

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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OUR VIEWS OF THE BOYS REMOVAL.

AS we live in a glass house we must not throw stones—at least such is the dictum of our very good companion in the Masonic press of this country; but as we are troubled, or perhaps we should rather say blessed, with a tolerably thick skin we are not terribly alarmed at the risk we run from the few stones that fall our way. Any damage that may happen to our abode we shall no doubt be able to put right, and we hope those we are accused of throwing stones at will be equally successful in keeping a sound habitation about them.

One great drawback in connection with Masonic journalism, although we do not know it is an evil wholly unknown elsewhere, is the absurd way in which those who do not agree with another writer fly off at a tangent and introduce personalities, a course which, it seems to us, is evidence of weakness, for anyone with a good case can generally adduce arguments far more weighty than picking holes in a contemporary's work. On that account we do not intend to upset ourselves because our printer happened to transpose two vowels in a recent issue, preferring rather to draw the "veil" of sympathy over the many like errors that have occurred in the pages of our critical contemporary—in common with most other papers—in days gone by, and offer up a silent prayer that its editor may find something better to do in the future than give his readers cheap lessons in grammatical construction, at the expense of old friends.

What really does concern us is the fact that our remarks, and the remarks of others who are not yet converted to the same views as are entertained by the Board of Management of the Boys School, in regard to its removal, are not taken in good part, and treated, as they are intended, in thorough good faith. We do not believe there is a single person who wishes the School to be continued at Wood Green if it can be shown to be desirable to remove it, but there are many who are not yet convinced on that point, and they have a perfect right to ask for fuller details.

Whether they will get the information or not is quite another question. We fully expect to see the removal scheme carried out in spite of any remonstrances that are uttered, but we cannot see much harm is being done by asking the Board of Management to carefully consider the matter from every point of view, or in criticising what they publish to their constituents as their plan of operations, which, we may here repeat, is far from convincing—or even explanatory.

In regard to our view of the loss that will accrue to the Institution by the realisation of its property at Wood Green, we may be as ignorant as our contemporary makes out, and as ready to "assume the truth of a statement without apparently making the slightest attempt to test its accuracy," as he imagines, but we do not think such is the case, and this is probably proved by our expressions of opinion months back, when we argued that the loss—or shall we call it the difference—on realisation might clear itself in a very few years, by the annual saving on each boy maintained in the new School.

Surely we committed no crime when we regretted the Board of Management had not thought it worth while to show by a few figures what the estimated saving would be.

The removal of the Boys School will probably prove the greatest question of the next ten years in Masonic Charity matters, and it will not be advanced, or the general prosperity of the Institution furthered, by outbursts of spite or temper. We are anxious to do all in our power to popularise the Charities of the Order, but we do not intend to descend to the vulgar Masonic practice of back scrubbing those in command in order to bring this about. We prefer to express our own views, even though by so doing we may expose our ignorance, rather than play the part of a mere puppet, without the courage of an opinion, and ready for anyone to manipulate as he chooses. May difference of opinion never alter friendship.

NORFOLK.

THERE is to be a special meeting of the Grand Lodge of this Province on Wednesday, 7th prox., at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, at 3 p.m., when, as already stated in our columns, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will be among the visitors to the city, and will take part in the Masonic proceedings, the Grand Master evincing a personal interest in the presentation to the Lodge of the bust of the Provincial Grand Master Lord Suffield. The Prince will be received at the entrance of the Hall by a number of special Stewards, of whom Lord Amhurst of Hackney will be chief, and will be entertained during his stay at Norwich by Lord Suffield, at the County Club.

SOMERSET.

ON Thursday, 17th inst., the Provincial Grand Chapter met at the Masonic Hall, Frome, for the first time since the creation of the Dungarvan Chapter, No. 973. The Grand Superintendent Comp. R. C. Else P.G.S.B. presided.

Comp. Colonel Long P.G.H. Som. was appointed to the second chair, and Comp. A. G. Hayman to the third. Comp. H. Watts P.Z. was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Comp. Noke P.Z. appointed Scribe E. The customary banquet followed, and was well attended.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, in the Public Hall, Worcester, under the banner of Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 529, by direction and under the presidency of Bro. A. F. Godson, M.A., M.P., P.G.D. Eng. P.P.S.G.W. Prov. Grand Master.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from the Earl of Lathom, the Provincial Grand Masters and Deputy-Grand Masters of Warwickshire, Staffordshire, Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire, Brother E. Letchworth Grand Secretary, and Bro. W. E. Walker.

A Craft Lodge was opened in the three degrees by the Worshipful Master of the Semper Fidelis Lodge Bro. W. E. Williams, after which the Prov. Grand Master and his Officers entered the Lodge and were received with customary honours. The muster roll was called, which showed that 180 Brethren were present.

The Acting Provincial Grand Secretary Bro. Page reported that the returns for the year showed that there were 589 Brethren in the Province, being an increase of 43 as compared

with the previous year. There had been 53 initiations, 25 joinings, and 35 resignations.

The Worshipful Masters of the various Lodges submitted reports of the work done, and of the financial position of the respective Lodges, all of which were considered to be satisfactory.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer's statement was presented. Bro. A. B. Rowe was elected Provincial Grand Treasurer, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to the retiring Treasurer Bro. T. Arter, the Provincial Grand Master paying him a high compliment for the zealous and efficient manner in which he had performed the duties.

The report of the Charity and Benevolent Committee showed that the total amount of subscriptions to the fund for the past year was £653, and the hope was expressed that each Brother in the Province would deem it his duty to subscribe. Bro. Page was unanimously re-elected Secretary to the Charity Committee.

Bro. T. B. Arter reported that £166 4s 6d had been subscribed to the fund recently raised by the Lechmere Memorial Committee.

The Provincial Grand Master said it was originally intended that a brass should be placed in the Cathedral in memory of the late Provincial Grand Master Sir Edmund Lechmere, but a difficulty had arisen, the design had been abandoned, and it had been decided to additionally subscribe to the charities. He proposed that twenty-five guineas be voted from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge towards a Lechmere memorial donation to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master said he should like to see the sum raised to fifty guineas, and the Provincial Grand Master concurred, but it was pointed out that the sum could not be increased without notice, and the Provincial Grand Master's proposition was carried, notice being given of a further proposal at the next Provincial Grand Lodge.

It was resolved that £20 per annum be subscribed to the Library and Museum Committee, who should be authorised to enter into an arrangement with the Worcester Masonic Buildings Company, Limited, for the use of suitable premises for the care of the library and museum.

The Provincial Grand Master appointed and invested his Officers as follow:—

Bro. T. R. Arter 2034	-	-	-	Senior Warden
G. H. Williamson 529	-	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. G. F. Hough 280 592	-	-	-	Chaplains
Rev. C. J. Sneath 2034	-	-	-	
A. Pearson 573	-	-	-	Registrar
A. B. Rowe 280	-	-	-	Treasurer
W. T. Page 529	-	-	-	Secretary
Walter Wood 564	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
J. Sharman Wood 280	-	-	-	Junior Deacon
H. Manley 2385	-	-	-	Superintendent of Works
J. Attwood 564	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
W. D. Richardson 498	-	-	-	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
E. Collens 560	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
J. Jones 252	-	-	-	Standard Bearers
J. E. Green 1874	-	-	-	
W. C. Box 529	-	-	-	Organist
J. Millington 529	-	-	-	Pursuivant
T. Eden 377	-	-	-	Assist. Pursuivant
G. A. Veal 529	-	-	-	Stewards.
T. G. Chaplin 529	-	-	-	
A. Usher 529	-	-	-	
F. Weldin 529	-	-	-	
R. E. Harlow 529	-	-	-	
J. E. Hogg	-	-	-	

It was resolved to hold next Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Moseley, under the banner of the Masefield Lodge.

The Provincial Grand Chaplain Rev. G. F. Hough, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Worcester, delivered an address, in which he congratulated the members of the Semper Fidelis Lodge upon its jubilee, and dwelt on the character, scope, and high responsibilities of the Craft.

A collection was made on behalf of the Masonic Charities, amounting to £10 10s, after which the Lodge was closed.

The Brethren adjourned to the Guildhall, where a banquet was provided. The Provincial Grand Master presided.

In proposing the toast of the Queen and the Craft, Bro. Godson said our beloved Queen was at present entertaining a very distinguished visitor; and it was an exceedingly anxious moment. The Queen had great influence, and their earnest prayer was that her Majesty would be successful in maintaining peace. Freemasons were a non-political body, and their great desire was for peace. He hoped that during the next few days the prayer of the Masonic Brethren would go up to the Great Architect of the Universe for the prevention of strife.

The Provincial Senior Warden proposed the health of the Provincial Grand Master, and referred to the good services he had for years rendered to Masonry in the Province of Worcester.

In responding, the Provincial Grand Master spoke of the able assistance rendered him by the Officers. Other toasts followed, interspersed with songs and recitations.—“Worcester Daily Times.”

CONSECRATION.

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TRUTH CHAPTER.

THE consecration of this Chapter, No. 1458, which has been in process of formation for several months past, was performed at the Mosley Hotel, Manchester, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., by Comp. Col. Le Gendre Starkie Grand Superintendent of East Lancashire. The ceremony, which was witnessed by nearly fifty Companions, was a very imposing one, the whole programme proceeding without a single hitch from beginning to the end. The Founders were:—Comps. Buckley Carr P.Prov.G. Dir. of Cer. 993 Z. designate, Robert Caldwell 325 H. designate, Councillor Saml. I. Mills 325 J. designate, Herbert H. Hellewell 993, Geo. T. O. Crocker 204, W. H. Worsley 815, H. G. Ward 993, Geo. Thos. Lenard 325, Alfred Hebden 645, Thomas Oldham 993, Leonard Jagger 323, Nelson J. Stokes 581.

That veteran in Masonic ritual Companion J. H. Sillitoe Prov.G.H. installed and addressed the three principal Officers named above, and Comp. Arthur H. Jefferis P.Z. 645 P.P.G.T. took this opportunity of saying a few words with regard to the first Principal. Having paid a well-deserved tribute to Comp. Carr's connection with Royal Arch Masonry, into which he had personally introduced him, he said that he could also praise his work in the Craft. When he himself was installed as Worshipful Master in his mother Lodge, the De Grey and Ripon, he had, in looking round for an eligible Officer to fill the post of Secretary, found one who, until then had occupied but a humble round of the ladder. But his confidence in Comp. Carr was such that he supported his appointment, and had since watched his Masonic career, his upward progress and success, with pleasure. He was proud of his friendship, which had been of over twenty years duration, and felt sure that the Companions of the Truth Chapter had made a most judicious selection in the principal Officer, and one they would never regret.

Comp. Buckley Carr as First Principal afterwards invested and addressed the following Officers: Comps. Herbert H. Hellewell 923 S.E., Geo. T. O. Crocker 204 S.N., W. H. Worsley 815 Treas. and Org., H. G. Ward 993 Prin. Soj., Geo. T. Lenard 325 1st Asst. Soj., Alfred Hebden 645 2nd Asst. Soj.

The address to the Companions generally was very effectively given by Comp. Sillitoe, and listened to in silence, gaining for him, at its conclusion, one long burst of applause.

The Provincial Grand Superintendent appended a crowning apogee to the ceremony by an address, which was freighted with generous words to the Founders. After commending their initial efforts, and praising their general work, he said no ceremony in which he had taken part had given him greater pleasure. The solemnisation of the ceremony had been rendered with decorum and propriety, accompanied by impressive musical surroundings which had added beauty to its sublime character.

Comp. Carr, on behalf of the members of the Chapter, proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Provincial Superintendent for the honour which he had conferred upon them by his presence and performance of the ceremonial that day. He added that the remarks of Col. Starkie precluded him from making any observations with reference to the impressive manner in which it was solemnised, but they would remember and associate with the Provincial Superintendent the personal kindness of his manner, and the solemnity of his working. They sincerely thanked him for his services, and hoped he would accept the thanks with the fervour given.

This was seconded by Comp. Mills, who expressed the greatest pleasure in being connected with the Chapter, adding that he would do all in his power to further its interests.

Comp. Starkie responded, saying he was extremely pleased to be with them, and to have performed the ceremony of consecrating a new Chapter. He was assured that Masonry was increasing in numbers and power, which fact evinced to him that the moral influence of its teaching was guiding the members to actions which were in perfect accord with its beautiful precepts.

After the ceremony, the Companions sat down to a sumptuous banquet, which had been provided in the large and handsome dining hall of the hotel by Bro. W. R. Cattnach, Dramatic Lodge, No. 2387. To the latter, who has only recently made his advent as a member of the Craft, and also into the hotel as proprietor, every praise is due for the urbanity of manner, and readiness with which he accommodated himself to the requirements of the day. To his better half, and likewise to the hotel staff both male and female, many thanks are due for the unstinted and eager assistance which they rendered to make the Companions comfortable, and the function generally the unqualified success which, on every hand, it was pronounced to be.

The loyal toasts were introduced in regular order by the three Principals respectively, after which Comp. Carr proposed

that of the Provincial Superintendent. He said Comp. Starkie was an enthusiastic Royal Arch Mason, who had added lustre and dignity to the ceremony just completed. His presence among them showed that he was ever ready to maintain the honour and glory of the Masonic cause.

Comp. Worsley proposed the health of Comps. J. H. Sillitoe Second Principal, James Heelis Third Principal, and the rest of the Provincial Officers present and past, to which the former very appropriately replied, giving some interesting details as to the number of installations performed by him since his connection with Freemasonry.

Comp. Jefferis then proposed the health of the M.E.Z., Principals, and Officers of the Truth Chapter. The remarks of Comp. Hellewell were exceedingly appropriate to the occasion, and we have selected them as being typical of the Officers' responses. He said, "I desire to thank you for the special mention of my name as one to respond to the toast of the Officers of the Truth Chapter, No. 1458. This is the first consecration ceremony of a Royal Arch Chapter that I, as well as many of the Founders and Officers, have had the pleasure of witnessing, and we have been very much interested in the beautiful allegorical and symbolical references throughout the whole ceremony, performed in such an impressive manner by our Provincial Superintendent and his assistant Officers. I can assure you it is very gratifying to the Officers and Founders of Truth Chapter to observe so many distinguished Companions among us this evening, which seems to stimulate and encourage us in the hope of a successful career in the noble object which we have in view—to promote and diffuse the principles of Royal Arch Masonry in an additional Chapter, in the jurisdiction of our M.E. Grand Superintendent and under his control. In conclusion, I thank you for the honour of being appointed the first Scribe E. of the Truth Chapter, and shall endeavour to fulfil the duties of the position to the satisfaction of the Principals and Companions. I also thank you for the hearty manner in which you have received the toast of our health." Other toasts followed.

The proceedings were enlivened by the services of a glee party, consisting of Comps. Nelson J. Stokes, Ridsdale Bowley, R. Rudman, and Thos. Shorroek, who were under the able direction of Comp. L. H. Keay Prov.G.Org.

Besides those mentioned above, we noticed Comps. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds Past Prov. G.H., W. B. Akerman P.Z. 317 Prov. Gr. D.C., C. D. Cheetham P.Z. 993 P.P.G.D.C., J. S. Veevers P.G.T., W. Thornley P.Z. 210 P.P.A.S. J., W. R. Clayton P.Z. 42 P.P.G.S.W., Dr. Thos. D. Foreman P.Z. 210 P.P.G.D.C., J. W. Hulley P.Z. 268 P.G.A.S.B., W. F. Chambers P.Z. 210 P.G.D.R., Geo. Sam. Smith P.Z. 645 P.P.G.O., John Partington P.Z. 266 P.G.A.D.C., J. M. Williams P.Z. 935 P.G.S.B., Chas. Swinn P.Z. 204 P.P.G.S.B., John Marshall P.Z. 61 Z. 344 P.P.G.P.S. West Yorks P.G.P.S. E.L., James Newton P.Z. 37 P.G.S.E., J. W. Mellor P.Z. 277 P.G.S.B., Jas. Smallpage P.Z. 116 P.G.A.S., Clare Edgar Towell P.Z. 204, W. B. Russell P.Z. 204, and W. B. Midgley J. 1055.

NEW HALL AT PORTOBELLO.

AN interesting ceremony took place at Portobello, when the Grand Master of Scotland Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.P., formally inaugurated the new hall which the Brethren of Lodge No. 226 have erected in Tower Street. There was a large and representative gathering of the Craft, the company numbering close upon two hundred, and including a numerous representation of sister Lodges in the Province. The W.M. of the Lodge Bro. John Borthwick jun. gave a brief sketch of the steps that had led them to remove the Lodge from licensed premises, and erect a hall of their own.

The Grand Master of Scotland, in formally inaugurating the new hall, said there was always something invidious in advising anyone to get out of comfortable quarters as soon as possible; but when, on his last visit to the Lodge, he urged them to change their quarters, it was not because he meant any reflection on the hotel in which they were then located, but because of the belief, which he held strongly, that a Lodge should meet in its separate habitation rather than in any hired quarters. He rejoiced that that inaugural ceremony had occurred while he was still holding his present high office in Grand Lodge, and he was also glad that the same R.W.M. who had heard him express the opinion that they should change their quarters was still in the chair on an occasion of so much importance in the history of the Lodge. Their energetic Secretary Bro. Macgillivray had penned a most interesting narrative of the progress of the Lodge, and he thought it was no ordinary compliment to the Masonic Craft that he should be able to say that the records of the Lodge had assisted the compilation of the local records of Portobello, because that showed, not only the important part played by the Masonic Craft in the life of the town, but also the trustworthi-

ness of the records of the Lodge. The Lodge was by no means a new one, for No. 226 was high on a list of nearly 900 Scottish Lodges. The first important ceremony in which it took part was in October 1808, on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the first place of worship in Portobello. Like other Lodges, and like most individuals, it had had its vicissitudes and its financial troubles, and it had for a period been dormant; but that was an old story. He sometimes thought it was more creditable that a Lodge should have been revived than that a Lodge should have been created, because a Lodge was occasionally created by the efforts of a few, and had not a lengthened or prosperous career; but when a Lodge had had a temporary eclipse and was revived and shone forth again, it was a positive testimony to the vitality of the Masonic Craft in the locality. From 1850 onwards the Lodge had flourished, and it had continued to do so down to the present time. In 1862 the then Grand Master, the Duke of Atholl, laid the foundation stone of the Town Hall, and the Lodge was then in a flourishing condition. It was a curious circumstance that the cradle of Masonry in Portobello should have been Tower Street, and that now, after that lapse of time, the Lodge should find its habitation in the same street. The erection of that beautiful, spacious Lodge room marked not only a prosperous epoch in local Masonry, but it was an event in the Province, and also an event of interest to the Grand Lodge. He had noticed that the Lodge had always been celebrated for its social qualities, but it was always mentioned that it conducted its social festivities with "dignity and decorum." He did not know why that should have been always stated, because it looked as if it were sometimes the other way, but at any rate it was the character which the Lodge had to maintain, because they could not fall below the standard of their old records. They knew that in former times these festivities were carried on to a greater extent than now. He was old enough to remember scenes which did not now occur in decent society, and he therefore gathered from their records that Lodge Portobello had been before its time. He hailed with great satisfaction the erection and completion of that beautiful Lodge room, and he augured for Masonry in that district a very great increase of prosperity on account of their finding themselves in their new premises.

Bro. D. B. Lamb Chaplain of the Lodge at this stage presented the Lodge with a handsome chair for the use of the W.M. at Masonic meetings, and the Grand Master and W.M. Borthwick acknowledged the gift.

Later on, responding to the toast of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Master, Sir Charles Dalrymple said an occasion of that kind was one of the red-letter days of the Craft, because he regarded it as an occasion of great interest and importance in the life of a Lodge. As Grand Lodge desired the welfare of all the daughter Lodges in the country, such a start as they had made in Portobello could not but be a matter of rejoicing.—"Scotsman."

NEW HALL AT TRURO.

THE inauguration ceremony of opening the new and commodious rooms in connection with the Fortitude Lodge, No. 131, took place on Tuesday, 8th inst., under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. Clark, who was supported by a large board of Past Masters of 131, and a considerable number of visiting Brethren.

After the Lodge meeting, a capital spread was provided in the spacious ante-room, and there were afterwards speeches, songs, recitations, &c.

The Worshipful Master and Bro. George, the architect, were warmly congratulated on the convenience and excellency of the rooms, which in every way meet the requirements of the Lodge, and which will well compare in their suitability with any similar suite of rooms in the county. The Brethren of Fortitude can well be complimented on their possession, which, for completeness and accommodation, leaves nothing to be desired. It was suggested by Bro. Fraser-Frizell that the names of Bros. Clarke and W. J. George, with a record of the event, should be commemorated on the walls.—"Cornwall Gazette."

WHAT MASONRY HAS BEEN AND IS.

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

(Continued from page 135).

HERE we might leave the land of our fathers and follow on after those of our Brethren who, like Abraham, realised that the whole land was before them in which to seek an abiding

place, into which they have continued going until they have spread elsewhere over all the earth. But, after thousands of years are passed, the thought of the world is turned again as never before since the days of the lowly Nazarene, to the land of the Patriarch, Prophet and Christian, because of the supplicating cry to God from the widow and fatherless Armenians, to deliver them from the merciless persecutions of their idolatrous rulers and enemies. The Masonic heart has a special attachment to that land, where God has wrought such wondrous works; that home of marvelous events, which have been symbolized in a way to impress upon the mind in the most solemn manner the goodness, mercy and glory of our God, unto whom all Masons most humbly and reverently bow. We pause for a retrospective view of that country, once the scene of so much glory, which has become but a miserable skeleton of its former greatness, because of so much guilt and Moslem persecution.

Contemporaneously with the reign of Darius, and the rebuilding of the temple by the liberated captives, there was a civilisation growing up to the westward, with Athens as its centre, that in its achievements in the arts and sciences has perhaps no parallel in the history of the world, in which those principles or elements characteristic of Masonry exerted a most important influence. History affirms the existence of societies maintained in concealment, for the purpose of instruction in moral and scientific philosophy, wherein secrecy seems to have been necessary because of polytheistic antagonisms, that were prohibitive of any other course, enabling men to prove their moral and scientific capacity to travel and obtain the requisite wages for an honourable support for themselves and their families. Pythagoras was the founder of one of those secret societies that became very successful in its promotion of a knowledge of the arts, for which his enemies charged him with leading men into the mummeries of Freemasonry, which would indicate that they were then known by the name the society bears to-day. He tried to advance his own political fortunes by converting it into a political institution. This failed, and its members spread elsewhere after its dissolution. I cannot refrain from expressing the opinion that such a perversion of the purposes of Masonry of to-day would result in the speedy dissolution of the society that may attempt a departure from the landmarks erected for our guidance.

During the reign of Pericles these orders for secret instruction in the moral and mechanic arts probably achieved their greatest success. Previous to this, the Doric was the only distinct style of architecture. The Ionic and Corinthian were evolved in the regular order of an increasing skill to devise and ingenuity to construct, resulting from the training of masters in the various requirements of the builder's art. Athens became the wonder of the world for perfect beauty of invention and architectural construction, which has probably never since been excelled. But the blighting curse of a personal and Godless ambition devastated and ruined that centre of learning.

The overthrow of Ancient Tyre, the founding of the city of Alexandria upon the southern shore of the Mediterranean, and the conquest of Persia by the Greeks under the command of Alexander, proved equally as destructive to the conquering nation as to the conquered, and Athens became remembered only for what it had been. The societies of artisans and builders were not destroyed. While the world was suffering from the sins of an Alexander, it was also enjoying the blessing of a Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, and other eminent teachers, who were fitting men for the responsibilities of life. Through the political vicissitudes of this period Alexandria became the centre of power and influence. Here the system of exclusive instruction in the arts and sciences again prevailed, and Alexandria became the architectural pride of her people. During this advance in political thought, the idea was matured of erecting a building for a library that should become the receptacle of the products of literature and the arts, of which seven hundred thousand volumes, charts and diagrams were gathered. But the political wheel of fortune elevates the Calif Omar, and Alexandria succumbs to his power. At the time of its final subjugation and destruction, under this Moslem potentate, the commanding officer asks, What shall be the fate of the library? The answer comes back from the Calif: If it be confirmatory of the Koran, it is superfluous; if not, it is pernicious; let it be burned. The writings of Euclid and the records of discoveries in the various sciences during preceeding centuries, were lost, and mankind was left to do again the work which others had so nobly done. What would we not give for a knowledge of the philosophical and scientific records they destroyed!

During the reign of the Cæsars the centre of power and political influence was transferred from Alexandria to Rome. Through all the profligacy of these times, we have record of the presence of the eminent defenders of the Mosaic law. Though forced into secrecy and silence, they continued to stand in defence of the Scriptural faith, that an innocent life, and an unflinching trust in the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, are the

first and highest duties of man. Thus we have entered upon a period of history wherein we stand amazed at the apparent brilliance and glory of its political conceptions and executions, only to realise that we have entered the moral and intellectual night of a thousand years' duration, in which the spirit of true love toward God and a fraternal fellowship with man was forced into the oblivion of secrecy and silence to await the dawning of a morning when the reign of a dogmatic and tyrannising theology over the domain of thought might be dispelled, and Truth, Liberty and Fraternity become re-established as the noblest heritage of man.

Long and fierce was the conflict between the political rulers, striving to make theology a handmaiden to politics, while every bishop was secretly plotting to make politics subservient to the Church. The priesthood gained such power and influence that it assumed exclusive rights as the custodians and dispensers of knowledge among the people. Societies for the promotion of the moral and mechanic arts were broken up and dispersed wherever they were discovered, and through all the realm every manuscript that could be seized was either confiscated or destroyed; private libraries and collections were burned by their possessors for fear of losing life if any were found with them. There it stands in the world's history, as a beacon light of warning to succeeding generations, as the time and place where government having no regard for standards of universal law went down, let us hope, utterly and for ever.

That Masonry had an existence during all these years no longer admits of a doubt. There were societies maintaining a steadfast adherence to the first enunciated principles of fraternity and devotion to law in their government, from the society of artificers that furnished the architect for the first great Masonic temple, to those offering protection and hospitality to the Crusaders. Such facts would seem to be sufficient justification for such a conclusion. Not even our religion, whatever form we may have chosen, has any greater claim to being an emanation from the expressed will of God, concerning man, which is to be found either under the old dispensation or the new; for there is no system or form of religion, except Hebrew and Buddhism, on earth to-day, that had an existence in the time of Christ, that is recognisable in any of its present forms or ceremonies. The preservation of the grand and noble principles of our Fraternity, by a few only, it may be, enables us to place it among those influences that preserved the Bible from destruction, and brought it unscathed through that awful period of human depravity to which we have referred. This thought finds corroboration in the fact that the Bible has been made the chief corner stone of every branch of the Fraternity, without which no legal convocation can be held.

Its adherents were true to those principles under the persecutions to which our ancient Brethren were subjected; true when nations were torn by turmoils from within and from without; true in times when bigotry, intolerance and autocratic insolence filled the thrones of the world.

These are conditions which Masonry has met by a steady adherence to that truth which is mighty above all things; and, though thrones may have crumbled into dust, and nations have withered and vanished because they disregarded the imperishable nature of the truth, Masonry survives to bless mankind. It has always been the purpose of Masonry to lead mankind in the way of being Brothers. In its character and influence it became a supporter of the reformation, contending for liberty of faith, and against an established priesthood assuming both civil and ecclesiastical authority, and, wherever greatest liberty consistent with moral and civil duty is found, Masonry was a pioneer. It is also true that wherever intolerance, bigotry or anarchy reigns, Masonry has its most implacable enemies. But we have no contention with these. The shafts of malice they may hurl will fall harmless at our feet, and the Fraternity will move steadily onward, extending its benign influence over the moral and fraternal realm of thought, and performing deeds of beneficence and mercy for the distressed of its own household.

The operative or mechanical society of which we obtain the earliest records evidently adopted the moral features characteristic of the present institution, in which quality has always been regarded of much greater importance than quantity, in the choice of material for its social structure. Being composed of erring humanity, we may sometimes be required to interpose the law for the correction of individual acts or circumstances whose only influence would lead toward disintegration and decay; but these are many times overcome by steady additions of new material, that in its character adds strength, dignity and beauty to its social structure, that has been and shall continue to be more enduring than the monuments and temples erected by our ancient Brothers.

It may be that the doors of our Lodges sometimes swing too easily inward, and the Fraternity become scarred by the introduction of material which is not in harmony with the builder's design; but the word of caution becomes more appropriate than

that of sentence for dereliction of duty even in this respect. No other society so widely extended among men obtains additions to its membership so largely from those actively engaged in the commercial and professional pursuits, where they are necessarily under the constant observation of a critical public. Any violation of obligation or disregard of fraternal duty becomes correspondingly conspicuous, and the ignorant and jealous will turn the finger of scorn upon us, no matter how high the character of the Order may be when measured by its moral, social and business integrity. The Fraternity is represented by its members in the highest departments of civil and social life. There is not a chair of state, judicial bench, university, college or sacred desk which has not been adorned by members of our Ancient and Honourable Fraternity, or found in them their most loyal and influential defenders.

Masonry has always been a leading force in the onward march of mankind toward the attainment of the greatest liberty for which we are individually or collectively fitted, by an acquired capacity for self-government within the demands of law, that "we shall neither covet nor do violence to that which is our neighbour's." A large majority of the signers of that matchless declaration, that all men are created free and equal, and shall be protected in the exercise of liberty of conscience in their devotions to Almighty God; and every one of the commissioned officers in command of the armies that enforced the recognition of that sacred doctrine, was a member of our noble Fraternity.

Membership can only be acquired through voluntary choice, and is continued according to the will and pleasure of each individual for himself. Notwithstanding these facts there is perhaps no other society in the world which has so small a percentage of its members assuming the relations of the non-affiliate. The society has an enviable record for its observance of the Abrahamic expression, "Let there be no strife between me and thee." An examination of the records of the courts of the world will furnish the evidence that its members seldom resort to the public tribunals for an adjustment of their disagreements.

How far, then, may the future of the Fraternity be predicable upon its past and present relations to the progress of mankind? Consider this structure in which we meet to-day as one of the evidences of the faith which is implanted in the breast of every Mason within the Grand Jurisdiction of Oregon, that the Order to which he belongs has a mission before it which will be grander in its fulfilment than any which has yet been accomplished. We have grandly maintained the reputation of our ancient Brethren for the erection of the most enduring temples, the evidence of which may be seen in its widows' and orphans' homes, asylums for the indigent Masons, and hospitals for the afflicted and the distressed. These abound all over our country, because integrity of financial management has gone hand in hand with the art to construct.

The Fraternity is not only devoted to the justice and nobility of the law upon which it is founded, for it is itself an exemplification of the fruits of the law, in its practice of deeds of beneficence and love toward the Brethren. The beautiful symbolisms of supporting the weak, lifting up the fallen, and whispering words of caution and counsel in the ears of the erring and unformed, are ineradicably stamped upon the true Mason's heart as ever-present duties, as long as suffering and weakness may afflict our friends and Brethren. But the frailties of human nature may too often become our only plea for suffering a Brother's life to run its course of affliction and distress, with no one to cheer him by uttered words of true friendship, which are sealed by ministering hands of sympathy. Do we not too often feel satisfied with strewing flowers upon the casket of a fallen Brother, and giving a hurried attendance in the last sad hour at his interment? Let us rather offer deeds of mercy, and bring choicest flowers before his dying hour, for there is within the breast of each of us an element from the Divine, which yearns for such expressions of fraternal affection and loving sympathy to smooth our pathways toward the tomb, before the spirit is summoned into the presence of the Life and Light from which it emanated. Masonry is founded upon the rock of God as the Author of Life and Light in the beginning, and it adheres with equal faith and trust in Him as the Conservator of time and circumstance that governs all conclusions. During the hours of calm meditation, the noblest ambitions of life are quickened by the thought of becoming partakers in the eternal rewards He has reserved for trusting pilgrims.

The unfolding of mysteries our faith lays hold upon will reveal that which is even beyond the power of man to conceive. Even in this life the utter helplessness and insignificance of man is most forcibly impressed, as we contrast man and his greatest deeds with the works of the Great Architect of the Universe. Go with me a half-hour's journey to yonder heights, within your own beautiful city park, and view the magnificent panorama of beauty spread before us. Within the limits of our finite vision

are many features of the greatest and most wonderful achievements of man, that in their activities and utilities are music to the ear and a pleasure to the sight. But our admiration is drawn from these as we contrast them with the pictures in nature, that command a deep and inexpressible rapture of soul, in which the realm of man becomes lost in contemplation of the marvellous works of God. The eye may range from the ocean's level up and away over hill and dale to the snow-crowned monuments that have been standing for unnumbered centuries, in testimony that His mercy, like His almighty works, endureth for ever. From this chosen altitude we may look upon the fertile valleys where the Grand Master Artist has pictured in silver threads the course of mighty streams, that in their unceasing flow bear upon their bosoms the commerce of an enterprising people, coming within the last half of the present century to occupy the land where for thousands of years there were no sounds but the "dashings of the rolling Oregon." In obedience to a Supreme and irrevocable law, from henceforth men will come and men will go, and the inspiring sounds of human activity will mingle with those of nature's triumphant choir. But our thought becomes absorbed in the mysteries of our own relation to an unseen and unknown future, for which the words of a lamented Brother will most aptly express what we feel:

"Life's shores are shifting Every year. And we are seaward drifting Every year. Old places changing, fret us; The living more forget us; There are fewer to regret us, Every year.	But a truer life draws nigher Every year. And its morning star climbs higher Every year. Earth's hold on us grows slighter, The heavy burdens lighter, And the dawn immortal brighter, Every year."
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—"Voice of Masonry."

At a meeting recently held it was unanimously resolved to re-open the Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27, at the Duval Restaurant (late Salutation Tavern), Newgate Street, E.C., on Tuesday evenings through the winter at 7 p.m. sharp, and the first meeting was fixed for Tuesday last. As this Lodge is held in such convenient, central and comfortable quarters, and as such special facilities are given for those Brethren requiring instruction, under the Preceptorship of our esteemed Brother Past Master A. Hill, it is earnestly hoped that many will support the Lodge by their attendance. The Secretary is Bro. H. J. Macfarlane P.M. 27.

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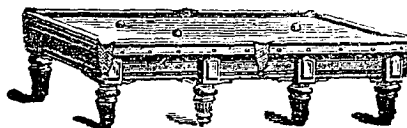
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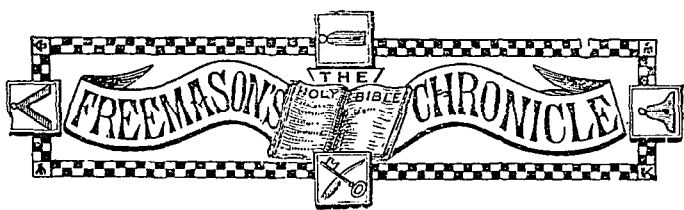
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SATURDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER 1896.

CHRISTIANITY AND FREEMASONRY.

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

SIR,—The arguments as to the incompatibility of Churchmanship and Masonry have practically dwindled down to two, discarding those that are obviously absurd or baseless. These two are (1) that it is irreligious; (2) that it is too religious.

As to the former, I am glad to have got “Architect” to explain that by “infidel” he only meant unbeliever in Christ as God. But, as the great majority of Masons in England are not only Christians, but Churchmen, one cannot accept for our country the Papal position that the Craft is to be excommunicated, or even tabooed for Catholics, as being infidel in any sense of the word. Where it has departed from the doctrinal landmarks of the Order the Pope rightly condemns it, and rightly, also, has England Masonically excommunicated the Grand Orient of France, which has become atheistic. But his Holiness might as well condemn all books because he has an “Index Expurgatorius” for those that are evil in his sight, as condemn Masonry everywhere because of the errors of Masonry somewhere. That Lodges in Italy and France are atheistic is, no doubt, largely due to Romans having made it impossible for members of their faith to be Masons. If

some of your correspondents had their way, it is conceivable that the Craft in England might soon suffer a similar lapse into atheism. Our Parliament is not irreligious; but it would speedily become so if Christians were told they must not become M.P.'s because Jews and agnostics are admitted. Were Christians and Churchmen only a minority in the Craft, yet it would be desirable for them to remain as a leaven; while they are its backbone no one but anti-Christ would profit by their withdrawal. And let it not be supposed that England, from a Masonic point view, is Athanasius “contra mundum.” The Roman countries in which Masonry has suffered by the general decay of any faith amongst men are the exceptions. The following authoritative statements of natural bodies may be of interest:—Portugal put out a manifesto in 1869 against the wholesale condemnation by the Pope, in which it said, “Freemasonry is neither a religious sect nor a political party. It claims no Divine origin, assumes not to usurp the prerogative of the Church or the offices of the ministry. It has no sympathy with that spirit which opposes or ridicules the Church, or seeks to exalt any society or system of philanthropy above religion.” And in 1878 the Grand Lodge League of Germany published certain resolutions, from which I quote: “The principles and the history of Freemasonry teach and testify to God. The Sacred Moral law of the Freemasons has its deepest and strongest root in God. Were Freemasonry to disown the idea of God, its ideal aspirations would lose their sustaining strength altogether and their highest aim, and would become untenable and impotent. In the name of the German Freemasons' Union, the German Grand Lodge Diet therefore expresses the conviction that any Freemasons' Lodge which disputes or denies the existence of God cannot be regarded as a regular and perfect Lodge, and that ‘Atheistical’ Freemasonry has altogether ceased to be Freemasonry.”

But the second class of objectors urge that Masonry is practically a religion with its own worship, and with prayers so defective or misdirected that members of the Catholic Church should abstain from it. And the name “Great Architect” is a stumbling block to some of your correspondents. Why? In the first place, it is only one of the names by which we approach or mention God, and you will see in the German extract given above it does not occur once, while “God” simply occurs thrice. And, in the next place, suppose we had a special Guild for shepherds and those interested in pastoral pursuits, might we not habitually use the term “The Great Shepherd?” Or would the Guild of St. Luke be wrong in having special prayers addressed to “The Great Physician?” But as a matter of fact, Masonry is not a religion; repudiates the idea of being such; but might possibly be forced into becoming some sort of a religion if Christians were forbidden, “more Vaticano,” to associate for the advancement of morality and philanthropy with those who were not prepared to accept the full faith of Christendom. And as to worship, I think it hardly correct to say that we have anything to do with it except when we use the exclamation, “All glory to the Most High!” One must distinguish between prayer and worship. The former we believe in and practice in our ceremonies with a regularity and reverence that many outside might copy with advantage. But to fulfil the higher duty of worship we go to our places of worship outside.

Is it wrong for those who differ in faith and worship yet to unite in prayer? Will the Chaplain of the House of Commons ask Nonconformists to withdraw before he offers prayer? Will they refuse to attend because their Chaplain believes more than they do? Here again comes the trail of the narrow spirit that is forcing men apart, and fights against all efforts to promote the Master's desire that all may be one. No doubt Rome thus acts—are we to copy her because she is Rome, or are we prepared to maintain that she is right? I lunched with a friend whose daughter had become a Roman. I said grace. The young lady, as she had been taught by her new teachers, ostentatiously refrained from the Amen, and then said her own grace to herself—using very likely the self-same words as I had. What surer way to get Masons not to pray than to refuse to pray with them, because their prayers contain no more dogma than the Lord's Prayer? Personally, I delight in the Athanasian Creed; but am I to deny the existence of faith in all who do not accept or use it, and still more am I not to associate or unite with them in such religious or even devotional acts as do not contain or require its recital? There is a deeper question underlying this discussion than many think. The salvation of the world, on man's part, seems to me to lie with Catholics who are catholic, and not with those who think so much of the big C, that they forget the utility and the necessity of the little c; and this present attack on Masonry is but one shaft of the volley that the Contractors discharge against the Expanders, the Exclude-all-you-cans against the Include-all-you-cans. While two-thirds of the world is non-Christian shall we habitually ignore, or habitually seek for, some common ground of Brotherhood, whence we may elevate their religion nearer to His full revelation? Masonry never can be anti-Christian, and “he that is not against us is for us” is a truth largely forgotten in these days. It was many years ago that in a Synod of the S. S. C. some clergy proposed a motion condemning Freemasonry on the lines of “Officriad's” letter to you. Though not a Mason then, in the spirit of justice I inquired into the subject as thoroughly as I could, and as a result I carried in that assembly of priests an amendment to the effect that we had no reason to oppose that which might be, and probably was in England, a great power making for righteousness. And twenty years ago in a sermon (now out of print) preached before that Society, and published by its request, I used the words that I may use again in this connexion, “Far truer Catholics should we be if we knew and loved more men who walk not *pari passu* by our side. Our zeal, our love, the outlook of our mind, would surely grow in depth as well as width by contact with the same virtues and powers in those who are not cast in the same mould. Need we no restraint again, no corrective to the very truths which seem distinctive of our mode of thought, that so the balance and analogy of faith may be maintained. Deep is the wisdom of the Persian sage, ‘If thou art a Mussulman, go stay with the Franks; if a Christian, join the Jews; if a Shiah, mix with the schismatics; whatever thy religion, associate with men of opposite persuasion.’” And I ended as I end now, “Oh, Brethren, let us on our knees before this throne of grace confess the failings of the past, and humbly pray that we may go forth more dowered with the hate of hate, the scorn of scorn, the love of love; more resolutely repressing the crochet, the party spirit, the suspicion, and the strife; with the olive branch, and not the branding-iron, in our hands; dictating not to God how He should work in the hearts of men, nor contracting our home the Church till it assumes the dimensions and fulfils the office of a coffin for the un-Catholic and narrow heart that has died by pride to love.”

J. W. HORSLEY.

St. Peter's Rectory, Walworth.

SIR,—A few days ago the newspapers reported that the Pope had made a statement to the effect that “Freemasonry was becoming more pernicious than ever” and a “menace both to Church and State.” He hopes that

'means might be found to combat and counteract the designs of these enemies of the Catholic Faith,' and of 'protecting the masses against the errors of a malignant association.'

If we may assume that the Holy Father has been correctly informed concerning the aims and objects of the people who on the Continent call themselves Freemasons, it is absolutely ludicrous to compare such persons with the members of the true Fraternity of Antient Freemasons which still exists in England and America.

At the same time it is sad to remember that this terrible degeneracy would probably have been averted if the authorities of the Catholic Church in France and Italy had not taken up such an unreasonable and unreasoning attitude towards a harmless and well-meaning society. And now we are asked to commit the same great mistake in the Church of England.

When we remember the enormous number of persons connected with English Freemasonry we must feel that this matter is of some importance; hence I venture to ask you, Sir, to devote a portion of your valuable space to printing the following extracts from the "Summary of the Ancient Charges" which are read to, and imposed upon, every member of the Order before he can become "a Ruler in the Craft." The italics in the following extract are mine:—

You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the Moral Law. You are to be a peaceable subject, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside. You promise not to be concerned in plots or conspiracies against Government, but patiently to submit to the decisions of the Supreme Legislature. . . . You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess. . . . You promise to *respect genuine and true Brethren* and to discountenance impostors and all *dissenters from the original plan* of Freemasonry.

Clearly the persons described by his Holiness the Pope of Rome are not "genuine and true Brethren," but are "dissenters from the original plan of Freemasonry." Your correspondents have described us as a "somewhat ludicrous society" with "childish secrets" entrusted "amidst farcical surroundings." Somewhat hard on us this—is it not? but better than being a "malignant association."

My experience in Freemasonry is very considerable, and leads me to believe that its ceremonial and symbolism have a good, rather than a bad effect, judged from the point of view of one who humbly tries to believe and practice all that the Catholic Church teaches. Certainly no Freemason who accepts the "Ancient Charges" can in any way be a "menace both to Church and State."

Doubtless the world could get on very well without Masonry, but again, I say, we have to face the fact that a very enormous number of the English speaking-peoples belong to this Society. Is it not unwise for Churchmen to stand aloof?

CATHOLIC.

SIR,—By far the most important question your discussion raises is this: Is it lawful or expedient for a priest to pledge himself to the rules of a secret society, the objects of which he is ignorant? By doing so he runs the risk of offending his conscience or perhaps violating his oath. However good the objects of the society may be (and we are assured by many excellent men that they are), still I would ask, Has a priest the right to pledge himself to a society outside the Church, and with whose objects he is unacquainted?

D. T. GLASSFORD.

4 Malcombe Place, Dorset Square, W.

11th September.

WORKS ON FREEMASONRY.

THE following letter appeared in last week's issue of the "Tablet":

SIR,—Some time ago I asked in your columns for information as to where I could get Leo Taxil's and similar works on Freemasonry. Several persons kindly answered my query, sending me lists of books, together with the publishers' addresses. It happens that Catholics abroad are about to hold an Anti-Masonic Congress, with the Pope's warm approval. At this Congress some startling revelations, calculated to stir the English Press, may be expected. It is a good time to publish the list of authors, and I beg your permission to do so in your widely-read journal.

The following books are by Leo Taxil; Letouzey and Ané, Editeurs, 17 Rue du Vieux Colombier, Paris:—"La Franc Maçonnerie Dévoilé et Expliquée," 2 fr. (popular). "Les Frères Trois Points," 7 fr.; more detailed, 26 fr. "Les Mystères de la Franc Maçonnerie," 10 fr. (large, detailed, and illustrated). "Le Culte Du Grand Architect" (suite aux "Frères Trois Points"). "Les Sœurs Magiques," 3 fr. 50 c. "Le Vatican et les Francs Magons," 1 f. (Papal Encyclicals). Same publishers:—"La Franc Maçonnerie sous la 3me. Republique," 2 vols. "Adrien Leroux ex-33me," 7 fr.; and "Cours de Maçonnerie pratique," 2 vols., 7 fr.; Par les Très Puissant Souverain Grand Commandeur. "La Femme et L'Enfant dans la Franc Maçonnerie Universelle," 8 fr.; A. C. De La Rive (Historical); Delhomme et Briguët, Editeurs, 13 Rue de L'Abbaye, Paris. Same publishers:—"Y a-t-il Des Femmes Dans L'Franc Maçonnerie," Leo Taxil, 3 fr. 50c. (early work). "Satan et Cie," par Paul Rosen, Inspecteur-General du 33me. "Le Diable au XIXe Siecle," par le Docteur Bataille, 2 vols., 12 fr. (important). "Revue Mensuelle" (suite de "Le Diable," &c.). Published by A. Pierret, 37 Rue Etienne Marcell, Libraire Antimagonnique, Paris. "L'Antimagon," bi-monthly periodical, 5 fr. per annum. "Memoires d'une Ex-Palladiste," by Diana Vaughan, monthly periodical, 1 fr. (most important). "Le 33e Crispi," Diana Vaughan.

Believe me, yours truly,

J. I. L. R.

The Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860, will resume its labours on Tuesday next, 29th inst., at the "Lord Truro," Dalston Lane, N.E., where meetings will be held every Tuesday, at 8 o'clock. The favour of the attendance of members, together with any Masonic friends, will be esteemed. The Preceptor is Bro. F. Dunstan P.M. 1326, and the Secretary Bro. William S. Harvey P.M. 1216. The nearest railway stations are Hackney Downs (G.E.R.) and Hackney or Dalston Junction (N.L.R.).

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE, No. 1563.

THERE was a large attendance on Thursday, at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on the occasion of the regular meeting of this Lodge, which was opened in due form by Bro. A. H. Marks W.M., who proceeded to submit the minutes of last meeting for confirmation, after which the ballot was taken for Bro. Ullman, as a joining member, and resulted in his favour.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. W. C. Smith I.P.M., who proceeded to entrust Bros. W. O. Harwood, J. Jackson, and O. Columb, who, having answered the usual questions, were subsequently raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

The W.M. resumed his chair, and putting the Lodge in the first degree, examined Bros. M. Goldner, C. Madden, J. Henry, S. Day, and R. W. Maney Lake who were regularly admitted as Fellow Crafts.

This work was followed by the initiation of Mr. John Andrews, Mr. Percy Hall, and Mr. Bertie Feldman. Great praise is due to the W.M. for his perfect working, and for the impressive manner in which he conferred the ceremonies of initiation and passing, while compliment may also be given to Bro. Smith I.P.M. for his working of the third degree.

A telegram was received and read in open Lodge from Bro. Martell S.W., regretting his absence on account of serious illness; sympathy was expressed with him, and, under the circumstances, Bro. Taylor J.W. was elected Worshipful Master for the year. The Treasurer and Tyler were re-elected, and four Brethren appointed to act as Auditors.

It was proposed by Bro. Randell Treas., and seconded by I.P.M. Smith, that a Past Master's jewel be presented to the Worshipful Master on his retirement from office, which was unanimously agreed to. After the transaction of other business, including the proposition of several new members, the Lodge was closed and the company adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent repast awaited them, the service and everything connected with the dinner being of the usual excellent character of this famous establishment.

The Brethren present included Bros. A. H. Marks W.M., John Swift acting S.W., M. M. Taylor J.W., E. Gindell S.D., H. Culliford J.D., Edward Rutherford I.G., W. C. Smith Sec., T. H. Beach Assist. Sec., S. M. Randell Treas., F. Chafford Org., R. Potter P.M. Tyler, H. J. Homer D.C., H. Fonseca P.M., J. Jacroon, John Swift, W. Harwood, F. Henry, A. Bacon, J. Townsend, H. Marks, G. Foster, Day, John B. Callaghan, and several others.

Amongst the visitors were Baron R. Lyons, Adelphi Lodge, New York; W. Cheesman P.M., James Dixon W.M. 1415, A. Reed, James Rowe 2191, E. Eade, A. Ashplant 179, G. King, J. Wynman, and others.

After the banquet the Master submitted the usual toasts, specially referring to the record reign of Her Majesty the Queen, in submitting the usual sentiment in her honour.

The health of the Worshipful Master was submitted by Bro. Fonseca P.M., who complimented the present ruler of the Lodge on the way in which he had carried out the duties, and his general success while in the chair.

The W.M. responded in brief and suitable terms, first thanking the I.P.M. for the able assistance he had rendered him during the past year, and expressing the hope that his term in the chair would prove a benefit to the Lodge. He had endeavoured to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors and had striven to further the unity of the City of Westminster members.

The toast of the I.P.M. was given from the chair, and duly responded to, the speaker referring to the fact that it was the last occasion on which he would have the opportunity of responding in that capacity.

The toast of the Initiates brought hearty responses from the newly admitted Brethren, and the joining member also expressed his gratification at joining the Lodge. The visitors were not forgotten, but were heartily welcomed from the chair, and duly acknowledged the toast. Other complimentary remarks followed, the usual list being brought to a conclusion by the Tyler.

An excellent musical programme was provided by Bro. Chafford Org., and several Brethren favoured the company with some capital songs and recitations. Miss Kemp sang "The Golden Lilies" and "The Carnival," not only with great taste and feeling, but with great power and effect, showing to a marked degree the evidence of refined training of a naturally sympathetic and melodious voice.

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LEWISHAM LODGE, No. 2579.

A MEETING was held at the Ladywell Parish Hall, on Saturday, 12th inst., a large number of Brethren and visitors being present. Bro. A. F. Mitchell was unanimously elected as a joining member. Bros. E. C. Cook, S. R. Cook, and R. R. Cook were raised to the degree of Master Mason, and Bros. T. Till and J. Hinds passed to the second degree. Mr. John McLanachan and Mr. Wm. Newby Pennington were unanimously elected and duly initiated by the W.M., in impressive manner. Bro. C. Lamb was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. H. Visger was as unanimously re-elected Treasurer; and Bro. J. S. Gregory as Tyler.

Bro. J. Coote presented, on behalf of Bro. Lusty (unavoidably absent), a handsome banner to the Lodge—for which the donor was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

On the motion of the W.M.—elect it was resolved that a Past Master's jewel shall be presented to the W.M. Bro. C. Sims, for his services.

Several new members having been proposed, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren sat down to dinner, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bros. H. T. Bridges, H. Visger, H. B. Brooman, S. R. Cook, R. R. Cook, C. Lamb, J. McLanachan, C. W. Wilkes Org., and E. Hall contributed to the musical programme. This Lodge, which was consecrated last October, now numbers fifty members, twenty-one initiates and eight joining members having been admitted during Bro. C. Sims' year of office as Master.

INSTRUCTION.

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ROBERT BURNS LODGE, No. 25.

ON Tuesday, at the Frascati, Oxford Street, Bro. Bilby W.M., Nicholls S.W., McVey J.W., Williams S.D., Phillips J.D., Raphael I.G., Mulvey P.M. Preceptor, Caseby P.M. Sec., Cross, Mullins, Ridgway, Pinnel, Mason, Vant, Day, Wynman, and others, to the number of thirty-six.

The W.M. commenced with the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Eardley candidate, after which the Lodge was called off and on. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Krellwitz, who opened in the second degree. Bro. Bilby was presented and took the obligation as W.M.-elect, was proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees, and Bro. Krellwitz delivered the three addresses. Bro. Nicholls will preside as W.M. next meeting.

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DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE, No. 1524.

ON the 19th inst., at the Lord Napier, London Fields, Bro. S. Edwards W.M., F. Islip S.W., Capt. Schlosshauer J.W., J. Bunker P.M. Treas., F. Kebbell Sec., Past Masters Bros. Hodges, Caton; Sexton S.D., Crispe J.D., Worthington I.G., Felthensal Org., Bishop, Philips, Weight, Rusby, Frost, Willsmer, Matthews, Fiestel, Rogers, Worthington, Hope, Meyer, Whitmore, Puck.

The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Philips as candidate. The lecture on the Tracing Board was most ably given by Bro. A. Rusby, and the first section of the lecture by Bro. Crispe and Brethren. Bro. P.M. Hodges kindly consented to fill the Preceptorship, which was vacant through the death of the late Bro. Fairclough.

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CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE, No. 1563.

AT the Café Royal, Regent Street, on Wednesday, Bro. Marks W.M., Swift S.W., Ashplant J.W., Wynman S.D., Beach J.D., Long I.G., Brander P.M. Treas., and some others.

The W.M. rehearsed the ceremonies of opening and closing in the three degrees. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Long candidate. Bro. Wynman was elected an Honorary Member, and acknowledged the compliment.

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KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767.

ON Tuesday, at Bro. H. F. Roberts's, Kensington Town Hall Tavern, High Street, Kensington, Bros. Pope W.M., Flack S.W., Ortnier J.W., R. H. Williams P.M. Dep. Preceptor, Cragg P.M. Secretary, Mailer S.D., Tompsett J.D., Poulton I.G., Thwaites and Liddiard Stewards, Saunders, Rumball, Seal, Hillier P.M., Herring, Facey, Davies, Hatt P.M., Hunt, Mackay P.M., Danby P.M., Wynman.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Rumball candidate. Bro. Flack was chosen W.M. for next meeting.

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BROMLEY ST. LEONARD LODGE, No. 1805.

AT the Bow Bells, Bow, E., on Wednesday, 16th inst., Bro. F. A. Slater W.M., W. Joss S.W., W. Boyce P.M. J.W., W. Bettinson S.D., W. Johnson I.G., J. Oxley Acting Preceptor, F. Thornton Sec., R. Alabaster, A. Silk, E. Silk, B. Johnson P.M.

Bro. Alabaster answered the questions leading to the second degree, was entrusted, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, he acting as candidate. He next proved his proficiency as a Craftsman, and the third ceremony was rehearsed. Lodge was closed down, and Bros. Alabaster, A. Silk and E. Silk, of Lodge 1472, were elected members. Bro. Joss was chosen to preside at the next meeting.

On the 23rd inst., Bro. W. Joss W.M., M. Da Costa S.W., H. M. Pollock J.W., F. A. Slater S.D., Marchant J.D., Emden I.G., J. DeCasseres P.M. Preceptor, F. Thornton Sec., G. Bettinson, A. Silk, E. Silk, J. R. West.

The ceremony of initiation was worked by the W.M., Bro. Bettinson acting as candidate. The Brethren assisted Bro. M. Da Costa to work the first section of the lecture. The Brethren assisted Bro. Slater to work the second section, and Bro. Joss the third.

Bros. M. Da Costa and Emden, of the Friars Lodge, became members. Bro. M. Da Costa was elected to the chair for Wednesday next, to which date the Lodge adjourned.

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CITADEL LODGE, No. 1897.

ON Friday, 18th inst., at the Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst Road, N., Bro. T. R. Jones W.M., T. Feistel S.W., M. Friedlander J.W., F. Dunstan Preceptor, H. Willsmer Sec., Geo. Clark P.M., Lamigeon W.M. S.D., Calley J.D., Bishop I.G., Larner, Schlosshauer, Frost, Rusby, New, Pardoe, Matthews, Barnes, W. S. Clarke, Murphy W.M., and Ditchman.

The ceremonies of initiation and passing were rehearsed, Bros. Larner and W. S. Clarke acting as candidates.

Bros. Dunstan and G. Clark Past Masters, assisted by the Brethren, worked the first section of the second lecture. This being the first occasion on which the W.M. had occupied the position in this or any other Lodge of Instruction, a vote of thanks was accorded him, on proposition by Bro. Dunstan P.M. and Preceptor, for the able manner in which he had carried out the duties, and his excellent rehearsal of the ceremonies.

At the previous meeting Bro. Gordon Larner had a similar compliment paid him for his exceptionally good working in the chair.

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REGENTS PARK LODGE, No. 2202.

AT the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford Street, W., on Monday, Bro. Ward W.M., Williams S.W., Osborne J.W., Scarlett S.D., Cload J.D., Carlisle I.G., Wood P.M. Preceptor, Lane P.M. Sec., A. Pettit, Longton, Bowles, H. Wilcox, Wynman, Birmingham, and several others.

After preliminaries, Bro. H. Wilcox answered the questions leading to the second degree, was entrusted and passed. The W.M. continued with the ceremony of raising, Bro. Bowles acting as candidate.

It was proposed by Bro. J. D. Wood P.M. Preceptor, seconded by Bro. Lane P.M. Sec., and supported by Bro. A. Pettit, that Bro. Wynman,

representative of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, be elected an Honorary Member, which was agreed to and suitably acknowledged. The ballot was taken and given in favour of Bros. Wilkins and Beedle. Bro. Williams will preside next meeting.

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WOODGRANGE LODGE, No. 2409.

THIS very prosperous Lodge opened its winter season on the 4th inst., at the Princess Alice, Romford Road (which has a very commodious and well-appointed Lodge room, says the "East London Observer"), the evening being usefully occupied by a perfect rehearsal of the three degrees by the well-known P.M. Bro. Calver Preceptor of the Lodge.

On Friday evening, the 11th inst., there was a good gathering, when Bro. Walter Gladding acted as W.M., with Bro. Vickers S.W., R. T. W. Tucker J.W., Davis S.D., Hutchinson J.D., Ellis I.G., Trew P.M., R. Tucker P.M., Calver P.M. Secretary, Wilson, Foskett, Grant, Dawson, Scott, Pidduck acting Secretary, Sherry, &c.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, and that of the third degree, Bro. Sherry, of the Doric, No. 933, acting as candidate. The W.M. received the compliments of all present for the excellent manner in which he did the work, and proved his capacity and advanced position in the Craft. The customary formalities were observed, and Bro. Vickers elected as W.M. for the next meeting.

Our contemporary adds the Woodgrange Lodge has been singularly successful in its efforts to assist the Masonic Charities, the first Benevolent Association in connection with the Lodge having been the means of collecting more than £700, a result which all members of the Craft will agree is highly creditable. The immediate object of reference, however, is to state that a second Association is to be formed, with Bro. R. T. W. Tucker as Hon. Secretary, and Bro. A. R. Trew as Hon. Treasurer, the meetings to be held at the Princess Alice, the first ballot being fixed for the 2nd October, and meetings subsequently on the first Friday in every month. The subscription is to be 1s per share per week, and a ballot is to be taken whenever there is a balance of ten guineas in the hands of the Treasurer. Bro. R. T. W. Tucker's address is 38 Margery Park Road, Forest Gate, and he will be glad to furnish particulars to any Brethren desiring to assist.

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PROVINCIAL.

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SOUTHAMPTON LODGE, No. 394.

THE ordinary meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Southampton, on Thursday, 17th inst., the W.M. Bro. J. Hollis presiding.

After the usual routine business had been transacted, a Treasurer's Jewel was presented by the Lodge to Bro. J. Lemon P.M., as a mark of appreciation of his long and valuable services. A past Master's Jewel was presented to Bro. Linthorne P.M., complimentary references being made to his services to the Lodge during his year of office.

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LODGE OF FAITH, No. 581.

THE regular meeting was held at the Gransmoor Hotel, Openshaw, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., Bro. Joseph Lever W.M. There was a fair attendance of members. As there was no business of particular importance to transact, Lodge matters were soon disposed of, and an early adjournment made to the festive board. Prominent among those in attendance were Bros. H. J. Harrison I.P.M., W. Jones S.W., R. Adshead J.W., Chas. H. Griffiths I.G., J. C. Brown Treas., J. M. Frost Sec., H. B. Brown P.M., S. Whittaker P.M., J. T. Moorhouse, G. E. Mellor, and others.

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HINDPOOL LODGE, No. 1225.

THE installation of Bro. H. A. Stamper took place on Tuesday, 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Barrow. The ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M. Bro. E. Kendall, in the presence of a large assembly.

The newly-appointed W.M. presented Bro. E. Kendall with a Past Master's jewel, on behalf of the Lodge.

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ST. JOHN LODGE, No. 1343.

THE regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Grays, on Wednesday, when Bro. F. W. Pelling W.M. presided, and was supported by Bros. Westwood I.P.M., Ayres S.W., J. Weymouth J.W., G. H. Silverwood S.D., C. Asplin J.D., Bird I.G., H. C. Borradaile Sec., Chas. Cobham Assist. Sec., Renton, W. E. Brooks, Daines, Jones, Fryer, Barefoot, Sievewright, Walker, Wingrove Organist, Matthews Assist. Organist, &c., with Bro. J. Hay Visitor.

The minutes of the last regular meeting, also of the emergency meeting were read. Mr. Albert George Knight, who had already been balloted for and approved, was then regularly initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., in his customary admirable manner.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree, Bros. Higgins, Crouch, and Pean were questioned, and answered in a faultless manner. Bro. Westwood P.G.A.D.C. then occupied the chair, and opened the Lodge in the third degree, when Bros. Higgins, Crouch and Pean were raised.

The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, the W.M. again occupied the chair, and closed the Lodge in due form.

The Brethren afterwards adjourned to the festive board, when the W.M. proposed the usual Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to.

The toast of the newly-initiated Brethren was duly proposed, and Bro. Knight replied in a few well chosen words. Other toasts followed. The intervals between the toasts were enlivened with songs from Bros. Higgins, Crouch, J. Hay, Pean, James, Borradaile, and Wingrove.

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FERMOR HESKETH LODGE, No. 1350.

THE members held their annual festival of St. John on the 14th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Merton-road, Bootle, a large number of Provincial and other distinguished Brethren being present. The W.M. elect Bro. Ernest J. Robin was ably installed into the chair by his predecessor Bro. F.

J. Billett, assisted by Bro. John Armstrong P.P.G.S.W. Cheshire. Bro. Major W. Taylor P.A.G.D.C. was again invested as Treasurer, and Bro. J. Armstrong was elected charity representative.

After the investiture of the officers, the Brethren adjourned to banquet, supplied by Bro. Walter J. Holmes, of the Metropole, Church-street, Liverpool, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

The W.M. presented the I.P.M. Bro. Billett with a handsome Past Master's jewel, the gift of the Lodge, and a gold albert and pendant, subscribed for by the members, as a mark of their appreciation of the admirable manner in which he had ruled the Lodge during the past year.

JORDAN LODGE, No. 1402.

ON Tuesday, 8th inst., Brother T. J. Crossman was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by Bro. George West, who was assisted by a strong Board of Installed Masters. Bro. West I.P.M. was presented with a Past Master's jewel, in appreciation of the excellent manner in which he had filled the chair during his year of office.

The annual banquet was subsequently held at the Bath Saloon, under the presidency of the new Master, Bro. W. J. Nosworthy catering excellently.

CONCORD LODGE, No. 1534.

THE regular meeting was held at Chester Bank, Prestwich, on Thursday, the 17th inst., Bro. Edward Sutton Done W.M. The principal business of the evening was that of taking a ballot for Mr. William Southam, Insurance Agent, Prestwich, who was afterwards initiated by the W.M., the Working Tools being presented by Bro. H. B. Fawcett J.W., and the Antient Charge delivered by Bro. W. B. Midgley I.P.M., followed by the election of Officers for the ensuing financial year. Bro. T. W. Maxwell S.W. was unanimously selected to preside over the Lodge in the capacity of W.M., and his installation will take place at the next meeting.

DRAMATIC LODGE, No. 1609.

ON Tuesday, 22nd inst., the annual installation meeting took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, in the presence of a large number of Provincial Grand officers and others. After the new Worshipful Master Bro. Harris Fineberg had been installed, he proceeded to invest his Officers, the usual ceremony being afterwards completed.

Hearty congratulations were tendered the new Master, and the Brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where after a sumptuous repast, supplied by Bro. Capper, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

During the evening a handsome gold watch was presented to the immediate Past Master Bro. Clarence, as a token of the esteem and respect of the Lodge.

BROWNRIGG LODGE, No. 1638.

AT a largely attended meeting held at the Sun Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, on Wednesday, 16th inst., Bro. Charles Edward Oldridge jun. was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Davis, assisted by Bro. George Moorman, and in the presence of about a dozen past and present Masters of various Lodges.

At the conclusion the Worshipful Master installed his officers, amongst them being the Treasurer Bro. C. E. Oldridge sen. (who has held the office for many years, and who, as Worshipful Master, installed his son as a Freemason, sixteen years ago).

The installation banquet followed, about 70 members of the Lodge sitting down to a splendid repast prepared by Mrs. Frayling.

ALBERT VICTOR LODGE, No. 1773.

THE first meeting after the recess took place at the Town Hall, Pendleton, on Friday, the 18th inst., Bro. Jas. Clough W.M. After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Bro. John Bintliff Kenyon was passed into the degree of F.C. by Bro. Thomas Kay P.M. Bro. Fred Daniels was afterwards raised to the sublime degree by the W.M.

At the festive board the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were varied by songs, recitations, &c., given by Bros. Wm. Allan Smith S.D., G. L. Hardcastle Org., Fred Daniels, Harry Daniels 325, Ed. Roberts P.M. 1459, and others.

ZION LODGE, No. 1798.

THE first regular meeting after the vacation was held at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, on Wednesday, 9th inst., the principal business being the balloting for of Bros. Philip Joseph, Leicester, Bute Lodge, 690, and Joseph Ramus, Manchester, Montefiore Lodge, 753, as joining members, and the raising of Bros. Henry Norris and Morris Phillips, the first ceremony being performed by Bro. George Board P.M. P.P.G.D., and the latter by Bro. S. Mamelok P.M. Treas. Bro. B. Steel presented and explained the Working Tools to the two candidates.

During the evening, a letter of apology for non-attendance was read from Bro. Leon E. Levy W.M., forwarded from Tunis.

The festive board which followed was enlivened by the efforts of Bros. B. Steel, J. L. Norris, Henry Ramus, Hy. Norris, Edward Roberts P.M. 1459, and J. H. Greenwood 2387. Besides those mentioned above there were present Bros. W. Fowden I.P.M., J. Gershon S.W., George Rideal P.M., Mark Steel, and L. Kaufman.

BLACKWATER LODGE, No. 1977.

THE annual installation took place at the Blue Boar Hotel, Maldon, on Monday. The Brethren assembled in the Lodge Room, at 3 p.m., when the Worshipful Master Bro. T. O'Neill performed the ceremony of raising two members, after which Bro. T. G. Grant Prov.G. Steward was installed into the chair of K.S., the ceremony being very impressively performed by Bro. Thos. Lloyd P.M. P.P.G.O. assisted by Bro. George A. Eustace P.P.A.G.D.C. as D.C. The W.M. subsequently appointed and invested his Officers.

After the business of the Lodge was over, the Brethren and visitors, to

the number of forty, sat down to a capital banquet, served in her usual capital style by Mrs. Hickford.

The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Miss Philbrick, sister of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, sent a beautiful lot of button-holes to be worn by the Brethren on the occasion.

ST. MARK LODGE, No. 2423.

THE members of this Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John on Wednesday, 9th inst., when Bro. W. Fenwick, an old Past Master, was installed as the successor to Bro. W. H. Lloyd, at Connah's Quay.

The Lodge was consecrated only four years ago, but its career has been one of unbroken success, thanks to the excellent start it received by the aid of such enthusiastic Masons as Bros. Bolton, Knowles, Finchett, Blane, and others.

The usual business was transacted, including the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to Bro. W. H. Lloyd the retiring W.M., for services rendered to the Lodge.

Bro. Fenwick was installed W.M. for the forthcoming year by Bro. E. Blane, assisted by Bros. Bolton, Knowles, and Russell.

At the close of the Lodge hearty good wishes were tendered from the representatives of the visiting Lodges, and afterwards the Brethren sat down to a banquet at the Quay Hotel.

The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were gone through under the presidency of Bro. Fenwick, an excellent selection of music being discoursed by Bro. Robinson's "Cestrian" Quartette, comprising Bro. F. Millward alto, Mr. W. E. Snelson first tenor, Mr. J. Skeldon second tenor, and Brother Robinson bass.

DUKE OF YORK LODGE, No. 2449.

THE regular meeting took place at the Palatine Hotel, Manchester, on Thursday, the 10th inst., Bro. Thos. T. Hardicker W.M. This was the first meeting after the recess, and there was a good attendance of Brethren, prominent among whom were Bros. Clement Jas. Hall S.W., Robt. Meggitt J.W., O. Rushton Treas., J. Kinsey Sec., A. G. Bryce S.D., A. Scarlett J.D., J. T. Whittle D.C., T. H. Stott Organist, Wm. Boden P.M., and R. H. Whatham. Visitors:—Bros. W. Wildgoose P.M. 941, and James Beswick P.M. 941.

There was no business of particular importance to be transacted, and the Brethren made an early adjournment to the festive board, where a very pleasant evening was spent, the major portion of those present being brought under contribution for songs, &c.

HADRIAN LODGE, No. 2483.

AT the Devonshire Hotel, Bexhill, the annual meeting was held on Wednesday, 16th inst. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. Richard Francis, who was supported by Officers, members, and a large number of visitors.

The chief business of the meeting was the installation of Bro. William R. Griffin as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being impressively performed by the retiring W.M.

During the afternoon an initiation also took place, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Henry J. Capon P.M.

The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren sat down to a banquet, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., who, proposing the toast of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught Provincial Grand Master, spoke in graceful terms of the interest the Duke of Connaught took in the Province, and said his Royal Highness would, if possible, preside at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which would shortly be held in Hastings.

QUEEN VICTORIA LODGE, No. 2584.

THE regular meeting was held at the Conservative Club, Cheetham, Manchester, on Monday, the 14th inst., Bro. Councillor Saml. I. Mills W.M. There was a good attendance of members and visitors, principal among the latter being Bros. Jno. W. Thompson P.M. 1534 P.P.G.S.B., John Marshall P.M. 61 P.P.G.P. West Yorks, Ed. S. Done W.M. 1534, H. B. Fawcett J.W. 1534, and Geo. Shapland S.D. 1357.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Mr. Edward Blackburn, Commercial Traveller, Birkdale, Southport, was successfully balloted for and initiated by the W.M.; the Working Tools being presented and explained by Bro. Thos. Nesbitt J.W., and the Antient Charge delivered by Bro. Wm. B. Midgley S.W.

At the festive board which followed, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were agreeably relieved by songs, recitations, &c., the contributors being Bros. Tom Bradbury 1773, Cuthbert Blacow 2156, Edward Roberts P.M. 1459, and others.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 581.

AFTER a three months vacation, this popular Lodge, which embraces members not only from Cottonopolis and the royal borough adjoining, but also from numerous outlying districts, commenced its meetings at the Old Boar's Head Hotel, Manchester, on Thursday, the 10th inst., when the Lodge was opened at an early hour by Bro. Sam Bamford P.M.

The minutes having been read and confirmed, successful ballots were taken for Bros. J. Archer, No. 999, and W. T. Watts, No. 1052. Propositions were made for seven additional members, who will be balloted for at the meeting to be held on Tuesday next, the 29th inst.

Upon the conclusion of Lodge business, the Brethren, numbering between forty and fifty, sat down to a substantial tea, which had been provided in Mrs. Stopford's usually excellent style, the meeting subsequently taking the form of a social gathering, the same being presided over by Bro. Jas. W. Abbott P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Preceptor, who had the support of Bros. John Chadwick P.M. P.G.S.B. Eng., Godfrey Higham P.M. P.P.G.D.D.C., H. H. Warburton P.M. P.P.S.G.D., E. L. Vaughan P.M. Prov. G. Reg., G. T. Lenard P.M. Treas., and Alfd. Hebden P.M. P.P.G.D.D.C. Secretary.

Bro. Chadwick, speaking on behalf of the Grand Officers, congratulated the Lodge of Instruction upon the position which had been attained for it, and in commending its supporters for the work achieved, said the institution had been the means of doing a great amount of good in Manchester and neighbourhood.

The health of the Preceptor having been duly proposed and enthusiastically

cally received, it was duly responded to by Bro. Abbott, who gave some very interesting details as to the general aims of the Lodge, and its unprecedented success, which had even exceeded the hopes of those who had laboured for such an end, adding that the result was gratifying to all concerned.

Bro. Geo. Rideal P.M. proposed the health of the Past Preceptors, which toast was responded to by Bros. Godfrey Higham and H. H. Warburton, both speakers adverting to their long connection with the Lodge. The latter also referred to the recent illness which had prostrated Bro. Hebden, and warmly congratulated him upon his return to convalescence.

Bro. Dr. Coutts proposed the Secretary's health, adding that Bro. Hebden had occupied that position for a period of eleven years, and his indefatigability was well known. Bro. Hebden, in reply, thanked the Brethren sincerely for their warm reception of the toast, proposed in such kindly terms by Bro. Dr. Coutts. When he joined the Instruction Lodge, seventeen years ago, he met with such kindness from the then Preceptor (Bro. Higham), who never seemed tired of pointing out little details in the ritual, that he felt compelled to take an interest in the institution. He hoped to continue in office for a long period of years, but in view of the fact that so many good and efficient members were connected with them and coming prominently forward, it was scarcely possible that his wish could be realised. During his long illness Bro. Lenard had generously taken his place, and he felt deeply indebted to him for what he had done. The tedium of his hours of sickness had been greatly relieved, and his mind comforted by the kind and sympathetic actions of those many callers who had hoped for his speedy recovery. In conclusion Bro. Hebden stated that exclusive of the seven propositions of that evening, the Lodge books now registered 177 members. He pointed with pride to the fact that from their ranks there had been a large equipment of Worshipful Masters, many of whom had taken important positions in this and other Provinces, and who were deservedly popular among their Brethren in Freemasonry.

Bro. Bamford, in a very trenchant speech, proposed the health of the visitors, according them a very hearty welcome, to which Bros. Vaughan, Higham, and others responded. The latter then proposed the health of the Treasurer, paying a very high tribute to the worth of Bro. Lenard, who said, in response, that he felt grateful to Bro. Higham for his remarks. He reverted to the prosperity of the Lodge, its steady increase in members, and the beneficial results attained, about which there could be no question of doubt. The subscriptions came in fairly well, and while this was so he would be able to show a good balance sheet. In conclusion he hoped that next year it would be possible to give something substantial to the Masonic Charities, which ought one and all to be well supported. The musical items were contributed by Bros. Robt. Dottie P.M., A. Hebden P.M., &c., Edward Roberts P.M., John Westall, J. T. Trotter, Henry Ramus, J. L. Norris, Henry Norris, and others.

Besides those mentioned above, we noticed Past Masters Bros. R. Armitage, G. W. Davies, G. B. Goodfellow, A. Eichholz, T. H. Hall, J. T. C. Blackie, and many other well-known members of the Craft.

ROYAL ARCH.

SYMPATHY CHAPTER, No. 483.

A REGULAR convocation was held at the Royal Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend, on Tuesday, under the presidency of Comps. William Russell M.E.Z., Henry Forss H., J. P. White J., when the following candidates were exalted to the Supreme Degree as Royal Arch Masons:—Bros. Charles Matthews, Edward Matthews, A. E. Lockhart and Harry White, all of Sympathy Lodge, No. 483; A. J. Baldock, St. John, No. 1343; and Richard Vivian, Northern Counties, No. 2328.

The ceremony was ably rendered by the Principals, assisted by Comps. R. J. Beamish S.N., Orilton Cooper, Frank Hitchens and William Hawker as the Sojourners. The Historical Lecture was delivered by Comp. Arthur Ronaldson S.E., the Symbolical by Comp. J. P. White, and the Mystical by Comp. Henry Forss. Comp. T. T. Hogg the Treasurer presented his report, and a vote of two guineas was passed for the Fund to restore the Chapter House of Canterbury Cathedral.

There being no other business the Chapter was closed, and adjourned till the fourth Tuesday in November. Among those present besides the above mentioned were Comps. Ernest Ingman, John Fitch, W. S. Bowen, C. P. Bowen, T. A. Mummery, J. Braine, &c.

HORNSEY CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT, No. 890.

A REGULAR meeting was held at Bro. Stevens's, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's Road, Paddington, on Friday, 18th inst. Comp. A. J. Tayler as Z., J. Almond H., W. Hillier J., H. Dehane P.Z. S.E., J. Bailey P.Z. S.N., J. C. Tilt M.E.Z. Treas., R. T. Godfrey P.Soj., Percy Day Assist. Soj., A. Clark, Wynman, and T. C. Edmonds P.Z.

The Chapter was opened in ancient form, and the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. A. Clark J. candidate. A vote of thanks was passed to Comp. Tayler for having gone through the work in such excellent manner for the first time, which compliment was duly acknowledged. Comp. Percy Day was elected a member.

MARK MASONRY.

ST. ANDREW LODGE, No. 34.

THE Saint Andrew Lodge of Mark Master Masons, originally No. 22 of the Scottish Constitution, but now No. 34 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, has for many years holden its convocations at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, and it has had many great and influential Masters. Harking back to the years 1869 and 1870 we find that the popular Grand Secretary Bro. Chas. F. Matier occupied the chair, the Worshipful Brothers who followed being equally worthy of note, viz: 1871 W. Wayne, 1872 W. G. Turner, 1873 W. H. Hopkins, 1874 H. J. Robberas, 1875 W. Rome, 1876 W. C. Gilles, 1877 J. Arensberg, 1878 E. C. Milligan, 1879 A. Middleton, 1880 and 1881 T. R. Peel, 1882 H. C. Miller, 1883 J. E. Lees, 1884 W. Nicholl, 1885 J. M. Sinclair, 1886 H. L. Rocca, 1887 W. R. Sowter, 1888 J. T. Richardson, 1889 G. Hunt, 1890 S. Kelly, 1891 E. L.

Littler, 1892 C. E. Towell, 1893 G. S. Smith, 1894 G. A. Myers, 1895 A. K. Boothroyd, and 1896 J. M. Veal.

The last named worthy and Worshipful Brother, ever on the alert for an opportunity of awarding honour where honour is due, arranged a most pleasing function in connection with the last general meeting of the Lodge, the recognition of the invaluable services of the veteran Brother Joseph Truelove Richardson, who has, is, and ever will be a most zealous worker in the cause of Freemasonry in all its degrees, and Mark Masonry in particular. He has never been found wanting in work, nor in affording assistance and instruction to the younger Brethren, to the fullest in his power. It will not therefore be a matter of surprise to our readers to learn that this occasion was made auspicious by the presentation of a very handsome Past Master's jewel, manufactured expressly by Kenning, and fastened to the breast of our worthy Brother by the Worshipful Master, with a few remarks, excellent in taste and harmonising to the occasion, and acknowledged with deep emotion, rendering the whole scene pathetic and happy. A like honour would have been conferred on Bro. J. M. Sinclair Past Treasurer, but for his unavoidable absence.

Amongst those present were Bros. J. M. Veal, J. T. Richardson, H. L. Rocca, C. E. Towell, W. Nicholl, Walker, Laurisch, Lawrenson, Shaw, Salt, &c.

The proceedings terminated with the social board, enlivened by reminiscences from Brother—familiarly known as Brother Billy—Nicholl, varied by expressions of regret from the chair at the absence of Bro. Sinclair. After the Tyler's toast an adjournment was made until 17th November.

CHAMPION CONCLAVE, SECRET MONITOR, No. 26.

A MEETING was held at the Palatine Hotel, Hunt's Bank, Manchester, on Tuesday, the 15th inst., Bro. Buckley Carr G.G'dr. S.R. A ballot was taken for Bro. Isidore Ernest Augustus Gotz, Engineer, Walley Range, Manchester, Humphrey Chetham Lodge, No. 645, but as the candidate did not put in an appearance, the ceremony of inducting him was necessarily postponed. Among those who were present we noticed Bros. Fletcher Armstrong C., R. T. Redman G., John Marshall G.V., H. T. Grundy S., A. C. K. Smith 1st V.D., J. A. Kirkland 2nd V.D., W. A. Boyer 4th V.D. G.Std., Wm. B. Midgley Org., and T. H. Scholfield P.S.R. Visitors:—Bros. J. Tickle P.G.G., and W. Cockcroft P.G.G.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:o:—

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We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

REMOVAL OF THE BOYS SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is unnecessary to reiterate what several of your correspondents have said in reference to the above subject; except that I, with many other subscribers to the Institution, fully agree with their opinion, as to the necessity of rejecting the proposals of the Managing Committee, which will undoubtedly be the case when the whole of the subscribers have the opportunity of voting aye or nay. My object in writing to you is to suggest another scheme for getting over the difficulty of want of accommodation, namely, that no boys should be admitted into the School under the age of ten, receiving in lieu thereof, from the age seven to nine years, the sum of £25, and from twelve to fifteen £35 per annum, for education, maintenance and clothing. This could all be carried out as suggested, by local Committees. I would also suggest that the option of sending the boy to the School could remain open until he is twelve years of age.

Yours, &c.,

LIFE GOVERNOR.

OUTING AT DURHAM.

ON the 16th inst., at the invitation of Bro. J. J. Candlish, of Shotton Hall, W.M. of the Fawcett Lodge, Seaham Harbour, the members of the Lodge, together with their lady friends, had a very enjoyable outing to Durham. Arriving by train early in the afternoon, the party, which numbered nearly forty, had the pleasure of being shown over the Cathedral and Castle, and were highly gratified with all that was seen. After a pleasant walk through the banks and other pleasing environs of the city, the party adjourned to the Rose and Crown Hotel, where they sat down to a bountiful and tempting repast, provided in Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane's well-known style, and which received high commendation from the guests. A very enjoyable evening was subsequently spent until the arrival of train time.

THE system inaugurated some time ago by the Great Northern Railway Company, enabling agriculturists to send their produce direct to the consumers at greatly reduced rates, will be materially helped in its operations by the publication of a list of farmers, market gardeners, and others, wishful to open up business of this nature, the Great Northern Company supplying copies of this handy book free of charge. The rates which have been put into operation experimentally on that Company's system are exceedingly low, and are charged irrespective of distance. Quite a feature of the arrangement, and one that will be welcomed by those participating in it, is that no boxes of a special make are necessary, the Railway Company stipulating only that the packages must be such as will admit of others being placed upon them. It is easy to foresee that this plan for reducing the household expenses will prove most acceptable to householders, and is bound to be extensively patronised.

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.

79 Pythagorean, Greenwich
1540 Chaucer, Southwark
1632 Stuart, Camberwell
1745 Farringdon (Without), Via. H'tl
1828 Shepherd's Bush, S'pherd's B'sh
48 Industry, Gateshead
62 Social, Manchester
491 Royal Sussex, Jersey
557 Loyal Victoria, Callington
827 St. John, Dewsbury
1218 Prince Alfred, Mossley
1258 Kennard, Pontypool
1325 Stanley, Liverpool
1748 Castlemartin, Pembroke
1991 Agricola, York
2042 Apollo, Liverpool
2068 Portsmouth Temperance, L'dp't.
2257 Powell, Bristol
2363 Minnehaha Minstrel, M'chester.
2373 Hardwick, Chesterfield
2429 Research, Leicester
2547 Llangattock, Cardiff
2582 Lewisham, Smethwick

Tuesday.

141 Faith, Anderton's
299 Emulation, Dartford
310 Union, Carlisle
597 St. Cybi, Holyhead
792 Pelham Pillar, Grimsby
1007 Howe & Charnwood, Loughboro
1358 Torbay, Paignton
1479 Halsey, St. Albans
1566 Ellington, Maidenhead
1636 St. Cecilia, Brighton
1650 Rose of Raby, Staindrop
1779 Ivanhoe, Sheffield
1896 Audley, Newport, Salop
1942 Minerva, Fenton

Wednesday.

898 Temperance in East, Poplar
76 Economy, Winchester
163 Integrity, Manchester
187 Rl. Sussex Hospitality, Bristol
304 Philanthropic, Leeds
439 Scientific, Bingley
461 Fortitude, Newton
540 Stuart, Bedford
651 Brecknock, Brecon
996 Sonde, East Dereham
1083 Townley Parker, Manchester
1119 St. Bede, Jarrow
1219 Strangeways, Manchester
1283 Ryburn, Sowerby Bridge
1714 Albert Edward, Yorktown
1775 Leopold, Church
1793 Sir Charles Bright, Teddington
1953 Prudence & Industry, Chard
1989 Stirling, Cleator Moor
2064 Smith Child, Tunstall

Thursday.

27 Egyptian, Anderton's
45 Strong Man, Guildhall Tav.
192 Lion & Lamb, Cannon St. Hotel
227 Ionic, Criterion
538 La Tolerance, Freemasons'-hall
742 Crystal Palace, Sydenham
1178 Perfect Ashlar, Southwark
1216 Macdonald, Camberwell
1425 Hyde Park, Paddington
1707 Eleanor, Great Eastern Hotel
1765 Trinity Col., 13, Mandeville Pl.
1772 Pimlico, Westminster
1790 Old England, Thornton Heath
1950 Southgate, Beale's, Holloway
2202 Regent Park, Frascati
2271 St. Pancras, Midland Grand Ho
2291 West Ham Abbey, Stratford
2411 Clarence & Avondale, L'yt'nst'n
2512 Fulham, Fulham
2580 Crouch End, Highgate
24 Newcastle O.T., Newcastle
31 United Industrious, Canterbury
38 Union, Chichester
41 Royal Cumberland, Bath
110 Loyal C'brion, Merthyr-Tydvil
114 British Union, Ipswich
123 Lennox, Richmond, Yorks
195 Hengist, Pournemouth
219 Prudence, Todmorden
249 Mariner, Liverpool
254 Trinity, Coventry
266 Naphtali, Heywood

269 Fidelity, Blackburn
289 Fidelity, Leeds
294 Constitutional, Beverley
295 Combermere Union, Macclesfield
300 Minerva, Ashton-under-Lyne
305 Apollo, Beccles
309 Harmony, Fareham
317 Affability, Manchester
360 Pomfret, Northampton
362 Doric, Grantham
419 St. Peter, Wolverhampton
446 Benevolent, Wells
462 Bank Terrace, Accrington
509 Tees, Stockton
531 St. Helen, Hartlepool
539 St. Matthew, Walsall
633 Yarborough, Manchester
637 Portland, Stoke-upon-Trent
703 Clifton, Blackpool
803 St. Andrew, Biggleswade
856 Restormel, Lostwithiel
976 Royal Clarence, Bruton
1012 Prince of Wales, Bury
1231 Savile, Elland
1284 Brent, Topsham
1304 Olive Union, Horncastle
1324 Okeover, Ripley
1379 Marquess of Ripon, Darlington
1384 Equity, Widnes
1473 Bootle, Bootle
1500 Walpole, Norwich
1504 Red Rose of Lanc'ster, Padiham
1513 Friendly, Barnsley
1557 Albert Edward, Hexham
1565 Earl of Chester, Lymn
1639 Watling St., Stony Stratford
1770 Vale of White Horse, Faringdon
1829 Burrell, Brighton
1874 Lechmere V't'n'r, Balsall H'th
1899 Wellesley, Sandhurst
2043 Kendrick, Reading
2169 Osborne, East Cowes
2255 Philbrick, Chingford
2317 Bisley, Woking
2321 Acacia, Bradford
2342 Easterford, Kelvedon
2350 Corinthian, Hindley
2386 Clarence, Chester
2496 Wirral, Birkenhead

Friday.

554 Yarborough, Fenchurch Street
890 Hornsey, Anderton's
1489 Marquess of Ripon, Highbury
1627 Royal Kensington, F'masons'-h.
2076 Quator Coronati, F'masons'-h.
2488 Eccentric, Criterion
2511 St. John at Hackney, Hackney
44 Friendship, Manchester
242 St. George, Doncaster
291 Royal Philanthropic, Highbridge
306 Alfred, Leeds
375 Lambton, Durham
521 Truth, Huddersfield
574 Loy. Berkshire Hope, Newbury
601 St. John, Wellington, Salop
698 Ryde, Ryde
709 Invicta of Ashford, Ashford
751 Eastnor, Ledbury
837 De Grey and Ripon, Ripon
936 Adair, Aldeburgh
998 Welchpool, Welchpool
1009 Shakspeare, Manchester
1230 Barnard, Barnard Castle
1375 Architect, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1405 Southwell, Nottingham
1561 Morecambe, Morecambe
1648 Prince of Wales, Bradford
1664 Gosforth, Gosforth
1754 Windsor, Penarth
1838 Tudor Rifle V't'n's., W'v'h'pton
1993 Wolseley, Manchester
2433 Minerva, Birkenhead
2491 White Rose of York, Sheffield
2494 Humber Installed Masters', Hull
2569 St. Trillo, Colwyn Bay

Saturday.

1572 Carnarvon, Albion
1622 Rose, Camberwell
1949 Brixton, Kennington
2466 Cheerybles, Freemasons'-hall
1194 Villiers, Hampton Court
1223 Amherst, Riverhead
1388 Canynges, Bristol
1458 Truth, Manchester
1460 Thames Valley, Hampton Ct.
1550 Prudence, Plymouth
1567 Elliot, Feltham
2054 Wilson Iles, Rickmansworth
2096 George Price, Croydon
2331 Ravencroft, Barnet
2442 St. Clement, Leigh
2493 Vale of Eden, Appleby
2499 North Kent, Bexley Heath
2541 St. Andrew, Avonmouth

MASONIC "AT HOME."

IT is now some years since such a brilliant Masonic "At Home" has been given at Aldershot, as one which took place on Friday, 11th inst., at the Officers' Club House, in connection with the Army and Navy Lodge, No. 1971. The interior of the Club had been most extensively, as well as lavishly, decorated for the occasion, the stage was most picturesque, and it was a happy thought to place a fine young sailor at one side, and at the other side of the platform a fully-dressed corporal of the Grenadier Guards, each with musket in hand, for they made a splendid representation of the two arms of the service, and by whose name the Lodge is known. The attraction at the "At Home," was the presence of Mr. Dudley Causton, Miss Greta Williams, Mr. Arthur Walenn, and the splendid band of the 2nd Rifle Brigade. The Brethren appeared in Craft clothing, whilst the Ladies appeared to have determined to vie with them in the effectiveness and beauty of their own particular costumes. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught P.G.M. is a member of the Lodge, and much regret was expressed at his inability to be present, for the arrival of the Duke and Duchess had been confidently looked forward to up till within a short time of the commencement of the proceedings. Unfortunately a messenger arrived stating that the Royal party were unable to attend.

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The Theatres, &c.

Drury Lane.—8, The Duchess of Coolgardie. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Lyceum.—8, Cymbeline.
Strand.—8.10, Teddy's wives. 9, Dream Faces.
St. James's.—On Tuesday, 20th October, The prisoner of Zenda.
Globe.—8, The Muff of the Regiment. 9, Charley's Aunt. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 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.
Princess's.—8, 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.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
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