times he was glad to see Masons.

The Earl of Euston said their sincere thanks were due to Mr. Reed for the great kindness in showing them over the magnificent establishment and seeing the wondrous machinery at work. They had had explained and shown to them how news was received and published, and he had enjoyed the visit immensely. It would long remain in his memory. This was his third visit to Newcastle as a Mason, and he had enjoyed every one of his visits, but he must say his trip down the Tyne, to Armstrong's Works, and finally winding up with this visit to the “Chronicle” establishment, was so great a pleasure that it would leave pleasant recollections in his future life. He therefore desired on behalf of his friends and himself to heartily return thanks for what they had seen.—“Newcastle Chronicle.”

In response to the desire of many of their visitors, the proprietors of the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford Street, have pleasure in announcing that the Orchestra will (in addition to the usual evening programme) perform a selection of music from 1 till 3 each day.

Spiers and Pond Limited notify that the share transfer books will be closed from the 21st to the 30th instant, both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing dividend warrants for the first instalment of 4s. per share (less income tax) on account of the dividend for the year ending 31st March 1897, which will be posted to the shareholders on the 1st of October next.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

REMOVAL OF THE BOYS SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I have read with interest your very sensible article on the subject of the proposed removal of the Boys School, and I have also read the Special Report to which you refer. With your permission I should like to make some observations from my point of view.

Until I read the Board of Management's pamphlet I was inclined to think that there might be some advantage in moving the School, but after a careful study of that document I am convinced that the whole scheme is a gigantic mistake.

What are the disadvantages of the present buildings and site? There are only 13½ acres for the accommodation of 259 boys, or about 20 boys to the acre. Surely the overcrowding cannot be very serious. The present land and buildings have, in 40 years, cost "about £100,000." Truly a nice round sum. "There is but little illness, and that of a trifling kind." The boys are in a remarkably good state of health," according to the Medical Report for 1896. What more can be desired?

What are the advantages to be gained by removal? The Board say they can provide accommodation for 50, 100, or even more Boys should the next generation require it. Of course they can—if they are supplied with funds. They can also extend the "Educational curriculum." But more than this they can effect a saving "in management and establishment charges, in rates, and cost of water, &c.," but, perhaps wisely, the report omits to say how much the saving will amount to.

And what will it cost to buy a new site and erect new buildings to replace those which have cost "about £100,000" in 40 years? The Board does not go into figures, but they remark that "a loss must of necessity be made in disposing" of the present buildings and site.

If they would tell us that they could erect a better and more commodious building on a better and larger site for the price at which they could sell the present property, the scheme might have something to recommend it. But they know perfectly well that there is no prospect of selling the £100,000 worth of site, bricks, and mortar for anything approaching the sum that a new site and buildings would cost.

It is fortunate that the Report tells us that the Board consists of business men, as we might never have made the discovery otherwise.

The whole scheme is crude and ill digested. The Board does not know what it is going to do, or how it is going to do it, and above all it does not disclose where the money is to come from.

Large Institutions are very well in their way, but there is a growing feeling that a larger number of boys could be assisted outside the School for less money, and the Board should take care lest they check the flow of income.

I am, &c.,

VERBUM SAP.

14th September 1896.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I should like to know by what right the members of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys have taken upon themselves to use public funds in libelling the neighbourhood of Wood Green, for the statements they have published far and wide throughout the country are nothing short of libel, and I should further like to know if it is not possible for our local authorities to institute proceedings against the detractors. Wood Green is good enough for me, and good enough for hundreds who are in quite as comfortable positions as ever were the parents of many of the boys in the School at the present time, and it is not right to attempt to hoodwink subscribers who are unable to see for themselves by making out that the neighbourhood is such an undesirable one as to be unfit for the quarters of the Institution. It is quite as good as the locality surrounding the Girls School at Clapham Junction, yet we hear no wailing from that quarter as to the absolute necessity for sacrificing £60,000, £70,000 or £80,000, and I hope a check will be put upon the members of the Board, ere they launch upon a new building scheme, the ultimate result of which it is impossible to even estimate.

Yours, &c.

WOOD GREENITE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I trust you will allow me to express my disapproval of the proposal now before the English Craft to sanction the removal of the School of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, as I am convinced such a course is most undesirable at the present time.

I say the proposal is "before the English Craft" advisedly, whereas many would say it is a question that only concerns the supporters of the School, and I base my contention on the fact that it is the English Craft that will be called upon to find the money for the alterations (in addition to what is needed for the current expenses year by year), for if the present invested capital is expended in the work the Craft will never know a moment's peace until the money is replaced, and the amount even increased.

The past few years has given us a fair taste of what is possible in this direction, appeals being made time after time for a substantial invested fund, and what for? To send the Committee mad on a new building scheme, and create a difference of opinion among supporters of our charities that may take years to get over. But who cares? The energetic Secretary appeals—and he is energetic, be it noted, too much so for some of his audiences; Stewards are secured, and the money rolls in, positively too fast to be dealt with, if we are to believe the Board of Management, whose chairman goes so far as to say they do not know what to do with the funds subscribed by the Craft, until such time as the governors of the Institution give them a

free hand to sacrifice property that has cost £100,000 for perhaps a quarter that sum, and launch out on other buildings that will probably cost as much, and be deemed as useless forty years hence by the fanatics of that day as is the property at Wood Green by those of the present.

I consider the existing Schools and other buildings of the Institution are good enough for present requirements, despite what the managers say to the contrary, and I feel they will take a great responsibility upon themselves if they carry out their proposed scheme without taking a poll of the whole body of subscribers, not by a small gathering at a Quarterly Court or Special Court, but by ballot papers sent to each subscriber; and even then they ought to get a three-fourths majority before they incur the terrible expenses of new buildings, &c.

The Board of Management promised a "Statement of reasons for the proposed removal of the School from its present position," but instead of this they have made out a case against the removal, as they have failed to show any reason for the heavy loss they admit is inevitable, and appear to have no definite idea of what they propose to do. I am quite of opinion that a Committee should have the confidence of those it represents, but to ask for such a blind reliance as these Brethren seem to demand is a little too much for me.

Yours, &c.

A MIDDLE-CLASS REPRESENTATIVE.

HE CANNOT BE ADMITTED.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—May I ask through your invaluable columns whether it is competent for a Lodge to refuse admission to a Brother, and if so on what grounds must the refusal be based?

Fraternally Yours,

L. L.

ROYAL ARCH.

—:o:—

TEES CHAPTER, No. 509.

ON Thursday, 10th inst., the annual festival was held in the Masonic Hall, Stockton, when the ceremonies of installation were performed by Comp. Chas. Spencer P.Z. P.P.G.A.S., with Jno. Holt (Yarm) as H., and W. Hodgson as J.

Comp. Jno. Holt was installed Z., W. Hodgson H., T. E. Biddlecombe P.P.G.O.J.

Bro. F. L. Dodds I.P.M. Tees Lodge was elected and exalted, and after the Chapter had been closed the Companions dined together.

GAIETY RESTAURANT,

STRAND.

LUNCHEONS

(HOT and COLD)—At Popular Prices, in BUFFET and RESTAURANT (on 1st floor). Also Chops, Steaks, Joints, Entrées, &c., in the GRILL ROOM.

AFTERNOON TEA—

Consisting of Tea or Coffee, Cut Bread and Butter, Jam, Cake, Pastry, *ad lib*, at 1/- per head; served from 4 till 6 in RESTAURANT (1st floor).

DINNERS IN RESTAURANT—

From 5-30 till 9 at Fixed Prices (3/6 and 5/-) and à la Carte. In this room the Viennese Band performs from 6 till 8. Smoking after 7-45.

AMERICAN BAR.

THE GRILL ROOM

is open till 12-30.

PRIVATE DINING ROOMS FOR LARGE AND SMALL PARTIES.

SPIERS AND POND, Ltd., Proprietors.

GREYHOUND HOTEL, HAMPTON COURT

(UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT).

The Greyhound Hotel, now entirely Re-decorated and Furnished, contains the Best and Most Comfortable Suites of Apartments.

◆ **Superior Lodge Accommodation.** ★
Three Large Banqueting Rooms. ★

The Cuisine is of the Highest Class, and the Cellars have been well stocked with the best known Brands of Champagne, and other Wines, &c.

Luncheons, Dinners, &c., at most reasonable charges. Ample Stabling.
Tables may be reserved for Dinners, &c., ordered for Large or Small Parties, by application to

Mrs. CONSTANCE CAULFIELD, Proprietress.

HADLEY HOTEL, NEW BARNET.

IN THE MASONIC PROVINCE OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

Newly arranged Accommodation for Masonic Meetings.
The Banquet Room will comfortably seat 80, with smaller rooms in communication.

One of the most attractive points around London, close to Hadley Wood, within easy and quick reach of London. 25 Minutes Rail from Broad Street and King's Cross.

The Broxbourne Lodge now meets here.

ORDINARY ON SUNDAYS AT 2 O'CLOCK.

BRO. W. BENNETT, Proprietor.

Many years with the late Mr. Blanchard, Beak Street and Regent Street.

THE RAILWAY HOTEL, HARROW,

ADJOINING THE L. & N. W. R. STATION.

The Railway Hotel, now entirely re-decorated and furnished, contains the best and

Most Comfortable Lodge Accommodation,
with ample Ante-Rooms, Large Banqueting Rooms and every convenience.

THREE LODGES ALREADY MEET HERE.

SPECIMENS OF MENU, WITH PRICES, SENT ON APPLICATION.

Proprietor - - - - - C. W. HOWELL.

SEYD'S HOTEL, 39 FINSBURY SQUARE, E.C.

MOST CENTRAL POSITION IN LONDON.

SPLENDID ACCOMMODATION FOR MASONIC LODGES.

Lodge Room, Tyler's Room, &c., on One Floor, conveniently arranged.
THE BANQUET ROOM WILL SEAT UPWARDS OF 150 GUESTS

LARGE HALL and other Rooms for Meetings, Smokers, Concerts, &c.
Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, &c., served in liberal style.
Bed and Breakfast from 4s 6d, no extras. Choice stock of Wines, Spirits, &c.
Established 1832. Bro. HENRY GRÜNE, Proprietor.

PARTIES CATERED FOR AT THEIR OWN RESIDENCE.
DISTANCE NO OBJECT. INSPECTION INVITED.

THE CASTLE HOTEL, EAST MOLESEY,

Adjoining Hampton Court Station,

FACING THE RIVER AND PALACE.

Special Provision for Lodge and other meetings, including

A MASONIC TEMPLE

with ample Ante-Rooms, Banquet Hall, and every convenience.

FIVE LODGES ALREADY MEET HERE.

Ample accommodation in the new wing of this old-established and noted Riverside Hotel for Banquets for any number up to 100. Every convenience for Ladies' Gatherings. Spacious landing to river, whence Steam Launches can start. Specimens of Menus, with prices, sent on application.

TWO BILLIARD TABLES. GOOD STABLING ACCOMMODATION.

Tariff, &c. of Bro. JOHN MAYO, Proprietor.

Bro. JOHN THOMAS SHAPCOTT,

Proprietor of the

NEW RED LION, 181 HARROW ROAD, W.,

Has excellent accommodation for Lodges of Instruction.

THE

Smokeless Fire Co., Ltd.

Sole Proprietors of Marsh's

Patents for the complete combustion of Fuel,
as supplied to:

SPIERS AND POND, LTD., "The Gaiety" Restaurant.

SLATER'S, LTD., "The Prince of Wales" Hotel.

TRUMAN, HANBURY, BUXTON & CO.,

"The Galleons" Hotel.

Special Designs to meet all Requirements.

— Full particulars from —

100 SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON, W.

G. J. ARGENT,

ESTABLISHED 1884,

Wholesale and Export Cabinet Maker
and Upholsterer,

60 CITY ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

Manufacturer of

Masonic Furniture, Chairs, Pedestals, &c.

Club, Office and Restaurant Fitter, and Billiard Seat Maker.

Experienced Workmen sent to all parts. Estimates free.

W. & J. BALLS,

Bookbinders in all Branches,

Metropolitan Bookbinding Works,

362 Grays Inn Road, Kings Cross.

BOOKS BOUND TO ANY PATTERN.

Old Bindings and Libraries Repaired and Decorated.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

HOCKETT & WHITE,

Photographic Printers,

POTTERS ROAD, NEW BARNET.

NEGATIVES sent to us by Parcels Post, securely packed, receive prompt attention, and Prints in SILVER, PLATINOTYPE, P.O.P., giving best obtainable results, forwarded without delay. We are also pleased to answer inquiries, and give information and advice, for which our large experience fully qualifies us.

Price Lists on application.

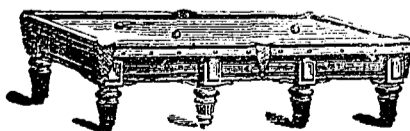
THE WHELM SANITARY LAUNDRY,

PRICKLER'S HILL, HIGH ROAD, NEW BARNET.

Special Terms for Hotels, Clubs, &c.

Drying grounds, upwards of an acre in extent, quite open on all sides. Carpets beaten, cleaned & re-laid.

Further particulars of MRS. STAPLES, Proprietress. [ad 1896]



Established 1862.

HENNIG BROS.,
BILLIARD TABLE MAKERS,

Manufacturers of the

PATENT LOW FROST-PROOF CUSHIONS.

29 HIGH STREET, LONDON, W.C.

THE PROBLEM ART, a Treatise on how to Solve and how to compose Chess Problems. By T. B. Rowland and F. S. Rowland. Second edition, price 2s 6d, post free from W. W. Morgan, New Barnet.

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

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

LAST EXCURSIONS OF THE SEASON.

On Monday, 21st September, a Cheap Excursion to Birmingham, for one or four days, from St. Pancras at 6.35 a.m., and Kentish Town at 6.40. Returning as per bills.

On Saturday, 26th September, for Three or Six Days, from St. Pancras and City Stations, to

Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Burton, Matlock, Buxton, Stockport, Southport, Liverpool, Manchester, Accrington, Blackburn, Burnley, Bolton, Rochdale, Oldham, Bury, Lancaster, Morecambe, the Lake District, Barrow, Whitehaven, Carlisle, Pontefract, York, Hull, Scarborough, Whitby, South Shields, High Shields, Sunderland, Lincoln, Sheffield, Barnsley, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Halifax, Stoke, Hanley, Burslem, Macclesfield, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Leeds, Bradford, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, &c. Tickets will be available for returning on Monday, 28th September, or Thursday, 1st October.

Also, on Saturday, 26th September (for the Races), to Manchester for three days. From St. Pancras at 12.5 a.m., and Kentish Town at 12.10 a.m.

Tickets and bills may be had at the Midland Stations and City Booking Offices, and from Thos. Cook and Son, Ludgate Circus and Branch Offices.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

BRO. THOMAS FEISTEL will be pleased to entertain the Brethren with his Dramatic and Humorous Recitals, and to supply artistes for Installation and other Banquets.

54 Maury Road, Stoke Newington.

CANCER WARDS OF THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

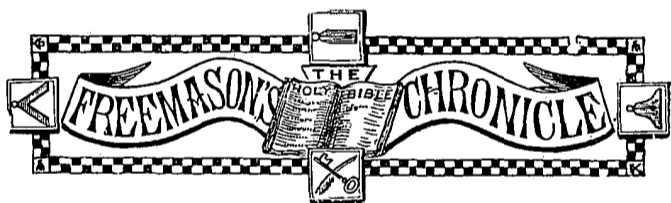
35 Beds devoted to hopeless, incurable cases.

A FUND of £12,000 is being raised for the purpose of erecting a FEMALE CANCER WING, whereby not only will patients of this class have more accommodation, but also 26 beds will become available for the general purposes of the hospital. £3,000 still needed.

The Cancer Wards are free to all necessitous persons without payment. Contributions are earnestly solicited.

F. CLARE MELHADO, Secretary Superintendent.

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



SATURDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER 1896.

SOUTH LONDON CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association, of which the secretary is Bro. Robert Elgar, of "Brynlllys," Love-walk, Denmark-hill, S.E., appeals to Lodges in the southern district of the Metropolis to place their names upon its roll. The joining subscription for Lodges or Chapters is but £1 1s, and the purpose of the Association is the organisation and concentration of the strength of the South London Lodges and Chapters at the elections of candidates for the three Masonic Charitable Institutions. In this direction the Association has already had marked effect. As a substitute in South London for the charity committees in the provinces, the organisation is a valuable one, says the "Kentish Mercury."

We may remind our readers that the Benevolent Association in connection with the Lewisham Lodge of Instruction is still open to receive new members, the proposal being to start operations from the first Wednesday in October. Further particulars may be had of the Hon. Sec. Bro. Edward Hall, 17 Mount Pleasant Road, Lewisham, S.E.

A new Lodge was opened last week in the town of Castlebar, under a warrant numbered 176, recently issued by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and received the name of the Victoria Regina Lodge, in honour of the present month, in which her Majesty beats the record in the remarkable duration of her prosperous reign. Since the early years of the century no Lodge has existed in Castlebar.

CHURCH SERVICES.

THE third annual Masonic service arranged under the auspices of the Bootle-Wilbraham Lodge, No. 2463, was held on Sunday afternoon in the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Knotty Ash, the use of which had been granted by Bro. the Rev. F. J. Powell, M.A., chaplain. The Brethren, to the number of between 300 and 400, assembled in the Village-hall, and walked in processional order to the church.

The Church was filled with Masons and members of the public, and the service was conducted by Bro. the Rev. F. J. Powell and Bro. the Rev. Dr. Hyde. The sermon was preached by Dr. Hyde from the text, "Always abounding in the work of the Lord." He remarked that during his ministry he had addressed many congregations, but never one on such an impressive occasion as the service that afternoon. They knew that the object of their assembling there was to benefit the Alpass Benevolent Institution, which was of so much value in helping to maintain the widows of deceased Freemasons. They had come out there to assist a good cause. It was a consolation to all of them to know that if misfortune overtook them their widows would be assisted in an unostentatious and liberal manner by those who controlled the Alpass Benevolent Fund. The fund was started to perpetuate the memory of a very worthy Brother, and he hoped on that occasion his earnest appeal on behalf of the Institution would be responded to generously. The collection, which was afterwards made, realised 40 guineas. At the conclusion of the service the procession was reformed, and the Brethren separated at the Village-hall. The arrangements for the service were in the hands of the Bootle-Wilbraham Lodge, of which Bro. W. H. Bucknell is the Worshipful Master, and Bro. S. L. Fraser Secretary.—"Liverpool Courier."

MEMBERS of the Southport Lodges, accompanied by other Brethren resident in the district, in all about 150, on Sunday afternoon attended service at Holy Trinity Church, Southport, when Bro. the Rev. A. E. Bigoe-Bagot P.P.G. Chaplain of East Lancashire and Cheshire, preached on behalf of the proposed Masonic cot in the Southport New Infirmary. In the absence of Bro. the Rev. J. S. Gardner P.P.G.C., the Rev. C. Grub read the prayers, Bro. the Rev. C. S. Hope P.P.G.C., Vicar, reading the lessons. Bro. H. Hudson was Organist, and several Brethren were among the choir. The collection realised nearly £23, which will be added to a large sum in hand towards £700, the amount of the endowment required.—"Liverpool Mercury."

The Masonic Hall at Winston, N.C., has been destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of 50,000 dollars.

A discussion recently arose in an Indian Lodge relative to the wearing of surplices in the third degree. After reference to various Past Masters their ruling was accepted, which was opposed to the wearing of any such garment.

The installation meeting of the Lancastrian Lodge, No. 2528, will be held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford Street, on Wednesday, 14th prox., at 5 o'clock. The members having re-elected Dr. J. J. Marsh as Worshipful Master that Brother will continue in office for the ensuing year.

It is proposed to establish a Lodge of Instruction to meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, on Thursday or Friday evenings, under the Preceptorship of one of the best known London tutors. The promoters will be glad to hear from Brethren willing to co-operate in the project, for which purpose letters may be addressed to our care.

The bust of Lord Suffield, which will be presented to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk by the Prince of Wales, has been subscribed for by the Brethren of the Province to commemorate the completion of his lordship's twentieth year of office as Provincial Grand Master. His Royal Highness is himself one of the subscribers to the bust, which has been executed in marble by Mr. George Wade, of London.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

THE death is announced of Bro. Hugh Doey, who was initiated sixty years back, and was regarded as the oldest Mason in Ireland. For fifty-six years of his Masonic career he remained a member of the one Lodge, and most of the time held the office of Treasurer thereof.

MAKING MASONS.

THERE has always been more or less discussion as to the best manner of electing new members into Masonry. It is the desire of every good Mason that only men of good standing should be admitted into the fraternity, but it is a very common thing to hear a Mason express surprise when he learns that certain persons have been admitted, and then frequently is ready to give very good reasons why this or that particular person should not have been admitted.

If asked why these objections had not been stated during the investigation of the candidate, the almost invariable reply is that they had no knowledge of the application. I am not familiar with the custom of the country Lodges, or those in smaller cities, but in London each Lodge, as soon as an application for initiation or membership is received, notifies all the other Lodges, giving the name of the applicant, residence, occupation, names of the Brethren recommending him, names of the investigating committee, &c. These notices are read by the Secretary of each Lodge at the first communication after the receipt of the notice. This method is supposed to give due notice to the fraternity of such application, and is very good as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough.

Many of the older Masons, who in their younger Masonic life were the most active Masons in the Lodge, and who have the welfare of the Fraternity at heart, do not, unfortunately, attend regularly the Lodge meetings. A large majority of the members of the Fraternity do not attend Lodge, and unless their attention is called to these applications they are ignorant of them until it is too late to take any action. The argument that, if they had the welfare of the Fraternity at heart they would attend Lodge, is very good as far as such tardy Brethren are concerned, and they have no right to make any complaint about what is done by those who have their shoulder to the wheel and are doing the work; but the question is—What is best for the Fraternity?

In the last few years every member in good standing is supposed to get semi-monthly a copy of a Masonic journal, and, judging others by myself, I will venture to say that a majority of the members, no matter whether it is the professional man, the business man, or the mechanic, look forward with pleasure to reading the paper, if not carefully, at least to glance over it. The Secretary of each Lodge, as soon as an application is received, could notify the paper, and, if all particulars of the application (the same as are read now in open Lodge) were given, it would give every member due notice of the same, and he could, if he knew anything detrimental to the applicant that would unfit him for membership, notify either the investigating committee or the Lodge, verbally, or in writing, and before the ballot is spread a thorough investigation could be had.

There have been admitted some very undesirable persons into the fraternity, and more such persons will be admitted, but it would be much better for the fraternity to watch applications much more rigidly than is done at present.

Should such a plan as the above be adopted by the Grand Lodge, it would not be necessary to discontinue the present plan of notifying the Lodges, but it should be continued. Unworthy persons, who were moved by sinister motives, would hesitate to put in their applications if they knew that they had to stand such an investigation, while the desirable applicant would have nothing to fear. These suggestions are made here in order that the Brethren, if they consider the subject of enough importance, might discuss it; and I trust some member of the Grand Lodge might be interested enough to bring it before that body for action.—“X,” in the “Minstrel.”

[We extract the above as it appeared in our contemporary, but it really seems to be an American item, Anglicized by the substitution of “London” in the second paragraph for some other town written in the original, and as a consequence does not apply to Freemasonry as practised in our midst. It is, however, useful as showing what is being done elsewhere, and what might be considered here were it deemed necessary to surround the English Craft with stronger restrictions than already exist. We might suggest to our contemporary the submission of its “original” Masonic articles to an English Mason, with a view to the prevention of such slips as here referred to.—Ed. F.C.]

THE USE AND ABUSE OF RITUAL.

OF all modern innovations into Ancient Freemasonry, the most recent, and the one which perhaps has done more than any other to popularise the Craft, is the adoption of a definite ritual into its ceremonies. That some form of catechetical instruction was in use in the earliest Lodges is clear from old records, and that a ritual ceremonial of some kind was employed in communicating the secrets is highly probable; but it was not until the days of Anderson and Desaguliers (about 1717) that we find any systematic attempt made to weld the traditions and legends, which had come down in scattered fragments from very early ages, into a definite series of ritual observances. Even after their days the ritual adopted was learned only from mouth to mouth, and was altered and expanded as knowledge increased, and in the direct ratio of the intelligence and erudition of the leading members of the Order. Printed rituals, tacitly permitted by Grand Lodge,

are, so to speak, of yesterday's growth, and by no means represent the ceremonies employed by foreign Constitutions. Even in our own Constitution some of the oldest Lodges use rituals varying greatly from those now generally familiar to us. It is well to bear these facts in mind, for the tendency of to-day is to fossilise the ritual, and prevent further expansion and development; a course calculated seriously to injure the future of Freemasonry and ultimately to bring its ceremonies into contempt.

Freemasonry claims to be a “peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols,” and so long as we teach this system of morality in accordance with the ancient traditions and established customs of the Order, the actual words used, provided that they convey the desired meaning, must be of only secondary importance.

It must not be inferred from this that the ritual now in almost universal use amongst English Lodges ought to be disregarded. Far from it! Every candidate admitted into our Order is entitled to have the lessons of morality imparted to him, and the allegory and symbolism elucidated in a suggestive and impressive manner; and in a general way the approved ritual of the English Constitution is well calculated to effect this object. It is a too slavish adherence to the wording of the ritual that is to be deprecated. If “word-perfect” rendering of ritual were the chief qualification for the Eastern chair the best Master would be one (is the type wholly unknown to us?) who, having comfortably settled his spectacles on his nose, and turned half-round so as to get the advantage of the Master's light—which he himself is supposed to represent—reads off the degree fluently and intelligently to the wondering candidate. But daily experience proves that this type of Master is not a success, can never arouse the interest, much less the enthusiasm, of the initiate; and probably vacates the chair after twelve months experience of it with a vague and unsatisfactory feeling that Freemasonry is just a little bit of a fraud—“vox, et præterea nihil.” The fact is that, however equal all men are in their human capacity as fellow mortals, in intellectual attainments no two men are alike, and in imparting instruction these differences ought to be recognised and taken into account if it is intended that the lessons of the various degrees should prove of any value to their recipients. If, for instance, our candidate should happen to be a student of ancient history or archaeology, we will be more likely to disgust than to interest him by reeling off the numerous anachronisms and inaccuracies contained in the degree without a word of explanation as to how they came to be received as traditions; while, to take an extreme case in the opposite direction, we tend to bewilder instead of to instruct an illiterate person (however qualified in other ways to become a true and faithful Brother) by the historical, philosophical, and literary allusions with which our ritual abounds. It may, of course, be argued that commentaries on the ritual should be reserved for Lodges of Instruction, or Lodge meetings, when no other business is entered on the agenda; but experience teaches us that Lodges of Instruction are almost invariably supported by Brethren who are already sufficiently interested in the subject to read for themselves, or by those desirous of learning parrot-like the ritual of the degrees to qualify themselves for the office of Master.

Again, the Emulation working, which is undoubtedly the best ritual yet promulgated, is very far from perfect, from either a literary or a scientific point of view. Though it sounds well when intelligently recited, many of its sentences defy all the rules of grammar, and cannot be parsed, however partial the grammarian may be towards their familiar ring and rhythm. And why should he be compelled to shock the ears of a good English scholar, offend the cultured mind of the archaeologist, bewilder the brain of the plain business man, or jar upon the religious sense of the ecclesiastic or Biblical student by false quotations from Scripture, twisted or misapplied historical facts from Holy Writ, when a few well-chosen words of explanation, or a slightly different rendering of the ritual will obviate all this, change disgust or bewilderment into interest, and make the quaint archaisms, inseparable from our ancient traditions, into objects of fascinating research and enquiry? So long as the Degrees of Freemasonry claim to be forms of instruction it is only fair that individual care and thought should be exercised to effect this object; and the better instructed and the more apt in imparting knowledge the Master is, the better may we hope to influence for good the candidate who comes forward to receive the lessons that Freemasonry professes to impart. A glance at the development of the ritual of the Mark Degree in the last fifteen years will serve better to illustrate my meaning than any abstruse reasoning can possibly do. That the details of the various ceremonials should be regulated by Grand Lodge, as the governing body of Freemasonry, is right and reasonable enough; that the wording of the ritual should be unalterable is quite another matter. The rational view of the subject is that the accepted ritual should be acknowledged thankfully by all Masters of Lodges as a useful guide, but at the same time taking to heart the practical and familiar advice of one of our degrees, let us “use it as not abusing it, and go on our way rejoicing.”—Bro. Oswald G. Wood P.M. P.Z. P.D.G.R. Bengal D.G.J.W. Punjab, in “Indian Freemason.”

THE Midland Railway Company announces the last of the season's excursions, to be run on Monday next to Birmingham, for one or four days, and on Saturday, for three or six days, to the principal stations in the midland and northern counties served by the Midland Company, the return tickets being available for the following Monday or Thursday. On Saturday there will also be a three days excursion to Manchester, for the races, leaving St. Pancras and Kentish Town Stations shortly after midnight on Friday.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

—:o:—

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.

—:o:—

CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

—:o:—

PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 1743.

THE annual installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, under the presidency of Bro. W. J. Wall Worshipful Master of the past year, who brought his presidency to a conclusion with a brilliant display of his ability as a worker in the Craft. He was supported by Bro. H. C. Lonsdale S.W. and W.M.-elect, H. Watts J.W., T. Lovell P.M. Treas., G. J. Tollett Sec., H. G. Park S.D., W. B. Cossham J.D., R. Perry D.C., J. H. Bridgman Assist. Steward; Past Masters T. J. O'Brien, C. E. Ferry, John Stait, and F. Kearney; W. Lane Tyler, together with other members of the Lodge and the following visitors: Frank Carter 153, J. Walton 1360, H. Foreman P.M. 1275, H. Mossop 797, T. H. Mills 1550, G. Booker I.P.M. 228, R. Ede 1471, A. J. Baldock 1343, G. H. Cole I.P.M. 1089, H. Magee P.M. 174, W. Roots P.M. 1273, Col. T. D. Sewell P.M. 1827 P.G.Steward, S. Ellis I.P.M. 1981, J. R. Johnson P.M. 1320 2005 P.P.S.G.D. Essex, W. W. Morgan 177, A. Abrahams 205, J. G. W. James P.M. 1602 P.P.G.Std.B. Berks, W. G. London 1580, Alfred Ford 171 2005, A. Moore 91, A. Strugnell 2264, G. J. Symonds 183, R. J. Hamilton 781.

The Lodge having been regularly opened the Master conferred the second degree upon Bro. Smithson, and then resigned the chair to Past Master O'Brien, who initiated Mr. C. E. Linaker, after which Bro. Wall resumed command and proceeded to instal as his successor Bro. H. C. Lonsdale, who was inducted into the chair with the customary formalities, and appointed the following as his assistant Officers for the year:—Watts S.W., Park J.W., Lovell Treas., Tollett Sec., Cossham S.D., S. Fell J.D., Perry I.G., Bridgman and J. Flaxman Stewards, W. Lane Tyler. Other business was disposed of and the Lodge was closed, the company adjourning to the banquet room.

After an excellent repast the Master gave the customary loyal toasts, each of which was heartily received. The Immediate Past Master followed on with the health of the Worshipful Master—really the toast of the evening, he said. He was quite sure the members were all well satisfied with the way in which the new ruler of the Lodge had so far discharged his duties within it, and they probably felt, as he did, there was a bright future before them. Bro. Lonsdale ought to have conferred the first degree on their initiate that evening, and then they would have been in a better position to judge of his capabilities, but next meeting they hoped to have two, or perhaps three ceremonies, and there was little doubt he would be equal to what was expected of him. For thirteen years he had been a member of the Lodge and had steadily worked through each of its offices. They had the right sort of Master in the chair and next year, he was certain, they would have reason to be satisfied that they had selected him.

The W.M. tendered his thanks. He assured them that having reached the high and exalted position of Master he should do everything in his power to warrant the confidence they had placed in him. He was the twentieth Master of the Lodge, and the first of its joining members who had risen to the honour of the chair.

The toast of the Initiate was next given from the chair, and the Master, in submitting it, said they had that night admitted a gentleman among them who gave every prospect of becoming a good Mason. From the conversation he had had with him since his admission he felt sure he would be an acquisition to their Lodge. It was necessary they should have new blood, but in spite of that necessity they should at all times be most careful as to whom they admitted.

The new member tendered his thanks for the honour accorded him, and trusted he might prove himself a worthy Mason.

A very pleasing duty now devolved upon the Worshipful Master, in having to propose the health of his predecessor in the chair—the Installing Officer of the day. The Brethren had had opportunities of judging how well Bro. Wall had performed his work that evening, and they also knew that during his year of office he had discharged the duties attached to it with a great amount of credit. By his genial behaviour as ruler of the Lodge he had won the heart of every one of the members, who, as a mark of their appreciation, had voted him a Past Master's jewel, and this he now had the greatest pleasure to present to Bro. Wall, conveying with it the good wishes of the members, who hoped he might be with them for many years to impart the knowledge he possessed, for their advantage.

The I.P.M. tendered his thanks for the toast. As he had often said he had spent some of his happiest days in the Lodge, of which for a good thirteen years he had been a member, and had never known anything but kindness connected with it. He thanked the members especially for the jewel, and hoped, as the Worshipful Master had said, he might be with them for many years. He took the opportunity of thanking the Officers who had worked with him during the year for the way in which they had supported him, and also thanked Past Master O'Brien for helping him with the ceremonies of the day.

The Master proposed the toast of the visitors. They were honoured with the attendance of a large number of Brethren distinguished in the Craft; it had afforded the members much pleasure to receive them, and extend to them a hearty welcome. He hoped all had derived some pleasure from their visit, and that many of them would go away with the feeling that the Perseverance Lodge was not the worst one of their acquaintance.

Past Master James was the first to respond, tendering sincere thanks for the toast. It had indeed been a great pleasure to the visitors to be present that night, and witness the prosperity of the Lodge. He knew the Master as one who would carry out the duties of the chair with satisfaction to all, and was pleased to see him start in office with such prospects of success. There was little doubt but that the present occupant of the chair would discharge the duties attached to it with credit to the Lodge and to himself. Bro. Johnson next replied. He felt that the Lodge—Perseverance in name—owed its position to the evident perseverance of the members, who had thus been able to achieve much. Bros. Abrahams, Booker, and Roots also responded.

The health of the Past Masters was now submitted. The President said the Lodge was blessed with some good Past Masters, and as they had

seen that night they were able to make themselves useful as well as appear ornamental, in fact, they might be set down as good members of the Lodge, ever ready to come forward and impart their knowledge to others.

Past Master Kearney acknowledged the toast. It was a great pleasure to the Past Masters to know that Brother Wall, the latest addition to their ranks, had given satisfaction to every member of the Lodge during the time he had occupied the chair. Freemasonry must not always be looked upon as a Festival, but rather as a means of advancing the welfare of its members. He trusted everyone associated with Perseverance would do his best to advance its prosperity.

Bro. Ferry was very pleased to be among the Past Masters of the Lodge of Perseverance, and gratified to know it could produce such efficient workers as he believed the present Master would prove to be, and the retiring ruler had shown himself. Bro. Stait congratulated the Lodge on its present prosperity; he had never received greater kindness from any men in the world than that he had met with as a Master of the Perseverance Lodge. Bro. O'Brien spoke of his "Irishman's rise," from the post of honour at the left of the chair to the lowest seat among the Past Masters, but regarded it as true progress from a Masonic standpoint. He had often noticed maps prepared for the purpose of illustrating gold mine and other speculations, and had then thought what an attractive map could be produced if the countries where Freemasonry was practised could be brought into bold relief.

The Treasurer and Secretary were next toasted, the Master regarding both as most efficient workers. What the Brethren had seen that night must have convinced them that the Treasurer was a painstaking and persevering Mason, always in his place and willing to assist all who desired it. The Secretary, too, performed his duties to the satisfaction of all, and had no small share in securing the success of the Lodge.

Each of these Officers replied, tendering their thanks, and hoping they might be able to retain the good opinion of the members of the Lodge. The Officers' toast was honoured, and then the Tyler brought the meeting to a conclusion.

o o o

DUKE OF CORNWALL LODGE, No. 1839.

AMONG the first to open the Masonic season in the metropolis is this Lodge of good fellowship, which commenced business at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., on Saturday, with the Installation Festival. The outgoing Master Bro. Charles Mussared presided, and was supported by his Officers and the following Brethren:—Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg P.G.C., Walter Martin P.M., W. Gibson Bott P.M., H. Cattermole P.M., C. H. Cox P.M., J. Bladon P.M., J. Culver P.M., W. H. Foot P.M., W. H. Lowry I.P.M., J. W. Brooke P.M., W. C. Smith W.M. 2264, Chas. Brown W.M. 35, G. W. Ball W.M. 2169, J. H. Williams 569, H. Ives 1716, G. Scott Miller I.P.M. 2264, G. F. Smith 15, J. J. Patrick 1716, J. F. Galloway W.M. 1598, J. A. Smallbones 1897, R. L. Woolf 188, E. W. Wood 1706, J. W. Jeffery P.M. 134, R. T. West 1744, Orlton Cooper P.M. 211, W. T. Perrins, A. E. Turner, F. Smallbones, A. J. Blake, A. J. Brown, C. T. Cowley, J. J. Woods, Ald. Perkins, C. W. Davies, C. H. Elithorn, N. N. Stansbury, C. W. Bailey, H. E. Toon, J. A. King, T. J. Jackson, G. F. J. Broad, C. F. Day, W. F. Norris, C. W. Payne, &c.

The Lodge being duly opened the minutes of the last two meetings were read and confirmed. Bro. G. W. Moore, having proved his proficiency as a Craftsman, was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by the W.M., who then proceeded to instal his successor.

Bro. Charles Heinekey, having been elected as W.M. at the last meeting, was presented by Bro. Brooke, and signified his assent to the ancient charges and regulations. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Heinekey was regularly installed as Master for the ensuing twelve months. Both the ceremonies, together with the three addresses, were ably rendered by Bro. Mussared, and much appreciated by the Brethren.

The new Master, having been duly proclaimed and saluted, then proceeded to appoint and invest his Officers, as follow:—C. H. Knuth S.W., W. Wright J.W., John Culver P.M. Treas., J. W. Dewsnap P.M. Sec., T. J. Jackson Assistant Secretary, F. H. Stollery S.D., J. F. Perrins J.D., A. E. Turner I.G., J. L. Castiglione D.C., F. Smallbones and A. J. Blake Stewards, W. T. Perrins Musical Director, and T. Bowler Tyler.

The Reports of the Audit Committee, respecting the Lodge and Benevolent Funds, were presented and adopted. The resignation of two members was received with regret. Bro. Heinekey acknowledged the congratulations of the visiting Brethren, and there being no further business the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the company adjourned to the spacious Crown Room, where the banquet was served.

After the removal of the cloth, the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were submitted by the W.M., and accepted with acclamation by the Brethren.

Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, in responding for the Grand Officers, said he could hardly believe that it was fifteen years since he assisted at the consecration of the Lodge, but he was pleased to perceive that it had had a successful career, and hoped that it would continue to prosper.

Bro. Mussared I.P.M. proposed the health of the Master, in humorous terms, and wished him a happy and successful year of office. He was one of the first initiates, an excellent Mason, and knew his work thoroughly, having served all the offices. He would certainly add lustre to the Lodge, maintain its credit, and retire from the chair with honour.

Bro. Heinekey, in reply, promised that he would make his year of office a successful one if the Brethren would assist him by bringing in some good candidates for initiation. Although he was the youngest Master who had presided over the Lodge, he felt quite confident in being able to conduct its affairs. He proceeded to return the compliment to Bro. Mussared, and presented him with a handsome Past Master's jewel, voted by the Lodge as a recognition of his services during his year of office, and as a mark of the regard in which he is held by the Brethren. He hoped that he would long be spared to wear the jewel, and that it would serve to remind him of his year of Mastership.

Bros. Mussared returned thanks for the present, which he would ever wear in pleasant remembrance of the Lodge. He could not say that his work had been labourious, but he had performed it to the best of his ability, and he was grateful for the kindly way in which he had been treated. He had served every office in the Lodge, and hoped he would still be able to render them some service in the future.

Bros. George Scott Miller and Rev. J. Harris returned thanks for the Visitors. In his remarks Bro. Harris referred to the correspondence respecting Freemasonry that appeared in the columns of a contemporary (which has been noticed in our issues of 5th and 12th inst.). He considered it wrong for anyone who called himself a Christian and a clergyman to say that such men as Bro. Brownrigg and his humble self should not be members of the Fraternity. What he felt was that Masons were all bound together to

promulgate the principles of peace and happiness among men, and as their ritual taught them that some must rule and others must serve, so all should serve Him with fervency of zeal who was our Supreme Ruler.

Bros. J. W. Brooke, of Vienna, one of the Founders, W. Gibson Bott, and C. H. Cox acknowledged the toast of the Past Masters. Bro. Brooke said it was with mingled feelings that he attended the annual anniversaries. Many changes had taken place during the last fifteen years, and only Bro. Dewsnap and himself remained of all the Founders. He could not help looking back to the time when a small band of Brothers started the Lodge, and he was sure no one then had any idea that it would reach such great dimensions. He was very proud to witness its present success, and trusted it would always make progress. It was very gratifying to see such admirable working as Bro. Mussared had shown in the Lodge, and he was sure that Bro. Heinekey would follow in his footsteps.

Bros. J. Culver and J. W. Dewsnap responded for their respective offices, Bro. Dewsnap remarking that he would have vacated the Secretaryship, on account of his health, were it not for old associations, but as the W.M. had given him an able assistant in Bro. Jackson he hoped to pull through all right.

The toasts of the Masonic Charities, proposed by Bro. P.M. Cox, and the Officers completed the lengthy list, and the Brethren separated at a late hour.

An excellent musical programme was provided by Bro. Walter Perrins, who was assisted by Miss Emily Davies, Miss Teresa Kellaway, Bros. A. H. Gee, and George F. Smith.

Bro. Charles Heinekey, the new Worshipful Master of the Lodge, was born in July 1861, at Brixton, and was initiated in the Lodge over which he now presides, in September 1882. As stated in the above report he has worked through the different Offices of the Lodge, and given evidence in years gone by of his desire to advance the interests of the Craft of which he is now one of the heads.

o o o

DUKE OF ALBANY LODGE, No. 1963.

A MEETING was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, on Thursday, 3rd inst., under the presidency of Bro. C. James W.M.

The Lodge having been opened, the W.M. initiated Mr. Thomas Pink, who had been proposed by Bro. R. C. Davis P.M. Treasurer, and seconded by Bro. H. S. Bunnett. The ceremony was performed in an impressive manner, and, on its conclusion, some temporary relief having been voted, and other business transacted, the Brethren dined in the lower hall.

In proposing the toast of the Initiate, the W.M. expressed his gratification that such a candidate should have been added to the Craft. Bro. Thomas Pink responded in an excellently conceived speech.

In connection with the Lodge is a fund from which sums of £5 5s are periodically devoted to the Masonic charities, the vote which the sum carries being balloted for by the contributors to the fund. A ballot was taken for a vote thus obtained, which fell to Bro. C. James W.M.

o o o

SIR WALTER ST. JOHN LODGE, No. 2513.

THIS Lodge was consecrated two years ago, and has already taken a high place among the South London Lodges, for the exemplification of sound ritual, as well as being financially sound, and having excellent esprit de corps.

The annual installation took place on Saturday, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, when there were present Bros. J. J. White W.M., J. Moore Smith S.W. W.M.-elect, R. F. Macdonald J.W., Rev. St. Clare Hill, M.A., Sec., G. Collar, B.A., B.Sc., S.D., T. F. G. Dexter, B.A., B.Sc., J.D., A. C. Rogers I.G., J. B. Dixon D.C., W. H. Coleman A.D.C., L. T. Mallinson Std., G. O. H. Smails Std., H. Cavill, H. Madden, T. W. Deason, A. H. Hill, T. Haydock, E. Grimshaw, J. Charlesworth, R. J. Voisey P.M. P.Z., V. T. Murché P.M. P.Z., and other members.

The Visitors included Bros. Ven. Archdeacon Stevens G.Chap., James Bolton G.Purst., R. C. Davis P.M. 2266, Osterstock P.M. 2266, Charlie Woods W.M. 2345, Elgar S.W. W.M.-elect 1329, Fred Stephens P.M., Pownall, Hastwell, W. M. Mallinson, A. Mallinson, Chiverall, and many others.

After the minutes had been read, the W.M. impressively passed Bro. T. Charlesworth, and raised Bro. Grimshaw.

The report of the Audit Committee was received.

Bro. Deason was congratulated upon entering into the holy state of matrimony, receiving the best wishes of the Lodge.

Bro. Moore Smith was presented by Bro. Murché P.M. Treas., and installed in excellent style by Bro. J. J. White, after which the W.M. invested the following Officers: Bros. Macdonald S.W., Rev. St. Clare Hill J.W., Murché P.M. Treas., White I.P.M. Sec., Collar S.D., Dexter J.D., Rogers I.G., Dixon D.C., Colman A.D.C., Mallinson Std., Smails Std., Madden Org., and Whiteman Tyler.

The Brethren afterwards adjourned to a capital banquet, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

The musical arrangements both in the Lodge, and at the festive board were of a very pleasing character.

o o o

INSTRUCTION.

— o —

ROBERT BURNS LODGE, No. 25.

AT the Frascati, Oxford Street, on Tuesday, Bro. Truman W.M., Bilby S.W., Nickolls J.W., M. McVey S.D., Brady J.D., Williams I.G., Casely P.M. Sec., Mulvey P.M. Preceptor, Mart P.M. Deputy Preceptor, Blundell P.M. Treas., Bank, Cross, Ridgway, Brickdale, Watts, Cogliati, Sillitoe, Ellis, Roberts, Klein, Mullins, Drake, Barth, Wynman, and several others.

The Lodge was opened to the second degree and resumed to the first, when the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Scarlett acting as candidate. The W.M. afterwards rehearsed the second ceremony, with Bro. Cogliati as candidate. Bros. Fischer, Heardley, and Pinnell were elected members, and Bro. Bilby as W.M. for next meeting.

o o o

WESTBOURNE LODGE, No. 733.

AT the Oliver Arms, Westbourne Terrace North, Harrow Road, on Tuesday, Bro. T. Mogford W.M., G. D. Mogford S.W., W. Handover J.W., G. Weaver S.D., W. Faircloth P.M. J.D., C. Halston I.G., H. Dehane P.M. Preceptor, R. G. Rogers P.M. Secretary and Treasurer, Lewis, Wynman, and others.

The Lodge was opened to the second degree, when Bro. Dehane was entrusted, the ceremony of raising being afterwards rehearsed, he acting as candidate. On resumption to the first degree the W.M. invested his Officers.

Bro. G. D. Mogford was elected as president for the next meeting.

o o o

UPTON LODGE, No. 1228.

ON Monday, 14th inst., at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, Bro. Geo. Peters W.M., James Smith P.M. Preceptor, Henry Hyde S.W., E. M. Jeffery I.P.M. 1227 J.W., H. J. Rowberry S.D., H. T. Colton J.D., G. A. Fischer I.G., C. J. Free P.M. Treasurer, I. Isaacs, W. H. Toye P.M., and J. Wynman.

The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Smith candidate. Bro. Colton was subsequently examined, entrusted, and raised. Bro. Hyde was chosen W.M. for the next meeting.

o o o

HARROW LODGE, No. 1310.

AT the Waterloo Arms, High Street, Marylebone, on Friday, 11th inst., Bro. E. Lewis W.M., A. Weston S.W., Palmer J.W., W. Heardley S.D., J. W. Williams J.D., Wood P.M. Preceptor, Mason Sec., James Cooper I.G., Wynman, and several others.

After preliminaries Bro. Williams was examined, and the third degree was rehearsed, he acting as candidate. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. Weston W.M. of the Mother Lodge worked the second section of the Lecture. Bro. James Cooper was elected a member, and Bro. Weston W.M. for next meeting.

o o o

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE, No. 1524.

ON the 12th inst., at the Lord Napier, London Fields, Bro. Alfred Rush W.M., G. Edwards S.W., F. Islip J.W., J. Bunker Treas., F. Kebbell Sec., W. H. Caton P.M., P. Felthensal Org., Friedlander S.D., Captain Schlosshauer J.D., T. B. Frost I.G., Weight, Brooks, Bestow, Pearse, Frost, Baragwanath, Rogers, Whittemore, and Sexton.

The Lodge being opened Bro. Bunker P.M. spoke most feelingly of the loss the Lodge had sustained by the death of Bro. R. E. Fairclough. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, the W.M. giving the ancient charge, and the first section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. G. Edwards.

o o o

PROVINCIAL.

—:o:—

NEW FOREST LODGE, No. 319.

THERE was a large attendance at the meeting at Lymington, on Tuesday, 8th inst., when Bro. G. R. Masters S.W. was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Doman P.P.G.S.W.

A Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring W.M., in recognition of his able services during the past year, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the installing Master.

A banquet followed, when the best of good wishes for a successful year of office were expressed towards Bro. Masters.

o o o

ROYAL VICTORIA LODGE, No. 1013.

THE Worshipful Master-elect Bro. J. Buckingham Jones S.W. was duly installed into the chair at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, 2nd inst.

There was a good attendance of Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Lodge. The principal visitors were Bros. W. Goodacre P.G.S.B. Prov. Grand Secretary, John Armstrong P.P.S.G.W. Cheshire, Philip Armstrong P.S.G.D., R. Thorn J.W. 2042, W. Blake J.D. 1264, R. Brown Secretary 241, F. Minshull I.G. 1393, Chas. Reynolds P.M. 2156, John Jones 823, Rev. Dr. Hyde 1756, George Green 2042, and H. J. Kirby 2042.

Bro. J. B. Jones was presented by Bros. Wm. McWilliam, and T. P. Bithell Past Masters, and duly installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. W. H. Cooke P.M. D.C., in a most impressive manner. He regularly invested the Officers for the ensuing year.

Before the Lodge was closed, a very handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. George Proudman the retiring W.M., on behalf of the Brethren.

An excellent banquet was provided, the caterer being Bro. Jas. Casey. After the usual loyal toasts had been honoured, an enjoyable programme of vocal and instrumental music was provided by Bros. Chas. Reynolds P.M. 2156, Geo. Green, R. W. Pierpoint, Wm. Blake, E. Clayton, E. Besson, and R. Brown. Bro. R. Mountfield Organist presided at the pianoforte.

o o o

ELDON LODGE, No. 1755.

THERE was a large and influential gathering at the Masonic Rooms of the Royal Hotel, Portishead, on Saturday, the gathering including many visitors from the neighbouring Provinces, and from a distance. The special event was the installation of Bro. Alfred Jefferies S.W., which important ceremony was impressively performed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. R. C. Else P.G.D. England.

The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested his Officers as follow: Bros. F. G. Moore I.P.M., Thomas Turner S.W., J. W. H. Hall J.W., Rev. A. W. M. Weatherly P.M. Chaplain, J. R. Thebridge P.M. Treas., W. T. Shapland P.M. Sec., J. H. Stafford S.D., Edward Tedder J.D., C. L. Thomas P.M. D.C. (invested by deputy, being absent through recent bereavement), E. Davey P.M. Organist, Thos. Lowther I.G., J.W. Roberts and C. J. Tonkin Stewards, Frank Simpkins Tyler.

The usual points in the installation ceremony were ably and effectively heralded by the veteran Brother W. R. Maby, who has served the office of Grand Herald in the higher grades of Masonry.

On the proposition of the out-going W.M. Bro. F. G. Moore the sum of ten guineas was voted from the Lodge funds to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

Bro. W. H. Rice was unanimously chosen as delegate to the Charity Organisation Committee of the Province for the ensuing year.

The Lodge room was tastefully decorated with choice plants and shrubs, and the banquet table was ornamented with beautiful bouquets. The catering of Mrs. Boulter gave general satisfaction.

The W.M. Bro. A. Jefferies presided at the banquet, and was well supported by a number of Provincial Officers and Past Masters.

On the removal of the cloth the W.M. submitted the toast of the Queen and the Craft, which was well received, while that of the Officers of Grand Lodge was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Else.

The W.M. gave the toast of the Prov. G.M. the Rt. Hon. Viscount Dungarvan, the D.P.G.M. Bro. R. C. Else (Installing Master), and Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge Present and Past.

Bro. Else D.P.G.M. also replied to this sentiment, and assured those present that the W.M. had not said one word too much in behalf of their Prov. G.M., or the zeal and ability displayed by him in the execution of his arduous duties. He had on many occasions proved himself a thorough Mason, not in word only, but in deed also, and there was no doubt his efforts and example did much for the credit and advancement of Freemasonry in Somersetshire. Before resuming his seat, the Deputy took the opportunity of thanking those who had assisted him in the ceremony that afternoon. He thanked Bro. Tonkin who had acted as Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Davey who ably contributed as Organist, and that veteran of Masonic Heralds and Musicians Bro. W. R. Maby.

Bro. F. G. Moore had the pleasure of proposing the toast of the W.M., which was enthusiastically received. He said the W.M. was a good Mason, a sturdy friend, and a prince of good fellows. He had passed through every chair of the Lodge with credit to himself, satisfaction to the Brethren, and benefit to the Craft, and there was no doubt the Eldon Lodge would lose none of its prestige under his rule and during his reign.

The M.W. replied. Of all the difficulties he had had to meet in the course of his life he had had none more difficult than the present one, to adequately and sufficiently thank Bro. Moore for the way he had proposed the toast and the kind expressions he had used in so doing, and to thank the Brethren enough for the generous way in which they had received his name. The memories of such a kindly reception would remain and last as one of his sweetest recollections. He was indeed proud to be in the position to preside over them during the ensuing twelve months, and would do his very best to uphold the dignity and prestige of the Eldon Lodge. It was his earnest desire to do his duty in the high office, satisfactorily to all, and if a year hence they give him the same kind reception they had that evening, he should be more than satisfied. He begged them to believe that though he might be lacking in terms of expression, he was none the less hearty and sincere, and none the less appreciative of the honour and the kindness they had bestowed upon him.

Bro. Rice, in an amusing speech, proposed the health of the I.P.M., and drew a humorous comparison of his "quiet and contemplative" mood when buckling on the armour of office twelve months ago, and the joyous "frame of mind" which he found him in now, having handed over the cares and responsibilities to someone else. He had heard the charges read to the W.M. that afternoon, and he could honestly say that all those the I.P.M. had faithfully carried out.

Bro. Moore, in acknowledging the compliment so gracefully submitted, said that the success of his year was due in great measure to the work of his excellent Officers and to the help given by the Past Masters.

Bro. Turner S.W. proposed the Past Masters, and referred to the good qualities and good deeds of those Brethren, and drew particular attention to a recent disinterested and charitable action of one of their number.

The toast was spoken to in forcible reply by Bro. C. P. Billing P.M.

The W.M. proposed the Visiting Brethren, a toast he considered that required no words to commend itself to the Eldon Brethren, as they were never more happy than when they had plenty of visitors. They liked to hold out the right hand of good fellowship to members of other Lodges, and were always pleased to welcome them both at the Lodge working and the festive board. He was more than gratified and honoured by the company of so many distinguished visitors from Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, and Bristol Provinces, and need add nothing further except to hope that they had enjoyed their visit.

The toast was replied to by Bro. E. Gribble W.M. 68, E. Machon I.P.M. 68, Charlie Pfeiffer P.M. 1833 P.P.G.D. Somerset, and Bro. Biss 270.

The Charities was left in the hands of Bro. Shapland, who gave a large amount of information as regarded the good work carried on by the central Institutions, as well as the Lodge and private charities of the members.

Bro. Rice P.M., who had that day been re-elected delegate on the Charity Organisation Committee, spoke in reply and returned his thanks to the Brethren for the ready response he always met with, whether for the Institutions or any outside case that he might bring before them.

The Tyler's toast brought the list to a close.

The proceedings were greatly enhanced by the musical Brethren. Bros. J. H. Fulford and H. R. Shrapnall P.M. presided at the pianoforte with much ability, and some excellent harmony was contributed by the following Brethren: J. H. Stafford, Charlie Pfeiffer, J. W. H. Hall, Biss, A. Knee, W. T. Shapland, &c.

The Brethren separated rather before nine, after a very enjoyable and successful afternoon.

GRAYSTONE LODGE, No. 1915.

AT the annual Festival, held at Whitstable, on the 10th inst., Bro. R. T. Wheeler was installed as W.M., and appointed the following Officers: F. Gibbs S.W., M. Kemp J.W., Rev. H. M. Maugham, M.A., Chaplain, A. Anderson Treasurer, Sibert Saunders P.M. Sec., C. E. Monkly S.D., H. J. Ougham J.D., J. T. Reeves D.C., A. A. Kemp I.G., H. Hemsly Steward.

WHITWORTH LODGE, No. 1932.

THE annual meeting took place in the Masonic Hall, Dundas Street, Spennymoor, on Wednesday, 9th inst., when Bro. James Waite Rutter was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by Bro. Charles Scurr W.M., and Thomas Black I.P.M. The musical portion of the ceremony was admirably rendered by the Lodge choir, Brother F. Burnip officiating at the

organ. Owing to the recent death of Brother George Rutter, father of the W.M., the annual festival was postponed.

LONDONDERRY LODGE, No. 2039.

THE election meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Sunderland, on Monday, 7th inst., Bro. N. Lee W.M. in the chair.

Bro. T. E. Campbell S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, F. S. Cowper P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and J. C. Moor P.M. representative of the Lodge upon the Charities Committee of the Province. Bros. T. O. Todd and T. H. Meriton were elected as Auditors.

LONGSIGHT LODGE, No. 2464.

THE first meeting after the vacation was held at the Lodge rooms on the 2nd inst., Bro. W. Gadd W.M. The principal business of the evening was that of appointing Officers for the ensuing financial year, Bro. Ald. L. Higginbottom S.W. being chosen to succeed the present W.M.

After Lodge business the meeting took the form of a soiree, with a large attendance of members of the fair sex.

THE discovery that gold was to be found in British Guiana, which arouse out of the Venezuelan difficulty, is not nearly of so much commercial importance as the discovery that in French Guiana there is a vast forest of Balata trees. Balata is a species of India Rubber which is remarkable for its tenacity and durability, and it is peculiarly adapted for the making of tyres for cycles and motor cars, hence the value of the Balata forest. It may reasonably be asked how this find on French territory benefits the English markets? As a matter of fact an English Company, the Rubber Exploration Company, has secured the rights over this vast domain from the French Government. The Company might well drop the word Exploration in its title, seeing that it has already secured its ground of operations. The Rubber Exploration Company is not yet before the public, but seeing that it has this enormous and valuable property in its possession already, there is little doubt that its shares will be eagerly sought after as soon as the public have an opportunity of subscribing.

The Freemason's Chronicle.

A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence.

—:o:—

Published every Saturday, Price 3d.

—:o:—

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE will be forwarded direct from the Office, Fleet Works, Bulwer Road, New Barnet, on receipt of remittance for the amount.

The Terms of Subscription (payable in advance) are—

Twelve Months, post free £0 13 6

Postal Order to be made payable to W. W. MORGAN, at the New arnet Office. Cheques crossed "London and South Western Bank."

Scale of Charges for Advertisements.

Per Page £10 10 0

Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1s per line.

General Advertisements, Trade Announcements, &c., narrow columns, 5s per inch. News column Advertisements 1s per line. Special terms for a series of insertions or special positions on application.

The Theatres, &c.

Drury Lane.—7.30, The Duchess of Coolgardie.

Lyceum.—On Tuesday, at 8, Cymbeline.

Strand.—On Thursday, Teddy's wives.

St. James's.—On Tuesday, The prisoner of Zenda.

Globe.—8, The Muff of the Regiment. 9, Charley's Aunt. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.

Gaiety.—8.15, My Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Adelphi.—8, Boys Together.

Avenue.—8.15, Monte Carlo. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Shaftesbury.—8, The Little Genius. 10.30, La Goulue.

Duke of York's.—8, The Gay Parisienne. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Lyric.—8.15, The Sign of the Cross. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

Savoy.—7.30, Weather or No. 8.30, The Mikado. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Comedy.—Closed until end of September.

Criterion.—8, The Backslider. 8.20, Outward Bound. 8.45, A Blind Marriage. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Terry's.—8.20, The Man in the Street. 9, My Artful Valet. Matinée, to-day and Wednesday, 3.

Opera Comique.—8, Newmarket. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.

Garrick.—8, Lord Tom Noddy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Daly's.—8.15, The Geisha; A story of a Tea House. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Vaudeville.—8.15, Papa's wife. 9, A night out. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.

Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.

Princess's.—8, In sight of St. Paul's (last day). On Wednesday, Two little Vagabonds.

Parkhurst.—Popular companies and newest pieces, changed weekly.

Alhambra.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. 8.15, Irish Ballet Divertissement.

10, Rip Van Winkle. 9.30, The Animatographe.

Empire.—7.40, Variety Entertainment. New Ballet Divertissement, La Danse. Cinematographe. Second edition of Faust.

Palace.—8.0, Variety Entertainment, Tableaux Vivants, &c.

Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30.

Oxford.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

Olympia.—Grand Pleasure Gardens. Variety Concerts, &c.

Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily. Varieties, &c.

Royal Aquarium.—Open at 10; close at 11.30, Constant Amusement.

Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.30 also.

Mohawk Minstrels.—(Agricultural Hall.)—Daily.

Madame Tussaud's (Baker Street).—Open daily

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.

720 Panmure, Balham
901 City of London, Guildhall Tav.
2060 La France, Café Royal
61 Probity, Halifax
77 Freedom, Gravesend
85 Faithful, Harleston
89 Unanimity, Dukinfield
102 Unanimity, North Walsham
148 Lights, Warrington
236 York, York
248 True Love & Unity, Brixham
264 Nelson of the Nile, Batley
302 Hope, Bradford
307 Prince Frederick, Hebden Bridge
312 Lion, Whitby
359 Peace & Harmony, South'pton
377 Hope & Charity, Kidderminster
382 Royal Union, Uxbridge
388 Prudence, Halesworth
408 Three Graces, Haworth
424 Borough, Gateshead
433 Hope, Brightlingsea
455 Perseverance, Kettering
466 Merit, Stamford Baron
467 Tudor, Oldham
543 Cleveland, Stokesley
613 Unity, Southport
699 Roscawea, Chacewater
737 Wentworth, Wellingboro'
840 Scientific, Wolverton
872 Lewis, Whitehaven
900 St. George, Tewkesbury
925 Bedford, Birmingham
949 Williamson, Monkwearmouth
985 Alexandra, Sutton Bridge
986 Hesketh, Croston
1030 Egerton, Heaton Norris
1141 Mid-Sussex, Horsham
1146 De Moulham, Swanage
1168 Benevolence, Sherbourne
1199 Ariculture, Yatton
1208 Corinthian, Dover
1255 Dundas, Plymouth
1271 F'dship & Unity, Bradford-on-Avon
1272 Tregenna, St. Ives
1280 Walden, Saffron Walden
1286 Bayon, Market Rasen
1312 St. Mary, Bocking
1337 Anchor, Northallerton
1443 Salem, Dawlish
1477 Sir Watkin, Mold
1486 Duncombe, Kingsbridge
1502 Israel, Liverpool
1542 Legiolum, Castleford
1575 Clive, Drayton
1600 Hamilton, Alford
1631 St. Andrew, Gorleston
1674 Carodoc, Rhyl
1814 Worsley, Worsley
1895 Thames, Henley
1909 Carnarvon, Nottingham
1977 Blackwater, Maldon
2069 Prudence, Leeds
2074 St. Clare, Landport
2081 Golden Fleece, Leicester
2114 Prudence, Liverpool
2187 Adur, Henfield
2208 Horsa, Bournemouth
2289 Blundellsands, Great Crosby
2295 Searisbrick, Southport
2327 St. Oswin, North Shields
2349 West Lanc. Century, Blackpool
2425 Ecclesburne, Duffield
2482 Duchess of York, Manchester
2557 Temperance, Newcastle-on-T.

Tuesday.

186 Industry, Freemasons'-hall
1158 Southern Star, Southwark
1441 Ivy, Camberwell
126 Silent Temple, Burnley
253 Tyrian, Derby
293 King Friends, Nantwich
373 Socrates, Huntingdon
378 Loyal Welsh, Pembroke Dock
386 Unity, Wareham
448 St. James, Halifax
564 Stability, Stourbridge
779 Ferrers & Ivanhoe, Ashby'Z'ch
943 Sincerity, Norwich
954 St. Aubyn, Devonport
1016 Elkington, Birmingham
1028 Royal Alfred, Alfreton
1052 Callander, Manchester
1266 Honour & Friendship, Blandford
1390 Whitwell, Millon
1522 Olicana, Ilkley

1536 United Military, Plumstead
1580 Cranbourne, Hatfield
1587 St. Giles, Cheadle
1609 Liverpool Dramatic, Liverpool
1675 Ancient Briton, Liverpool
1834 Duke of Connaught, Landport
2025 St. George, Plymouth
2404 Lord Charles Beresford, Ch't'm.

Wednesday.

Board of Benevolence at 5.
753 Prince Fred. Will'm., Frascati
754 High Cross, Tottenham
1017 Montefiore, Café Royal
1056 Victoria, Guildhall Tavern
1360 Royal Arthur, Wimbledon
2332 Borough of G'n'wich, E. G'wich
2562 Papyrus, Criterion
32 St. Geo. Harmony, Liverpool
82 Foundation, Cheltenham
117 Salopian of Charity, Shrewsbury
128 Prince Edwin, Bury
220 Harmony, Garston
257 Phoenix, Portsmouth
290 Huddersfield, Huddersfield
372 Harmony, Budleigh Salterton
387 Airedale, Shipley
533 Eaton, Congleton
555 Fidelity, Framlingham
606 Segontium, Caernarvon
724 Derby, Liverpool
750 Friendship, Cleckheaton
1024 St. Peter, Maldon
1039 St. John, Lichfield
1343 Saint John, Grays
1403 West Lancashire, Ormskirk
1520 Earl Shrewsbury, Cannock
1529 Duke of Cornwall, St. Columb
1543 Rosslyn, Dunmow
1544 Mount Edgecumbe, Camborne
1633 Avon, Manchester
1645 Colne Valley, Slaithwaite
1723 St. George, Bolton
1734 Trinity, Rayleigh
1756 Kirkdale, Liverpool
1760 Leopold, Scarborough
1808 Suffield, North Walsham
1809 Fidelis, Guernsey
1868 Unity, Oldham
1967 Beacon Court, New Brompton
2019 Crook, Crook
2120 Abbey, Chertsey
2149 Gordon, Hanley
2216 Egerton, Swinton
2259 St. Nicholas, Thorne
2320 St. Martin, Castleton
2357 Barry, Cadoxton
2385 Godson, Oldbury
2444 Noel, Kingston-on-Thames
2448 Bradstow, Broadstairs
2583 St. Thomas, Tibshelf

Thursday.

General Committee, Girls School, 5
65 Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern
507 United Pilgrims, Southwark
766 William Preston, Cannon-st. H.
1421 Langthorne, Ilford
1524 Duke of Connaught, Anderton's
1563 City of Westminster, Café Royal
1658 Skelmersdale, Camberwell
1816 Victoria Park, London Tavern
2192 Highbury, Highbury
2264 Clough, Cannon Street Hotel
2432 Sir W. Raleigh, Inns of C't Ho
39 St. John Baptist, Exeter
78 Imperial George, Middleton
111 Restoration, Darlington
129 Union, Kendal
132 Unity, Ringwood
202 Friendship, Devonport
215 Commerce, Haslingden
324 Moira, Stalybridge
346 United Brethren, Blackburn
348 St. John, Bolton
361 Industry, Hyde
410 Grove, Ewell
449 Cecil, Hitchin
450 Cornubian, Hayle
456 Foresters, Uttroter
469 Hundred of Elloe, Spalding
472 F'ship & Sincerity, Shaftesbury
475 Bed. St. John Bap., Luton
590 La Cesaree, Jersey
594 Downshire, Liverpool
625 Devonshire, Glossop
636 De Ogle, Morpeth
707 St. Mary, Bridport
772 Pilgrim, Glastonbury
787 Beaureper, Belper
807 Cabbell, Norwich
904 Phoenix, Rotherham
935 Harmony, Salford
966 St. Edward, Leek
971 Trafalgar, Batley
1032 Townley Parker, Chorley

1151 St. Andrew, Tywardreath
1163 Emulation, Birmingham
1166 Clarendon, Hyde
1313 Fermor, Southport
1322 Waverley, Ashton-under-Lyne
1345 Victoria, Eccles
1392 Egerton, Bury
1404 Saint Vincent, Bristol
1418 Fraternity, Stockton-on-Tees
1437 Liberty of Havering, Romford
1505 Emulation, Liverpool
1514 Thornhill, Huddersfield
1519 Albert Edward, Clay'n-le-Moors
1578 Merlin, Pontypridd
1626 Hotspur, Newcastle-on-Tyne
1705 Prince of Wales, Gosport
1817 St. Andrew, Shoburness
1957 Grove, Hazel Grove
1971 Ald'shot, Army & Navy, A'shot.
2131 Brownlow, Ellesmere
2184 Royal Vict. Jubilee, Rainham
2189 Ashburton, Ashburton
2214 Josiah Wedgewood, Etruria
2215 Anfield, Anfield
2263 St. Leonards, Sheffield
2269 Peace, Wigan
2335 Cycling and Athletic, Liverpool
2375 Hilbre, Hoylake
2387 Manchester Dramatic, M'chester
2418 Hedworth, South Shields
2462 Clarence, West Hartlepool
2463 Bootle-Wilbraham, Knotty Ash
2474 Hatherton, Walsall

Friday.

Council Boys School, Freemasons' Hall, 4
602 North York, Middlesbrough
810 Craven, Skipton
1303 Pelham, Lewes
1385 Gladsmuir, Barnet
1391 Commercial, Leicester
1435 Annesley, Nottingham
1712 St. John, Newcastle-on-Tyne
1822 St. Quintin, Cowbridge
2380 Beneventa, Daventry
2415 Tristram, Shildon
2431 Kingsley, Northampton

Saturday.

1679 Henry Muggeridge, Anderton's
2472 Walthamstow, Walthamstow
1462 Wharnccliffe, Penistone
1531 Chislehurst, Chislehurst
1579 St. James, Enfield
1851 Ewell, Kingston
1965 Eastes, Bromley
1982 Greenwood, Sutton
2048 Henry Levander, Harrow S't'n.
2087 Electric, Hampton Court
2309 Christopher, Eton
2353 Broxbourne, New Barnet
2381 Bushey Park, Hampton Court
2421 Carrington, Amersham
2460 Ascot, Ascot

ENTERTAINMENT NOTES.

—: o:—

THE theatre at King William Street, Charing Cross, so long associated with Bro. John L. Toole, is now in course of demolition.

Drury Lane.—Re-opens this evening under the management of Bro. John Coleman, with a new drama by Messrs. Euston Leigh and Cyril Clare, entitled, "The Duchess of Coolgardie." The entire receipts of the opening night will be devoted to the fund being raised for a memorial to our late Bro. Sir Augustus Harris, which now reaches the sum of £1,300.

Parkhurst.—On Monday next the first performance on any stage will be given here of the new and original musical comedy entitled "En Route," libretto by Cecil Maxwell (the nom de Theatre of a gentleman well known to the literary world), and the music by Ernest Bucalossi. Nothing has been spared to make this attraction a decided success. The company will include Mr. Sam Wilkinson, Mr. Richard Temple, jun., Mr. Herbert Shelly, and that droll comedian, Mr. A. E. Chapman.

Weaver's Depository.

PERSONAL

SUPERVISION

GIVEN.



FROM 1/6 PER HOUR.

ESTIMATES FREE.

8 Carlton Terrace, Harrow Rd., W.

Fifth Year of Publication.

"THE MINSTREL."

5s. a Year Post Free.

SIXPENCE.

5s. a Year Post Free.

Has already published over 600 Portraits of
MASONS, POETS, MUSICIANS.

"THE MINSTREL" AGENCY

Provides the BEST ENTERTAINMENTS for Dinners in
London and in the Country.

Terms lower than any other Agency.

Address:—The Manager of "The Minstrel," 115 Fleet Street, London.

Just Published, 18mo., Wrappers, 1/-

A SMALL and reliable pocket LEXICON of FREEMASONRY, would be of value to young Masons, giving full information on matters connected with the Ritual and Customs of the Order; with this view it has been compiled and revised by W. J. Morris.

12mo., blue cloth, red edges, 5/-

TEXT BOOK OF FREEMASONRY, complete handbook of Instruction to all workings in the various Mysteries and Ceremonies of Craft Masonry, &c., &c. Ditto, on thin paper, in leather pocket style.

REEVES AND TURNER, 5 Wellington Street, Strand, London.