

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BOY'S SCHOOL.

WE hinted last week at our intention, so far as we are concerned, to bring the painful controversy that is raging on this subject to a close this week. We gave the warning in order that none of those who have taken part in the contention might be deprived of an opportunity of saying a last word, if it so pleased them, in support of their several views. Many reasons have influenced us in arriving at this determination. We need not enumerate them all, but one or two must be specified, in order that our readers may understand why we think the prolongation in our columns of this contest undesirable. We are of opinion that an inquiry, such as has been conceded, can alone determine the merits. Two pamphlets have been published, one by Bro. Tew, the other by Bros. Tew and Rev. O. G. D. Perrott jointly. In both these pamphlets the action of the governing body in its managerial capacity is called in question; in both, the expenditure for office purposes is described as in excess of what is necessary. Other points are touched upon, but the two we have specified are, in fact, the *gravamina* of the case against the school management, and in support thereof Brothers Tew and Perrott have adduced what, in legal phraseology, may be described as *prima facie* evidence, that such an independent tribunal should inquire into and determine the points of issue. That we were not singular in this view is proved by one of our most considerable Provinces having, in Prov. Grand Lodge assembled, formally passed a resolution demanding that a committee of inquiry be appointed, with a view to ascertaining if the School cannot be more economically administered. True we had the Secretary replying that the accusations are unjust, that everything objected to is capable of explanation, and, in truth, that as regards the case of the Rev. Bro. Perrott, the School Committees have done what is needful in the way of inquiry, and are convinced of its injustice. But as the assertions and arguments of the pamphleteers were not proofs, so the denials of the Secretary on behalf of the governing body were not disproofs. Thus inquiry was demanded in the interests of all parties. There may be, and we think there is, a tribunal already existing which is competent to settle the dispute, at all events, one has been erected for the occasion. Thus, something will be done, and that forthwith, to put an end to this bandying about of violent recriminations between the disputants. It was little good urging that the matter should be allowed to drop because the government of the School is going on smoothly *now*. The pamphlets had been published, the resolution of West Yorkshire had been passed. These pamphlets and this resolution referred not to the present, but to the immediate past, and they were calculated to excite, if they have not already excited, a strong feeling of distrust as to the future. A policy of inaction would not allay this feeling. On the contrary, it is in the experience of most people that it would have confirmed and even extended it. There was no denying the right of public complaint to aggrieved persons, or persons who thought themselves aggrieved. The grievance of the Rev. Bro. Perrott was that he had been ill-treated when Head Master of the Boys' School, and in being deprived of his office; the grievance of Bro. Tew was that the funds of the Boys' School were not as economically administered as they might and should be. These two brethren took upon themselves the very serious responsibility of submitting their joint and several grievances to the bar of public opinion, and it was no proof

these grievances were unfounded to reply that the body they accused had inquired into the matter, and found its own conduct right. Somebody else must decide the issue, but not the disputant whose conduct had been thus publicly arraigned. We lean neither to the one side nor to the other. What we want is, that the issue raised shall be decided, and at once. Till this is done, the interests of the School must suffer, and so serious a result cannot be regarded with indifference. For these reasons we counselled immediate action, and the case being now *sub judice*, we must await the issue in silence. Having come to this conclusion, we have decided further that the correspondence on this subject must cease. It is painfully evident to us, as it is doubtless to our readers, that the controversy, as it proceeded, became more embittered. It had passed from the region of calm argument to that of unseemly accusation and retort. Neither side was guarded—to say nothing of being Masonic—enough in the language it used, and we have no mind to allow a series of scolding letters to appear in our columns. New charges were being made, or perhaps we should say, the same charges were being constantly repeated, but in a new form, and over each arose a fresh and, we must say, a very violent altercation. Thus the original issues stood a chance of being lost sight of. These are—(1) Is the Rev. Bro. Perrott an ill-used man, or were the Committee right in dispensing with his services? (2) Are the funds of the School disbursed with a due regard to economy, or with a lavish hand? Such are the points in the settlement of which the world of Masonry is interested. The personal part of the question is mere private contention, which concerns us not.

The series of letters and extracts from letters we have received from Bro. Binckes, merely proves that, as regards that portion of the dispute to which they relate, the use of strong language was not conferred only by the Secretary.

MASONIC PORTRAITS. (No. 3.) THE MAN OF ENERGY.

HABITS of business, when they are thoroughly acquired, leave a permanent mark upon a man's mind and person. We all readily learn to distinguish the citizen from the man of leisure; we never mistake a commercial traveller for a soldier, nor do we ever fail to recognise an indescribable something in the man whose calling brings into play the highest powers of the intellect. The quick, brusque manners of the man of commerce strikingly contrast with the slow habits of the man of leisure, or the pretentious bluster of the man of the sword. The graces and charms of deportment may not be acquired east of Temple Bar, but, notwithstanding the acknowledged evils which follow in the train of commercial success, we question much if genuine charity flourishes half so vigorously anywhere as it does within the sound of Bow Bells. The hero in whose honour the following lines are written is no merchant prince, though he may have the heart of one. He is no successful trader, though he possesses in the highest perfection all the qualities which go to make a man successful in life. He is one of those men who are a peculiar feature in our commercial system, he is a prince amongst employés; he stands high in the confidence of his chief, is conversant with the throbbing, panting world around him, and is fully alive to the slightest rise or fall of that wonderful mercantile barometer which

measures the citizen's confidence in the stability of both home and foreign governments. With his business engagements we have of course nothing to do. We care not though he buy or sell, in the twinkling of an eye, merchandise which would more than compensate for the losses of Antonio, or satisfy the greed and the claims of Shylock. It is as a Mason that this man interests us, and, as such, we prefer to draw his portrait. The limner's art, indeed, is not always equal to the task imposed upon it. Some men, both in feature and mind, are like the negro's pig, which would not stay to be counted; we may ask our subject to sit for his portrait, or we may prefer to draw his lineaments when he is unconscious of our presence, but our difficulty is to fix upon any one of the prominent features of his mind upon which we may dwell. Like most men of vast energy he is never willing to pose himself for any appreciable period in one attitude. Your man of action is never happy if he is not in harness. In the world Masonic, our hero will not permit himself to rest. Masonry, he believes, has peculiar claims upon him, and he does his very best to realise his ideal of what a good brother should be. We might almost venture to describe his charitable labours as colossal; and, looking merely at the results he has achieved, we might wonder how he manages to find leisure for the enjoyment of that domestic life to which he is so warmly attached, or how it is possible that he can be the prince of employes with so many cares foreign to mere business on his mind. Yet our hero is a man upon whom the holy influence of home exercises its full and legitimate power, and in the City he is, as we have already hinted, second to none of the men of action and energy by whom he is surrounded. His name has figured more prominently in our list of Charity Stewards than that of any other man with whom we are acquainted. Like most men of action he has learned to value small things. He knows that if you desire to swell the subscription lists with a long array of pounds sterling, you must begin with the shillings and pence. He has more than once startled an anxious Secretary with a princely sum, collected with untiring patience from a multitude of friends. In his last effort in this direction he has surpassed his past achievements, and if the amount subscribed did not actually reach £1000, it was because our hero took pity upon the painstaking official of the particular Charity to which the cash was devoted, and did not wish to stun him with a knock-down blow. Our hero is not less prominent in Grand Lodge than he is in the working ranks of Masonry. His name figures as often on the agenda paper as that of any of the great leaders of the Order, and he takes a peculiar pride in carrying the measures to which he is pledged. When the idea of a Life Boat Fund was broached in these columns, he was the first to move in the matter, and although he was not then successful, we are assured that he merely bides his time, and will strike again when the propitious moment arrives. But he is not less distinguished as a chronicler of the Order than as a worker for the Charities and a speaker at Grand Lodge. In his *tranquil* moments he has written the history of the Lodge of which he was once the honoured Master. The work is a mere sketch, but slight as it is, it shows that our energetic brother has the true instinct of the truth-seeker, and the painstaking zeal which prompts a writer to search for the gold of history amid its attendant ores. We have said that our brother, like a good and true Mason, is attached to his home, upon which he lavishes all the tender care of a husband and a father. He is a jovial companion, and shines as a vocalist and a reciter. Policeman X has found in him an able exponent, but although he likes the society of his brethren, he is too wise and too prudent to permit their fascinations to engross his leisure time. Gay without being frivolous, witty without being venomous, and a toiler who conceals his herculean labours under the careless ease of a man of the world, he would be a valuable acquisition to any section of society in which his lot might be cast. If Masonry is a vital force in the world, it is because it comprises in its ranks many such minds as his. He is an embodiment of the practical side of the English character. Our countrymen are not inclined to chase shadows, nor to sacrifice the substantial realities of life for the sake of the pure ideal. Our Order, in England, is powerful for good, because it has gathered under its banner a host of sturdy hearts, who are content to descend from the known to the unknown, who are practical first, and theoretical afterwards. We cannot but have confidence in the stability of our Order, when it numbers such energetic brethren in its ranks.

RUMOURS OF WAR.

UNPLEASANT rumours have been afloat during the past week with respect to the Eastern question, and it has even been stated that the programme of our Royal brother the Prince of Wales has been materially modified in consequence of news, bearing upon important European complications, having been transmitted to him from the Home Government. The *World*, usually a well-informed, if a somewhat caustic journal, has even gone so far as to urge upon Her Majesty's Ministers the expediency of strengthening our fleet in the Mediterranean, and of taking immediate steps to call a meeting of Parliament. We cannot think that our contemporary has shown its usual discretion in offering this advice, however much it may seem to have been justified by the facts of the case. In matters of peace and war, it is impossible that any newspaper can understand as well as the responsible Ministers of the Crown the exigencies of the situation, from the simple reason that they are not in possession of the entire facts. When the facts are published to the world, the press is at liberty to comment upon them, but it would be little less than a national calamity if the press in general were to acquire the habit of obtruding their advice upon the Government whilst questions are still under negotiation. This has been done to a great extent in France, to the grievous injury of the nation at large.

In one particular the intimation conveyed by the *World* has been already falsified. Lord Salisbury has positively denied that the alteration in the programme of the Prince of Wales was occasioned by any European complications whatever. His route has been slightly altered, in consequence of the prevalence of Cholera in one of the districts through which he was to pass. And if we enquire further into the *rationale* of the present aspect of the Eastern question, we shall find that there is as little reason for apprehension here as there was truth in the assertion regarding our Royal Brother. It must, we think, be evident by this time that the Ottoman Government is a government that cannot govern without assistance from without. This assistance, the three powers, Russia, Prussia, and Austria, would be glad to afford. But it is, certainly, improbable that these powers should be acting in harmony in this matter, if, as has been suggested, by some writers, it is the design of Russia to obtain possession of Constantinople. We doubt if Germany would assent to such an arrangement, but, for Austria, it would simply amount to a sentence of dissolution. Whilst the present negotiations continue, there will, probably, be an abundance of rumours, but, despite the few lowering clouds that appear in the political atmosphere, we cannot think that Russia, the only power that has been suspected of bellicose intentions, is prepared "to let slip the dogs of war;" and we feel a certain confidence that Germany and Austria would endeavour to restrain any such tendency, if it actually existed. The Eastern question will have to be settled some time, but the time has not yet arrived.

THE ANTIQUITY AND OBJECTS OF MASONRY.

WE are indebted to the columns of the *Weekly Bulletin* of San Francisco U.S., for the following address, by Ex-Governor Haight, Grand Orator of Grand Lodge, California, at the third session of the meeting of Grand Lodge held last month. We think the sentiments to which Bro. Haight gives expression in the concluding portion, on the "Antiquity and Objects of Masonry," so admirable, that we quote them with infinite pleasure, and we are sure our readers will appreciate the extract:—

The tendency to venerate ancient institutions is doubtless one of the chief attractions of Masonry. It is not a plant of yesterday, but a tree whose mossy trunk and giant growth speak to us of past ages. Kings have participated in its ceremonies, and men greater than kings have adorned its annals. If, however, its only merit was age, its destiny would be decay. Age alone contains no principle of immortality, and if Masonry had nothing but its ancient origin to recommend it there would be no sound reason to expect that it would survive, much less that it would grow. There are talismanic words implied in its organization—"liberty, equality, fraternity"—terms grossly abused, but in the Order of Free and Accepted Masons full of real and practical significance; because one of its first lessons is re-

assistance to despotism, both ecclesiastical and civil, and the instinctive antagonism between Masonry and ecclesiasticism is the most emphatic testimony to the spirit of personal liberty which is one of the distinguishing traits of the Order. Equality, not by lowering, but by elevating to a common platform, where all meet on the level, with equal rights and duties, and equal claims to mutual respect, if faithful to the obligations voluntarily assumed. Fraternity, in whose bonds the most ancient and inveterate prejudices are melted in the solvent of brotherly intercourse, the heirs of the most ancient civilization join hands with the missionaries of the youngest civilization, and Hebrews and Gentiles, Celt and Saxon—men of the most diverse origin and nationality—meet in the interchange of kindly offices and furnish some evidence of the possibility of the attainment of a true brotherhood of man. These are grand lessons, impressively taught by its origin and history; but they are not all. It teaches the force of associated action, the inestimable value of union in a good cause, the superiority of harmony over discord, and the power of combined benevolence. It furnishes, too, a noble and inspiring lesson of the worth and dignity of labour, because in the toil of operative Masonry, which reared in the Middle Ages some of the grandest edifices ever conceived by human genius, and in the migrations of architects and builders from place to place, where such works were to be executed, the order of Free and Accepted Masons had its growth and development, if not its origin, and the whole spirit of its precepts and ceremonies is to exalt and dignify that intelligent labour which has adorned all civilized lands with monuments of its skill, only less majestic and enduring than the granite monuments reared in the beginning by the hand of the Great Architect and Father of All—devout reverence for whose being, and filial trust in whose Providence is taught from first to last in every stage and degree of progress in the mysteries of the Order. Like all human institutions, while it has these and other uses, it is not absolutely exempt from abuse. Its obligations do not release any man from his duties of citizenship, if properly regarded. Nor can they conflict with those duties to any extent whatever. A Judge on the Bench deciding cases; a jury in the jury-box sworn to look only at the law and evidence; a witness on the witness-stand, pledged to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; a voter, bound upon his honour and conscience to cast his ballot for the most worthy candidate for his suffrage—will find no embarrassment in the discharge of these high duties from any Masonic obligation; nor will any intelligent Mason, of any creed, find in Masonry a substitute for religious faith. It is only in its perversion that these things could ever be found. Its true spirit is to incite to greater fidelity in the discharge of every duty—religious, political and social—and thereby to aid in establishing upon more lasting foundations that noble edifice of civil and religious liberty, reared by the toil and sacrifices of our fathers, and which it devolves upon us to preserve and transmit to posterity.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE MASONIC SPIRIT.

TO take the degrees of Freemasonry is one thing, and to catch, or imbibe, the spirit of Masonry is wholly another. The former many do, and then they think themselves Masons. They will tell you they are; but of what stamp are they? Have they gone up, from one step to another, in the principles of the Order, and have they learned the great philosophic secret which Masonry teaches—that truth and honour, integrity and charity, when joined with an industrious life, and a genuine spirit of sympathy for man, constitute the true Mason?

We admit that the degrees of the Craft are both instructive and beautiful, and that the lessons accompanying each degree are well calculated to awaken the mind, and to stir the thoughts of any honest heart, and yet, we are compelled to say, something more is ordinarily demanded to make a true and genuine Mason?

An uncultivated mind cannot comprehend the mystic philosophy of these degrees, for even the most learned must study them; and it may be truthfully said that, for the want of this study, the many never enter the inner temple of this grand and mystic divinity, or comprehend the beautiful practical power of its fraternal principles.

The everywhere visible defections in the practical workings of the Order is, doubtless, the primary cause of the lukewarmness, and of that anti-lodge-attending indifference, which are so much complained of in almost every jurisdiction. Men see that obligations are nothing; that principles are but playthings, and that even fraternal pretensions are only a mockery—often mere miserable abortions—and they turn away from the association with mortified convictions that, even under the most favourable circumstances, human nature is but frail at best.

Moral culture is never the offspring of a day, or the result of a single cruise. It is a life-time work, which must begin in youth, if it ever attains to any manly maturity. It is here that the foundation is laid, if pre-eminence is ever evinced in subsequent years, and it is here that we find the fruitful causes of those deficiencies and marked delinquencies which so frequently throw a devouring blight over the otherwise honourable prestige of so many of our organizations.

And even where this mental and moral training has been thus neglected, men often think they have lost no ground by it, because they claim to be men, and to have common sense; and they would like to be somebody in the world, if they only knew how, or if some one would show them.

It is right here that the great evil comes in; for, on the one hand, men are not conscious of their moral incapacity for comprehending the full bearing of moral and relative obligations; and yet, on the other, society expects as much of one man as another. And the same rule obtains also in the Fraternity—every man is expected to do his duty.

We would ask, is this expectation a reasonable one? Is it to be

looked for, that the high obligations of the Masonic relationship will be carried out as fully, as perfectly, by the uneducated, the morally uncultivated, as by those who have had all the advantages of a regular moral training? We are of the conviction that it is too frequently the case that the public expects too much from some men. It is said, as a home-made apothegm, that "it is hard to get blood out of a turnip." So it is; and it is equally as difficult to bring men without moral culture to the scratch of being full-grown *diplomats* into the sublime moral Order of Masoury, as it is, or would be, to develop the virtues of the Christian faith among a congregation of Musselmans.

In former times the Craft was made more select than it is in the present day. None were initiated save those who were in every sense worthy and well qualified; but in our day it is quite different. We recommend almost anybody who can raise the *spondulicks*; though after all, as we admit, many are black-balled without any "rhyme or reason;" and still we receive and initiate a good many whose antecedents would have kept them out for all time if they had been fully known. The constitutional instructions in regard to initiations are too frequently ignored, and many, no doubt, are taken in who subsequently fall far behind the mark of *erect Masters*.

These and many other reasons may be given why many enter the mystic temple without having the spirit of Masonry. If we understand anything of the secret of Masonic affinity, it is found in the fact, that those only make Masons of "the right stripe" who are possessed of good common sense, and who have hearts capable of generous emotions. It is not to be the Master of Secrets that men were made Masons; for that of itself would only be little and contemptible. The purpose of the Craft is higher and nobler every way. Its every lesson teaches a different theory; and, where they are given by a competent Master, they cannot but impress an intelligent recipient with the conviction that Masonry aims to elevate, to humanize, to make intelligent, and to inspire with a spirit of charity every candidate it initiates.

But, even when these degrees and lessons are received, there still remains much for the brother to do for himself. He must *think, read and inwardly digest* the moral philosophy of these teachings. He learns that he is henceforth the builder of his own temple. The Lodge, of course, will help him, but then he must help himself. Like it is in driving the other fortanes of life, he must be cautious and prudent, thoughtful and assiduous; and, little by little, he will find himself growing in grace, and in the knowledge of the truth. The mere mechanical reception of the degrees cannot make him anything more than a Masonic automaton—a mystic novice—an additional cypher in the Fraternity—where they may count his head, but not his heart. The proud and ancient genius of the Craft will never recognize him as being anything more than a mere Grand Lodge tax-payer—"only this, and nothing more." In our travels over our own jurisdiction we have had amply opportunities of meeting with, and of becoming posted in, all the different classes of men who have been made by the manipulations of their Lodges, and those who have taken pains to make themselves.

It is well known that many make themselves scholars almost entirely without the help of masters. They go to work with the purpose of becoming such, notwithstanding their adverse circumstances, and they improve their time by cultivating whatever talent they may possess. Such men, as is frequently observed, make the best practical men of the age. They may not be polished, but they are strong. They may lack in some of the branches of a finished *curriculum*, but then they are solid withal, as far as they go. Just so it is in our Masonic gradations. Men learn that a *spirit* belongs to the fraternity, which will tell in the man, and which will be readily recognized among all worthy brothers and fellows, and tells them, like a voice of Divinity, that the bearer thereof has been truly *baptised* in the ancient waters of the Craft.

It is this spirit that Masons look for when they meet, and are made known as such; and, wherever they find it, the affinity of brotherhood is acknowledged, and fraternal intercourse becomes free, satisfactory and confidential.—"H." in *Masonic Advocate*.

PROVINCE OF BERKS AND BUCKS.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE AT MAIDENHEAD.

ON Wednesday, the 10th inst., the inauguration of the Ellington Lodge, No. 1566, took place at the Bell Hotel, Maidenhead, the ceremony was performed by Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg P.G.C., Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Berks and Bucks, in the presence of a numerous and influential assemblage of the members of the various Lodges in the Province—the "Union" and "Grey Friars" of Reading, the "Etonian" and "Windsor Castle" of Windsor, the "Wycombe" and the Sister Lodge of Maidenhead, "St. John's," being well represented. In the course of the ceremonies of constitution and consecration the V.W. Rev. Brother delivered a very impressive address on the beauties of the system of the Craft, and exhorted the brethren to hold Masonry free from those political and religious strifes which were too often allowed to influence some of the Continental Lodges. At the conclusion of the consecration the Inaugurating Officer installed the first Master of the Lodge, Bro. W. B. Farr, who appointed and invested the following brethren as officers:—Bros. J. Fuller S.W., J. J. Britton J.W., H. Turner Treas., H. H. Hodges Sec., and H. H. Durrant I.G. A pretty long list of candidates for initiation followed, which closed the business of the evening; when the brethren retired for refreshment to a banquet at the Bell Hotel, where the members and their visitors sat down to enjoy a very pleasant evening, which was considerably increased by the singing and accompaniments of Bros. Tolley and Videon Harding, who also added materially to the effect of the consecration and installation ceremonies by their musical and vocal talent. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. A very agreeable evening closed the first meeting of the Ellington Lodge.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:O:—

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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MASONIC BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—There is no doubt that our Boys School has obtained an unenviable notoriety among educational establishments from the very frequent changes of the Head Master, and from the unseemly contentions between the Head Masters, the Secretary, and the Matron. As one who has a considerable acquaintance with some of our large schools, will you allow me, before you close the correspondence on the subject, to make the following remarks and suggestions. And first, considering the very large number of brethren of position and ability in the kingdom, the composition of the governing body ought to be considered anything but strong, while, from the mode of its election, it is necessarily fluctuating; the consequence must be that more power is entrusted to, and more responsibility is thrown on, the Secretary than is consistent with his position. At the present time he appears to occupy the posts of Warden, Bursar and Secretary, while from his experience and ability he must, to a great extent, guide and control the governing body itself. To remedy this, I would provide that one half of the governing body should be elected for life, and the other half for at least three years, one third only retiring each year; of the Life Members every brother would hail with pleasure Lord Carnarvon, Lord Leigh, Lord Skelmersdale, Lord Sherborne, ex-Lord Mayor Stone, Rev. C. J. Martyn and others; and the whole body might be most worthily presided over by Lord Carnarvon. And let it not be said off-hand that these distinguished brethren could not find time or opportunity to fulfil their functions; if Lord Carnarvon can give his time to Winchester, and Lord Leigh to Rugby, we have every reason to suppose that they will feel an equal interest in the School of their Craft. In such a governing body the subscribers would place implicit confidence, and the Head Master would possess all necessary security. And again, the Matron and every official who has to do with the care and management of the boys at the School should be placed under the control of the Head Master, and be removable by him without any appeal. This is so clearly necessary for the smooth working of the machinery of the School that I hope the present Head Master made it a condition on his appointment, or rather, I hope the governing body, of *their own accord*, placed the power in his hands, in the full belief that he would only exercise it for the best interests of his pupils. Whether the Head Master should select the Matron or not, is not very material; but it is absolutely necessary that there should be no *co-ordinate* authority in the School, and that if the Matron cannot or will not discharge her duties in accordance with the wishes of the Head Master, that his will should be supreme.

I will not at present ask for more of your space, except to express my great pleasure at having so distinguished a scholar at the Head of our School, and my hope that under his auspices the Institution may become worthy of his great name and of our active benevolence.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

Inner Temple.

M. A.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I do not at all regret your decision that, so far as your columns are concerned, this controversy is to cease. Not that I have the slightest wish to avoid enquiry or fair argument, but I feel it to be utterly useless to contend with so pachydermatous a nature as that of my principal opponent, who unscrupulously repeats charges already investigated and disproved, indulges in reckless statements, and adheres to them with the tenacity of a limpet, utterly irrespective of the testimony adduced in opposition to them, and skilfully glosses over circumstances and occurrences so as to render them subservient to his case, when their real tendency is to weaken and destroy it. All is "false and hollow; though his tongue dropt manna, and could make the worse appear the better reason, to perplex and dash maturest counsels."

Mr. Perrott may deny my statements, as to what occurred at our interviews. I strongly asseverate—with all the binding force of an affirmation—that I have understated what passed between us, and, should the proper time arrive, shall be prepared to give a fuller account of what transpired.

The facts with reference to Mr. W. H. Taylor—his engagement by Mr. Perrott—the favour shown him, and the revelations of policy and intentions as regards Secretary and others,—with the subsequent rupture, complaint and dismissal, are too numerous for explanation here.

Mr. Perrott says, "I have been informed, quite recently, by one who heard made the admission respecting the Matron's 'highly-improper letter' (so described, be it remembered, by one member of the Committee only) that he acknowledged having had a hand in these, too." The repetition of this charge proves the value attached to it. I emphatically repeat there is not a word of truth in the accusation. I did acknowledge having suggested the Matron's reply—to "guard the weak against the strong," and save her, as a woman not versed in the subtleties of controversy, from falling into

the snare so speciously laid for her in the letter of Mr. Perrott. With the Masters I had no communication on the subject.

At p. 8 of the Pamphlet is a question to which I ought to have replied earlier. "Is he" (the Secretary) "prepared to deny that he sent for Mr. Webb, the Fourth Master, to give evidence against the Head Master; or, again, that he called for the same purpose, the Matron, who had previously made a most serious statement regarding the Fifth Master?"

Now, will it be credited that any one could be guilty of so wilful a distortion of fact as is here shown. Mr. Perrott and myself were in conversation privately, in the course of which he stated that the Matron had brought a charge against a Master, in language which I felt convinced she *could not* use. Miss Hall was asked to attend, at my request, and at once, in the most emphatic manner, repudiated the charge. Mr. Perrott admitted her denial, and then fell back upon what she really did say. The Matron having left, Mr. Perrott continued, and then brought an accusation somewhat similar against Mr. Webb, which, I felt confident, was equally exaggerated. Mr. Webb was requested to attend; the result was exactly similar to the case of Miss Hall. Mr. Perrott and I alone were present. But what is meant to be inferred from the paragraph as worded? I say I have not a fair opponent to deal with, and the disingenuousness shown in this instance is the one distinguishing characteristic of every paragraph in the Pamphlet.

Again, great stress is laid, throughout the Pamphlet and letters, on a statement with reference to "delicate boys, as the Secretary informs us the Masonic boys are." Here is another attempt to twist to the attainment of one object that which has been urged in connection with another.

I have often remarked, orally and in print, that in considering the questions of clothing, diet, and other questions of a sanitary nature, it should not be overlooked that a very large proportion of those we receive under our care are the sons of brethren prematurely cut off by phthisis or other pulmonary diseases, and that among the young we ought to bear in mind that we have naturally-inherited delicate constitutions to deal with. This consideration has been kept in view, our administration has been in accordance therewith, the result:—deaths not exceeding five in 15 years, an infirmity rarely tenanted, and youths leaving in strong, robust health, at sixteen years of age, who, as young boys, came to us more or less fragile and delicate. No boy is allowed to join the band who is not certified as properly fitted for it, and whose parent is not a consenting party.

I really feel that in dealing with these numerous casuistical objections I resemble Don Quixote tilting at the wind-mill, but before closing this correspondence I am anxious that these matters should be fairly placed before the Masonic world.

As regards the use of hard words and strong language, no one than myself is readier to admit how little any cause is served thereby; but it is not at all times easy, occasionally not possible, to confine one's expressions within the bounds of calm propriety. In this, however, I do not think I am alone to blame; my accusers have been neither considerate nor reticent. Smarting under unmerited obloquy, combatting unfounded accusations, denounced as the enemy and destroyer of an Institution I have spent the best years of my life in commending to the support of the Craft—and that with the greatest success—is it in human nature to resent such attacks as these to which I have been exposed?

One question in conclusion—Mr. Perrott has come forward as a purist, does he come into court with clean hands? It is only recently that I have become acquainted with a deliberate and wilful breach of the agreement under which he held office; of this I shall be able to produce the proof in due course.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally

FREDERICK BINCKES.

London, 16th Nov. 1875.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Eastfield Villa, Hanwell,

15th November 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As you have announced your intention to close your columns to all further correspondence on the Boys' School Controversy, will you kindly allow me, while acknowledging our indebtedness to you for the insertion of our previous letters, to make the following remarks? The Secretary informs us that the missing sum has been found; I do not see, however, from a careful examination of the statement of account said to be the one presented to the Special Committee of Investigation, that any such success has attended his efforts, for I observe, that, in order to make the totals right, for the year ending 31st December 1874 (see title page of Report for 1874), a sum of £30, said to have been spent *this* year, has to be introduced. With as much reason might the receipts of the present year be added to those of last year, and I feel confident no Committee, not to say professional accountant, could or would pass such a statement as the Secretary has drawn up. It will be noticed, too, that the sum assigned to 1871, has been changed three times during the last three weeks; first it was £55; then £45; and finally £72 15s, the same uncertainty exists about 1874; the expenditure for "grants and outfits" being given at £51 5s in Report for 1874, p. 41; afterwards at £47 10s, and lastly at £37 10s.

With reference to Bro. Sutcliffe's "Advertisement," in which he is pleased to style me a "disappointed clergyman;" I admit I have been disappointed, and grievously disappointed, at the way in which, as regards my *hard* work as Head Master and *unpaid* Chaplain, I have been treated by the House Committee; in my disappointment, however, I have the kind sympathy of many brethren and friends, and as to the three Charities of our Order, I have only to say, even at the risk of a charge of egotism, that my name will be found in

the list of subscribers to all three, not for a princely sum, such as many have so nobly given, but in proportion to my humble ability. I will conclude by observing that all our calculations in the last Pamphlet are based on the different statements in the Reports for 1872, 1873, and 1874, which are, or ought to be, the trustworthy records of the years they represent. These Reports are either right or wrong; if wrong, the responsibility does not rest with us, we had no desire to make public the unhappy condition of the School. For years past the House Committee were urged to make an investigation, but the endeavour was as futile as is the proverbial difficulty of "coaxing a cat into a shower-bath."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,
Yours faithfully and fraternally,
O. G. D. PERROTT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As the writer of the letter proposing that something should be done for Bro. Perrott, and as one who has read all the correspondence, from beginning to end, I think I may claim to know something of this sad controversy.

Bro. Sutcliffe is quite right in denouncing the language as "un-Masonic," if he refers to Bro. Binckes's letter, than which nothing more abusive can be well conceived. Take, for instance, last specimen, about "three brothers being rascals." Why, it is almost incredible that Bro. Binckes should speak of three such brethren in the discreditable way he does. True, Bros. Tew and Perrott did deal blows about "suspension by the neck," the Secretary's complicity with the Matron, and his letters in Pamphlet to Mr. Goodfellow, but then Bro. Binckes has laid himself open to them, and when people begin to be strikers they must remember two can play the same game. Bro. Sutcliffe's advice about investigation is nothing more than a repetition of what you have said from the commencement, and if the committee had taken this step, the present scandal would have been avoided.

I am,
Yours truly and fraternally,
"A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY."

17th November 1875.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67, Barbican, London, E.C.

T. B. W.—Many thanks. We are always pleased to hear from you.

J. S. (Nelson, N.Z.)—Glad to know the opinion of the brethren in your part. You will see the report is inserted. Let us hear from you frequently.

GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.—If Cruikshank has been the most accomplished Momus of the nineteenth century, he has been so much more, and so much that is better and greater, that one feels naturally some reluctance in so describing him. The truth is, that he has been everything as a designer that an artist could be, with the single exception that he worked, until of late years, with the etching needle and the pen and pencil point, almost to the exclusion of the canvas and the easel. As a caricaturist he would have been the very first in Europe, had he chosen so to distinguish himself; as a painter of genre pictures, he might have been no less eminent—but in either case he must have submitted to limitations which he would have found intolerable. With an imagination so rich in ideas, and a hand so ready to give them form and permanence, it was impossible for him to submit to the wearisome discipline of academical routine, and the painful acquirement of technical methods; and if we may regret this when we look at the few easel pictures he has given us, we should consider how much we should lose by exchanging the multitudinous productions of George Cruikshank for the comparatively few finished performances that constitute the life-work of a Royal Academician. There is no etcher of any school with whom Cruikshank need shrink from comparison. In grouping, and in dealing with crowds of figures, he is equal to Callot, who was renowned for that special faculty, while the number of Cruikshank's works probably exceeds that of any half-score of his predecessors added together. His drawing, generally correct, is in numberless instances remarkable for beauty and for breadth. His pathos is frequently as touching as his humour is provocative and catching. Many of his pieces resemble Hogarth's in their didactic character, and, like Hogarth, he mitigates satire with playfulness, and makes his ridicule play the monitor. Some of his works have an avowed reforming and moral tendency, as, notably, his temperance series, in which the vice of drunkenness is set forth with all its terrible issues. As an illustrator of books he stands unrivalled, whether we consider the quality of the work, or the amazing amount of it which his industry and ready facility have enabled him to get through. Cruikshank, it is clear, must draw pretty much as some men write, inscribing his thoughts in pictures about as readily as they do in words. A curious spectacle would be an exhibition of his entire works. What a record would it not present of the foibles, follies, and fashions—the humours, the blunders, the vices, the delusions—and amidst all, the onward progress, of the nineteenth century.—*Leisure Hour.*

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—:O:—

The Pythagorean Triangle; or, the Science of Numbers.—BY THE REV. G. OLIVER, D.D., Past M.P.S., Grand Commander S.G.I.G., 33° for England and Wales; Past D.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Past D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire; Honorary Member of numerous Lodges and Literary Societies in every quarter of the globe; author of "The Revelations of a Square," "The Book of the Lodge," "Historical Landmarks," &c., &c. With diagrams. London: John Hogg and Co., Paternoster-row. 1875.

THE name of Oliver is one that will be associated with Masonry and Masonic literature so long as there are brethren who can respect the memory of an able and worthy man, an enthusiastic Mason, and an eminent Masonic writer. The length of time the late Dr. Oliver was connected with our Order very nearly equalled what the Psalmist has proclaimed to be the allotted span of life. In breadth his reputation extended to every part of the world where Masonry is known. In point of dignity he attained a height to which few may aspire, while the love and respect in which he was held of all men was of the deepest and most profound character. The works he published during the literary portion of his career form by themselves a small library of well nigh unequalled merit, and he left behind him more than one valuable work in manuscript. These are now appearing, while our recollection of their author has lost as yet none of its freshness, and while there are yet living very many whose personal knowledge of, or friendship with the man, will ever be regarded as among the brightest features of their own career. To review one or more of these works is a privilege we esteem most highly. We feel as though the author were again among us, urging, with all that force and enthusiasm for which he was so remarkable, the meaning of the great truths of Masonry. It was in this spirit we studied the volume before us, and it is in this spirit, unmingled, however, with anything like fulsome adulation, that we offer these comments on it. In common with all who can appreciate good sound literary work, we feel a very great admiration for the author, but our admiration does not blind us to the fact that much of what he wrote will not stand the rude test of logical analysis. Having a pretty familiar acquaintance with his works, we say, without fear of contradiction, that Dr. Oliver was often carried away by his enthusiastic love of Masonry, and often assigned to its teaching a meaning and connection it never could have possessed. This, comparatively speaking, is a venial error. Most brethren will excuse the writer who seeks to glorify Masonry, even though, in doing so, he exceeds the limit of historic accuracy. The world would hardly be so agreeable a place to live in if it were governed absolutely by the inexorable logic of facts. We admire the introduction of a little fancy in describing the events of our daily life. While, then, we value all the works of Oliver we do not accept all the Oliverian fancies. We do not appreciate the Father of History the less that he himself occasionally varied the dry history of what actually happened with a little fiction. Oliver Goldsmith, of whom it was written, "*Nihil tetigit, quod non ornavit*," is none the less esteemed as an historian and naturalist because his histories of England, Greece, and Rome, and of the Earth, and Animated Nature, are not rigidly accurate. So with the late Dr. Oliver; oftentimes did he set down fancies as facts, and thus many of his works, while undoubtedly attractive reading, are not wholly trustworthy. To pass, however, without further digression to the *Pythagorean Triangle*. The contents of the volume may be described very briefly. There is a preface, admirably written; an introductory chapter, treating generally of the Science of numbers, and ten other chapters, each of which is devoted to the consideration of a number, beginning with one and ending with ten. In handling his subject the author has shown even more than his usual skill and ingenuity in dovetailing theories with facts, and we may add that he is more than usually successful in his conclusions. A summary of one of these chapters will suffice to convey an idea of the treatment.

In Chapter I. is discussed the Number One, the full title being "The Point. Monad, Unity, or the Number One." At the outset, we are told, the practice of primitive man was to count with his fingers, and this practice, how elaborated soever it may have been in the course of ages, still remains the basis of enumeration among civilised people. Thus ten is still the limit of our computation. After this we repeat the ten as two tens, three tens, ten tens or a hundred, ten hundreds or a thousand, ten thousands, then ten thousand thousands or a million, and so on. A primitive man expressed a single thing or person by holding up one finger, two by holding up two fingers, five by raising the hand with all the five fingers extended, twice five by holding up both hands similarly, or by raising the same hand twice, fifteen by raising it thrice, twenty by raising it four times, twenty-two by raising it four times and thereafter two fingers only. After a time written symbols were used to express numbers, thus the Romans expressed one in writing by a single line, or in signs by raising one finger, five by depressing the three middle fingers and raising the thumb and little finger, thus forming the written figure expressed by V. This doubled and thus written V or conjoined as X represented ten. By variously combining X, V, and I, all the numbers above ten and under fifty were then represented, while the latter was expressed by placing the V on its side, thus < Hence in Roman numerals fifty is represented by an L. Then two fifties were described thus [] which in time became a C. Five hundred was expressed by LO, which gradually took the form of a D and a thousand by CL, which came to be M. Among the Greeks and Hebrews the letters of the alphabet were used to express all imaginable numbers.

Thence we pass to the stage when philosophers came to attach

particular virtues to particular numbers, and among them one of the most illustrious of their number, Pythagoras, must be cited as an illustration. By him the Monad was taken to represent the T.G.A.O.T.U., and it was symbolised by the hierogram "of a point within a circle or equilateral triangle, to exemplify the unity of Divine essence, and His Eternity, there being neither beginning of years nor end of days." But we cannot do better than quote the rest of the passage; "And this deduction," continues Dr. Oliver, "appears perfectly reasonable:—

"Because the Monad or Point is the original and cause of the entire numeral system, as God is the cause of all things, being the only and great Creator on whom everything depends; for if there were more all-powerful Beings than one, none would be independent, nor would all perfections be centred in one individual, 'neither formally by reason of their distinction, nor eminently and virtually, for then one should have power to produce the other, and that nature which is producible is not divine. But all acknowledge God to be absolutely and infinitely perfect, in whom all perfections imaginable, which are simply such, must be contained formally, and all others which imply any mixture of perfection, virtually.'"

Having offered further remarks on this number, especially in connection with its interest from a Masonic point of view, Dr. Oliver proceeds to tell us that:—

"Amongst the Grecian philosophers, was a symbol of the hermaphrodite deity, or junction of the sexes, because it partakes of two natures. In a mysterious passage of the Yajur Veda, Brahma is spoken of, after his emanation from the golden egg, as experiencing fear at being alone in the universe; he therefore willed the existence of another, and instantly became masculo-feminine. The two sexes thus existing in one god were immediately, by another act of volition, divided in twain, and became man and wife. This tradition seems to have found its way into Greece; for the Androgyne of Plato is but another version of this Oriental myth. If the Monad be added to an odd number, it makes it even, and if to an even number, it makes it odd. Hence it was called Jupiter, because it stands at the head of numbers, as Jupiter is at the head of gods and men; and also Vesta or Fire, because, like the point within a circle, it is seated in the midst of the world. It was also called the Throne of Jupiter, from the great power which the centre has in the universe, being able to restrain its general circular motion, as if the custody of the Maker of all things were constituted therein."

The author further points out the meaning of the number, and what, at various times, and by various wise men, it was taken to symbolize. Thus, according to Hierocles the Pythagorean, the gods were likened to the Monad, "because there is one immutability and firmness of the virtues, which, it is reasonable to suppose, subsists transcendently with the gods, and which imparts a never-failing stability to their conceptions." Among the same sect it was regarded as the symbol of love and friendship, of the oneness of mankind as a brotherhood, knit together by the same ties of love and Charity. Again, according to the same Hierocles already quoted, One symbolized the Platonic or Pythagorean doctrine of benevolence. This sage says:—

"Each of us is, as it were, circumscribed by many concentric circles; some of which are less, but others larger, and some comprehend, but others are comprehended, according to the different and unequal habitudes with respect to each other. For the first and most proximate circle is that which every one describes about his own mind as a centre, in which circle the body, and whatever is assumed for the sake of the body, are comprehended. For this is nearly the smallest circle, and almost touches the centre itself. The second from this, and which is at a greater distance from the centre, but comprehends the first circle, is that in which parents, brothers, wife, and children are arranged. The third circle from the centre is that which contains uncles and aunts, grandfathers and grandmothers, and the children of brothers and sisters. After this is the circle which comprehends the remaining relatives. Next to this is that which contains the common people, then that which comprehends those of the same tribe, afterwards that which contains the citizens; and then two other circles follow, one being the circle of those that dwell in the vicinity of the city, and the other of those of the same province. But the outermost and greatest circle, and which comprehends all the other circles, is that of the whole human race."

As to the importance of the number, we have several authorities given, but we content ourselves with the following extract:—

"According to Euclid, in his second definition of the seventh book, numbers are formed of many units; but unity being indivisible, has no composition, nor is it a number, but the fountain and mother of all numbers. Being the cause of all numbers, they are formed by a plurality of units. Thus 2 is twice 1; 3 is three units, &c.; so that all numbers require the Monad, while it exists by itself without requiring any other. All which is to be considered of the First Cause; for as one is no number, but the cause and beginning of number, so the First Cause has no affinity to creatures, but is the cause and beginning of them; they all stand in need of Him, and He requires assistance from none. He is all in all, and all are included in Him in the most simple unity. The Jewish Rabbins agree that He is One, and there is no unity like His in the universe; the nearest idea that we can form of Him is symbolised by the unit or the figure one."

"The Pythagoreans say, 'The Monad is the principle of all things. From the Monad came the indeterminate duad, as matters subjected to the cause, Monad; from the Monad and indeterminate duad, Numbers; from numbers, Points; points, Lines; from lines, Superfices; from superficies, Solids; from these solid Bodies, whose elements are four, Fire, Water, Air, Earth; of all which, transmuted, and totally changed, the World consists.'"

These extracts will serve to show how elaborately, how minutely, Dr. Oliver has studied the meaning and symbolism of this number, or rather this "cause of all numbers," but we need not follow him

through the few remaining pages of the chapter, which are only further and confirmatory illustrations of the value of the Monad. Similarly with the other numbers, the exposition throughout is equally interesting—amusing, we may also say, in some places, and, in nearly all cases, equally lucid. We except the following on "the Hexad:—"

"The sceptics used to amuse themselves by such arguments as these: If something be detracted from another, either an equal is detracted from an equal, a greater from a lesser, or a lesser from a greater. But none of these—therefore detraction is not possible. That detraction is not made by any of these ways is manifest. That which is detracted from another must be contained in it; but an equal is not contained in an equal, as six in six; for that which containeth ought to be greater than that which is contained. Neither is the greater contained in the lesser, as six in five; that were absurd. Neither is the lesser contained in the greater; for if five were contained in six, by the same reason, in five will be contained four; in four, three; in three, two; and in two, one. Thus six shall contain five, four, three, two, and one, which being put together make fifteen, which must be contained in six, if it be granted that the lesser is contained in the greater. In like manner, in the fifteen which is thus contained in six, will be contained thirty-five; and so by progression, infinite numbers; but it is absurd to say that infinite numbers are contained in the number six; therefore it is absurd to say that the lesser is contained in the greater."

Now here we confess to being somewhat in a fog. We presume the whole of the arguments were employed by the sceptics, but there is nothing to indicate whether this is so or not, or whether the part of the passage beginning—"That detraction is not made," to the end, is not Dr. Oliver's comment. Be this as it may, in either case we join issue as to detraction not being made in either of these ways. We hold that, mathematically, an equal is contained in an equal, and that it is contained exactly: and further, that five is contained in six, with a unit as remainder. We do not admit the theory that if six contains five, and five four, four three, &c., &c., therefore six contains fifteen—and, ultimately, that infinite numbers might be contained in six. This is obviously a fallacy, but whether of the Sceptics' or Dr. Oliver's own creation, we have no means of determining.

It is impossible, of course, within the circumscribed limits at our command to give more than a very limited idea of the volume. Suffice that each number is similarly treated as number one, that in nearly every case the treatment is as interesting, and this remark especially applies to the Triad, the Tetrad and the Ennead, some singular properties of the first and last of which are well known, no doubt, to our readers. The few remarks we intend to add refer rather to the manner of publication than to its contents. We think the publishers have exercised a wise discretion in leaving Dr. Oliver's text undisturbed: but we see no reason why the services of some competent scholar should not have been called in in order to explain the abstruser portions of the work. We may fairly reckon that the majority of those who read this work will be Masons, but not all Masons are sufficiently acquainted with Hebrew, Greek and Latin to understand the many passages and words in those languages with which the volume is interspersed. Had translations of these been added in the shape of footnotes, the value of the work would have been greatly increased, and we trust, if a new edition be called for, this oversight will be remedied. Here is another reason why some classical scholar should have been invited to peruse the manuscript before it appeared in print. We are not sure the passages are correctly given. The quotation, at p. 52, "Neque enim tanta, &c.," is punctuated wrongly. It is impossible there should be a full stop after *polytheotes*. As the passage stands it has no meaning whatever, but remove the objectionable point, and we see its meaning at once, namely, "It was not the number of the Gods, worshipped by different peoples that was so considerable as the titles under which they were worshipped. This is only one, but it is a conspicuous case of an error having crept in for want of due oversight. But these are points that can be remedied, and we trust they will be removed in any future issue."

The Art of Swimming. By CAPTAIN WEBB, the Channel Swimmer. (Edited by A. G. Payne.) London: Ward, Lock & Tyler, Warwick House, Paternoster-row.

NEXT week Captain Webb will be welcomed cordially into the ranks of Masonry, and his Essay on "The Art of Swimming," apart from its intrinsic value, comes very opportunely, for it will enable our readers to judge what manner of man it is who will so shortly become one of us. The story of his life is simply told. We said, last week, that brave men were men of kindness, and Captain Webb's account of his career, certainly confirms our dictum. He has worked hard and honourably in the career he chose when yet a boy of twelve. He has proved himself to be one of that class of undaunted sailors, on whose skill and courage England will have to rely chiefly in any danger that may threaten her. He possesses more than one testimonial to his unselfish daring, while the feat with which his name will ever be associated, is, as we have previously remarked, unexampled in the history of all ages and peoples. There is, absolutely, no instance on record of a man having swum for nearly twenty-two hours without a moment's respite; and great things may be expected of one who has done what no mortal man ever did before. The one feature that most strikes every one who reads the simple narration of Captain Webb's life, is his strict observance of the truth. On no occasion did he ever allow himself to swerve even a hair's breadth into the crooked path of equivocation, much less into that of wilful misrepresentation, and the man who can honestly show this is worthy the appreciation of the world.

The Essay on Swimming is capitally written. The style is unaffected. The advice it contains is sound and practical. His illustrations of the respective merits of the breast-stroke, the side-stroke, and the overhand-stroke; his instructions how to hold

the body in the water, so that the swimmer may exert his powers to the best advantage; how to overcome the nervousness so many experience when in the water for the first time; his directions how to tread water: all these will be thoroughly appreciated by the expert swimmer, while to the tyro, they will prove invaluable. The plates are very serviceable in illustrating the positions of a swimmer, according to the stroke he adopts.

Of course a narrative of Captain Webb's life, and his advice to swimmers would be incomplete without a full record of his various swimming feat. It is, in keeping, therefore, with the rest of the book, that an account of his two attempts to swim the Channel should be given. But other swimming feats are also given, so that the little volume contains far more than the average amount of useful information, imparted in a style which is acceptable chiefly by reason of its extreme simplicity. We must add that Mr. Payne, as editor, has played his part extremely well. He has arranged the contents admirably. True, the duties were not very onerous, but as Captain Webb's avocations have probably not admitted of his cultivating letters to any extent, we may fairly assume that the literary credit of the work is due principally to Mr. Payne. Be this as it may, both Captain Webb and Mr. Payne deserve our thanks for having published so interesting and so useful a work, and we thank them accordingly, without stint or *arrière pensée*.

The Octopus; or, the "Devil-Fish" of Fiction and of Fact. By Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S., &c., Naturalist of the Brighton Aquarium. With illustrations. London: Chapman and Hall, 193 Piccadilly. 1875.

THE spirit in which our esteemed Bro. Henry Lee has written this highly interesting book, or rather the series of notes, which originally appeared in *Land and Water*, and are here formed into one continuous narrative, may be judged from a single sentence. In answering Victor Hugo's question, "Of what are such creatures? What purpose do they serve?" Bro. Lee having mentioned certain uses to which they are applied in some countries, and before entering upon the discussion of the higher purposes they serve, says, "That this" (to serve as food, or a means of obtaining food) "is the sole object of their being I cannot for one moment suppose; and therefore I am content to believe that the Great Architect of the Universe made them and all things for Himself, and that for His pleasure they are and were created." It is thus evident that to a profound knowledge of his subject, and the enthusiasm proper to an eager Student of Nature, the author unites a deep feeling of reverence for the Supreme Being. This, indeed, was to be expected. The naturalist, by reason of his superior knowledge of created things, can better appreciate the grand works of the Deity than those who see, yet understand not. However, it follows not that a work which is written in a becoming spirit of reverence is of necessity either instructive or interesting. But these Aquarium Notes are both. We know of no one whose account of the Octopus and its habits could possibly be more instructive; for where can we find a higher authority than Bro. Lee? And the author being about as admirable a personification of geniality as is to be found anywhere in this mundane sphere of ours, it were strange, indeed, had he not infused in his narrative a considerable amount of what is the leading feature in his character. So much for the style of the book. As to its contents, we must confine ourselves to indicating their character. Though admirers of Nature, we are not, unfortunately, professed Naturalists. Even were we such, we should pause long, and probably think more than the prescribed three times of Mr. Gladstone before attempting to air our little knowledge in the presence of so great an authority. After a brief introduction, the author describes the position of the Octopus and its relatives in the animal kingdom. He then gives an account of "Octopods" he "has known." Next he examines Victor Hugo's well-known romance, *Les Travailleurs de la Mer*, or, rather those portions of it in which the Octopus figures, with a view to pointing out how far the great French novelist has drawn upon his imagination, how far he has adhered to facts. He then describes the Octopus out of water, and various matters relating to the habits of this animal and its relatives, the Cuttles and Squids, with which we are somewhat more familiar, and the economic value of cuttle-fishes, while, in the last chapter of all, he gives an account of gigantic cuttle-fishes, whose existence has been perfectly authenticated. It will be seen from this slight, and we fear, somewhat lame, account of the book, that, from a technical point of view, the author has omitted from his programme nothing which could throw any light upon this singular creature. One other aspect only remains in which we need consider this volume. We have shown that the spirit which animates the author is one of reverence for the G.A.O.T.U. We have indicated, sufficiently, we hope, that it is very instructive. We shall experience still less difficulty in proving it to be, in the highest degree, interesting. Those of our readers who are at all acquainted with the columns of that most edifying of journals, *Land and Water*, know well the singularly happy style in which Bro. Lee imparts his knowledge to the public. These are the identical notes, with the advantage of a careful revision by the author, which originally appeared in that journal. From notes thus happily written, whose publication occurred at intervals more or less regular, it is obvious that a most entertaining narrative must be made; but, as not all of our readers, perhaps, have seen them in their original form, we take leave to quote one or two extracts for their benefit. Thus, the following as to danger to bathers from the Octopus:—

"I have often been asked whether an octopus of the ordinary size can really be dangerous to bathers. Decidedly 'Yes,' in certain situations. An octopus would not seize a man for the purpose of devouring him; nor do I believe that the act would be prompted by a deliberate intention to drown him, that his dead body might become an attractive bait for crabs, which are the animal's favourite food; but rather by an instinctive desire to lay hold on anything moving within reach. The holding power of its numerous suckers is enormous. It is almost impossible forcibly to detach it

from its adhesion to a rock or the flat bottom of a tank; and if a large one happened to fix one or more of its strong, tough arms on the leg of a swimmer whilst the others held firmly to a rock, I doubt if the man could disengage himself under water, by mere strength, before being exhausted. Fortunately, it can be made to relax its hold by grasping it tightly round the 'throat' (if I may so call it), and it may be well that this should be known."

Instances are given in confirmation of this view, and one of them, narrated by Major Newsome, R.E., as having occurred to him once when bathing in a deep port at East London, about 900 miles from the Cape, on the East Coast of Africa, we quote:—

"One morning I took a header into one of these pools, which was, perhaps, 20 feet long, 7 to 8 feet wide, and deep in the centre—8 or 9 feet. As I swam from one end to the other, I was horrified at feeling something around my ankle, and made for the side as speedily as I could. I thought at first it was only sea-weed; but as I landed, and trod my foot on the rock, my disgust was heightened at feeling a fleshy and slippery substance under me. I was, I confess, alarmed, and so, apparently, was the beast on whom I trod, and whom, I suspect, I thereby discomfited, as he quickly detached himself and made again for the water. Some fellow-bathers, whom I hailed, came to my assistance, and with a boat-hook, on to which the brute clung, he was, eventually, safely landed. When extended he would have filled a hoop of five feet diameter. The grasp of an ordinary sized octopus holding to a rock would, I suppose, in lat. 30°, be not less than 40 lb. to 50 lb. The floating power of a man is between 5 lb. and 6 lb., and it takes a very strong swimmer to convey an ordinary fowling-piece, which weighs only 7 lb., across a river, dry. Had I not kept mid-channel, I believe it would have been a life-and-death struggle between myself and the beast on my ankle. In the open water I was the best man; but near the bottom or sides, which I could not have reached with my arms, but which he could have reached with his, he would, certainly, have drowned me."

In the chapter on "The Octopus out of Water," the author tells us how, in May 1870, the attendants at the Brighton Aquarium were puzzled to account for the almost regular disappearance of certain lump fish. "Almost daily there was a fresh and inexplicable vacancy in the gradually diminishing family circle, and morning after morning a handbill might have been issued:—'Missing! Lost, stolen, or strayed, a young 'lump-sucker,' rather below the middle size, and enormously stout; had on a bright blue coat, with several rows of buttons on it, and a waistcoat of lighter colour. Whoever will give such information as shall lead to the discovery of the same, or produce satisfactory evidence of his death, will relieve the troubled minds of the curators!' 'What on earth can have become of them?' 'Where can they be?' were the questions each attendant asked in vain of another." They had not died, or their bodies would have been in the tank; they had not burrowed in the shingle, for it was not deep enough, and they were too obese to have jumped out. A watch was set and the mystery was at once solved. One morning an Octopus was found in tank 27, all among the lump fish. It had got out of its own tank for the purpose of preying on the latter; but let Bro. Lee give his own version:—

"The marauding rascal had occasionally issued from the water in his tank, and clambered up the rocks, and over the wall into the next one; there he had helped himself to a young lump-fish, and, having devoured it, returned demurely to his own quarters by the same route, with well filled stomach and contented mind. This was not very difficult for him to accomplish, for the partition between the two tanks is only about a foot above the surface of the water. Having accidentally, or otherwise, discovered that there was a preserve of live stock suitable to his palate next door, he paid frequent nocturnal poaching visits to it, and, after clearing up every remnant of his meal, regularly slunk home before daylight; until, like most criminals, becoming careless by frequently escaping detection, he, on the last occasion, indulged at supper time in an inordinate gorge, and slept under his neighbour's porch, instead of going to bed."

We could go on quoting almost *ad infinitum*, and we should much like to do it, but considerations of space forbid us. If our readers wish to know how to settle an Octopus if embraced by one, when taking a dip in the briny, near some rocky cleft where Octopods mostly do conceal themselves; if they would study their marriage customs, their spawning, the treatment of the young by the mother Octopus; if they would know about the cuttles, their habit of, and skill in, squirting an inky secretion at those who touch them, how the late Tom Hood the younger, when fishing in Looe harbour, caught one of them, and receiving a squirt full in his face, exclaimed that, "he did not exactly know what he had on his line, but he thought he had caught a young garden engine," and how a certain Essex fisherman, known as Bill, once got a squirt of ink on his nose from another; if they would have authentic information of the monster Cuttle fishes, which are to be found in the Atlantic, off the coast of North America, and in other seas, the advice we give in all sincerity is, go and read Bro. Lee's Aquarium Notes on *The Octopus; the Devil Fish of Fiction and of Fact*.

It only remains that we should congratulate Bro. Lee on the re-appearance of these notes in a connected form. We thank him "muchly" for the opportunity he has afforded us of extending the circle of our knowledge, under very enjoyable circumstances.

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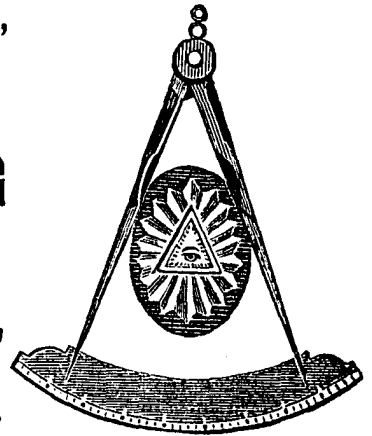
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THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.

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IS NOT PERFECT. BLUE BEARD, and CRYPHOCONCHOLDSY-
PHONOTOMATO.

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UNCLE'S WILL.

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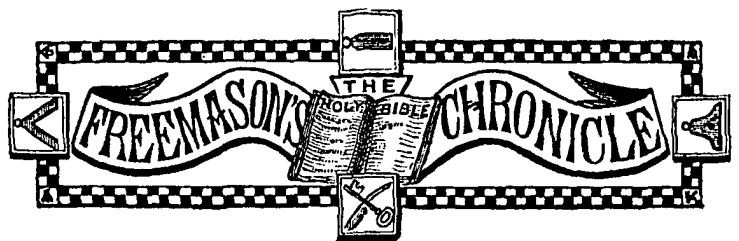
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE Prince of Wales, when we left him last week, was
in the full enjoyment of the Masonic Ball given by
the Craft in Bombay, in honour of his visit. It is almost
needless to add, that this passed off most successfully, and
it were difficult to say which were the most pleased, the
hosts, or their Royal and fraternal guest. Since then His
Royal Highness has done the work of sight-seeing with a
vigour that is, in the highest degree, creditable. Among
the marvels he has seen must be mentioned the Caves of
Elephantas, which were illuminated in his honour, and in
which he was served with something more substantial still
in the shape of a repast. Poonah, also, has been honoured.
In visiting this city the Prince had to ascend the Ghauts
by rail, and descend by the other slope. His reception
was, of course, a right royal one. There was a grand review
of the military, a grand banquet, a grand ball, and visits
to the places of interest in the immediate neighbourhood.
After this he returned to Bombay, and the sounds of
revelry, by night and by day, were renewed as a matter of
course. Owing to the appearance of Cholera, not in
isolated cases, but unhappily among well-to-do Europeans,
as well as the poorer class of natives, the Prince's pro-
gramme, as first sketched, will not be carried out, his
visit to the Madras Presidency having been struck out.
By this time, no doubt, he is on his way to Ceylon, where
he will enjoy a brief experience of elephant-hunting, and
visit some of the coffee plantations. The Princess of
Wales, with her guests, the King and Queen of Denmark,
her sister, Princess Thyra, and her children, have returned
to Marlborough House from Sandringham. On Thursday
evening the Gaiety was honoured with a visit by Her
Royal Highness and their Majesties. His Royal Highness
the Duke of Connaught has received the congratulations
of the Craft on his arrival at Gibraltar.

The floods which have prevailed at intervals in different
parts of the country have been very serious, and have been
attended with very great damage to property. This is
especially the case in the Thames Valley. All about Oxford,
in Bucks, at Windsor, and elsewhere, the river has over-
flowed the neighbouring country, which has the appearance
of one vast expanse of water. On the night of Sunday-
Monday, the southern parts of London were deluged with
water. At Nine Elms, the Thames rose far above the en-
closing wall of the South Western goods depôt, and dash-
ing through the premises swept trucks and goods right
away into the Wandsworth-road. Fulham Palace was
partially submerged, the ground, floor in which are situated
the library and other rooms, being filled with water to a

considerable depth. But the worst effects were felt by the poor inhabitants of Lambeth, dwelling on the water side, who have lost what little property they possessed in the way of furniture, and it is estimated that quite 2,000 people are thus reduced to comparative poverty. Of course, a subscription was at once started to meet the more immediate requirements, and on Thursday an influential deputation, headed by Mr. Twells, one of the members for the City, waited upon Lord Mayor Cotton and urged upon his lordship that a relief fund should be started at once. Equally of course, Lord Mayor Cotton acceded to the request and a subscription was then and there started, the Corporation heading the list with the munificent sum of £500. From other parts of the country the cry, as to the floods, is "Still they come," and there can be no question but the state of things is very dreadful to contemplate. Along the coast, too, there have been terrible gales, resulting in very serious destruction of property, especially on the coasts of Kent and Sussex, and unfortunately loss of life has resulted in more than one instance. Indeed, this deluge of waters is almost without precedent, and the tide on the Thames on Monday morning is said to have been the highest ever registered. But for the foresight and energy of the Thames and Metropolitan police, who gave the inhabitants of Lambeth warning, it is terrible to think how many lives must have been sacrificed.

The power of love is certainly not illustrated in the married life of Miss Nelly Power, the actress. Though married as recently as June of last year, she finds it impossible to live happily with her husband who, in spite of repeated requests not to call at her mother's house, where she resides, will persist in calling. As a result of these domestic squabbles, a Mr. F. G. Hobson was summoned by the husband for assault, and after hearing the evidence of Mrs. Barnett, *née* Power, the magistrate thought the justice of the case would be met by binding Mr. Hobson over in two sureties of £25 each, and his own recognisances in £50, to be of good behaviour for six months.

The Court of Probate is, at the moment of writing, engaged in a great will case, the disputants being sundry relations of the late Lord St. Leonards, for the recovery of whose will a very large reward was offered some months ago. The evidence of the Hon. Miss Sugden is to the effect that her father, whose little handbook on wills is one of the most popular and useful legal treatises ever written, had made a will, and at different times subsequently had attached sundry codicils thereto. So thoroughly acquainted was she with its contents that she had been able to write down nearly all its most important provisions. The case is still proceeding.

At the Court of Common Council, held on Thursday, the new Lord Mayor was received with very great cordiality, that being the first occasion on which his Lordship had presided since his inauguration as chief magistrate of the City. A vote of thanks was also carried by acclamation to the late Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman Stone, for his services to the Corporation and the citizens at large during his Mayoralty. On this occasion, also, the sum of £500 was voted to the sufferers by the recent inundations on the banks of the Thames, as referred to above.

Sir John Glover, whose exploits in Ashantee land are familiar to our readers, is reported to be lying dangerously ill in Queen's County, Ireland, owing to serious injuries received in a recent collision on the Midland line. Erysipelas is said to have set in, and threatens to attack the spine. We hope the gallant officer will survive so critical a juncture. The services of so able a man are invaluable.

An unseemly squabble has arisen in some of the papers anent the dismissal by Dr. Hornby of one of his tutors. Of course the case, like every other, has two sides to it, but it seems to us a matter of some importance that the relations between the head and subordinate masters of our greatest public school, should not needlessly be brought before the public. The governing body had not thought fit to intervene effectually in behalf of the aggrieved subordinate, and no good whatever is gained by giving such prominence to the matter. Indeed, the disciplinary arrangements of our schools must be considerably weakened if any incident in their conduct is thus publicly questioned.

Further experiments have been made at Woolwich with the 81-ton gun. On Thursday four rounds were fired with various charges, beginning with 220lbs. and rising by 10lbs. to 240lbs., the weight of the projectile being 1,260lbs. The success of this monster gun is now placed beyond

doubt, and we suppose but a short time will elapse ere the next thing in Woolwich infants will be a 160-tonner.

The National Assembly at Versailles have disposed of the Electoral Bill, so that some time between now and early spring we shall see a new election in France. The Carlist war still drags its weary length along, and there is a reported defeat of the Turkish troops by the insurgents in the Herzegovina. Of other foreign news there is but little worth recording.

The regular monthly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. in the chair; Bros. Jas. Brett P.G.P., and E. P. Albert Asst. G.P. occupying the vice-chairs. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren. The nomination of twelve P.M.'s to serve on the Grand Lodge of Benevolence took place; the reports of the Board of General Purposes and of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution were read, and scrutineers were appointed; Bro. John Hervey G.S. read the minutes of the former meeting, and the list of grants to the amount of £205; there were 31 new cases, these were relieved to the amount of £865. There were present Bros. J. Smith P.G.P., Wright G.P., T. Cubitt P.G.P., Ough P.G.P., W. Smith P.G.P., H. Dicketts P.G.S., C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., S. May P.G.S., J. Boyd P.G.P., Wood, Hutton, W. C. Parsons, Hilton, Swallow, Bartlett, H. Garrod, W. Stephens, J. T. Sabine, C. Hogard, H. G. Buss, Pendlebury, Bingemann, H. Levander, Middleton, W. Mann-Wilson, Michael, H. Massey, Headon, J. Coutts P.G.P., C. Carter, &c.

Our readers who, at this dull season, find some pleasure in flowers, should pay a visit to Alexandra Palace, where the Messrs. W. Cutbush and Son have on view a capital display of Chrysanthemums. We cannot speak in sufficiently high terms of the admirable taste with which the plants are arranged. Occupying a central position in the middle of the Great Central Hall, they may be seen to very great advantage from well nigh every point. There is great variety of colour, and some of the specimens were especially fine. In particular we noticed four, which were fully as large as any we have seen. These were, the Prince of Wales, purple violet, incurved, fine; the Princess of Wales, white, tinted rose; Dr. Sharpe, magenta crimson; and Mrs. Sharpe, pinkish rose. Others there were, without number, almost equal to these in point of merit. However, as the exhibition will remain open to the public till next Saturday, our readers will do well to go and judge for themselves.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, Prov. G.M. N. and E. Yorkshire, met with an accident when out hunting, on Saturday, in the neighbourhood of Cockfield. His Lordship's horse put one of its feet into a rabbit hole, and fell, the Earl being thrown with some violence over the animal's head. A carriage was at once procured, and his Lordship conveyed to his residence at Aske Hall, where medical assistance having arrived, it was discovered he had dislocated his shoulder. By the latest accounts the Earl is progressing favourably, and we trust he will be speedily restored to health.

Bro. Griffiths Smith P.G.S., of No. 15 Furnivals Inn, Holborn, has been appointed a London commissioner to administer oaths in the supreme Court of Judicature.

The Royal Institution of Great Britain has now for its opposite neighbours the well-known firm of Messrs Felton and Sons, proprietors of the popular "Spécialité" Sherry, whose unbounded success in the sale of this wholesome wine has compelled them to remove from Conduit Street to their present handsome, extensive and convenient premises in Albemarle-street.—*Morning Post*.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—We implore all who desire to regain or retain health, during cold, inclement, uncertain weather, to give heed unto this warning, and spare themselves the misery sown broadcast through the land. Turn which way you will, go where you please, persons will be found who have a ready word of praise for this Ointment. For chaps, chafes, scalds, bruises and sprains, it is an invaluable remedy; for bad legs, caused by accident or cold, it may be confidently relied upon for effecting a sound and permanent cure. In cases of swelled ankles, erysipelas, gout, and rheumatism, Holloway's Ointment gives the greatest comfort, by reducing the inflammation, cooling the blood, soothing the nerves, adjusting the circulation, and expelling impurities.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE.

ST. John's Lodge, No. 1564, Knap Hill, Woking, in the province of Surrey, was Consecrated by R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Lt. General Brownrigg, assisted by the W. Bro. the Reverend C. W. Arnold, the Grand Chaplain for the province of Surrey, on Tuesday, 9th of November. We give our readers the oration delivered by Bro. Arnold on that occasion:—

"Before the consecration of this Lodge commences let us say a few words on Masonry, and bring before you, briefly, some of its prominent features, that we may enter on our service to day with hearts and minds influenced aright.

"What is Masonry? A pure system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. Is Masonry, then, in any way antagonistic to religion? Certainly not, Masonry is the hand-maid of religion. The volume of the Sacred Law contains all that is necessary for man's salvation, and points out to him the line of conduct which will eventually lead him to eternal bliss in the glorious realms above. But man is weak and frail, and constantly inclined to fall. Masonry, by signs and symbols, reminds him of God's teaching; and so unites his instruction with the implements of labour and the object of nature and art, that everything by which he is surrounded reiterates her lessons.

"The different degrees of Masonry represents the stages of life, reminding us of our origin and end, and point out how all we have is due to the boundless goodness of the Great Architect of the Universe. Thus are the great lessons of humility and mutual dependence inculcated, and the principle of active charity fanned into a flame that lights up the whole life of the true Mason. The development of the intellectual faculties is encouraged with due subservience to the omniscience of the Grand Geometrician of the Universe. The contemplation of the closing scene of life teaches us the great lesson of self-examination, so that, faithfully acting up to the principles we profess, we may look forward with hope and confidence to the rising of that bright morning star which will bring to us that final joy and peace for which the faithful are ever longing.

"But let us be very careful, brethren, lest we attend to mere external forms and ceremonies whilst neglecting their spiritual instruction; and whilst we adhere steadfastly to the ancient landmarks of our Order, let us remember that our symbols are only useful whilst they inculcate and keep in view some true, some vital principle, and as the building of that grand temple by King Solomon is symbolical of the building which should be reared in the heart of man, so let us build up our hearts and bodies as fit temples in which the pure spirit of the Most High may dwell.

"We are to-day engaged constituting a new Lodge. Its prosperity will depend on the conduct of its officers and members. Those who are called to rule must exercise their office with firmness and discretion, tempered with kindness, whilst those who are not yet fit to rule must practice and learn obedience, and aid and assist those above them with prompt and willing mind. All jealousies and differences must be set aside, and brotherly love flourish and prevail.

"It should be the earnest desire of every brother, testified to by his life and actions, that God may say of this Lodge as of His Temple: 'I have hallowed this house to put My name there for ever, and Mine eyes and Mine heart shall be there perpetually.'"

TRAFALGAR R.A. CHAPTER, 157 S.C., ST. HELENS, NEW ZEALAND,

THE Installation and Banquet of this prosperous Chapter took place at the Masonic Hall, Trafalgar, St. Helens, on Thursday, the 23rd September.

The Chapter was opened in due form at high noon, and M.E. Comp. Squires, in the unavoidable absence of the First Principal, conducted the installation and investiture. By common consent it seemed to be the desire, as far as possible, to retain, in the same respective positions, the services of those office bearers whose exertions, during the past year, had resulted so satisfactorily, and accordingly, after the list of Companions eligible for office was presented, the respective nominations were accepted without competition in any instance; the ballot thus being rendered unnecessary.

The following elections were declared:—W. B. Sealy M.D., Z., W. W. Squires, M.D., H., both re-elected, William Holmes J., W. M. Stanton E. (re-elected), J. Hounsell N., P. G. Bowman Treasurer (the Treasurer of last year desiring to retire), L. G. Boor 1st (late 2nd) Soj., J. C. Monray 2nd (late 3rd) Soj., and Alfred Jackson 3rd Soj. George McDonald was appointed Janitor.

The Chapter was then adjourned for the Installation of Comp. Holmes as M.E. Third Principal.

On its re-opening, M.E. Comp. Squires administered the obligation and invested the several office bearers, during which he presented E. Comp. W. M. Stanton with a gold signet ring, bearing the Royal Arch Emblems (with a suitable inscription inside), as the gift of the Companions, in acknowledgment and appreciation of his services in the foundation and organisation of the Chapter.

Comp. Stanton, being taken by surprise at this unexpected mark of favour, assured the Companions that whilst he felt that the importance of his services were magnified by his brethren and Companions, they were at all times a self-rewarding labour of love, of which he could not readily tire.

Two Companions were, at this stage of the proceedings, affiliated to the Trafalgar Chapter.

Comp. Stanton then addressed M.E. Comp. Sealy (who had but recently arrived), to the effect that he had the pleasing task delegated to him of rendering honour to whom honour is due, by presenting the M.E. First Principal, in the name of the Chapter, with a testimonial of the respect, admiration and affection, for the many years' unflinching efforts directed to the welfare of Masonry, and for a continuous example to the world, as well as to the Craft, of a just,

upright and blameless life; of admiration for the extraordinary talent and aptitude in the working of this new Chapter (to which must mainly be attributed its acknowledged high position), and of affection for the unchanging courteous and kindly bearing for which he is so distinguished,

The M.E. Comp. returned thanks in feeling terms, promising to continue to preserve the esteem of the Companions, which he so justly appreciated; at the same time he desired to offer a tribute to Scribe E., whose support and assistance in conducting the duties of his offices he valued so highly.

The Chapter was then closed in due form.

The Banquet was held on the evening of the same day, and a goodly number of the Companions and brethren (invited guests) sat down to a sumptuous repast, provided by Comp. Tregen, the Steward. After the removal of the cloth, the following toasts were drunk, with usual honours, the first four being given from the chair, which was ably filled by the M.E. First Principal.

"Her Majesty, the Queen, our Patroness, God bless her."

"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as first Grand Principal of England, and the Grand Principals of Scotland and Ireland."

"The Grand Superintendent and Officers of the District Grand Chapter of New Zealand."

"The Canterbury Kilwinning Chapter, coupled with the health of M.E. Companions Thiel and Booth."

Telegrams communicating the two last toasts were then transmitted to the Chapters assembled at Dunedin and at Christchurch, distant respectively 450 and 200 miles, and within twenty minutes replies congratulatory were received from each.

Comp. Hastwick proposed the "First Principal," to which the M.E. Comp. responded.

M.E. Comp. Sealey then gave the "Second and Third Principals and other Officers of the Trafalgar Chapter." M.E. Comp. Squires gave the "W.M., Officers and Brethren of the Southern Star Lodge," responded to by the W.M. Bro. Lightfoot.

M.E. Comp. Sealy proposed the health of Scribe E., for which, and for the graceful terms in which the toast was given, Companion Stanton heartily returned thanks.

The memory of the late Companion Arthur Dobb, Past J., was then drunk in solemn silence.

"Our Visitors and Guests," given by M.E. Comp. Sealy, was responded to by Comp. Millard F.S.D., and the toast "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," brought the formal proceedings to a close, and the remainder of the evening was agreeably devoted to song and chorus harmony.

The Chapter numbers at present forty-five Companions, of all grades of society, merchants, tradesmen, clergymen, and a number of various professions, and its future prospects seem as hopeful and encouraging as its beginning.

THE installation of the Worshipful Master and Officers of Prince of Wales Lodge, E.C., took place on Sept. 16, under more than usual éclat. The Lodge was opened at 6 p.m. by Bro. G. N. Brassey W.M. After the Lodge business was concluded, Bro. P. M. Leers took the chair, and delivered a very impressive charge to Bro. W. M. Skinner M.M. elect. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and we believe, without exception, there was the largest number of Past Masters present that have yet assembled in Auckland. The solemn and impressive ceremony was performed in a very able and efficient manner by Bro. P. M. Leers. The brethren of the various degrees having been admitted, Bro. W. M. Skinner then installed his officers as follow: Bro. Clayton S.W.; Bro. Rev. Nelson J.W.; Bro. Stoddard Treasurer; Bro. P. M. Leers Secretary; Bro. Dawson S.D.; Bro. Dyer J.D.; Bro. Rathring I.G.; Bro. Porter Tyler. The usual banquet followed. After full justice had been done to the festive board, various toasts were proposed and drank.

The ceremony of installing Bro. W. McCullough into the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of New Zealand, under the Scottish Constitution, took place on the 21st September, in the Lodge Room, Masonic Hotel. At 7.30 p.m., St. Andrew's Lodge, 418, S.C., was opened in the third degree by Bro. M. Niccol R.W.M. The Provincial Grand Lodge, I.C., was then announced and received in due form, and the P.G.L. Officers took the place of the Craft Officers, and opened the P.G. Lodge in ample form. Bro. McCullough was then presented to the P.G.M. of New Zealand, I.C., Bro. G. P. Pierce, for installation, Bro. Pierce having been requested by the P.G.M., S.C., who is resident at Dunedin, to do so. The D.R.G.M. elect was presented by Past Masters Hay, Dewar, Anderson, and Niccol, the last named of whom made a few appropriate remarks. Bro. McCullough was then invested and installed, Bro. Pierce conducting the ceremony in the most impressive manner, and ably assisted by the V.W.P.G. Chaplain, Dr. Kidd, and Bro. Rev. D. Bruce, Chaplain of St. Andrew's. The D.G.P.M., having been placed to the right of the P.G.M. and saluted with grand honours, Dr. Kidd then delivered a very able and instructive address, which was listened to with pleasure by the brethren, many expressing the desire that the oration might be printed. Bro. McCullough having briefly thanked the brethren, the P.G. Lodge was closed, the officers of St. Andrew's Lodge resumed their chairs and closed. The brethren afterwards sat down, to the number of about fifty, to an excellent supper provided by Host Avey, at which Bro. Niccol R.W.M. of St. Andrew's presided, supported on the right by Bro. G. P. Pierce P.G.M. of New Zealand, I.C., and on the left of Bro. McCullough D.P.G.M. of New Zealand, S.C.

The Rev. P. P. Agnew, Past Provincial Grand Chaplain of English and Scotch Constitutions, gave, on Sept. 22, according to notice, his lecture upon Freemasonry, Bro. G. P. Pierce, Provincial Grand Master in the chair. The platform was occupied by brethren of the various Lodges of the Irish, English, and Scotch Constitutions; also of the "Royal Arch," and the Rev. Bro. Nelson, and the Rev. Dr. Kidd, Chaplains; the chairman, and Masonic brethren, both on the platform and in the body of the hall, were in full regalia, according to their respective degrees.—*New Zealand Herald*.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c. as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

SATURDAY, 20th NOVEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

SUNDAY, 21st NOVEMBER.

54—Hope, Spread Eagle, Rochdale. (Instruction.)

MONDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)

43—St. Paul's, Masonic Hall, Birmingham.

68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.

999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.

TUESDAY, 23rd NOVEMBER.

92—Moir, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1393—Hamer, 92 Everton-road, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 24th NOVEMBER.

193—Confidence, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury.
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, High-street, Maidstone. (Instruction.)
906—Sondes, Assembly Rooms, East Dereham.
1222—St. Kew, Masonic Hall, High-street, Weston-Super-Mare.

THURSDAY, 25th NOVEMBER.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1421—Lanthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford, E.
R. A.—657—Canonbury, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
39—St. John the Baptist, Masonic Hall, Exeter.
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
594—Downshire, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
707—St. Mary's, Bull Inn, Bridport.
871—Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Westgate, Rotherham.
906—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Staffordshire.
1128—Oakwood, Stockdove Inn, Romily, Cheshire.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.

FRIDAY, 26th NOVEMBER.

569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road.
861—Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1278—Burdett Cutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1385—Gladmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)

SATURDAY, 27th NOVEMBER.

R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY—195—St. Patrick's, Masonic Rooms, Belfast.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexander Hall, Cockburn-street.
R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—392—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—102—St. Mark's, 213 Buchanan-street.
219—Star, 12 Trongate.
362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.
541—Marie Stewart, Freemasons' Hall, Crosshill.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
R. A.—67—Cathedral, 22 Struthers-street.
WEDNESDAY—510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
577—Dramatic, 213 Buchanan-street.
THURSDAY—553—St. Vincent, 162 Kent-road.
R. A.—117—Govan, Portland Hall, Govan.
FRIDAY—R. A. 99—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
F. G. Chapter for Lanarkshire, St. Mark's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street.
SATURDAY—R. A.—143 Robert Burns, Holytown.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Britannic Lodge, No. 33.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Gt. Queen-street. Present—Bros. J. Chynoweth W.M., F. Pendered S.W., John Davis J.W., Lewis Crombie Treasurer, Thos. A. Chubb Secretary, J. S. Pierce P.M. D.C., E. Strouts Steward, who acted as Deacon, and Magnus Ohren P.M. as Deacon, and Wm. Sugg as I.G., in place of those officers, who were unable to attend, and the following P.M.'s and brethren: J. E. Eachus I.P.M., John Strapp, Wm. Smith, Jno. Glaisher, F. G. Finch, G. N. Strawbridge, Chas. Horsley, Wm. Clinton, Chas. Pawley, Jno. Ricks, Chas. W. Turner, Jas. Robertson, Henry Finlay, W. P. Boddy, G. J. Huntly, Wm. G. Davis, F. W. Varley, J. W. Goodall and other brethren and visitors. Business—The ballot was unanimous in favour of Bros. William Battye P.M. No. 142, Wm. Robt. Woodman P.M. Grenadiers, No. 66, Charles Bennett P.M. Robert Burns, No. 25, as joining members. Bros. Hallows and Millar were raised. Bros. Hald, Davidson and Campbell were passed. The following notice of motion, by Bro. Ohren P.M., was carried:—“That after the word ‘deposit’ in the Bye-Law No. 15, page 10, line 12,—the following words be added:—unless the Joining Brother be a Principal or Past Principal of the Britannic Chapter, in which case the Joining Fee for such Brother shall be Five Guineas only, including the deposit.” Stewards were appointed to the three Masonic Charities for the ensuing year. All the work was performed by the W.M., who came up from the country to attend to his duties, and carried them out to the satisfaction of the Lodge. He afterwards presided at the banquet, with his usual ability. The next meeting of the Lodge is on the second Friday in February.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge held its regular weekly meeting on the 15th of November, at the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, St. John's Square, E.C. Present—Bros. Crawley W.M., Killick S.W., Percy J.W., Crutch S.D., Trewinnard J.D., Jones I.G., Christopher Tyler. Business—The Lodge was opened in the usual manner, and the minutes confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Stock candidate. Bro. Tolmie rehearsed the Traditional History, and worked the 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the third Lecture. Bro. Powell, 186, was elected a member, and the S.W. appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge closed punctually.

Glasgow Chapter, No. 50.—The Chapter held its regular meeting on the 11th inst., at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Comp. Miller Z. being unable to attend, Comp. Duthie Z. 67 proceeded to open a Mark Master Lodge, with G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as Senior Warden, J. Duthie as Junior Warden. A petition for advancement being read from a brother of the Athol Lodge, at the request of the acting Z., Comp. J. Mercer, 1st S. of Chapter 87, worked the Mark Degree in excellent style, for which he received the thanks of the Lodge. A Most Excellent Lodge was then opened, when Comp. Duthie conferred that degree on the same candidate. The Chapter was then opened by J. Duthie Z., G. W. Wheeler as H., J. Louttit J., J. Morrison S.E., J. Robinson N., P. Agnew, T. C. McKenzie 1st S., and the same gentleman was entrusted with the secrets of the Arch Degree. Amongst the visitors present, besides those named above, we observed Comp. D. Anderson and Broadfort 73, and J. Johnson J. 122.

Angel Lodge, No. 51.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge, on the 9th inst., was saddened by the recent death of the venerable Treasurer to the Lodge, Bro. William Slaney, and in respect for whose memory all the brethren appeared in Craft mourning. Bro. Slaney was looked upon as “Father” of the Lodge, the date of his initiation being so far back as 1839, and it is 33 years since he occupied the chair of K.S. Up to within a very short period Bro. Slaney continued to take a most active interest in the affairs of the Lodge, and at the time of his decease occupied the post of Treasurer. It was but natural, therefore, that deep regret should be felt at the loss of so able a member, and the following resolution was unanimously passed, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, the Secretary receiving instructions to forward a copy of the same to Mrs. Slaney.

“That the members of this Lodge have heard with deep regret of the death of Bro. William Slaney, one of the oldest Past Masters, and for many years Treasurer, and they desire to convey to his widow and family the sincerest expressions of condolence in their affliction. The long services of Bro. Slaney to this Lodge have been of a most important character, and will always be held in affectionate remembrance.”

The *Essex Standard* thus records the funeral of Bro. Slaney, which took place on Monday, 8th November 1875:—“The funeral of the late Mr. Wm. Slaney took place on Monday, the resting spot selected for his remains being the quiet Churchyard of Lexden, where his father and brothers had been interred. As the deceased had been for very many years not only the faithful and confidential clerk of the firm of Messrs. Mills, Errington and Bawtree, of this town, bankers, but also a former Master and Treasurer of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, a number of the Masonic brethren assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to their departed brother; we say respect, because there was in Mr. Slaney a fund of geniality and amiability which endeared him to all who knew him. Not that he was a fawning sycophant, or one of those people who, at the sacrifice of strict honour, endeavour to ‘make things pleasant.’ He knew how to reprove where reproof was necessary, but the rebuke was always accompanied with a pleasing expression which showed as clearly as could be that nothing but a sense of duty prompted the remark. Some 30 of the Craft assembled at the Churchyard, the mourning being limited to black gloves. Forming two rows, the cortege passed

between them, followed by the immediate members of the family, with our respected High Steward, and a junior member of the firm. The brethren then faced inwards, and followed the remains into the Church, where the Vicar of St. Peter's, Colchester, who had ministered to the deceased, read the impressive and beautiful Funeral Service of the Church of England. The repose and quiet of the place befitted the ceremony, and as no one had put on the trappings of woe except for sheer respect, there was a solemn reality in the proceedings. The Benediction having been pronounced over the grave, each of the brethren dropped a sprig of acacia on the coffin, as emblematic of the resurrection of the spiritual body of their departed brother, and all was over."

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Thursday, the 18th of November, at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. Present—Bros. Stead W.M., Ellis S.W., Blackall J.W., C. A. Grammer Hon. Secretary, Horsley S.D., Crane J.D., Maidwell I.G., and numerous other brethren. Business—The Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Parker acting as candidate. The three sections of the 3rd lecture were worked by Bro. Horsley, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was then closed in the three degrees, according to ancient form.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its nomination meeting on the 16th November, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, when the following brethren were unanimously chosen:—R.W.M. G. McDonald re-elected, S.W. A. McLeod, J.W. G. Handbridge, Secretary R. Richards, Treasurer J. S. Ampleford, Chaplain G. W. Wheeler, S.D. W. Kay, J.D. J. Youlle, P.G.S. J. Kinard, S.S. J. McQueen, J.S. G. McDonald jun., B.B. A. Young, S.B. A. Smith, D.C. W. McFarlane, I.G. B. Levi, J.O.G. A. Kay. The Lodge was then raised to the third degree, when the R.W.M., in his usual careful style, raised Bro. John Wright to the sublime degree. The Lodge was then closed.

Domestic Lodge, No. 177.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 13th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bro. G. Everett W.M., Treadwell S.W., J. Willing J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. Treasurer, Williams Secretary, Palmer S.D., Bascall J.D., Clarke I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Kent I.P.M., Tims, Elmes and Walford; Bros. Jones, Willis, Hodges, Goodfellow, Purchase, Plenderleith, Smith, Allen, Richards, Potter, Gibson, Parker, Jennings, Holder, Spiller and Brown. Business—Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Osborne was raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Wigmore, Beverstock, Jennings, Pierpoint, Pinhey and Sherlock were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Messrs. Ferrier, Zoebelli, W. Friend, W. J. Bennett and J. Billingham were initiated into the Order. The ceremonies were ably and perfectly rendered by the W.M., who, we regret to say, was labouring under great indisposition. Bro. Jas. Willing J.W. announced his intention of serving as Steward at the next anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren, numbering over 100, sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. Smith. The W.M. presided, and the loyal, Masonic and complimentary speeches were given and responded to. A very agreeable evening was passed.

Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185.—A regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C. Bro. John Hort Ross W.M. occupied the chair. The officers were Bros. J. D. Barnett S.W., D. Posener J.W., John Peartree Hon. Treas., P. Levy Hon. Sec., Geo. Pare S.D., Bailey, J.D., Rawles Tyler. Bro. Croaker I.G. was unavoidably absent, owing to a death in his family, a circumstance which elicited sincere expressions of sympathy from every one in the Lodge. The usual routine business being disposed of, the W.M. passed Bros. Sadleir, Bush, Saillard, and Cohen to the degree of Fellow Craft in a manner rarely excelled. Unlike many, whose carelessness or indifference causes them to perform their duties in a thoughtless, slovenly fashion, Bro. Ross has taken pains to master his work, and is, therefore, capable most effectively to impress his candidates with the duties and obligations required on being advanced to the second step in the Order of which they have recently become members. A donation of £10 10s from the funds of the Lodge was unanimously voted to a very aged brother not a member of this Lodge. The attendance was shamefully small, undoubtedly owing to the fact of its being well known that the fourth degree would not be worked on the occasion. The Past Masters who put in an appearance were Bros. S. Solomon, S. E. Moss, L. Barnett, John Constable, N. Moss, M. Hart, N. Gluckstein and E. Gottheil.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 17th of November, at the White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, E.C. Present—Bros. D. Posener W.M., Tarquant sen. S.W., Reed J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, Okendon S.D., Tollis J.D., Lees I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M. Bro. E. Gottheil Preceptor. Business—The usual preliminaries, after which the 3rd degree was rehearsed, Bro. Hollands acting as candidate. The ceremony was exceedingly well performed by the W.M. The three sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Gottheil, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Tarquant was elected to preside on the next Wednesday, and he announced his intention to work the three degrees on that occasion. It was also intimated that the ceremony of installation would be rehearsed on the third Wednesday in December, by Bro. Hickman W.M. 180.

Perseverance Lodge No. 213.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 16th of November, at the Freemasons' Hall, Norwich. Present—Bros. J. S. Offord W.M., C. D. Ray S.W., Joshua A. Gooch J.W., W. A. Crisp Secy., Geo. Baxter Treasurer, W. Reynolds S.D., C. Fendick J.D., Jas. Dunsford P.M. S.D., Coates I.G., Morse Tyler. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. E. Baldwin P.M. and P.Z., No. 40, was elected a joining member. Two gentlemen were proposed, balloted for and duly initiated. The Bye-laws were revised and amended, after which the Lodge was closed.

Fortitude Lodge, No. 261.—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on the 10th inst., in the Athenæum, Lancaster, Bro. Airey I.P.M. occupying the W.M.'s chair, in the absence of the latter. The meeting was rendered more than usually interesting by Bro. Dr. Moore P.G.S.B. of Eng. giving a lecture on Masonic O.B. The lecture was given in a clear, terse, and easy style, and was highly interesting, the information it conveyed being thoroughly appreciated by the brethren and visitors present. At its close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Moore. Two candidates were proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was afterwards closed in peace and harmony.

St. George's Lodge, No. 333.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday last, Bro. A. Thompson in the chair. The list of officers for the ensuing year, proposed by the Committee, was unanimously adopted, Bros. Thompson being reappointed as the R.W.M., Jas. Finley D.M., and A. MacIntyre Secretary. The elections will take place next month. The Lodge was then raised to the 3rd degree, when Bro. Finley, at the request of the Master, raised a brother to the sublime degree. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and Bro. Finley thereafter, in accordance with the permission of G.L., opened the Lodge in the Mark degree, and advanced several brethren to the degree of Mark Masters. Some difference of opinion prevails as to the right of Craft Lodges to give the Mark as a distinct degree after the regular Lodge is closed.

Royal Union Lodge, No. 382.—This Lodge held its by-monthly meeting on Monday, the 15th of November, at Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge, Middlesex. Present—Bros. B. H. Swallow I.P.M. as W.M., Davis S.W., T. Swallow J.W., Wm. Coombes P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Sec., Holliday S.D., Webb J.D., Stacey P.M. Organist, G. E. Cook Steward, Cobly as I.G., Longstaff Tyler, P.M. Bro. Weedon. Visitor—Bro. Kennedy, Royal Preston Lodge. Business—Lodge opened at 2.30 punctually. Minutes read and passed. Ballot unanimous for Messrs. Ward, Drinkwater, Godfrey, and Burgess, the three former initiated, Burgess not present. Bros. Cook and Lee passed; Bros. Cripps, Fowler, Holland, Perkins, Wallis, and Winkler, raised. The Secretary announced that, in consequence of the death recently of Mrs. Woodward, the W.M. (Bro. Woodward) could not attend this meeting. A letter of condolence to Bro. Woodward was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously. A letter was read by the Secretary from a Bro. of the Lodge, who was recently shipwrecked on the coast. It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the sum of three guineas be voted to our distressed Bro. At 6.30 the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the Railway Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by Mrs. Marshall, widow of the late Bro. Marshall. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the Brethren for London left by the 9 o'clock train, having passed a very enjoyable evening.

East Surrey of Concord Lodge, No. 463.—This Lodge held its meeting on Thursday, the 4th November, at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. Present—Bros. C. H. Woodward P.M. as W.M., T. P. Dickinson S.W., W. Sharp J.W., C. H. Woodward P.M. Secretary, G. Price P.M. Treasurer, J. Close S.D., Yaxley J.D., H. A. Pocock I.G., G. Lynn Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. W. M. Dossel, Close, H. R. B. Podmore, W. M. Hunt, and several visitors. The three degrees were worked, and after the usual routine business the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

Benevolence Lodge, No. 489.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 11th November, at the Masonic Hall, Bideford. Present—Bros. Rev. Thomas Russell, M.A. P.P.S. Oxon, G.S.W. Devon W.M., T. T. Wickham S.W., T. T. Crump J.W., H. M. Barrow Secretary, T. T. Wickham Treasurer, R. Dymond S.D., T. Goode J.D., T. Allan I.G., R. Grant Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. W. L. Villacott, Charles Smale (Organist). Business—In the temporary absence of the W.M., Bros. H. Ascott and J. Cann were passed to the second degree by Bro. P.M. Smale, other matters connected with furnishing the new Lodge room were discussed and settled, and the Lodge was closed in due form and order.

Polish National Lodge, No. 534.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. G. Moore, assisted by Bro. Edward B. Grabham P.M. Provincial Grand Steward Middlesex, acting as I.P.M. (in the absence of Bro. Cherill the Immediate Past Master of the Lodge), and the following officers:—Bros. Rath S.W., Cummings J.W., Ebner S.D., Aspinall J.D., Taylor I.G. Visitors—Bros. J. B. Sorrell W.M. 176, Seigert P.M., R. V. Hayday P.M. 157, Edward B. Grabham P.M. 1494, P.G.S. Middlesex, J. H. Dulan 1426, and several others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary, Bro. Wm. Paas P.M., and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were separately taken for Mr. Washington Hayday, candidate for initiation, and Bros. R. V. Hayday P.M. 157

and J. H. Dulan 1426 for joining, the result being unanimous in their favour. Bro. Barnes, as candidate to be raised, was examined and entrusted. The meeting was opened in the 3rd degree, the ceremony resumed, and most impressively rendered. The Lodge having been resumed, Mr. Washington Hayday was then introduced, and initiated by the W.M., whose careful rendering of the ceremonies was most favourably commented upon by all present. No further business offering, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, presided over by the W.M. On the cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts were given, and that of the Grand Officers was responded to by Bro. John Boyd P.G.P. Treasurer, who proposed, in very complimentary terms, the health of the W.M., the toast being received with marked expressions of approval. The health of the Initiates was responded to by Bro. Washington Hayday, in a few well chosen sentences, in which he expressed himself highly pleased with the important ceremony he had witnessed, and his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bro. Edward B. Grabham P.M., who congratulated the brethren upon having so efficient a W.M. as their present one, whose personal acquaintance he had enjoyed for some years, and predicted a prosperous year for the Lodge while under his presidency. The health of the Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary having been responded to, the W.M. proposed the health of the Officers, and thanked them for the support they had rendered him by the very satisfactory manner in which they had severally discharged their duties, and trusted they would render to his successor the same support, so necessary in the well governing the Lodge. Bro. Rath S.W. and the other Officers having responded, the Tyler's toast was duly honoured, and the brethren separated, after the enjoyment of a most successful meeting.

Abbey Lodge, No. 624.—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, the 9th November, at the Masonic Hall, Burton-on-Trent. Present—Bros. R. H. Auty W.M., S. Briggs Secretary, K. Macrae S.D., Thos. Martin J.D., W. J. Gothard D.C., Thomas Halliday I.G., R. Lane Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. A. Meredith, R. Mayn, W. J. Gothard; Bros. J. Robertson, L. F. Day, J. W. Sadler, W. J. Booth, W. G. Lowe, R. Howe, W. H. Bailey, S. Lunt, F. J. Gano, H. G. Anderson, G. Douglas and C. Adams. Business—Bros. C. F. Graham and Thos. Martin re-elected auditors. Bro. W. Lobb balloted for, and unanimously elected, a joining member of the Lodge. Bros. C. Adams and W. G. Lowe were raised to the degree of M.M., the ceremony being performed by the W.M., who afterwards explained the tracing board.

Ashfield (Cootehill) Lodge, No. 795.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 15th of November, at Bro. Rd. Germain's Private Rooms, Church-street, Cootehill, Co. Cavan. Present—Bros. Samuel Nelson W.M., Geo. Joseph Mason S.W., James Cooney J.W., James Geo. Adams Sec., Henry Cooney Treas., Robert Graham S.D., Rd. Egan J.D., Edward Cooney Chap., Thos. Irwin Steward, Richd. Germain I.G., Emanuel Anderson Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Jas. Cooney, Thos. Irwin, Robert Graham, Edward Cooney, and James G. Adams. Visitor—Bro. Alexander Livingstone 333. Business—The above officers were elected for year ending November 1876. A brother was raised to the 3rd degree. Secretary to send 10s to 211, Maghernfelt, for widow of Bro. Jas. Palmer deceased. The new bye-laws were adopted.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—The Installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, 15th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bros. A. R. Haley W.M., T. Kingston S.W., Walker J.W., Quilty P.M. Treasurer, Robert Wentworth Little, S.G.W. Middlesex, Secretary, Pritchard S.D., Walmisley J.D., Moore I.G. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the meeting of the 18th October were read and confirmed, also that of the Audit Committee. Bros. Allen jun. 813, and D. J. Ross 813, were elected joining members. Bro. Brown was raised to the 3rd degree, and Bros. Smith, Richardson and Devine were passed to the 2nd degree. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Kingston S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge, and installed into the chair by Bro. Jas. Weaver P.M. P.G.O. Middlesex, in a perfect and impressive manner. The W.M. having been saluted, invested his officers:—Bros. Haley I.P.M., Walker S.W., Moore J.W., Quilty P.M. Treasurer, Robert Wentworth Little, P.G.R. Middlesex, Secretary, Walmisley S.D., Prior J.D., C. E. Packer I.G., Gilbert Tyler. The newly installed W.M. showed his proficiency by initiating Mr. J. Collinson. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very sumptuous and recherché banquet, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and a very agreeable evening was passed. There was a large number of visitors present.

St. Barnabas Chapter, No. 948.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 11th of November, at the Masonic Hall, Linslade, Bucks. Present—Comps. Scriven M.E.Z., McCubbin H. and Z. elect, Poynter J. and H. elect, Cowdell, Howell, Proctor, Randall, Morgan and Lewis, Sloan Janitor. Visitors—Comps. Brownrigg P.G.S.B., Kellett P.Z., Williams P.Z. Business—The Chapter was duly opened and the report of the audit committee read, approved, and ordered to be printed. Companion Brownrigg then installed Comps. McCubbin as Z., Poynter as H., and Cowdell as J. Comps. Howell was invested as E., Haselgrove as N., Proctor P.S., with Comps. Randell and Lewis 1st and 2nd Soj.

St. Oswald Lodge, No. 1124.—This Lodge kept the Festival of St. John, on Monday the 8th of November, at Oswestry. Present—Bros. Alex. Walker W.M., John Thomas S.W., W. Burton

J.W., W. H. Spaul Sec., E. Oswell Treas., Rev. P. G. Bentley Chap., H. C. Corfield J.D., F. Chaplin Org., W. F. Rogers Steward, Rev. A. L. Taylor I.G., Crowther Tyler. P.M.'s Geo. Owen, Eph. Wood; Bros. C. W. Owen, R. N. Barlow, Jno. Morris, Thos. Savin, Geo. Williams, Stanley Leighton. Visitors—Bros. J. S. Davies J.W. 993, S. Hazlitt S.W. 1432, W. Aston S.D. 1432, J. Salmon P.M. 1477, R. W. Worrall P.M. 721, W. Collender P.M. 998, J. Hughes 1432, J. McClardy 1432, D. Vaughan J.W. 1432, E. B. Smith W.M. 1432, F. Edwards 1432. Business—Bro. Jno. Thomas was installed by Bro. Geo. Owen, Worshipful Installing Master, and invested the following officers:—Bros. Alex. Walker I.P.M., Wm. Burton S.W., R. F. Graesser J.W., Rev. P. G. Bentley Chap., Oswell Treas., Spaul Hon. Sec., Corfield S.D., Rev. A. L. Taylor J.D., Geo. Owen D.C., Eph. Wood Org., Chaplin I.G., and W. F. Rogers Steward. Bro. Geo. Owen, on behalf of the Lodge, presented the I.P.M., Bro. Walker, with a handsome P.M.'s jewel. Some alterations in the Bye-laws were agreed to, and the Secretary read the report of the Audit Committee, after which the brethren adjourned to the banquet, prepared by Bro. Musler.

Devon Lodge, No. 1138.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 9th November, at the Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbott. Present—Bros. W. R. King W.M., Fras. J. Pratt as S.W., J. S. Saunders J.W., Jno. Oliver Secretary, W. Harris S.D., Herbert Martin as J.D., Richd. Crooke I.G., Jno. Haywood Tyler. P.M. Bro. Henry G. Beachey; Bros. W. Ryder, Fitz M. Martin, H. Voysoy, Jno. Williams, Wm. Langley Pope D.D. P.P.G.C. Business—To confirm minutes of previous meeting. Bro. G. T. Warner, who was a candidate for the second degree, was unavoidably absent. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form, at 8.35 p.m.

Lodge of St. Mary, Bocking, No. 1312, Braintree.—On November 9th the annual festival was celebrated. The brethren and visitors assembled at the Lodge Room about 3 o'clock, and Bro. G. D. Clapham was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by the late W.M., Bro. Vero W. Taylor P.P.G.S.W. The following officers were appointed:—Bros. W. F. Hasler S.W., T. Malyer J.W., C. W. Jones S.D., W. Johnson J.D., Rev. H. Elliott Chaplain, W. M. Tufnell Treas., A. Portway Sec., W. Blatch I.G., and W. Cook Tyler. A sumptuous banquet was afterwards partaken of at the White Hart Hotel, when the usual toasts were duly honoured. Among those present at the Lodge or banquet, besides the above mentioned, were—Bros. Joseph Burton Prov. G. Treas., John Wright Carr Prov. G. Sec., E. Shedd 276, Rev. F. B. Shepherd, W. Bright, T. Wood, J. B. Frankham, F. Hale, A. Blatch, F. Whitmore, H. Deacon, B. Beard, T. Simpson, J. West, A. Brown, A. R. Clench W.M. 697, T. Rix Sec. 697, and S. Piggitt.

Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Saturday, the 13th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. Present—Bros. J. H. Townend W.M., Jno. Seex S.W., R. Stanway J.W., Edward Moody P.M. Secretary, G. Blackie S.D., W. H. Catchpole J.D., C. Taylor 1st Steward, W. F. Kibble 2nd Steward, W. H. Hook Organist, T. Preston I.G., W. Steadman Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Jas. Stevens and N. B. Headon. Visitors—Bros. J. K. Pitt, G. Allcot, Zetland Lodge, No. 525, Hong Kong, J. Vincent, T. A. Harper, M. Oliver, G. Harris, Arthur Stone, W. W. Morgan. The amount of business on the paper, as usual with the Great City Lodge, was of a heavy character, and the brethren were summoned for 2.30, at which time there was a goodly attendance. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were read and confirmed, after which Bros. Skinner, Benskin, J. Hartley, Lockitt and Clark, were raised to the sublime degree, the W.M. conducting the ceremony in an able manner, and the I.P.M. Bro. N. B. Headon explaining the working tools. Bros. W. E. Thompson, Wright, Wynne, Cadot, Bertram and Evennett, were then examined as to their proficiency. On Bro. Thompson P.M. 177, &c., intimating that, as one of the candidates was his son, he should much like to work the ceremony, Bro. Townend very kindly said he should have great pleasure in vacating the chair in his favour for that purpose, and announced that if at any time during his year of office either of the P.M.'s desired to work a ceremony where any of their friends were concerned, he should be happy to give them the opportunity of doing so. Bro. H. Thompson then passed the six brethren named above. The W.M. resumed the chair, and four gentlemen were balloted for, and duly elected. Messrs. Powell and Frith and Messrs. Lugger and Hudd were then initiated into the Order. Routine business followed, and several proposals for candidates were announced, after which the Lodge was closed. The usual supper was afterwards done justice to, and on the cloth being cleared the loyal and Masonic toasts were given. The W.M. was happy and brief in his remarks, he expressed the gratification it afforded him to see the Great City Lodge so prosperous, enlorged his officers, and thanked the P.M.'s for the kind assistance they had always rendered him. Bro. Headon I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. The health of the Initiates brought from those brethren an intimation of the sort of men they were likely to prove. The toast of the Visitors elicited a response from each present, all expressing the gratification they had derived from their visit. The W.M. proposed the health of their esteemed Treasurer, whose absence, through an affliction, he much regretted. The toast of the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. E. Moody, was enthusiastically received and acknowledged. A goodly flow of harmony prevailed during the evening, contributed to by Bro. Hook, who sang three or four songs in a most genial manner; Bro. W. F. Kibble, who rendered the ballad, "A Straight Path through the Wood," in capital style; Bro. Middleton, who recounted the adventures of a stage-struck hero, with considerable humour. Recitations were given by Bro. Stevens P.M., Bros. Moody, Frith and W. W. Morgan. The Tyler's toast brought this most enjoyable gathering to a close at 11 p.m.

Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 16th instant, at the Town Hall, Dunstable. Present—Bros. Frederick Howell W.M., Haselgrove S.W., Randall J.W., Saunders S.D., Otway J.D., Russell D.C., Butler Steward, Sinkwell I.G., T. Day Tyler; Bros. Gard, Harris, Ballans and Oakley; Visitors, Bros. Harris and Farr 475. Business—The Lodge having been opened, Bro. Ballans was passed to the 2nd degree. Captain Teale, having been elected by an unanimous vote, was regularly initiated into the Order. The W.M. gave the lectures on the tracing boards in both degrees, and received the hearty thanks of the brethren for the Masonic treat he had afforded them.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, 1524.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 3rd November, at Bro. Symes's, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Marsh W.M., Shackleton S.W., Batty J.W., Robinson J.D., Brand I.G., Gilchrist P.M. and Preceptor, and Bros. Lee, Chapman, Fieldwick, Streeton, Hill, Gross, Symes, Dallas, Brasted, Harding, Johnson, Finch, Somers, H. Meyer and Pool. Business—The Lodge was opened, minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. H. Meyer acting as candidate. The first four sections of the degree were worked by Bro. Lee, assisted by the brethren. It was unanimously resolved that Bro. Pool, of No. 764, Hartlepool, be elected a joining member of this Lodge of Instruction, and that Bro. Shackleton be W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Lee then expressed the great pleasure it gave him to present Bro. Gilchrist with a handsome and massive signet ring, as a slight token of the esteem in which the worthy Preceptor is held by the members of the Lodge. Bro. Gilchrist, in accepting the gift, thanked the brethren for the kindly way they had always received him, and assured them the ring would ever be considered by him a pleasing reminder of the many happy hours he had passed among them. Bro. Gilchrist was unanimously re-elected Preceptor for the ensuing year, also Bro. Symes as Treasurer. Bro. Lee informed the brethren that Bro. Lister desired to resign his post as Secretary, his health not permitting him to be so regular an attendant as he otherwise would have been. Bro. Lee therefore proposed the resignation of Bro. Lister as Secretary be accepted, with regret, and a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for his very valuable services during the past year, also that Bro. Shackleton be elected Secretary for the ensuing year of office; seconded by Bro. Chapman, and carried unanimously; a vote of thanks was also awarded to Bro. Fieldwick for his able assistance during the past year; to be recorded on the minutes. Bro. Chapman then proposed, and Bro. Shackleton seconded, a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Lee, as the vote of the evening, for the very great services he had rendered to the Lodge since its founding. Nothing else offering, the Lodge was closed in ancient form, and adjourned.

Addiscombe Lodge, No. 1556.—At a regular meeting of this Lodge held on Saturday, the 13th inst., at Alma Tavern, Addiscombe, present—Bros. Turquant sen. W.M., Masterman as P.M., J. P. Smith J.W., Gray S.D., Pitt J.D., Francis P.G.D. Secretary, Turquant jun. I.G., Carpenter D.C., A. Lambert, S. Sherrard Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Rev. H. Jones and Macpherson P.M. and Secretary of the Hornsey Lodge, No. 890. Business—The three ceremonies were worked by the W.M., in a manner that made a deep impression on the respective candidates, while at the same time, all who were familiar with the rituals felt great pleasure in hearing them so admirably rendered. There were two candidates for initiation, two for passing, and five for raising. The W.M. presented a banner to the Lodge, on which his arms were emblazoned; a Masonic carpet, a kneeling stool, and a Bible cushion were also severally presented by some of the members. After the Lodge was closed, a banquet was

served, in a very creditable manner, at which congratulations were freely expressed on the great success that had attended the Lodge hitherto.

Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1558.—This Lodge, held its first regular meeting on Thursday, the 11th November 1875, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. Present—Bros. Wm. Snowden W.M., W. S. Cackett S.W., T. Sleap J.W., J. Dann Sec., W. Mitchell S.D., A. Runacres J.D., E. W. Boyton D.C., J. Kemp I.G., W. Chalk Steward, F. Geid-r Tyler. Visitors—Bros. V. Wilson P.M. Etonian 209, P. Tonten, Victoria 1056, W. Rowlands, Royal Jubilee 72, A. Martin jun. Joppa 188. Business—To confirm minutes of Consecration and Installation, also Lodge of Emergency 28th October. A ballot was taken for the following gentlemen as initiates, viz. Messrs. C. E. Power, 4 Camberwell Road; T. Taylor, 67 Camberwell Road; E. Pearman, 93 Union Street, Borough; C. Sims, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road; J. E. Pentreath, 11 Albert Street, Newington. The ballot was unanimously favourable in each case and the candidates, being present, were initiated into Freemasonry according to ancient custom. On the W.M. rising for the first time it was announced that all the officers had presented their collars and jewels to the Lodge, and it was resolved to enter a vote of thanks on the minutes of the Lodge to them for their kind presentation, also the following votes of thanks to be recorded in the minutes. To W.M., for zeal and untiring energy in the formation of the Lodge. To S.W., for kindness in lending harmonium to Lodge at Consecration. To S.D., for kindness in presenting a box to hold Lodge collars, jewels, &c. To Steward, for services rendered as Secretary during preliminary meetings in formation of Lodge. To Bro. S. J. Harvey, of Royal Jubilee, No. 72, for present of Square and Compasses for sacred volume. Notice of motion was given to raise initiation fee from five to seven guineas. Proposition was made and seconded for three gentlemen as initiates. The bye-laws, as sanctioned by Grand Lodge, were read in open Lodge and confirmed. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in due form, &c., and adjourned till the second Thursday in December. The brethren then sat down to refreshment, and the remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent in the enjoyment of creature comforts and complimentary speeches. This new Lodge is now fairly established, and its success appears to be certain.

Oxford University Chapter, Rose Croix.—The third anniversary meeting of this Chapter was held, on the 10th November, in the University Masonic Hall, the attendance being larger than we remember to have seen upon any previous occasion, except when the Chapter was consecrated, three years ago. Four candidates were perfected by the M.W.S., the Illustrious Brother H. H. Riach, 30 degree, who then proceeded to instal his successor, the Illustrious Brother Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, 30 degree, Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, 18 degree, was appointed to the chair of First General for the ensuing year, that of Second General being conferred on Bro. J. Robertson, 18 degree, and that of High Prelate upon Bro. the Rev. W. Neville, 18 degree. The two Past Most Wise Sovereigns of the Chapter, the very Illustrious Bro. the Rev. A. B. Frazer, 33 degree, and the Illustrious Bro. the W. F. Short, 32 degree, were presented with the jewels of past rank which had been voted to them. We are glad to learn that this Chapter, one of the most important in the country, is in a most satisfactory position, both as regards the number of its members, and as regards its finances, and we think that if its chair is only held in the future by brethren who have its interests as much at heart as those Illustrious Brothers who have already occupied it (and we have every reason to hope this will be the case) the Chapter will be one of which the Supreme Council, 33 degree, may well be proud.

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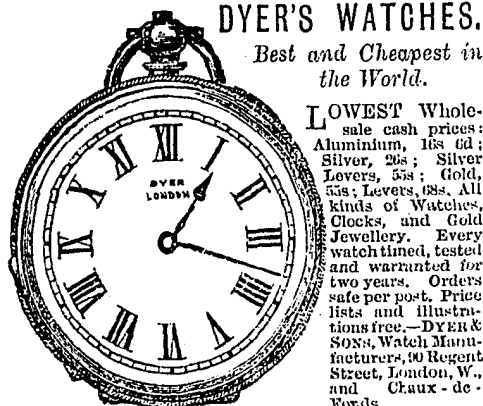
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THE Winter Half-yearly Communication of this Grand Lodge will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Tuesday, the 3th of November 1875, when and where all Grand Officers (past and present), W. Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Overseers of Private Lodges are hereby summoned to attend, and at which, by permission, all regularly registered Mark Master Masons may be present.

Grand Lodge will be opened at 5 o'clock p.m. The Banquet will be provided at Seven o'clock. Tickets (exclusive of Wine and Dessert), Nine shillings and sixpence.

Brethren intending to be present, are requested to send their names to the Grand Stewards, care of the Grand Secretary, as under.

By command,

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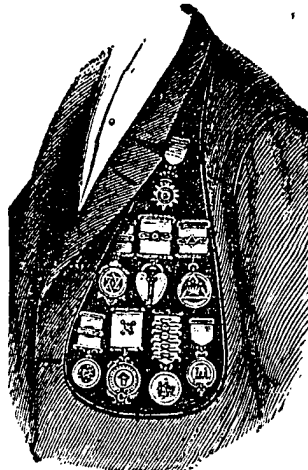
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