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CONSECRATION OF THE UNIVERSITIES LODGE.

AN important function in the annals of Freemasonry took place at Durham on Saturday, the occasion being the consecration of the Universities Lodge, No. 2,352, which was recently founded, the founders of the new Lodge being Bros. Canon Tristram, Canon Kynaston, Richard Luck, R. H. Yeld, Joseph Forster, C. D. Hill Drury, James Lawrence, Lionel Booth, Thomas Randell, Edward Jepson, Wm. Proctor Swaby, and Joseph Rushton Shortt.

In response to the invitation of the founders of the Lodge a large number of Masonic Brethren from various parts of the county assembled at the Masonic Hall, Durham, to witness the ceremony of consecration, which was performed by Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master. Amongst those present besides Sir Hedworth Williamson were Bro. the Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., P.G.C., Dean of York; Bro. Victor Williamson; Bro. H. B. Tristram, D.D., F.R.S., D.P.G.M. P.G. Chap.; Bro. Herbert Kynaston, D.D., P.P.S.G.W. (Gloucestershire); Bro. Richard Luck, M.A., L.L.M., P.P.G. Reg.; Bro. R. H. Yeld, M.A., vicar of Birtley, P.P.G. Ch.; Bro. Joseph Forster, M.A., P.P.G. Reg.; Bro. C. D. Hill Drury, M.D., Ch.M.; Bro. Jas. Lawrence, M.D.; Bro. Lionel Booth, M.D., P.P.S.G.W.; Bro. Thomas Randell, B.D., Principal of Bede College, P.P.G. Ch.; Bro. Ed. Jepson; Bro. W. Proctor Swaby, B.D., vicar of St. Mark's, Millfield, P.P.G. Ch.; Bro. Joseph Rushton Shortt, M.A., Fellows' Tutor, Hatfield Hall, University of Durham; Bro. W. Logan, Prov. G.D. of C., P.P.G. Reg.; Bro. T. B. Whytehead, P.M. Eboracum, H.N., York; Bro. T. Dunn, P.M., Marquis of Granby; Bro. C. Rowlandson, Marquis of Granby, and many others.

The Brethren having assembled in the ante-room and signed the attendance-book, took their places in the Lodge-room under the direction of the Director of Ceremonies. At half-past three prompt the R.W. Prov. Grand Master took the chair, and opened the Lodge in the three degrees. Prayer was then offered by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, the response being "So mote it be." The anthem was "Hail, Eternal, by whose aid." The Prov. Grand Master then addressed the Brethren, after which he requested them, under the guidance of the Prov. Grand D. of C., who signed the petition, to stand forward in the body of the Lodge. This having been done, the Prov. Grand Secretary read the petition to, and warrant of, their Lodge, received from the United Grand Lodge of England. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master addressed the petitioning Brethren, and inquired if they approved of the officers named in the petition and warrant. The Brethren having signified their approval in Masonic form the Prov. Grand Master called upon the Prov. Grand Chaplain, who delivered an oration on the nature and purposes of the Institution. The ode to Masonry (solo and chorus) "Hail! Masonry Divine" was then sung, after which the Acting W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master presented the R.W.P.G.M. with the jewels and collars of the new Lodge and thereafter the W.M. Designate. The officers and Brethren of the new Lodge formed in two columns in front of the pedestal, the Acting W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master being at the head of the right column and the two Provincial Grand Wardens being at the head of the

OUR remarks in a previous issue upon the question of charity have elicited a somewhat numerous correspondence and all manner of opinions upon the suggested scheme. Our suggestion that each of the three first officers of a Lodge should individually represent one of the Charities in the collection of funds, and head his own list by a donation of five guineas, was but a mere cast upon the waters, not without thought, however, and certainly not without reason. It is the individual persuasion that makes charity more pronounced in our system. The man who has a sovereign to give away will undoubtedly give it to nothing or nobody he has but little respect for, whereas if Jones says to Brown, "Brown, old fellow, I am representing the Girls' Institution, and want a guinea from you," it is a very great certainty Jones will get it. A recognised donation also has a marked effect upon the standing of a body. In course of time it would draw sounder and richer men into the Craft who would support more fully the charitable institutions, and be far less likely to burden them themselves in the future. There are hundreds of professional men who fight shy of Freemasonry from the belief that it is an expensive luxury. These are the cautious, sound gentlemen of the world unwilling to hamper themselves beyond the elasticity of their incomes, and the very persons Freemasonry should encourage to enter its ranks. And for this reason. Masonry to an ordinary or lay member may be safely enjoyed and charitably dispensed at an expenditure of a little over £10 a year. Perhaps there is no institution in existence, granting such pleasures and such satisfaction at so little cost, and could these men but be convinced such a sum would cover their whole outlay, they would in great numbers obtain admission to the Order. Adversity, in the popular form of "bad luck," will always reach a few out of a given number of affluent persons, but there is something very much more apparent than this "bad luck" which causes every Lodge throughout the land to have at least half a dozen dead-heads in as many years, and fifty per cent. of its members never giving a cent to the charities of the Craft. The more select a Lodge is kept, and the greater the qualifications demanded from an applicant are made, the more anxious will the gentlemen of the country become, to join an Institution which offers genial society and good fellowship, from persons any respectable member of society would be pleased to see enjoying the hospitality of his own roof. Then, if adversity came, how great would be the powers of our noble Institutions to recompense a Brother in a fit and dignified way.

left column. The Prov. Grand Chaplain read verses 1 to 7 of the 8th chapter 1st Book of Kings, after which the Lodge boards were unveiled by four of the Prov. Grand Stewards, and the Prov. Grand Chaplain delivered up the consecration prayer.

Then followed a most interesting portion of the ceremony. The chant, "Glory to God on High," was succeeded by the Prov. Grand D. of C., the Prov. Grand Deputy D. of C., and the Prov. Grand Assistant D. of C. presenting the vessels of consecration to the respective consecrating officers. The procession (the Brethren still standing) was then formed in the following order:—Prov. Grand Chaplain, carrying on a cushion the volume of the sacred law, with the square and compasses; Prov. Grand Junior Warden, carrying vessel containing oil; Prov. Grand Senior Warden carrying vessel containing wine; Acting W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master carrying cornucopia with corn. When the procession reached the head of Tracing Boards the Acting W. Deputy Prov. E.M. scattered corn on the Lodge at the head of the first round. The procession remained standing whilst was sung the ode to Masonry, "Hail! Masonry, thou craft divine." The procession again proceeded, and halting upon reaching the head of Tracing Boards, the Prov. Grand S.W. poured wine on the Lodge at the end of the second round. The ode to virtue, "Come holy virtue, by whose aid," was then sung, and the procession once more proceeded, and again halting at the proper time the Prov. Grand J.W. sprinkled oil on the Lodge at the end of the third round. The ode to charity, "Come, charity, with goodness around," was then sung, after which the R.W. Prov. Grand Master left the dais, passed alone once round the Lodge, and, halting at the head of Tracing Boards, scattered salt on the Lodge. The Provincial Grand Chaplain then came down from the lectern, and, walking alone, carried the censer with burning incense therein three times round the Lodge, the first time in solemn silence. The second time he repeated Exodus xxx., 7; and the third time Exodus xxx., 8. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master then dedicated the Lodge, the choir sang the sanctus, "Holy, holy, holy," and the Prov. Grand Chaplain offered the dedication prayer. The anthem, which was then given, was "Glory to God in the highest." The R.W. Prov. Grand Master having constituted the Lodge, the Provincial Grand D. of C. (in the East) proclaimed the "Universities" Lodge, No. 2,252, duly constituted, and the pronouncing of the patriarchal benediction by the Prov. Grand Chaplain closed the ceremony of consecration.

The Lodge was then resumed in the second degree, and the W. Master Designate (the V.W. Bro. Henry Baker Tristram, D.D., D.P.G.M., P.G. Chap.) was obligated. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and the W.M. was installed in the chair according to ancient custom. The Installing Master was the Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., P.G. Chap. The Lodge was then closed down to the first degree, and the Treasurer and Tyler were elected. The officers were then appointed and invested as follows:—W.M., Bro. H. B. Tristram, D.D., F.R.S., Canon of Durham, D.P.G.M., P.G. Chap.; S.W., Bro. Herbert Kynaston, D.D., Canon of Durham, Professor of Greek, University of Durham, P.P.S.G.W. (Gloucestershire); J.W., Richard Luck, M.A., LL.M.; P.P.G. Reg. Chaplain, Bro. R. H. Yeld, M.A., Vicar of Birtley, P.P.G. Ch.; Treasurer, Bro. Joseph Forster, M.A., P.P.G. Reg.; Secretary, Bro. C. D. Hill Drury, M.D., Ch.M.; S.D., Bro. James Lawrence, M.D.; J.D., Bro. Lionel Booth, M.D., P.P.S.G.W.; I.G., Bro. Thomas Randell, D.D., Principal of Bede College, P.P.G.Ch.; Steward, Bro. Ed. Jepson, M.D.

The Provincial Grand Master, prior to the proceedings terminating, congratulated the Worshipful Master, the Rev. Canon Tristram, and the Order upon possessing so excellent a Mason, and the former on his appointment to the chair of the new Universities Lodge. He recognised the exceptional circumstances under which the Lodge had been consecrated, and expressed his satisfaction especially at the presence of the Dean of York and of the many distinguished Brethren connected with the province who always came forward on all occasions of that kind to assist.

Round and About.

The installation of Lord Mayor Isaacs into the chair of the Drury Lane Lodge at the Mansion House on the 11th of last month was an event not readily to be forgotten by those who were present. Bro. J. C. Parkinson was the Installing Master, but he seemed to be overpowered by the presence of the élite of the craft and the ceremony suffered somewhat from his nervousness. Perhaps "King Mob" may resent my interference with his especial Bohemian functions, for every member of the Drury Lane Lodge is a professed Bohemian. Never, perhaps, in the future history of any private Lodge will such a sight be witnessed as a company of nearly three hundred of the most eminent men of English Freemasonry sitting down to the hospitable board of the Lord Mayor. No fewer than twelve Provincial Grand Chaplains and eight Provincial Grand Masters were present, whilst Grand Lodge seemed to have discharged its Past Grand Officers in pell-mell confusion. The Forces, Arts, Letters, and Medicine were represented by some of their brightest lights, and, had not the date of the ceremony fallen on the night of the opening of Parliament, the Lord Chancellor and numbers of his colleagues would have been present.

* * *

On the right of the W.M. sat the Prov. Grand Masters of Jersey, Hants, and Staffordshire; on his left the I.P.M. (Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield, K.C.B.), and the Prov. Grand Masters of Middlesex (Colonel Sir Francis Burdett), Worcestershire, West Yorkshire, and the P.D.G.M. of Bengal. The Garter King-at-Arms, (Sir Albert Woods,) kept General the Hon. Somerset Calthorpe company; while Sir Reginald Hanson sat opposite Sir Morell Mackenzie, who was not looking very well. At either end of the long table sat a bunch of reverend gentlemen, Studholme Brownrigg and C. J. Martyn among them; whilst Mr. Justice Cave had Sir John Monckton under his charge, and kept his left eye steadily fixed on Mr. George Plucknett, Mr. Alderman Savory, and Sir Alderman de Keyser. The Grand Secretary was quietly ensconced between Mr. Robert Grey and Mr. Fenn, and Mr. Philbrick was adjacent to the host. Augustus Harris quietly dosed between the Secretary of the Lodge and the Installing Officer; whilst at the quietest end of the board sat R. F. Gould, next to Dr. Ralph Gooding.

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The heads of the subsidiary tables were graced with the beaming countenances of the officers of the Lodge, but Harry Nicholls presided at the most extraordinary one. He had under his charge Edmund Yates, looking very sedate beside Mr. Agg Gardner, M.P., Major Griffiths, Dr. Russell, George Augustus Sala, and Albert Levy in close conversation. A dozen actors of repute, with Viscount Deerhurst, Mr. John Aird, M.P., Colonel Laurie, and Lord Athlumney to keep them in order, made up one of the most interesting tables I have ever seen. Half-a-dozen Generals and double that number of Colonels does not demonstrate the company that was present at the invitation of Sir Henry Isaacs.

* * *

Of the speeches, you may guess more than I can tell you. They were the customary ones. Augustus Harris was dubbed the "great" Augustus and the "Blessed" Augustus. Lord Lonsborough was "always cheerful, always merry, always kind"; eulogy not a bit too marked. Sir E. A. Inglefield had "an honest, open face which we all admire," and everybody was entirely satisfied with everybody else, for which the great Architect of the Universe long be praised. A well-arranged concert, called by a contemporary a "beautiful" concert, gave great satisfaction to the critical brethren who remained to hear it.

* * *

"It is of interest in the above connection," says Atlas, "to recall a circumstance in these days almost forgotten. On February 18, 1769, under dispensation of the then Grand Master, the Duke of Beaufort, and in the presence of the Grand Secretary ('Brother'

French), the Jerusalem Lodge administered the Masonic rites to the notorious John Wilkes in the prison of the King's Bench, two days after he had been re-elected M.P. for Middlesex, a proceeding which was followed by a strict prohibition of the like in future. John Wilkes was, in the same year, elected an Alderman of the City of London; he became Sheriff in 1771, and Lord Mayor in 1774."

* * *

The last meeting of Grand Lodge was a very tame affair, and no business but of a mere routine nature was transacted. None of the Grand Officers were in their places, except, of course, the Grand Secretary, who made no reference whatever to the absence of H.R.H. the Grand Master—who was busily engaged at the Drawing-room in the earlier afternoon—the Deputy G.M., or either of the Grand Wardens. It is a grievous pity those gentlemen who accept Grand Office, and whose requisite personal attendance is of the slightest, find it impossible to spare a few hours once in three months to attend to the duties they have undertaken. No one expects it possible for a hard-worked Prince, rushing all over the Empire for the gratification of other people, to be regular in his attendances, but we may assure ourselves that the absence of all, or most, of the other Grand Officers at each quarterly communication of Grand Lodge, infuses an extremely bad example into the minds of the Officers connected with the less important meetings of the general body of the Craft. Such sound and enthusiastic Brethren as the Prov. G.M.'s for Hants, for Worcestershire, and for West Yorkshire are ever ready, we know, to fill the vacant chairs anywhere and everywhere, but it is, nevertheless, a lamentable fact that substitution is the rule, and hardly ever the exception, in the official positions at Freemasons' Hall.

* * *

Sir Henry Isaacs was fortunate at having the proposal of electing the Prince of Wales as G.M. placed in his hands, and he moved the election in his usual plastic and charming manner, bringing in the poets to emphasise his remarks; but everyone was delighted that Bro. John Aird, M.P. seconded the resolution for the fifteenth year in succession. The election of the lessee of Drury Lane Theatre to the position of Grand Treasurer was, of course, a foregone conclusion, and all of us may be certain that the post will lose none of its importance in his hands. It might have been better had Bro. Harris not immediately succeeded Edward Terry in the office, but that is of but small account.

* * *

There is something very illogical in the confession of the American millionaire, recently dead, that at the six million stage his property was unmanageable, and yet he died leaving thirty-six millions behind him. We are not told to whom his immeasurable wealth is to be given; but it is to be hoped that he has bequeathed a fraction of it for the erection of a comfortable asylum for millionaires who are driven mad by the importunity of newspaper and theatrical managers and proprietors, who "go" for the budding millionaires like squibs in November. There is a man of this class in this big village of London whom sensible men pity from the bottom of their hearts. He has subsidised half the newspaper ventures of the last two or three years, and theatrical people have bled him to the tune of thousands. Some of these harpies lie in wait for him on the steps of his hotel, or track him for days up and down the country in hopes of getting a word with him in private. Even the "Sisters of Mercy" stand about his office passage to attract his attention, and his purse, should he pass that way. What his means may be of keeping them at arm's-length now that the generous days are over I don't know, but I heard him say the other day that he had "been done for two hundred and fifty thou." What a filthy trade journalism has become!

* * *

More than one of the "heads" of the *Times* newspaper are members of the Craft, but the mighty sheet of Printing-house-square has little space to give to purely Masonic matters. It is not so easy

as it used to be to obtain permission to visit the private parts of that building; but a very courteous invitation was extended to me some time back, to gratify my curiosity upon several interesting points. Some of the type used in setting-up the "ads." has been thus used for thirty years, while that needed for the editorial and reporting matter is always new, it being found cheaper to cast new type than to sort and pick the old after each page has been stereotyped. All the "ads." and law reports are "set-up" by hand, all other matter by the type-setting machines, the peculiar property of the *Times* office. It is astonishing to watch a compositor with a telephone trumpet strapped round his head, seated at his little tray of lettered keys, by the aid of which he manipulates a continuous stream of type set up without any "copy" to work from. As the magic pieces of metal flow out of the machine another "comp.," with unerring accuracy, cuts off line after line which he spaces up in the twinkling of an eye. The rolls of printing paper fitted to the presses are four and a-half miles in length, and when several of the huge "Walter" machines—of which there are twelve—are working, the noise is appalling. So large is the working staff of the *Times* that a great number of cooks are kept upon the premises to prepare the meals of the men.

* * *

A few more such consecrations as The Universities Lodge, 2353, details of which appear in another column, and provincial Brethren will be able to teach us something worth knowing. The whole of the officers of the Lodge are University men; there are a couple of Canons of Durham, a Professor of Greek, four M.D.'s, whilst, with one exception, all these gentlemen are Masters of Art. Needless to say, the harmonic propensity of these Brethren will not extend to an appreciation of "Two Lovely Black Eyes" or "I Did It," songs not unfrequently heard among us down South.

* * *

The opening of the mighty bridge spanning the Firth of Forth marks a new era in British engineering. It is safe to say this mighty iron monster is the achievement of the century, and if it has destroyed the lovely view from the drawing room windows of Dalmeny, Lord Rosebery may be able to overcome his loss by a judicious planting of an avenue of trees at that point in his park just before it dips down into the valley on the eastern side of the estate. Nobody seemed to remember or care about the sixty-seven lives lost in the construction of the bridge. The gilt rivet which the Prince drove home as a memento of his visit will in course of time rust and probably be forgot, but a cast-iron plate, bearing an inscription, with the names of the sixty-seven silent heroes of engineering skill, might, upon one of the buttresses or abutments of the bridge, draw useful attention to the loss of life occasioned. Materially it is a small matter. Most of us die, or will die, in the execution of our worldly duties, but it is hardly decent to inaugurate the completion of a public work with feast and wine, forgetting or ignoring a lamentable detail of the loss of human lives.

* * *

The new Head Master of the Boys' School has made his first report to the Committee. It is not a very learned epistle, but it now clearly shows, without a further shade of doubt, that the management of the Institution, both inside the school and out of it, was one mass of imbecility and incompetence. A distinguished Brother particularly requests me to publish in full this report, but so much harm has already been caused, that the less said about past follies the better. A portion of the Provisional Committee, accompanied by several eminent Brethren, paid an official visit to the buildings at Wood-green only the other day, and the Educational department was found to be in about the same state as all the others. To ensure a revision of all these affairs, fewer and smaller Committees should be elected to replace those who held office during the reign of Brother Binckes and Brother Morris, and no gentleman should in future be elected on any Committee who has no requisite acquaintance with the control of educational establishments, or

whose time and attention cannot faithfully be rendered to the requirements of his office. There is no earthly reason why the Masonic Boys' Institution should not be a model of completeness and perfection.

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No portrait accompanies the "Eminent Mason at Home" this month, by the special wish of the Baron, and it was only on these conditions that the writer of the article was granted the facilities for preparing it. As Baron Ferdinand is the only member of the Craft among the houses of Rothschild, the opportunity could not be missed of accepting his restrictions.

THE DRUID.

Masonic Mems.

Bro. Lord John Taylour, whose death from pneumonia occurred in the early part of last month, was a younger brother of Bro. the Marquis of Headfort, S.G.W. of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and uncle of Bro. the Earl of Bective, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland. His lordship was born in the year 1831, says the *Freemason*, and, having joined the army as ensign in the 94th Foot, rose ultimately to be its lieut.-colonel, and retired from the service with the honorary rank of major-general in 1886. He was a very active Mason, and had won distinction in the District Grand Lodge of New South Wales, in the Province of Hants and the Isle of Wight, and in United Grand Lodge itself. He was initiated in the Cambrian Lodge of Australia, No. 656, Sydney, N.S.W., on January 3, 1862, and was installed W.M. in December, 1866. He was Dist. G.S.B. of New South Wales in 1863, and Dist. S.G.W. in 1866. On returning to England, he joined the Fenwick Lodge, No. 1389, Sunderland, in 1877, and continued a subscribing member till 1882. He was also a P.M. of the Ryde Lodge, No. 698, and Past Prov. J.G.W. of Hants and the Isle of Wight. In 1888 he was appointed and invested J.G.W. of United Grand Lodge. In the Royal Arch Degree, he was P.Z. of the East Medina Chapter, No. 175, Ryde, and P.P.G. Prin. Soj. of Hants and the Isle of Wight, and G. Prin. Soj. of Supreme Grand Chapter. In Mark Masonry, he was P.M. of the William Hickman Lodge, No. 320, Sandown, and in 1884 was both Prov. S.G.W. of Hants and the Isle of Wight, and S.G.W. of the Grand Mark Lodge of England. He was a P.M. of the Shadwell Clerke Lodge, a member of the Vectis Chapter of Rose Croix, and last, but not least, a supporter of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. His death was quite unexpected, as he was among the guests invited to be present at the installation meeting of the Savage Club Lodge, on Tuesday, the 4th ult., and it was certainly premature, as he was only in his fifty-eighth year.

* * *

A new Masonic Lodge, the ninety-ninth in the province of West Lancashire, and numbered 2,335 on the roll of Masonic Lodges under the banner of the Grand Lodge of England, was duly consecrated on the afternoon of the 10th ult. at the Coffee-house, Church-road, Wavertree, by Worshipful Bro. Edward Segar, P.Prov.G.W., who officiated in the absence of the Right Worshipful Earl Lathom, Provincial Grand Master. The title of the new Lodge is the "Cycling and Athletic" Lodge, and its prosperity seems to be assured, for there are already nearly forty members, and fourteen initiates were proposed during the course of the proceedings. A large assembly of Provincial Grand Officers, Founders of the Lodge, and visitors from other Lodges took part in the proceedings. The Worshipful Master-Designate was Bro. Robert Foote, P.M., P.P.G.Treas., who is so active a Masonic worker and is connected with so many Lodges in the province of West Lancashire. The Senior Warden and the Junior Warden designate were Bros. R. R. Ellis and R. Lloyd respectively. The officers of the new Lodge were duly installed as follows:—Bros. R. Foote,

W.M., J. Winsor, I.P.M., R. R. Ellis, S.W., R. Lloyd, J.W., A. H. Morecroft, Treas., T. G. Parkes, Sec., J. Lane, S.D., T. Price, J.D., J. Shields, D.C., J. Pugh, Org., W. Orrey Callow, I.G., Dr. Crozier, S.S., J. Langford, J.S., and J. Doran, Tyler. At the close of the proceedings a vote of thanks was accorded the consecrating officers, each of whom was made an Honorary Member of the Lodge.

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For the first time in the history of the Mansion House the civic residence of the Chief Magistrate of the City of London was brilliant with the decorations of no fewer than 320 Brethren of various rank in the Craft assembled within its walls on the 11th ult. to witness the installation of Sir Henry Isaacs, Lord Mayor of London, as Worshipful Master of the Drury Lane Lodge. The impressive ceremony was performed by Bro. J. C. Parkinson. Ordinarily the Lodge meets in the salon of Drury Lane Theatre, but, by special dispensation of the Grand Master, Sir Henry's installation was celebrated in the chief municipal building in the metropolis. The Brethren whom he afterwards invested as officers were Bro. J. Fernandez, Bro. Bancroft, Bro. Fleming, Bro. J. H. Matthews, Bro. Harry Nicholls, Bro. Thomas Catling, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Bro. Bashford, Bro. Oscar Barrett, Bro. C. J. Phipps, and Bro. Sir Morell Mackenzie. The new Master subsequently entertained the company to dinner in the Egyptian Hall, and avowed that he esteemed the honor the Lodge had conferred upon him as a very high one indeed. Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield, who officiated as Master last year, was presented with a handsome P.M. jewel, and the proceedings terminated with a private concert in the saloon. Never before has the Craft witnessed such a collection of learned and able men as responded to the invitations of the Lord Mayor.

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The restoration of the choir, lantern-tower, and transepts of Peterborough Cathedral having been completed, the Dean and Chapter are now in want of funds to furnish the choir. Several stalls have been promised by honorary canons, and as a memorial of the Masonic ceremony which took place on the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone of the central tower, a fund has been opened by the St. Peter's Lodge to present two stalls on behalf of the Freemasons of England. The restoration committee have decided to issue another appeal for funds to proceed with the work.

* * *

The commemoration on Friday, 14th ult., of a charter having been granted in favor of Lodge Greenock St. John in 1790 occasioned a manifestation of Masonic vitality which does credit to the Greenock portion of the Renfrewshire West Province. Nor was it only among the Brethren that this lively interest in the Order was observable. The banquet, which was served in splendid style and amid luxurious surroundings in the saloon of the Town Hall, was attended by a number of non-Masons, and when the Brethren issued forth in processional order, the streets in the vicinity of the hall were literally packed with denizens. A torchlight procession was formed to the house of the W.M., and eventually new colors were presented to the Lodge, to replace the old banner of 1829. Bro. John Galbraith, P.M., the oldest member of the Lodge, was not present.

* * *

Colonel George Turner, a prominent officer of the Volunteer movement in Liverpool, and a well-known Freemason—he having attained the rank of Provincial Grand Treasurer—died last month, at the age of 67 years. Numbers of Brethren attended the funeral.

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On the 6th ult. their Excellencies the Lord-Lieutenant and the Countess of Zetland visited the Masonic Female Orphan School, Ball's Bridge, Dublin. They were accompanied by Lord Herbert Vane Tempest, the Earl of Clonmell, General Fraser, Captain Orr-Ewing, and Captain M'Calmont, and were received by his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Grand Master; the Deputy-

Grand Master, Bro. R. W. Shekleton, Q.C.; Sir Edward Hudson Kinahan, Sir John Banks, the Rev. Benjamin Gibson, Rev. Mr. Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Fuller, and a numerous gathering of the governors and officers of the school. The Deputy-Grand Master thanked their Excellencies for making so early a visit to their schools on their arrival in Ireland, and expressed a hope that it would be possible for him to pay a visit to the boys' school at Clonskeagh at an early date. The Grand Master also offered his thanks to the Lord Lieutenant for this early proof of his interest in the Masonic institutions of Ireland. The Lord Lieutenant said it afforded him very great gratification to visit the school. As one who had been so intimately associated with Freemasonry in England, having been for sixteen years a Provincial Grand Master, it afforded him great pleasure to find the charitable institutions of the Craft on this side of the channel so prosperous, and it would give him great satisfaction to convey to the members of the brotherhood on the other side the very prosperous condition of Irish Freemasonry. Their Excellencies were then conducted over the various departments of the school, with the arrangement of which they expressed themselves highly pleased. The pupils were put through a series of calisthenics, which reflected credit alike on the children and their instructors. The pupils of the Masonic Boys' School, under the charge of their head master (Bro. Holbroke), were also present.

* * *

The Brethren of Luton, headed by those of the Lodge of St. John (475), held a ball early last month, and a description of the ball-room has been sent us. Here it is:—

The ball-room was skilfully decorated. Myriad flags showered glowing color everywhere, while lace curtains and portières relieved doors and windows, and mirrors of various sizes set in velvet flashed brilliancy in all directions. Around the semi-circle of the platform, which was used as an orchestra, was a bold motto bearing watchwords of the Craft, "Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude, and Justice," with masonic emblems at either end, and on a line over the front of the platform were banners emblazoned with the standards of the four leading divisions of the army of Israel:—Reuben, typified by the device of a man, signifying humanity and kindness; Judah, as a lion, emblematical of strength and majesty; Ephraim, as an ox, signifying constancy and assiduity; and Dan, as an eagle, representative of agility and speed. In the centre of them was the badge of the Royal Arch Degree, a triple tau within an equilateral triangle enclosed in a circle, the whole being in gold. These symbols are frequently found on Egyptian obelisks, and are of high significance. Between the banners and down the columns of the orchestra were displayed on bannerettes of different colors the ensigns of the twelve tribes, figuratively denoting the peculiar blessings bequeathed to each by the patriarch Jacob. At the opposite end of the hall were the chairs of the Master and Wardens of the lodge, each upon a dais with a mosaic pavement, and having one, two, or three steps according to the dignity of the office. The mosaic work is following the flow of the Tabernacle, and is regarded as indicative of the vicissitudes of human life. By the side of the chairs were the corresponding pedestals, bearing tall candles, emblematical, of course, of light. Over the Master's chair was the lodge banner, bearing a figure of "St. John the Baptist," the patron saint. On the Junior Warden's pedestal was a symbolic picture of the Mark degree. Masons' marks are constantly met with in ancient architecture, and it is said that Robert Burns put his mason's mark in the Bible which he gave to his Highland Mary at their last parting. Overhead, stretching the whole length, was the motto, "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth," the chief watchwords of the Order. On the side facing the entrance were the tracing-boards of the three degrees in Craft masonry, with the "working tools" above them, and they were flanked with other emblems of the R.A. and Mark degrees, while, surmounting all, was the motto, "Faith, Hope, and Charity." Altogether a very effective representation of masonry was made.

This is playing Masonry low down, with a vengeance.

* * *

On Saturday, the 15th ult., a new Royal Arch Chapter, named "The Williamson" (949), under the constitution of the Grand Chapter of England, was duly and solemnly consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Monkwearmouth, in the presence of a numerous company of officers of Durham Provincial Grand Chapter, including the Grand Superintendent of the Province, Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart.

* * *

A Scottish contemporary writes: "Numbers is not everything, and this fact, involving a fundamental principle, must not be lost sight of in the philanthropic sentiment of disseminating the teachings of Masonry. Open its portals to all and sundry, and you cripple its influence. You admit men who cannot understand, far less appreciate, its lessons. There is sufficient odium attached to Scotch

Masonry for our Brethren across the Border, and we require to clear that away by advocating and adopting greater rigidity—there is no room for greater licence." We are pleased to see an influential writer in Scotland taking such a stand in the cause of advancement.

* * *

At the last meeting of the University of London Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor, Bro. Samuel Pope, Q.C., was elected a joining member. The meetings of the Conclave are held at the Holborn Restaurant.

* * *

At a meeting of the General Committee of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, held at Liverpool on the 7th ult., it was resolved to relieve all the candidates then applying for assistance, the additional outlay thus incurred being £70 per annum. The gross income for the past year amounted to £2,460. 18s., nearly £600 over the total of 1888. At the end of the year 221 children were receiving benefits from the fund, at an outlay of about £1,850 per annum.

* * *

To those outside "the Craft" the establishment of a Masonic Club may seem somewhat supererogatory. However, the promoters of the Hull Masonic Club Company, Limited, who, of course, consider only those inside the "Craft," show excellent cause for their action, which looks like finding ready support from the Brotherhood. There are a large number of Masons in Hull attached to the Lodges of the port, and there are also the unattached and seafaring Brethren. To the latter of these such an institution as a *bonâ-fide* club will be a boon and a blessing, while to all and every it should be hailed with pleasure. Suitable, centrally-situated, premises, adapted for conversion to a club, have been already secured, sufficient land at the back being available for the erection of a commodious hall, which, when not required for matters Masonic, may be let for entertainments, and so prove a source of income. The capital of the concern, which is incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1886, is £2,000, made up of £1 shares, and, while it is not necessary that every member shall be a shareholder, it is hoped that the two interests will be combined. The annual subscription has been fixed at 10s. 6d., and it is needless to say that membership is restricted to Freemasons. Bro. F. B. Grotrian, M.P., is the President, and the Directors (all of Hull) are Messrs. F. Blackburn, John Chappell, J. Matthews, Frederick Ennis, E. Fillingham, J. Meanwell, Thomas B. Middleton, Thomas B. Redfearn (Solicitor of the Company), Joseph Strickland, and William Thirsk (who takes office as Secretary). Bro. Middleton has been appointed Treasurer. Altogether, the Hull Masonic Club Company, Limited, has the outward aspect of a modest, but prospectively profitable and beneficial, scheme.

* * *

A meeting of the Liverpool Masonic Literary Society was held on Saturday the 22nd ult., at the Adelphi Hotel, for the purpose of hearing a lecture by the well-known Masonic antiquary and archæologist, Bro. G. W. Speth, P.M., secretary, "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge on "The Degrees of Ancient (pre 1717) Freemasonry," and there was a very large attendance of P.G. officers, as well as other Brethren. The chair was taken by Bro. Jos. Hawkins, W.M., 216, who introduced the lecturer to the Brethren. Bro. Speth expressed the great gratification he experienced in being the first to discourse to their newly-formed society, to which he wished every success. He hoped to be able to place some new themes before them, which would certainly not in any way undermine the faith of the younger members of the Craft. As to the degrees of "Ancient Freemasonry," he called anything before 1717 ancient, and since that modern. He proceeded to give an explanation of some of the ancient symbols, and to show why others had fallen into desuetude, carrying the history of the application of these as far back as the second century. He showed that even then the foundation of

Masonic law was a belief in the Supreme Being. He also proved that everything contained in the Craft at the present day existed at that period in a much simpler form, and demonstrated that in both operative and symbolic Masonry the various grades were developed gradually, as well as the connection of the Craft with the old great Trade Guilds. This he proved by documents dating back to 1583, and even to the time of the earlier Saxon kings, showing the growth of the more complicated government now existing. He then called attention to the gradual introduction of the present signs and symbols in use all over the globe, proving their sequential appearance, not only from Masonic manuscripts, but from many still existing outside documents to be found in national libraries and museums. He finally gave an exhaustive statement, in which he showed that the present degrees in Craft Masonry were not recognised in their now-accepted order before 1725. The interesting lecture, illustrated by diagrams and photographs of many ancient manuscripts, was listened to with the greatest interest throughout, and a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Speth.—In reply to Bro. Dr. Costine, P.P.G.D., the lecturer stated that he had not alluded to Royal Archmasonry, as it was not germane to the matter immediately in hand.—The Chairman announced that in future the lectures would be addressed to members only, a large number of whom enrolled themselves after the proceedings terminated.—The Secretary, Bro. H. B. Browne, P.M., will be happy to receive any applications for membership.

* * *

Sir John B. Monckton was the installing officer, on Wednesday, the 19th ult., on the occasion of the installation, at Freemasons' Hall, of the W.M. of the Buckingham and Chandos Lodge. Bro. Septimus Notley was the Brother placed in office for the year ensuing. At the close of the ceremony, the members entertained their friends at a banquet. The music, which was exceptionally choice, was in the hands of Mr. F. A. Jewson.

* * *

Bro. F. C. Hallett has, for the third time, been installed W.M. of the Benevolent Lodge meeting at Plymouth.

* * *

Bro. Ex-Sheriff Clarke has become a member of the Bayard Chapter of the Royal Arch Masonry. To the retiring Z.—Captain Henry Wright—a handsome jewel, in recognition of his services, was voted at the last meeting of the Chapter.

* * *

It is proposed to form a Masonic Lodge in connection with the old boys of St. Olave's Grammar School. The idea emanates from the Old Olavians' Society, whose members meet at the Masons' Hall Tavern.

* * *

Law and Freemasonry in Sussex seem to have a close connection, for the late W. Bro. Gerard Ford, who was Deputy Provincial Grand Master, was a solicitor, and his successor, W. Bro. the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., M.P., is a barrister. Then we have two solicitors as present W.M.'s of Lodges in the province, viz., Bro. H. L. Staffurth (Clerk to the Bognor Local Board), W.M. of the Gordon Lodge, Bognor, and Bro. T. P. Harker (Clerk of the Peace for Brighton), who was a few days since installed W.M. of the Royal Brunswick Lodge, Brighton; and another Brighton solicitor, Bro. J. C. Buckwell, is, on Monday next, to be installed W.M. of the Adur Lodge, Henfield. Among the Past Provincial Grand Officers of Sussex are several more solicitors, viz.:—Provincial Grand Registrars: Bro. Henry Verrall (Clerk to Brighton Magistrates), who has also been J.G.W.; Bro. C. A. Woolley (Town Clerk of Hove), Provincial Junior Grand Warden; Bro. Sir R. G. Raper (Mayor of Chichester and Secretary to the Bishop), Provincial Junior Grand Deacon; Bro. J. H. C. Coles (Town Clerk of Eastbourne), Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; Bro. R. Pidcock (Eastbourne); and Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, Bro. W. A. Stuckey (Brighton).

The Wilberforce Chapter, No. 2,134, was consecrated on the 28th ult. The ceremony took place at the Masonic Hall, Hull, and created a considerable amount of interest amongst the Masons in the neighborhood, and brought together a very influential assembly. The feature of the new Lodge is that it is to be conducted upon temperance principles—that is to say, no intoxicating liquors will be allowed to be consumed during the refreshment of the Lodge, but it does not force total abstinence otherwise upon its members. In the absence of Compt. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, Grand Superintendent of the Province of North and East Yorkshire, Compt. Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, P.G. Scribe E. England, P.P.G.H., was the consecrating officer. The petition and charter of constitution having been read, and the officers approved of, Compt. M. C. Peek delivered an oration upon the origin of Arch Masonry, and the proceedings were impressively carried out to the end.

* * *

The anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on the 26th ult. at the Freemasons' Tavern, Lord Euston, P.G.M., North Hants and Huntingdon, presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, who was unable to attend through illness.—About 400 Brethren sat down to dinner, among them being Bros. J. Derby Allcroft, P.G.T., Richard Eve, P.G.T., A. Barfield, P.G.T., Major George Lambert, P.G.S.B., Thomas Fenn, P.G.J.W., H. Smith, P.G.D., D.P.G.M West Yorkshire; J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C.; J. H. Matthews, P.G.S.B., P.D.G.D., Bengal; W. J. Crutch, P.P.G.D., Herts; Baron de Ferrieres; Col. Shadwell Clark, Grand Secretary; R. Clowes, P.P.G.W. Essex; R. Berridge, P.G.D., W. F. Smithson, P.P.G.J.W. Yorks; C. F. Matier, P.G.S.B., &c.—The usual loyal toasts having been duly honored, the Chairman proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution." He reminded his hearers that the fund was originally started in 1842, when £400 was voted by Grand Lodge to assist Masons who were in affliction, distress, and poverty through no fault of their own. This had now increased to £15,000 per annum, an amount which showed that those who became Freemasons were alive to the obligations imposed by the principles of charity they had adopted. There were, unfortunately however, many more applications than vacancies existing, and although during the past few years they had paid £200,000 in annuities, there were at the next election 148 candidates for 24 vacancies. The institution was admirably managed by Bro. Terry, whose devotion to the work was a guarantee of sound administration. They had always found Freemasonry ready to generously support it, and he prayed God that in the future, as in the past, prosperity might ever attend its operations.—Bro. Farnfield, in responding, pointed out that a collection of at least £14,000 was necessary at the annual festival to enable the Institution to meet its engagements, and Bro. Terry then announced subscriptions to the amount of over £13,000.—Other toasts followed, after which the company adjourned to the Temple, where an admirable concert was given, under the direction of Bro. W. T. Graves, by Misses Annie Lea, O. St. Hill, Gretta Williams, Bertha Colnaghi, and Messrs. E. Bryant, Stanley, Smith, and Egbert Roberts.

SUMMARY OF THE PROVINCES.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Berks and Bucks	434	12	6	Middlesex	285	12	6
Cambridgeshire	52	10	0	Norfolk	223	5	0
Cheshire	110	5	0	Northants and Hunts	42	0	0
Cornwall	110	5	0	Oxfordshire	235	12	0
Cumberland and Westmoreland	73	10	0	Shropshire	96	12	0
Derbyshire	42	17	0	Somersetshire	180	7	0
Devonshire	207	1	0	South Wales (West Division)	24	14	9
Durham	78	15	0	Staffordshire	200	0	0
Essex	325	16	6	Suffolk	211	15	0
Gloucestershire	133	17	0	Surrey	247	13	6
Hants and Isle of Wight	129	5	3	Sussex	21	0	0
Hertfordshire	28	11	0	Warwickshire	21	0	0
Kent	743	14	0	Worcestershire	10	10	0
Lancashire (East Division)	217	17	0	Yorkshire (West Riding)	523	0	0
" (West Division)	341	4	0	Channel Islands	60	0	0
Leicestershire and Rutland	159	0	0	Jersey	110	15	0
Lincolnshire	100	1	0				
175 STEWARDS—LONDON	£6,753	8	6				
153 STEWARDS—PROVINCES	6,341	13	0				
GRAND TOTAL	£13,095	1	6				

Sir William T. Marriott, M.P., Q.C., who was invested, at an especial Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Brighton, on the 1st ult., as Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Sussex—of which county H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught is Grand Master—was present at the annual meeting of the Adur Lodge, No. 2,187, and, in responding to the toast of the Provincial Chiefs, said Freemasonry was hereditary in the Royal Family. The Duke of Connaught, as head of their Province, took great interest in local Masonic affairs, and desired to be kept informed as to the general administration of the district.

* * *

We are pleased to learn that Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.M. for Middlesex, has consented to take the chair at the one hundred and second anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, which will take place on May 20.

* * *

A contemporary says:—"Our readers will hear with sincere regret of the death, which it is our painful duty to announce, of Bro. Alderman David Henry Stone, P.G.W. of England, who, in his time, had achieved almost as great success in his Masonic as in his civic career. The deceased brother had been a member of the Order for thirty-five years, having been initiated in the Tuscan Lodge in 1855. The following year he was accepted as a joining member of Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, and having held the various offices was in due course elected and installed W.M. He also represented it on the Board of Grand Stewards, and had the honor of being chosen its President. He was also a member of the Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452, Croydon, and was one of the brethren who signed the petition for the warrant of the Great City Lodge, No. 1426, in 1873, and though, in consequence of other demands upon his time, he did not take up his membership of this Lodge, he was two years later unanimously elected an honorary member. He was a P.Z. of the Moira Chapter, No. 92, and a joining member of the Frederica of Unity Chapter, No. 452. But his greatest successes belong to the year 1875, in which, after having been the principal guest at a grand banquet given in his honor, and that of Sheriff—now Alderman and ex-Lord Mayor—Sir John Whitaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., by the Great City Lodge aforesaid in March, he was, at the memorable gathering held the month following in the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, appointed and invested by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., as his first Junior Grand Warden. At the convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter on May 8 next ensuing, the late Alderman was invested G. Prin. Soj., while a few weeks later he had the honor of presiding at the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. He was also a Past G. Officer of the Order of the Temple, and in the system of the Ancient and Accepted Rite had taken the 30 deg., and was an honorary member of the Studholme Chapter of Rose Croix, No. 67. He was also a Life-Governor of all three Charities, and had served once as Steward for the Boys' School and Benevolent Institution, and twice for the R.M.I. for Girls. In his civic career, the late Bro. Stone—who was born in 1812—was elected Alderman of Bassishaw Ward in 1864, served the office of Sheriff of London and Middlesex in 1867, and was inducted into the chair of Lord Mayor in November, 1874, so that his greatest services to Masonry were rendered during his Mayoralty. He 1877 he was elected Treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital, and it was at his official residence at this institution that death suddenly overtook him on the 25th ult. He leaves behind him a widow to mourn his loss, and to her we offer our most respectful sympathy in her bereavement.

* * *

There died at Streatham, on Friday, the 7th ult., aged 87, Bro. Edward Baldwin, M.A., formerly proprietor of the *Morning Herald* newspaper, and eldest son of Mr. Charles Baldwin, the founder, in 1826, of the *Standard*. Bro. Baldwin's connection with the Press belongs to a past generation, but in his time he played a prominent

part in the newspaper world, and was an ardent supporter of the earlier policy of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli. In 1884, M. Guizot, then Prime Minister of France, sent his portrait to Bro. Baldwin in recognition of his services to the French Government in connection with the mails to India. He was, with two exceptions, the oldest member of the Stationers' Company, having been elected in 1824, and one of the oldest members of the University of Oxford, having taken his degree in 1823. He was a Past Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, and was connected with several Masonic Institutions.

* * *

The Lion and Lamb Lodge, whose meetings are held at the Cannon-street Hotel, celebrated its centenary festival a few evenings since. The event was rendered the more remarkable by the fact that the chair on the occasion was taken by Bro. Thomas Cohn, who had been honored by being elected for the second time W.M. Prior to the banquet, Bro. Marke, S.W., was elected W.M. for the year ensuing.

* * *

The consecration of several Lodges and Chapters has taken place during the past month. The most important and interesting were those of The St. John the Baptist Mark Lodge, No. 404, at Penzance, The Wilberforce Chapter, No. 2,134, Hull, and The Clemency Lodge, No. 2,341, at Oldham. The consecration of the former took place on the 25th ult.; it has for a long time been in the minds of the more notable Masons of Penzance that a Lodge might be formed and worked with credit and utility both to themselves and the Craft. Bro. P. T. Chirgwin seems to have been the moving spirit in the matter, and throughout he has worked with untiring energy for the success of their project. The petition was favorably received by the authorities, and the above date fixed for the consecration. On the morning of the 25th a Lodge of Mark Masons was opened in the Masonic Hall, Penzance, by Bro. W. K. Baker, P.M. 87 P.P.G.M.O., W.M., who conferred the degree on ten brethren. The Lodge was then closed, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall was opened by Bro. Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., 30°, P.G.M., in the presence of a large number of Masons representing different Lodges in the province. Bro. Sir Charles Graves-Sawle, Bart., then consecrated the new Lodge, the very beautiful and impressive ceremonies being ably directed by Bro. Crouch. The new Lodge was then opened for the first time by Bro. Baker, and the investiture of officers and presentation of a handsome silk banner to the Lodge by Bro. Crouch took place.

* * *

The consecration of the Clemency Lodge, No. 2341, took place on the 6th inst. at the Union Club, Oldham. The Lodge is the result of an attempt on the part of the three Lodges existing some months ago to form a new one. Bro. Clement V. Haworth, I.P.M. 1868 is the first W.M., and it is from his name the "Clemency" is derived; he being the most prominent mover in the matter. The Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the consecrating officer Bro. Colonel Starkie, P.G. Master, addressed the Brethren, and, in the course of a short speech, reminded them of the fact that it was 101 years since the foundation of the first local Lodge, and of the ample room for another besides the three already existing. The ceremony then proceeded, and was carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

* * *

We understand it is in contemplation to invite the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent to hold its approaching annual festival, in June next, at Chatham. The subject was considered at the last meeting of the Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, No. 20, and it was ultimately decided to leave the contemplated invitation in the hands of a committee to consider and report thereon. It is seventeen years since the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent held its annual festival at Chatham, in which town the Provincial Grand Lodge assembled in 1873.

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Eminent Masons at Home.

No. 9.—BARON FERDINAND DE ROTHSCHILD, M.P., IN PICCADILLY.

PICCADILLY suffered its greatest loss when Stephenson heralded the downfall of the coach-and-four. The modern "Hatchett's" has gone by the board, and the White Horse Cellars no longer harbor those old coaching "sports" who made merry with the pretty chambermaids overhead and defied everything and everybody except gentility and honor. The "tootle" of the horn is not altogether lost, but its echoes are foreign to the termination of that great western road, which, starting at Bath, drags itself through the western counties and terminates at the "Circus," where everything is given over to the busman and his penny fares. Charles Dickens often brought his fanciful subjects into Piccadilly and played strange tricks with them. Poor old Peggotty wandered up and down it more than once in search of "Little Em'ly." Copperfield himself must have passed it by in his weekly tramps to Highgate, and all creation since has traversed its pavement on its way to the great houses of the rich and opulent. Quaritch, the book king, still occupies his premises at the City end. The overpowering and hideous Burlington House almost faces the Egyptian Home of Mysteries, where Bro. Maskelyne, with his partner Mr. Cook, has mystified half the children in the kingdom, and the pretentious Isthmian Club guards the corner of the Green Park, opposite Devonshire House, the home of the Dukes of Devonshire. Lower down the china cockatoo in the window of No. 1, Stratton-street, the London house of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, looks anxious to shout you a good morning as you pass, and just this side of the principal entrance to the Park, where stands the sombre residence of the great Iron Duke, lives Baron Ferdinand, the only member of the Craft in the illustrious house of Rothschild.

It is early morning, and the Baron but yesterday returned from abroad, and although he has not had a moment to attend to the accumulated correspondence which awaits him, you are fortunate to obtain his invitation to a short chat. You did not expect to find the town house of one of the Rothschild's littered with the myriad gim-cracks which an unemployed man has time to collect. You are not disappointed, therefore, to find the house a solid and grand one, free from the enamelled brackets and cheap-and-nasty fans of modern inclination, and with no suspicions of worthless prints framed with large margins in sickly white. At the end of the Marble Hall is a cluster of ferns and plants hiding a piece of sculpture mirrored at the back. On a lovely ormolu-mounted cabinet of the seventeenth century lies an invitation to the Speaker's dinner on March 12, and a charming timepiece—the result of one of the Baron's expeditions after the beautiful—ticks upon the wall with solemn accents. From the dining-room, panelled from floor to ceiling in oak wainscot, a glimpse of the Park is to be had through the semicircular bay which amply lights the apartment. There is but a solitary picture, panelled over the fireplace, but that is Gainsborough's "Pink Boy"; and, as you study the magnificent coloring, you cannot wonder at its owner allowing it to reign supreme. Across the hall, and overlooking Piccadilly and the Green Park, the morning-room harbors a delicious collection of portraits by Greuze and a couple of Clodion's superb subject-models, reverently covered by glass shades. A portrait of Lady Rothschild, surrounded by photographs of other members of the family, cover the cottage piano, surmounted by a fine allegorical canvas by Frayonard, and on the Chippendale writing-tables, scattered with books and nicknacks are clustered the monthly reviews, from the *Fortnightly* to the unassuming offspring of Archibald Groves. Upon the open hearth walled with plates of spotless polished steel, the glow of the burning logs remind you of the fact that there are still men living who will not allow coal to enter their rooms. You cannot think how it is that the hall and staircase, panelled and stepped, floored and ceiled in beautiful marbles, strike no feeling of coldness upon you. Perhaps it is that the unique balustrade, manufactured in polished steel from an old and rich design, with the moulded handrail in bright and glowing copper, counteracts any such idea, but you momentarily wish the Baron's love of "light and air" would allow him to draw a curtain of subdued stained glass over the glazed roof above, and, by thus casting a faint glow of color over the polished surface of the walls, make the staircase unequalled within a mile of Hyde Park.

On the first floor, along the entire width of the front of the house, is the drawing-room, and after having tested a Sicilian lounge that must have come from the brain of Alma Tadema, you enter and find the Baron seated at a table that belonged to Marie Antoinette, and bearing her initials on the inlaid panels in the sides. With that charm of manner which is peculiarly characteristic of the illustrious family of the Rothschild's, your host divines the purpose of your visit, and assists you in glancing at the details of his career. Born in the lap of opulence, his time is equally divided between his share in the administration of the House of Rothschild, and an encouraging admiration of the fine arts. His Masonic career, he tells you, is not a brilliant one, if the cares of office constitute brilliancy, but he has never forgotten the day on which he was initiated into the Craft in the Prince of Wales Lodge, or that on which he tells you, with a smile, he was defeated for the post of Grand Treasurer in 1878. Baron Ferdinand James de Rothschild, the second son of the late Baron Anselm de Rothschild, of Vienna, is well within the prime of life, and has sat in the House of Commons since 1885, in the Liberal and Unionist interest, for the Aylesbury division. He is a Justice of the Peace, and was a Sheriff of Bucks in 1863. His beautiful place near Aylesbury—Waddesdon Manor—is a vast storehouse of a century's collection of all that is most wonderful in the arts and *belles*

lettres, and it is there, perhaps, you should seek to hear of the kindness and forethought with which Baron Ferdinand treats those with whom he comes in contact. He is a great smoker, and, as no apartment in the house is sacred from the fragrant weed, you find him smoking his cigar through one of the quill-and-paper holders he is never without. The walls of the drawing-room are panelled and white. Upon the mantel is a set of blue vases possessing a history. Four canvases, depicting the arts of Sculpture, Painting, Architecture, and Music, enhance the decorative simplicity of the walls, and in no wise detract from a superb Boucher portrait of Madame Pompadour. Furniture that has adorned the palaces of Emperors is scattered here and there in simple elegance, and a glass case of antique jewels and articles of *virtu* stands behind the door in momentary fear of being smashed to pieces.

Outside the drawing-room across a marble saloon lighted by a massive chandelier of imitation wax candles, each one of which has a tiny electric glow lamp at its summit, manufactured from a special idea of the Baron, is the Red Room with its small collection of pictures by Rubens, Jardin the younger, Van der Velde, Greuze, Bercham, and Teniers. This room, with its secret door into a small apartment occupied by a secretary, is the "own" room of the Baron; but this morning it has its furnishings shrouded in hollands and cases.

The innate good-nature and humane disposition which have attributed themselves to the Rothschild's ever since Mayer Amscher Rothschild founded the firm at Frankfort is apparent in the character of Baron Ferdinand no less than in that of the other members of the great firm of financiers. To Nathan Meyer, the third and most remarkable son of the Frankfort founder, must be ascribed much of the subsequent prosperity of the family, for by his splendid financial abilities, subsequent to the year 1798, when he came over to England to create a business of his own, he raised it to the brilliant position it has assumed ever since. The basis upon which the immense financial fabric has been raised is a limitation of operations and profits, and it is mainly by these means we find the successors to the London house have gained their present position in the honorable esteem of Englishmen. "There is but one power in Europe," said the French writer Weille, "and that is Rothschild. His satellites are a dozen banking firms; his soldiers, his squires, all respectable men of business and merchants; and his sword is speculation. Rothschild is a consequence that was bound to appear, and if it had not been a Rothschild, it would have been some one else. He is, however, by no means an accidental consequence, but a primary consequence, called into existence by the principles which have guided the European States since 1813. Rothschild had need of the States to become a Rothschild, while the States on their side required Rothschild. Now, however, he no longer needs the State, but the State still has want of him." And what was true in Weille's day is more soundly true in this. Never was a motto, perhaps, more applicable than that of this branch of the Rothschild family: *Concordia integritas industria*. By industry of no mean order has the fortunes of the firm risen beyond the influence of the exterior financial world, for "Rothschild" is connected directly or indirectly with every big financial scheme of the hour.

As a patron of the Arts, there is more than one follower of the brush and chisel who owe their success in life to the generosity of Ferdinand Rothschild. His purse is never shut when the judicious application of a mite of its contents may raise a talented and struggling youngster upon the pedestal of success; and never is a charitable purpose which can appeal to the generosity of a right-minded man allowed to remain without a substantial gift from this or some other member of the firm of Rothschild. With all the surroundings of luxury which are due to a man who uses that luxury for others as for himself, there is that in the past life of Baron Ferdinand common to all mortals, that which riches cannot avail or power prevent, for sorrow is no respecter of persons. In 1865 Baron Ferdinand married his

cousin, the youngest sister of the first Baron Rothschild, but before the first year of her married life had passed she died in giving birth to her son and heir, and a lengthened tour half over the globe only just succeeded in saving the unhappy husband's mind. For twenty-five years one of the most powerful men in the kingdom has been childless and a widower, and for twenty-five years, on each succeeding anniversary of her death, a sorrowing man wends his way to a certain vault in the cemetery at West Ham and deposits memory's tribute to an attachment which a quarter of a century has done nothing but mellow into a lifelong regret. The Baron is honored with the personal friendship of H.R.H. the Grand Master of English Freemasonry, and at Sandringham is always a welcomed guest. Kind in disposition and courteous to a degree, this member of the Rothschild family, who is no longer a partner in the mighty financial house in St. Swithin's-lane, has never known a man who was not his friend.

THE INNER AND OUTER GUARDS.

IT may be supposed by many Brethren who do not consider the importance to be attached to small beginnings, that the qualifications, duties, and responsibilities of the Inner Guard cannot be of sufficient moment as regards the working of a Lodge to merit any extended observations. But we shall endeavor to show that, although that officer occupies the lowest statutory position on the roll of assistant officers within the portals of the Lodge whilst at labor, much of the order and regularity which should pervade its proceedings depends upon the manner in which his especial duties are performed. The Inner Guard may well be likened to a sentinel placed between the outworks of a military force and its camp, and a similar amount of care and watchfulness is as necessary from the one as from the other to prevent intrusion and disturbance.

According to the late Bro. Dr. Oliver, in his work on Masonic Jurisprudence, the Inner Guard of a Lodge is an officer of modern standing, and occupies the position which was assigned to the youngest entered apprentice in the old Lodges of Operative Masons, *i.e.*, to see that none be admitted except those who are duly qualified, habited in their proper clothing, and have signed their names to the accustomed papers. He is entrusted with the further duty of ascertaining whether the Lodge be properly and closely tyled at the command of the Junior Warden; to report when brethren claim to be admitted, and to require the necessary proof of their qualifications; to receive candidates at the inner entrance of the Lodge, and to ascertain their privileges by strict inquiry; having communicated with the Worshipful Master to admit them in proper form; and to obey the general orders and commands of the Junior Warden.

We will not stay to inquire how such duties could have been faithfully and perfectly discharged by the *youngest Entered Apprentice* in the old Lodges of Operative Masons, but we can well imagine—indeed, we know—that the Inner Guard of a Lodge of Speculative Freemasons of the present day must of necessity have made advances in Freemasonry far beyond the acquirements of an Initiate. In fact, a mere superficial acquaintance with the ritual and ceremonial in the three degrees we practise would be worse than useless to such officer, and lead him into all sorts of errors and mischances. On the contrary, he should know, even if not sufficiently advanced to be able to work the several degrees himself, what his superior officers have to do, and the proper times when and where their work may, for the moment, be stayed to permit the introduction of members and visitors without disturbance or confusion. He should on no account permit the slightest interruption from without to interfere with the solemnity and regularity with which a ceremony or important discussion should be conducted. And in the discharge of that important part of his duty he should be no respecter of persons. No matter what may be the position or exalted rank in the Craft of any applicant for permission to enter, the peace and harmony of a Lodge engaged in labor should not be broken by

any concession to an ill-timed demand. The applicant himself, if a good Freemason, zealous for the best interests of Masonic work, would himself approve of and commend the necessary delay whilst important charges and addresses are in course of delivery; and no Inner Guard has yet, we may safely say, been blamed for a strict adherence to the practice we refer to.

A further responsibility rests with the Inner Guard in respect to the entry of the candidate for initiation, which, we regret to know, does not at all times receive the attention which is, in connection with what is to follow, absolutely demanded. Our readers, qualified by membership in our Order, will quite understand what we mean when we say that the officer within the porch should thoroughly know and understand the preparation; that he should see for himself that the duty attached to the ante-chamber has been fully and properly discharged before he ventures to make the voucher for which the ruler of the Lodge will ask him before the admission of the candidate. Inability in himself to explain what that preparation is, and a neglect of the necessary personal examination before vouching are, in our opinion, disqualifications for the office of Inner Guard.

The jewel which distinguishes the Inner Guard consists of two swords saltier-wise, and should remind him of the necessity for the exercise of double caution, and for obtaining that knowledge which may enable him to correct errors sometimes occurring in the ante-chamber. For this requisite knowledge Lodges of instruction, or the services of personal friendship, are open to him, and, if he wishes to qualify himself for another promotion, he should avail himself of these before he accepts the position which places him on the first rung of the ladder which may lead him to the rule and government of his Lodge.

The Outer Guard, or Tyler, is "an Officer in a symbolic Lodge; whose duty it is to guard the Lodge against the intrusion of the profane. As in operative masonry, the tyler, when the edifice is erected, finishes and covers it with the roof, so, in speculative masonry, when the Lodge is duly organised, the Tyler closes the door, and covers the sacred precincts from all intrusion." Thus, briefly, does Bro. Dr. Mackey define, in his *Lexicon*, the office and duty of one of the most important, because the most confidential, of the assistants of the Masters and Wardens of our private Lodges; and to the foregoing remarks he adds, "he should always be a worthy Mason, and skilful in the Craft."

A considerable experience in the working of Freemasonry during the past thirty years, has convinced us that, generally speaking, a more estimable body of men connected with our Order than the Tylers of our several Lodges we should not easily find, as a class, within our ranks; and though there may be, we had almost said there certainly are, a few Brethren who fail to reach our standard of what an Outer Guard should be, these are but a small minority in the aggregate of the more than two thousand under whose charge English Freemasons place so much responsibility in regard to protection and necessary service. It has often pained us to notice that, notwithstanding the care and zeal with which most of the Brethren in charge of the outer porch serve us, as well individually when in personal need of their assistance as collectively when at labor and refreshment, the oft-repeated assertion of Masonic equality amongst "members of the same tribe and family" is so frequently ignored. We honor those Lodges, and there are many in our own knowledge, who do not make prominent the subtle distinction between the inner and the outer chamber of the Temple; and remember that those of our Brethren who, besides being statutory officers in our Lodges, may have seen better days, are cheered and encouraged in their zealous labor by the genial smile and hearty grip of each and every member. To our great regret, and certainly to the disadvantage of the Craft as contradicting in practice the precepts of equality taught us by the "mosaic work" and the "level," we have witnessed many departures from Masonic duty in this respect, and the amount of "side" put on by some Brethren in the way of what they consider condescension—which is, however, but another

name for pride and affectation—has often been the subject of depreciatory remarks from many of their associates. On the other hand, it is proper to state that very much as to the manner of his treatment rests with the Outer Guard himself. The want of a cheerful compliance to reasonable requirements; the need of ability to understand and appreciate the value of the necessary work of reception and preparation; the assumption of volunteering unasked-for instruction to other Officers of the Lodge; and a general disregard of ordinary courtesy;—all or any of these tend towards a disruption of those good feelings which should be, in loyalty to our Craftsmanship, entertained by Brethren towards one another, whatever may be their social status outside the portals of Freemasonry.

We are of opinion that it is not wise, at any rate it is not advisable, to select for the office of Outer Guard a brother who has not passed the Chair of a Lodge. That as a rule:—exceptions there may be, arising from local circumstances; but we fear, and at the same time regret for their sakes, that there are many Past Masters of Lodges who, "from circumstances of unforeseen calamity and misfortune," would gladly avail themselves of the, in many respects, pleasant position which a competent Outer Guard enjoys. When such can be obtained, the knowledge and experience of many years is applied with great advantage to a Lodge; and the individual himself ensures increased appreciation of valuable services. Such an one will know the necessity of attention to even the smallest details of the inner preparation and working of the Lodge; will see that all its emblems are properly cared for and placed, and not, as in many instances we can call to mind, treated as though no symbolic meaning were attached to them. We have had very many opportunities, in connection with visits to both Metropolitan and Provincial Lodges, for inspecting the Lodge room or Temple prior to the commencement of work, and can, as also can any Brother who cares to give thought to the matter, form an opinion at once as to the qualification of the Tyler for his office in relation to such preparation. The light-bearing columns of the Principal Officers misplaced in order of signification; the column of the J.W. in perpendicular instead of horizontal position—are amongst the evidences to good working Masons that the Outer Guard is deficient in Masonic acquirements; and these are noted by visitors to his personal disadvantage, as well as to that of the Lodge rulers. In our article on the Inner Guard we referred to the oft-times unnecessary disturbance of the Lodge work by applications for admission at unseasonable times. In this same respect the Outer Guard can prove his quality by a firm but courteous refusal to listen to any request for "report" until he knows it may be made without interference with the ceremonial or discussion in progress within the Lodge; and he should never allow himself to be tempted by personal considerations of Masonic rank or social position of any applicant into a breach of that most excellent provision for maintaining privacy and order which it is his duty to carry out in its strictest integrity.

There is one particular service which, although unwritten as forming part of the duty of the Outer Guard, should, in our opinion, be required of and be willingly performed by that Officer: we allude to keeping the W.M. and Secretary duly informed of all communications which may be forwarded in connection with the Lodge to which he is attached, during its vacation. In too many instances the official letters from Grand Lodge and the several Masonic Charitable Institutions, printed matter of Masonic interest, and other documents of more or less importance, are permitted to remain at the place of delivery for weeks and months together without the slightest attempt to place them in the hands of the proper recipients. Thereby, not infrequently, many inconveniences, and sometimes great disappointment, ensue, the avoidance of which, by a frequent call, by the Tyler at the place of meeting of the Lodge would render a service to its officers and members, and considerably increase their sense of obligation for thoughtful consideration on his part.

We could enlarge to much further extent on the duties and responsibilities of the Outer Guard, more particularly if it were permissible to make reference to matters of Ritual and Ceremonial; but that, of course, cannot be done here. It may, therefore, be sufficient for our present purpose if we conclude this article by enforcing the ancient charge that the Tyler should be a man of good morals, steady habits, strict discipline, temperate, affable, and discreet; having a just regard for the honor and reputation of the Institution; faithfully performing the trust reposed in him; and courteous to all who may present themselves at the outer porch, whether as members of or visitors to the Lodge he guards.

There are many hundreds of our brethren who are bright exemplars of these qualities, and who discharge their trying duties in the most admirable manner, and wherever these are found, it is the duty of all good Craftsmen to show them as much honor and respect as to any other member of our Order, however dignified.

JAMES STEVENS.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of England was held on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Hants and the Isle of Wight, presided; Bro. Sir Edmund Lechmere, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Worcestershire, acted as Deputy Grand Master; Bro. Thomas W. Tew, Prov. G.M. for West Yorkshire, as Past Grand Master; Bro. Lieut.-Col. Orde Powlett, P.J.G.W., as S.G.W.; Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., D.P.G.M. for Suffolk, as J.G.W.; nearly five hundred Brethren being present.

The Grand Secretary having read the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication they were put and confirmed.

The Grand Secretary said it would be in the recollection of Grand Lodge that, at the meeting of September last, a vote of congratulation was passed on the occasion of the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Louise of Wales with his Grace the Duke of Fife, which vote was ordered to be engrossed. Owing to the illness of the artist who was employed to engross and illuminate that address, it was, unfortunately, somewhat delayed in its presentation to the M.W.G.M., and the acknowledgment was only received a few days after the meeting of Grand Lodge. With the permission of the M.W.G.M. in the chair, he would read the gracious reply from the M.W.G.M.:-

Sandringham, Norfolk, December 9, 1889.

To Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke.

SIR,—I am directed by the Prince of Wales to acknowledge the receipt of a loyal and fraternal address from the United Grand Lodge of England, and, in reply, to request you to be so good as to express to its members his Royal Highness's best thanks for their kind wishes on the occasion of the marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise of Wales with His Grace the Duke of Fife, Provincial Grand Master of Banffshire.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) FRANCIS KNOLLYS.

Sir E. Lechmere moved that the reply be entered on the minutes, which was seconded by Bro. T. W. Tew, and carried unanimously.

Sir Henry Aaron Isaacs, Lord Mayor of London, W.M. Drury Lane Lodge, rose, in pursuance of the nomination he had the privilege to make at the previous meeting of Grand Lodge, to move that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., be elected Most Worshipful Grand Master for the ensuing year. He did not hesitate to say that in the person of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales we have not only the most popular member of the Order, but the most popular gentleman in all her Majesty's dominions. He therefore had the honor to move that the Prince of Wales be elected M.W.G.M. for the year ensuing. The motion being seconded by Bro. John Aird, M.P., was carried unanimously, and the Prince was proclaimed by Sir Albert Woods (Garter), G.D.C., as duly elected M.W.G.M. of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England for the year.

Bro. Beach then announced that the next business was the election of Grand Treasurer, but as there was only one candidate proposed, he declared Bro. Augustus Harris elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The report of the Board of Benevolence was adopted, grants to the amount of £455 being made to seven brethren recommended by the Board.

The following report of the Board of General Purposes was taken as read, ordered to be received, and entered on the minutes:—

To the United Grand Lodge of England.

The Board have to report that they have had under their consideration the rate of salary at present received by Bro. Adam John Berry, fifth clerk in the Grand Secretary's office, who has served them for fourteen years, and arrived four years ago at the maximum rate of £200 a year—as fixed for all the junior clerks by Grand Lodge in the year 1874—and whose age renders his prospects of future advancement very remote.

It appears to the Board that under the circumstances some small addition might fairly be made to his present rate, and they therefore recommend the following arrangement for the approval of Grand Lodge:—

"That the salary of Bro. Adam John Berry be raised to £225 from January 1 last."

The Board have further to report that R.W. Bro. Sir John Braddick Monckton, P.G.W., has offered for the acceptance of Grand Lodge a portrait of himself, painted by Bro. B. S. Marks, and which was presented to him some years ago by the Buckingham and Chandos Lodge, No. 1,150. The Board are much gratified that an opportunity should occur of placing in some honorable position the portrait of the eminent Bro., who presided over the Board for a period of ten years with such distinguished ability, and have great pleasure in recommending that it be accepted with thanks by Grand Lodge, and placed on the walls of the Board-room

(Signed) THOMAS FENN, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
February 18, 1890.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts, at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, February 14, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Western Branch) of £5,319. 14s. 5d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £100, and for servants' wages £100, and balance of annual allowance for library £23. 8s. 11d.

Bro. Thomas Fenn, referring to the portrait of Sir John Monckton, anticipated that the Grand Lodge would be glad to adopt the report of the Board of General Purposes and receive the portrait as a present from Sir John. The Brethren would agree with him that it could not be placed in a better situation than on the walls of the Board Room, where Sir John Monckton's abilities were most conspicuous. He moved that the portrait be accepted with thanks by the Grand Lodge, and placed on the walls of the Board Room.

Bro. Robert Grey seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, as was that relating to the increase of salary to the fifth clerk in the Grand Secretary's office.

On the motion of Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S., the report of Bro. John Smith, Auditor of the Grand Lodge accounts, of receipts and disbursements during the year 1889, was taken as read, and ordered to be entered, and Grand Lodge was closed.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

THE quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on the 6th ult. in Edinburgh. There was a very large attendance of Brethren from all parts of Scotland, about 400 being present. In the absence of Bro. Sir Archibald Campbell, M.P., the Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Haddington, Grand Depute Master, occupied the throne, and among others present were Bros. Sir Charles Dalrymple, M.P., acting Deputy Grand Master; James T. S. Elliot of Wolfelee, acting Substitute Grand Master; J. Dalrymple Duncan, acting S.G.W.; Col. John Campbell, acting J.G.W.; D. Murray Lyon, G. Sec.; David Reid, G. Cashier; Col. Stirling, of Kippendavie; Capt. Coll, of Gartsherrie; Col. J. Clark Forrest, Lieut.-Col. Drummond Moray, Dr. Middleton Stow, and the Rev. John Glasse. There were laid on the table reports of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of England, the Netherlands, the Three Globes of Prussia, Nova Scotia, and Texas. Charters were granted to the following new Lodges: Pretoria Celtic, Pretoria, South African Republic, and St. Servanus, Alva, Stirlingshire.

The minutes of the Grand Committee stated that the Grand Secretary had received the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of All Scottish Freemasonry in India, containing the report of the reception of Bro. his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught at the

quarterly communication held at Bombay on December 2 last, and presided over by the M.W. Grand Master, Bro. Sir Henry Morland. The reception was followed by a grand banquet, at which were seated Europeans, Parsees, and Hindoos of all sects and denominations, Mohammedans and Jews, extending to each other the right hand of fellowship. Sir Henry Morland occupied the chair, and conducted the proceedings with great tact and ability.

On the recommendation of the District Grand Lodge of Canterbury, New Zealand, it was agreed to appoint Bro. Charles Louissou, Mayor of Christchurch, to the office of D.G. Master, in room of Bro. the Rev. James Hill resigned.

The minutes of the Grand Committee contained the report of the Auditor, Mr. Francis A. Bringloe, C.A., on the funds of Grand Lodge.

The Auditor stated that he found everything accurately stated, and sufficiently vouched and instructed. The fund and estate belonging to, and under the control of, the Grand Lodge amounted at November 28, 1889, to £31,680. 12s. 3d. The accountant also examined and audited the accounts of the Fund of Scottish Masonic Benevolence for the same period, and reported that the fund at November 28, 1889, amounted to £6,794. 5s. 5d. There was also appended an abstract account of the annuity branch of the Fund of Scottish Masonic Benevolence. The fund at November 28, 1889, amounted to £3,465. 3s. 4d., whereof the sum of £3,139. 8s. 1½d. is capital, and £325. 15s. 2½d. is income. The accounts of Grand Lodge for the year ending November 28, 1889, exhibit a further sum of £1,394. 14s. 6d. as due to this fund at that date, and which amount will appear in next account. In conclusion, the accountant hopes that it is within his province to record in this report an expression of the manner in which the duties appertaining to Grand Cashier's department were conducted and supervised by the Grand Secretary during the prolonged illness of the late Bro. Kinnear, and subsequent to the date of his death.

The meeting elected thirteen members to the Grand Committee.

The Brethren elected to the Committee, and the votes which each received, are as follows:—Bros. Colin Gallatly, 310; John B. McNaught, 284; James T. S. Elliot of Wolfelee, 282; David Sneddon, 277; James Boyd, 269; Robert King Stewart of Murdo-stoun Castle, 251; Charles Baxter, Stwd., 249; James Berry, 230; James Carmichael, M.D., 227; James Reid, 226; George C. Douglas, 219; John Davidson, 183; and William J. C. Abbott, 179.

The following are the positions in the poll of the other eight gentlemen voted upon:—Bros. Thomas Bennett, 159; Robert Macfarlan, 149; James Thomson, 140; David Cuthbert, S.S.C., 112; General John James Boswell, 110; A. W. Rennie, 95; D. Hill, 90; and Robert Heys, 62.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their regular monthly meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 12th ult. Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire, occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting, and of that of the 29th Jan., having been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the deaths of three male and two female annuitants, as well as of five accepted male candidates. He also read letters relative to the candidature of four widows, two of whose names were directed to be removed from the list. The Wardens' report for the past month was read, and an application from the widow of a deceased annuitant to be granted the half of her late husband's annuity was granted. The approved lists were settled, and the vacancies to be filled at the election in May were declared as follows:—68 male candidates, and 11 immediate vacancies, and 3 deferred, making together 14 to be elected; and 83 widow candidates, with 7 immediate vacancies, and 3 deferred, or together 10 to be elected—the total for the two funds being 151 candidates, with 18 immediate and 6 deferred annuitants, or together 24 to be elected. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

Facts and Fancies.

BRO. WALTER BESANT (QUATUOR CORONATI).

IT has been reserved to few novelists to obtain in their lifetime so wide a popularity as has been deservedly achieved by the author of "All Sorts and Conditions of Men." This popularity is not so much due to any extraordinary literary merit—as a novelist Bro. Besant must rank far below George Meredith or Louis Stevenson—as to his many-sided activities, his never-failing sympathy for the sufferings of the toiling millions, and more than all, to the straightforward, healthy tone of his stories, which can be comprehended alike by the simplest and strongest minds. Bro. Besant was born at Portsmouth in 1838. He was educated at King's College in London, and afterwards proceeded to Christ College, Cambridge, where he had, amongst others, as college companions the late Mr. Calverly and Prof. Skeat. He graduated in high mathematical honors, and intended to go into the Church, but later on he abandoned all idea of this career, and was appointed Senior Professor in the Royal College of Mauritius. Ill-health, however, compelled him to resign this appointment, and he returned to England and settled down to literary work, in which he has been actively engaged ever since. He produced his first book ("Studies in Early French Poetry") in 1868, and has devoted a good deal of time to the study of French literature, subsequently writing "French Humourists" and "Rabelais," for whose genius he has a great admiration. Bro. Besant's earlier novels were written in conjunction with the late James Rice, and those who are interested in this literary partnership should read the account of it given by the author of "All Sorts and Conditions of Men" in the preface to that book. There is a marked difference in the novels produced by the two novelists and those that have been since written by Bro. Besant alone, very much, in the opinion of many, to the disadvantage of the later ones. "Ready-Money Mortiboy," "The Golden Butterfly," "My Little Girl," and, above all, "The Chaplain of the Fleet," are excellent novels, full of humor, incident, character-drawing, and good dialogue. The Chaplain, in "The Chaplain of the Fleet," and Gilead Beck, in "The Golden Butterfly," are as successfully-drawn characters as any that can be found in modern fiction. But in his later novels Bro. Besant has trodden new ground; and there can be no doubt that though philanthropy has been the gainer for this new departure, his novels as works of art have distinctly suffered. The artist has for the time being become lost in the philanthropist, and though the author of "All Sorts and Conditions of Men" may point proudly to the People's Palace as a lasting monument to the novelist's power, yet we would ask him now to forsake "philanthropic" novels and give us one of his old ones, which shall amuse and cheer and delight. One perfect little story Bro. Besant has given us in recent years—the one called "Julia," which appeared in *Macmillan's*, and tells of a girl who did bookbinding by day and ballet-dancing by night. A more exquisitely true and touching little story has, perhaps, never been written in modern times, and shows that Bro. Besant is a master of the difficult art of short story-telling. But Bro. Besant is not only a writer of novels. There is hardly any human movement of any kind in which he is not interested; and it is nothing less than wonderful that a busy writer should find time and inclination for interests of so varied a kind. As a trustee of the People's Palace, he has taken an immense part in the organisation of the Library; and in the first year of its existence he went down regularly once a week, often two, and even three times, if necessary—no small effort when it is remembered that a railway journey to Mile-end involves the best part of an afternoon. The present writer saw in these days a good deal of him, and can testify that in the not too smooth path of a trustee Bro. Besant always exhibited a kindness, consideration, and geniality of temper which were gratefully recognised by all those who had to work there. It is only lately that Bro. Besant has resigned the

post of Secretary to the Palestine Exploration Fund, for which Society, in conjunction with the late Professor Palmer, whose intimate friend he was, he wrote a "History of Jerusalem," a most valuable book for Biblical students. He still retains his connection with the Society, and is greatly interested in Palestine work. He is, or was, till quite recently, Treasurer of the Home Arts and Industries' Association, a most useful Society, which, by its endeavors to bring back to villages the arts and industries which have now been entirely transferred to great towns, is doing excellent work. He is also the originator and mainstay of the Incorporated Society of Authors, whose chief object is to adjust equitably the position and claims of authors and publishers. No sketch of Bro. Besant would be adequate without some mention of his views on the "Woman Question." They are to be found in such books as the "Revolt of Man," a farcical book unworthy of its author; and another more serious, and from many points of view very truthful one, called "Katharine Regina." Briefly, it seems to be this—that it is best and right and natural for women to be happy wives and mothers. When this is not possible, women must work, but the work must not be of a heavy or exhausting kind, and then only if there be no male belonging to support her. Whether this view, in opposition to the latest one promulgated by Mrs. Mona Caird, is right or not, time alone can show; but no woman can fail to be grateful to Bro. Besant for the chivalry and reverence that he invariably shows to her sex. In appearance, he is a small, rather thick-set man, with kind, short-sighted eyes, a good-humored, genial face, and a long brown beard; in fact, he looks exactly what he is—kind, good-humored, tolerant of other people's errors, and very willing to give a young literary brother or sister a helping-hand. Hampstead people know him well by sight, and he may often be seen ascending the hill on his way home, where his fair, beautiful, rosy children are expecting him.

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BRO. WILLIAM WILSON, C.E., IN THE WEST INDIES.

On November 17, 1870, I left Southampton in order to proceed to San Domingo, in the West Indies, to examine and report upon the proposed Dominican Railway from Santiago to the Bay of Samana. The weather soon became most violent, and so stormy and rough that our voyage extended far beyond the expected time. The coal was all used up, so we had to burn some of the ship timber, and it was decided that some of the passengers' baggage should be sacrificed; although the storm abated and the weather brightened, we did not cast anchor at St. Thomas until December 7. In consequence of this terrible voyage, and our being so long overdue, all the corresponding packets had departed, and we were assured there was no alternative but to remain until the arrival of the next steamer from Southampton. The amount of illness and frequent deaths from yellow fever was now something awful. We tried every means to get away from the place, and even endeavored to hire a small ship, but the cost was so great that I could not afford it myself, nor tax my business with the cost. At this time a boat came into the harbor, which was proceeding on its own business to San Domingo. Every effort was made by my friends to induce the officers to take me with them, but as it was not a passenger ship the proposal could not be entertained. Meeting the captain at a dinner hospitably given to us, I discovered that he was a Freemason, and when he found that I was one also, he immediately agreed to take me along with him, and never was I more thankful in my life than when I got away from the low-lying and unhealthy place which we had inhabited at St. Thomas, although before reaching our destination the ship struck upon a rock, and but for the fine weather we might have all been lost, as we had to land in small boats. After these voyages of great peril, I reached the Island of San Domingo, and prepared to cross to Porta Plato to examine and report upon Samana Bay, and consider the route for the line of railway which I had gone to inspect. There was no means of travelling except upon mules and horseback, and when I started on my journey across country, I hired at the city

three horses, and engaged two men as guides, and an interpreter, and loaded the horses with instruments, baggage, provisions, and water, and at an early hour in the morning we started off. On the second day out we attempted to cross the River Nieva, being assured by the guide that it was a place where it would be safe to cross over on horseback. No sooner had we got well into the stream than we all suddenly sank in the depth of the water. We managed to save our lives by swimming, but the horses were all drowned, and some of our baggage and the whole of our provisions were carried away and lost. Having got our clothes dried, we started on our journey on foot, carrying what was left, and walking through a dense forest of prickly trees until next day, without any food or drink became quite exhausted, and saw no hope of getting to the end of our troubles.

We were all in despair, when my interpreter said to me, "The other night at San Domingo Hotel I heard you talking to a gentleman, and I gathered from your conversation that you are a Freemason." "Yes," I said, "I am." Then said he, "I know there is a family of tobacco-growers up among the mountains over there," pointing towards the hills, "who have been expelled from Cuba in consequence of their being Freemasons, and, if we can manage to get there, perhaps they would assist you with what you require to continue our journey." So after a long day's struggle through the forest, without food or drink, we succeeded in getting up to the house, and, upon inquiry, we found the proprietor, and explained to him the sad accident which had occurred, and the fearful state we were all in, and begged him to give us help. He supplied us with a little food and drink, but refused anything further. We were in such a fearful condition that it seemed quite impossible for us to proceed. I found that my guide had not mentioned the Freemasonry. He now said to me, "May I explain to him that you are a Freemason?" I said, "Yes, do, do." And we went again up to the house, and, after a little delay, the proprietor appeared, and my guide told him that I was a Freemason, and that he had heard that he was one also, and, if so, perhaps he would render us the assistance we required. His answer (in Spanish) was, "No, I am not a Freemason, but my daughter is, and if she will assure me that you are a Freemason, I will give you the assistance you require."

After a short delay the daughter was introduced to me. Dolores Torros was her name, and I shall never forget her, for she was handsome in appearance, and most kind and intelligent. She conducted me into a chamber, closed and fastened up the door, and put me through a most strict examination, and even corrected me in the termination of one word. After she had completed her investigation she took me down and introduced me to her father, and told him that she had proved me to be a member of the Craft, and told him that he must provide me with horses and provisions, and everything necessary to proceed on the journey. After a further stay of about two hours we received three horses and good food and drink, and after an affectionate farewell we started off.

My guide told me that he had ascertained that Dolores Torros had been made a Mason in Texas, in the United States, where it is possible for a lady to enter the Craft.

An autograph hunter recently received from Bro. Mark Twain the following vigorous and pertinent reply to a request for his autograph—the best of the joke being that the letter was written and signed on the type-writer:—"I hope I shall not offend you; I shall certainly say nothing with the intention to offend you. I must explain myself, however, and I will do it as kindly as I can. What you ask me to do, I am asked to do as often as one-half dozen times a week. Three hundred letters a year! One's impulse is to freely consent, but one's time and necessary occupations will not permit it. There is no way but to decline in all cases, making no exceptions, and I wish to call your attention to a thing which has probably not occurred to you, and that is this: That no man takes pleasure in exercising his trade as a pastime. Writing is my trade, and I exercise it only when I am obliged to. You might make your request of a doctor, or a builder, or a sculptor, and there would be no impropriety in it, but if you asked either of these for a specimen of his trade, his handiwork, he would be justified in rising to a point of order. It would never be fair to ask a doctor for one of his corpses to remember him by."

Among the Bohemians.

As an instance of what may be accomplished by downright pluck and perseverance, aided by a strict adherence to uprightness of dealing, witness the career of Bro. T. H. Roberts, the proprietor of *Illustrated Bits*, the *Family Novelist*, *Ching Ching's Own*, and four or five other weekly publications of the class. Not many years ago Mr. Roberts can tell you of his connection with a firm of West-end newspaper publishers, where his work was guided by the day and his wages by the hour. Now, he is the owner of "Covertside," a charming retreat at Earlswood, where he grows some of the finest peaches and grapes in the whole of Surrey. He is a very popular man, with a memory keen enough to remember his former days of toil. His round, fat face is always brimming over with good humor, but behind it is one of the sharpest and shrewdest intellects man ever had. He is grateful to one man—a very excellent member of the Craft—who gave him his first "lift" up the ladder of ambition, and, as if in return for a kindness he never forgets, Bro. Roberts has, in his turn, "lifted" up as many of his fellows as he could. Bro. Roberts disposes of no less than 750,000 copies of his publications weekly.

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Like the Prodigal Son of renown, Bro. William Terriss has returned from his American tour, but he has not brought back any of the mighty dollars from the far west. William Terriss has been spoiled by the dreamy young lady who peeps through an opera-glass and sighs her heart out at the dashing young midshipman driven to despair in his stage love affairs. He was a sound and solid actor before he left the Lyceum, to which house he returns to finish his theatrical education under the tuition of the finest stage-master of the century.

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Those who know what an excellent actor Bro. Charles Cartwright is, are moaning for his lost reputation occasioned by his terrible rendering of the King in "Hamlet" at the Globe. The only reputable actor in the cast, he showed us just the worst possible piece of acting he was ever guilty of.

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Bro. Sir Graham Berry, who was one of the deputation from Victoria to present the Colony's gift to the Prince and Princess of Wales on their silver wedding, was a draper in Chelsea, but at thirty years of age he emigrated to the Colonies, when the first news of the gold discoveries reached this side. After a little time he settled down to the business of a wine and spirit merchant in Melbourne. In 1860 he was elected to a seat in the Legislative Assembly, where he remained for five years, when he purchased a newspaper, and for three years or so stuck to the journalistic profession. In 1868 he was again sent to Parliament, and two years later he became Treasurer of the Colony. Subsequently he was on two occasions Premier of Victoria, and he abandoned politics and accepted the reward of his public services, four years ago, when he came over to London as Agent-General.

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Never in all the camps of the Philistines has such a rumpus been seen as was created the other day over the blackballing of Mr. Flanagan of the *Times* for membership of the Athenæum Club. During the Parliamentary season the whole air of the universe is tainted with politics. It enters into our teapots, and even gets between the butter and the toast upon our breakfast-tables. It would not be a bad idea for Crosse & Blackwell to produce a "Political Paste," manufactured from the gore of the six hundred and odd gentlemen who compose the glorious "House of Commons." Fancy London without a House of Commons! What would become of the political clubs?

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I had a pleasant afternoon a couple of years ago with Mr. Webster, who has recently retired from the Secretaryship—with a pension—of the Athenæum. He took me up into his little "snuggery," where everything denoted the existence of the bachelor barrister. The books, the photographs, the sword-sticks and guns, the camp wash-stand and the camp bed, and a collection of "traps" heaped up pell-mell in one corner. How well he brewed tea, too, over the little table loaded with good things from the club larder. The sparkling wit and anecdote of one of the best of fellows, sent a couple of hours spinning away with pleasure. There is no Chairman of the Club, so that the Secretary is virtually at the head of affairs, and an enormous amount of tact is required to cope with the crotchety ideas of various Committeemen whose literary or scientific attainments are of no value in dealing with a common-sense question of Clubland. The library at the Athenæum is the most valuable of any club library in London, and contains thousands of volumes, some of which are extremely rare. The best days of the Athenæum were forty years ago, when the blue bloods of fame collected in the long "tea" room on the first floor, and conversed till the bells of St. Stephen's across the Park called them away.

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The dinner of the publishers and newspaper men the other evening was more than enjoyable to many who were present, but great care had been used in seating all the "cheap houses" far apart from each other. Bro. Dodd

than whom there is no more genial man in London, represented his house of F. Warne & Co., and was surrounded by a select *colerie* of friends, all of whom but one were members of the Craft. The best speech of the evening was, undoubtedly, made by Mr. Murray, the younger, who, I was delighted to hear, spoke very strongly against the system of trading now universally adopted by the discount booksellers. Bro. Rider Haggard looked as healthy as ever and inclined to refuse Messrs. Longman's offer of two thousand guineas for the copyright of his serial now running in the *Pictorial World*.

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The other evening the Devonians in London dined together at the Criterion, the Lord Chancellor, a Devonian mason by origin and a Cornishman by residence, in the chair. A fair proportion of English counties seem to be represented in the Cabinet. Lord Salisbury is a Hertfordshire man, Bro. Lord Cranbrook sprang from the Staffordshire Hardys, and the Westmorland Gathorne has his home in Kent; Mr. Matthews hails from Herefordshire; Bro. Lord Knutsford claims a Cheshire descent, and owns an estate in Surrey. The Stanhopes are first heard of in Nottinghamshire, where their "state and grandeur" were "eminent" in Camden's time. The Secretary for War, however, like the President of the Board of Agriculture, has his country-seat in Lincolnshire, and both sit for divisions of that famous county. Bro. Lord Cross comes of a good Lancashire family; he made his first great hit in politics by ousting Mr. Gladstone from South Lancashire in 1868. Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is head of an old Gloucestershire house. The Duke of Rutland's possessions are scattered over seven counties; the Manners first thrived on Northumbrian soil. Mr. Smith and Mr. Goschen are essentially Londoners. Scotland sends us Bro. Balfour and Bro. Ritchie; Scotland and Ulster have helped to make Bro. Lord George Hamilton. Bro. Lord Ashbourne is a genuine Irishman; Lord Cadogan a scion of Welsh princes and a notable landlord in Middlesex.

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Bro. Henry S. Wellcome made a hit the other night by introducing to the members of the Savage Club what was described by the Chairman as "a novelty." Unfolding a copious wrapper he produced a girl doll, and stood his ground bravely amidst shouts of "No ladies admitted." The doll proved to be one of Edison's phonographic toys, and it gravely recited "Will you walk into my parlor? said the spider to the fly." Whose was the parlor, and who the spider, Bro. Wellcome?

* * *

"Pickwick" at the Allsopp meeting:—

The Secretary: "What is your christian name?"

Mr. Harrison: "Samuel."

A Voice: "Who gave you that name?" (laughter).

The Secretary: "Did you say Samuel?" (laughter).

A Voice: "Spell it with a 'wee,' Sammy" (great laughter).

The immortal Weller still retains his sway over the imagination of his fellow-countrymen.

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One of the best Greek scholars in London is Thomas Kessanly, the head of the Adelaide Publishing Company, and of Messrs. T. Kessanly & Co., one of the very smartest firms of advertising contractors in London. Mr. Kessanly remembers when he taught classical Greek for a living and starved on it. Then he drifted into journalism, and connected himself with *Life*, when that journal had more weight in the social world than it has now. From journalism he went over to the enemy and made a study of advertising in all its branches. Now he is both a successful and a hard-working man. He is never in bed after eight nor out of it after eleven, except in the opera season. He keeps a flat in Victoria Mansions, and his house at Hampton is thrown open in the summer to a whole horde of newspaper men, artists, and vocalists who can appreciate the attentions of a charming host and hostess. Mr. Kessanly has been married to an Essex lady for the past fifteen years, and, although of an excitable nature—as all Greeks are—he is worthily entitled to the *Dunmow sitch of bacon* which some of his friends contemplate presenting him with, in a form more valuable and serviceable than that from the back of an Eastern porker. Mr. Kessanly is one of the staunchest of friends; he possesses a suave yet piquant manner which is particularly pleasing; he drinks gallons of black coffee and smokes thousands of Russian cigarettes, and in certain circles is highly popular. He has never had time to become a Mason, he says.

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The youngest recruit to the "house" of Rothschild is the son of Lord Rothschild, who has gone to St. Swithin's-lane as a clerk, and not as a partner—at present. He is a Trinity College man, retiring and amiable, with a decided love for natural history. His latest freak in this line has been to liberate a "pack" of kangaroos into his father's park at Tring.

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Bro. Arthur Valentine Palmer, whose amazing story of Tel-el-Kebir in the *Nineteenth Century* has created so much discussion in military circles, was a gentleman private. He joined the 79th at Fort George in December, 1881, and soon obtained a high character in his regiment for smartness and general

efficiency. He became lance-corporal of A Company, and served throughout the Egyptian campaign of 1882. A comrade who fought by his side bears testimony to Mr. Palmer's pluck and cool bearing at Tel-el-Kebir. All the same, the gallant ex-corporal cannot, in the opinion of his military critics, clear himself of the charge of romancing which has been brought against him. The boys of the 79th utterly repudiate his story of the shooting of two Glasgow Irishmen for disloyalty. There was not a grain of truth in it, they say. The other story, however, of the chloroforming of a drunken man who jeopardised the success of a night-march by giving vent to ill-timed expressions of patriotism is said to be literally true. Lord Wolseley did actually, and with quite sufficient reason, order the man to be killed on the spot, and the sentence, no doubt, would have at once been carried out had not the surgeon come to the rescue with his chloroform. According to Mr. Palmer's account, the man was left behind on the sand. This is not so, however, for he was carried on a stretcher and carefully looked after during the engagement which ensued. The irresponsible individual in question belonged to the 74th. Mr. Palmer during his military career once or twice attracted the attention of his superiors. At Cairo, where he was stationed at the citadel, he once got himself into hot water by delivering a public lecture without the permission of the authorities.

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Bro. Sala is not accurate in his statement that Bro. Charles Whitehead, the early friend and intimate of Dickens, Thackeray, Leigh Hunt, and Douglas Jerrold, and himself a poet, novelist, and dramatist, "died in a benevolent asylum at Melbourne." It was in the Melbourne Hospital he died, whither the irreclaimable Bohemian had been carried by the police, who picked him up insensible in the streets. Mr. Sala asks, Is it a fact that Whitehead had the first offer to supply the letterpress of "Pickwick," and that he generously recommended his young friend Dickens in his stead? Of course it is a fact: the whole of the circumstances are set forth in John Forster's "Life."

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Hall Caine has once more demonstrated his luck in obtaining good advertisements, no less a person than Mr. Gladstone himself having trifled away the hours of illness with the lively pages of "The Bondman." One can fancy the author singing—(but then he does not sing)—"Up higher yet, my bonnet," as he read Mr. Gladstone's tribute to "the freshness, vigour, and sustained interest" of the book. Yet the last sentence of the letter must have surprised him. "I do not know," writes his critic, "whether there are other works tending to establish the connection between the Isle of Man and Scandinavia. I must confess that, although I read 'The Bondman' with a great deal of interest, and without more than a reasonable amount of skipping, this feature of it quite escaped my notice." Could Mr. Gladstone have really read it?

* * *

A new piece of fiction by Jules Verne will shortly be published. It contains a satire on modern mining speculators. The author makes his hero purchase mining rights at the North Pole, in a country so much frozen that it cannot be developed. The company is formed to turn the world around, bringing the North Pole into the region of the tropics and turning the universe upside down. Evidently Jules Verne has been investing in joint stocks.

KING MOB.

Colonial and Foreign.

At a recent meeting of Lodge "Industry" of Freemasons, at Lahore, a somewhat unusual occurrence took place after dinner. The occasion was that of the installation of the new Worshipful Master, Bro. Williams, who was duly installed by Worshipful Bro. Dr. Calthrop. After the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were being proposed, when it struck one of the Brethren to use a foreign language. The idea "caught on," and though there were only some one or two-and-twenty Brethren present, no less than six European and seven Oriental languages found exponents. The speakers were:—Bro. A. Grey, in French; Bro. Stoddard, in German; Bro. Dr. Calthrop, in Latin; Bro. Koenig, in Italian; Bro. Manesch, in Hebrew; Bro. Dhulip Singh, in Urdu; Bro. George, in Persian; Bro. Mukerji, in Bengali; Bro. Mohan Lall, in Sanskrit; Bro. Dr. Calthrop, in Hindi; Bro. Koenig, in Dutch; Bro. Jusrawali, in Guzerati. Then Right Worshipful Brother Parker, the District Grand Master, who had previously spoken in English, very appropriately wound up with a most amusing specimen of the lingua franca spoken by the Punjabi pleaders practising before the Chief Court. It is a little remarkable that the provincial language, Punjabi, was not represented, neither were Pushtu, Biluchi, nor Kashmiri; still, the performance was decidedly a creditable one, and the Masonic fraternity of Lahore may be congratulated on their linguistic talents.

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In the Grand Chapter Room of the Masonic Temple, in Twenty-Third-street, New York, last month, there was the largest gathering of the members of the Order of High Priesthood that has ever taken place within its walls. It was the meeting of the Grand Chapter for the purpose of conferring the degree of the order upon the newly-elected high priests of the various

Chapters previous to the annual convocation, which will be held in the city of Albany, on the 4th inst. The Right Excellent William J. McDonald occupied the East, Most Excellent William Sherer acting as Chaplain, and Right Excellent James Cornelius as Captain of the Host. Right Excellent Companion McDonald conferred the degree with the assistance of his able and efficient staff. The excellent manner in which the work was done commanded commendation from all present. It is said that the beautiful and striking features of the degree were never better portrayed than on this occasion. There were twenty-two candidates who were anointed and consecrated to the Order.

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In the course of a speech delivered by one of the Brethren at a Masonic Installation Banquet at Singapore, the other week, the speaker, referring to the exclusion of women from the Craft, said:—"Our order excludes the admission of women, not that it refuses to pay a proper regard to the gentler sex, not that it insinuates that they will not implicitly obey the strictest law of secrecy, but that it will be inconsistent with the modest economy and delicacy of the female character to admit them among us. Moreover, their attractive presence and charming conversation will greatly interfere with our solemn rites. However, we are penetrated with pious considerations in their behoof; we are prohibited by our rules and obligations from injuring the peace of families or disturbing domestic happiness as fashionable libertines endeavor to do."

Gathered Ships.

I have been longer than some of you in climbing to the position in which I now find myself, but the exigencies of military service, by requiring me to be present with my regiment abroad, have operated to my disadvantage to a certain extent Masonically, by arresting the flow of promotion, which, in the ordinary case, would have carried me through all the minor offices, and rendered me eligible for the chair, some years before it has actually been my good fortune to fill it. Yet I cannot thank too warmly those Brethren who stood aside, or the Lodge in general, for their kind consideration in placing me last year in the chair of S.W., thus conveying to me the gratifying assurance that the Lodge and Brethren were equally conscious of my wish to walk up to the chair, and of the causes which had prevented me from doing so. Soldiers who are Masons have to contend with very grave disabilities, from which other sections of our fraternity are exempt. Prominent among these is the constant shifting of quarters, which makes it impossible for a military brother, unless on the permanent staff or other exceptional circumstances, to remain at any one station sufficiently long to reap the reward due to faithful service in the subordinate offices by election to the Master's chair. In further illustration of my meaning, let me state that I took office in the Moira Lodge in 1881, but had to rejoin my battalion in Malta; there I also took office. In 1882 I again took office in my mother Lodge, but was called upon to go to Egypt. I again took office in 1886 at Gibraltar, and lastly, in 1888, I was appointed to the office of S.W. of this Lodge by the generous action alluded to in the earlier portion of my remarks. In former days things were very different. At one time almost every regiment had a Lodge attached to it, and to the influence of these military, or travelling Lodges, is due much of the Masonic progress of the last century, more especially in America. There was a famous Lodge in my own regiment—the 38th Foot, now the 1st Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment—for which a warrant, bearing the number 441, was granted by the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1765. This Lodge had many remarkable incidents in its history, one of which being that its chest, jewels, and warrant, together with the records of the regiment, were captured by the enemy. The former were returned uninjured, but the latter never were heard of again. Its proceedings, from the publicity given them, were, some years ago, a common topic of discussion in the Masonic press. But I shall now only mention one more incident in its remarkable history. This Lodge, while the 38th Regiment was in America, formed one of the nine Lodges present at the inauguration of the Grand Lodge of New York in 1782, and an officer in the regiment and Lodge 441, Lieutenant J. Studholme Brownrigg, was elected the first S.G.W. of the new governing body. Of those nine Lodges which took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of New York, it is not a little remarkable that six of them belonged to British regiments serving in the garrison. I have been unable to resist the temptation of alluding to an old and distinguished Lodge attached for upwards of a century to the regiment which I have so recently had the honor to command. It may be interesting to the Brethren to know that the Lodge was in working order up to 1860. The chest, jewels, and minutes are still in the possession of the Masons of the battalion. But I must now endeavor to show you that there are other and stronger reasons than the pleasing associations connected with my own military career for the wish I have long entertained to fill the important office in which I have been this evening so ably installed by Bro. Gould, Past Master and Past Grand Deacon. In England, so far as I am informed, there is no documentary evidence relating to the actual proceedings of Lodges which is of older date than the Grand Lodge of England itself. By this I mean that there are no Lodge minutes or records of earlier date than 1717. The W.M. of the oldest English Lodge, I am glad to say, is

present, and I dare say will, at a later period, put me right if I am wrong in my supposition. To proceed, however, with my remarks—in Scotland it is very different, for both Lodge minutes and records abound. From these I shall next make a brief selection. It would appear from the oldest minute-book of St. John's Lodge, Kelso, which dates from 1701, that in that year "George Faa" was the Master. This name is well known on the border, being the name of the royal family of the gipsy tribe located there. In the next year, under the date, Kelso, June 2, 1702, we meet with the following:—"The whilk day the Company of Masons of the honourable lodge of Kelso having met ther, and taking to ther consideration that George Faa, last Master to the said company, is now deceased, they therfor, after matur deliberation, have selected the honourable Sir John Pringall to be Master in the place of deceased deacon Faa, and to continu to actt and do as Master until St. John's day next, when the company shall again have it under their consideration whether to elect another or continue the said Sir John Pringall." When St. John's Day arrived, Sir John Pringle was unanimously re-elected. And here I must proceed to explain why these extracts have been recited to you. It would seem that in 1702, or fifteen years before, there was a Grand Lodge of England, my direct ancestor and great-great-grandfather succeeded either the king of the gipsies or one of that Royal line, as Master of the Kelso Lodge. One more quotation and I have done. The Grand Secretary of Scotland, in his history of the Lodge of Edinburgh, records under the date of June 24, 1670, the admission of Walter Pringle, Advocate, "as Brother and fellow Craft." This Walter Pringle was the brother of my "great-great-great-grandfather, Sir Robert Pringle, Bart.," and with his name I reach the highest point to which I can trace my Masonic pedigree, that is to say, 219 years from the present time. But it will suffice, I hope, to establish what I am anxious to submit for your consideration. It is that the love of Masonry, with which I sincerely trust I am imbued, has come down to me by inheritance, and that in seeking admission into the Craft, as well as in my fortunate selection of a mother Lodge, I have been guided by an instinctive feeling which has happily caused my feet to tread in the footsteps of those Brethren of my name and family in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, whose connection with the Lodges of Edinburgh and Kelso respectively I have briefly adverted to.—*Col. Sir Norman Pringle, Bart., at his installation to the Chair of the Moira Lodge.*

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One of the signal pleasures arising from Freemasonry is that which is incident to Masonic visiting. Of course we enjoy attending our own Lodge; it is our special home; there we meet the members of our own immediate family; but Freemasonry is an endless chain of families extending round the globe. It is no euphemism to say that in every land the Freemason may find a home, and in every clime a Brother. This is not figure of speech, but fact. But many who never become travellers desire to visit in their own country, and their own city. There is a charm in visiting another Masonic Lodge, meeting even in the same Masonic Temple as our own Lodge. It may be a next-door neighbor. Yet in it we are abroad. We there widen our circle of experience, our knowledge of the Masonic world. We there, amid old associations, meet new associates. It is the same old work, the same secret art and mystery, the same symbols and allegories, but all else new, and new life is sometimes thus acquired by the Brother, who has been previously following only a time-worn, monotonous path. As all roads lead to Rome, so every road leads to a Masonic Lodge. You cannot go astray in seeking one. Wherever there are all the outward tokens of Freemasonry—a Masonic Hall, a Masonic Temple, or even an unpretentious Lodge Room,—duly guarded by the Tyler, and thus protected from the approach of the profane, a Freemason may venture to present himself. But if the customary Craft indications are lacking—the doors kept wide open, or ajar, where one may walk in unchallenged, or peep in,—beware! That may be the resort of clandestines, or so-called latter-day saints, or the profanest of the profane. It requires some skill to visit wisely. The Brother must have his Masonic wits about him. He must not be like the acacia, ever green. He must be bright, a reading Mason, not merely on speaking terms with Freemasonry, but intimately familiar with its mysteries. Such a one cannot go astray. We will suppose a discreet Brother to be on his travels in quest of "more Light." He presents himself to a Lodge where he is unknown, and requests admission as a visitor. What is the usual course which ensues? That depends on the Master of the Lodge. The Master is Master. His will and pleasure rules the Craft. He may perform his duty, or neglect it. He may, in due course, hear the request for admission presented, and for a good cause, or a poor cause, or no cause at all, pay no immediate attention to it, or temporarily overlook it, or lose sight of it altogether. The constant recurrence of one or other of these lines of conduct is becoming a crying evil in the Craft. A visiting Brother who sends in his request to a Lodge has a right to have it treated with Masonic courtesy, and with all possible promptness acted upon. He is a Brother of the Craft. Every Lodge should be made a home to him. We, of course, recognise the right of a Master to refuse admittance to any visiting Brother whom he thinks would mar the harmony of that particular Lodge, and also the personal right of any member, for the same reason, to object to a visitor; but we are not now treating of that aspect of the subject. We are assuming that

there is no formal objection to his admission, and that his request is simply neglected or ignored. This is a wrong, not only to the Brother who patiently and longingly sits outside the door, but to the genius of Freemasonry itself. He is our Brother, our other self, who is without in waiting. There is no good reason why his request should be treated with neglect, and every reason why it should be treated with the civility due to a gentleman and a Freemason. Put yourself in his place! How would you like to be kept loitering in the outer courts of the Temple, while within those mystic rites which have so great a fascination to the average initiate are being enacted by your Brethren? How would you fancy being kept nibbling your impatient thoughts, while hungering and thirsting for the abundance of Masonic food dispensed within the tyled Lodge? We trust the day, or the night, is at hand when all Masters of Lodges will be thoughtful of the visiting Brother, give him instant attention, if practicable, and treat him with that fraternal spirit which he would invoke for himself were he knocking at the portals of another Lodge. The Tyler's room, or closet, or entry, is not always the most agreeable place in the Masonic world. Sometimes the stove is uncomfortably near, or the smoke unpleasantly thick, or the seats disagreeably hard, or the monotony decidedly marked. Then the proposing visitor has a dull time of it. But even when the surroundings are the best imaginable, they are not what he is in quest of. He desires to enter the portals of Freemasonry, to visit his Brethren, to sit in the Lodge. He ought not to be unreasonably kept out. He should have the right hand of friendship and brotherly love extended to him. He is one of us probably, and he should be duly noticed, *promptly examined*, and, if found to be a Freemason, warmly welcomed as a visiting Brother. Brethren, think of these things, and perform your duty in the light of the sunshine of brotherly love.—*Keystone.*

Answers to Correspondents.

"TYLER."—We are glad of your communication, but your complaint we must not recognise. Your Lodge contains a number of gentlemen who would never countenance, we are sure, any unfairness to you, so that we feel you have not honestly stated *all* the facts of the case.

A. G. SOMERVILLE.—1. The Grand Secretary, at Freemasons' Hall, London, is the only person who can or will answer your query. 2. We were not represented at the meeting, nor have we any correspondent in the locality who had permission to use our name. We received your subscription through a Mr. Herbert Cox, and sent him a receipt.

"WINDSOR CASTLE LODGE."—Sir Henry Gooch is a Craft Mason and member of a Chapter, but a recent communication from him casually informed us that he had withdrawn from active work. He does not, we believe, reside at Clewer, but at his place in Suffolk.

H. H. GLADE.—We do not know anything whatever about it. We are not private detectives nor diffusers of filthy slander.

"P.M., 843"; JOHN LANE; A. BARFIELD; CHARLES A. G. HONEYCHURCH; "P.M. 2,609"; "CITY MASON"; "NOVICE"; "P.Z."; T. PARKMAN, and others, answered through post.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS RECEIVED.

A Thousand Miles on an Elephant in the Shan States. By Holt M. Hallett, M.Inst.C.E., F.R.G.S., &c. William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London.—The acquisition of Burmah ought to be of incalculable service to us in our trade interests, and if we would not neglect the opportunities thus offered, we must bestir ourselves so as not to be forestalled in our markets, and one of the greatest of these includes Siam, the Siamese Shan States, and the south-western province of China known as Yunnan, thus presenting customers of many millions who have not as yet come within touch of our commerce. To reach these people and to unite South-western China with British Burmah by the best possible railway route was the *raison d'être* of Mr. H. M. Hallett's survey, which he carried out with almost pedantic accuracy, and with no monetary advantage to himself whatever. The difficulties he met with are modestly disclosed, the character of the country and the rites, customs, and often weird beliefs of the people are graphically and charmingly described, so as to make the volume most interesting reading. And although he adorns his tale, he does not forget to point a moral; indeed, that he has felt to be his mission in putting pen to paper. And, briefly, it is this: that the only practicable trade route by railway is from Moulmein, in British Burmah, a convenient port for English shipping, to Raheng, in the Siamese Shan States, making that town a junction with a line running north-east *vid* Lakon to Kiang-Hsen, with an extension to Ssumao, on the Chinese frontier. Besides, this route has the advantage of being the speediest to reach Yunnan-fu, the objective point of all projectors. The book is well got up, contains many views and wood-cuts, and the maps are marvels of the cartographic art.

New Zealand Craftsman; The Freemason; Freemasons' Chronicle; The Monitor; The Tyler; Keystone; Gardening World; "Sardinia and the Sardes" (London: Bentley & Son); "Lodge's Peerage and Baronetage" (London: Hurst & Blacket); "The New Prince Fortunatus" (Sampson Low & Co.).