

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
RIGHT HON. LORD SALTOUN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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THE RECENT COLONIAL DISCUSSION IN GRAND LODGE.

It was doubtless a great surprise to the majority of those who attended Grand Lodge on the 1st instant, that a motion should have been made for the non-confirmation of that portion of the minutes of the June communication which related to the additional and amended Articles of the Book of Constitutions which had been then adopted; and a still greater surprise that so unusual a motion should have been made by a comparatively inexperienced brother, who, however capable he may be, is evidently from the tenor of his speech as reported in these columns, not particularly conversant with the important question he was desirous of treating. It is very creditable to him that he should have taken so much trouble to be present in his place in Grand Lodge on this occasion and should have exhibited so much sympathy with the lodges and brethren in the far-off Colonies and possessions of the British Crown. But he ought not to have lost sight of the fact that the articles which more particularly affect our Colonial lodges have been discussed and re-discussed times out of number during quite a long term of years and that on none of these occasions has there been any lack of sympathy with or consideration for their interests on the part of our Grand Lodge. When Grand Registrar appeared to have placed a wrong interpretation on Article 219, the subject was brought to the notice of Grand Lodge, which decided that the said Article meant what it said, not what some supposed it ought to have said or was intended to say. When a difficulty arose with one of the New South Wales lodges which claimed to have remained true to its allegiance to Grand Lodge, the question was fully considered, and the said lodge retains its place on the Grand Lodge Register of Lodges. When, in the course of the summer of 1896, the question of recognising the body styling itself the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was referred to Grand Lodge by the M.W. Grand Master, and his Royal Highness expressed it as his opinion, based on information derived from the Colony itself, that the time had arrived to put an end to the discord existing among the brethren in New Zealand, and suggested that Grand Lodge should leave it to him to take the necessary steps to achieve the end in view, while safeguarding the interests of our lodges, Grand Lodge adopted the recommendation, and the matter is still in the hands of the M.W.G. Master. Lastly, when it was considered desirable that certain of

the Articles in the Book of Constitutions relating to Colonial lodges should be amended and extended, a scheme was proposed by the Board of General Purposes in March; but opposition being raised to parts, if not to the whole, of the said scheme, it was, on the suggestion, we believe, of Bro. the Rev. R. J. SIMPSON, Past Grand Chaplain, referred to a select Committee, of which Bro. RICHARD EVE, Past Grand Treasurer, was a member. This Committee, the meeting of which Bro. EVE was unable to attend, made their report in June, and the amendments and extensions they recommended were there and then adopted. It was to these amendments and extensions that Bro. THOMSON LYON felt himself impelled by his deep sympathies with Colonial Freemasonry, to offer his most strenuous opposition, the principal, if not the only, ground of his opposition being that these arrangements and extensions afforded brethren "additional facilities" for the discussion in open lodge of certain important questions, which, under the previously existing laws it would have been illegal for them to discuss except amongst themselves as individual Masons. During all this time our Colonial brethren have had it in their power to lay their views upon these questions before the authorities of Grand Lodge, while it is a matter of common knowledge that they have been fully discussed in the columns of the Masonic press. It seems to us, therefore, to have been an idle suggestion on the part of Bro. THOMSON LYON and those who supported him that there should be further delay in dealing with questions which have been before the Craft already for several years, it being most undesirable that the settlement of questions which have unavoidably given rise to a considerable amount of illfeeling on the part of some of our Colonial brethren should be put off indefinitely. It is to the interest of Freemasonry as a whole that sores which have been kept open for a very long time should be healed at the earliest available opportunity; and if the steps which are being taken by his Royal Highness, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to establish peace among the brethren in New Zealand, where for years there has been no peace, and the additional facilities which Grand Lodge has thought fit to offer to our Colonial brethren for the consideration of questions which vitally affect their interests, are at all likely to conduce to that end, such a result should, in our opinion, be subject for congratulation.

There is still one matter to which we are desirous of advertising. Towards the close of the debate, Bro. C. J. EGAN, District Grand Master of South Africa (E.D.)—not Bro. S. WAY, M.W. Grand Master of South Australia, as erroneously stated in our report of the meeting—rose and declared that the brethren in South Africa were desirous of remaining under the English Constitution, and he plaintively added that the Colony had had no opportunity of discussing the question which he knew had given rise to a great amount of dissatisfaction. Thereupon Grand Registrar, in a tone which will strike most of our readers as being somewhat dictatorial, pointed out that when Grand Lodge has resolved on adopting any course, every one, however distinguished his position may be, even to the M.W. Grand Master himself, must be satisfied. Doubtless Bro. EGAN—who has been a District Grand Master since 1875—was already possessed of this interesting information; but, whether he was or was not, it occurs to us that a heartier welcome might have been extended towards the remarks of so distinguished a Colonial brother upon a matter immediately concerning the welfare of our Colonial lodges.

**FREEMASONRY IN THE WESTERN DIVISION
OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Last week we commented upon the splendid start which has been given to a Masonic Educational Institution which has recently been established in one of the Districts of South Africa, to wit, that of the Transvaal, the brethren of which have already subscribed or promised the munificent sum of £15,000—just as a send-off—towards its maintenance. This week we have much pleasure in calling attention to another charitable scheme which has been successfully inaugurated under the auspices of the Dist. Grand Lodge of the Western Division of South Africa and which is intended to serve as a memorial of the completion of the 60th year of Queen Victoria's reign. At the annual meeting of the Dist. G. Lodge on the 16th March last, it was decided unanimously to establish a "District Masonic Pension Fund for Aged Freemasons and Widows" in commemoration of the anniversary just mentioned, and in order that it may be placed at once on a permanent and stable footing, it has been arranged that the administration of the Fund shall be placed in charge of the District Board of General Purposes, the effect of which will be that, except for printing, postage, and stationery, the costs of management will be *nil*. But this is not all in the way of help which Dist. G. Lodge has resolved on affording. At the same meeting it was resolved that as a permanent contribution towards this most benevolent object, Dist. Grand Lodge should devote one half of its yearly Benevolent Fund, the other half being retained for the relief of casual distress. At the same time, both to make assurance doubly sure and likewise to allow of the benefits to be dispensed by the new Fund being as substantial as possible, a circular has been issued by the Dist. G. Secretary inviting subscriptions from the private lodges and individual brethren and in order to encourage this class of contribution, it is proposed to give donors and subscribers a *quid pro quo* in the shape of votes at the election of candidates, each guinea subscribed entitling the donor to vote for three candidates. It will thus be seen that the "District Masonic Pension Fund" in the Western Division of South Africa has been started on pretty well the same lines as our Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Male Annuity Fund of which was established 55 years ago by Grand Lodge with a permanent endowment of £400 per annum from the Fund of Benevolence, while seven years later the Widows' Annuity Fund was started with a similar endowment; donations and subscriptions being invited from lodges and brethren and votes given in recognition of such contributions to all donors and subscribers. It only remains for the brethren who will administer the S. African Fund to arrange that a Festival in its behalf shall be held periodically and the resemblance between the General and District Charities will be complete. Need we add that this further South African scheme of benevolence has our sincerest sympathy as well as our heartiest wishes for its success, and that at all times we shall be only too glad to encourage its support by every means in our power.

**SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER AND
REGULATION 43.**

The debate at the August Convocation upon the extraordinary decision of Grand Chapter at the May meeting cannot well be regarded with any other feeling but that of intense dissatisfaction, and, in fact, only makes "confusion worse confounded." It will be deplorable if some method cannot be found of putting the matter right.

All the speakers (except the Dep. Grand Registrar)—Comps. Le Feuvre, Fenn, and the M.E.Z. in the chair—seem to have admitted the correctness of the view taken of the law in question by the present writer, by Comp. Hughan, and by Comp. Lovegrove in the columns of the *Freemason*; but some difficulty appears to have been felt as to the best way to rectify the error.

The Dep. Grand Registrar said he had to take the law as he found it. Granted! The M.E.Z. pointed out the same thing, though, with all deference, it is submitted he was wrong in speaking of its being the Grand Registrar's duty to "administer" the law! The Grand Registrar *advises* Grand Chapter, but he

has no power to *administer*. Where is there any authority for considering the Grand Registrar as the Executive? He *advises*, but Grand Chapter is not bound to adopt his opinions as a final judicial decision. The Court of Appeal to decide what is the true meaning of the law, is *Grand Chapter itself*; and if it considers that the Grand Reg. has misconstrued the law (as in this case it is contended he has undoubtedly done), Grand Chapter should unhesitatingly refuse to adopt his ruling. It is true that there has of late been a tendency to fall into the error of considering that because Grand Registrar takes a certain view it must necessarily be adopted. But even a Grand Registrar is not infallible, and it would be most dangerous to the interests of the Craft if the representatives of the Brotherhood were *bound* by the opinion of any one man, however eminent and skilful he may be.

The fact is that Regulation 43 *has nothing whatever to do with the appointment of officers!* It relates solely to the *government* of Provincial and District Grand Chapters, and has no connection at all with Regulations 36 to 41.

That this is so becomes very clear on reference to the previous edition of the Regulations.

Reg. 43 in the Regulations of the 1886 edition is identical, word for word, with Reg. 41 of 1879; and relates to Regulations 13 to 22.

These, with the exception of 14, which is new, are practically the same as Regulations 11 to 19 of the 1879 Edition, in which book they form a separate division under the heading, "REGULATIONS for the GOVERNMENT of the SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER during the time of PUBLIC BUSINESS to be read at the Convocation in May." This heading is omitted in the present Edition, as the reading in May had become obsolete.

It is hardly conceivable that E. Comp. Horton Smith would have adhered to his interpretation had his attention been called to this fact, and it is somewhat extraordinary that it was not brought to his notice in August.

If this view of the law be correct, as it certainly appears to be, any alteration of Regulation 42 is not only unnecessary, but would be a great mistake. To add words to the effect that "this Regulation does not apply to the appointment of officers" would be superfluous; and if a statement that it "never had applied" were not added, all the old appointments and non-appointments would be left in the state of doubt and confusion in which they are placed by the May decision. If it be impossible or inexpedient to rescind that decision, a simple resolution of Grand Chapter in Novr., "that Reg. 43 applies only to the government of Provl. and Dist. Grand Chapters during the time of public business and has nothing to do with the appointment of Officers," would be sufficient. It would be declaratory of the law, and would pass over in silence the decision which had evoked the declaration. No great injustice would be done in the actual case under appeal, as Comp. Coates is allowed to have his Past Rank, and Comp. Gray's rank could be confirmed by his being re-appointed.

The statement that Supreme Grand Chapter adopted its May resolution on the ground that it had nothing to do with the matter seems hardly correct, and must be by some error in the report. Otherwise, all appointments by Supreme Grand Superintendents of Provinces or Districts, however illegal, could never be questioned—a position which could not be maintained either in Arch or Craft.

It is to be hoped that now the matter has been ventilated, and has evoked such strong evidence of the universal practice being contrary to the Dep. G. Reg's. interpretation of the law, some steps will be taken in November to put the matter beyond question.

LEX SCRIPTA.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Public Hall, Liskeard, on the 31st ult., under the banner of St. Martin Lodge, No. 510. The town was gay with bunting, and the local brethren made excellent preparations for the reception of the visitors, who numbered about 400. The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the following were among those present: Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, P.G.M.; Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle, D.P.G.M.; N. J. West, P.S.G.W.; P. T. Chirgwin, P.J.G.W.; Rev. H. W. Millett, P.G. Chap.; G. H. Small, P.G. Treas.; E. Boase, P.G. Reg.; E. Anderton, P.G. Sec.; E. W. Carus-Wilson, P.S.G.D.; H. Opie and J. Pendray, P.J.G.Ds.; J. T. Letcher, P.G.D.C.; W. H. Lake, P.D.G.D.C.; W. R. Brewer, P.A. G.D.C.; and others.

The Prov. G.M. invested his officers as follows:

Bro. Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle	...	...	Dep. P.G.M.
" G. B. Pearce, 450	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. W. Higman, 496	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. J. Norris, 510	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" E. F. Nugent, 1785	...	...
" R. L. Randall, 330	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" E. L. Carlyon, 331	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" E. D. Arderton, 331	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. M. Richards, 318	...	...	} Prov. S.G.Ds.
" W. A. Bennett, 699	...	...
" W. S. Cater, 789	...	...	} Prov. J.G.Ds.
" R. Faulk, 510	...	...
" J. Newland, 1544	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" W. H. Trythall, 589	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. H. Rowe, 121	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" T. G. Holder, 75	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Col. Parkyn, 330, 1528	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" E. Benney, 131	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" W. Nancarrow, 1071	...	...
" J. B. Williams, 1785	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. P. Lillicrapp, 970	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. Fitton, 1006	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" W. Lucy	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" E. R. Brown, 856	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" H. C. Sara, 967	...	...
" M. Daniel, 1272	...	...
" W. Symons, 557	...	...
" W. Coulter, 2166	...	...
" A. E. Morcom, 510	...	...
" E. A. Oiford, 510	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

About noon a procession was formed outside the Public Hall, and the brethren proceeded to the Parish Church for Divine service. The procession was a very long one, and was headed by the regimental band of the 2nd V.B.D.C.L.I., under Bugle-Major Phillips, immediately followed by the Sword Bearers. Then came the members of the various Cornish lodges, with their banners, and the rear was brought up by the Prov. G. Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, and the Deputy Prov. G. Master, Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle, Bart. Preceding the Chaplain, came the four Lewises of P.Ms. of St. Martin's Lodge, bearing an open Bible, square and compasses on a velvet cushion. The procession was a most imposing one, and the streets were lined with spectators.

The service at the church was short and hearty, and was attended by a large number of the general public as well as the brethren. Prayers were intoned by Rev. Canon C. E. HAMMOND, vicar of Menheniot, and the special lessons—I Chron. xxii. 1-17, and I Peter iii. 8-13—read by Bro. the Rev. J. NORRIS, vicar, and Bro. the Rev. W. E. WADDINGTON, curate. Clarke's anthem, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in Unity," was well sung by the surpliced choir, Mr. T. A. Smythurst presiding at the organ. The sermon was preached by Rev. H. W. MILLETT, Vicar of Millbrook, Prov. G. Chap., from I Peter ii. 17, "Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the King." His text, he said, contained four maxims, as plain and vigorous as they were short and pithy, and there was a ring about the words which went straight to a Freemason's heart. They were an epitome of the virtues which God required of men, and they were comprised under three heads—humility, love, duty. Humility came first as the groundwork of all that was good. Then they must love every member of the Brotherhood, extending their sympathy to the lowly as well as to the high-born, to the poor as well as to the rich, to the erring as well as to the righteous. The brotherhood of man was a name given to the children of men by God Himself, not only to remind them of their common origin, but also to implant within them the principles of fraternal love, which should make nations respect each other, communities work together for the common good, and individuals live side by side in peace and affection. Christ their elder brother, taught not only the brotherhood of man but the Fatherhood of God. Freemasons called each other by the endearing word brother because they recognised and acknowledged the Divine teaching of the brotherhood of man, and they endeavoured by God's help to give practical effect to that teaching.

A luncheon was subsequently held in the Guildhall, Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe presiding.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

The third annual communication of the above Dist. Grand Lodge took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Johannesburg, under the presidency of Bro. H. F. E. Pistorius, Deputy District Grand Master, on Tuesday, the 27th April last.

A majority of the District Grand Officers were present, certain of those who were unable to attend sending apologies and being excused, while others, who offered no explanation whatever, were fined for their non-attendance. The total number present, including the Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters of all the lodges on the roll but two, was 87.

The minutes of the preceding annual communication of the District Grand Lodge, held on the 28th April, 1896, having been confirmed, the report of the Board of General Purposes was read, and, after discussion, confirmed, the D.G.M. intimating that since the report had been issued the Royal George Lodge, No. 2643, Krugersdorp, had been consecrated by Bro. W. B. Boyes, D.G. Treasurer; also that the various lodges in the immediate vicinity of Johannesburg had been visited by the District Grand Lodge during the past year.

The DEP. G. MASTER made a feeling reference to the death of Bro. Douglas Chester, D.G. Reg.

The recommendation of the Board of General Purposes to donate the sum of 100 guineas to the Transvaal Masonic Educational Institution, and the further sum of 50 guineas to the proposed General Benevolent Fund was adopted.

The D.G. Treasurer's report and statement of accounts was submitted, and, having been discussed, was formally adopted.

Bro. W. B. BOYES, D.G. Treas., reported that since framing his report the District Grand Officers in default had paid their fees of honour, with the exception of two, and the D.G.M. ordered that those brethren be dealt with as prescribed in the by-laws of the D.G. Lodge. He further explained that from the report it would appear that one of the lodges was in default, but that was not so, and the error, which had arisen through a misunderstanding on the part of the lodge, had since been adjusted.

The DEP. D.G.M. made a feeling reference to the absence of Bro. J. da Silva, D.G. Sec., through the sad bereavement that had befallen him in the death of his wife.

It was unanimously resolved "That the District Grand Lodge begs to record its high appreciation, and wishes to express its sincerest thanks to W. Bro. Geo. Richards, District Grand Master, for his generous donations of the sum of £244 17s. 3d. to the General Fund, and £100 to the Educational Fund, and that a letter be written to W. B. o. Richards conveying the same."

A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. W. B. Boyes, Dist. G. Treas., for his able report, and the very efficient manner in which he had kept the District Grand Lodge books.

The DEPUTY DIST. GRAND MASTER informed the brethren that any lodge or Dist. G. Officer could have access to the books on having received from him a permit to do so.

Bro. W. B. Boyes was unanimously elected District Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The DEPUTY DIST. GRAND MASTER having thanked the outgoing officers for their attendance and co-operation during the past year, proceeded to invest the following brethren as Dist. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Baron de Matalha, 2313	...	...	Dist. S.G.W.
" J. H. Ball, 1747	...	...	D st. J.G.W.
" Rev. M. L. Harris, 2585	...	...	} Dist. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Canon F. H. Fisher, 1747	...	...
" W. B. Boyes, 2313	...	...	Dist. G. Treas.
" G. C. Herbert, 2313	...	...	Dist. G. Reg.
" C. Aburrow, 2313	...	...	Pres. B of G.P.
" H. B. Papenfus, 2481	...	...	Dist. S.G.D.
" J. Blane, 2498	...	...	Dist. J.G.D.
" A. E. Dowling, 2481	...	...	Dist. G.S. of Wks.
" A. N. S. Goldberg, 2478	...	...	Dist. G.D.C.
" W. T. Lloyd, 2539	...	...	Dist. A.G.D.C.
" B. de R. Malraison, 2481	...	...	Dist. G.S.B.
" G. Horwitz, 2607	...	...	Dist. G. Std. Br.
" J. G. Howard, 2315	...	...	Dist. A.G. Std. Br.
" F. W. Peters, 2481	...	...	Dist. G. Org.
" C. Pietersen, 2478	...	...	Dist. A.G. Sec.
" W. Dodds, 2481	...	...	Dist. G. Purst.
" P. J. Jkkink, 2480	...	...	Dist. A.G. Purst.
" R. E. Hall, 2313	...	...	} Dist. G. Stewards.
" H. Hellman, 2539	...	...
" A. Von Gensan, 2354	...	...
" M. Zeffert, 2478	...	...
" G. E. Hands, 2585	...	...	} Dist. G. Tyler.
" B. Lazarus, 2607	...	...
" K. Klagsbrun, 2478	...	...

The DEPUTY DISTRICT GRAND MASTER announced that he would invest Bro. J. da Silva as District Grand Secretary at a later date.

The following were elected members of the Board of General Purposes for the ensuing year: Bros. JESSIE DEAR, 2498 Past D.G.D.C.; E. Wilkinson, 2481, Past D.A.G.D.C.; H. B. Papenfus, 2481, D.S.G.D.; J. W. Peirson, 2313, P.D.J.D.; and A. E. Dowling, 2481, Dist. G. Supt. of Works.

The DEP. DIST. G. MASTER as proposer, and Bro. M. L. HARRIS, D.G. Chap., having made feeling reference to the death of Mrs. J. da Silva, it was unanimously resolved "That an expression of sympathy be conveyed to Bro. J. da Silva, on his recent bereavement in the death of his wife."

The attention of D.G. Officers was drawn to the Inaugural Festival of the Transvaal Masonic Educational Institution, the Dep. D.G.M. requesting the Stewards to hand in their lists as early as possible.

With reference to the record reign of her Majesty the Queen, the Board of General Purposes was authorised to frame a loyal address to her Majesty.

The DEP. D.G.M. announced that it was his intention to visit the Abercorn Lodge, No. 159, Irish Constitution, officially on the 30th instant, and requested the Dist. G. Officers to attend him.

Before closing the Dist. G. Lodge, the DEP. G.M. stated that he expected Bro. G. Richards back about September; he was pleased to see so large a number of brethren present, the interest thus evinced in the Dist. G. Lodge augured well for English Freemasonry which he trusted would continue to flourish as it had in the past.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DEVONSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Prov. G. Chapter of Devonshire was held at Tiverton on Monday, the 9th ultimo, when, in the unavoidable absence of the Acting Grand Superintendent, the chair was occupied by Comp. M. Fortescue, who was supported by Comps. J. R. Lord and H. Stocker as Prov. G.H. and Prov. G.J. respectively.

Prov. Grand Chapter having been opened and the minutes of last year's convocation read and confirmed, expression was given to the regret which all present felt at the absence, through ill-health, of Comp. W. G. Rogers, Acting G. Supt.

The Prov. G. Treasurer's report, which was read, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, showed a balance in hand of £55 1s. 3d., of which, in accordance with the by-laws of Prov. G. Lodge, five guineas was paid over to the Fortescue Annuity Fund and five guineas to the Devon Educational Fund. Of the balance then remaining, 10 guineas were voted to the Davie Aged Widows' Annuity Fund and 10 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to be placed on the list of Comp. John

Stocker, who will represent the province as Steward at the Centenary Festival which will be held some time during the summer of 1897.

Notice having been given for an addition to the by-laws which will enable the Prov. G. Scribe E. to demand further information respecting the working of the chapters in the province, the following companions were appointed Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year, namely:

Comp. W. S. Rogers, 112 ...	...	Prov. G.H.
" F. B. Westlake, 70 ...	...	Prov. G.J.
" J. Stocker, 112 ...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" J. E. Elleston, 1125 ...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" E. M. Moyle, 1125 ...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" T. Parker, 156 ...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" G. T. Bridgeman, 1358 ...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" E. W. Locke, 444 ...	...	Prov. 1st A.G.P.S.
" R. C. Musgrave, 303 ...	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.P.S.
" W. M. Powell, 1205 ...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" F. Hubber, 1284 ...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" G. R. Stevens, 494 ...	...
" W. H. Botterell, 1255 ...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. Lord, 1247 ...	...
" J. A. Lavers, 223 ...	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" J. F. Ralling, 112 ...	...
" W. H. Lander, 1138 ...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. Mann, 106 ...	...
" W. H. Mayne ...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" H. Shooter, 112 ...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

DANGER AHEAD.

It is not pleasant to note some of the "signs of the times" in the Masonic world. In many things there are tokens of divergence from the old ways, and of tendencies to enter upon new paths which lack the assurance of safety. One does not need to be an alarmist or a croaker, who forecasts danger to the Masonic Institution, unless a halt is called or a check interposed, as respects some of the measures and movements which have come to be tolerated, if not entirely approved, by Craftsmen and Craft organisations.

There is reason to fly the danger signal because of the undue haste now manifest in many localities, both as regards the admission of candidates into Freemasonry and their rapid advancement from Degree to Degree. Candidates are impatient to take all the steps and to reach the top as soon as possible. In these days their impatience is not much curbed by lodge, chapter, or commandery, but they are rather encouraged to proceed rapidly, and to gain admission as soon as possible to these bodies, not forgetting in their rapid march to identify themselves with the Cryptic and the Scottish Rites and the Shrine. Because of these tendencies special meetings must be often held, dispensations sought and given, hence, in the nature of things, there is a feverishness about the work, the Degrees often being conferred on too many candidates, or under conditions that detract from their impressiveness. Is there not an element of danger in the rushing of the work to meet the convenience of the candidates and to swell the numbers of an organisation?

Under the pressure of haste there is likely to be a neglect of desired scrutiny, both as regards the receiving and acting upon petitions, and as to the suitable proficiency of brethren who have taken the express train for the top. Thus some undesirable material gets in, passing the tests again and again, but sure in every grade to constitute an element of weakness. Thus are set aside former usages and limitations, wholesome in themselves, and calculated to maintain the true, conservative character of the Masonic Institution, while little by little, very insidiously perhaps, new forces are introduced, which sooner or later will be found to interfere with Masonic strength and usefulness.

There is danger ahead unless we "slow up," brethren, and exercise something more of care and caution in the important matters to which reference is here made. The present popularity of Freemasonry, especially of Masonic Templarism, is not without its perils. There was never more need than now of being on the alert, as wise and faithful Craftsmen, to note the "signs of the times," and to regulate our course according to what are seen to be the demands and the dangers of the hour.—*Freemasons' Repository*.

AN ORATION.

The following oration was delivered at the consecration of the Victoria Lodge, No. 2669, Bradford, on the 30th ult., by the Prov. G. Chap. of West Yorkshire, Bro. the Rev. H. R. HARRISON, M.A.

Brethren,—The ceremonies performed here to-day are holy rites intended to perpetuate in all our memories the serious and solemn obligations of brotherly love, relief, and truth. This lodge built by wisdom, supported by strength, and adorned in beauty is consecrated like ourselves to the G.A.O.T.U. As we march round its borders we are reminded of the short span of human life and that all our steps tend towards eternity. We are pledged in this place to truth, honour and virtue, and like the Royal lady whose illustrious name it bears, we are to live out before the initiated in the world the life of love. As we are proud thus of being Masons, let us live up to our high calling. We are consecrated with holy oil, so was our good Queen anointed at her coronation. Corn, wine, and oil, are emblems of health, peace, and plenty, which are essential blessings to this lodge, and they remind us individually of our duties—which are to feed the hungry, to cheer the sorrowful, and to pour consolation into the grieving hearts of our fellow men. How much all these symbols express! How wrapt in symbols are our lives, every detail and ornament which we see around us being a symbol of something higher, better, nobler. The virtues of Freemasonry are not to be shut up with the closing of the lodge, but should be exemplified in every-day life, and carried out in practice, for our obligations are binding throughout our mortal career. As we glance back at the history of the Craft, so old, and yet so strong, so mysterious and yet so wide-spread, we cannot but feel that it has been of immense benefit to the human race. It is generally believed (I venture to assert), that our mysteries and ceremonies

are derived from those of ancient Egypt, and Egypt, probably, got her temple worship from Assyria, or Persia, or Thibet. How did mighty Egypt contrive to become what she was by her own lights and her own resources? She must have got her learning and mysteries from Assyria. The Greeks from whom we derive our ceremonial—young in knowledge, arts, and sculpture—sounded a trumpet before them, and all the world worshipped at their shrines. They called upon mankind to admire their ability, and to value them at the high estimate they had placed upon themselves; old Egypt, on the contrary, grew grey and hoary with wisdom, cared not for the world's flattery, for Egypt was self-contained. Greece picked up crumbs of information from Egypt, but, unassisted, unappreciated from without, Egypt, solitary and self-reliant, wrought out her own magnificence. Egypt still presents a puzzle to the Masonic student. How is it to be explained that this mighty country should sink out of sight, the world beginning apparently a new life, and fancying that it was originating thought, creating art, whilst at its feet, in the sand lay hidden credentials of a long past gigantic splendour of cultivation and learning. If we, in our modern pride think our puny efforts are tending to the establishment of a golden age, leading we hope to perfection, there can be no corrective more effectual than the study of ancient Egypt and her mysteries. This historic race left behind them lasting records of themselves and from their hieroglyphics we have been able to unfold something of their mysterious rites and ceremonies; we have learned that in the wonderful temples they constructed—ruins of which still abound—they worshipped one God that they believed in a future state of rewards and punishments, and that their ritual was gorgeous and magnificent. Our Freemasonry to-day is a fragment of the mysteries of Egyptian symbolism without doubt, and is probably older than Egypt itself, coming down to us from, it may be, Assyria the mighty. Whence then did Assyria derive its mystic rites and ceremonies? We can guess only at their origin and growth. The surpassing splendour of the sun by day, of the moon and starry worlds by night could not fail to create in the human breast feelings of reverence, awe, and adoration. The hunter guided amid the mighty forests was grateful for the light, and gratitude produced religious feeling. The shepherd on the plains, the mariner at sea, looked upon the sapphire heavens, sparkling in lustrous brilliancy, and kissed his hand—(Job xxxi., 27)—or bowed his head in silent worship; and the "orb of day," which in its splendour seemed the very substance of God himself made manifest, became to the children of earth a type of the sovereign king. Gradually the story of Adam, the first man,—and it is found in every race—became the story of creation. This was supposed to be the apocalypse, the origin of those mysteries which from Assyria came to Greece, and was subsequently gathered from the records of Eleusis. The initiated alone were taught the great secret. That is evident, I think, from the Book of Job—"Hast thou heard the secret of God?" asks Job (xv., 8), and that secret was the whispered name in Masonry. The lesser mysteries were, of course, preparatory for the greater, and were reached by three steps—purification, or preparation, initiation, and perfection. All old religions agree in having a closed sanctuary where the secret rites were performed. This is proved by examination of the sites of the ruined temples of Assyria, Egypt, and Eleusis. These mysteries began in sorrow, and ended in joy, even as allegorically, in Masonry we pass from death unto life. It is, moreover, beyond doubt, that the initiate, besides going through mystic rites, had signs and passwords entrusted to him, and it is equally true now, as of old, that actions speak better than words. To sum up, probably the esoteric doctrines of Egypt and Greece preserved the speculations of the wise from the ears and tongues of an illiterate multitude, and passed them with slight modifications into the possession of the early Christian heretics, thence from the Gnostics through the Albigenses and Templars they have been bequeathed to the modern Freemason. The old charges prove our antiquity and ancestry, and they are the repositories of our time-honoured traditions. From the period of King Athelstan down to this day does the spirit of these ancient charges continue; we are still free-born, whole, bound by mystic tie even as were our Masonic forefathers long centuries ago. By keeping these traditions inviolate, we may realise what a lofty ideal was placed before us in the ancient mysteries. Brethren, we must endeavour to live up to our high calling and our wondrous privileges, and in reference to this particular lodge, may its foundation be in love, and the example of righteous lives its strength and firm support.

CHRISTENING OF THE NEW CITY MASONIC CLUB LIFEBOAT.

On Thursday afternoon, the 26th ult., was witnessed at Poole a very important and interesting function in connection with the Poole and Bournemouth branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. A new lifeboat, of the latest and most improved type, has been presented to the Institution by the City Masonic Club, London, and the ceremony of christening and launching the craft was carried out amidst the enthusiasm of large numbers of people of Poole, Bournemouth, Wimborne, Christchurch, and adjacent places. The necessity of placing a new boat on the station became evident a few months ago, when, upon examination, it was observed that dry rot had set in amongst the timbers of the old "Boys' Own" boat, which has done good service, and by means of which the Poole crew have saved many a life at sea.

"The City Masonic Club," the name of the new boat, which is the magnificent gift of the City Masonic Club, London—hence the name—is a splendid craft, much larger than the one previously on the station. It is a self-righting boat, or what some would prefer to term, perhaps "non-capsizable." She was designed by Mr. W. L. Watson, of Glasgow, the well-known yacht designer, whose name is associated with such far-famed yachts as the Meteor and Britannia, and she was built by Messrs. Henderson and Co., of Glasgow. The boat was designed and specially built for the competitive trials, which were carried out at Montrose and Lowestoft, under the auspices of the Lifeboat Institution, and it may be the more readily understood what an admirable class of boat she is when it is stated that she practically took the highest award, and was well reported on for her power of pulling to windward, her stability under oars and sails, and her sailing qualities generally. She pulls 12 oars, and she is rigged with a large standing fore lug and jib, and small mizen lug, being fitted with one sliding keel, made of wood, which drops three feet below the main keel of the boat. Her length is 37 feet 6 inches, with a splendid beam of 9 feet 3 inches. She has the usual lifeboat fittings—air cases, under deck and on deck at her sides, and relieving valves for letting the water off the deck. Her iron keel weighs 12 cwts. 1 qr., and, to increase her stability, she is fitted with four water ballast tanks that can be filled and emptied at will. Such a class of boat as the City Masonic Club would cost about £700, and this will give our readers some idea of the munificence displayed by the donors, who have made the branch a gift of the boat. We might here state that the boat was chosen by the deputation of the Poole lifeboatmen, who went up to London and inspected the boats at the Institution's store yard. They have prac-

tised with her on several occasions, and, it is satisfactory to know, are greatly pleased with their new craft.

The new lifeboat being a gift from a body of Masons, it was only natural that the brethren from the mystic Craft should desire to take some special part in the day's proceedings, and to extend a fraternal welcome to the brethren who had been deputed to come from London to make the presentation. The fact that Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, the Worshipful Master of Lodge Amity, No. 137, is himself a prominent member of the City Masonic Club, and has borne no small share in the raising of the fund out of which the cost of the new boat has been defrayed, was an additional reason why the brethren should do honour to the occasion.

Accordingly, a special dispensation was obtained from the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Montagu J. Guest, and a lodge of emergency was held at the Masonic Hall at 1.30 p.m., Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, P.M., presiding, supported by Bro. A. C. Chapin, P.P.G. Stwd., I.P.M., and a whole host of Past Masters of Amity and neighbouring lodges. The other officers of the lodge attending were: Bros. H. Saunders, S.W.; F. P. Oakley, J.W.; H. J. Sydenham, P.P.A.G.D.C., Chap.; W. D. Dugdale, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; C. J. Woodford, P.P.G.P., Sec.; L. W. Pretty, J.D.; G. A. Mate, I.G.; F. A. Sharp, P.P.J.G.D., D.C.; W. J. White, Org.; G. Hodges and G. Wood, Stewards; and G. Squibb, Tyler. There was also a large attendance of visiting brethren from lodges at Bournemouth, Boscombe, Ringwood, Wareham, and Wimborne.

The proceedings were of the briefest possible character.

After the usual formalities had been observed, Bro. DUGDALE proposed, and Bro. T. S. FURNELL, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., seconded the following resolution, which was, of course, unanimously adopted: "That the best thanks of this lodge be given to the City Masonic Club, London, for their generosity in providing the lifeboat, 'The City Masonic Club,' which has this day been placed on the Poole and Bournemouth station of the National Lifeboat Institution, and is to-day to be launched and christened by the Right Hon. the Lady Wimborne, Mayoress of Poole, after the great meeting to be held at the Guildhall, Poole, presided over by the Right Hon. Lord Wimborne, Mayor of Poole;" also "That a copy of the foregoing resolution be sent to Bro. J. Brockett Sorrell, P.M. 176, P.M. and Treas. 1260, P.Z. and Treas. 176, the indefatigable and much respected Secretary and Preceptor of the City Masonic Club, to Bro. A. H. Lilley, P.M. 12, and to Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, W.M., P.M. 19, a member of that club."

Bro. SORRELL acknowledged the vote, and incidentally referred to the good work done in London by Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, who he had no doubt was as popular in Poole as in the metropolis.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment.

An excellent cold luncheon had been provided at the Oddfellows' Hall, and the brethren marched thither in procession, the duties of marshal being efficiently discharged by Bro. Sharp, D.C. The order was as follows: Tyler, Junior Deacon, visitors, members of Lodge Amity, visiting Past Masters, officers of Lodge Amity, Past Masters of Lodge Amity, Past Provincial Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Grand Officers, Worshipful Master, Senior Deacon, and Tyler. Arrived at the hall the chair was taken by Bro. Whadcoat, supported by Bros. Sorrell and Lilley, the representatives of the City Masonic Club, by the officers of the lodge, and eminent brethren from the neighbouring lodges.

Two toasts only were proposed—"The Queen and the Craft" and "The Visitors," both given by the CHAIRMAN.

With the latter the name of Bro. SORRELL was associated, and that brother suitably responded, expressing the pleasure it gave him and his co-trustee (Bro. Lilley) to attend there that day and heartily thanking the company for the kind reception they had given them.

It had been arranged that on the conclusion of lunch the procession should be re-formed and the brethren march to the Guildhall. The rain, however, was descending so pitilessly that the idea of a procession had to be abandoned and a "go as you please" competition substituted.

The crew of the lifeboat were subsequently entertained at supper at the Oddfellows' Hall.

Scotland.

ANNUAL SUMMER OUTING OF ST. ANDREW OF GLASGOW CHAPTER, No. 69.

PRESENTATION TO COMP. WILLIAM MUNRO DENHOLM.

The annual summer outing of the companions of the above Royal Arch chapter and their friends took place on Thursday, the 2nd inst. The company, numbering over 120, journeyed by train to Princes Pier, Greenock, where they joined the saloon steamer Lord of the Isles for the trip to Inverary via Loch Eck. Dinner and tea were served on board the steamer.

During the journey Comp. ROBT. KENNEDY, First Principal of the chapter, took the opportunity of presenting to Comp. William Munro Denholm, P.Z., a handsome solid silver tea and coffee service on a silver salver bearing a suitable inscription. In doing so, Comp. Kennedy said the present had been subscribed for by present and past members of the chapter as a token of the esteem in which Comp. Denholm is held by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. In reference to the recipient's Masonic career, he said that although Comp. Denholm was a comparatively young Mason, he had worked to such good purpose that he had passed the chairs of a Craft lodge and their Royal Arch chapter, and at present held office in Grand Lodge and was the representative there of the Grand Lodge of Utah. He also held office in Supreme Grand Chapter, and was the representative from the Grand Chapter of Delaware, besides being a leading member of all the Degrees up to the 18°. During his four years' occupancy of the chair of Chapter St. Andrew he had succeeded in placing the chapter in the very front rank of Scottish chapters, both for efficiency and membership.

Comp. DENHOLM, on rising to reply, was received with great applause. He spoke of his Masonic career, and said what he had done for the chapter and for Freemasonry was without any idea of receiving fee or reward, but the companions had rewarded him most handsomely, and he would cherish what they had presented to him as one of his proudest possessions. The chapter was handed over to him by Comp. J. Macnaught Campbell, P.Z., in a thoroughly satisfactory state, and the support which he had received from the office-bearers and companions was what had really brought it to the position it now held. It was true that during the four years he had occupied the chair, there had been more companions exalted in the chapter than in any other chapter under the Scottish Constitution during the same period, which showed the splendid support he had received from all concerned. He closed his remarks by again thanking the companions for their handsome gifts.

THE CARLTON CLUB has been closed and will remain so for some weeks, during which the members will be the guests of the Junior Carlton.

The Craft Abroad.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. CHAPMAN.

An interesting event occurred at the meeting of the Charles Warren Lodge of Instruction at the Masonic Temple, Kimberley, S.A., on Sunday, the 8th ult. After the regular work had been completed,

Bro. STEAD, P.M., D.S.G.D., rose and said that the most important feature of their meeting that day was still to come. It was the presentation to Bro. Chapman of a slight testimonial to mark the high esteem in which he was held by the Masons on the diamond fields in general and of that lodge of instruction in particular. From his first appearance on the fields Bro. Chapman had impressed him with his zeal in Masonry, and he had imbued them with a spirit to work more correctly in accord with other English Freemasons than they had been working. He had exhibited to them a systematic and smooth working of the ritual, which they had been only too glad to adopt, and their work now was very different to what it was before they had the benefit of his instruction. They regretted deeply that Bro. Chapman had felt it his duty to absent himself from the English Craft, but they were happy to know that his experience and knowledge of Craft working were still at their disposal. When they were in doubt as to any Masonic point they knew to whom to apply, and they considered it a boon that Bro. Chapman was amongst them to help them in difficulties, even though he did not visit their lodges. He asked the acceptance by Bro. Chapman of that case of pipes, which would enable him to smoke a fresh one each day in the week, and he hoped as in solitude he smoked them he would remember the brethren from whom they came. As for him, the work he had done and the advantages they had gained by his coming amongst them would be a memorial to him as long as Masonry existed on the diamond fields.

Bro. CHAPMAN, in accepting the handsome present, said it was well he was not afflicted with heart disease, or the surprise would have been disastrous to him. He was more pleased by their action than he could express to them. He loved Masonry, and consequently he had tried to be as perfect in its forms and ceremonies as he had the capacity to learn from those at home, whose pupil he was. He was not at heart a Ritualist, but he thought as those beautiful ceremonies were to be performed, they should be performed as effectively as possible. On his arrival here he found they were not so done, and he had plainly told them so, and no man had ever found more apt and eager learners than he had found them to be. They had seemed not only willing but anxious to improve and the work they were now doing was evidence of this. Masonry had been his hobby, his only recreation for years, and he assured them it was a great deprivation to him now, that his sense of duty prevented him from indulging his passion for it. Had he been a less zealous Mason, had he known less of the landmarks of the Order he might have not been compelled to this act of self-sacrifice; but there were mental corns as well as physical corns, and in his position as a Past Officer of Grand Lodge, his duty had led him so far as to have trampled on their mental corns, and he had to suffer for it. While officially, he would not take part in their meetings, he was always ready to do all he could to assist them to do their work in a thorough and correct manner. He thanked them for their handsome present, which he would regard as a mark of their confidence and esteem, but begged to remind them that he had no desire always to smoke a pipe in solitude, and as he saw there were a great many pipes in the beautiful case, he hoped they would often drop in on him in his den, and cheer his solitude with their presence. He said that no matter how sweet the flavour of the pipes may be, or how fragrant the aroma of the tobacco with which he might fill them it would be never so grateful to him as the knowledge their gift had inspired that he was understood and esteemed by the brethren who were foremost in disseminating and practising the precepts and principles of the Craft in the Diamond Fields.

Craft Masonry.

Carville Lodge, No. 2497.

On Monday afternoon the annual meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Wallsend, for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M., Bro. Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones, P.P.G. Chap., presided, and was supported by a large number of Past Masters and visitors, including Bro. R. Hudson, P.M., P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Sec. Durham; G. A. Allan, P.P.S.G.W.; J. C. Moor, P.P.J.G.W. Durham; A. J. Farina, P.P.G.D.; R. Brand, P.G. Supt. of Works; W. E. Harris, P.M. 1863, P.P.G.S.; W. Terry, P.M. 991; W. George, P.M. 166; Frank Graham, W.M. 2327; George Craig, I.P.M. 991; F. E. Jameson, W.M. 24; George Goddard, J.D. 2284; and W. R. Guthery, Stwd. 2557.

The W.M. elect, Bro. Summers Hunter, S.W., was duly presented by Bro. R. Hudson, P.M., D.C., to Bro. Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones, the Installing Master, by whom Bro. Hunter was installed into the chair of K.S. in an efficient and impressive manner, and the newly-installed W.M. was afterwards duly proclaimed and saluted according to ancient custom. The W.M. afterwards invested the following officers for the ensuing year: Bro. Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones, I.P.M.; J. Shenton, S.W.; Wm. Philipson, J.W.; Rev. A. L. Curry, P.G. Chap., Chap.; G. A. Allan, P.M., Treas.; G. R. Stephenson, Sec.; George Hollings, S.D.; John Dixon, J.D.; M. Murray, P.M., D.C.; J. P. Blenkinsop, Org.; R. S. Johnson, I.G.; A. Hepburn and C. Stephens, Stvds.

Afterwards a handsome presentation gold Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. the Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones, P.P.G. Chap., which bore upon its face the following record: "Testus (third W.M.), Diamond Jubilee Year, Carville Lodge, 2497, 1837-1867." Presented to Bro. the Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones, I.P.M." Bro. Robert Hudson, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G. Sec. Durham, made the presentation on behalf of the Past Masters and officers, and said he had great pleasure in conveying their good wishes to Bro. the Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones, and this token of their goodwill on the completion of his year of office as W.M., which he had discharged in a most efficient manner, and he further complimented him on what he had done in his office as W.M., and added that they were proud to have had among them as their W.M., and now as I.P.M., one who, in his sacred calling, had reflected great honour upon their Craft. (Loud applause.) There was also presented an excellent mezzotint portrait of Bro. the Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones, by Mr. R. E. Ruddock, of Newcastle, suitably framed, to adorn the walls of the Masonic hall. Bro. Rev. W. M. O'Brady Jones acknowledged the gifts of the officers and brethren in an able address, and was heartily complimented by the brethren of the lodge.

In the evening the lodge held its annual festival at the County Hotel, Newcastle, at which Bro. Summers-Hunter, P.M., was in the chair, and there was a large attendance.

THE ROYAL YACHT, Victoria and Albert, which had been recalled from Dublin to Portsmouth to act as escort to the Queen, on crossing the Solent, en route for Scotland, sailed from Portsmouth on Monday, for Ireland, to resume attendance on the Duke and Duchess of York and convey their Royal Highnesses to Scotland during the present week.

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To Correspondents.

R.W.—We are of opinion that the brother you refer to, being an Installed Master, is competent to undertake the office of acting Past Master of the proposed new lodge, notwithstanding that he has not completed his full term of service as W.M.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

We have received the voting papers, with the accompanying lists of candidates for election, at the approaching Quarterly Courts of Governors of our Scholastic Institutions, and shall publish our usual article on the lists next week. In the meantime, we have to announce that the Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held in the Large Hall of Freemasons' Tavern on Thursday, the 7th October, at noon precisely, and that at 1 p.m., or as soon as the general business of the Court has been transacted, the poll will be opened for the election of 15, from an approved list of 26, candidates. The proportion of vacancies to candidates is rather less favourable than we have known it for some time past, but, even under these conditions, the prospects of individual candidates are the reverse of discouraging.

The Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held in the same hall and at the same hour on Friday, the 8th proximo, and the poll will be opened at the same time. The number to be elected is also the same, but, unfortunately, there are 49 approved candidates, or rather more than three for every vacancy to be filled. Thus the brethren who are interested in the several cases will find it hard work to obtain the necessary votes to ensure success, and we may therefore look for a considerable amount of excitement in connection with this election. However, of this and other points that strike us we shall write at length next week.

We are indebted to Bro. W. F. Lamonby for a correction of certain errors in our report of the meeting of United Grand Lodge on the 1st instant. The point to which he is anxious to draw the attention of our readers will be found in the remarks erroneously ascribed to Bro. S. Way, M.W.G. Master of South Australia, in which that distinguished brother is reported as saying that the English brethren in South Australia were desirous of remaining under the English Constitution. As Bro. Lamonby very properly points out, there is not a single English lodge in South Australia which for many years past has had an independent Grand Lodge of its own. There is, however, no need for us to insert his letter as we have already corrected this and other errors to which our attention has been drawn.

We have also been requested to state that it was Bro. C. J. Egan, Dist. G. Master of the Eastern Division of South Africa, not Bro. the Right Hon. S. Way, M.W.G. Master of South Australia, who spoke in favour of the amendment for the non-confirmation of a specified portion of the minutes of the June Communication. It was likewise Bro. Egan, and not Bro. Way, who seconded the proposition for a vote of thanks to Bros. Sir Albert W. Woods, P.G.W., G.D.C., and Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., for their services in connection with the Royal Albert Hall meeting on the 14th June. These errors are of exceptional importance, and on that account are the more deeply to be regretted.

It is evident that Bro. Egan, at whose request we have made these corrections, looks with great disfavour on the laws as they now affect our Colonial brethren. He lays it down distinctly and emphatically that the brethren in his District are desirous of remaining under the British Constitution, and that the changes in the laws which have now been announced are as distasteful to them as they are to himself. In the concluding paragraph of his letter to us, he remarks: "By this change in the Constitutions the Grand Lodge of England seems to be laying itself out to favour the formation of separate Grand Lodges in each of the Colonies, as if it felt that the government of the Colonial Districts was a 'millstone on its neck.'"

Nor does Bro. Egan stand alone in his unfavourable opinion of the changes which have been approved. On referring to the report of the proceedings of a Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Queensland, held in Brisbane, on the 2nd June, we find that the District Grand Master—Bro. the Hon. C. Gregory, C.M.G.—called upon the Asst. District Grand Secretary to read the proposed alterations, remarking that it was "really a very important question, but as it was still *sub judice*, they could not take any action thereon." When the proposed alterations had been read, Bro. F. H. Gibbon, Dist. S.G. Deacon, expressed his opinion that they should receive "the most earnest consideration of all Masons belonging to the English Constitution in the Colonies," as they were "inimical to their existence." He subsequently remarked that "if no protest was made from this or the other Colonies, it would be assumed they tacitly agreed to them."

We do not share in the opinions expressed by Bros. Egan and Gibbon that the new laws are inimical either to the interests or the existence of our Colonial lodges. The new Articles 21SA and 21SB provide for members of lodges "discussing" in open lodge at a meeting held under a dispensation specially granted for the purpose by the District Grand Master, and "resolving on" on the question of "the formation of a Sovereign Grand Lodge," nor will any resolution to join the proposed new Grand Lodge be valid unless carried by "a majority of two-thirds of the members present." Under the old law, or rather in the absence of any law on the subject, any such discussion was out of the question. The brethren might discuss it among themselves as individual Masons, but not as a lodge.

Under old Article 219, in the event of a majority of the members retiring from a lodge, a minority of three might retain the warrant, and work the lodge; but under new Article 219, when a lodge is reduced to five members, it must cease to meet, and the warrant must be returned; but it is in the power of the Grand Master to grant a dispensation enabling the members to meet "until he finally decides whether or not the lodge shall be continued." It appears to us that by the new provision the interests of our Colonial lodges are sufficiently safeguarded. A lodge may now discuss and resolve on the question—whether it will or will not join a proposed new Grand Lodge, but it cannot join it unless the resolution in favour of joining is carried by

a two-thirds majority of the members present, while, as regards a lodge which is reduced to five members, it will not necessarily on that account be discontinued.

We do not imagine that any law, however carefully it may be framed will be entirely without blemish. Whatever may be its provisions, they will certainly affect some, more or less, unfavourably. But so long as the rights of minorities are reasonably safeguarded, and while our Grand Lodge continues its present practice of recognising a newly-formed Grand Lodge in a British Colony conditionally on the rights and privileges of any of its lodges which may desire to remain, in their allegiance to it being respected, we do not anticipate any greater danger to the existence of our Colonial lodges under the new than under the old law. Those of our Colonial lodges which desire to remain as now, under our Constitution, will never have the slightest difficulty in doing so, and if Bros. Egan and Gibbon and others have any doubts upon the subject, we direct their attention to the three English lodges in Montreal which have remained true to their allegiance during the 42 years the Grand Lodge of Canada has been in existence.

In short, our Grand Lodge has at all times most scrupulously respected the rights and privileges of its lodges, while, at the same time, it has insisted as a condition precedent of recognition that the newly-formed Colonial Grand Lodges it has recognised should likewise respect those rights and privileges. Of this we have a case in point in the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which our Grand Lodge was prepared to recognise as long ago as 1875, but the Grand Lodge of Quebec declined to accept recognition on the usual condition that the rights and privileges of the English lodges in Montreal meeting within its jurisdiction should be respected.

Our readers will have heard with regret of the death of Bro. Sir Lewis W. Cave, one of the judges of H.M.'s High Court of Judicature. The deceased was a Mason of long standing, having been initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, in 1852, while a member of Lincoln College, Oxford. In 1881, his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. was pleased to confer upon him the collar of Junior G. Warden, but the heavy claims upon his time prevented him from taking a very active part in Freemasonry. The late judge, who was appointed to his office in 1881, had, it is understood, intimated to the Lord Chancellor his intention of retiring from the bench owing to the deafness with which for some time past he had been troubled, and in that case he would have been entitled to a pension. He had not long completed his 65th year.

We have received an important communication from the Prov. Grand Secretary of East Lancashire, in which our respected brother, under the circumstances therein narrated, conceives it to be his duty to administer a "Caution to Almoners" in respect of that most undesirable of beings—the "Masonic Vagrant." As it reached us somewhat late, we have thought it well to hold the letter over till our next week's issue, when we shall take the opportunity of emphasising the particulars with which he has favoured us with a few comments of our own.

We are greatly indebted to Bro. Robert Marshall, of St. John's, New Brunswick, for the full report he has kindly forwarded to us of the annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Brunswick, which was held at St. John's on Wednesday, the 25th ultimo, and also of the Grand Lodge held during the afternoon of the same day. We shall have great pleasure in publishing them next week, as well as one or two other reports with which our correspondent has favoured us.

It appears from the sketch given in the *Voice of Masonry* of the proceedings at the 108th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire which was held in the City of Concord under the presidency of Bro. Henry A. Marsh, M.W.G.M., on the 19th May, that Bro. Marsh and Bro. Geo. P. Cleaves were re-elected to office, the former as G. Master and the latter as G. Secretary. From the statistics furnished at the meeting it appears there are 77 lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge with an aggregate of 9111 subscribing members. The General Fund amounted to 8030 dollars and the disbursements to 4254 dollars. From these few figures and from the lack of any information to the contrary in our contemporary's summary of particulars we judge that the Craft in New Hampshire must be in a prosperous condition.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

ACACIA LODGE, No. 2321.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As I quite understand that the perusal of your report of the last meeting of Acacia Lodge, No. 2321, in this day's *Freemason* will be likely to create a misgiving in many minds as to the future of lodges founded on "class" lines, permit me to express my personal gratification to find that consideration for "first principles" has apparently had full weight with the members of 2321. This is as it should be, for after all, to stultify the main reason for the foundation of a lodge after such success as the Acacia can boast of must be a more or less hazardous proceeding. With the merits or demerits of the case as a non-member I have nothing to do, but I shall always take a lively interest in the welfare of the lodge in question, and I certainly should have been sorry to hear that such a resolution as was proposed had been carried. After eight years acknowledged success I am tempted to state a few facts concerning its foundation, partly to account for my personal interest, but chiefly to allay whatever feeling may remain outside or be growing inside the lodge against the principle of the founders, who had to contend against much misrepresentation, as well as the general prejudice of that time against "Temperance Lodges."

I have more than once been credited with having conceived the idea and contributed more than anybody to the obtaining of the Acacia warrant; neither one nor the other honour fairly belongs to me, and I have always denied the statement when present.

Bro. S. A. Auty, P.M., first mentioned the matter to me on returning home together one night from 587. The recent dying statement of a Mason had been freely circulated to the discredit of Freemasonry and roused my indignation, so that I was in a frame of mind to take it up, to show the world that Masons could meet and attend to lodge duties without the attraction of "the bottle." It was only necessary to establish a lodge where the members were willing—teetotalism entirely out of the question—to exercise a little self-denial during the few hours passed at the lodge. This was how it struck me; and it was the spirit that alone animated the founders of Acacia.

We talked the matter over again, Bro. Last, P.M. and Sec., being the only brother I recollect among the first half dozen to meet in committee. After that I worked hard, which is a thing I can't help when interested, and in doing my best, only did what the rest tried to do.

I was asked to be the first W.M. which I declined (1) because I knew, perhaps, better than anyone connected with it what was best for the lodge, and (2) the proposal was not in accordance with the motives with which I became a founder. I installed its first W.M. in the presence of the Prov. G. Master and his officers, and acted as I.P.M. during the first year of its existence. Since then the Acacia has prospered and distinctly made its mark as one of the leading lodges of West Yorkshire.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J. RAMSDEN RILEY,
P.P.G.D.C. W. Yorkshire.

Liverpool,
28th August.

LODGE CONSECRATION QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will "One Who Knows" be good enough to inform or enlighten your readers regarding the following query:

Monday, the 30th ult., was, Masonically, an important day at Bradford. In the morning Provincial Grand Lodge met at the Masonic Hall, and the brethren marched in procession to the Infirmary, where the memorial stone of the Victoria Nurses Home was laid by the Provincial Grand Master of Derbyshire, Bro. his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, and in the afternoon the Victoria Lodge, No. 2669, was consecrated by the Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P. Bro. his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, P.G.M. for Derbyshire, also attended, and, as might be expected, the two events induced a large assembly of the Craft.

The consecration of Victoria Lodge took place in the "Supper" Room (not the Lodge Room) at Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford. It is a commodious room, but with a low ceiling and very inadequate accommodation for the large number of brethren who desired to witness the proceedings. The room was packed, and many other brethren in the town would gladly have attended if they could have been admitted.

Query—As there were several commodious and convenient rooms or suitable places in the town—the Church Institute was close by—a question was asked why a more suitable place had not been engaged for the consecration ceremony. The answer given was (it was stated by authority) "That the lodge must be consecrated upon the premises where the meetings were appointed to be held." I ventured to impugn the correctness of such "ruling," and to allege that a new lodge may be consecrated at any suitable and convenient place that may be appointed for the purpose; that it is the "lodge," not the "room" or "building" where it is to be held, that is "consecrated." It occurs to my mind in reading the reports in the *Freemason* that the ceremony of consecration has frequently been performed in places where the regular lodges were not appointed to be held. This, of necessity, must frequently be the case—for instance, take the case of a new lodge in a small country town, the room where the meetings are intended to be held, perhaps, will only accommodate, say 30 or 40 members, it would be practically impossible for the Prov. G. Officers and a large array of brethren to perform the ceremony of consecration in such a small room with any degree of comfort or dignity. Surely it would be more convenient to conduct the special ceremony in a more commodious room or building where ample accommodation could be afforded for all attending the ceremonial. This is what was suggested should have been done as regards the Victoria Lodge, Bradford, on the 30th ult., but it was stated by authority that such a course could not be taken; if not, then why not? That is the object of my enquiry.—Yours fraternally,

SECRETARY P.M.

THE ALTERATIONS IN THE CONSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The opposition offered at the recent meeting of Grand Lodge to that portion of the minutes of the preceding Grand Lodge which gave effect to the recommendations of the Committee specially appointed by Grand Lodge at its meeting on the 3rd March last, was a surprise to many; and, although the attempt to non-confirm the minutes was defeated by a very large majority, it is a

little astonishing that so many as 78 brethren could be found to support a proposition for the rejection of resolutions which had been previously carried by an overwhelming majority. The probable explanation is that many of the members of Grand Lodge attended the meeting last Wednesday for the first time, and, doubtless there were many others who had no knowledge of the circumstances of the case, beyond what they gleaned from the speeches on the occasion.

So far as could be gathered, the opponents of confirmation grounded their opposition on the allegation that sufficient time had not been allowed the Masonic authorities abroad to express their opinions on alterations in the Book of Constitutions, which would mainly affect them.

Now, what are the facts of the case? The Districts abroad affected by the alterations are no less than 28 in number, distributed over various portions of the globe. A very considerable portion of these can be reached by post much within a month, and the remotest within six weeks. It must, therefore, be apparent that every District has had ample opportunity for expressing its opinion on the proposed alterations, of which notice was given as long since as the 17th February last. But I am authoritatively informed that with the exception of a telegram purporting to come from four of the five District Grand Masters in New Zealand, and a couple of letters from private lodges, no objection whatever has been taken by Lodges Abroad to the alterations confirmed on Wednesday last, and which it will be remembered were finally settled and approved by a Committee specially appointed by Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication on the 3rd March last, such Committee being almost entirely composed of brethren with great Colonial experience, and Bro. Eve, who has specially identified himself with Colonial questions.

I will not prolong this letter by entering into the merits of the alterations which have now become law, further than by expressing a confident belief that they will tend to promote the best interests of Masonry in our Colonies and foreign possessions, by enabling brethren in distant lands to give effect in a legitimate manner to those aspirations for self-government, which experience shows has been so successfully adopted in our Colonial possessions, and which, without doubt, has done much to strengthen and cement that happy union with the Mother Country which has never been closer than now.

There are probably no lodges in the empire animated by warmer feelings of admiration and respect for the Grand Lodge of England than those composing the independent self-governing Colonial Grand Lodges, of which his Royal Highness our Grand Master has been pleased to accept the high position of Patron.—Yours fraternally,

A CONSTANT ATTENDANT AT GRAND LODGE.

Sept. 6th, 1897.

Reviews.

"FREEMASONRY IN POOLE."—Being a History of the Lodge of Amity (1765—1897) and of the Royal Arch Chapter, No. 137, in the Province of Dorset; with a Sketch of the Amity Mark Lodge, No. 132. Compiled by W. Bro. Alexander C. Chapin, I.P.M. No. 137, &c. Price 7s. 6d. nett. Published under the Authority of the Lodge, Chapter, and Mark Lodge; A.D. 1897, A.L. 5901. Poole: W. Bro. C. J. Woodford, P.P.G.P., P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., Stamp Office. London: W. Bro. G. Kenning 16 and 16a, Great Queen-street.—There is no stronger or more gratifying evidence of the ever-increasing interest that is being taken in Freemasonry than is to be found in the frequent publication of lodge histories and the occasional issue of works of a more elaborate character. Years ago, the appearance of a history of any lodge or Province was an event of the very rarest occurrence, nor did our periodical literature, beyond recording the proceedings in Grand, Provincial Grand, and such private bodies as the Editors obtained the *entrée* to, contribute much towards furnishing an insight into Masonic history. Even when they did so, they were not particularly careful about what they were good enough to collate, and innocently palm off upon their readers as facts. All this is now changed, and there is seldom a year passes which does not witness the publication of one or more histories, derived from authentic sources, and throwing a most interesting light upon the persons who belonged to our Society, and the events in which they took part in the more or less remote past. It was but the other day we had the pleasure of reviewing an elaborate account, compiled by Bro. Zillwood Milledge, of the All Souls' Lodge, No. 170, Weymouth, the second senior lodge in the Province of Dorset, and now we have before us a history, which is certainly less elaborate, but equally meritorious, as regards the authenticity of its facts, of the Lodge of Amity, No. 137, Poole—the senior lodge in the self-same Province of Dorset—which its I.P.M., Bro. A. C. Chapin, has compiled from the minute books and other trustworthy sources. No comparison is possible between these two histories of Dorset Masonry, nor were such a comparison possible, should we dream of instituting one. The author of each of them has formulated and successfully carried out his own particular mode of dealing with the materials he worked from, and each has merits of its own which those who read them will not be slow to discover. The two together undoubtedly afford such an insight into the progress of Masonry in this favoured province as could only be exceeded by a complete history of the Craft in Dorsetshire.

Bro. Chapin, in his compact and business-like volume, takes us very carefully through the history of the Lodge of Amity, laying particular stress on the more important events which have graced its career, but making no attempt at recording them in the form of a connected narrative. On the contrary, he treats each event which he deems worthy of notice separately, and when there are several events of a similar character, but occurring at different times, he groups them together under one head. This plan has many advantages, but, at the same time, it has this material disadvantage, that until you have accustomed yourself to the author's mode of treatment you find yourself continually moving backwards and forwards in the matter of dates. Thus, to give just one illustration of our meaning: At page 30 the last paragraph but one reads thus: "1814.—LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—The P.G.M. held a Lodge of Instruction at Dorchester after the P.G.L. had been held." Following this is a series of paragraphs relating to lodges of instruction, and lectures given by brethren in lodge, dated respectively—1859, 1862, 1865, 1893, 1895; and then we hark back to 1816 for the "Confirmation of Minutes." This, for once in the way, would not greatly matter, but when the grouping is continually being repeated, and the process of harking back—say from 1893 to 1813, or 1823—has continually to be repeated, our sense of chronological order runs the risk of becoming somewhat confused, and we begin at times to wonder where we are. But we do not lay great stress on what is after all only a matter of arrangement, and, as we have said, if until we have become accustomed to it, there is the disadvantage we have spoken of, we profit by the grouping of similar events under one head. As for the history itself, we must not deprive our readers of the pleasure they cannot fail to derive from the study of Bro. Chapin's work. Suffice it to say, that from 1765 onwards, the progress of the lodge is carefully traced, while the most prominent members are mentioned, and the events recorded with which they were connected. Perhaps the most interesting episode in the history of Amity Lodge is that concerning "THE BISCUIT," under the date of the year 1813, which is fully recorded at pp. 25-27. This "Biscuit" is still religiously preserved by the lodge among its ancient archives, and the inscription thereon, which will be found in the appendix at p. 85, and which we take the liberty of transcribing in full, is as follows:

"This biscuit is preserved by the lodge of Amity, as a memorial of their gratitude and brotherly affection for Jacques de Bon, Captain of the Gunon, a French privateer of St. Maloes, who captured at sea on the 13th December, 1813 at 11 a.m. in latitude 49° 50' and longitude 7° west, the brig Oak, of Poole, Br. Stephen Pack, Master, belonging to Bro. G. W. Ledgard and John Goss, on her passage from Bilbao to Poole, who, after treating him and his crew with every mark of kindness, returned him his vessel and sent on board a dog, which before had been taken from a brother, with this biscuit suspended with a string round his neck signifying that he would not keep a brother's dog in bondage nor see him want bread. Thus the man who holds forth his hand for the relief of his necessitous brethren is fully repaid by the gratitude of those whom he obliges, by the approbation of his own mind, and the favour of the Omnipotent Being who cannot behold such a bright display of Masonic Virtue without asserting his Divine and everlasting approbation."

In addition to the lodge history, will be found one of the chapter attached to it and bearing the same name, and our regret in reading it is that the author has not been enabled by means of his researches to entirely bridge over the gap in its career, which has thus far prevented Grand Chapter from granting it a centenary warrant. The chapter was constituted by virtue of a "Warrant of Dispensation," granted by Thomas Dunckerly, G. Superintendent of Dorset, at the first meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter, held at Poole, on the 26th June, 1780. This warrant is given in full at pp. 55-56, and was followed by a "Warrant of Constitution" from Grand Chapter, bearing date the 13th October, 1780. There is also a sketch of the Mark Lodge of Amity, No. 132, which was consecrated by Bro. Binckes—then Mark Grand Secretary—on the 29th April, 1871. All these bodies have had their vicissitudes of fortune, but all are now in a prosperous state, the Craft lodge mustering 85 members, and being possessed of its own hall. An ample Appendix contains a transcript of the original warrant granted by Lord Blaney, Grand Master, on the 1st April, 1765, as well as of the original Bye-laws; a letter of Bro. Dunckerly relating to Freemasonry in Newfoundland—the Lodge of Amity being the recommending lodge in the case of one of the Newfoundland lodges—copied by permission from Bro. Sadler's work on Dunckerly; the Petition of the Lodge of Amity to the Prince of Wales, G.M., in 1801 re the appointment of a P.G.M. for Dorsetshire; the Lodge Bye-laws of 1814; a complete roll of members; list of officers; together with much else of interest to all Dorsetshire Craftsmen. In short, it is a complete and interesting record of the proceedings of the Lodge of Amity from its birth till now, as well as of the Chapter and Mark Lodge. It is dedicated by permission to Bro. W. E. Brymer, M.P., P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M., and has a portrait of Bro. Dunckerly for its Frontispiece. It is a most acceptable contribution to our roll of lodge histories, and the facts that are recorded in its pages, being derived, as we have said, from authentic sources, may be looked upon as entirely trustworthy. We are grateful to Bro. Chapin for affording us the opportunity of perusing his work.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

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MASONIC MEDALS IN GRAND LODGE.

I was agreeably surprised the other day, on looking over the collection of Masonic Medals in Grand Lodge, to find that Bro. Sadler had been so successful in supplementing the few obtained before he was appointed Sub-Librarian, and those presented by my friend Mrs. Irwin (widow of the late Major Irwin), and several brethren; the total now being of considerable value and importance, as well as numerically much more worthy of the Grand Lodge than formerly. Much more, however, remains to be done, especially as respects a suitable room and cabinets or cases to properly exhibit the treasures. As it is, they are most difficult to recognise, unless of a large size, and favoured by being placed in the case situated at the left of the staircase in the hall, and even then there is not room for descriptions of the great majority. I feel assured that in the event of the needful accommodation being provided, many brethren would gladly donate medals to the collection, so as to make it more complete and better representative of the English Craft. Bro. Marvin, in "The Medals of the Masonic Fraternity" (Boston, U.S.A., 1880), describes over 700 pieces, and of these I should say about 100 are represented in the Grand Lodge Museum. Our indefatigable Bro. G. L. Shackles has in his extraordinary collection most of the 700, and, like Bro. Marvin, declines all jewels or badges as (strictly speaking) not being medals (*i.e.*, struck from dies). A feature, however, of the Grand Lodge collection is the number of engraved jewels and artistic badges of last century, as well as centenary jewels of special designs. Not a few are of great interest, because of the brethren to whom they were presented, and if a full description of some of these beautiful decorative souvenirs of the past were supplied, brethren would be inclined to value such jewels more highly than is usually the case. Bro. Marvin is publishing a Supplement to his invaluable Work, containing many hundreds more of Masonic Medals, and I hope when it is completed Bro. Sadler will let us know what numbers there are in Grand Lodge, as described in these two important volumes, which have neither equals nor rivals. Brethren should take a look at the G.L. Collection whenever an opportunity occurs, for there is no other such in London. There are also valuable Cabinets of Masonic Medals belonging to the Provincial Grand Lodges of West Yorkshire, Worcestershire, and at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester; the first and last of the trio being in the excellent care of Brothers William Watson and J. T. Thorp, respectively. There is also Bro. Crowe's large and remarkable collection.

W. J. HUGHAN.

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MASONIC MEDALS.

I am always glad to hear of any old Masonic medals, jewels or badges, and if of interest, especially pleased to see them and have reproductions for reference. Bro. George Kenning has sent me two that came into his possession recently, and he has also had them engraved, so that they may be practically at the service of the Craft. The older of the two is not often met with—



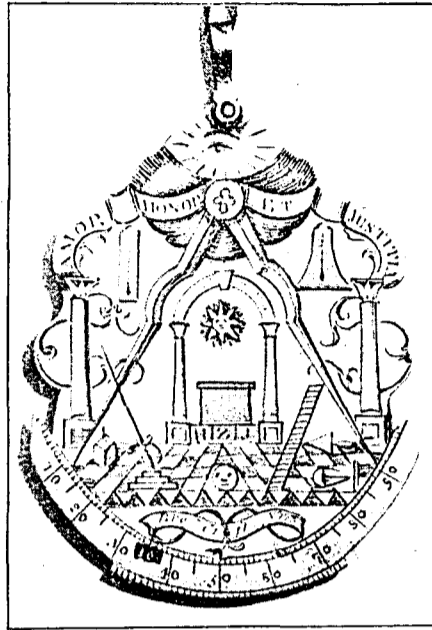
Obverse.



Reverse.

The only other of a similar design that I remember, of brass, as the above, was once exhibited by Bro. Major McGachen, of York. The emblems speak for themselves, and the ornamental letter G adds much to the suggestiveness of the obverse, as also the motto *Amor Honor et Justitia*, with the less familiar words, in French, on the square "Nous Vivons sur l'équerre." Bro. William Watson, the indefatigable collector of rare Masonic books, coins, &c., for the West Yorkshire Masonic Library, sent me an illustration of a somewhat similar obverse, only circular in shape, and (apparently) engraved, having the legend on the square "We live on the Square," being a literal rendering of

the older French form. Bro. Kenning's is probably about A.D. 1780, and the other (which has a different reverse) of a later period. There are several medals (some with the "field" removed) having the letter G as the chief feature, the mottoes varying considerably. Some of these may be seen in the museum of the Grand Lodge, which contains valuable specimens of last century Masonic decorations. Often the motto reads *Veritas est intus*, another appropriate legend being *Non Timebimus dum Turbatur Terra* (? We will not fear whilst the earth revolves). The second decoration is a jewel, and engraved on silver. There are a great many of these still preserved, and no end of variety as respects design.



Obverse.



Reverse

The excellent engravings tell their own tale. The *obverse* is not so unusual as the *reverse*; the one being devoted to the Craft and Royal Arch, and the other to Knight Templary. In the transactions of my lodge (the "Quatuor Coronati," No. 2076) are often to be found illustrations of these jewels, but I do not remember one precisely as this in any work. Being engraved it is not of the value as if struck from a die, and its age is difficult to fix. Possibly early this century will do for its origin.

W. J. HUGHAN.

OPENING OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT WORCESTER.

The new Masonic Hall, recently erected in St. Nicholas-street, Worcester, was opened on the 3rd instant, at a combined meeting of the Worcester Lodge, No. 280, and Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 529, by the respective Worshipful Masters—Bros. G. W. King and F. H. Williams. The Prov. Grand Master, Bro. A. F. Godson, M.A., M.P., attended the meeting, and, having been received with the usual Masonic honours, was conducted to the chair.

Bro. Godson, in a few well-chosen remarks, declared the rooms open for Masonic purposes, and then called upon Bro. G. F. Hough, M.A., Prov. G. Chaplain, also Chaplain to the Worcester lodges, who delivered a short and appropriate dedicatory address, after which a special hymn was sung, composed for the occasion and set to music by Bro. C. B. Shuttleworth, Asst. Org. 280.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the dining-room, the Prov. Grand Master presiding at the inaugural banquet, and being supported by the Worshipful Masters of the two lodges.

There were about 70 brethren present, including many guests from a distance, one being Bro. Forsbrook, Waitemate Lodge, New Zealand.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk; also "Prosperity to the Masonic Buildings Company and the Combined Lodges."

The banquet was admirably served under the direction of Bros. Henry Rowe and A. G. Veel, senior Stewards of the respective lodges, the wines being supplied by Bros. Lewis and Clarke.

The idea of erecting a Masonic Hall in this city was first entertained during the year of her Majesty's Jubilee, when, in consequence of the pro-

posed Victoria Institute Memorial, it was known that certain public buildings would come into the market, and it being then thought that one of those buildings might be purchased and converted for Masonic purposes, a company was formed which was styled "The Masonic Building Company, Limited," and duly registered. Bro. A. F. Godson, M.A., M.P., Grand Master of the Province, was appointed Chairman, and the duties of Hon. Sec. were undertaken by Bro. W. T. Page, now Prov. Grand Secretary. In course of time the particular building the company had in view was offered by auction, but the directorate did not succeed in purchasing the same. Ultimately they acquired a site in St. Nicholas-street, adjoining the offices of the Worcester Gas Company, and have erected premises in which they will in future regularly meet.

The elevation of the building, which is of classical design, has a considerably greater frontage to the side street than to St. Nicholas-street, and is of red brick with dressings of terra cotta. The whole of the site is covered, leaving only at the south end a driving way to the Gas Company's premises. Facing the main street are two lock-up shops, which form a source of income to the company, and there is a basement to each. They are entirely separate from the main buildings, and have ceilings of fire-proof construction. The Masonic Hall is approached from an entrance in Trinity-street, and has in the semi-basement a spacious kitchen with store room and cellars adjoining, together with an apparatus place which can be approached independent of the principal entrance. The staircase hall is fairly spacious, and has a pitch pine staircase 4ft. 6in. wide, the whole being lighted from a lantern light in the roof. The dining room is approached from the Mezzanine landing; its dimensions are 44ft. 6in. by 32ft. 4in. and 14 feet from floor to ceiling, and is well lighted. The floor is of pitch pine, and gives one the idea that it is intended for dancing. There is a lift communicating with the kitchens below.

On the first-floor a cloak-room is provided, and adjoining the same is a room about 26ft. by 16ft., which is set apart for the Provincial Museum, with a collection of books, medals, tokens, &c. The lodge room is upon the second-floor, and immediately above the dining-room, the division being similar. The height to ceiling is 17ft. 6in., this being partly in the roof, which is supported by collar beam trusses that are relieved by ornamental cast-iron spandrills that spring off wall consoles. These, together with the paneled ceiling, serve to break up the sound, and have rendered the acoustic principles satisfactory. There is also upon this floor a Tyler's and two ante-rooms, the latter having folding doors between. The whole of the rooms are well ventilated, as far as can be done without mechanical means, and the lodge and supper-rooms are heated by hot-water circulation, radiators being arranged in convenient positions. This part of the work has been carried out by Messrs. Ward and Son. Artificial lighting throughout is by means of electricity, the work having been placed in the hands of Messrs. Keen and Co. Gas is introduced as a means of cooking, the appliances being provided by the Worcester Gas Company, under the supervision of Bro. E. L. Adlington.

The whole of the building has been erected in a most satisfactory manner by Messrs. J. Wood and Son (Bros. J. S. Wood and J. Joseland), according to the plans prepared by and under the supervision of Bro. Alfred B. Rowe (of the firm of Henry Rowe and Son).

Craft Masonry.

Obedience Lodge, No. 1753.

The annual installation meeting of the above lodge took place on the 30th ult., at the White Hart Hotel, Okehampton, when Bro. Fred Edwards, S.W., was placed in the chair in succession to Bro. John W. Reed. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Samuel Edwards, P.M. 53, P.P.G.R. Somerset, uncle of the incoming W.M., who officiated in an able and impressive manner and had a hearty welcome from the brethren of the Province of Devon.

The brethren present numbered 52, and the Board of Installed Masters was composed of Bros. J. C. Pierce, P.M. 1753, P.P.A.G.D.C., Org.; W. Edwards, P.M. 1284, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Algar, P.M. 39, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; E. F. Collings, P.M. 7, P.P.J.G.W. Wilts; J. W. Reed, W.M. 1753; Chas. Piper, P.M. 1753; C. J. Fitcher, P.M. 1753; H. Skinner, I.P.M. 282; W. H. Kelland, P.M. 39; J. B. Chapman, P.M. 282; G. R. Blight, W.M. 372; P. Hannaford, P.M. 223; and W. A. Stone, I.P.M. 1284. The members of the lodge present were Bros. J. W. Reed, W.M.; Chas. Piper, P.M.; F. Edwards, S.W.; G. J. Gibson, J.W.; Rev. F. Wilberforce Saulez, Chap.; C. J. Fitcher, P.M., Treas.; Rev. T. Ward Brown, S.D.; W. L. Palmer, J.D.; W. Pollard, D.C.; A. R. Bray, I.G.; J. C. Pierce, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; John Pyke, Stwd.; H. Rowe, A.D.C.; J. D. Prickman Chas. Baker, T. H. Chamings, John Powlesland, J. Jones, J. A. Lucas, G. Glanfield, W. H. Cornish, T. K. Bicknell, J. H. Few, J. F. Willis, W. Partridge, and E. W. Pym. The visiting brethren, in addition to the Installed Masters, were Bros. Capt. J. Headlam, V.C., R.H.A., 1789; J. Marks, 372; A. Webb, 223; A. M. Laurence, 39; E. J. Thorburn, 973; Fred Luxton, 39; J. Banks, S.W. 1232; and A. S. Rowe, S.W. 1284. At the close of the installation ceremony the W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. W. Reed, I.P.M.; G. J. Gibson, S.W.; the Rev. T. Ward Brown, J.W.; the Rev. F. Wilberforce-Saulez, Chap.; C. J. Fitcher, P.M., Treas.; A. R. Bray, Sec.; W. Pollard, S.D.; H. Rowe, J.D.; J. C. Pierce, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Org.; A. Amand, I.G.; G. Glanfield, D.C.; W. H. Cornish and J. Pike, Stvds.; C. Piper, P.M., Charity Steward; E. W. Pym, Asst. Org.; J. Coombe, Tyler; and S. Coombe, Asst. Tyler.

The brethren, to the number of 44, afterwards attended the installation banquet in the Assembly Room of the hotel, Mr. and Mrs. Heywood catering in a manner that reflected much credit upon the hotel and fully maintaining the reputation of this well-known hostelry.

After the dinner, which was presided over by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. F. Edwards, the toasts were proposed and responded to.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W. G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. C. J. Fitcher, P.M., gave "The R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P.," and the V.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. G. C. Davie, and the P.G. Officers, Present and Past." Bro. J. C. Pierce, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., responded.

Bro. J. W. Reed, I.P.M., next proposed "The Worshipful Master, Bro. F. Edwards." The Worshipful Master replied.

Bro. C. Piper, P.M., proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. Edwards, P.M. 53, P.P.G.R. Somerset." Bro. Edwards responded.

Bro. G. J. Gibson, P.M., proposed "The Past Masters of Obedience Lodge, No. 1753." Bro. J. W. Reed, I.P.M., replied.

Bro. the Rev. T. Ward Brown gave "The Visiting Brethren and Success to Sister Lodges." Bro. W. Edwards, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., responded.

Bro. the Rev. F. W. Saulez, Chap., then proposed "The Wardens and other Officers."

The S.W. and Secretary having replied, the Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings.

During the ceremony of installation and at the banquet Bro. J. C. Pierce, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Org., presided at the organ with much ability, and acted as accompanist, and a splendid gathering was much enjoyed.

Mark Masonry.

Industry Lodge, No. 293.

The work of this lodge was resumed after four months' vacation, on Monday, the 6th inst., when there was an average attendance of members. Bro. William Stafford, W.M., presided, and was assisted by Bros. A. Dodds, I.P.M.; Robert Whitfield, P.M.; W. F. Carmon, P.M., Treas.; A. Simpson, S.W.; T. R. Jobson, P.M., as J.W.; Rev. William Bowker, Chap.; W. J. Jobson, M.O.; W. Holzappel, S.O.; Thos. Douglass, J.O.; R. Harrison, Sec.; J. T. Pragnell, as S.D.; J. B. McKenzie, J.D.; W. E. Peacock, I.G.; R. Ferry, Org.; H. H. Pitt, Stwd.; A. J. Waugh, J. Carr, C. P. Laidler, R. Laverick, and others.

Bro. F. J. Hastie having been elected and in attendance, was duly advanced into the Degree by the W.M. Other business having been transacted, a proposal for advancement was made, and the lodge was closed.

Lodges of Instruction.

BLACKHEATH LODGE, No. 1320.

The weekly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Monday, the 6th inst., when there were present Bros. Elgar, W.M.; Cornford, S.W.; Baker, S.W.; Lord, S.D.; Wright, J.D.; Shelley, I.G.; Stone, P.M., Sec.; Wm. Dawson, P.M., Preceptor; Plant, Faul, Hills, Hurley, Turner, Harman, Barr, Hardman, Bramblebury, Fisher, Rice, Henry Reed, Grumant, Loader, and Cass.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by Bro. Elgar, Bro. Harman being the candidate. Bro. Elgar vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Henry Reed, who repeated the ceremony, Bro. Hills being the candidate. The second section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Plant, P.M., assisted by the brethren. Bro. Henry Cornford was elected W.M. for Monday next. Bros. Bramblebury, Rose Lodge, and Henry George Reed, W.M. elect, 2272, were each elected a joining member. Bro. Cass, Treas., advocated a most deserving case for election to the Boys' School, the child of the late Bro. Sparks. Lodge was closed.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 1st inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. H. Pinnell, W.M.; H. Mullins, S.W.; M. Beedle, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; G. Hill, P.M., Treas.; T. W. Smale, P.M., Sec.; A. Zeppenfeld, S.D.; J. Carnaby, J.D.; H. Raphael, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; L. Genese, P.M.; and G. A. Sturgess.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture were worked by Bro. Paul. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hatfield being the candidate. The 4th Section was worked by Bro. Hill, P.M. The W.M. rose for the first time, and Bro. Hatfield, 1716, was elected a joining member. At the second rising of the W.M., Bro. Mullins, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bros. Hill, P.M., and Paul, P.M., made kindly allusions to our late Bro. Willby, and it was unanimously decided to send letters of sympathy to the widow and mother. The lodge was then closed.

A meeting was also held on Wednesday, the 8th instant, when there were present Bros. H. Mullins, W.M.; A. Zeppenfeld, S.W.; J. Goldstein, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; T. W. Smale, P.M., Sec.; L. Genese, S.D.; H. Parker, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; M. Fleming, and W. Bowden.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Fleming being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Genese. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Bowden being the candidate. The W.M. took the chair and resumed the lodge to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected, after which Bro. Fleming, of St. James Union Lodge, No. 180, was elected a member of the lodge. At the second rising Bro. Zeppenfeld, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week and appointed his officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time and the votes of the lodge were given to Bro. Bowden. All Masonic business being ended, lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The opening meeting of the season was held on Tuesday, the 7th instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when, according to custom, the Preceptor occupied the chair. The brethren present were Bros. W. Hancock, P.M., W.M.; C. T. Rayner, S.W.; C. C. Renaud, J.W.; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Herts, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; W. Rapley, S.D.; H. R. Bower, J.D.; J. E. Thomas, I.G.; G. Gregory, P.M.; A. Oliver, P.M.; C. T. Barlow, P.M.; A. F. Hardyment, A. Oldrey, A. L. Langton, S. Cload, C. W. Rayner, J. Birks, C. Bone, A. E. Armfelt, W. F. Roberts, T. E. Newman, F. H. Johnson, A. Goodman, C. J. Rotter, C. Guttman, J. T. Hoare, R. P. Upton, P.M.; and L. Dennett.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Oldrey being the candidate, and afterwards the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Goodman being the candidate. The same brother answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and the lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bros. Alex. Goodman, Charles Guttman, Charles J. Rotter, and Lawrence Dennett were unanimously elected members of the lodge. The lodge was then closed.



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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)
For the week ending Saturday, September 18th, 1897.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries for Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

CRAFT LODGES.
1366, Highgate, Midland Grand Hotel.
1922, Earl of Lathom, Surrey Masonic Hall.
2426, Wood Green, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel.
2612, Navy, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.
1789, Ubique, Criterion.
2346, Warrant Officers, Freemasons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.
Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
Cripple-gate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.
Dalhousie, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
Eleanor, Rose and Crown, High Cross, Tottenham, at 8.
Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.
Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.
Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
Marquess of Ripon, Mildmay Tavern, Ball's Pond-road, N., 7.30.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
Perseverance, Ridler's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance) St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
St. Michael's, Norland Arms, Addison-rd. North, Uxbridge-rd., 8 Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.
United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 7.30.
Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.
Walthamstow, The Chequers, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
Woodrow, Star and Garter Hotel, Pall Mall, W., at 3.
Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

CRAFT LODGES.
167, St. John's, Jack Straw's Castle, Hampstead Heath.
1269, Stanhope, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1769, Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern.

MARK LODGES.
21, Southwark, Bridge House Hotel.
223, West Smithfield, Mark Masons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.
Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8.
Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.

Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High-street, at 8.
Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen-street, Cheapside, at 7.
Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.
Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough-road, Rotherhithe, Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and 4th Tues., at 7.30.
Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
Kirby, Midland G-and Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
Mount Edgumbe, Rockingham Arms, Newington Causeway, S.E., at 7.30.
Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, S.W., at 7.30.
St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.
Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.
Yarborough, Mitre Tavern, Fish-street-hill, E.C., at 7.30.
Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Kintore Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at 8.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

CRAFT LODGES.
1278, Burdett Coutts, London Tavern.
1392, Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town.
1624, Eccleston, Criterion.
2241, Cordwainer Ward, Cannon-street Hotel.
2266, Cator, Public Hall, Beckenham.
2601, Holloway, Heale's Restaurant.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.
Beaconsfield, Chequers Hotel, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
Belgrave, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.
City of Westminster, Cafe Royal, "B" Room, at 8.
Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
Creaton, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Crusaders, The St. John's Gate Tavern, St. John-square, Clerkenwell, at 8.30.
Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.
Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8.
Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.
Fidelity, Castle Hotel, 81, Holloway-road, N., at 8.
Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.
Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.
Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Hford, at 8.
La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
Lewisham, Black Bull, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-street, Mayfair, at 8.
London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30.
Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30.
Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, at 8.
Mount Lebanon, Foresters' Arms, 294, Boro' High-street, at 8.

New Concord, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst-road, N., at 8.
Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45.
Prosperity, Weaver's Arms, 17, London Wall, at 7.
Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.
Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8.
Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8.
St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8.
Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8.
Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.

CRAFT LODGES.
813, New Concord, Guildhall Tavern.
1227, Upton, Great Eastern Hotel.
1365, Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel.
1420, Earl Spencer, Stanley Restaurant, Lavender Hill.
1613, Cripple-gate, Albion Tavern.
1623, West Smithfield, Freemasons' Hall.
1716, All Saints', Office of Board of Works, Poplar.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.
9, Albion, Ship and Turtle Tavern.

MARK LODGE.
357, Chiswick, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17.

Board of Management Boys' School, at 2.30.

CRAFT LODGES.
975, Rose of Denmark, Horns Tavern.
2349, Warrant Officers, Freemasons' Hall.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.
A, Metropolitan, Mark Masons' Hall.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.
6, St. George's, Mark Masons' Hall.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.

CRAFT LODGES.
1330, Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1767, Kensington, Royal Palace Hotel.
2368, Viator, Anderton's Hotel.

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CAN YOU EXPLAIN IT?

HERE is a fact for the reader to think over and explain: Out of the thousands of letters written to us by people on the subject of their illness, the great majority assert that such illness began in the spring of the year—commonly in March or April. Of the remainder, the most cases are said to arise in the autumn; very few in midsummer or in midwinter. Now, there is a reason for whatsoever happens. What is the reason for that? While you are cogitating on it I will cite you an illustration or two.

"In the spring of 1892," says one of the many women who, in spite of what men say to the contrary, know how to tell a long story in few words, "I fell into a low, weak state of health. All the energy and ambition seemed to leave me as the snow melted off the ground. I was languid and tired, and felt heavy in body, as if I had somehow increased in weight—whereas the truth was the other way. My appetite was poor, and what little I ate hurt me at the chest, and lay dull and cold on my stomach.

"Presently a hacking cough set in, with night sweats, which made me extremely weak. I was often taken with a pain between the shoulders, and had a sense of sinking, as one has when wholly exhausted from some unusual labour or worry.

"As time went on I became still more feeble, and it was with great difficulty that I met the demands of my business. This will give you a general idea of my condition for nearly two years. None of the various medicines I resorted to gave me more than temporary relief.

"In February, 1894, a friend urged me to try Mother Seigel's Syrup. I got a bottle from Messrs. Robinson and Co., chemists, Hunslet Carr, and it helped me greatly. My appetite awoke, food agreed with me, and I felt better and stronger altogether. Holding on with the Syrup the cough abated, all pain left me, and I was once more in the happy possession of my former good health. This result I owe to Mother Seigel and her justly popular medicine; and if the publication of my experience of it will, in your opinion, be of use to others, you have my consent to use this letter in that way. (Signed) (Miss) Alice Green, 10, Moor Road, Hunslet Carr, Leeds, March 28th, 1895."

"One day in April, 1890," writes another, "I was suddenly seized with a strange feeling in my head, as though I was about to have a fit. My body writhed and my face grew dark and discoloured. The doctor said I was suffering from a form of nervous prostration which would probably produce spasms. He was right. I began to have three or four fits each day. I felt low and queer, and never knew what it was to be hungry. About my stomach and chest strange gnawing pains came and went. I had always a starved sensation all over me. I got no rest day or night, and thought I should never leave my bed alive. The doctor attended me constantly, but his treatment availed nothing. Month after month I remained in this condition.

"When I had given up all hope, I first read about Mother Seigel's Syrup in a small pamphlet which was left at our house. The book said my symptoms were due to inflammatory dyspepsia, which had filled my blood with poisons, and that my nerves were prostrated with lack of food—virtual starvation. Cure the diseased stomach, it said, and the fits, &c., would vanish of themselves. I sent to Messrs. Thompson and Son, Grocers and Tea Merchants, Ampleforth, for this medicine, and began taking it at once. Relief came in three or four days. After that, continuing with the Syrup, I improved every day. I now enjoyed my food. After using two bottles the fits left me entirely, and I was strong and well as ever. Since that time (now four and a half years ago), I have had the best of health, and required no medicine whatever. (Signed) (Mrs.) Mary Annie Elsworth, Ampleforth, Oswaldkirk, York, April 10th, 1895."

The accuracy of the latter statement is vouched for by the Messrs. Thompson, who have known Mrs. Elsworth for many years. Although no witness is really needed, as every case of cure by Mother Seigel's Syrup is thoroughly investigated before publication, only unquestionable facts being allowed to appear.

As to why the majority of people are taken ill in the spring, we shall reserve that point for future discussion. Be the solution what it may, one thing is certain: wise folk will keep a bottle of Mother Seigel's Syrup by them every week in the string of fifty-two.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE WEEKLY meetings of the Islington Lodge of Instruction, No. 1471, were resumed on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury.

THE QUEEN has very kindly placed Abergeldie Castle, Aberdeenshire, at the service of the Duchess of Connaught, who will spend the autumn there with her children.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF ATHOL, with a large party from Blair, were present at the Pitlochry meeting, which was held on Monday and was exceedingly well attended.

THE MARRIAGE of the Knight of Glin with Lady Rachel Wyndham-Quin, daughter of Bro. the Earl and Countess of Dunraven, will be solemnised at Afire on the 28th prox.

BRO. W. H. AND MRS. GRENFELL will return to Taplow Court next week, when the tenancy of the King of Siam comes to a termination, and will shortly afterwards leave for Scotland.

BRO. THE HON. GEORGE JOLLIFFEE, M.P., and Lady Alice Jolliffe will leave town next week on a tour in Japan and India, and are not expected to return to England before the meeting of Parliament.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE returned to Gloucester House from Hamburg on Tuesday evening, and is expected to leave town towards the end of the present week in order to pay a series of visits in Yorkshire.

BRO. LORD AND LADY GLENESK have been entertaining a succession of guests, among them being the Earl and Countess of Bathurst, at Glenmuick, near Ballater, which his lordship has taken for the last two or three seasons from Sir Allan Mackenzie.

DURING THE PRESENT WEEK Viscount and Viscountess Gilroery have been entertaining a numerous party of guests at Serlby Hall, near Bawtry, for the Doncaster races. The party, which includes Bro. the Earl and Countess of Yarborough, began to assemble on Monday evening.

THE COMMITTEE of the American Victoria Diamond Jubilee Fund have forwarded a donation of £1000 to the Treasurer of Charing Cross Hospital for the endowment in perpetuity of a bed in the Victoria Ward. A donation of equal amount has been forwarded to the London Hospital.

PRINCE VICTOR DHULEEP SINGH arrived at Highclere Station on Sunday afternoon, and at once drove to Highclere Castle on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon. During the week his lordship, with the Prince and other guests, has been enjoying some capital partridge shooting.

THE PORTUGUESE MINISTER, the Duke of Roxburghe, the Earl of Clarendon, Bro. the Earl of Roslyn, Earl and Countess Grey and the Lady Victoria Grey, Mrs. Arthur Page, and Mr. Henry Milner were included in Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wilson's party at Doncaster during the present week.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES and Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark, have very kindly contributed towards the site of the Missions to Seamen Institute to Sailors and Fishermen of all Nations, which was dedicated by the Bishop of Liverpool, and opened at Lowestoft last week by Sir Savile and Lady Crossley.

THE WILL of Bro. Charles Hogg, F.R.C.S., formerly of the Charterhouse and late of 23, Hardwick-square, Buxton, who died on June 20th, has been proved by Miss Jane Elizabeth Hogg and Miss Alice Mary Wade Hogg, of 18, Davurin-avenue, Brixton, the daughters and executrices, the value of the personal estate being £1154 18s. 10d.

AT THE London Hospital a bed has been endowed in perpetuity by a donation of £1000 by the American Victoria Jubilee Fund in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, 1897. The Treasurer of the Charing Cross Hospital has also received a donation of £1000 from the Committee of the American Victoria Jubilee Fund for the endowment in perpetuity of a bed in the Victoria Ward of the Hospital.

AT THE Royal Horticultural Society's show, held early this week in the Drill Hall, Westminster, her Majesty exhibited a very large and fine collection of peaches and nectarines, which had been grown at Windsor, and was awarded in consequence the first prize—a silver medal—for fruit. Bro. Earl Percy was also a prize-winner, being awarded a medal for hardy fruits. Lord Foley showed some splendid peaches, which secured him a prize.

AMONG THOSE whom the Queen of Denmark received at Bernstorff Castle on Tuesday on the occasion of her 50th birthday were T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales and their daughter, the Princess Victoria, and at the banquet which was held in honour of the auspicious event her Majesty's health was proposed by his Royal Highness. The Royal yacht Osborne and the other vessels in Copenhagen Harbour were brilliantly illuminated in the evening.

THE BICESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW was held on Tuesday, and as the weather proved fine there was a very large attendance, the entrance fees being double what they were last year. Viscount Villiers, President of the Society, presided at the luncheon, and was supported by Bro. the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Cottingham, Colonel England, the Rev. Withington, Major Green, and Bro. G. H. Morrell, M.P. The horses were a good class, and constituted the feature of the exhibition.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM LOCKHART, who has been appointed to the command of the expedition against the Afridis, entered the Indian service in 1858 when only 17 years of age, and served in Abyssinia under the late Lord Napier of Magdala in 1867, in Acheen in 1870-77 with the Dutch Army, in the Afghan War under Lord Roberts in 1879, and in Burma in 1885. In 1890 he was appointed to the command of the Punjab Frontier Force, and since has been almost continuously engaged upon active service.

THE THREE BATTALIONS of the Guards which have been engaged in the Sussex manoeuvres returned to London by railway on Monday, the 2nd Grenadiers and 2nd Scots Guards arriving at Victoria Station and taking up their quarters at Wellington and Kensington Barracks and at Chelsea and St. George's Barracks respectively. The 1st Coldstreams travelled to London Bridge, whence they marched to the Tower of London, the detachment of the 1st Essex, which was quartered there, leaving for Warley.

THE VISIT of the Duke and Duchess of York to Ireland came to an end this week, but the enthusiasm surrounding it is still as great as ever, and the garden party given by the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry at their seat of Mount Stewart on Tuesday proved not the least successful of the numerous functions which have been held in honour of their Royal Highnesses. Nearly all of the 1500 invited guests were present, and among the most prominent personages were Bro. the Duke of Abercorn, the Marquis and Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, the Earl and Countess of Annesley, Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Hertford, the Primate of Ireland, the Lord Mayor of Belfast, and the Mayor of Londonderry.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES left Marienbad, accompanied by Bro. Capt. Holford, by the afternoon train, for Copenhagen, Princess Louise accompanying him to the station and seeing him off. His Royal Highness arrived at his destination about eight p.m., on Monday, and drove to Bernstorff Castle. In the afternoon of the same day, Princess Charles of Denmark and Princess Victoria of Wales arrived at Copenhagen from Victoria, on board the Royal Yacht Osborne, and were received by the King of Denmark, the Empress Dowager of Russia, and H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, who drove with them to the Castle of Bernstorff, where they were welcomed by the other members of the Danish Royal Family.

IN ORDER to meet the desires of their patrons, the New Palace Steamers, Limited, have decided to make an extra trip to Ostend and back in the same day by their well-known steamer, La Marguerite. It is announced that on Tuesday, the 14th instant, a special train will leave Fenchurch-street at 6.15, steamer arriving at Ostend at 1 p.m., and returning at 3.0 p.m., thus giving passengers about two hours on shore. Also on Wednesday, the 15th instant, a special trip to Boulogne and back by same steamer will be run by special request. Only tried as an experiment late in the season, the latter trip has proved a marvellous success, and intending passengers should not lose the last opportunity they will have this season of going to Boulogne and back in the day, and having about three hours on shore. As in the case of the Ostend trip, a special train to connect with steamer at Tilbury will leave Fenchurch-street at 6.15 a.m.

THE FOOTBALL season has commenced and the daily and sporting press are filled with the records of the matches which take place from time to time for league and other championship.

BRO. NEWTON FISK, Sec. of the Square and Compasses Lodge, No. 1336, was on Tuesday last, at Wrexham, presented with a Secretary's jewel in recognition of his services during the past five years.

A GRAND REVIEW at Homburg was held on Saturday last in honour of the visit of the King and Queen of Italy to the Emperor and Empress of Germany, after which there was a gala banquet at which the Emperor proposed the health of the King.

NEARLY 100 members of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association left Charing Cross on Monday afternoon for Belgium. At Dover they were joined by a contingent from the provinces, with whom they proceeded to Antwerp on board the Belgian mail-packet.

BRO. SIR M. WHITE RIDLEY (the Home Secretary) and Lady White Ridley have been on a visit to Lord and Lady Tweedmouth at Guisachan, where it is expected that the Duke and Duchess of York will make a short stay before returning south for the autumn.

THE MACKINTOSH and Mrs. Mackintosh entertained a large party of guests at Moy Hall last week, and good sport was obtained over the moors, large bags of grouse being secured by a party of seven guns, which included Bros. the Duke of Athol and Lord Balfour of Burleigh.

THE LAST of the excursions arranged in connection with the Cardiff meeting of the Institute of Journalists took place on Monday to the Elan Valley, near Rhayader, where the Corporation of Birmingham are constructing waterworks. With this excursion the Cardiff meeting was brought to a close.

NEWS FROM CAIRO is to the effect that the Dervishes have evacuated Berber, and retired on Metemeh. Abdul Azim, with friendly Arabs, has occupied the grain stores at Berber in the name of the government, while General Hunter has started for the same destination with four gunboats.

BRO. GENERAL SIR EVELYN WOOD, V.C., Quartermaster-General of the Army, has just entered upon his 43rd year of military service, having received his commission as a Cornet in the 13th Light Dragoons, on the 7th September, 1855. Sir Evelyn had previously served for upwards of three years in the Royal Navy.

BRO. COL. THE HON. SIR HENRY BYNG, Equerry to the Queen, has been specially appointed by her Majesty to accompany Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein to Stockholm, where his Royal Highness will represent her Majesty at the approaching Jubilee of King Oscar II. of Sweden and Norway.

THE GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION have this week held a very successful exhibition, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, Viscount Middleton, the Right Hon. St. John Brodrick, M.P., and Bro. Lord and Lady Pirbright being among those who visited the enclosure, while among the exhibitors were Bro. the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Northumberland, Viscount Middleton, and Sir H. Doulton.

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—A meeting of the General Committee of this Institution was held on the 3rd instant, in the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, for the purpose of considering the applications to be placed on the list of candidates for election at the next Court of Governors. There were altogether eight cases under discussion, all of which were unanimously adopted for recommendation to the Court.

A NUMBER of engineers and other gentlemen interested in the utilisation of natural water-power for commercial purposes met at the Café Royal, Regent-street, on Wednesday afternoon, to hear an address by Mr. J. Bogart, a New York engineer, on the scheme, now being carried out at Massena, on the River St. Lawrence, by which electricity will be generated by a utilisation of water power, and transmitted for use in manufactures and in other ways.

MASONIC FUNERAL AT LANARK.—Bro. James M^rLehose, who died through falling from a scaffold on the 31st ult., was buried in the Lanark Churchyard on the 3rd inst. The funeral was a Masonic one, and over 50 brethren of Old St. John Lodge, No. 21, headed by Bro. John Keith, R.W.M., followed the body to the burying ground. Over 250 persons followed the remains, and all the shops in the town at the time the cortege proceeded through the streets were closed. The funeral was the largest ever seen in this district.

WE ARE glad to notice in the Registrar-General's returns that last week there was a further decrease in the Metropolitan rate of mortality from 20.4 to 17 per 1000, while in all the large towns a substantial improvement is noticeable. At Croydon it has dropped from 21.1 to 17.6, and at Birmingham from 34.5 to 24.1. There is, however, a heavy mortality in London from gastric affections. As regards the great change in the temperature, the mean reading of the thermometer is reported to have been 3 deg. below the weekly average during the 50 years from 1841 to 1890.

FREEMASONRY AT EASTBOURNE.—We hear from a reliable source that the Grand Lodge of England has granted a warrant for a new lodge, to be called the Royal Connaught, No. 2576, by special permission of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. The lodge will be held in the Grand Hotel the first Tuesday in each month, October to May. The W.M. designate is Bro. Capt. C. de M. Franklyn, R.E., and the Senior and Junior Wardens are Bro. Senior and Bro. the Rev. H. G. Jamieson, respectively.

THE LADIES' KENNEL CLUB are organising a Canine Commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, which will take the form of a large open show, and the proceeds of which will be devoted to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. Many offers of assistance have been received from clubs with a view to ensuring the success of the gathering, the Scottish Kennel Club offering two gold medals for competition. The exhibition will be held at Earl's Court on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of December.

THE LAST DAY of the Duke and Duchess of York's visit to Ireland was devoted to Belfast and an inspection of its shipping yards and industrial centres, and proved in every way as successful as the first day when their Royal Highnesses landed in Dublin. The reception accorded to the Royal visitors was of the most enthusiastic character, and wherever they went they found vast crowds of people to cheer them. At the close of a long day, their Royal Highnesses embarked for Scotland, being delighted with the reception they met with everywhere in Ireland.

THE ST. LEGER was run on Wednesday, and resulted in a victory for the favourite—Mr. J. Gubbins's Galtee More—by three-quarters of a length, the Earl of Rosebery's Chelandy being second, and Mr. J. R. Keene's St. Cloud 11. third. The field was limited to five. Among those present to witness the race were Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Bro. Lord and Lady Alice Stanley, Mr. Henry Chaulin, M.P., Bro. Captain the Hon. R. K. F. Greville, M.P., and Mrs. Greville, the Grand Duke Michael of Russia, Bro. the Marquis of Granby, Bro. Lord and Lady Saltoun, Bro. the Earl of Roslyn, and others.

LONDON PRESS SPORTS.—The fifth annual meeting of these sports in aid of the Caxton Convalescent Home, Limpsfield, Surrey; Morley Home, Dover; and the Printers' Pension and Almshouses, Wood Green, takes place to-morrow (Saturday), at the London County Grounds, Herne-hill, S.E. The programme (for which close on 400 entries have been received), comprises 100 yards, 300 yards, and one mile running handicaps; 200 yards boys' handicap; one mile, three miles, and five miles bicycle races; tug-of-war, obstacle race, &c. Should the weather prove favourable, it is hoped the meeting will prove a great success, and add considerably to the coffers of these well-deserving charities.

THE ANNUAL military obstacle race for battalion teams which was arranged by the Duke of Connaught last year, came off at Aldershot on Wednesday. The contest is intended to furnish practical evidence of the value of gymnastic training in its application to combined bodies of infantry and so far has proved very successful. In this instance eight teams consisting of 106 men entered, the course being near the Army Gymnasium, and far better form was shown than last year, while the course was covered in shorter time. The 4th Battalion Kings' Own Rifle Corps, which won the trophy last year, came in first, in 7 min. 37.25 secs., thus retaining the prize, while the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade was second in 7 mins. 58.45 secs., the 1st Manchester and 2nd Devonshire being next. The Duke of Connaught afterwards presented the prizes and expressed his gratification at the improved form shown this year, and hoped that future contests sundry well-known regiments would be represented.

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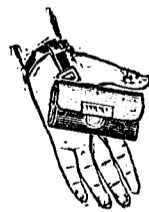
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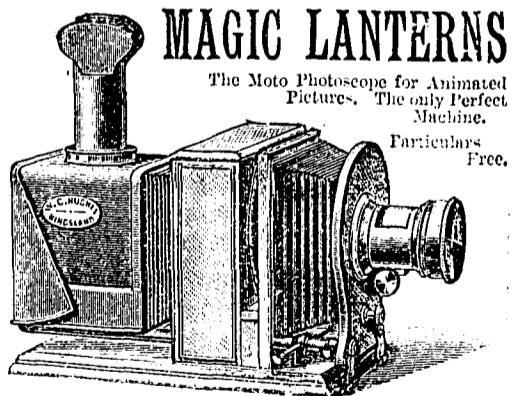
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