

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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CLOSING MOMENTS.

THE year which comes to an end to-day has been an eventful one in English Freemasonry, and will long stand out as a record period in connection with our section of the Craft, the great sum collected on behalf of the Charities of the Order being likely to remain unbeaten for many a long day. Next week we shall present our readers with a statement of the income of the three Institutions for the year, when we believe it will be in our power to supply particulars which may be regarded as satisfactory on the whole, although hardly what one would like to see in particular cases, for, as we have said time after time during the twelve months, the phenomenal success of one of our Charity Funds has been secured, in a great measure, at the expense of the other two.

We need not, however, tinge our rejoicings at the moment with regret as to what is beyond remedy, as events of the past always are, but we may use the experience of 1898 as a basis of operations for 1899, and in this respect one of our first duties will be to direct particular attention to the position of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which will close this year's accounts with a deficiency of something like £5,000 between actual receipts and expenditure. This is no light matter, although easily explained in connection with the Centenary celebration of the Boys School, and we shall most certainly revert to the subject at an early date in the new year, even if a similar unthankful task does not devolve upon us all through the coming twelvemonth, for we are sadly afraid the stupendous collection this year, on behalf of the Boys School, will materially affect all three of the Institutions in the near future, and even make itself felt for the next two or three years.

Another event that will mark 1898 for a very long period is of a less pleasing nature, the Craft of England having suffered one of the most severe losses it has ever known, in the death of the late Earl of Lathom, but in this, as in most other affairs of human life, there is the silver lining to the cloud, in the fact that two other noblemen, distinguished in the Masonic Craft, have made a step onward, Earl Amherst rising to the dignity of Pro Grand Master, and the Earl of Warwick to that of Deputy. We wish each of them long life and health to enjoy to the full their Masonic preferment.

The title we have chosen for the head of these remarks almost precludes us from looking ahead, and perhaps it would not be necessary to do so but for one reason, and that a particular one, which we should not like to omit on this occasion. We might refer to the present state of Masonry under the rule of the Grand Lodge of England as most satisfactory, and but for the reason we have just hinted at we should have said there was every sign of a brilliant future before it, but these are the words of "Closing Moments," and at

this late hour of 1898 we avail ourselves of the possibility we have provided for, feeling there could be no better closing words than to wish our readers, and every member of the Craft in the country—as we most sincerely do—

A very happy New Year.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

THE closing meeting of the year was held on Wednesday, 21st inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. H. Matthews Pres.B.B., supported by Bros. D. D. Mercer and Henry Garrod, the Senior and Junior Vice Presidents respectively, the latter officiating for the first time since his election to the office. A total exceeding £600 was voted to the different petitioners before the Board.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

IN connection with the full dress Masonic Ball to be given in the Albert Hall, Nottingham, on Thursday next, 5th January, in honour of the installation of the Duke of Portland as Provincial Grand Master, his Grace has arranged for a special train from Retford onward, for the convenience of the Provincial Brethren. It is timed to arrive at Nottingham at nine o'clock, and to return at two. Both the Duke and Duchess of Portland will travel by the train, joining it at Cresswell Station. The function promises to be one of the most imposing in the annals of Freemasonry in the Province.

A handsome presentation was made to Bro. L. A. Da Costa Preceptor of the Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349, on the occasion of the annual supper of that Lodge, on the 15th inst., when there were upwards of one hundred Brethren present. The testimonial, consisting of a silver tea and coffee service, a vellum, and a diamond brooch for Mrs. DaCosta, was made by Bro. Dave Moss. The Preceptor returned thanks on behalf of his wife and himself, and was warmly complimented during the evening.

At a specially convened Lodge of Mark Masons, held at Cardiff on Monday, 19th inst., Bro. T. P. Kerman in the chair, Bro. Sir E. S. Hill, K.C.B., M.P. (P.M. Glamorgan Lodge), and Bro. Arthur Lewis (W.M. Prince Llewellyn Lodge) were advanced into Mark Masonry in the presence of a distinguished company. Sir Edward Hill has accepted the Provincial Grand Mastership, and Bro. Arthur Lewis will act as his Deputy, says the "Western Mail."

The New Year's entertainment to the residents at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at Croydon, will take place on Wednesday next, commencing at 2 o'clock. Special saloon carriages have been reserved on the train from Charing Cross and Cannon Street for the convenience of the invited guests.

The Ivy Lodge of Instruction, No. 1441, has been removed from the Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, to the Half Moon and French Horn Hotel, East Hill, Wandsworth, and will meet there on Thursday evenings, at 8 o'clock.

The installation meeting of the Joppa Lodge, No. 188, will take place at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen's Street, W.C., on Monday, when the outgoing Master, Bro. Harry Lazarus will instal as his successor Bro. E. Emanuel. Previous to the ceremony there will be an initiation and two raisings, and in order to get through the work the Lodge will meet at three o'clock.

We regret to hear that Bro. T. I. Bird P.M. Secretary of the Elliot Lodge, No. 1567, P.M. of the Citadel Lodge, No. 1897, P.Z. P.P.G.Sw.B. Middlesex, &c., Treasurer of the Citadel Lodge of Instruction and Masonic Charities Association, &c., has been seriously ill for the past month; his case being regarded as most critical by his own medical adviser and the physician who is also attending him. We hope that we shall be able to give a better report of our worthy Brother's condition next week.

The members of the St. Martin Lodge, No. 98, recently elected Bro. Dain as their Treasurer, for the thirty-first year, and voted a sum of ten guineas for the purpose of making him a presentation in acknowledgment of his services. Bro. Dain has since refused to accept any gift, on the ground that it would form a bad precedent, and accordingly the members of the Lodge had to confine the expression of their appreciation to words. Bro. Dain is certainly to be commended for the stand he took in the matter, but it would not have been a very serious item if he had formed the precedent, as we venture to think the instances of Lodge Treasurers being appointed for the thirty-first time are so exceptionally rare as to make the occurrence worthy of special recognition.

Sir Frederick Milner, M.P., P.G.W. West Yorks, who was present as a Visitor at the installation meeting of the Vernon Lodge, Retford, said he had always taken deep interest in Masonry, as might be expected from the stock from which he sprung, for his great grandfather was Grand Master of England, a position which was so well filled by the Prince of Wales to-day. He (Sir Frederick) had been an active worker in the Craft—had been Master of his Lodge and gone through the various degrees. There was no Brotherhood in the world that could compare with the Brotherhood of Masonry, none which numbered in its ranks such great and distinguished men, and there was no Institution which displayed more munificent charity than that dispensed by Masonry generally. He had the honour to meet the Prince of Wales immediately after the Masonic Centenary gathering in the Albert Hall, and he never saw a man more gratified than the Prince, who told him he never remembered anything more magnificent than that gathering, and the reading out of the magnificent subscriptions which had poured in for the Masonic Charity. This was the strong point which distinguished them all over the world and bound them together, and so long as it continued Masonry would flourish and do a grand and great work. He knew a Brother Mason who had strong cause to remember its advantages because it actually saved his life. They in England did not often come across such incidents, but they were not unknown in other parts of the world. The man he referred to had gone out to South America ranching, and lost his house and all he possessed by a fire. He was destitute and helpless on the river side, beyond the reach of aid, when he saw a boat which he hailed, but it turned out to be a slave dhow, and his appeal was disregarded with a course epithet, when in desperation as a last resource he made himself known as a Mason. Instantly the scene changed, and he was taken on board, treated kindly and delivered safe and sound. He could vouch for the truth of this story, because he had it from the man's very lips. He felt very proud to belong to the body himself, and he was pleased to meet his Retford and Worksop friends.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

A FAMILIAR form among the Freemasons of Bristol disappears by the death of Captain John Webber, who had reached the age of 78. He was in earlier years captain of one of the Irish boats regularly visiting the port, and for a considerable period he had been Assistant Tyler at the Freemasons' Hall in Park Street. He was greatly esteemed by the Brethren, and the news of his death will cause general regret.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

CYCLING MASONS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Referring to your article in the CHRONICLE of 6th August, on Cycling Masons, it has occurred to me that it would be a good action on your part if you organised another trip to some Lodge of Instruction early in next year, of course making the appointment subject to the weather.

It seems to me further that a local Masonic Cycling Club might be formed out of those who would be willing to join for the purpose of making a run once or twice a month to different Lodges of Instruction. The preliminary arrangements would involve some little expense for postage, &c., and therefore a small fee of say 2s 6d should be charged for the year.

It would be a very pleasant and profitable way of spending an evening, and if you would take it in hand I feel sure it would be a great success, and many similar clubs would afterwards be formed in other districts.

There would have to be a preliminary arrangement made for storing the bicycles.

Yours, &c.,

PAST MASTER.

On Wednesday evening, 14th inst., at the monthly meeting of the Concord Lodge, No. 1135, held at Ilfracombe, a very handsome salver, with suitable inscription, was presented to Bro. Myatt P.M. P.P.S.G.D., in recognition of his valuable services as Secretary to the Lodge during the past three years. The presentation was made by Bro. A. H. Fisher W.M., who spoke in high terms of the efficient manner in which Bro. Myatt had discharged his duties, and of the truly Masonic spirit which had actuated him. Bro. Myatt thanked the Brethren for the handsome gift, which he would always treasure, and no doubt for many years it would be kept in his family as a memento of his connection with the Concord Lodge.

ROYAL

MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

For Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons.

Grand Patron and President:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

Treasurer:—JOHN A. FARNFIELD, Esq.

Bankers:—LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK (Bloomsbury Branch),
214 High Holborn, London, W.C.

Upwards of 1628 Annuitants have received the benefits of the Institution since its foundation in 1842 and 1849. 202 men and 245 widows are Annuitants at the present time. 30 widows, in addition, are receiving half their late husband's annuity.

Amount paid Annually in Annuities £16,384.

113 Candidates for next election, and the list not yet closed.

Only 23 vacancies.

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held at the FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C.,

ON WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY 1899,

Under the distinguished Presidency of

The Right Honourable
LORD LLANGATTOCK,
R.W. Prov.G. Master for South Wales (E.D.).

Brethren are earnestly solicited to accept the Stewardship upon this most important occasion, being the Jubilee Festival of the Widows Fund, especially considering that the income during the past year was not sufficient to meet the expenditure by more than £5,000—a serious falling off from previous years—and to kindly forward their names as soon as possible, with full particulars, to

JAMES TERRY (Pat., P.G.Swd.B.), Secretary,
by whom the same will be gladly received, and who will thankfully acknowledge same.

Office—4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

Co-operative Cruises and Tours,

ORGANIZED BY

HENRY S. LUNN, M.D., B.Ch., F.R.G.S., and CONNOP F. S. PEROWNE.

SPECIAL MASONIC CRUISE TO THE HOLY LAND. A Month's Cruise for Twenty-five Guineas, visiting Athens, Constantinople, the Holy Land, and Egypt.

Chaplains: Rev. Canon Child, G.C., and Rev. Canon Bullock, P.G.C.

Wednesday, January 11th	-	-	Leave London, via Dover, Calais, Paris.
Thursday, January 12th	-	-	Leave Marseilles.
Saturday, January 14th	-	-	At Naples.
Tuesday, January 17th	-	-	At Athens.
Wednesday, January 18th	-	-	At Athens.
Saturday, January 21st	-	-	Arrive Jaffa, for Jerusalem, After landing passengers, the vessel will
Sunday, January 22nd	-	-	Arrive Port Said. [proceed to Port Said.]
Tuesday, January 24th	-	-	Depart Port Said.
Wednesday, January 25th	-	-	Arrive Jaffa to embark passengers from Jerusalem.
Thursday, January 26th	-	-	Arrive Alexandria for Cairo.
Tuesday, January 31st	-	-	Depart Alexandria.
Friday, February 3rd	-	-	Arrive Malta, afternoon.
Saturday, February 4th	-	-	At Malta, leaving at midnight.
Monday, February 6th	-	-	Arrive Naples, mid-day.
Tuesday, February 7th	-	-	Depart Naples, mid-day.
Thursday, February 9th	-	-	Arrive Marseilles.
Friday, February 10th	-	-	Arrive London.

The fare includes a second-class return ticket from London to Marseilles, via Dover and Calais. First class, £2 12s 6d extra. Those who start from Marseilles will pay £5 5s less.

Special arrangements will be made for those passengers who desire to travel from Naples via Rome, Florence, and Venice to England. Full details of Land Excursions, with plan of Steamer, on application.

£10 10: £13 13: and £18 18: ROME TOURS.

£10 10s Skating and Tobogganning Winter Parties.

For full particulars, apply Secretary, 5 Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W.

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

WE have obtained an advance copy of the following circular, bearing the signature of Comp. Col. Starkie, and which it is intended to issue to the various Chapters in and around Manchester.

2 Cooper Street, Manchester,

December 1898.

M. E. Sir and Companion,

It is very gratifying to me to observe the progress that Royal Arch Masonry has made in this Province during the past few years. Whilst so gratified I am desirous that there should be a greater uniformity in working the Ceremonies of the Order; and in order that this may be carried into effect I have to enlist the services of the First Principals of Chapters in the Province, bringing before the notice of the Members of their Chapters the Truth Royal Arch Instruction Chapter, No. 1458, as announced in the annexed circular.

By means of a general Chapter of Instruction of this nature for the Province, it is hoped that the result will be a uniform system of working throughout the Province. I have to request that you will take such steps as you may deem needful for bringing this matter before the Members of your Chapter.

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) LE GENDRE N. STARKIE,

Grand Superintendent, East Lancashire.

TRUTH ROYAL ARCH INSTRUCTION CHAPTER, No. 1458.

Preceptor.—Comp. Arthur H. Jefferis P.Z. 645 P.P.G.J.

Assistant Preceptors.—Comps. Buckley Carr P.Z. 993 Prov.G.J., and Charles Swinn P.Z. 204 P.P.G.Std.Br.

Director of Ceremonies.—Comp. Fletcher Armstrong P.Z. 935 P.P.G.A.D.C.

Scribe E.—H. Hellewell, 4 North Corridor, Royal Exchange, Manchester.

Mosley Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester.

This Chapter of Instruction was founded in April 1897, to

afford instruction and improvement to Royal Arch Masons in the working of the Supreme Degree, and for the purpose of preparing Companions to fill the several Offices in their respective Chapters, so that the Exaltation Ceremony may be rendered both impressive and as near perfection as possible, and it is thereby hoped to stimulate zeal in Companions to promote and diffuse the valuable tenets inculcated, enhance the prestige, and further increase the interests in this Degree, "the foundation and keystone of the whole Masonic Structure."

The Chapter meets at 6.30 p.m., on the second Tuesday in the months of January, February, March, April, May, September, October, November, and December.

Officers are appointed at each meeting, for rehearsing the Ceremony of Exaltation at the ensuing meeting.

Annual subscription 6s., no joining fee. (By-Law IV).—Royal Arch Companions desirous of becoming members of this Chapter shall be duly proposed and seconded in open Chapter (or by letter from their respective Chapters, duly signed and vouched for by the 1st Prin. and S.E.), and balloted for at the next regular meeting.

The Instruction Chapter now numbers seventy-four subscribing members.

The annual ball under the auspices of the Morecambe Lodge, No. 156r, was held on Wednesday night, 14th inst., in the Oriental Ballroom of the Winter Gardens, Morecambe. The arrangements reflected every credit on the Committee and on Bro. J. Porter, who had acted as Secretary, and there was a capital attendance. In every way the ball was a great success.

A work on "The Origin and Antiquity of Freemasonry," and its analogy to the Eschatology of the Ancient Egyptians, as witnessed by the "Book of the Dead," and the Great Pyramid of Ghizeh, the first Masonic Temple in the World; by Bro. A. Churchward, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., F.G.S., P.M., P.Z., &c., is announced as in the press. Copies of the book, price 5s each, beautifully illustrated, may be ordered of the Publishers, Sir Joseph Causton and Sons, Ltd., 9 Eastcheap, London, E.C.

FREEMASONRY UNIVERSAL.

By General John Corson Smith Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, 5th October 1898.

TO the student of our philosophy and the earnest inquirer after the deep moral teachings of our symbolism there is much in the past history of Craft Masonry to convince the inquiring mind of the fact, that, in spite of innovations which would be wrought in our system by false teachers, true Freemasonry is and ever has been universal.

Before the Operative Mason was thought of, or Speculative Masonry dreamed of, primitive man sought to know his Divine Maker, and worshipped him in symbolism. The starry firmament was his chart, the earth his trestleboard, and all life his working tools. The sun was to him a symbol of Deity, the moon of companionship and maternity, while the planets were the evidence of the fruitfulness of those factors in the possibilities of this great universe which we inhabit.

Feebly groping for light, as man must have done in the infancy of the world, we find that as his knowledge extended and he met with others engaged in the same search, he became more civilised and tolerant, and as he found others discovering the same truths, worshipping the same grand works of creation and delving deeper into the great mysteries, his mind became enlarged and he became more liberal. A unity of purpose, discoveries of the same symbolism and teachings of the same truths brought early man into companionship, as a belief in the same creed and worship in the same church bring the men of to-day into closer friendship than if of an opposing doctrine.

This early love of symbolism and eager search after the sublime truths soon led man to realise that if the same discoveries could be made by different races, in different climes and under different conditions, that all mankind must have had a common origin, and there must have been but one Creator of them all. This, then, was the source of that sublime sentiment of our Freemasonry: "The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man," and the origin of that equally God-given sentiment of our Brothers of the Orient: "Allah is God. There is but one God, and all mankind are Brethren."

In all ages the most advanced thinkers have been philosophers whose teachings by symbols and hieroglyphics have been of life, death and the resurrection, and to the earliest of these philosophers we are indebted for that classification of our Masonic symbolism and landmarks which is to be found in that trinity of our ancient principles, never to be modified or set aside: "The Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, and the life which is yet to come."

That Masonry existed before any of the schools of philosophy is a well established fact, for the earliest man dwelling in caves was a worker in stone, and as he pushed away from his mountain fastnesses into the plain below he had to build him shelter of stone or other material, the most accessible.

Rudely erected as were the buildings of early days, the workman showed a knowledge wonderfully in advance of the appliances used, and great has been the progress from the time of the cave-dweller to that of the no less hazy period of the builders of the rock-cut caverns and stupendous fortresses of India, or the time-defying temples of grand old Egypt, and the still more modern palaces and cathedrals of mediæval Europe. Through all these ages of the world's history Masonry was in advance of civilisation, spurring man to a higher and nobler destiny. From the time of the unskilled labourer of the cave-dweller to the master builders of India and Egypt, Masonry stood alone and lifted man from ignorance and helplessness to a splendour of semi-barbarism such as the world had never seen.

At that time the study of symbolism began, the schools of philosophy became established, and our ancient Craft had co-workers to help make better. In the erection of those impregnable fortresses and palaces of India, and indestructible pyramids of Egypt, Masonry and Freemasonry became merged, and from that time were one and the same body, Operative and Speculative Masonry.

There are two classes of writers with which I have little patience; one accepts nothing as true unless it be written at the time, and the same be supported by corroborative evidence; the other, those who believe in every tradition which had been handed down for generations. Of the two, I much prefer the latter, as history is often nothing but the record of prejudice, vanity or hatred, while tradition, as a rule, is founded upon fact, though often enlarged or belittled.

At the time or period herein named the Operative Mason called to his assistance the Speculative Mason, found in the schools of philosophy, to help beautify and adorn the temples then in process of erection, and that was ages before the reign of King Solomon. I myself have seen Masonic emblems and symbols engraven, inlaid or painted, on the venerable piles of Masonry and mosques of India, the temples, obelisks and tombs in Egypt,

even to the date palm or acacia, and the box or coffin on the walls of the ruined temples at Luxor, many of which must have been erected five thousand or more years ago.

Brother Lieutenant Commander Henry H. Gorrings, United States Navy, who removed the Cleopatra obelisk now in Central Park, New York, from Alexandria, Egypt, says of this granite shaft that it was one of the second pair of obelisks erected in front of the Temple of the Sun at Heliopolis, 1591 B.C., and the other one of the pair is now on the banks of the Thames, London, England. This obelisk was therefore erected at Heliopolis before the time of the exodus of the children of Israel from their Egyptian bondage, and in front of the Temple of the Sun in which Potiphara the Priest officiated, whose daughter Pharaoh gave to Joseph in marriage. He further states that this obelisk was removed to Alexandria, 22 B.C., and there stood until taken down by himself and removed to New York City.

On the Masonic character of its foundation, Brother Gorrings writes that a committee of Freemasons of the Grand Lodge of Egypt carefully examined, and came to the following conclusion: "That the polished cube found in the east angle corresponds with the Masonic emblem designated the perfect ashlar. The polished square corresponds with the emblem of that name. The rough block found in the west angle corresponds with the rough ashlar. The stone with figures resembling snakes is emblematic of Wisdom, the axis stone is the trestle-board, and the stone adjacent to it bears the Master's Mark. The two implements (also found embedded in the foundation), the iron trowel and lead plummet, are also emblematic of Freemasonry." Brother Gorrings also adds: "It is worthy of record that the Masonic character of the foundation had been affirmed before either of these implements (the iron trowel and lead plummet) was discovered." The piece of soft white limestone found under the polished cube or perfect ashlar was thought to be the symbol of Purity. We submit that little if any stronger evidence of a Masonic character is necessary, or could be required, of the fact that these ancient Egyptians were of our Universal Brotherhood.

Believing as we do that there is not only credible tradition but record evidence of the existence of Freemasonry at a very early period in the world's history, as evidenced in the symbolism engraved on its ancient monuments and temples, and painted on its tombs, and that it was universal to the extent of the civilisation of the day, we are glad to record the fact that the Fraternity only flourished where there was a belief in one God. Then, as now, the corner-stone of our Fraternity was a belief in the one ever-living God, the Grand Omnific Ruler of the Universe, and where that belief existed Freemasonry had a home and an abiding place. The Persians passing into India carried Freemasonry with them, but the Hindus were not Freemasons. Nor have the Chinese nor the Japanese ever been members of our Fraternity, unless they first became Christianised, and we do not know of one of the latter to this day who has become a Freemason. That there are Lodges of Freemasons in each of these countries we are well aware, for we have visited them, but they are supported by Europeans or believers in Islam. In India and the Malay Archipelago we have the Mohammedan and Parsis, followers of Mohammed and Zoroaster, but believers in the one God, be he called Jehovah, Allah, or the Almighty, and these people are devoted Freemasons. The same is true of Egypt, of Africa, Turkey and continental Europe, and we have found the best Freemasonry where the purest Christianity and the most advanced civilisation flourished. This we deem the crowning glory of Freemasonry Universal.

Of what number of degrees that ancient Freemasonry consisted we are not prepared to say, composed as it was of Operative and Speculative workmen. We are satisfied as to the Operative part, for the reason that from time immemorial Operative Masonry has consisted, and must consist, of three degrees or grades, be they called degrees or not, for there must be three classes of workmen.

To be engaged in teaching faith in one God, love of one's fellow men and loyalty to the country, to the exclusion of all religious creeds, was to be ostracised by society and outlawed by the church. In those early times no one dared to record the doings of the Masonic Order any more than in Venice to incur the hostility of the Council of Ten, or the Doge's displeasure.

That the various schools of philosophers, architects and decorators composing the Speculative Masons so soon to be merged into the Freemasons Universal, had many degrees or grades we think probable, but for the Operative Masons, now known as the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, or Freemasons Universal, we affirm that they had three grades then, have the same now, and never had less.

In the erection of those great structures and magnificent temples of Europe, Asia and Africa—and recent discoveries warrant us in adding America—whose overthrown and crumbling walls are the wonder and admiration of the world to this day, there were employed three classes of workmen—Apprentice Masons, Fellow Craft or Journeymen Masons, and Overseers, or

Master Masons—just as they have to-day, and no such handicraft could then or now be successfully conducted without them. History or no history, Grand Lodge or no Grand Lodge, there never was and never will be any other, nor can there be any other classification of any trade, and Masonry is no exception.

Travelling east and north with the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt, we again get a glimpse of Masonry in Syria, and strong evidence of its Egyptian character in the construction of the famous Temple of King Solomon, with its two brazen pillars at the entrance and their ornate adornments. The same are to be found to-day in minarets of the mosques in Africa and Asia, and are but typical of the two obelisks in front of the temples in Egypt. In the middle of the mediæval ages we find great bands of workmen travelling westward through continental Europe, engaged in the erection of palaces, fortresses and cathedrals, which were known to be organised bodies of Masons, and thence still westward to Great Britain, where we have many remaining evidences of their skill in the beautiful ruins of palaces, abbeys and cathedrals. That these bands of roving workmen were Operative and Speculative Masons, and of the great Fraternity of Freemasons Universal, it were useless to deny. It is freely admitted by Masonic students and writers that while it cannot be said where and at what period in the world's history Freemasonry was organised, neither can it truthfully be said when Freemasonry did not exist. And we as truthfully claim that the date of the mergerment of Operative and Speculative Masonry is as obscure as that of its institution. Of one fact we are assured historically, and that is that the Freemasonry of to-day, the Freemasonry of the world, came from those bands of workmen, from those Lodges of architects who erected the famed abbeys of Melrose and Kilwinning, in Scotland, and the many abbeys, palaces, castles and fortresses in England. From those grand old builders, whose stupendous work of Masonry dot Great Britain, continental Europe, Africa and Asia, or lie in picturesque ruins in other lands, came the Grand Lodge of England, of Ireland, of Scotland, of the United States, and other countries.

Freemasonry existed for ages before the Grand Lodge of to-day was ever thought of, as every band of workmen formed their own Lodge, and representatives of the same often met in general assembly for the purpose of mutual counsel and advice.

(To be continued.)

BY THEIR ACTS YE SHALL KNOW THEM.

THERE was a time, in the long ago, when Freemasons, like church members, were known by their deportment in daily life, especially so where they dealt with each other. No show of temper was allowed and no short turns taken. When riled by business, politics, etc., and their hot blood was ready for action, a "still small voice" whispered in their ear, "He is my Brother and I must not strike him, or shed his blood in anger," and continued its kindly admonition by reminding us that "neither indeed have we the right to use language sufficiently insulting to bring on an assault." When, however, we could not contain our wrath, but gave vent to our feelings even with a blow, mutual explanations immediately followed, and a faster friendship in a large number of cases was the result. If this failed official cognizance was taken of the matter by the Master, and the good offices of the Lodge were invoked to "line out" the belligerents, or deal with them according to Masonic law and usage. In those days Masonry was no "respector of persons." All, all alike, were made to act upon the square and live by the plumb line of truth. In those days they were more mindful of a Brother's feelings. In those days neither wealth nor station was a barrier to a close affiliation with the poor Brother. In those days their own reputation and that of their families was sacred, the tongue of scandal was paralysed ere it spoke. In those days the uplifted arm was arrested and the blow stayed that would have felled a Brother. In those days the cries of the widow and orphan were never heard in vain. In short, in those days they lived Masonry because they loved it.

How is it now? Listen, while we tell you. The Mason is only known by being seen in some outdoor procession, by the jewelery he wears, or by affixing several figures to his signature. In his daily walks he knows no difference between his Brother and profane. He will abuse him roundly if occasion presents itself and challenge him to a passage at arms to appease his wounded honour. They "will not speak as they pass by," but continue to nurse their wrath. They defy their Lodge, and the Officers are too "weak-kneed" to regulate them. They attend Lodge occasionally, and if they "get sit down on," as they say, do not hesitate to express themselves after Lodge is over. They are "purse-proud," and think it quite presumptuous to be classed with the poorer members, especially so unless they can do their thinking. They have attained political honours, perhaps, and do society to such an extent that they neither associate with their

Brethren, unless they happen to be in their class, or attend Lodge. They frequent saloons and on convivial occasions "tank up" to such an extent that they could hardly "hit the ground with their hat." They are fond of a "social game," and when in their cups do not hesitate to stand a raise in a jack pot or back a bob-tail flush against two pair or a big dog, greatly to the discomfiture of their poor wife and children, who are hungry and cold at home. Is this Masonry? We wot not.

"Why, the old man has been there, surely," says one. Yes, Brother, we would feel as though we had lived in vain if we fail to profit by what we have seen and heard during the last half century. It is this knowledge that enables us to talk to you as we do and warn you against the pitfalls in your pathway ever open to receive you. It is our intimate association with the members of the Craft that has "put us on to" their shortcomings, and thereby enables us to call "a spade a spade."

Of course we do not mean to say that the entire Fraternity are given to such flagrant violations of the teachings of Masonry, but we do mean to say that those who are guilty know it, and we admonish them to change their course of conduct and "get into line," so that the world at large may know them from a profane without the use of jewelery or figures after their name.

We are led to these remarks by everyday observations, and we must say that the tenets of Masonry are being sadly abused. Members of the Craft are so afraid of being considered cowardly and the Officers of Lodges so afraid of being accused of officiousness that the guilty go unpunished and Masonry is dragged in the dirt. If the Worshipful Masters and members would do the full measure of their duty, and when they hear of "personal tilts" among the Brethren or a flagrant violation of Masonic law and usage, go promptly and report the same, to the end that an amicable settlement may be arrived at or the guilty parties made to answer, Masonry would soon take a different turn, and respect and esteem for the Institution would rapidly reclaim its lost ground.—Bun F. Price, in "American Tyler."

The Great Western Railway Company have entirely remodelled their public time-book, and the revised edition is being issued for January. It contains an excellent map of the Company's system, and upon the cover are views of some of the places of interest served by the line. The type, which is entirely new, is exceedingly clear, and the publication is thoroughly up to date.

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A GENERAL COURT of the GOVERNORS and SUBSCRIBERS of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Thursday, the 12th day of January 1899, at twelve o'clock precisely, on the general business of the Institution; to consider Notice of Motion as under; to approve and declare the List of Candidates for the Election on 13th April next; and to declare the number of Girls then to be elected.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By W. Bro. Frank Richardson P.G.D. Patron.

That Laws 58, 61 and 83 be amended as under:

Law 58.—In third and fourth line in lieu of "(except when that day shall be Christmas Day, and then on the day preceding)" substitute "(except in the month of December, and then on the Thursday preceding)."

Law 61.—After word "month" in 15th line add "(except in the month of December, and then on the Thursday preceding)."

Law 83.—After word "Committee" omit words "on the last Thursday."

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.

31st December 1898.

* * * The 11th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will take place on Wednesday, 10th May next, under the distinguished presidency of the Rt. Hon. VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN, D.L., R.W. Prov. G.M. Somerset. Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary as early as convenient, Stewards being greatly needed.

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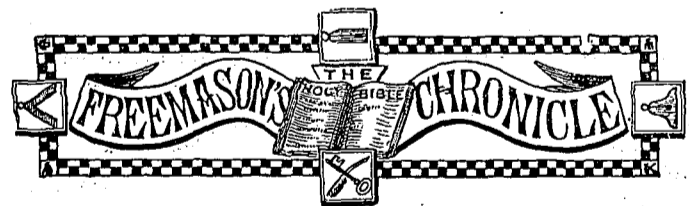
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SATURDAY, 31st DECEMBER 1898.

NEW HALL AT ALDERSHOT.

THE Brethren of Aldershot decided at a recent meeting, under the presidency of Bro. R. Eve P.G. Treasurer, to erect a Masonic Hall. It was arranged that a Company should be formed, and that a piece of land adjoining the site for the new post office in Victoria Road should be purchased for the erection of the Hall. The purchase has since been made, and matters will now go forward with all possible speed.

A proposal is under consideration to provide a Masonic Hall for Burslem. The two Lodges meeting in the town—the St. Martin, No. 98, and the Sutherland, No. 45r—are working together in the matter, which we hope will be brought to a successful issue.

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Fuller 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.

25 Robert Burns, Freemasons'-hall
72 Royal Jubilee, Anderton's
188 Joppa, Freemasons' Tavern
1319 Asaph, Freemasons'-hall
1321 Emblematic, Criterion
1924 Wickham, Brockley
2535 Fellowship, Frascati
2578 National Artillery, Criterion
53 Royal Sussex, Bath
107 Philanthropic, Lynn
113 Unanimity, Preston
119 Sun, Sq. & Compass, Whiteh'v'n
135 Perpetual Friendship, B'water
154 Unanimity, Wakefield
156 Harmony, Plymouth
199 Peace and Harmony, Dover
251 Loyal, Barnstaple
328 St. John, Torquay
331 Phoenix Ho. & Prudence, Truro
338 Vitruvian, Ross
395 Guy, Leamington
422 Yarborough, Gainsboro'
428 Sincerity, Northwich
431 St. George, N. Shields
441 Three Grand Principles, C'b'dge
482 St. James, Handsworth
529 Semper Fidelis, Worcester
622 St. Cuthberga, Wimborne
839 Rl. Gloucestershire, Gloucester
850 St. Oswald, Ashbourne
928 Friendship, Petersfield
959 Prince of Wales, Ipswich
977 Fowey, Fowey
1045 Stamford, Altrincham
1050 Gundolph, Rochester
1051 Rowley, Lancaster
1071 Zetland, Saltash
1077 Wilton, Blackley
1180 Forward, Birmingham
1211 Goderich, Leeds
1239 Wentworth, Sheffield
1254 Semper Fidelis, Exeter
1264 Neptune, Liverpool
1399 Marlborough, Woodstock
1434 Nottinghamshire, Nottingham
1452 St. Margaret, Lowestoft
1573 Carodoc, Swansea
1954 Molesworth, Wadebridge
2039 Londonderry, Sunderland
2163 Jersey, Southall
2166 Cotchele, Calstock
2497 Carville, Wallsend-on-Tyne
2520 P. of Wales, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2525 Thurston, Coniston
2533 Fitzwilliam, Peterborough
2586 St. Nicholas, Scarborough

Tuesday.

9 Albion, Freemasons'-hall
172 Old Concord, F.M.H.
765 St. James, Southwark
1472 Henley, North Woolwich
1662 Beaconsfield, Walthamstow
2032 Richmond, Richmond
52 Union, Norwich
70 St. John, Plymouth
103 Beauford, Bristol
120 Palladian, Hereford
124 Marquis of Granby, Durham
158 Adam, Sheerness
209 Etonian, Windsor
226 Benevolence, Littleboro'
252 Harmonic, Dudley
265 Royal Yorkshire, Keighley
315 Royal York, Brighton
340 Alfred, Oxford
364 Cambrian, Neath
393 St. David, Berwick
421 Loyal of Industry, S'thmolton
457 Loyal Monmouth, Monmouth
493 Royal Lebanon, Gloucester
510 St. Martin, Liskeard
558 Temple, Folkestone
660 Camalodunum, New Malton
673 St. John, Liverpool
734 Londesborough, Bridlington
794 Warden, Sutton Coldfield
804 Carnarvon, Havant
847 Fortesque, Honiton
948 St. Barnabas, Linslade
960 Bute, Cardiff
974 Pentalpha, Bradford
995 Furness, Ulverston
1002 Skiddaw, Cockermouth
1072 Aberystwith, Aberystwith

1134 Newall, Manchester
1197 Nyanza, Ilminster
1222 Saint Kew, Weston-super-Mare
1244 Marwood, Redcar
1282 Ancholme, Brigg
1336 Square & Compasses, Wrexham
1488 St. Eleth, Almwch
1509 Madoc, Portmadoc
1619 Sackville, East Grinstead
1726 Gordon, Bognor
1780 Albert Edward, Southampton
1785 St. Petroc, Padstow
1807 Loyal Wye, Builth
1908 Cholmondeley, Frodsham
1970 Hadrian, South Shields
2129 Dorothy Vernon, Bakewell
2133 Swan of Avon, Stratford-on-Avon
2260 Ridley, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2290 Fairfield, Fairfield

Wednesday.

1298 Royal Standard, Highbury
1306 St. John, Guildhall Tavern
1687 Rothesay, Frascati
74 Athol, Birmingham
94 Phoenix, Sunderland
137 Amity, Poole
159 Brunswick, East Stonehouse
164 Perseverance, Sidmouth
168 Mariner, Guernsey
279 St. John, Leicester
282 Bedford, Tavistock
287 Unanimity, Stockport
298 Harmony, Rochdale
326 Moira of Honour, Bristol
327 St. John, Wigton
406 N'thern Counties, N'castle-on-T.
417 Faith & Unanimity, Dorchester
429 Royal Navy, Ramsgate
471 Silurian, Newport, Mon.
678 Earl Ellesmere, Farnworth
929 Waveney, Bungay
970 St. Anne, East Loos
992 St. Thomas, Manchester
1003 Prince of Wales, Jersey
1004 Athole, Douglas, Isle of Man
1010 Kingston, Hull
1013 Royal Victoria, Liverpool
1085 Hartington, Derby
1167 Alwrick, Alwrick
1205 Methem, E. Stonehouse
1206 Cinque Ports, Sandwich
1274 Earl Durham, Chester-le-Street
1333 Athelstan, Atherstone
1335 Lindsey, Wigan
1354 Marquis of Lorne, Leigh
1431 St. Alphege, Solihull
1461 Clausentum, Woolston
1478 Lougheat, Warminster
1532 Bective, Carlisle
1620 Marlborough, Liverpool
1660 Arlecdon, Frizzington
1736 St. John, Halifax
1862 Stranton, West Hartlepool
2193 Queen Jubilee, Nelson
2200 Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells
2224 Fairfield, Long Eaton
2334 Jersey, Bicester
2368 Alan, Alderley Edge
2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
2391 Orde-Powlett, Middlesborough
2453 Duke of York, Cardiff
2464 Longsight, Longsight
2495 Goodacre, Bootle
2556 Glyn Ebbw, Ebbw Vale
2560 Earl of Lathom, Bury

Thursday.

538 La Tolerance, Freemasons'-hall
1288 Finsbury Park, Highbury
1383 Friends in C'ncil, 33, G'den Sq.
1445 Prince Leopold, Aldgate
1790 Old England, Thornton Heath
1950 Southgate, Beale's, Holloway
1963 Duke of Albany, Camberwell
2291 West Ham Abbey, Stratford
24 Newcastle O.T., Newcastle
31 United Industrious, Canterbury
38 Union, Chichester
41 Royal Cumberland, Bath
110 Loyal O'brian, Merthyr-Tydvil
114 British Union, Ipswich
195 Hengis', 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
792 Pelham Pillar, Grimshy
856 Restormel, Lostwithiel
913 Pattison, Plumstead
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, Lymm
1639 Watling St., Stony Stratford
1770 Vale of White Horse, Faringdon
1829 Burrell, Brighton
1874 Lechmere V'nt'r, Balsall H'th
1899 Wellesley, Sandhurst
2043 Kendrick, Reading
2321 Acacia, Bradford
2342 Easterford, Kelyedon
2350 Corinthian, Hindley

2386 Clarence, Chester
2496 Wirral, Birkenhead

Friday.

90 St. John, Albion
554 Yarborough, Fenchurch Street
2076 Quator Coronati, F'masons'-h.
2488 Eccentric, Criterion
2511 St. John at Hackney, Hackney
242 St. George, Doncaster
306 Alfred, Leeds
375 Lambton, Durham
521 Truth, Huddersfield
574 Loy. Berkshire Hope, Newbury
601 St. John, Wellington, Salop
709 Invicta of Ashford, Ashford
751 Eastnor, Ledbury
837 De Grey and Ripon, Ripon
936 Adair, Aldeburgh
1009 Shakspeare, Manchester
1230 Barnard, Barnard Castle
1375 Architect, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1405 Southwell, Nottingham
1458 Truth, Manchester
1561 Morecambe, Morecambe
1648 Prince of Wales, Bradford
1664 Gosforth, Gosforth
1725 Douglas, Maidstone
1754 Windsor, Penarth
1838 Tudor Rifle V'nt'rs., W'r'h'pton
1993 Wolseley, Manchester
2433 Minerva, Birkenhead
2491 White Rose of York, Sheffield
2569 St. Trillo, Colwyn Bay

Saturday.

1572 Carnarvon, Albion
2182 Sterndale Bennett, Camberwell
1388 Canynges, Bristol
1550 Prudence, Plymouth
2077 Epping, Chingford
2323 Bushey Hall, Bushey
2493 Vale of Eden, Appleby
2499 North Kent, Bexley Heath
2541 St. Andrew, Avonmouth

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REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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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CONFIDENCE LODGE, No. 193.

THE annual election meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, 12th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, when the Worshipful Master Bro. E. Pennock presided, being supported by Bros. T. Kington I.P.M., G. Spice S.W., John W. Simeons J.W., W. Kershaw P.M. Treas., E. J. Davey P.M. Secretary, W. Cutting S.D., Sidney W. Fells J.D., M. Bailey I.G., E. H. Lough Org., and L. G. Reinhardt Tyler.

Among others present were Past Masters F. S. Plowright, G. P. Nightingale, S. Smithers, W. Corbett, and E. Walesby; a large number of other members, and the following Visitors: Bros. O. T. Hodges P.M. 44, A. Penny 2426, P. Smith 2626, H. Broadway 1920, J. Wynman, &c.

The Lodge having been regularly opened, and the minutes confirmed, was advanced to the second degree, when Bros. Johnstone and Delmonte were examined and entrusted, they being afterwards received in a Lodge of Master Masons, and regularly raised to the full benefits of the Craft.

Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when Bros. Frank Fells, G. F. Carr, and G. Favrand were entrusted, and then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft.

Lodge was again resumed to the first degree, and Mr. Charles H. Brain was presented as a candidate, after a successful ballot had been taken on his behalf. In due course he was initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry.

The election of Officers was next proceeded with, the result being that Bro. George Spice S.W. was unanimously promoted to the position of Worshipful Master-elect. Bro. John Fells P.M. was elected Treasurer (Bro. Kershaw P.M. having resigned the position), and Bro. Reinhardt was re-elected Tyler.

A proposition was brought forward by the Secretary, that the sum of three guineas be voted from the Lodge as a temporary relief to a Brother in distress, and this was unanimously agreed to.

A sum of ten guineas was voted to provide a testimonial for the retiring Master, as a mark of the appreciation of the Lodge of the able manner in which Bro. Pennock had fulfilled the duties of the chair during his year of office.

Other business having been disposed of the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren repaired to refreshment, following which the customary toast list was honoured.

Bro. Kington I.P.M. had very much pleasure in submitting the toast of the Worshipful Master. He would not have the opportunity of doing so on many more occasions, and he gladly availed himself of the chance of testifying to the fact that Bro. Pennock had faithfully discharged the duties of the Lodge during his Mastership; his working had been perfection.

The W.M. was most heartily received, and tendered his thanks for the toast. He specially referred to the kind manner in which the Brethren and Officers had supported and assisted him during his year of office, and promised to more fully express his feelings at the next meeting.

The toast of the Initiate was duly proposed, and Bro. Brain, in replying, said he was very pleased he had been accepted as a Brother in the Lodge. In time to come he hoped to prove to the Brethren that they had nothing to regret in having admitted him.

The W.M.-elect was next toasted, the W.M. feeling the Brethren had chosen the right man to preside in the Lodge, and hoping the members would give him the same support as he had received during the year then closing.

Bro. Spice's great popularity in the Lodge was evidenced when he rose to reply. He said the reception accorded him fairly took his breath away. He could only thank the Brethren most heartily for having elected him Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and promised to give them the satisfaction they had a right to expect from their Master.

A hearty welcome was accorded the visitors, and several of the guests responded to the toast.

Some excellent harmony was given during the evening, under the direction of Bro. E. H. Lough Organist of the Lodge, who presided at the piano with his usual ability.

PROVINCIAL.

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ENDEAVOUR LODGE, No. 830.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Queen's Arms Hotel, Dukinfield, on Tuesday, 20th inst., when a good muster of members and visitors attended, including Bros. Edward Davies W.M., Wm. Adams W.M.-elect, James Radcliffe P.M. Treasurer (thirty-three years a member of the Lodge), Jno. Hanson J.W., E. Howard, D. W. Pickering, W. Hulme, Walter Newton (Mayor of Ashton) P.M. P.P.G.S.D. also P.P.G.J.D. (E.L.), J. Mercer Jones P.M. 1322 P.P.G.A.P. (E.L.), W. Kenworthy P.M. 89 P.P.G.A.D.C., John Marland P.M. P.P.G.A.P., S. Booth P.M. P.P.G.F., Seth Flitcroft P.M. P.P.G.A.P. Sec., G. W. Davies P.M. 1459 P.P.G.S. (E.L.), Thos. Sturgeon S.W. 625, A. Cooper W.M. 1322, James Fitton P.M. 268 P.P.G.S., Ernest Moss P.M. 268 P.P.G.Swd. Bearer.

Lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes were read and confirmed, as also the Auditors' report, which was highly satisfactory.

Bro. W. Newton P.M., Mayor of Ashton, then took the principal chair, and appointed the Installing Officers, viz.: Jno. Marland P.M. P.P.G.A.P. S.W., J. Mercer Jones P.M. 1322 J.W., James Radcliffe P.M. Deacon, and G. W. Davies P.M. 1459 I.G.

The W.M.-elect being duly presented, was obligated, and a Board of Installed Masters being opened he was admitted and installed, Bro. W. Newton conducting the ceremony in a dignified and spirited fashion.

The following were appointed Officers for the year ensuing: Bros. E. Davies I.P.M., Jno. Hanson S.W., Edwin Howard J.W., D. W. Pickering S.D., W. Hulme J.D., James Radcliffe P.M. Treasurer (25th time in

succession), W. Newton P.M. P.P.G.S.D. D.C., Seth Flitcroft P.M. P.P.G.A.P. Secretary, A. Heap Organist, J. Brooke I.G., F. Vaughan, E. Hulme, N. Kenworthy Stewards, Dan Birkby Tyler.

Hearty good wishes having been tendered to the W.M., Lodge was closed, and the Brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet, Bro. Adams W.M. presiding.

The post prandial proceedings were highly enjoyable, and characterised by brevity of speech, and devotion to harmony. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were submitted and duly honoured.

Bro. E. Davies I.P.M. proposed that of the W.M., and in a pithy speech said words failed him to express the many good traits of character possessed by the W.M. Bro. Adams, on whom they had that night conferred the sovereign sway, and who he hoped would have health, strength and wisdom to perform the duties of his high station with credit and honour. He heartily wished him a prosperous, harmonious, and successful year of office. Bro. W. Pownall 1144 gave the song "Here's to his Health."

The W.M., responding, said he thanked the I.P.M. for the kind way in which he had spoken of his services in the Lodge, and the Brethren for their hearty reception. That was "the last and greatest trial," but it was a highly gratifying position in which he had that day been placed by his Brethren. By the help of his Officers, of whom he felt very proud, and the encouragement of the Past Masters, he hoped to justify the choice the Brethren had made, and prove worthy of the confidence reposed in him.

Bro. S. Booth P.M. P.P.G.P., in giving the Installing Master Brother Newton, and his assistants, said all knew the able and efficient manner in which Bro. Newton was wont to go through all the degrees in Masonry, but in the ceremony of installation that day he had excelled himself. The work had been gone through without hurry—calmly, thoroughly, and with such efficiency as might be equalled in few Lodges, but it would be excelled by none. Bro. Newton was one of the best Masons in the Province, and by his perseverance and patient industry had won distinction in the Craft, not only in his own Province, but in the neighbouring one of East Lancashire. He had known him from a boy, and knew him to be kind hearted, and one of the most genial men he had ever met. In his public capacity, with patient, untiring energy he had worked himself up to the highest position, viz.: Chief Magistrate of his native town. He stood before them that day as the Mayor of Ashton, which spoke volumes for his merit and ability. He had much pleasure in asking them to drink deeply to his health.

Bro. Newton, on rising to respond, was received with acclamation. After thanking Bro. Booth for his kind expressions, and the Brethren for the kind and hearty reception accorded the toast, he said if he had gained their approbation for the work he had done, which was a labour of love to him, he was amply repaid. He had performed the ceremony of installing the W.M. four years in succession in that Lodge, and on one occasion he did the whole of the work, which was a big task; he then decided for the future to divide the work, and thought it had a better effect. He took the opportunity to thank Bro. J. Fitton P.M. 268 for kindly assisting him in giving the addresses, and he hoped the day was not far distant when some of the Past Masters would undertake to do some at least of the ceremony. He had been thirty-two years a Mason, and had always tried to do his duty faithfully in whatever position he was placed. As to his position as Mayor of Ashton, it was out of place to say anything there, but he trusted the G.A.O.T.U. would grant to him health of body, strength of mind, and soundness of judgment, to execute with fidelity and zeal, firmness and decision, the important duties of his station.

Bro. Fitton, in a choice little speech, said when he was thanked at all he was thanked enough. He had done his duty and had done no more, but if he had by his little efforts afforded satisfaction and the Brethren of Endeavour wished him to assist at any time, he would be pleased to respond to their call.

Bro. J. Hulme P.M., in proposing the Visitors, said he had no set speech. The visitors were a good sample of Freemasons, most of them being well known workers in the Lodges to which they belonged. On behalf of the Lodge he gave one and all a hearty welcome, and hoped to have the pleasure of their company at some subsequent meeting.

Several Brethren suitably responded, all expressing the pleasure of being present at the meeting, which had been so successfully carried out, both in the working in the Lodge, and the hospitality at the festive board.

The W.M., in proposing the Officers of the Lodge, said he was proud to have the support of so able and efficient a staff of Officers, with whom he hoped to render good work.

Bro. James Radcliffe P.M., in reply, said he had been thirty-three years a member of the Lodge, and that day he had been appointed Treasurer for the twenty-fifth time in succession. He went on to give some pleasing and interesting reminiscences of his experience in connection with his visits to London, and to Grand Lodge. He witnessed the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., and told some rich little anecdotes which were much enjoyed.

Bro. W. Newton proposed the Masonic Charities, and waxed warm and eloquent in advocating their claims. They set foot to foot on Mercy's errand when they heard a Brother's cry. Charity, ever lovely in itself, was one of the brightest gems that adorned the Masonic profession. It was the best and surest proof of the sincerity of their religion. Benevolence, attended by Heaven-born Charity, was their highest honour, and their pride. Look what had already been done. Notice how tender it wiped away the widow's tears, how strong in gathering the orphans to its sheltering breast, how courageous in its support of the Aged, the poor, and the helpless. See the never fading monuments erected to its memory, in the Girls and Boys Schools. Let them never withhold a liberal hand, and the produce of Love and Charity would most assuredly follow.

After the Tyler's toast, and the National Anthem, the meeting ended, everyone being well pleased with the proceedings.

ST. THOMAS LODGE, No. 992.

THE annual meeting and Festival of St. John took place at the Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton, Manchester, on Wednesday, 7th inst., Brother James Mumby W.M.

The Lodge was opened at one o'clock, the summons indicating a numerical addition of four, namely, Bro. William Coop, Prestwich, Ashton Lodge, No. 1140, as a joining member; Messrs. Oliver Davies, Cheetham, and William Hardman, Grappenhall, near Warrington, as initiates; and Bro. Williamson, a candidate for the third degree, which ceremonies were duly performed.

A Board of Installed Masters was formed as follows: Bros. W. Martin Installing W.M., A. B. Wightman S.W., T. W. McGill J.W., Thomas Threlfall P.P.G.S. I.G., and J. Hancock P.P.G.S.B. Deacon, whereupon the ceremony of installing Bro. John Jarvis Millson S.W. into the chair of K.S. was proceeded with. Bro. Martin was very ably assisted by the above named

Past Masters, and also by Bros. J. W. Millward P.P.G.S. of Wks. Secretary, Mumby I.P.M., and Ald. J. J. Meakin P.P.G.W.

The following is a list of Officers for the ensuing year: Bros. R. Taylor S.W., Ch. Truby J.W., T. Threlfall P.M. P.P.G. Std. Chaplain, J. Hancock P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Treasurer, J. W. Millward P.M. P.P.G.S. of Wks. Secretary, W. Hawkins P.M. D.C., F. D. Dean S.D., H. Mason J.D., W. Mann I.G., Geo. Owen Organist, J. C. Poyser Senior Steward, J. H. Baker, C. Knott, G. H. Wade, H. Royle, W. H. Burke, and D. T. Clegg Stewards.

In addressing Bro. Threlfall, whom the W.M. had invested as Chaplain of the Lodge, Bro. Millward mentioned the fact that this was a new departure, it having been thirty years since the appointment of his predecessor.

In addressing the Treasurer, Bro. Millward revealed the fact that Bro. Hancock had already held the position for ten years in succession, and of Bro. George Owen he said that the latter had contributed to the harmony of the Lodge for a period of seven years.

The Brethren afterwards sat down to a sumptuous banquet, Loyal and Masonic toasts being pleasantly varied by songs and recitations, the contributors being Bros. J. C. Poyser, Walter Perkins, Robert Taylor, H. Mason, Edward Roberts P.M. 1459, and others.

Bros. Meakin and Hancock responded to the toast of the Provincial Grand Officers, the former saying that as a body of men they ought to be respected. He stated the task assigned to the Provincial Grand Master was a difficult one, for he had to apportion the various positions to the Brethren; but nevertheless his selections were always judicious, for he had at heart the good of the Order. With regard to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, he deeply regretted that he was not present with them that evening, and still in another sense he was glad of the fact, for he could not now hear what he had to say about him. He had met Bro. Capt. Royds in other walks of life, and he had always found him ready and willing to help where he could, and in doing this seemed rather to be accepting a favour than bestowing one. The speaker reverted to the death of the Earl of Lathom, in very touching language, saying that the country had sustained a very great loss.

Bro. Mumby I.P.M. proposed the health of the newly installed Worshipful Master, praising his work in Lodge, and paying him a high tribute generally.

Bro. Millson W.M. responded, saying it would be more than human if he had been unmoved by the welcome accorded him, which gave him confidence in himself and in his Officers, whom he knew were a competent body, and from whom he should expect plenty of work, without which success could not be attained. He mentioned in warm terms the Lodge of Instruction, and strongly advised the Brethren to attend its meetings. He also reverted to the forthcoming ball in connection with the Lodge, and welcomed all the Brethren on the occasion.

The health of the candidates was proposed and duly responded to, after which the W.M. proposed that of the I.P.M., speaking in high terms of his various qualifications, and of his attention to Lodge duties, in return for which the Brethren were desirous of making, through him, a slight recognition. It took the form of a Past Master's jewel, which had been subscribed for by the members, and showed their good feeling toward the I.P.M. It bore the following inscription:—

Presented
by the Brethren of St. Thomas Lodge, 992,
to W. BRO. JAMES MUMBY, P.M.
in recognition of his services as W.M. 1897-8.
7th Dec. 1898.

Bro. Mumby responded, saying he had been praised far more than he deserved. In the course of a very excellent speech he stated he had been a Mason for eight years, and during the whole of that time had only been absent from Lodge on one occasion. Whatever his work, and however successful it may have been, he had always been well assisted by the Past Masters.

Bro. Samuel Moore P.M. P.P.G.S. of Wks. proposed the health of the Installing Master, explaining in the course of some very interesting remarks about the Craft in general, that many years ago a certain Bro. Baldwin was the one man who seemed capable of performing an installation ceremony. He (Bro. Moore) had been the first member of St. Thomas Lodge to instal his successor into the chair of K.S., and thus establish a new order of procedure.

Bro. Martin P.M. responded, saying it had been expressed more than once that such an occasion as this occurred only once in a man's lifetime. He had, however, installed twice previously, and he felt that night that he had performed the ceremony for one who was eminently worthy of the position. He did not mean to assert that Bro. Millson was the best in Lodge, for some very good Masters had preceded him, but he must admit that he was a good specimen, and one who would raise the Lodge to a high position in the Province. He thanked them very cordially for their enthusiastic acceptance of his name. Other toasts followed.

Besides those already mentioned there were present Past Masters C. R. Hardman 1055 2349, W. F. Farrington 1633, Wm. Mosley 1773, Chas. Turner 1011 P.P.A.G.D.C., Worshipful Masters G. Hackin 852, J. H. Yates 935, Dr. F. Stephenson 1534, Thos. Nesbitt 1055, Wm. Thos. Bleas 1773, and others.

EGERTON LODGE, No. 1030.

THE regular meeting was held at the George Hotel, Heaton Norris, on Monday, 19th inst.

In the absence of the W.M. Bro. Broome I.P.M. occupied the principal chair, and initiated Messrs. Harold Halker Broome, and James Bell Martindale into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, being assisted by Bro. Thos. Knott P.M. Secretary.

CONCORD LODGE, No. 1534.

A REGULAR meeting was held at Prestwich, on Thursday, 15th inst., Bro. Dr. F. Stephenson W.M.

There was a good array of work before the Officers, in the shape of three ceremonies. The first, which was that of balloting for and initiating Mr. Herbert Speakman, Rubber Merchant, Prestwich, was performed by Bro. W. B. Midgley P.M.; the second, that of passing Bro. Wm. Thos. Walker to the degree of F.C., was performed by the W.M.; whilst the third, that of raising Bro. A. S. Woodhouse to the sublime degree of M.M., fell to the lot of Bro. H. B. Fawcett I.P.M.

ALBERT VICTOR LODGE, No. 1773.

THE regular meeting was held at the Town Hall, Pendleton, on Friday, 16th inst., Bro. Wm. Thos. Bleas W.M.

There was a good attendance, the principal business being that of balloting for and initiating Mr. Wm. Goodman Edwards Rees, M.A., Clerk in Holy Orders, and Mr. Chas. Joshua Bower, Silk Yarn Agent, Manchester, the ceremonies being performed by Bros. T. M. Boorn P.M., and the W.M. respectively.

The usual festive board followed.

ZION LODGE, No. 1798.

THE annual meeting and Festival of St. John of Jerusalem took place at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, on Wednesday, 14th instant, Brother Bernhard Steel W.M., when there was a good attendance of members and visitors.

A passing and a raising had been announced, but these were abandoned for the more important function of installing Brother Mark Steel J.W. into the chair of K.S. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Bernhard Steel W.M., assisted by Past Masters S. Mamelok Prov.G.J.D., George Board P.P.G.J.D., and Leon E. Levy.

No doubt the similarity in name will have suggested the tie of affinity existing between the retiring W.M. and the incoming Master, and the circumstance of one brother installing a natural brother into the principal chair as his immediate successor is a circumstance of such an exceptional character as previously not to have come under our observation; it therefore deserves especial record.

The Officers for the year 1899 are as follow: Bros. Philip Joseph S.W., William Dagnall J.W., Simon Mamelok P.M. P.P.G.J.D. Treasurer, Jacques H. Phillips Secretary, Henry Norris S.D., Morris Phillips J.D., George Boëff P.M. P.P.G.J.D. D.C., Louis Mistovski I.G., Nathan Robinson and H. B. Morris Stewards.

A very excellent banquet followed these proceedings, presided over by Bro. Mark Steel W.M., who had the support of Bros. Capt. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, Fortitude Lodge, No. 64, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, C. D. Cheatham P.M. 993 P.P.G.W., Joseph T. Richardson P.M. 581 2387 P.P.S.G.D., Walter Grant P.M. 279 (Leicester) P.P.S.G.D., Fred Batty P.M. 2231 P.P.G.S.B., and others.

Loyal and Masonic toasts were very pleasantly varied by the musical and recitative efforts of Bros. Levy, J. H. Phillips, L. Frankenstein, T. Fitz Simmons W.M. 1083, and others.

Bro. Capt. Royds D.P.G.M. proposed the toast usually connected with the name of the Pro Grand Master, this being drunk in silence. Bro. Royds said he had known the Earl of Lathom from boyhood, and he sincerely grieved that he had gone from among them. The late Pro Grand Master was a man who had been revered and loved by all who had come in contact with him. It had been said that there was to be found as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it, and he should not dispute the point. No doubt a very efficient successor to Lord Lathom would be found, and one who possessed qualifications for the post, but he scarcely expected to find in their new ruler one who had distinguished himself in so wide a field of Masonic labour. Bro. Royds reverted to the manifold offices held by the late Earl, which included amongst others those of Pro Grand Master, Provincial Grand Master West Lancashire, Pro Grand Z, Prov. Grand Superintendent West Lancashire, Past Grand Mark Master, Most Puissant Sov. Gr. Commander, &c. The speaker wondered how it was possible for one man, holding so many positions, to fulfil the duties of each, but the late Lord Lathom had accomplished it most successfully, and it would indeed be a difficult matter to replace him. He was a man beloved not only in his own Province but throughout the length and breadth of England.

In responding on behalf of the Grand Officers, Bro. Royds said that with regard to the ceremony of installation performed that day, he hoped he should always see it as well done. He highly commended those who had participated in it. He would like to see a general uniformity in Craft working, and pointed out one or two matters where differences sometimes existed. It would be his aim to bring about such uniformity, and he would be willing on any occasion to render what assistance he could in explaining points which the Brethren might think were difficult.

Bros. Cheatham and Batty replied to the toast of the Provincial Grand Officers. The former said he could admit, in the absence of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (who had just retired), that he had never heard him speak to better advantage, and it was perhaps attributable to the effect which the excellently performed ceremony had had upon him. On a former visit, when he (Bro. Cheatham) had solicited the Zion Lodge on behalf of the Boys Centenary, the members had responded right royally to the extent of £60. If other Lodges had only responded in like manner it would have placed the Province of East Lancashire first on the list of that magnificent and unequalled charitable collection of £141,000.

Bro. J. Gershon P.M. proposed the health of the newly-installed Worshipful Master, paying him a very high tribute, not only as an enterprising business man, but as a young and extremely enthusiastic Mason.

Bro. Mark Steel W.M. responded, saying he could scarcely find words in which to express his feelings. When first initiated into Freemasonry he had no idea he would make such rapid progress, but he had been very fortunate, and must consider it a great honour; in fact he held a position which was unique if it could be judged by what the various speakers had said. He would adopt the excellent advice tendered by Bro. Gershon, and endeavour to follow in the footsteps of those who had preceded him, which he could do with no little confidence, knowing as he did that he would be supported by a body of Officers second to none, who would do credit to their various positions.

Bro. Mamelok proposed the health of the I.P.M., saying that with regard to the incoming Master it was anticipation; but in the outgoing one it was realisation; for they had all been familiar with his work. He spoke very highly of the various ceremonies as performed by Bro. Bernhard Steel, of his tactful way, and of the strict impartiality which had governed his actions. He had evinced a through interest in the Lodge and its work; it would therefore be ungrateful on the part of the Brethren if they did not show some little esteem towards him. On behalf of the members of the Zion Lodge he had the honour of presenting the Immediate Past Master a handsome gold jewel, as a mark of their appreciation. The jewel bore the following inscription:—

Presented to
Worshipful BROTHER BERNHARD STEEL P.M. Zion Lodge, 1798,
for valuable services rendered as W.M.
1897-8.

Bro. Bernhard Steel I.P.M. responded, saying it was always pleasant to hear nice things said of one. If he did not deserve them he at least had tried to do so. He felt especially grateful to Bro. Mamelok for the kind expressions which he had used towards him, for that Brother was usually chary in giving Masonic praise, so that when such sentiments as those just heard were

expressed there must be something in them. He must also thank the Provincial Grand Officers for their words of commendation. He attributed his success to the fact that he had adhered as far as possible to ritual, feeling sure that it was far easier to do a thing properly than to bungle it. He appreciated the Zion Lodge, and, admitting his indebtedness to it for many pleasures and kindnesses, hoped he would never regret being a member of it. He thought the fact of the installation of a brother as one's immediate successor in the chair of a Lodge was unique in Freemasonry, but he believed the junior had thoroughly qualified himself for his exalted position. In thanking the Brethren for the very handsome jewel presented to him he said he hoped it would ever remind him of the great pleasures he had experienced as a member of the Lodge. He had always received every consideration from members and Officers, and he felt well disposed, not only to the Brethren of the Lodge, but towards all those whom he had met as Masons.

Several toasts followed, that of the Visitors being responded to by, among others, Bro. Ephraim Harris P.M. 815, headmaster in the school where both the Brothers Steel received their first courses of instruction. Bro. Harris delivered a very interesting speech, mentioning the fact that his own son (also a Freemason), who had been class-mate and particular friend of the W.M., had two years ago met his death in South Africa, whilst fighting the battles of his country.

The two Brethren whose portraits we now present to the reader do not lay claim to any very lengthened connection with the Craft.



BRO. BERNHARD STEEL.

Bro. Bernhard Steel I.P.M. of the Zion Lodge was initiated in the Caledonian Lodge, No. 204, Manchester, in the year 1884. He remained a member for about four years, and joined the Zion Lodge in 1893, passing through the offices of I.G., J.W., S.W., and W.M. In June last, as Steward, he attended the Boys Centenary meeting held in London.

Many years ago he was connected with a famous Parliamentary Debating Society which met at Stretford (but is now registered amongst the obits), afterwards taking an active part in general political matters. Of late years he has more especially devoted himself to Jewish communal subjects, and is very popular, being not only a member of their Board of Guardians, but also connecting himself with several other kindred institutions.

For three years he has held the position of President of the Jewish Workman's Club, which claims to be the largest of its kind in the country, containing as it does considerably over a thousand members, and comprising both sexes in its sodality.

Last year we heard Bro. Steel's pronouncement when unanimously selected for the principal chair. He then promised to do his best to deserve the confidence which had been placed in him; and although we are aware that as a rule ante-election promises are not redeemed by post-election performances, yet being a young man of ability it was not long before his promises became fruition, for he did not prove derelict in any duty which was assigned to him.

His career in Masonry has perhaps not been a remarkably brilliant one, but being ever content to labour steadily with patient reticence, it has been genuinely conscientious and just, and this without the display of any unctuous rectitude, the very excellence of his work marking him out for distinction on the circumscribed stage of Masonry, where he was always "en-scène," whilst his jocose manner lightened the duties of the festive board, so that there he was a real "persona gratissima."



BRO. MARK STEEL,
W.M. OF THE ZION LODGE, No. 1798.

The claims of Bro. Mark Steel to Masonic distinction are by no means ancillary, for although his brother Bernhard has acted to a great extent as "guide, philosopher, and friend," and has even performed the sponsorial act of placing him in the principal chair as his successor, yet the newly-installed W.M. has displayed a certain amount of conspicuous ability, thus justifying the members of the Zion Lodge in their belief that they have secured a good Officer.

The two remarkable circumstances in connection with his position are the facts, firstly that he was installed by his own brother, and secondly that he is probably the youngest Mason holding the important position of Master, his age being twenty-seven years only.

No doubt his work will be quiet and unostentatious, but from our knowledge of him it will be correct, and his uniformly pleasant demeanour, if maintained as heretofore, will add additional strength to the loyalty which the Brethren of the Lodge have ever evinced towards him.

INSTRUCTION.

WESTBOURNE LODGE, No. 733.

ON Tuesday, 13th inst., at the Oliver Arms, Westbourne Terrace North, Harrow Road, W., Bros. G. Weaver W.M., G. Barter W.M.-elect 2362 S.W., W. Handover J.W., R. J. Rogers P.M. Treasurer, E. Dehane P.M. Preceptor, G. Mogford P.M. Sec., Jackson Crow S.D., T. Marks J.D., E. Thomas I.G., C. Graham, T. Mogford P.M., J. Matthews, E. White, C. Halston, J. Wynman, &c.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed; Bro. Matthews candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed.

Bro. Barter W.M.-elect of the Bloomsbury Rifles Lodge was elected to preside on the first Tuesday in January.

IMPERIAL LODGE, No. 1694.

ON Tuesday, 20th inst., at Bro. Douglas White's, the Pier Hotel, Chelsea, Bros. J. Braddick W.M., D. Beveridge S.W., G. E. White J.W., A. Schott Sec., R. Hicks S.D., C. Tuckfield J.D., E. Barwell I.G., and several others.

The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. W. Norton candidate. The W.M. resumed the Lodge to the first degree, and then kindly vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Schott Secretary, who, after calling off and on, rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, with Bro. Franklin acting as candidate.

Bro. David Beveridge was elected a member, and was also chosen to preside on Tuesday next.

A letter of sympathy was ordered to be sent to Bro. Douglas White, with the hope he might soon be restored to perfect health.

We again remind our readers that this Lodge meets every Tuesday evening, at half past eight.

WOODROW LODGE, No. 1708.

AFTER the annual supper, which was held on Monday, the 5th, and which proved to have been a great success, the Brethren assembled at their usual hour of 3 p.m., on Monday, 12th inst., at Bro. Rudderforth's (Stone's) Restaurant. Bro. H. J. Rose acted as W.M. for the first time, and was assisted by Bros. J. Culverhouse S.W., W. H. Making J.W., C. Wetton P.M. Dep. Preceptor, W. H. Rudderforth P.M. Treas., J. W. Simeons Sec., H. Wood S.D., A. Mann J.D., H. Williams I.G., G. Yeouell, H. Cousens, H. Crook, Wynman, &c.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Warwick candidate. The W.M. advanced the Lodge to the second and third degrees, and resumed to the first, when the same candidate was examined, and the second ceremony was rehearsed.

Bro. C. Wetton Dep. Preceptor proposed that a hearty vote of congratulation be recorded on the minutes for the perfect manner in which the W.M. had fulfilled his duties on the occasion, it being the first time he had acted as W.M. at the Lodge. Bro. Wetton especially mentioned that Bro. Rose was only a young Mason. He had very seldom heard the ceremonies rehearsed in so perfect a manner, and their Brother was only initiated about eighteen months ago. The proposition was received with hearty good feeling and suitably acknowledged.

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE, No. 1922.

ON Wednesday, 14th inst., at Bro. Charles Sisman's, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, Bros. H. Cornford W.M., F. W. Trotter S.W., G. White J.W., C. L. Plant P.M. Preceptor, E. J. S. Ware Asst. Sec., W. Hill Treas., A. Jackson S.D., H. Eyre J.D., L. Shipton I.G., B. Cohen, F. Messent, W. Hurley, W. Croxson W.M.-elect 1658, A. Taylor P.M., R. Peachey W.M. 1922, W. Wiltshire.

The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. B. Cohen acting as the candidate. The Lodge was advanced to the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. We were pleased to hear these ceremonies rendered in so perfect a manner.

By desire of Bro. Plant P.M. Preceptor the Brethren went through their Masonic drill. The W.M. resumed the Lodge to the first degree, and Bro. F. W. Trotter was elected to preside at the next meeting.

Bro. Hill, the Treasurer, referred to the reports of the Lodge meetings given in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and proposed that Bro. Wynman be elected an honorary member of the Lodge, which was carried unanimously. In returning thanks Bro. Wynman sincerely thanked the W.M. on behalf of the Editor of the paper, and for himself.

ON Wednesday, 21st inst., Bros. R. Taylor W.M., B. Cohen S.W., G. White J.W., C. Plant P.M. Preceptor, W. Hill Treasurer, H. Cornford Sec., E. Ware Assist. Sec., H. Cornford S.D., S. Morris J.D., F. Messent I.G., R. Peachey, Legg, Hurley, Wynman, &c.

The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Legg acting as candidate. The Lodge was called off and on, when the W.M. resumed the Lodge to the first degree, and by desire Bro. Peachey delivered the three addresses.

Bro. T. Legg was elected a member, which compliment was duly acknowledged.

Bro. Plant informed the Brethren that on Wednesday, 4th January, being Officers' night the W.M. of the Mother Lodge would officiate. Bro. B. Cohen was elected for Wednesday, 12th prox.

The annual supper will take place on the last Wednesday in February.

ROYAL VICTORIAN JUBILEE LODGE, No. 2184.

ON Wednesday afternoon, 21st inst., at 3 o'clock, at the Dover-Castle Hotel, Westminster Bridge Road, Bros. B. Cohen W.M., C. Randall S.W., J. Holmes J.W., A. Darch P.M. Prec., C. Wetton P.M. Dep. Prec., T. F. Strutt S.D., E. Sinclair P.M. Sec. J.D., G. Riley I.G., T. Wright, Newstead, C. Clark, J. Wynman.

The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Newstead acting as the candidate. Bro. Wright answered the questions leading to the third degree, and that ceremony was rehearsed. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Darch, who in his usual able manner gave the traditional history.

Bro. Charles Clark was elected a member of the Lodge.

TO THE GOVERNORS AND SUBSCRIBERS OF THE
ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION
for Aged Freemasons and Widows.

Your votes and interest are solicited on behalf of

LUCY WHILE,

Aged sixty years, Widow of the late Bro. JOHN WHILE, Journalist, who died on January 20th, 1892. Bro. While was initiated in the Lodge of United Strength, No. 228, on December 10th, 1867, and became W.M. of that Lodge in 1875, continuing a member of it until the time of his death. He was also for two years a member of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928; was a Royal Arch Mason, exalted in the William Preston Chapter, No. 766, and a P.Z. of the Chapter of United Strength. He was a subscriber to the three Masonic Institutions, and in 1875 a Steward of the Benevolent Institution, of which he was a Life Governor. His widow is also a Life Governor of this Institution.

The case is strongly recommended by—

- R.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., Guildhall, E.C.
W. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M. Middlesex, Reform Club, S.W.
W. Bro. Lennox Browne, F.R.C.S., P.D.G.D.C., 15 Mansfield Street, W.
W. Bro. Thomas Catling (Editor Lloyd's Weekly), P.M., 2190 and 2127.
W. Bro. John Northcott (Daily Chronicle), P.M., 2190.
Bro. John Lobb, C.C., M.L.S.B., 228, 4 St. Bride St., E.C.
W. Bro. Robert Griggs, P.M., 228, 11 Gray's Inn Square, W.C.
* W. Bro. George J. Dawson, P.M., 1853, 41 Holland Road, Brixton, S.W.
W. Bro. E. E. Peacock (Morning Post), P.M. and P.Z., 1928, I.G., 2190.
W. Bro. Orilton Cooper, P.M., 211, J., 1928, H., 483, Tilbury, Essex.
Bro. C. F. H. Smith, 1928 (late 228), 42 Blythwood Road, Crouch Hill.
Bro. J. Bune, 1928, Clent, Thurlow Park Road, West Dulwich.
Bro. J. D. Irvine, 1928, 149 Acre Lane, Brixton, S.W.
W. Bro. W. T. Perkins, P.M., 1928, 36 Norwood Road, Herne Hill, S.E.
Bro. William Senior, 2190, 9 Parkhill Road, N.W.
W. Bro. Percy W. Husk, P.M., 1928, M.E.Z., 1928, 125 Brixton Hill, S.W.
* Bro. W. W. Morgan, 177, New Barnet.
* W. Bro. H. Massey, P.M. and P.Z., 619 and 1928, 1 Clifford's Inn, E.C.

Votes will be thankfully received by the Brethren against whose name a * is marked, and by the candidate, 19 Knighton Park Road, Sydenham, S.E.

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TOYE,

17 CLERKENWELL ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

Bro. M. J. Ellwood P.M. and Treasurer of the Royal Edward Lodge, No. 892, Leominster, in the course of a recent speech said he had made 220 attendances at the Lodge during the 28 years he had been a member of it, and that was the 25th installation he had witnessed.—After all it must be admitted our English Craft can supply some good record performances.

The Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book for 1899 has just been issued, under the authority of the United Grand Lodge of England, by Bro. George Kenning, at the regular price of 2s. The get up of the book is as good as usual, and great care appears to have been taken by the printer to ensure accuracy, and if there are a few errors in the lists of places and times of meeting of the Lodges we have no doubt, more often than not, it would be found the Lodge officials were at fault, rather than the Calendar Committee of Grand Lodge. When the Brethren who are honoured by appointment on this Committee have a spare half hour they might devote it to a revision of their list of Lodges of Instruction in the London District, or at least to a commencement of such a revision. If they did so they would probably derive considerable profit from the work, but whether or no they would also experience a corresponding amount of pleasure it is not for us to even guess.

From the Accident Insurance Company, Limited, of 10 St. Swithin's Lane, London, E.C., we have received a wall calendar, in which the tear-off date indicator is a prominent and useful feature. The Company was founded in 1849, and insures against Accidents and Disease, in addition to granting indemnities to Employers under the Workmen's Compensation Act, &c.

The Theatres, &c.

- Adelphi.—Twice Daily, Dick Whittington.
Avenue.—8, Constancy. 8:30, Lord and Lady Algy. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
Comedy.—8:15, Milord Sir Smith. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.
Covent Garden.—13th January, Fancy Dress Ball.
Criterion.—On Tuesday, My "Soldier" Boy.
Daly's.—8:15, A Greek Slave. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Drury Lane.—Twice Daily, The Forty Thieves.
Duke of York's.—8, Red Roses. 8:45, The Adventure of Lady Ursula. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.
Gaiety.—8:15, A Runaway Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Garrick.—8, The Three Musketeers. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday 2:30.
Haymarket.—8:10, A Golden Wedding. 9, The Manceuvres of Jane. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:15.
Her Majesty's.—8:15, The Musketeers. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:15.
Lyceum.—Commencing Monday, Carl Rosa Opera Company.
Lyric.—8:15, Little Miss Nobody. Matinée, Thursday and Saturday, 2:30.
Opera Comique.—Twice Daily, Alice in Wonderland.
Prince of Wales's.—8:15, La Poupée. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Princess.—8, The Crystal Globe. Matinée, Saturday 2.
Royalty.—8:15, Confederates. 9, A Little Ray of Sunshine.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
Strand.—8:15, An Empty Stocking. 9, What happened to Jones. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.
Terry's.—8, The Lady Bookie. 8:45, The Brixton Burglary. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
Vaudeville.—8, A Bad Penny. 9, On and Off. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
Alexandra.—7:30, Cinderella. Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, 1:30 also.
Dalston.—7:30, Aladdin. Thursday and Saturday, 2 also.
Grand.—7:30, Babes in the Wood. Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, 1:30.
Parkhurst.—7:45, Aladdin. Wednesday and Saturday, 2 also.
Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—7:45, Cinderella. Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2:30 also.
Alhambra.—7:45, Variety Entertainment. Jack Ashore, &c.
Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily, Pantomime, Santa Claus.
Aquarium.—Varieties, Minting, Paula, The Great Dive, 10, 2 and 7.
Empire.—7:50, Variety Entertainment. New Ballet Alaska, &c.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment.
Olympia.—Barnum and Bailey's Show.
Oxford.—Variety Entertainment.
Palace.—7:45, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c.
Royal.—7:30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2:30 also.
Tivoli.—7:30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2:15 also.

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