

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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SATURDAY, 12th AUGUST 1899.

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MASONIC AID TO OUTSIDE CHARITIES.

WE do not by any means desire to be regarded as selfish in regard to the dispensing of purely Masonic Funds, neither do we intend to entirely sympathise with those who, recognising that Masonic Charity should begin at home, also desire that it should stop there; but at the same time we think it desirable to sound something in the shape of a note of warning in response to the suggestion of the Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire, who is reported as having said, at the recent meeting of his Provincial Grand Lodge, that "there seemed to him also to be one step further that Masonic benevolence might go—and he believed it was a step that would have the support and sympathy of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales—namely, that the Province should have the power of subscribing to hospitals and convalescent homes, not necessarily within the Province, to send disabled or convalescent Brethren to those Institutions."

We are of opinion members of the Craft should be very careful before undertaking anything in the way of an extension of their responsibilities in the matter of Benevolence. The Order at present stands committed to a very large contribution year by year in order to maintain the three Institutions of the Craft, and nearly every Province into which English Masonry is divided is trying to do something in addition, wholly in its own district, in the same good cause. Is it wise to start upon a new and almost boundless field of new operations? We are afraid those who do so will have to curtail their contributions towards meeting existing responsibilities; and however commendable it may seem to extend operations it should be our first care to see that existing Funds are placed beyond the reach of actual want, even if by so doing we have to turn a deaf ear to most deserving outside appeals.

We suppose it may be urged that the three central Institutions of English Freemasonry have no actual right to expect support from members of the Order, and that if the subscribers to Masonic Funds choose they may give their money elsewhere, without being called to account by their Brother Masons. This is doubtless true, but at the same time we think it a somewhat dangerous policy to attempt any further alienation of Masonic Funds from those Institutions, if it is desired to maintain them on their present basis.

There are many who consider money can be put to a much better use on behalf of the rising generation by being locally expended than by being contributed to either of the Educational Institutions, and several of our leading Provinces practically prove this to be the case; this latest field for the operation of Masonic Benevolence, if it becomes general, may have an almost similar effect on the Benevolent Institution—and none would regret such a result more than ourselves.

CHESHIRE.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire was held at the Chester Town Hall, on Wednesday, 9th inst., under the presidency of Earl Egerton of Tatton Prov.G.M., who was accompanied by his Honour Sir Horatio Lloyd D.P.G.M., and a full attendance of Provincial Officers present and past.

The roll call revealed the fact that there was but one Lodge in the whole Province, namely, the Warren, No. 1276, not represented, while a considerable number of the Lodges were represented by twenty to thirty Brethren each.

The minutes of the last annual meeting and subsequent special meetings having been confirmed, the Provincial Grand Treasurer's financial statement was adopted, on the motion of Colonel Dean P.P.S.G.W.

Colonel Dean next moved, and Brother H. Jackson acting Prov.J.G.W. seconded, the adoption of the annual report of the Committee of Benevolence. This stated that the funds of the Province remained in a very satisfactory condition, and that the fees and dues payable by Lodges showed an improvement over last year. The amount standing to the credit of the Fund was £128. The sum of £105 had been subscribed from the Provincial Fund of Benevolence to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, London. The amount subscribed during the year to the Cheshire M.B.I. was £133, which was regarded as small for a Province with fifty-two Lodges, though the report conceded that many donations had been diverted by the Centenary Festival appeal in London. The Committee of Management of the Cheshire Educational Institution had educated and clothed forty-eight children, at a cost of £386. This Committee especially thanked the Brethren at Birkenhead for the great assistance to the Institution, at a time when the Province was making a great effort to raise £3,000 for the Centenary Festival of the Boys School. The report was adopted.

Earl Egerton of Tatton, in the course of his annual address, congratulated the Brethren on the continual and gradual spread of Freemasonry in the Province, as shown by the fact that there were 2,625 members of the Craft in the Province compared with 2,466 last year. That was a substantial increase. He was also glad to learn that all the returns of Lodges had been duly sent in and all the dues paid. He observed that the Committee of Benevolence had passed a resolution inviting an annual subscription of two guineas from each Lodge to the Benevolent Institution. He thought that was a very good suggestion. They were already supporting seven pensioners, and with an additional £100 a year they would be able to assist materially a further number of deserving candidates. He had particularly to thank the Brethren of the Province for their response made to the appeals on behalf of the great Masonic Institutions in London. Having given such excellent support to the great London Institutions, perhaps they might now take a step in advance and give further relief to those of their Brethren in the Province who might be temporarily laid up or disabled by illness. There seemed to him also to be one step further that Masonic Benevolence might go, and he believed it was a step that would have the support and sympathy of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, namely, that the Province should have the power, by subscribing to hospitals and convalescent homes, not necessarily within the Province, to send disabled or convalescent Brethren to those Institutions. He would ask the Committee of Benevolence to consider this question and make a report to the next Provincial Grand Lodge.

Sir Horatio Lloyd D.P.G.M. proposed for the office of Provincial Grand Treasurer Bro. William Peers P.M. 721 and 2609, Chester, and P.P.S.G.D. Bro. Edward Cuzner P.M. 425, Chester, seconded. No other name was proposed.

Bros. Peter Davies, Geo. Ivison, James Cookson, Thomas Markland, and John Armstrong were elected Auditors.

The Provincial Grand Master proceeded to the investiture of the new Officers, as follow:

Bro. Sir J. T. Brunner, Bart., M.P.	-	-	Senior Warden
Lilley Ellis	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. O. R. Nunn	-	-	Chaplains
Rev. J. E. Evans	-	-	
Wm. Peers	-	-	Treasurer
Arthur Walker	-	-	Registrar
John Crompton	-	-	Senior Deacons
Dr. C. S. Brewer	-	-	
Colonel A. Sidebottom	-	-	Junior Deacons
Andrew H. Baird	-	-	
Hugh Lowndes	-	-	Superintendent of Works
Gordon Small	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
Jos. D. Penney	-	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
E. Russel Taylor	-	-	
Mark Olliver	-	-	Assitant Dir. of Cers.
John Watt	-	-	
Dr. C. W. Bennett	-	-	Sword Bearer
Capt. A. N. Shaw	-	-	Standard Bearers
Samuel Davies	-	-	
J. Ferguson Bowdon	-	-	Assistant Secretary
J. F. Swift	-	-	Organist
W. Williams	-	-	Pursuivant
R. B. Blakehurst	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
A. Whittaker	-	-	
T. S. Dreaper	-	-	
T. W. Atkinson	-	-	Stewards.
P. H. Lockwood	-	-	
Dean Sutcliffe	-	-	
F. Coveney	-	-	

On leaving the Town Hall the Brethren, in full Masonic regalia, were formed into procession, and marched to the Cathedral, where a service was held, and an offertory was made on behalf of the Cheshire Masonic Charities. A banquet was afterwards held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Bishop's Stortford, on Friday, 28th ult., about one hundred Brethren from different parts of the county supporting the chief of the Province Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P. The business meeting was held in the St. Michael's Parish Room, and the subsequent banquet at the Great Hall.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

WELBECK was last week the scene of a gathering which is destined to remain memorable in the history of Nottinghamshire Freemasonry. By the invitation of the Duke and Duchess of Portland the members of the Craft, accompanied by specially invited lady guests, assembled from all parts of the Province, to participate in a garden party which was designed to commemorate, under agreeable conditions, his Grace's acceptance of the Office of Provincial Grand Master, to which he had been appointed by the Prince of Wales. There were circumstances which had involved a postponement of the gathering until a later date than was originally contemplated. By the resignation of the Duke of St. Albans, who was Master of the Province for twenty years, and was previously associated in a similar position with Lincolnshire, the Nottinghamshire Masonic body lost the potent support of its highest Officer. It was to the general gratification of members that it became known in the early part of 1898 that the Duke of Portland had consented to occupy the position rendered vacant by his Grace's resignation, owing to failing health. The Duke of Portland was installed as head of the Province on 7th July of that year, and the proceedings were rendered especially interesting by reason of the fact that the day had been fixed also for the laying of the foundation stone, with Masonic honours, of the enlarged buildings of the Nottingham General Hospital, a work which has long been the subject of exhaustive consideration upon the part of the Committee and others interested in the oldest of local medical Institutions. The death of the Duke of St. Albans took place on 9th May 1898, and prevented the installation of his successor in regard to Masonic matters from being attended by other than befitting formalities. The late Duke of St. Albans had in his position of Grand Master succeeded to a distinguished line of predecessors, including the first Lord Ranciliffe, who was appointed in 1783; Admiral Sir John Borlace Warren, appointed in 1802; Colonel Thomas Wildman, appointed in 1823; Henry Pelham, fifth Duke of Newcastle, K.G.,

appointed in 1860, and Henry Pelham Alexander, sixth Duke of Newcastle, appointed in 1865. But for the death of the Duke of St. Albans some social function to signalise the Duke of Portland's accession to office would have been arranged. It was early in the present year that a ball, which was very largely attended, was held at the Albert Hall, Nottingham, when the Duke and Duchess of Portland were present, together with Lord and Lady Henry Bentinck, the company being as large as it was representative. His Grace then expressed a wish that the members of the Craft would honour the Duchess and himself by being present in the summer at a garden party at Welbeck, where her Grace would be pleased to welcome ladies as invited guests of members of the Masonic body.

At one time it was intended to obtain a special dispensation to enable the Provincial Grand Lodge to hold its summer meeting in one of the large apartments of the Abbey, but the idea was abandoned.

For the primary purpose it had been arranged that the summer meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge should precede the garden party at Welbeck. The assembly of the Brethren of the Province took place in the Town Hall, Worksop, on Thursday, 3rd inst., where, under their respective banners, the members of the several Lodges were grouped. The meeting was illustrative of the growth of the Craft in Nottinghamshire during the last twenty years. When the late Duke of St. Albans was installed as Grand Master of Nottinghamshire neither Newark, Mansfield, nor Retford possessed Lodges. The only place of importance outside the county town in which there was any active centre of Masonry was Worksop, where the Pelham Lodge was founded in 1862. At present there are no fewer than eighteen Craft Lodges in the county, with No. 47, the Newstead, in point of seniority, its Warrant being dated as long since as 1755.

It is some years since a meeting took place at Worksop, the previous occasion being, we believe, on the appointment of Bro. the Rev. F. Bussell to the position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, a post in which he was succeeded, after a short tenure of office, by the late Lieutenant-Colonel Newton.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in customary form under the presidency of the Duke of Portland, the others present including his Honour Judge Masterman, D.C.L., P.G.D. of England Deputy Provincial Grand Master-elect, Bro. E. Letchworth Grand Secretary of England, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Prov.G.M. of Westmorland and Cumberland, and Sir Frederick Milner, Bart., M.P.

The local Lodge, the Pelham, No. 939 was, as might be expected, fully represented, the Worshipful Master Bro. T. Castle being supported by his immediate predecessor Bro. J. W. Spedding, most of the assistant Officers, and nearly every other member of his Lodge.

The gathering was rendered especially interesting by reason of the fact that one of the most important works was to instal Dr. Masterman as Deputy Grand Master of the Province, in succession to the late Lieutenant-Colonel William Newton, of Newark, whose death occurred early in the year. Coupled also with the circumstance that the death of Bro. Arthur Stubbs, who for several years acted as Secretary of the Province, had followed closely upon that of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, there were naturally matters for touching reference. They found expression in a resolution, which was moved in sympathetic terms by the Duke of Portland, and seconded by Judge Masterman.

The Provincial Grand Master said, as that was the first time the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge had met since the deaths of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Lieutenant-Colonel Newton and the Provincial Grand Secretary Bro. A. Stubbs, it was fitting and right that they should have the opportunity of expressing their great regret and sincere sorrow at the irreparable loss which their families, in common with their Brother Freemasons had sustained. Lieutenant-Colonel Newton for many years filled the responsible office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province, and in that capacity gained the love and respect of all with whom he came in contact. They had lost not only a most able and wise assistant in Masonry, but also a true, a sincere, and a valued friend. With regard to Bro. Stubbs, he could rightly say that during the many years he filled the responsible office of Grand Secretary he was always found conscientious in his work, and zealous in the welfare of the Craft. By the deaths of these two Brethren, coming within such a short interval of time, the Craft and the Province had sustained a heavy blow. It would be a long time before the Masons of the Province ceased to mourn the loss of Brothers

Newton and Stubbs. He therefore moved "That this Provincial Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire Freemasons desires to record its appreciation of the long and valuable services of Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel Newton and Bro. A. Stubbs, late Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Secretary of this Province, and sincerely regrets the loss of these respected Brethren."

His Honour Judge Masterman said it was a mournful satisfaction to him to second the resolution so feelingly proposed by the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master. The loss of two such Masons as these were could not but be deeply felt by their Province. They had left an example for their successors which he was sure it would be their earnest desire to imitate, and he was afraid they could but imperfectly supply the places they had left. They as Freemasons were taught how to act in such cases as these—to look beyond the grave, to believe that there was a Grand Lodge above to which they hoped their departed friends had ascended, and though not with them in the body they believed they were with them in the spirit. He seconded the resolution.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested his Honour Judge Masterman Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Lodge ratified its appreciation by Masonic honours.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master returned thanks for the kind reception given to him on his appointment to the important position.

Brother Dr. A. W. C. Peskett P.M. P.P.G.W. Somersetshire was afterwards invested as Provincial Grand Secretary, in succession to the late Bro. A. Stubbs, and Bro. J. P. W. Marx P.M. P.P.G. Assist. D.C. was invested as Provincial Grand Assistant Secretary.

Before the Lodge was closed the Duke of Portland referred to the recent visit of Lord Kitchener to Welbeck, and expressed his regret that owing to pressing engagements his lordship, who was a member of the Craft, in which he took a deep interest, was unable to attend. Lord Kitchener had, however, through him desired to convey his hearty greetings to the Freemasons of Nottinghamshire.

After the conclusion of the business the Brethren proceeded to luncheon, at which Judge Masterman presided. In proposing the health of the Provincial Grand Master he said it would have given his Grace much pleasure to have been present, but he was so desirous personally to inspect the arrangements to be made for their comfort that afternoon that he felt he would be best fulfilling his Masonic duty by going home to look after them than in staying there. They all knew what an excellent man and Mason the Duke of Portland was, and it was with the greatest confidence he submitted the toast of his health.

The Grand Secretary of England Bro. Letchworth gave the health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and recalled the fact that a few short years ago he (the Grand Secretary) was present as the humble representative of the Grand Master to invest Lieutenant-Colonel Newton as Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Notts. It afforded him great pleasure in being present at the investiture into the chair as successor to Lieutenant-Colonel Newton of a very old and valued friend.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master responded, and the toast of the health of the Worshipful Master of the Pelham Lodge concluded the proceedings.

For the garden party the programme was of the most entertaining nature. Despite somewhat doubtful conditions in the earlier part of the day, when rain threatened, the afternoon proved agreeably bright. At the principal entrance to the Abbey the Duke and Duchess were present to welcome those who had been invited, and from the Masonic point it was also interesting that the newly-installed Deputy Provincial Grand Master accompanied their Graces at the formal reception. The members of the Craft and the lady guests numbered over 2,000.

The gathering at Welbeck was largely increased in its proportions by reason of an arrangement which, happily, fitted in with an event which was held under pleasant meteorological conditions. The day had been set apart for the annual athletic sports of the Welbeck estate, in whose interest a long programme had been planned. At welcome intervals in promenading the ample grounds and listening to music rendered by excellent bands, opportunity was afforded for watching the sports. The Abbey, with its objects of manifold interest, was also thrown open to the inspection of the visitors. In the musical sense the programme was rendered of adequate proportions by the selections of the Coldstream Guards Band and of the Gottlieb Orchestra.

Many of the visitors had anticipated the pleasure of seeing Lord Kitchener, but, as had been already announced, the Sirdar terminated his stay at Welbeck on Wednesday evening.

The sports lasted until about six o'clock, when, in the presence of a large crowd, the prizes were distributed by the Duchess of Portland. The Duke had acted as judge.

The recent compliment paid to Sir Albert Woods, Garter King of Arms, by his Brethren in Freemasonry, was both appropriate and well merited. It is Sir Albert's Masonic Jubilee year, and it was quite in the fitness of things that so old a member of the Craft as the Father of the House of Commons should have been spokesman on the occasion. He was accompanied to Garter's residence (for Sir Albert's age and health do not permit him now to leave it) by such representative Masons as the Grand Secretary, the President of the Board of General Purposes, the President of the Board of Benevolence, the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, and others. Mr. W. W. B. Beach made eloquent allusion to Sir Albert's long and useful services to the Craft, and concluded by presenting handsome and valuable pieces of plate and jewellery to him and to Lady Woods.—"World."

On Monday Bro. Chief Detective-Inspector J. Conquest, who for the last twenty-nine years has been in the service of the Metropolitan Police, retired into private life. During that long period Bro. Conquest has been associated with many interesting events. By far the most important of his services were those performed in the duty of protecting Mr. Gladstone during the years from 1882 to 1886. For these four years Inspector Conquest's whole time was devoted to the duty of serving as Mr. Gladstone's bodyguard, and wherever the Right Hon. gentleman went he was carefully protected by the officer from Scotland Yard. Bro. Conquest was a well known personage at Hawarden, where he remained at times for several months at a stretch, and when Mr. Gladstone went out for his daily drives or walks, or for the purpose of felling trees, he was never lost sight of by his faithful bodyguard. Bro. Conquest was at one time the officer in command of the detective department at Bow Street, and also of the Piccadilly district. Among more prominent cases with which he has been connected in the discovery of the perpetrators of crime were the Strand barber arson case, the robbery of silver ingots from the Midland Railway, and the recent robberies on the District Railway. Bro. Conquest is well known in Masonic circles, being at present I.P.M. of the Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87. He retires on a full pension, to which he was entitled three years ago.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

ON Friday of last week, amid manifestations of deep and general sympathy, the mortal remains of Bro. Harry Samuel, a prominent Cardiff Conservative and Freemason, were laid to rest at the Cardiff Jewish Cemetery. Very striking testimony to the high esteem in which the deceased was held was furnished by the dimensions of the cortege, which included over forty carriages. Among the Lodges represented were the Bute, the Duke of York, of which deceased was a founder and Past Master, the Tennant, the Llangattock, and others. The Masons present were marshalled by Brother John Munday. At the Cemetery a short service was conducted at the chapel and also at the graveside, the Rev. P. Wolfers officiating. The Freemasons present marched in single file past the grave and dropped their sprigs of acacia on the coffin, after which the Rev. P. Wolfers delivered a short panegyric, in the course of which he extolled the charitable instincts of the deceased, and his unfailing geniality to Jew and Christian alike. The funeral rites, which were very impressive, were brought to a conclusion with a brief service at the chapel. A large number of beautiful wreaths were sent by deceased's relatives and friends, two very conspicuous ones being from the Officers and Past Masters of the Bute and Tennant Lodges.

THE death took place at Boston on Wednesday night, 2nd inst., of Bro. T. Horry, of the firm of Messrs. W. T. Horry and Son, Brewers, Horncastle Road. The deceased was 52 years of age, and leaves a widow and five children. He was an active Mason, and an ardent supporter of various friendly societies.

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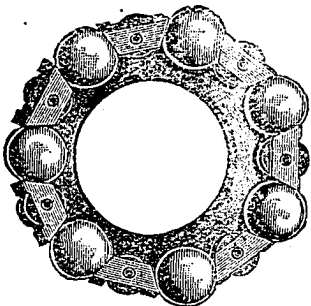
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MARK MASONRY.

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CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

THE following is a list of Officers appointed at the recent
meeting of this Provincial Mark Grand Lodge:

Bro. J. I. Lacey 216	-	-	-	Senior Warden
J. E. Singleton 195	-	-	-	Junior Warden
W. Mathews 60	-	-	-	Master Overseer
W. D. P. Field 213	-	-	-	Senior Overseer
W. P. Giddings 60	-	-	-	Junior Overseer
Rev. D. Greenhill Douglas 452	-	-	-	Chaplain
G. Dalrymple 213	-	-	-	Treasurer
W. W. R. Sewell 229	-	-	-	Registrar
J. Gardiner 151	-	-	-	Secretary
R. Monkhouse 151	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
J. Brown 213	-	-	-	Junior Deacon
G. E. Cartmel 195	-	-	-	Inspector of Works
G. Webster 135	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
W. H. Musgrove 195	-	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
D. S. Thorpe 60	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
J. G. Iredale 60	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
F. Wilson 195	-	-	-	Organist
D. J. White 60	-	-	-	Inner Guard
T. Derome 195	-	-	-	} Stewards
T. Milburn 151	-	-	-	
J. Henderson 60	-	-	-	
S. F. Rigg 195	-	-	-	
J. Atkinson 195	-	-	-	Tyler.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

ON Thursday afternoon, 3rd inst., the annual meeting of
this Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held in the
Freemasons' Hall, Grainger Street West, Newcastle, when
there was a very large attendance. The Provincial Grand
Master Bro. Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., presided, and was
supported by the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Prov. Grand Secretary Bro. John Heppell read the
report of the Committee of General Purposes, which was
proposed for adoption by Bro. Jacob Barker, seconded by
Bro. C. D. Hill-Drury P.P.S.G.W. and carried.

The sum of twenty guineas had been allocated to the
Benevolent and Educational Institutions, and the balance in
the Treasurer's hands was £29 14s 10d. It was agreed that
£10 10s be granted to the Mark Benevolent Fund and a
similar sum to the Mark Educational Fund.

The numerical strength of the Province was about the
same as last year. The roll of Lodges was called, when
satisfactory reports were presented.

The Provincial Grand Master afterwards addressed
Provincial Grand Lodge, congratulating the Brethren on the
visit with which they were honoured that day, in having just
received Bro. Lord Euston Pro Grand Master of England,
and other Officers of the Grand Lodge of England. They
all deeply regretted to hear of the serious illness of the Deputy
Prov.G.M. Bro. T. Purvis, whom they looked upon as a
model Officer. They all felt deeply that he had been
obliged through ill-health to resign the appointment. He
was glad to hear the reports of the several Lodges, which were
upon the whole satisfactory.

Bro. G. W. Bain, Sunderland, was afterwards re-elected
as Prov. Grand Treasurer. Bro. Col. W. M. Angus was
introduced to the office of Deputy P.G.M. by Lord Euston,
and invested by the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., as his
Deputy.

The Provincial Grand Master invested his assistant
Officers, as follow:

Bro. J. Readhead	-	-	-	Senior Warden
J. R. Roberts	-	-	-	Junior Warden
W. C. Barron	-	-	-	Master Overseer
Hugh Jackson	-	-	-	Senior Overseer
Will Hutchinson	-	-	-	Junior Overseer
Rev. A. L. Curry	-	-	-	Chaplain
G. W. Bain	-	-	-	Treasurer
W. H. Nixon	-	-	-	Registrar of Marks
John Heppell	-	-	-	Secretary
T. R. Jobson	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
John Smith	-	-	-	Junior Deacon
S. E. Simpson	-	-	-	Inspector of Works
Thos. Robinson	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
John Cosans	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
Wm. Towers	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
Jacob Barker	-	-	-	Organist
A. E. Burdon	-	-	-	Inner Guard
J. Curry	-	-	-	Tyler.

The Prov.G.M. named Darlington as the place of next
year's meeting.

A resolution of sincere regret was passed at the
circumstances causing the resignation of Bro. T. Purvis, and
expressing the hope that he might soon be restored to health

and long spared to Mark Masonry. The motion was moved by the Prov.G.M. and seconded by Bro. R. Reid Past D.P.G.M.

The Prov.G. Lodge expressed its pleasure at having the honour of a visit from Lord Euston, Bro. C. F. Matier G.Sec. and P.G.W., and Bro. Charles Belton P.G.M.O.

The annual festival took place in the evening, at the County Hotel, presided over by the Prov.G.M., when the usual Loyal and Mark toasts were honoured.

SCOTLAND.

THE quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 3rd, the Grand Master Lord Saltoun presiding, supported by Brother Sir Charles Dalrymple of Newhailes, Bart., M.P., Past Grand Master.

On the recommendation of Grand Committee, it was agreed to grant a Charter to Lodge Menzies Doric, Menzies, Western Australia; and authority was given to the Grand Lodge of India to resuscitate Lodge Eastern Bengal Railway, to be re-named "Lodge Nizam," and to meet at Raichur, Deccan. It was also resolved to recognise and exchange representatives with the Grand Lodge of Norway. Captain Thomas Hope, of Bridge Castle, was re-appointed Provincial Grand Master of Linlithgowshire; the Earl of Amherst was appointed representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to the Grand Lodge of England, in room of the late Earl of Lathom; Past Grand Master William Barron was appointed representative to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand; and Bro. William G. Robertson was appointed representative to the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

The law agents (Messrs W. and J. L. Officer, W.S.) reported that the Supreme Court of New York had decided the case of the William Ferguson Bequest to Grand Lodge, and had held that the legacy was valid, except so far as the present value of the residue exceeds one half of the estate, which the laws of the State of New York prohibit a testator from alienating from his next-of-kin. This excess amounts to 663.74 dols., which the Court directed to be paid to the widow. The balance of the estate would fall to be invested by the executor, and the income thereof paid to the widow during her life, and upon her death the balance would be paid to the Grand Lodge for the purposes set forth in the testator's will.

The Visitation Committee reported that the Lodges in the Metropolitan District were in a high state of efficiency.

During the past quarter grants amounting to £177 were made from the Masonic Benevolent Fund; and a report by the Annuity Board showed that 104 annuitants, spread over 375 Lodges, had been voted £1,080.

CHURCH SERVICES.

A SPECIAL Service under Masonic auspices was held in the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, Ballycarry, on Sunday, 30th ult.

The preacher was Rev. J. Kennedy, of Larne, who, taking as his text Acts xi. 26, discoursed on the practical religion common to all forms of Christianity.

Applying the subject to the object of the meeting—viz., to honour the memory of James Orr, "the Ballycarry poet" (1780-1849)—the preacher referred to the various opinions held as to the origin of the Masonic Order, of which Orr was an attached member, pointing out that some held it to be coeval with creation, while others traced it to the Dioysiac Brotherhood of Architects, who made their appearance in Asia Minor about 1440 B.C., where they erected temples Diatres and Stadia, and that they still speak of corporations or paternities scattered through Europe in the earlier centuries of Christianity, and known in Italy as Colleges of Architects, in France as Pontifical Brothers and Free Corporations, in England and Scotland as Freemasons, a name assumed in consequence of extensive privileges enjoyed by them as a corporation of builders. Mr. Kennedy further mentioned that the latest pronouncement on the subject was that of Dr. Churchman, who identified modern Freemasonry, its signs, symbols, and passwords, with the religious system of the ancient Egyptians, and declared it to be a living ritual, which is perhaps six thousand years old, essentially the same as that practised by the dwellers in the Nile Valley in pre-Mosaic times, the object of which is the promotion of practical Christianity—morality, charity, truth, and justice.

Referring to Orr, the Rev. gentleman said—Of the

Ballycarry poet, whose memory you venerate, and wish to perpetuate by renewing the handsome monument in God's acre hard by, it may be truly said that, whatever his weaknesses, he endeavoured to make real in his daily life the principles of that practical Christianity in the form of Masonry to which he was so deeply attached. Like Burns, he had a very passion for justice—equal rights to all men, whatever their creed—and at a time when the great bulk of Irishmen, our own forefathers included, laboured under oppressive laws, he not only sang in melodious verse of freedom to his country, but fought for it at the battle of Antrim, and suffered imprisonment and exile in consequence. He only wished his ideal of his countrymen, as enshrined in his poem, "The Irishman," were true to fact and history, for hardly ever yet did Irishmen combine for any purpose without including traitors in their numbers. But of Orr he thought it must be said that he was true and faithful, that he believed in the cause he espoused, that he was a true patriot, loving all countries because he loved his own; that he was kind hearted and genial, his sympathies not confined to any sect or party, and that he gave a genuine photograph of his own inmost soul when he sang—

"Erin, loved land! from age to age
Be thou more great, more famed, more free;
May peace be thine, or, should'st thou wage
Defensive war, cheap victory.
May plenty bloom in every field,
Which gentle breezes softly fan;
And cheerful smiles serenely gild
The home of every Irishman!"

A MASONIC Service was held in Portadown Parish Church on Sunday afternoon, in aid of the Century Fund of the Masonic Orphan Boys School (Dublin). There was a large attendance, many of those present being from Armagh, Lurgan, Tandragee, and Gilford. The Brethren assembled in Church Street Schoolhouse at three o'clock, and half an hour afterwards marched in procession to the Parish Church, wearing their regalia. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. O'Loughlin, rector of Lurgan, who selected as his text Cor. xiii. 13—"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

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Rhyl, Llandudno, Bettws-y-coed, Carnarvon, Llanberis (for SNOWDON), &c.EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT, to Chepstow, Monmouth, Newport,
CARDIFF, SWANSEA, Llanelly, Llandovery, Carmarthen, TENBY,
Pembroke Dock, Cardigan, Goodwick, Milford, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY, to Clevedon, TAUNTON, Tiverton, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT, to CHESTER, Birkenhead and
LIVERPOOL.

EVERY THURSDAY AND FRIDAY NIGHT, to WESTON.

EVERY THURSDAY, FRIDAY NIGHT, and SATURDAY, to
Dawlish, Teignmouth, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Newquay, Truro, Falmouth,
St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c.EVERY THURSDAY and SATURDAY, to BRIDGWATER, MINE-
HEAD, TORQUAY, Dartmouth, Kingsbridge, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY, to NEWBURY, Devizes, TROWBRIDGE, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT, to the SCILLY ISLANDS.

EVERY FRIDAY and SATURDAY, to SAVERNAKE, Marlborough, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT and SATURDAY, to EXETER, PLY-
MOUTH, &c.; and to DOUGLAS (ISLE OF MAN).EVERY FRIDAY and MONDAY, to SWINDON, Stroud, GLOUCES-
TER, Cheltenham, HEREFORD, &c.EVERY SATURDAY, to FROME, Shepton Mallet, Wells, YEOVIL,
Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, Portland, Lynton, LYNMOUTH,
Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, Yealmpton, Tavistock, Launceston, &c.

EVERY SATURDAY and MONDAY, to BATH, BRISTOL, &c.

EVERY MONDAY, HALF DAY TRIP to Maidenhead, Cookham,
Bourne End, MARLOW, Wycombe, AYLESBURY, &c.EVERY TUESDAY, HALF DAY TRIP to Culham, Radley, Abingdon,
OXFORD, and BLENHEIM and WOODSTOCK.EVERY WEDNESDAY, HALF DAY TRIP to READING, Newbury,
Hungerford, Savernake, Marlborough and DEVIZES.EVERY THURSDAY, HALF-DAY TRIP to STRATFORD-ON-AVON,
Banbury, and LEAMINGTON.**A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.**THURSDAYS, 17th, 31st August, 14th and 28th September, for CORK
and KILLARNEY.FRIDAYS, 18th August, 1st, 15th, and 29th September, for
WATERFORD, Dungarvan, Lismore, Cloamell, Tipperary, Kilkenny,
KILLARNEY, BELFAST, Armagh, Enniskillen, Larne, GIANT'S CAUSE-
WAY, &c.CHEAP DAY THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS are issued DAILY by
certain trains to WINDSOR (2s 6d), MAIDENHEAD (3s), Marlow (3s 6d),
HENLEY (3s 6d), Goring (5s 6d), &c.Tickets, bills, pamphlets and COUNTRY LODGING LISTS, can be
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September, inclusive, to DUBLIN, Ballina, Galway, Sligo, and the
SOUTH and WEST of IRELAND; and to BELFAST, Londonderry, Port-
rush, and the NORTH of IRELAND. Also to LONDONDERRY on
Saturdays, 19th and 26th August, and 2nd and 16th September. Cheap
Excursion Tour Tickets also issued Fortnightly from 18th August to 29th
September, inclusive, to BELFAST, Sligo, Bundoran, Warrenpoint, and
Newcastle (Co. Down). See bills, for routes, fares, times, &c.**Fortnightly Excursions to Scotland,**

For 4, 10, or 16 days.

From FRIDAY, 18th August, to 29th September, inclusive, for 4 or 10
days, from St. Pancras, at 9.15 p.m., to EDINBURGH, Glasgow, Helens-
burgh, Row, Peebles, and other North British Stations; and at 10.0 p.m., to
CARLISLE, Appleby, Glasgow, Ayr, Kilmarnock, G. and S.W. Line, and
Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Wigtown, Whithorn; and from St. Pancras, at
9.15 p.m., to STIRLING, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Forfar, Brechin, Montrose,
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for the DOUBLE JOURNEY will also be issued by the above trains (except
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issue.Also FORTNIGHTLY EXCURSIONS to NORTH of ENGLAND from
FRIDAY, 18th August, to 29th September inclusive, for 4, 10, or 16 days,
from St. Pancras at 8.30 p.m., to Northallerton, Richmond, Darlington,
Durham, Newcastle, Alnwick, and Berwick.**To the Provinces and Sea Side,**

Saturdays, 19th and 26th August.

Cheap Trains will be run from London (St. Pancras and other London
Stations), to Leicester, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Nottingham,
Derby, Burton, Matlock, Melton Mowbray, Buxton, Stockport, Southport,
Liverpool, Manchester, Accrington, Blackburn, Burnley, Bolton, Rochdale,
Oldham, Bury, Preston, Wigan, Blackpool, Lancaster, Morecambe, Carlisle,
Windermere, Coniston, Barrow, Whitehaven, Stoke, Hanley, Burslem,
Macclesfield, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Halifax, Sheffield, Barnsley, Leeds,
Harrogate, Bradford, York, Hull, Scarborough, Newark, Lincoln, Darlington,
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ber; also at 9.0 a.m., until 2nd September inclusive, to DOUGLAS, ISLE
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POOL, SCARBORO', &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.EVERY SATURDAY, until further notice, to ENGLISH LAKE
DISTRICT, from St. Pancras at 9.0 a.m., to Bowness and Ambleside, and at
10.30 a.m., to other stations; at 12.0 noon to MATLOCK and BUXTON; at
10.5 a.m., to LIVERPOOL and SOUTHPORT; at 9.0 a.m., to SCARBORO',
Bridlington, Filey, Robin Hood's Bay, Whitby, Saltburn, Redcar, Tynemouth,
Whitley, and Cullercoats; and at 10.5 a.m., to Blackpool, Lytham, St. Ann's,
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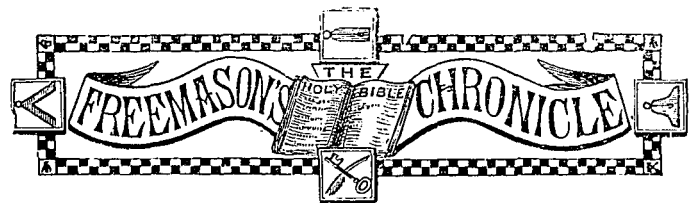
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SATURDAY, 12TH AUGUST 1899.

Some of our Scottish Brethren are desirous of making the office of Provincial Grand Secretary an elective one. We should be sorry to see such a course adopted in this country, and in view of what occasionally happens in connection with the elective office of Treasurer, strongly urge our Brethren across the border to follow Hamlet's advice: "rather bear those ills we have, than fly to others we know not of."

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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.

1789 Ubique, Criterion
68 Royal Clarence, Bristol
75 Love and Honour, Falmouth
105 Fortitude, Plymouth
106 Sun, Exmouth
151 Albany, Newport, I. of Wight
189 Sincerity, East Stonehouse
237 Indefatigable, Swansea
240 St. Hilda, South Shields
297 Whitham, Lincoln
303 Benevolent, Teignmouth
330 One and All, Bodmin
589 Druid Love & Lib., Redruth
643 Royal, Fife
797 Hauley, Dartmouth
884 Derwent, Wirksworth
893 Meridan, Millbrook
1221 Defence, Leeds
1302 De Warren, Halifax
1408 Stamford & Warrington, St'yb'ge
1436 Castle, Sandgate
1449 Royal Military, Canterbury
1611 Eboracum, York
1618 Handyside, Saltburn-by-Sea
1792 Tudor, Harborne
1885 Torridge, Great Torrington
1948 Hardman, Rawtenstall
1952 High Peak, Chapel-en-le-Frith
1966 Fidelity & Sincerity, Wellington
2376 Carnarvon, Leyland
2584 Queen Victoria, Manchester

Tuesday.

Board of General Purposes, F.M.H. at 5.
1339 Stockwell, Camberwell
1695 New Finsbury Park, Via. H'tl.
223 Charity, Plymouth
366 St. David, Milford
418 Menturia, Hanley
667 Alliance, Li. arpool
681 Scarsdale, Chesterfield
814 Parrett and Axe, Crewkern
830 Endeavour, Dukinfield
958 St. Aubin, Jersey
979 Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe
990 Neyland, Neyland
1006 Tregulow, St. Day
1214 Scarborough, Batley
1225 Hindpool, Barrow-in-Furness
1424 Brownrigg of Unity, Old B'pton
1482 Isle of Axholme, Crowle
1570 Prince Arthur, Liverpool
1787 Grenville, Buckingham
1823 Royal Clarence, Clare
1893 Lumley, Skegness
1902 St. Cuthbert, Bedlington
1903 Pr. Ed. Saxe Weimar, P'tsm'th.
2572 Tyldesley, Tyldesley

Wednesday.

619 Beadon, Upper Norwood
32 St. Geo. Harmony, Liverpool
121 Mount Sinai, Penzance
137 Amity, Poole
200 Old Globe, Scarborough
258 Amphibious, Heckmondwike
311 South Saxon, Lewes
320 Loyalty, Mottram
325 St. John, Salford
342 Royal Sussex, Landport
368 Samaritan, Sandbach
376 Perfect Friendship, Ipswich
380 Integrity, Morley
387 Airedale, Shipley
533 Eaton, Congleton
555 Fidelity, Framlingham
580 Harmony, Ormskirk
591 Buckingham, Aylesbury
610 Colston, Bristol
697 United, Colchester
726 Staffordshire Knot, Stafford
823 Everton, Liverpool
910 St. Oswald, Pontefract
962 Sun and Sector, Workington
1040 Sykes, Driffield
1086 Walton, Liverpool
1136 Carew, Torpoint
1212 Elms, Stoke Damerel

1301 Brighthouse, Brighthouse
1334 Norman, Durham
1353 Duke of Lancaster, Lancaster
1511 Alexandra, Hornsey
1544 Mount Edgecumbe, Camborne
1576 Dee, Park-gate, Cheshire
1634 Starkie, Ramsbottom
1638 Brownrigg, K'gston-on-Thames
1645 Colne Valley, Slaithwaite
1774 Mellor, Ashton-under-Lyne
1783 Albert Edward, Huddersfield
2203 Farnborough & N.C., Farnboro'
2258 West. Dist. U.S., E. Stonehouse
2355 Chantrey, Dore
2475 Border, Blackwater
2583 St. Thomas, Tibshelf

Thursday.

House Committee, Girls School, 4-30

57 Humber, Hull
98 St. Martin, Burslem
116 Royal Lancashire, Colne
203 Ancient Union, Liverpool
208 Three Gd. Principles, Dewsbury
230 Fidelity, Devonport
245 Mechanics, Jersey
267 Unity, Macclesfield
275 Harmony, Huddersfield
283 Amity, Haslingden
286 Samaritan, Bacup
318 True and Faithful, Helston
337 Candour, Uppermill
343 Concord, Preston
345 Perseverance, Blackburn
367 Probity & Freedom, Rochdale
600 Harmony, Bradford
605 Combermere, Birkenhead
630 St. Cuthbert, Howden
659 Blagdon, Blyth
710 Pleiades, Totnes
758 Ellesmere, Runcorn
802 Repose, Derby
940 Philanthropy, Stockton
1011 Richmond, Manchester
1037 Portland, Portland
1042 Excelsior, Leeds
1164 Eliot, St. Germans
1184 Abbey, Battle
1235 Phoenix St. Ann, Buxton
1247 St. John, Plymouth
1327 King Harold, Waltham Cross
1332 Unity, Crediton
1386 St. Hugh, Lincoln
1393 Hamer, Liverpool
1562 Homfray, Risca
1776 Landport, Landport
2091 Castleberg, Settle
2268 Hallamshire, Sheffield
2305 Stour, Ashford, Kent
2390 Exmoor, Minehead
2430 Runnymede, Wraybury
2555 England Centre, Weedon

Friday.

Board of Management, Boys School, 2-30

401 Royal Forest, Slaidburn
460 Sut'land Unity, N'castle-u-Lyme
516 Phoenix, Stowmarket
566 St. Germain, Selby
652 Holme Valley, Holmfirth
712 Lindsey, Louth
1034 Eccleshill, Eccleshill
1108 Royal Wharfedale, Otley
1311 Zetland, Leeds
1224 Stour Valley, Sudbury
2005 Brooke, Chingford
2078 St. Lawrence, Scunthorpe

Saturday.

149 Peace, Meltham
308 Prince George, Eastwood
336 Benevolence, Marple
370 St. George, Chertsey
444 Union, Starcross
453 Chigwell, Chingford
1871 Gostling Murray, Hounslow
2035 Beaumont, Kirkburton
2228 Dene, Cookham Dene

Books, new music, &c., intended for review should be addressed to the Editor, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, New Barnet.

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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CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE, No. 742.

THE first regular meeting after the installation took place on Thursday, 3rd inst., at the popular Crystal Palace, Sydenham, under the presidency of Bro. F. Wilkinson W.M., with Bro. Robert Eddie I.P.M., C. H. Lawrence S.W., H. Tull J.W., F. Purkiss P.M. Treas., C. J. Grove P.M. Sec., G. Paxton S.D., H. C. Wootton J.D., E. Tallin I.G., W. Larkin P.M. D.C., Seymour Smith Org., J. Garland and H. B. Haylock Stewards, H. Martin P.M. Tyler, T. W. Blott P.M., A. J. Manning P.M., John Taft, John Bull, F. Blundell, J. Woodcock, &c.

Amongst the visitors were Bros. Fred Brook, J. Thompson, T. Steers, &c. The Lodge being formed, Bro. C. J. Grove P.M. read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed. The W.M. opened the Lodge in the second degree and Bro. John Bull answered the questions leading to the third, in a manner which reflected great credit on himself and his proposer. By especial desire of Bro. F. Purkiss Treasurer the W.M. kindly vacated the chair in his favour, and he conferred the third degree upon Bro. Bull, who is his son-in-law. We need hardly allude to Bro. Purkiss's working, further than to say that the ceremony and the traditional history were most perfectly rendered.

The W.M. having again taken the chair resumed the Lodge to the first degree and summoned the Tyler Bro. Martin, who advanced in due form. The W.M. then addressed Bro. Martin on the duties of the office, and had much pleasure in investing him with the collar of Tyler of the Lodge, feeling sure he would give the same satisfaction as the late Bro. R. Morley had done. Bro. Martin having given the assurance retired.

The Secretary read letters of regret from absent Brethren, and there being no other business to transact the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the banqueting room.

The usual Loyal and Fraternal toasts were afterwards given, and received in cordial manner.

An excellent entertainment was furnished, among those who contributed being Miss Irene Blott (eldest daughter of one of the Past Masters of the Lodge), who gave some excellent songs, and was deservedly encored; Bro. John Bull gave some pleasing solos on the violin, while Bro. Thompson and several other Brethren added greatly to the enjoyment of the company by giving songs or recitations. Bro. Seymour Smith was as usual well to the front as pianist, &c.

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INSTRUCTION.

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CHISWICK LODGE, No. 2012.

ON the 29th ult., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, Bros. Arthur Williams P.M. W.M., K. M. Ross S.W., G. T. Meek J.W., F. Craggs P.M. Treas., J. H. Cumming P.M. acting Sec., L. Walsh S.D., H. J. Cousens J.D., H. Bone I.G., Robert Reid acting Prec., P. Cronin P.M., C. Hopkins, W. Atkinson, and several others.

Lodge was opened to the second degree, and Bro. Ross was obligated as W.M.-elect. All the Brethren below the rank of W.M. then retired, and Bro. Cumming was installed in the chair of K.S. The Board of Installed Masters was closed, and after the Lodge was resumed to the third degree Bro. Cumming vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Ross, who went through the ceremony of investing his staff of Officers.

Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. Ross elected to occupy the chair at the next meeting. Bro. Arthur Williams was thanked for carrying out the duties of D.C. in an efficient manner.

ON the 5th inst., Bros. Kenneth M. Ross W.M., H. J. Cousens S.W., G. T. Meek J.W., J. H. Cumming P.M. acting Sec., R. Reid S.D., P. Cronin P.M. J.D., F. Craggs P.M. I.G., W. Jeffries.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Jeffries as candidate, after which the Brethren worked the second section of the first degree, under the direction of the Preceptor.

Bro. Cousens W.M. of the Old Concord Lodge was unanimously chosen to act as W.M. at the next meeting.

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PROVINCIAL.

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ST. LUKE LODGE, No. 225.

NEARLY forty members drove on Thursday, 3rd inst., in brakes to Bawdsey, and sat down to a "lobster tea," at the Ferry Inn. A telegram was received from Sir Outhbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., extending a kind invitation to the party to look over his grounds and mansion, which was thoroughly appreciated. The party returned to the Halberd Inn, Northgate Street, Ipswich, from whence the excellent brakes were supplied, having spent an enjoyable outing.

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EVERTON LODGE, No. 823.

ON Wednesday evening, 19th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, the members of this Lodge met in strong force for the purpose of assisting at the installation of the Worshipful Master for the coming year. There were present about 130 Brethren connected with the Lodge, as well as representatives of the Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire, and other leading Masonic bodies in the district. After the transaction of some formal business, the retiring W.M. Bro. L. G. Davey effectively installed Bro. John A. Griffiths as his successor in the chief chair of the Lodge, which has a long and honourable history.

In the course of the evening a P.M.'s jewel and gold watch and chain were presented to Bro. Davey, as a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the Lodge. Bro. Casey supplied the banquet, and afterwards a varied musical programme was given by Bros. M. Cox, G. Smith, W. Hudson, E. Batty, G. Greene, and Sam Parr.

NEVER SHOULD HAVE BECOME MASONS.

THERE are some men, fortunately for the Fraternity they are not numerous, who have simply wasted time and money in joining a Masonic Lodge. They never attend its meetings, and why they pay dues has always been a mystery as profound as the mysteries they never learned. They do not appreciate in any sense the beauties of the work or the lessons they have been taught. They rather sneer at the morality of the doctrines and scoff at the religious vim that runs through the tenets. Brotherly love is as unknown to them as Choctaw; relief as foreign to their natures as it would be to a South Sea cannibal, and truth never had a dwelling place in their hearts, and is not found in their vocabulary. They flippantly characterise Masonic lectures as "sermons," and ridicule everything that tends to elevate the moral tone of society. Why such men should waste their money in paying dues is a conundrum. And yet some of these same men flourish the biggest and most obtrusive Masonic jewellery, and if adversity should overtake them they would fly at once to the Lodge and ask relief from the very Institution and men they had so openly ridiculed. That it the only excuse that can be offered for their keeping up their membership in the Lodge, that some untoward circumstances may make it useful to them.—"Masonic Sun."

THE NORTH-EAST CORNER.

A LODGE is an oblong, and Brethren soon familiarise themselves with the points of the compass therein. The East—the point at which the letter "G" glistens, the seat of light and authority—is the "Mecca" toward which the Brotherhood turn with longing eye, if not with feverish hope. There is a vast stretch of land between the East and the North-east corner of a Lodge. The East, however, with all its brilliancy, is no more honourable than the North-east corner, where stands the youngest Mason of the Lodge, upright as a man and a Mason.

No one remains long in the North-east corner of the Lodge, for Masonry is a progressive science, and taught by degrees only. While occupying the North-east corner, the Mason is without spot or blemish. He has just been made. Ambition, gratified or defeated, has not defaced his Masonic character. Pride of knowledge, accentuated by promotion from floor to official station, has not handicapped him. What a future awaits him! Before him are not only the revelations of the Second Degree, with its profound teachings as to the several sciences, but the sublime Third, with its magnificent ritual, splendid principles, elegant ceremonies, and impressive lessons.

Stepping from the North-east corner, and advancing by degrees to the exalted station of a Master Mason, the novitiate enters a new world. How will he conduct himself? What effect will the elevating teachings and ennobling influences of Masonry have upon him? Will he become a better man as he progresses? Will he illustrate a higher type of character as a citizen? Will he grow more lovable as a husband and father? Who can tell? As he stands in the North-east corner of the Lodge he is the personification of everything promising. He is humble, teachable and wonderfully obedient to orders.

Some of us have to go back over a stretch of years to see ourselves as we stood erect, for the first time in the Lodge, in our young manhood. Like others, we were, at that time, "buds of promise." Now that we have effloresced, we are anything but what we imagined we would be. What it may be with others, we know not. It is a fact that many of us would like to stand again in the North-east corner, and have life stretching out before us as it did aforetime way back in the sixties. We cannot be gratified on these lines, for there is no going back in Masonry, for it is a progressive science.—"Trestle Board."

VOLUBILITY.

IT would be well if that epigrammatic piece of advice once given to a candidate for Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, "Dear B—, don't talk," were more frequently acted upon by many Freemasons. To the profane, especially, should the lips be sealed. No matter what the provocation, don't talk. When the insinuating interviewer shows you a paragraph that some one is about to expose the secrets of Freemasonry, don't talk. When you are asked as to the truth of the story that some one high in the world's regard is about to be initiated in the mysteries of the

Fraternity, don't talk. Are you inquired of as to the truth or falsehood of some rumour affecting the good name and fair fame of some reputed Brother, don't talk.

"By their fruits shall ye know them." Freemasonry needs no apologists. Against any and all attacks it needs no defenders. It has no reasons to give for proposed action, nor explanations for that which has been accomplished. As it solicits no one, it is responsible to no one. Self-contained and with noble purpose, it pursues the even tenor of its way, accomplishing its mission alike indifferent to the storms of calumny or the adulation of flatterers.

Kingdoms, powers and even peoples have passed away, and Freemasonry still is. It is alike potent in autocratic Russia and free America, in the wilds of Arabia and the peaceful islands of Great Britain, where the Nile pours down its annual flood or the Amazon pursues its channel to the sea. It is a universal language. Without a spoken word its fraternal responsibilities can be commanded wherever its beneficent instruction has been disseminated.

Kings and princes have humbly knocked at its doors and, when divested of all that adorns or protects the highest as well as the lowest estate, have been admitted to its mysteries. Freemasonry knows neither rank nor power. It asks only that those who come be good men and true, sound and whole and competent to earn their support. The world presents no fairer page than that which Freemasonry offers. The best of men of all ages have found their opportunity for good within the tyled Lodge. The brightest minds have adorned its records. The most puissant have not disdained its shelter.

These are the facts of history. They do not need the blare of trumpets to command a hearing. They are known of all men. To us of the guild these things are as an open scroll. We have seen the waves of hate and rage surge up and break harmlessly at the base of our strong towers. The Church has fulminated its edicts; politics have proscribed its votaries; treachery has sought to throw open its guarded avenues without avail. Silently aggressive, dumbly adamant, voicelessly increasing in power of numbers, Freemasonry has survived all shocks, and is universally accorded its high place in the world's agencies for good.—"Keystone."

A GOOD MEMBER.

AS it takes all sorts of people to make a world, so we find all sorts of men in a Lodge. There are diversities of nature and disposition, classed in society differences in tastes, ideas and opinions, grades of mental ability and educational acquirements, varieties of occupation and calling, degrees in learning and refinement, existing in all communities, and men cannot divorce themselves from these conditions any more than an Ethiopian can change his skin or a leopard his spots. With all these variations of social and mental conditions men connect themselves with Masonry, and bring into the Institution their different natures. It is not to be expected that the mere act of uniting with a Masonic Lodge is going to alter them, except as their hearts are wrought upon by the refining influence and ennobling principles of the lessons and ceremonies of the Fraternity. These influences act upon men's nature, as does the work of the polisher upon the marble, which removes the roughness of the stone and reveals the beautiful veins which are hidden under the rough exterior.

The men of a Lodge should be alike in many things, and they are; and as they associate in good works, they come to be more and more assimilated. They are all alike in the manner of coming into the Fraternity, that is, voluntarily, being "under the tongue of good report," morally upright, and "with charity toward all and malice toward none." They are alike and equal when they enter through the inner door. Each asks, seeks, knocks and is received, in the same manner. All are alike in their declaration of faith and trust, and when they meet upon the checkered floor all are equal.

But in these things alone are they alike, for their different natures, advantages and positions naturally appear and are sure to be manifested? These conditions of men influence their usefulness in the Lodge. There are men in the various Lodges who, while they occupy lower positions in the world outside, yet are far above, in point of value to the Lodge, those who are socially their superiors. There is a difference between the standard of Masonry and the standard of the world. In the world the possession of millions of money entitles a man to a certain rating. With this qualification alone he may be received into the millionaire's club. It is his password into the charmed circle of exclusive society. In Masonry the man of millions must approach the altar precisely as does the man who earns his bread in the sweat of his brow. There is equality within the walls of the Lodge room, but nowhere else. Neither church nor State can claim any spot where all are equal, although the

Creator has established an equality from which none can escape. Every man is born in the world precisely the same, and when he takes his exit from it, it is through the self-same door. Naked he came into the world, and naked he leaves it.

It is only during the interim between the cradle and the grave that the inequalities of life are experienced. Beyond the grave all men stand equal before the Great Judge and each receives the sentence his bodily deeds have earned.

The good member is one who manifests a deep interest in the work of the Fraternity, whose actions prove that the lessons taught have not been forgotten, who realises that his obligations have a meaning, and who faithfully endeavours to keep them. He is not ambitious to hold office, but in a humble position he performs his duty well, and faithfully fulfils every requirement of his membership. He is the man who in a quiet, unobtrusive manner works for the welfare of the Lodge and the good of the individual members. He seeks no other reward than the approval of his own conscience. He carries sunshine with him everywhere. His gentle voice is music in the ears of his sick Brother, and his smile a beam of bright hopefulness. Such a man is never absent from his Lodge meetings except when unavoidably kept away. He is qualified to fill any office, but aspires to occupy none except temporarily. Such a man is always missed when not present at the meetings. He is a bulwark to the Lodge, an Aaron and Hur to the Master, a friend to every Brother, and a good member.—"Masonic Standard."

PERFORMING THE WORK.

MASONIC work is a mosaic. It is composed of a number of parts, each of which must be perfect, to ensure the perfection of the whole. The W.M. is the centre piece, but surrounding him, the great luminary, are lesser lights, which, if they perform their parts well, will reflect his glory and display the surpassing power of the ritual. He is the star in the mosaic pavement, the sun in the Masonic heavens, the hero in the dramatic performance; but those assisting him may mar the entire work if they are inefficient or ignorant or presumptuous. Hence the importance of having every Officer, elected and appointed, perfect in his part, rendering it correctly in matter and impressively in manner.

There is a large difference between theory and practice, so that a Brother may be a master of the one and a tyro in the other. In Masonic matters it is emphatically true that "practice makes perfect." This is the great advantage afforded by a School of Instruction—it gives the Officer experience in advance for the execution of his duties, so that when he comes to perform them he feels as though he were "to the manner born." He is in no danger from "stage fright," and he acts thoughtfully, sensibly, and with self-possession. In these days when such unrivaled facilities, in different localities, are afforded Officers of Lodges, they do both themselves and their Lodges injustice if they fail to become members of an authorised School, where it is possible.

Possessed of the material part of the work, the next thing is to render it with force, with emphasis, with dignity, with feeling, and with true Masonic spirit. Let us consider these matters.

The first requisite for the competent performance of the work is, that it should be entirely audible to every Brother present. No whispering tones, no indistinctness of expression, no mumbling is permissible, if the W.M. would act well his part. He should never drop his voice so as to have it reach only a portion of his audience. Every part of the work is for the instruction of the entire body of Brethren. It is not merely for the initiate, but for everyone present. All are learners, all are entitled to instruction. But if the W.M. is not heard, he necessarily fails to interest, he is a failure and his work is also a failure. A clear, distinct tone of voice is the first demand which is reasonably made of every Masonic Officer, and it is a demand with which every one, with ordinary effort, may comply. It is absolutely inexcusable for a W.M. to speak in a whisper.

Presupposing that every Brother can distinctly hear the work, the next and most important thing is to make him feel it. In Freemasonry, feeling, and not seeing, is believing. How shall every Brother thus be made sensible of the power, the beauty, the glory, and the true meaning of Masonic work? How shall he be impressed, and made to realise that beneath the form of the ritual is the substance, which alone is potent—the form being the shell and the substance the kernel? How shall every Brother be privileged to taste the delicious flavour of this kernel?

(1) By being natural. Both in speech and conduct it is important that a W.M. should "hold the mirror up to nature." He must be himself, not another man. He must not be stilted, nor artificial, but speak out like a man, and he must be in earnest, and mean what he says.

(2) By speaking with appropriate emphasis. Very often the whole force, effect and meaning of a phrase are made apparent by the proper emphasis of a word, or even the skilful inflection

of the voice. These little things tell. You may utter every required word, and yet because a single one of them is spoken carelessly, thoughtlessly, or with no proper appreciation of its power, the work falls dead upon the Initiate and Brethren.

(3) By acting, as well as speaking the part. A W.M. is an actor, and a star one at that. He is the hero of the play. He must be the character he assumes to be, and cause the Initiate to feel that he is another hero, and a most important factor in the Masonic drama.

Suppose that in every Lodge the work were rendered correctly by every Officer, that each of them spoke audibly, naturally, emphatically and feelingly, and acted as well as spoke his part, would there ever be a dull Lodge, a thin Lodge, an uninteresting Lodge, or a dead Lodge? Brethren, let us invoke the advent of that Masonic millennium, when the work shall be rendered as it was designed to be in every Lodge of the Craft.—“Keystone.”

LINE OF PROMOTION THEORY.

THERE is nothing at the present time that is so disastrous to the Fraternity and gradually sapping the life-blood of Masonry as advancement by “line of promotion.” It is a gradual poison to the vitals of the Order, and will surely end in death to the bodies which strictly adhere to the practice. Just how and where it was introduced, we know not, but we do know that it has had quite a long run, and is now, we hope, gradually approaching its end, and, when it dies, may it be buried so deep in the labyrinths of the dead past that it may pass for ever out of the minds of surviving Masons, is our prayer. It is a bane to the Order and a cankering sore upon the Masonic body; it defies good men and withers the ambition of bright intellects; it stifles free speech and places in position numbskulls; it is the source from whence less blessings flow than all other catastrophes which could possibly befall a body; it places “good fellows” in position, irrespective of capacity, and makes Masters of those totally incompetent to fill the position. And all this is brought about just because “they are in line.” Better far that they had never been made Masons than to be complimented by an office and then advanced through the line of promotion without merit. In long years gone by it was the custom to make two new Wardens every year, so that the Lodge would have a sufficient amount of material from which to select a Master. It was also the custom in “ye olden time” for members never to seek position. It was the Lodge that requested them “to allow the use of their name.” And even then oftentimes it was declined, for fear they “were not capacitated, and could not fill the position acceptably.”

But since that time, how things have changed! Why, it is no trick at all now for a Brother who has only been a Mason two years to aspire to the position of Master. The first year after his making he seeks a Warden's chair, and then he makes a break for the “East,” and if he does not get there he goes off and pouts, and works up a large-sized disgust because his “merit is not properly recognised.” Then, again, he wants to break the record. “Why Bro. So-and-So made it in three years, and I want to make it in two”—the earliest possible time. And when he makes it, what has the Lodge got? Why, perhaps, a Brother that was appointed Steward, but from various causes those above him in the line could not or would not be promoted, and he, being next in line, had to go ahead. From a Steward he was made Warden, and from a Warden, Master; and this, too, without the knowledge of the first scintilla of Masonic law and total ignorance of the constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge. But the line of promotion did it, and, therefore, we must “take our medicine.” Out with the line of promotion, say we, and let us come back to the good old way, when merit alone was the standard of promotion.

This same line of thought leads us to remark that Grand Lodges are, in a great measure, responsible for this state of things. It is their custom, generally, to elect some one from some particular part of the state, according to geographical lines, and advance him regularly until he is elected Grand Master, and it is not considered exactly the handsome thing to presume to run any one against the “liner.” By this process we have seen the dignity of the Grand East degraded, and the intellect that should reign supreme in such positions cast aside. Let the reformation, therefore, begin at the fountain head, wipe out all geographical lines and the “promotion theory,” and let absolute merit be the test of office.

There is another evil, also, that needs correcting, soliciting appointment for your friend or relative. Scarcely is the announcement made that “Bro. Next-in-Line has been elected” before his close friends make a rush for him and almost pull his ears off in their endeavours to “speak a good word” for Bros. Ambition, Johnny With-a-Pull-at-Home, Wise Acre, Smart Aleck, First Appearance, and Old Bro. Hayseed, “who has been comin' to this 'ere Grand Lodge for nigh onter thirty years, and never

got a job yet.” Until the appointments are announced, after the election, life is a burden to the Grand Master-elect, and in the wind-up he is bound to make somebody mad because he did not have places enough to go 'round. This state of electioneering has found its way into our subordinate Lodges, also. Newly elected Masters are importuned to start Bro. So-and-So “in line” just as soon as their election is announced, and the influence of the Wardens are solicited also in behalf of their favourites. It may be that the Brothers who are being urged for appointment have never seen but one election in the Lodge, and are totally ignorant of the duties of the office for which they are being coached, but one in “line” seems to be all that is necessary, as they will have time enough to qualify for the “East” before they get there. Oh, what a fallacy!

We tell you, Brothers, this “line of promotion theory” must be abandoned, and the quicker it is done the better it will be for Masonry. Merit will then have a chance.—Bun F. Price P.G.M. of Tennessee.

THE DEMOCRACY OF FREEMASONRY.

THE Masonic form of government is democratic, taking the large sense of the word; but it is not mobocratic. It is based on wise laws and regulations for the permanent good of the whole Fraternity, and not to subserve selfish, ambitious or mercenary purposes. These laws inculcate allegiance and subordination to the lawful authorities constituted over the Craft, and are enforced by the infliction of appropriate penalties on all conspirators, disorganisers and fermenters of discord. Any form of government without such laws being put into execution, when necessary, would soon lose its independence, and even its existence. There is with us no aristocracy such as exists in England and portions of Europe. The nearest legitimate approach to what would be recognised among the mass of the people of this land as giving rank to a man, will be found in public stations and offices of the State and general government. But these, alas! are sometimes awarded to those who have little to recommend them save servile adherence and services rendered to some party-political clique. High places are “like the tops of pyramids, which reptiles may reach as well as eagles.” In nine cases out of ten, where the office holder is capable and honest, the engrossing nature of his public duties, or his turn of mind and taste render him indisposed and unfit to cultivate our unobtrusive moral Order and Science. With us, the selection, as governors of our Order, of men in high stations in civil life, may result in a temporary evil, but it will not necessarily offer any lasting good or advantage. Brethren who by their “works” and their worth can contribute to the edification of our Order, alone merit the Masonic crown, sceptre and mallet.

Birth is an accident. A title of nobility does not adorn the man; but the man who has the title may adorn it by his talents and character. With the wise and the good it is not the aristocracy of wealth nor of birth, but of mind and worth that is appreciated.—“Freemason's Chronicle” (Sydney).

LEGITIMATE NEGRO LODGES.

MANY of our Masonic contemporaries talk as if a Negro could by no possibility become a Freemason. They ignore all the professions, principles and practices of the Fraternity the world over, and treat the black man as outside the pale of humanity. The Committee of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania which considered the action of our Grand Lodge on the question of Negro Masonry, and whose report was adverse thereto, evidently had its eye on those who deny all human rights to the African, for in its report it says: “Returning to the matter of the colour of individuals, it is well to remember that there are legitimate Lodges composed of coloured persons, and Lodges composed of white and coloured persons, lawfully warranted by legitimate Grand Lodges. In Massachusetts, New Jersey, England, and perhaps other States and foreign countries, there are such Lodges. Hence there are genuine coloured Masons, and if the Grand Lodge of Washington desires to warrant Lodges for coloured persons, or initiate such persons, no other Grand Lodge will have a right to object.”—“Pacific Mason.”

THE time-table of Summer Train Service published by the Midland Railway, with special reference to the Peak District and the Lancashire cities and seaside places, shows a continuance and extension of the progressive policy which has long been a distinguishing feature of this Company. Matlock Bath, Haddon Hall, Buxton, and the Derbyshire dales are brought within short and comfortable journey from St. Pancras, and business passengers to Manchester and Liverpool, or pleasure seekers on route to Southport and Blackpool each find their special wants catered for. The express trains are now largely composed of new rolling stock, of which luncheon and dining cars by day and sleeping cars on the night service occupy a full share.

GUARD THE LODGE FUNDS.

THE writer has always considered it a mistake to use the initiation fees for the Lodge expenses. They should form a charity fund, only the interest of which should be used for charity. If the income should be more than sufficient to meet the annual calls for charity, there would be no impropriety, perhaps, in appropriating the balance for running expenses.

As it is, there seems to be a disposition to expend (not to say squander) the Lodge funds upon furniture, paraphernalia, &c. The result is, that when there is a call for charity many Lodges excuse themselves for not answering it with the plea, "No funds in the treasury."

The cornerstone, foundation and superstructure of the Masonic edifice in Charity. A Masonic Lodge which does not "help, aid and assist all poor, distressed, worthy Master Masons, their widows and orphans," is not worthy of the name, and ought to have its Charter revoked.

The society of the Cincinnati (of which the writer has the honour to be a member) was founded by the commissioned Officers of the Continental Army in 1783. Every Officer who was admitted a member contributed a month's pay to constitute a charity fund, which was to be kept, saved and invested, the income only to be devoted to the relief of indigent members and their families. The result is that the State Societies of the Order have large, permanent funds, securely invested, to meet all calls for charity.

Now, suppose this had been the rule at the initiation of all the Lodges? All, or almost all, would now have ample funds to render aid and assistance to needy Brethren and their families.

"But," says some one, "if the initiation fees are all to be laid by to form a charity fund, how shall the Lodge expenses be met?" In the same way that church expenses are met, by voluntary contributions, or by a per capita assessment.

"But," says another, "some Lodges would not be able to meet their expenses in this way. It is hard work to collect the small amount assessed for annual dues. Many Lodges would go down, if the members had to pay the running expenses out of their own pockets."

Well, let such Lodges go down. The Order would be better off with less Lodges; especially Lodges composed of Masons who are not willing to "pay their own way."

What would be thought of an insurance company which should expend all its receipts in fees for running expenses; laying up no fund for the payment of losses?

To be sure, Masonry is not an insurance company, but it is liable to calls for charity, and every Lodge ought to have a permanent fund to draw on for relief of beneficiaries.

There are Lodges with indigent and distressed members who need help which spend every year hundreds of dollars for rent, salaries and other current expenses, whose annual charities do not amount to one-tenth of their disbursements for the above objects. Indeed, it has come to be a proverb, "If you want help during sickness and distress, join the Odd Fellows, and you will get a weekly benefit. If you want to depend on charity, join the Masons, and get—nothing!"

This matter will bear thinking of. Let every Mason put on his "thinking-cap" and consider it.—"American Tyler."

WEST LONDON ELECTION ASSOCIATION.

ON Tuesday, 3rd inst., a well attended meeting of the West London Masonic Election Association was held at the Town Hall Tavern, Kensington, with Bro. W. Hellier P.M. as President, and Bro. F. Craggs P.M. as Vice President; both the Secretaries were also in attendance.

The case of Leonard William Cox, as a candidate for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, was warmly supported, and the members present unanimously agreed to do all in their power to carry the case to a successful issue.

WEST AUSTRALIAN SHARES.

HANNAN'S ASSOCIATED MINES.

WE referred recently to the £1 fully-paid shares of Hannan's Associated Mines (Limited) as well worth the attention of the speculative investor at their then price of 10s per share. Since then they have been largely dealt in on the London Stock Exchange, and are now quoted at about 15s. Mr. W. G. Brookman, the discoverer of the Great Boulder and other successful West Australian mines, states in his report as follows: "You have an extremely valuable combination of leases, which will, I have no doubt, prove to contain the Great Boulder Main Lodes, the Ivanhoe Main Lodes, and others, and probably the Lake View Lode. I congratulate you on securing it, and I have no hesitation in recommending this property as one which will yield handsome dividends." Hannan's Associated Mines (Limited) owns eleven mining leases, with an area of about two hundred and twenty-eight acres, situated on the famous Hannan's Field, Kalgoorlie, only one hundred and sixty chains south of the Great Boulder, Lake View, and Ivanhoe Mines, and it is expected that the company will strike the celebrated Ivanhoe Lode at the 500ft. level, in which case the price of the shares will rise out of all proportion to present quotations.

MASONIC GARDEN PARTY.

ON Tuesday, 1st inst., for the second time within the last four years, by the invitation of Bro. Captain Parry Worshipful Master of the Palladian Lodge, No. 120, Hereford, a large number of the Brethren of the Provincial Lodge (including parties from Ross, Hereford, Ladbury, and other parts) had a very enjoyable outing at Harewood Park, proceeding there in brakes. The Brethren spent the afternoon viewing the picturesque surroundings of Captain Parry's residence, and at six p.m. they set down to a sumptuous dinner, which was laid out in the billiard room. Bro. E. Knibbs, King's Head Hotel, Ross, was the caterer.

After dinner Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, Bro. H. C. Beddoe Dep. Prov. Grand Master responding for the Provincial Officers, which was proposed by the Host, Bro. Captain Parry.

Bro. Beddoe proposed the health of Bro. Parry W.M., and it was drunk with honours. Bro. Captain Parry, in responding, expressed the pleasure it gave him to see the Brethren present that day.

Songs were afterwards contributed by several of the Brethren, and the party broke up, after spending a most pleasurable day, at about 9 p.m.

HOLIDAY TRIPS.

EXCURSIONS to Ireland and Scotland are still a prominent feature with the Midland Railway Company, fortnightly trips being arranged to run from St. Pancras and city stations to different parts of the Emerald Isle and Scotland, while return tickets at a third class single ordinary fare for the double journey are also issued to the latter, available for return at any time within sixteen days.

Cheap trains are also announced to run from St. Pancras on Saturdays, 19th and 26th inst., to the Midland Provinces and different sea-side resorts served by the Company, while there are weekly summer excursions to the Isle of Man, and trips to the Lake District, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire and other parts.

THE Great Central Company announce that a special express will be run to Nottingham (Arkwright Street), for the convenience of visitors to the Nottingham August Races, on Friday and Saturday, 18th and 19th inst., leaving London (Marylebone Station) at 9.0 a.m., and returning each day from Nottingham (Arkwright Street) at 5.50 p.m. Tickets can be obtained from Messrs. Dean and Dawsons, 55 Charing Cross, S.W., and at the usual ticket agencies.

The five largest Lodges in the United States are: Minneapolis No. 19, Minneapolis, Minn., 823 members; Hiram No. 1, New Haven, Conn., 752 members; Genesee Falls, No. 507, Rochester, N.Y., 726 members; Covenant No. 526, Chicago, Ill., 684 members; and Grand Rapids, Mich., 603 members.

It is rather funny to see editors of Masonic papers grow red in the face as they effervesce on the beauties of the universality of Masonry, and then have an epileptic fit over the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on the Negro question.—"Orient," of Missouri.

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The Theatres, &c.

Court.—8.30, Wheels within Wheels. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Criterion.—8.15, First in the Field. 9, The Wild Rabbit.
Globe.—8, The Gay Lord Quex. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
Lyric.—8.30, El Capitan. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Princess's.—8, One of the best.
Savoy.—8.30, H.M.S. Pinafore. Trial by Jury. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Alexandra.—Next week, A royal Divorce.
Grand.—Next week, Carl Rosa Opera Co.
Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—Next week, Sweet Lavender.
Alhambra.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. A Day Off, La Tortojada, &c.
Aparium.—The world's great Show. The Great Fight. Varied Performances, twice daily.
Empire.—7.50, Variety Entertainment. Round the Town again, &c.
London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment.
Oxford.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.30 also.
Palace.—7.50, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c. Saturday, 2 also.
Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30 also.
Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Marie Lloyd. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Alexandra Palace.—Varied attractions daily. Fireworks, Thursday and Saturday, &c.
Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily. The Dream of Whitaker's almanack. Polo, Article Club Industrial Exhibition, &c.
Earl's Court.—Savage South Africa, &c.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
Madame Tussaud's (Baker Street Station).—Open daily. Portrait models of modern celebrities, &c.