

THE

Freemason's Chronicle ;

A WEEKLY RECORD

OF

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

VOLUME III.

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THE 1st JANUARY 1876.

As we gaze thro' months to come
Before our eyes the pathless Future reaches;
Expected weal will fructify for some,
And some will learn the moral Sorrow teaches;
To Brethren dear, whose hopes are soaring high,
The year beams, as with Gladness' oil anointed;
Others may think the months too loth to fly
And linger, disappointed.

But let us commence, at least,
With kindly sympathy for every Fellow;
From high to low, alike in work or feast
'Tis Love, Relief and Truth, our lives that mellow.
Around us, tho' the raging tide may roar
And groan with wrongs our fondest hopes forsaking,
Yet still—above the tessellated floor
We see a Glory breaking!

Mark the Symbols of the time—
The sacred Lights an op'ning heav'n revealing!
Whilst upright flag-staffs plumb each unknown clime,
Unwilling Nature's secrets all unsealing.
A giant change this year may yet record
Of upveil'd Truth supplanting crook'd tradition,
Evangelists of Science are abroad—
God speed them on their mission!

See the Argo of the age,
"Enquiry," into further realms advancing!
Where Art and Science peaceful conquest wage,
There Craftsmen's keen and practised eyes are glancing!
See Sion's rocks, thro' ages hid from sight,
Since Judah's daughters left the threshold weeping,
There and where'er a Truth is bared to light,
The Craftsmen watch are keeping!

Each year records a change
Of landscape, past which all mankind are marching:
The "Promised Land" before us spreads its range,
And desert tracks lie bare behind us parching.
One day, our hosts into that land must pour,
The Level true on all our ranks descending;
Envy and War will then be known no more
Brotherly Love offending.

Then turn with the New Year!
And mark the *right* of every step before us:
With *perfect points* our entrance should appear
Beneath th' All-Seeing Eye that watches o'er us!
A *sacred symbol* we can all discern:
Keep to the road (or quicksands nigh may swamp us),
In Fellowship and Love, to live and learn
BETWEEN THE SQUARE AND COMPASS.

Walter Spencer.

SOME OBJECTIONS TO MASONRY CONSIDERED.

IT has more than once occurred to us there has been, on the part of those who have shown themselves the persistent enemies of our Order, not only a great deal of disingenuousness, but also a remarkable absence of ingenuity and originality in the charges they have made. We are continually being told that we are the enemies of all religion, yet the published Constitutions of the Order require of every member, on joining, a distinct and emphatic declaration of his belief in one Omnipotent, and Omniscient Being. Similarly, it has been argued against us that we are the enemies of order, yet the Constitutions contain an equally emphatic injunction on all Masons to respect and obey the laws, not only of their own country, but of that also in which they may be momentarily resident. Thus there are Masons in Russia, but they yield an unhesitating obedience to the Ukase, published by the Emperor Alexander I., in 1822, forbidding strictly the holding of Masonic Lodges. These are the principal charges adduced against us, and they are repeated again and again, with a malevolence only equalled by their utter untruth. Again, we have been told, and the charge was more than once repeated in the course of the year, which ended yesterday, that in seeking the countenance of the high and mighty in the land, we are guilty of an act of flunkeyism. We enlist the sympathies of kings, princes, and nobles, and invite them to preside over our destinies, not because we feel any great respect for them, but on the principle which animates many a *nouveau riche* to grovel at the feet of a

lordling, simply because he has a handle to his name. Thus the enthusiasm of English Masons, when the Prince of Wales accepted the Grand Mastership of England, was more than once, and in more than one quarter, described as a gross display of flunkeyism. We cared little, it was said, about his fitness for the post. We had caught a live prince, heir apparent to the British Crown, and were guilty, accordingly, of any amount of obsequiousness. It was overlooked that three generations of the Prince's ancestors had been Masons before him. His great-great-grandfather, Frederick Prince of Wales, his great-granduncles of Cumberland and Gloucester, his grandfather and granduncles were Masons, while three members of his family had held the position of Grand Master, the last of them having died as recently as 1843. Thus the Prince had, if we may be permitted to say so, an hereditary claim, not only to become a member of our Order were he so minded, and subject to the conditions imposed equally on all candidates, but being so minded, and having fulfilled those conditions, to hold a prominent, and, as it happens, the most prominent position in our English section of the Craft. There was no flunkeyism, when once he had entered our ranks, in assigning him, in the first instance, the position he was entitled to, and then in inviting him to be our chief, when he was already patron or chief of nearly every other Masonic body in the United Kingdom. The charge was a silly one to make, and there are silly people who will believe it because it has been made, but as to this view of the charge, or to this class of persons, we have nothing further to say. There might have been some sense in urging that those who first assigned the Mason Princes of the English Royal family a position in the Order, not unworthy of their

august rank in the outer world, achieved a grand stroke of policy, and that modern Masons have exhibited much wisdom in imitating the example set them by their predecessors. The charge is not made against other societies which may number His Royal Highness among their members or patrons, and there are grounds for presuming that it is urged against Masonry by those who detest us without reason, and find it incumbent on them to offer some sort of apology for their hatred. Nor must we overlook the inconsistency of this charge with the more serious one referred to at the outset, that we are the enemies of religion and of order. It is very unlikely that a body, professedly irreligious, and opposed to any and every form of government, would exhibit any respect or deference for one of princely rank, simply because he was a prince. There is no religion with the teaching of which we have any acquaintance which does not inculcate loyalty to those in high places, and how we can be the enemies of order, and at the same time exhibit an undue regard for men of rank is an anomaly we shall not try to explain. But, say a good many people, you Masons believe in liberty, equality and fraternity. We not only believe in, but strive earnestly to practise, this triad of virtues, but not in the cant sense which too many ascribe to them. We believe in the right of every man to follow the dictates of his own conscience, in matters religious and political. He may be, as regards the former, a Christian, Jew, Mohammedan, or what not; as regards the latter, a Monarchist or a Republican. It is immaterial to Masonry what his views are, the one restriction we impose being that he shall believe in some one religion, and act obediently to the laws of the country, whatever form they may assume. As to our fraternity, we need say little. We regard each other as brethren, and seek to behave one towards another in a spirit of brotherly love. As to our equality, the second in order of the triad, but which we have purposely reserved till last, how, it is sometimes asked, can there be any real equality when there are in Masonry as many well defined gradations of rank as in the different empires and kingdoms of the earth? We think we shall fairly illustrate the Masonic idea of equality by giving a brief sketch of a capital story, culled from one of the best known and most popular novels of the late Captain Marryat. In his *Midshipman Easy*, the hero is son of a crack-brained enthusiast, who doubtless regarded himself as a philosopher. This enthusiast "goes in" for equality, and the rights of man, and young Jack Easy is nothing loath to follow his father's teachings. Of the many scrapes he gets into in his boyhood in attempting to carry this ridiculous theory into practice we say nothing. He is continually in hot water with his neighbours, and at length comes to the conclusion, that he will go to sea, as the only place where he is ever likely to find perfect equality. He is accordingly entered as a midshipman on board one of His Majesty's ships, commanded by a Captain Wilson, a friend or distant relation of his father's. He has hardly got on board ere he begins to "ventilate" his novel theory. He does this even in the sacred precincts of the Captain's state cabin, and at dinner, before all the officers, who are, of course, struck dumb with astonishment at his effrontery. Captain Wilson, however, takes Jack's remarks very good naturedly, at the same time he is careful to point out at an early opportunity the only kind of equality which is to be found on board of ship. Thus argues Captain Wilson:—the captain, the officers and the crew, are all *equally* bound by the articles of war. The Captain, though supreme in his own ship, must obey the admiral or chief officer of the squadron. The latter carries out the instructions of the Admiralty, the Admiralty is responsible to the King. Then the first lieutenant, who is responsible for the ship, and the master, who is responsible for its navigation, take their orders from the Captain, the other officers from these, while the men must obey implicitly their officers. In this respect all on board ship, from the captain to the powder monkey, enjoy a perfect equality. The exposition pleases Jack, who grows into a fine fellow, becomes a great favorite with officers and men, and has the sense to see the difference between the equality which is possible and the absurd kind of equality preached by his father. To apply the parable to Masonry. Every member of the Fraternity, from the Grand Master himself down to the very last initiate, is bound to observe the landmarks. Strict obedience to the law, both written and unwritten, is required equally of all Masons. Grand Lodge lays down the law in accordance with the Constitutions. Private Lodges are subordinate to Grand

Lodge. The W.M. is absolute in his own Lodge, but he must obey the Constitutions. The Wardens take their instructions from him. The members obey the Master. Thus, as Captain Wilson, his officers and crew, were all equally bound by the articles of war, so Grand Lodge, Private Lodges, and the W.M.'s, wardens, and members composing them, are equally bound by the Constitutions. In other respects, too, Masons enjoy perfect equality. They must all be members of some religious persuasion; they must all obey the civil authorities; they must all lead moral lives and practise those virtues which Masonry enjoins. All, too, are on the same footing as brothers. But the false equality which silly theorists propound, the equality which recognises no gradation of rank, no difference of station, which would have all men do exactly as they like, without reference to the common good, such equality exists no more in Masonry than elsewhere. As Masons, the prince and the peasant are on one and the same footing, but Masonry does not ignore the difference in station between the two. The prince as G.M. and the peasant as M.M. are equally Masons, but the latter obeys the former, and were their relative positions in Masonry reversed, the former would obey the latter, because the law prescribes obedience to the Master as ruler of the Craft. Thus the government of our Order by a prince of the blood is no more destructive of our equality than is the government of the United Kingdom, by Queen Victoria destructive of the equality of British citizens, or than that of the United States by President Grant is destructive of the equal rights of American citizens. In the sense we have indicated, our motto is assuredly "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity." We have shown, too, there is nothing inconsistent with this in having men of rank to rule over us, while the charge of flunkeyism in electing a Prince to guide the destinies of the Craft has no basis whatever, and could only have been brought against us by persons determined to attack, regardless of decency and consistency. We think we have said enough to prove the unreality of certain objections to Freemasonry. We may express our views on these and other points in later issues, but for the present we have gone as far as is necessary in defence of our Order.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 9.)

THE KNIGHT ERRANT.

HE who imagines that the spirit of chivalry has disappeared from society must be but a poor observer of men and manners. Men do not, indeed, in these days, don armour and roam over the world in search of adventures; no enthusiast in pursuance of a rash vow insists upon breaking a lance with every equal that chance throws in his way, nor do staid beings of the masculine gender make it their especial business to fight for the weak and the helpless. Yet the spirit of chivalry remains in the midst of us. Many a man who does not wear golden spurs or knightly armour is fully entitled to take rank with the glorious heroes of the past. The knight errant of these days perhaps might compare unfavourably with his ancient prototype in mere appearance. A suit of plate or mail, covered with a white surcoat, forms a costume beside which the black frock of these modern days looks positively prosaic, if not barbarous. But, if we forget the mere paraphernalia of the knights of the past, and regard only the essentials of knighthood, we shall be inclined to think that many of the men around us would, in earlier and more warlike times, have shone in the lists and in the tented field. Courage, gentleness, simplicity, devotion to duty, unselfishness and perseverance are attributes which are not so uncommon that we have to search far to find them united in the person of some plain, unpretending son of Adam.

Modern society, with its complex relations, affords a man who is inclined to be chivalrous ample scope to indulge his tastes and fancies. Although there are no giants to encounter, or dragons to be slain, nor indeed any necessity for the modern knight errant to carry a butchering tool on his thigh, there are yet evils to be remedied and wrongs to be righted—in short, work enough to engage the attention of a legion possessed of the calm courage of Amadis de Gaul, or the enthusiasm of Bayard. Let us grant, indeed, at once, that society in its blind

selfishness, usually regards the modern knight errant as a dreamer and an enthusiast. The purer a man's motives may be, the less easy it is for grovelling natures to understand him. The vulgar theory that every man has his price, or, in other words, that men do not work for society without a selfish motive, is too commonly entertained by persons who would at once disclaim for themselves all thought of ministering to the wants of their fellows. Purity of heart, benevolence, and charity, these people do not understand; and if we were to introduce to their notice the Masonic knight errant whose virtues have inspired the foregoing reflections, they would understand him as little. Yet, our knight has done valiant deeds, which fully entitle him to wear the golden spurs. His armour and shield, if we may be permitted the use of a figure of speech, bear marks of many a passage of arms in which he has gallantly upheld the cause of truth and Masonry. At this moment, he is preparing to break a lance with doughty warriors on the other side of the Atlantic; the coming *melée* is, however, but a mere interlude in his busy life; and, between the episodes of lance breaking, he finds time to continue those great labours which have made him famous throughout the Order. Our knight errant's most trusty weapon, we need scarcely say, is the pen. He has written and has edited many works, and is a diligent contributor to the Masonic press at home and abroad. His "Charges" and "Memorials" are widely known and appreciated. With the prosaic and the practical portion of the fraternity, he might pass for a dreamer. He possesses, indeed, a poetic nature, though we are not aware that he has given any outward manifestation of it in verse. All the so-called dreamers and enthusiasts are essentially poetical. The half truth to a dull mind becomes to their mental vision a fully-developed and glorious reality, opening up vistas of distant fields of conquest or new ideas for study and reflection.

Our knight errant has turned over the musty pages of the past in search of antiquarian lore, and has written learnedly upon those abstruse historical questions in connection with Masonry which have exercised the minds of many of the brightest members of the fraternity. He is a philanthropist in the widest acceptation of the term, and never speaks or writes without an eye to an ulterior object, which is the good of his fellow men. Although a controversialist by nature, no man with whom we are acquainted is more tolerant of the opinions of his fellows. The noble English spirit of fair play predominates in his mind, and although he can strike an opponent hard, he never takes an unfair advantage, or spurs in hot pursuit of the vanquished. He holds strong opinions on social questions not connected with Masonry, but he never attempts to thrust these upon his friends. The expression of strong opinions in rude language forms one of the nuisances of the day. The man who lacks culture always imagines that he is in duty bound to proselytise upon all occasions, and it is only refined minds who know how to keep silence upon questions which deeply affect the welfare of humanity. He who can say a true thing at the proper moment may be accounted sufficiently discreet, but he who knows how and when to be silent may be regarded as truly wise. Our knight errant, as becomes his rank in chivalry, has taken a high place in the ranks of Masonry; a mere list of his honours and titles, and of the Lodges with which he is connected, would fill a column. The Masons of the United States have honoured themselves by including him in the rank of their distinguished members. His pen has influenced many of the Masonic thinkers on the other side of the Atlantic, and whatever he writes always receives respectful attention. Amongst the brethren in this country, no man is better known or more widely respected. He is a member of Grand Lodge, and holds the rank of P.G.S.D. of England. The Lodges of the Western countries owe much to his active exertions and wise administration. He accounts nothing a toil which may conduce to the good of the Order, and is as ready to compile a mass of statistics as he is to prepare an essay or a volume. We have before us, at this moment, some statistical work of his in relation to the Province of Cornwall, which exhibits great labour. It is merely one of many of the papers our industrious brother is in the habit of throwing off as occasion demands, and in his estimation it contains nothing remarkable. Our knight errant is no gloomy ascetic, but a social being, who can be gay in the company of his fellow creatures. For the mere festive aspect of Masonry he has no regard; he does not,

indeed, object to an occasional dinner, but he dislikes and sets his face against large expenditure upon the mere pleasures of the table when so much practical good might be done with the cash which goes to pay for banquets. As a Vice-President of the Masonic Institution for Boys, and Life Governor of the other great Charities, he is deeply anxious that every available source of revenue should be laid under contribution for the benefit of the orphan and the distressed. In this respect, indeed, our knight errant shows himself to be a thoroughly practical Mason; his speculative studies having in no wise blunted his feelings or closed his heart against the claims of the poor.

In the world our knight is known as a first-rate man of business, and holds a place of high trust and confidence in a noted firm in the west of England. In his domestic relations he is an affectionate husband, and is untiring in his devotion to the amiable lady who is his wife. How much or how highly they are both respected in the social circle in which they move it is not for us to say. It is not our business to lift the veil which conceals the private virtues of those who frequent our studio. It is with his public career that we have to do, and that career affords matter for many and sage reflections, if it were our aim to conclude these sketches with a moral. The obvious lesson of a life like his may, however, be learned and applied by the dullest reader. Our knight has spent his strength and his skill fighting for a good cause. His reward here is the respect of all good men, and the approval of his own conscience. He has yet battles to fight and victories to win; the day indeed, may come, when he must put off his armour and hang his sword on the wall like a veteran whose duty is done. That day is, however, still distant; as far as human foresight can judge, he is yet destined to do knightly service for the cause he has at heart.

"Arm thee, Sir Knight, and lay thy lance in rest,
There is war i' the air; armies fight i' the sky;
A flaming sword sweeps yon arch of azure;
The shouts of phantom foemen ring in our ears.
Arouse, and arm: cover thy breast with steel,
And thy head with plumed adamant.
Thy trade is Danger, and there are toils in store."

EAST, WEST AND SOUTH.

BY A WANDERING FREEMASON.

V.

NOW, when all the *Dailys* are teeming with reports by their specials, of the reception of the Prince of Wales by the towns of India, of salutes, processions, inaugurations, State dinners, balls, and spectacles of all sorts, my mind naturally reverts to somewhat similar doings on a smaller scale, which were once on a time set going in a distant land, to do all honour to his brother, Prince Alfred.

It has, moreover, been my lot to participate in not a few gorgeous spectacles, in countries where State ceremonials, of European routine, have been enacted with barbaric pomp: officially representing our flag in some of them—a victim in buttoned uniform under a tropical sky.

In November 1869, I was stationed, as H.M.'s Vice-Consul, at Manila, a place known to fame chiefly by its cigars, and had just got steadied after a lively earthquake, during which I had to stride wide like a pair of compasses, swaying to and fro with the ground, and an interesting hurricane, such as this week has been again announced from that quarter.

Consular duties—Notarial and Marine—include also the taking of evidence and committal for offences, varying from pitch and toss (in a leaky ship) to manslaughter or murder. The Foreign Office, the Board of Trade, the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the Admiralty, and the Governors of the nearest Colonies, amongst others, are being constantly communicated with. But perhaps the following dialogue will best illustrate the more usual sample of the business in my office.

J. Johnson, A. B.: "I was just coilin' away a rope's end by the scuppers, yer Worshup, when he cum and put his foot right in the middle of it, and when I says, 'Bill, will you just 'ave the kindness to move, because I can't go on coilin' away the rope while your foot's in it,' he says, 'You — lubber, take that,' and guv me over the head with a belayin'-pin."

W. Williams, A. B. : "I was goin' aloft, Sir, by the mate's orders, which he'll bear me out in wot I say, when Jack says to me, 'You —, you call yourself smart; you ought to 'ave stayed at 'ome rockin' cradles, instead o' goin' to sea,' and laid a rope's-end across me as I was goin' up. And so says I, Jack, you know that's very wrong, a aggervatin' of me so, and then a hittin' of me, I shall 'ave to go aft and report you! With that, Sir, he 'it me again, and 'is foot slipped, and he fell against the bulwarks, and hurt hisself."

The Duke of Edinburgh's visit to Manila had been long announced, and orders had come from Spain to receive him with the most gorgeous disregard of expense. Not long before, proposals had appeared in some of the Madrid journals, advocating his nomination for the vacant throne, which was condescendingly kept warm just then by Serrano. The Governor-General announced a State ball and a review. He had re-decorated his country house, but the earthquake shook it to pieces, and the mansion of the Count Aviles—a private gentleman, was fitted up instead, for the Royal visitor. The Town Council built no end of colonnades and triumphal arches, the British residents undertook to give a "dignity ball," where all the ladies should appear in native costume, a gorgeous kiosk was erected over the landing-stairs, and the old bamboo barges lying clustered in the river were, with the aid of paint, canvas and tin tubing, converted into the likeness of brand new gunboats, with wooden guns, funnels and all complete.

The largest British firm there was Card and Co., managed by my friend Roper, with whom I (and my dog) frequently breakfasted. I cannot omit my dog, for he was a known character. He was a Skye terrier, and it was so difficult to tell his head from his tail, that he was called "Mops." The Consular Office faced that of Card and Co., but a river lay between—only to be crossed by a pear ferry, or by a bridge half a mile off. Mops, being addicted to begging at meal times, especially for devilled turkey—a regular breakfast dish—became a nuisance, and I tried to leave him behind. He was, however, so accustomed to follow me everywhere, even on board of ships, that he could not be made to comprehend a necessity for his absence. Accordingly, though left carefully at home, he would watch till I was out of sight, go to the ferry, bark, and be taken across by the obedient ferryman, who made a joke of it, and called him "Senor Moppus." When this was discovered and prevented, he made his way round by the bridge, and still came in time for devilled Turkey bones. At last he had to be chained up.

Roper had just come from Hong Kong, and had witnessed the departure for home of Admiral Sir Henry Keppell, probably the most popular man in our navy; on which occasion the Duke of Edinburgh collected the commanders of all H.M.'s ships then in the harbour, and with them, as their stroke-oar, rowed the veteran off to his steamer, homeward-bound. The frontage of Card and Co. was very large along the river, and I was curious to learn what kind of decoration would be attempted, as all the river frontage was expected to be streaming with bunting. All applauded Roper's design, when, on the morning of the Duke's arrival—the whole lower story of Card and Co. was masked with crimson tammy—relieved only by a sentence in gigantic white letters—"BRAVO, STROKE-OAR!"

Two days before the arrival, deputations came flocking in from the towns of the island, composed of their principal men or "little governors," open-mouthed at the wonders of the great city—Manila—and yet struggling with the sense of their own importance.

Not very imposing was the appearance of these provincial magnates; Their dress would make my readers laugh—a tall black silk hat (such as is worn in Europe), over their copper countenances and shaggy black locks, patent leather spring-side boots, a silver headed cane and—what think you?—a spotlessly starched white shirt, worn *outside* their black trousers, with a black cloth jacket over that. This is the official costume by law established, for the native swells of the Philippines under Spanish rule.

What were our countrymen about, whilst all others, from Governor to Coolie, were moving heaven and earth to get everything mapped out and ship-shape for the great arrival? They were engaged in a task which was doubtless dear to the hearts of Englishmen before Magna Charta; without which any public event, from a coronation to the superannuation of a beadle, would seem tame and spiritless; which makes every bosom swell with pride in our glorious

constitution and the sacred rights of freedom—need I say?—they were *preparing an address*.

At dusk on the 19th the Galatea swung to anchor in the bay in front of the city. Here I cannot do better than translate from the flowing periods of the diary of Don Manuel Carbonado y Zarracondegui, the captain of the Port, as follows:—

"Upon the placid surface of the dark water, catching one glistening stream of moonlight through the shrouds, with symmetrical limbs in ghostly relief against the neutral tinted sky, stood the Galatea. I say *stood* advisedly, that alone expresses the effect of tall masts towering over massive hull. A focus of subordinated forces, an embodiment of method and discipline, a sublimation of ORDER, she incorporates the soul of British principle, the key to British success. Within that hive, right aft, in a moderate sized cabin, were four persons, one dressed in naval uniform, examining a chart, two sipping coffee, and the other writing at an escritorio. Around the walls hung a series of exquisitely tinted portraits of the royal family of England.

"A knock sounded, a valet announced, at the instance of an officer, the *Captain of the Port*, and I was ushered into the presence of the Prince. He turned from his chart, and inquired various details concerning the port and bay, referring to his sailing directions, asking questions as to the entrance, the lights, the shoals, the tides, the monsoons, and similar topics interesting to seamen. He signified that he would not land that night, and that he wished not to be received with the honours of his rank, but simply as the Captain of a ship."

Thus far the Port Captain. Of my own part, I can conscientiously assure the public, from opportunities of seeing the Duke in command of his own vessel, that he is a thorough going practical seaman, whatever other officers in similar commands may happen to be, and I anticipate great good to our service from his forthcoming command of an ironclad (as the papers inform us) in the Mediterranean squadron. Of course, he made jokes about the Liberals then in office at the Admiralty, like all other naval men, and declared they would grumble sorely over the expenditure of powder which he incurred during his stay, in answering salutes, &c.

Whilst Don Manuel was on board the Galatea, at the palace on shore there was a grand palaver. There were assembled the Governor-General, the Admiral, the Commander-in-Chief, the Chief Justice, the Mayor or Civil Governor, the British Consul for the Philippines, and myself. There the details of the landing were arranged, and the requisite orders issued. Being intimate with all, and the official interpreter being absent, my services as a translator were in requisition till a late hour.

At seven next morning the Consul and I, in full fig, repaired on board. We were ushered into the Duke's saloon, and being thereto invited, joined his breakfast, which was just begun. We found, besides the Duke, his two Equerries, Lieutenant Haig, and the Hon. Eliot Yorke (now M.P. for Cambridgeshire), with H.R.H.'s artist-companion—the talented M. Chevalier. I had determined beforehand to stock my cigar case with choice weeds—in case an opportunity should occur of supplying a want acceptably; but, of course, I had forgotten it when the time came, and ignominiously accepted one instead—smoking being considered, to my delight, as healthy a pastime in the Duke's saloon as it was on shore.

Now the minutest details of doings at a distant port, introduced into any other narrative would pass unchallenged; but I am prepared in this instance to be called "priggish" or "impertinent" in chronicling the small beer of a Royal Highness. I can only answer that I follow a fashion set by no end of distinguished specials, which is found to pay, *i.e.* to tickle the British reader; and that, as I chronicle the literal truth, and now run no risk of being dismissed by the F.O., I don't see why the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE should not reap the benefit, especially as a curious Masonic incident crops up in this connection. Besides, it has not fallen to many others' lot, as to mine, to see a good deal of one Prince, and to be the friend and comrade of another, why then should I not gratify the curiosity of those less favoured, if those in question be not maligned? I have been frank enough, as readers of my sketches will remember, as to my experiences upon the "diggings," whilst associating with the roughest specimens of humanity, and feel that I have the right to be equally so with respect to my observation of others, even though at the top of the tree. Having, during

a varied career, been twice editor of newspapers, I claim also to have learned discretion as admissible and inadmissible revelations.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

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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, no necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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VANITAS VANITATUM.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I was in hopes your article of the 11th inst., headed as above, would have called forth some comments on this fast increasing practice of wearing Masonic jewellery, but as such is not the case, I will, with your permission, proceed to point out what I believe to be the cause of some of these innovations. You commence with the following sentence:—"It is astonishing the perverse obstinacy which many brethren show in the matter of jewellery." It is certainly astonishing that so many of our brethren are so weak on this point, and will so persistently continue to violate the Book of Constitutions. I will first take the W.M.'s and P.M.'s, who are the chief law-breakers, and who, instead of setting so bad an example, should have more respect for the position they hold in our society. It is a common thing to see their badges with silver tans or levels placed on them instead of ribbon. I should not be surprised at some day hearing of a M.M. with silver rosettes on his apron, the regalia makers have not yet introduced them, but if they were to, I have no doubt they would soon become fashionable. Next take the P.M. jewel; in the Book of Constitutions it plainly states that this, as well as the other jewels mentioned, are to be of silver, excepting Lodges No. 2 and 8. Now by what authority are so many brethren allowed to infringe on the privilege of these two Lodges by wearing gold jewels? This practice of wearing gold jewels is the cause of several thousands of pounds being annually spent without any benefit to Masonry, for it is a practice of some Lodges always to present their retiring W.M. with a jewel, and in some instances as much as ten or twenty pounds is voted for that purpose: now surely this is appropriating the funds of a Lodge to a purpose for which it was never intended, and I consider a jewel so obtained is not worth the ribbon it hangs by; a presentation or testimonial should be paid for by those who are desirous of making it, and in this case if it was a silver jewel, costing a few shillings, it would be worth wearing. Grand Lodge reserves to herself the right of issuing the Centenary, the Charity, and the Installation Jewels, and if she had reserved to herself the right of issuing all clothing and jewels there would not be any cause of complaint, and we should then have our badges and jewels at one price, of one pattern, and one quality. Some few months ago Grand Lodge issued a circular, warning the brethren from wearing unauthorised jewels, and it was well she did, for there were two or three designs in the market, and we might have seen some brother who was fond of display adorned with an assortment of commemorative jewels, but Grand Lodge did not go far enough, she should have compelled every Lodge to send a copy to every one of their subscribers. One of the chief causes of this practice of wearing jewellery in Lodge is the increase of the schismatic degrees, for in nearly every case there is a jewel to wear, and I fear these fancy degrees are the cause of many brethren getting tired of Masonry, and I have heard brethren say, after spending any amount of money, and no end of time on them, "they are all humbug." Anyhow, they are the cause of many thousands of pounds being spent every year without any benefit to Masonry. Now if G. L. had, at the time of the Union, made the purport of one of the articles in some respect similar to the treaty of three of these fancy orders, your idea of the subscriptions to one or each of our Charities reaching £15,000 would never have occurred to you, for it would have been reached years ago.

The wearing of a Royal Arch Jewel appears to be rather a questionable practice, for the apron or sash is not allowed in a Craft assembly. It is not long ago I heard of a piece of unsophisticated vanity on the part of a brother, who was desirous of attending Grand Lodge in the clothing of a Provincial R.A. officer, of course he was not admitted, and the Order is only mentioned once in the Articles of Union, and nowhere in the Book of Constitutions.

As Royal Arch Masonry is more sectarian in its character, I should like to know whether Theists, Parsees and Mahomedans take kindly to this order.

Yours fraternally,

27th December 1875.

T. F.

PROVISION FOR MASONIC ORPHANS OF THE JEWISH FAITH.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR AND BROTHER,—On perusing the communication from Bro. Gottheil, in your last number, I was impressed with the practical good sense and philanthropy which dictated it. I think the Jewish Masonic Orphans should be especially commended to our care; an notwithstanding the known benevolence of their co-religionists, which

never suffers their wants to remain unsatisfied, it seems to me that they are entitled to our help upon a more extended scale than that which I find stated at page 374 of "Oliver's Masonic Jurisprudence," i.e., "For daughters of Jewish parents, and for sons of those who prefer education in other than the Masonic establishments, an annual allowance of £12 each is granted, up to their attaining the age of sixteen."

Preference to education elsewhere can only arise from the want of provision to meet their peculiar case in our institutions; and thus the keen intelligence and sober morality which distinguish these orphans go to reflect credit upon the training of others.

I am agreeably surprised at learning the enormous sums classed as "Benevolent Fund" in the Jewish Lodges; which contrast, in so far as I know, more than favourably with those of the Christian faith. My own Lodge, which contributes annually to our Charities and succours private cases by collections in Lodge on the spur of the moment, has no regular Benevolent Fund! And a Jewish Lodge has one of nearly £2,000!

A mine of charitable feeling exists, I am assured, among us, which is yet unexplored. Ways should be found to turn it into channels of fertility. Bro. Gottheil has indicated one of them.

Yours fraternally,

G. A. C.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The question raised by Bro. Gottheil is one deserving the greatest consideration of the Fraternity, and certainly requires a large amount of deliberation ere any practical result can be arrived at. It is true there are many difficulties in the way, and more particularly just now when there are so many approved candidates, both boys and girls, for the April election, and so few vacancies; this obstacle, at least, we hope soon to see partially, if not quite, removed by the increased accommodation already proposed.

The other difficulties which present themselves, the House Committee of both institutions are fully capable of overcoming, with the assistance and advice of at least one Jewish brother, who would be able to represent the Jewish brotherhood.

I do not think it advisable to incorporate with our two institutions, Cuisine Master and Matron for Jewish children, the object would be more easily and better accomplished by placing them out and defraying the cost, as was done in years gone by, before we could boast our present noble buildings.

As to the "method" of raising the "nucleus" for such purpose, proposed by Bro. Gottheil, the present existing bye-laws of the Jewish Lodges Benevolent Fund would not permit; this, however, could be remedied, and I, agreeing in the main with his proposition, will readily support his views when the time comes for action, and I hope this correspondence may be the means of inducing the governing bodies to consider the advisability of extending the benefits of our institutions to the orphans of those Jewish brethren who belonged to a class more diffusive in their benevolence than any other.

Yours fraternally,

A CHRISTIAN BROTHER OF A JEWISH LODGE.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The question propounded by W.M. in your issue of the 25th ult., is one on which there is, I know, a great diversity of opinion. What, however, does your correspondent mean by a "catch question passed in his Lodge by a majority whipped up for the purpose?" Does he mean a motion suddenly made without any notice having been given of it to every member of the Lodge? If so, then I imagine he had a right, as W.M., to have prevented its being discussed, as any other President would have done who saw an undue advantage was being taken. But as far as the confirmation of the minutes is concerned, I am one of those who consider that it extends only to the expression of opinion as to whether the minutes read are a correct record of what has taken place, except, of course, where the Constitutions or the Bye-laws of any Lodge provide otherwise. The "catch motion" passed in W.M.'s Lodge must therefore stand as part of the business transacted, but it is open, supposing it was passed without notice, to W.M. to whip up a majority and cancel it whenever he pleases.

30th December 1875.

A RETIRING W.M.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

L.—The appointment of officers in a Lodge rests entirely with the Master of the Lodge. The Book of Constitutions shows the fact clearly. The Master having been elected by the members of the Lodge, and such election having been confirmed at the subsequent meeting, the W.M. is then empowered to appoint his officers; the Treasurer and Tyler are elected in open Lodge, by show of hands, and are invested, in open Lodge, by the W.M. on the night of installation.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—These are the most convenient household remedies, for they are applicable for all purposes in the treatment of disease. In rheumatic and neuralgic complaints, the application of the Ointment to the affected part is attended with the best results, and the same may be said if it is used to the surface of the chest regions, at the liver, stomach, kidneys, or bowels, in congestion and inflammations of the lungs, heart, liver, &c. In all ulcerations, scrofulous swellings and sores, this Ointment is the best remedy that can be used, and for all constitutional blood diseases, nervous weaknesses, loss of vigour, and diminished energy, the internal use of the Pills will soon bring about complete restoration.

REVIEWS.

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

Waifs and Strays, Chiefly from the Chess-Board. By CAPTAIN HUGH A. KENNEDY, Vice-President of the British Chess Association; late President of the Brighton, Bath, and Bristol Athenæum Chess Clubs. Second Edition, Enlarged. London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican. 1876.

CHESS Books, as a rule, are restricted to a somewhat narrow circle of readers, but this work of Captain Kennedy's is one which, we imagine, will be most universally popular. It is charmingly written; the style easy, graceful, chatty; the matter excellent. There is a large fund of anecdote scattered throughout its pages, while the hints, if sometimes cynical, show at all events good sound practical common sense. The work has appeared previously, this being, as the title shows, a second edition. But there is a considerable amount of new matter, including the papers on "Buckle as a Chess Player," "Buckle's Chess References," and "Albany de Fonblanque as a Chess Player," which originally appeared in the *Westminster Papers*, and are now published by permission of Mr. Mossop, together with "My Match at Chess with Herr Springbok," reprinted from the *American Chess Monthly*. The four concluding articles appeared some years since, and have been added, as the author tells us, in order to relieve "The monotony of a naturally dry subject," a reason which, with all due respect to Captain Kennedy, hardly holds good, seeing how lively a tone he has adopted throughout the preceding portion of his work, so that even the veriest ignoramus in Chess may read, mark, learn, and enjoy the *Waifs and Strays* described herein. However, it matters little what reason is assigned. Here have we the articles, and right glad are we they are inserted.

But to pass to the contents. The first portion of the book is devoted to "Some Reminiscences in the life of Augustus Fitzsnob, Esq." These are various, extend over no inconsiderable period of time, and are highly amusing. Several people figure in these chapters whose names are familiar enough to our readers. Thus we have a sketch of the first Napoleon in exile, playing Chess with General Bertrand. Then there is a neat story how Theodore Hook shut up a Mr. Mulligrub who was eternally spinning yarns. The *habitués* at the Divan must be well enough known to those who have ever interested themselves in the doings of the Chess World. One anecdote of a certain M. Pion Collé deserves quotation. In expressing his opinion of a certain member of the Ray Lopez Chess Club, for whom he had conceived a liking, the jovial Frenchman remarked "He is a very nice gentleman, Mistare Smeeth, I am so fond of heem; but (with a melancholy shake of the head) I fear he is *bloody fool*!"—meaning that Mr. Smith was constitutionally sanguineous, or full of blood. Nor is the anecdote which was told by a Dr. Macwhirter one we feel justified in passing unnoticed. It reads as follows:—

"In the town of Aberdeen there practised a certain writer or attorney, whose rognish practices had acquired for him the unenviable *sobriquet* of 'scoondrel Grant.' In the same place there also resided an outspoken old gentleman, Mochrie by name, who was possessed with a mortal antipathy to the aforesaid Grant. This senior, being a guest at a large dinner party, after the now happily exploded fashion of the time, was, in his turn, called on to propose a toast when the cloth had been removed. 'Well, gentlemen,' said the old boy, 'I'll give ye a *tost*; here's 'high hanging to scoondrel Grant,' which was solemnly drunk by the assembled *convives*. A day or so afterwards Messrs. Mochrie and Grant met in the street, the latter having been previously made aware, by some kind friend, of the compliment that had been paid to him at the dinner. Angriely accosting Mr. Mochrie, he said, 'Is it true, sir, that you gave as a toast the other evening, 'high hanging to scoondrel Grant?' 'Yes,' replied the other, 'ye have been rightly informed; I did give that *tost*.' 'Then, sir,' said Grant in a fury, 'I suppose you are prepared to take the consequences of such a proceeding?' 'God bless my heart! sir,' answered Mochrie, cocking his eye at the interlocutor with an air of surprise, 'are ye scoondrel Grant?' 'No!' roared Grant, 'I am not.' 'Then,' quoth the veteran, deliberately helping himself to a pinch of snuff, 'if ye're not scoondrel Grant, I should like to know what ye have got to do with my *tost*?'"

Then follows an account of the match with Herr Springbok, capitally told, then "A Cursory Chat on Chess," and then "Chess Chips," in three parts. These are also freely interspersed with anecdotes, all of which are more or less amusing. Thus of the absorbing power of Chess over the minds of some players, we have the following ludicrous story:—

"It happened that two individuals were intently engaged over a game, one of whom had been prodigally gifted by nature with a nose of uncommon length and proportions. In the anxious examination of a difficult position in the *partie*, of which he had decidedly the worst, this gentleman, in no very placid mood, had thrust the upper part of his person forward, until his head, and especially his nasal organ, appeared to predominate over the major part of the board. While in this posture, his opponent remarked with dismay that, evidently unnoticed by its preoccupied owner, there was agglomerated at the end of the prominent feature aforesaid, a huge pendicle or drop, which, without speedy abstention, threatened to deposit itself amongst the pieces. He accordingly politely hinted this untoward state of matters to his absorbed and testy antagonist. The intimation, however, meeting with no attention, and the case being urgent, he somewhat peremptorily recommended him to blow his nose. 'Blow it yourself,' at length growled the exasperated proprietor of the Slawkenbergian appendage; 'I'm sure it's nearer you than it is to me!'"

Of the irascibility of some players, several instances are recorded. Lord Stair is cited as not scrupling, occasionally, "to have recourse to the *voie du fait*, and project a snuffer-tray, or the first thing that comes to his hand." Carte, the historian, is also quoted as mentioning that our Henry I., before he was King, once played a game with Louis Le Gros, son of Philip of France. The latter was so exasperated at losing several games, and a good deal of money, that he flung the Chessmen at Henry's head, the latter retaliating with so vigorous an attack on Philip with the board, that, but for timely interference, he would have killed him outright. One instance of this extreme irascibility we quote at length:—

"Many years ago my informant was playing chess with an intimate friend, an old clergyman, who was a deep enthusiast of the game. The chessmen they used were a beautiful new Chinese set, of delicately-carved ivory, which the clergyman had just received as a present from abroad. The contest, which was a long one, had gone against my friend from the beginning, and he was just on the point of striking his flag, when an unlooked-for oversight, on the part of his adversary, enabled him to give a peremptory mate. The loser, without uttering a word, precipitately rose from the table, swept all the pieces violently on the floor, and frantically trod them under foot. The poor old gentleman then, after gazing vacantly for a little while on the ruin he had made, sat down in a chair, and wept like a child."

Similarly, the chapter headed, "A Desultory Ramble with the Chess Men," contains a number of amusing anecdotes—the one quoted from Sam Slick, of the Midshipman, at page 143, though short, being especially so. Then follow the chapters on Buckle and de Fonblanque, which we referred to at the beginning, as having originally appeared in the *Westminster Papers*, and then "A Fasciculus of Chess Wrinkles," the nature of which may be judged from the three following, selected haphazard:—

"Although you may esteem it perfectly legitimate and proper for yourself, when a loser, to lament that you are 'playing badly,' should your opponent attempt the same plea in similar circumstances, reply promptly that you cannot allow him so to disparage his own skill; that he has played exceedingly well, but that you have played better."

"In the moment of victory, fail not, I beseech you, to make your foiled 'opposite' quaff largely of the bitter cup of defeat. This you will do, not for your own gratification, but rather because you ought to consider it a paramount and conscientious duty, to endeavour at all times to impress upon your fellow-man the truthful moral that 'sweet are the uses of adversity.' Fall back in your chair, then, and regard your vanquished adversary with an easy air of laughing triumph, talking while you do so as if it were a matter of course that you should have beaten him. After this, 'quenching your familiar smile with an austere regard of control,' proceed to point out, as lengthily as you can, that his opening was bad, his method of attack altogether unsound, and that, after a certain move, the ruinous consequences of which you are astonished he did not foresee, his game was irretrievable. Conclude by hinting that *perhaps* you could afford to render him some odds. Should he wince at all under this wholesome discipline, and attempt a blustering reply, hear him in silence, letting your countenance simply assume a Pecksniffian smile of commiserating pity—it becomes you to make every compatible allowance for the mortified feelings of a beaten enemy, reflecting, as you must do, that you yourself cannot always expect to win."

"Should it strike you that the constitution of your game is in a shaky state, and likely soon to break up, abruptly draw out your watch, and declare, with an appearance of much vexation, that you have a pressing engagement at a certain hour, and that you must incontinently go, as your time is up. Your antagonist may probably hint that your game is up, as well as your time, in which case indignantly assert (without particularising on which side), that you distinctly see checkmate in a few moves, and then, staying no longer question, make yourself scarce."

Our regret is, that Captain Kennedy has not found room for more of these amusing "wrinkles." Then comes a brief "Scene in Ries's Divan," and then the papers reprinted from *Punch*.

Having thus indicated at some length the character of this work, and having expressed our opinion on the very great merits it undoubtedly exhibits, we take leave of these *Waifs and Strays*, with the single remark that if any of our readers, Chess-players or not, are in want of some pleasant book to pass an odd hour or two, they will do well to read this one of Captain Kennedy's. If they cannot extract amusement from it they must be dull indeed.

TENNYSON'S "IN MEMORIAM."—Twice in the course of the present century a great man has made the memory of a comparatively unknown friend gracious, loveable, and lasting. These tributes to dead friendship are very beautiful. Milton elegises his Lycidas—otherwise long since forgotten. Shelley beautifies even the beautiful memory of Adonais. Carlyle translates John Sterling from oblivion, and sets him down in rest with the world's immortals. In like manner, but in a completer fashion than them all, Tennyson has perpetuated the memory of his friend, Arthur Henry Hallam. It is, for once, a fine and equitable adjustment of fate, that the mourner has raised his own best monument whilst he did but endeavour to build that of a dead friend. The self-erected memorial of Ozymandias crumbles and leaves nothing but a fragment and a name; but the lament of David over Jonathan lives through all these centuries. Sorrow was never so lovely as in the pages of "In Memoriam." Any analysis, criticism, or description of the work would be here impossible. It stands alone in literature. There are greater poems in the world, no doubt, but there is none like it. It is, by itself, a species.—From *Cassell's National Portrait Gallery* for January.

THE DRAMA.

"Tottle's" at the Gaiety—"Dublin Bay" at the Charing Cross—Mr. Sothern's return to the Haymarket.

MR. Byron has at last found the season most fitted for the production of his works of art. More fortunate still, he has once more secured the actor best suited by nature and training for the illustration of his peculiar kind of wit. At no other time but at Christmas do so many people go to the theatre who can guffaw at the rudenesses of Mr. Byron's dialogue, or shriek over those word-twistings so painful to educated ears; at no other time can Mr. Toole's buffooneries rouse crowded audiences to shouts of laughter. It is only in the pantomime season that Mr. Byron's eccentricities receive their due meed of praise, when a chance visitor may drop into the Gaiety, and, unaided by a playbill, imagine that he is witnessing a pantomime by the veteran Mr. Blanchard, with the "Great-Little Toole" as clown. *Tottle's* is advertised as a comic drama; it is a piece in three acts, of which the first two are worse than farcical, whilst the third is sheer harlequinade. We have before this expressed our regret at Mr. Byron's apparent misuse of ability. We begin to fear that we have made a serious mistake, and regretted the misuse of something which no longer exists. Mr. Tottle has made a comfortable fortune in the eating house line; a widower, with one son, Horace, he determines on another venture in the sea of matrimony. He has to choose between Miss Julia Tilford, a dashing adventuress, and Miss Trenchard, a true and tender, but middle-aged and dowdy friend; naturally, his choice falls on the former, and with equal certainty the marriage proves an unhappy one. The gay Julia beginning with flirtations, winds up her peccadilloes in an elopement with an old admirer, Captain Raffles, and the nuptial tie is dissolved in the Divorce Court. Mr. Tottle has betaken himself abroad during his domestic troubles, and returns to the house of an old friend, Cobham Brown, in time to find wedding festivities going on. On very weak grounds he concludes that Miss Trenchard has made Mr. Brown a happy man, and for reasons equally misty, is enraged at her desertion of him, as he thinks it. Assuming the place of the waiter, he contrives, by absurd antics, to render the wedding breakfast a scene of bustling confusion, until he discovers that the marriage celebrated is that of his son Horace, with Mary, the daughter of Cobham Brown. It is tolerably evident that this piece has been written for the sake of one part only, specially intended for Mr. Toole; and we must acknowledge that Mr. Toole does full justice to the character of Tottle. It is just one of those parts in which Mr. Toole excels, of which the fun consists in cockney phrases and reminiscences of the cookshop business in the Borough-road, and therefore powerfully appeals to the understanding of the gallery-audience which holds Mr. Toole in such special favour, recognising in him an intelligence akin to their own. Of the other characters we need not say much; the son Horace is well played by Miss Farren, and Bung, a waiter, is made the most of by Mr. Sontar; Mlle. Camille looks fresh and pretty as Mary Brown. On account of Mr. Toole, the piece will no doubt be received with favour until theatre-goers shall have recovered from Christmas delirium and returned to their normal condition.

An early effort of the late Mr. Robertson's has been raked out from the oblivion to which it had been rightly consigned, and produced at the CHARING CROSS. A husband and his wife, long separated by mutual consent, meet on board a Dublin steamboat. Having no one else to whom they can talk, they are obliged to be satisfied with a domestic conversation, during which the husband learns that he is also a father, and both hear that the boat is in danger of sinking; under the influence, on one side, of fraternal joy, and on both of fear of death, a reconciliation is effected, and, of course, the landing is effected with safety. Although slight in construction, as a French proverb, the piece might have been successful had it possessed any advantages in dialogue or acting, but as it is destitute of wit, and the nearest approach to acting in it is made by Miss Edith Lynd, we cannot anticipate for it any length of run, and, for the sake of Mr. Robertson's reputation, we think it a pity that this trifle should have been produced.

Mr. Sothern is performing at the HAYMARKET for three weeks, previous to his return to America, and on Monday last appeared in *David Garrick*. His acting in this part, and the general cast of the play, are too familiar to require any notice at our hands, with this exception, that the part of Ada Ingot was entrusted to a new representative, in the person of Miss Lucy Buckstone, whose performance was marked by a promise which will, we trust, in no long time bear ripe fruit. Mr. Sothern will appear in other favourite characters previous to his departure.

A REAL PATRON OF ART.—On the north side of Pall Mall, a little to the east of St. James's Street, stood formerly the Shakspeare Gallery, the creation of that real and true patron of art, and especially of historical painting and engraving. Alderman Boydell, whose name is far less well known than it deserves to be among artists and men of taste. Beginning life as an engraver, he spent a larger sum than any nobleman had done up to that time in encouraging a British School of engraving; for, as he tells us in one of his appeals, "when he commenced business nearly all the fine engravings sold in England were imported from abroad, and more especially from France." The outbreak of the French Revolution seriously embarrassed his venture in this artistic business, and in 1789 he was obliged to make arrangements for disposing of his Gallery. He brought out, however, a costly edition of the works of Shakspeare, the profits of which, together with a Shakspearian lottery, saved him from bankruptcy. After his death, however, the Gallery was for some years vacant, and Malcolm, in 1807, speaks of it as "a melancholy memento of the irretrievable ruin of the arts in England."—*From Cassell's Old and New London*, for January.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.

THE practice of conferring honorary membership in Masonic Lodges upon distinguished Masons, or upon a brother who is thought to have merited this distinction by valuable services rendered, prevails to a considerable extent among the Lodges in this country. So far as we are informed the usage is a modern invention, and may be classed among the clap-trap attachments, contrived especially to please the vanity or gratify the ambition of a certain class of men, who usually held a large amount of stock in this cheap sort of notoriety. The custom has, however, received the sanction of many Grand Lodges, but generally under such restrictions that the honour amounts to nothing more than an empty name. When so restricted it may be considered unobjectionable, for no confusion or harm is liable to arise from it when properly understood, and the disguised "honorary member" has sufficient modesty to appreciate his true position. That such is not always the case appears to be the fact in some instances, but it is to be presumed they are of rare occurrence. The Grand Lodge of Indiana says: "Such honorary membership will not confer any of the rights of regular membership," and by what right, under this rule, any brother can claim the privilege of voting upon any question before the Lodge, or upon application for the degrees, as has been claimed, and allowed in some Lodges in this jurisdiction, we are wholly unable to discover. Such privileges are not contemplated by the law, and should not be granted in any instance. A brother asks, "what is the mode of procedure in a Lodge to elect honorary membership? Must there be a petition signed by the party, duly recommended? Must it be referred to a committee, and a ballot had to elect, as in cases of regular membership?"

In the absence of any law covering these points we can only give an opinion. The essential qualification or prerequisite for honorary membership is that it shall have been merited "by long or eminent services to the Craft." A petition from a brother for such membership would imply an opinion of one's own self that a limited amount of modesty would prevent him from expressing. Such a petition is evidently not contemplated by the regulation. A brother who merits this distinction by long and eminent services to the Craft must have gained a reputation which precludes the necessity of a committee of investigation. Hence no such committee is necessary or proper. As this membership confers no especial benefits upon the party elected to it, and as it in no way effects the rights and privileges of those who are regular members, we do not deem it of enough importance to require an election by secret ballot as in cases of regular membership. We would say, then, that all that is necessary to elect to honorary membership is that the proposition come in the form of a resolution, which, being duly seconded, may be voted on in the same manner that ordinary business is disposed of. If the Grand Master or any other brother thinks differently we shall be pleased to hear what they may have to say on the subject.—*Masonic Advocate*.

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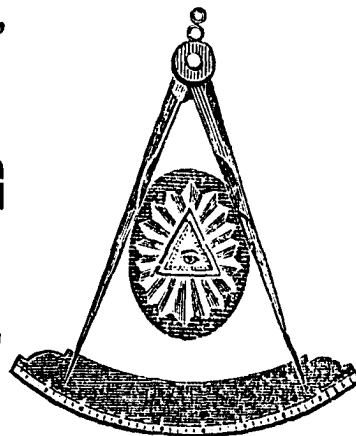
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HAYMARKET.—GARRICK, and MARRIED LIFE. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, HOME, and MARRIED LIFE. On Friday and Saturday, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN.

LYCEUM.—At 8.50, THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING. At 7.45, HAMLET.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, VANDYKE BROWN. At 7.45, SHAUGHRAUN, and MY OWN GHOST.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, FAINT HEART NEVER WON FAIR LADY. At 8.0, RIP VAN WINKLE, and HEAD OF A CLAN.

STRAND.—At 7.0, TWO TO ONE. At 7.40, A LESSON IN LOVE. At 9.30, ANTARCTIC.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG, OUR BOYS, and A FEARFUL FOG.

GAIETY.—At 7.30, OPERETTA. At 8.0, TOTTLE'S. At 10.0, TOOLE AT SEA.

MIRROR.—At 7.0, THE HALF CROWN DIAMONDS. At 8.15, ALL FOR HER. On Thursday, NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS, and THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, CRYPTOCONCHOIDSYPHONOSTOMATA, and BLUE BEARD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, MASKS AND FACES.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.0, MEG'S DIVERSION, BLACK EYED SUSAN, and A TEMPTING BAIT.

COURT.—At 7.30, A MORNING CALL, BROKEN HEARTS, and UNCLE'S WILL.

CRITERION.—BRIGHTON, and THE DEBUTANTE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, LORD BATEMAN.

PHILHARMONIC.—At 7.30, OPERA MAP. At 8.0, FRITZ.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS, ST. JOHN'S HILL, S.W.

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

PATRONS.

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

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, on Saturday, the 8th day of January 1876, at 12 o'clock precisely, on the general business of the Institution, to place candidates on the list for election in April next, and to declare the number of girls then to be elected.

Also to consider the following notices of motion:—
By H. W. Hemsworth, Esq.; That not more than two children of same parents be admitted to this Institution at the same time.

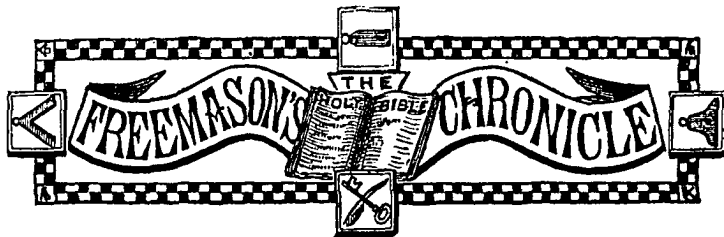
By Robt. Kenyon, Esq.: That a branch school be established as soon as practicable, and that a Committee of Five Governors be appointed to inspect a Freehold Estate at Sunninghill, comprising about 10 acres and a half, with a view to purchasing the same, and erecting the requisite school thereon. That the outside cost of the Land and Buildings shall not exceed £12,000.

By Robt. B. Webster, Esq., upon the recommendation of the General Committee: That the sum of Twenty Guineas be granted to Miss Moss, late Assistant Governess, as a gratuity on her retirement from the School.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE,

SECRETARY.

1st January 1876.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

WE trust our readers may prosper in the year that begins to-day, as we hope and believe they have prospered in the year that is gone. Certainly, we have cause for great congratulation, seeing how strong is the position of the Craft in public estimation, how much stronger indeed, we may venture to say, than it was this time last year. It is natural, of course, that we should now consign to oblivion the recollection of any momentary disappointments we may have experienced during the past twelve months, and gird ourselves up with fresh vigour and buoyant hope for the labours of 1876. In doing this, we take the first opportunity that occurs of wishing our readers a Happy New Year.

Since the appearance of our last number, the country has been more or less absorbed in the very agreeable business of pleasure, and in a hearty and genial fashion. Not that Old Father Christmas has been, as far as outward appearances go, anything like as jolly as in some years we have known. We have had both frost and snow, but that was some weeks since. Lately we have been enjoying, as best we could, the mists and fogs and vapours which favour our island home occasionally, we wish we could say rarely. But though locomotion under these circumstances is far from agreeable, we have had less cause for regret on this score, as at Christmas festivities are essentially domestic. We

can afford to be comparatively indifferent to the whims and caprices of the Clerk of the Weather when we find ourselves gathered round some hospitable board, laden with the very substantial beef and pudding of the season. We can all of us pretty well realise the hearty feeling of Old Scrooge's nephew; matter of fact, immersed in business as we may be, we cannot cast a glance round a Christmas dinner-table without experiencing some very jolly emotions, tempered, too, with a loving remembrance of those present in former years, whose place is no longer among us. Let us fancy, if that indeed be possible, a man being miserable at a Christmas dinner with a whole regiment of children of various growths about him, all engaged in enjoying themselves, never wearying of the almost endless succession of good things placed before them, and ready, when the feast is over, to join in any amount of fun and frolic, from a rattling gallop to a more homely game of romps or blind-man's buff. Such a man was depicted for us many years ago in the person of Scrooge, but even his hardheartedness yielded at length to the blessed spirit of Old Father Christmas. There is no resisting the old fellow's influence, no desire to resist it. It matters little whether he come in white robes or in a mud-coloured garment, we can always find it in our hearts to enjoy ourselves in his society.

While, however, most of the festivities take place at home, every provision is made at our places of amusement to meet the demands of the public. In this respect the theatres set a very laudable example, as most of them present some special entertainment, be it pantomime, burlesque, or extravaganza. In some instances, as at the Lyceum, the regular performance is deemed sufficiently attractive, but at "Old Drury," Covent Garden, the Surrey, the Standard, and other theatres, boxing-day without a pantomime would be other than it has been in the memory of that most enlightened personage, "the oldest inhabitant." Thus, our readers are not likely to be disappointed as regards this class of entertainment. In fact, as similar performances are held daily at the Alexandra and Crystal Palaces, it matters little whether people live North, South, East, or West of London, they need not go far for a pantomime. But a special programme for the season is not provided only at our theatres. The Polytechnic, Christy Minstrels, the circuses, our concert rooms, music halls, &c., all offer as tempting a programme as the resources of the establishment will permit, and thus the rising generation, now home for their holidays, will be at no loss to while away their time. The only person who stands in need of sympathy, perhaps, is Paterfamilias, who has to pay for it all; but then "it is only once a year."

We have already referred to the Christmas pantomime at the Crystal Palace. A similar entertainment would have commenced early last week, but for an accident to Mr. G. Conquest, at the Alexandra Palace. However, he had recovered sufficiently to play his part on Friday, and accordingly the *Yellow Dwarf* was produced, to the great satisfaction of the visitors. To describe the wonderful performance of Mr. Conquest, the splendour of the transformation scene, the magnificence of the costumes, the beauty of the ballet, the amusing harlequinade—to do this with any approach to justice—would occupy far more space than is available. But if we cannot describe, we can give advice. Let our readers go and judge for themselves, and we do not think they will be disappointed in their expectations. Besides, by going to the Alexandra Palace, the visitor not only sees his pantomime, but every week is offered a series of attractions, so that a visitor need not trouble himself as to what he shall do to amuse himself, so much as how he can find time to enjoy the amusement offered. Among those specially appointed for this week, must be mentioned a great circus entertainment, the exhibition of dolls and dolls' houses, the performances of Romah on the high trapeze, of the Manhattan Minstrels, the Jackley Troup, besides the usual Organ Recitals, &c., &c. Not the least among the special attractions has been a Monster Christmas Tree, with appropriate decorations. There were, we have heard, over fifty thousand visitors to the Muswell-hill Palace on Boxing Day. Similarly, at Sydenham, the Crystal Palace had a special programme for Christmas week, the pantomime being, of course, the principal, while among the others, the marvellous flights and aerial exchanges of the Midget Hanlons, a Comic Russian ballet, and Doughty's famous Performing Dogs deserve to be mentioned.

Nor have the poor been overlooked at this festive season. The contributions towards enabling our less fortunate

brethren to enjoy themselves have been, at least, as considerable as in past years. Every day we note sums acknowledged by the police magistrates for the poor box, while in different localities, funds are organised in order to provide treats for the National, Ragged, or other Schools or Institutions situated there. There is no part of the country where an appeal to provide funds for a Christmas dinner is not promptly and liberally responded to.

But to pass to the news of the week. Nothing particularly eventful has happened either at home or abroad. The Royal Family have passed their time in retirement, those, at least, who are in England, but the Prince of Wales is in the full swing of paying and receiving visits from the Rajahs and Maharajahs of the Bengal Presidency. Calcutta has been laying herself out to do him honour, and the Viceroy has been entertaining his Royal guest in right regal fashion. There have also been a magnificent display of illuminations; in short, the reception at the Metropolis of India has been on as grand a scale, and quite as successful, as that at Bombay, though the latter city enjoys whatever prestige may attach to having been the first to welcome His Royal Highness in India.

Yesterday, according to published statements, was the seventieth anniversary of the Premier's birthday, and a few days previously his great political rival, Mr. Gladstone, completed his sixty-sixth year. As regards the former, there is a note in this month's "Table Talk" in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, to the effect that Mr. Disraeli was born on the 21st December 1804, not on 31st December 1805, and has entered, therefore, his seventy-second instead of his seventy-first year. The matter, of course, is of no great moment, except, perhaps, that whatever relates to our eminent public men is of interest to the general body.

Among the distinguished persons who have passed away during the last twelve months there have been several distinguished men, such, for instance, as Bishop Connop Thirlwall, the Historian of Greece, Field Marshal Sir William Gomm, and General Sir J. Hope Grant. The list has within the last few days been unhappily increased by two men of great eminence, the one from his noble rank and his fame as an historian—Earl Stanhope—and the other—Mr. Augustus Mayhew—who enjoyed a considerable literary reputation. The latter, who died on Christmas day, after a brief but painful illness, was the author of *Paved with Gold, or the Romance and Reality of the London Streets, Faces for Fortune, &c.*, besides several popular works written in conjunction with his brother, the late Horace Mayhew. Lord Stanhope was well known in literary circles, and was connected with various learned societies, and had himself published a valuable history of England.

The enquiry into the wreck of the *Deutschland* is still in progress. It has been intimated by "my Lords" to the officers of H.M.S. *Monarch*, which some time ago, got into collision with a barque, that no blame attaches to them that would warrant the holding a Court-martial. As regards the *Goliath*, by command of the Queen, the President of the Local Board, has written to Captain Bouchier, to express Her Majesty's admiration of the courage and devotion to duty exhibited by him, his officers, and the boys under his command. More bodies have since been recovered, but not to the number reported last week as missing.

It is announced that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to revive the Dukedom of Gordon in the person of the Duke of Richmond, who inherited the estates of the last Duke of that name. Certain promotions will also be made. Thus, the Earl of Abergavenny will become a Marquis, Lord Wharncliffe an Earl, and an English Peerage will be conferred on the Earl of Essex. The peerage will be further recruited by the addition to its ranks of sundry members chosen from the great county families.

Further successes have been gained over the Malays by the force sent to punish the murderers of Mr. Birch. The affair seems to have been very cleverly carried out, the stockade being taken both in front and flank, with comparatively trifling loss.

Several items of news reach us from Paris. A solemn funeral service was held in memory of Generals le Comte and Thomas, who were among the earliest victims of the Commune. The service was performed by the Archbishop of Paris in the Chapel of les Invalides, in the presence of a large assembly, including M. Buffet, Premier, M. Wallon, Generals Cissey, Ladmirault, and others. The bodies were then placed on gun carriages, and conveyed, with the usual military pomp, to P  re la Chaise, where they were con-

signed to the tomb, over which has been erected a monument recording their names and the circumstances of their death. On the same day, the figure of the First Napoleon was restored to the place on the column in the Place Vendôme, whence it was pulled down by the Communists. The figure had sustained considerable injuries, but had been repaired. We further record that the Orleans Princes have publicly announced their withdrawal from political life. This is said to be the result of a family council, at which were present several members of the late King Louis Philippe's family. Thus, when the election for the New Legislative Assembly comes on, the Duke d'Aumale and Prince de Joinville will not offer themselves as candidates.

Other foreign news are not very striking. The present phase of the Eastern Question, is, to say the least, obscure. The Sultan, as far as appearances go, is determined to carry the reforms he has granted, while the step to be taken to secure a guarantee by the six great powers of Europe of a better government of the Turkish Empire are not yet declared. A body of insurgents in the Herzegovina has been dispersed by the Turkish troops. As regards Spain, the Carlists are still about to be crushed, but the end of this wretched war is not yet; and like the good time that is always coming, yet never comes to some people, seems as remote as ever it did. Meantime, Spaniards are being slaughtered, and the resources of the country exhausted in settlement of a mere dynastic squabble. Were there a grain of true patriotism in the public men of Spain, this miserable condition of affairs would never have lasted so long.

A few days ago, the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, P.G.M., Warwickshire, met with a somewhat severe accident in the hunting field. His Lordship's horse getting one of its feet into a fence, fell, throwing him to the ground with considerable violence. For a time Lord Leigh remained unconscious, but having recovered somewhat, he was conveyed home, and, according to the last accounts, was progressing favourably.

The General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday, the 30th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. J. Rucker P.G.D. in the chair. The Secretary, Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, S.G.W. Middlesex, read the minutes, which were confirmed. The General Committee recommended that a sum of 20 guineas should be given to Miss Moss on her leaving the School, she having obtained the position of Head Governess of the British Orphan Asylum. Eleven candidates were placed on the list, and one was deferred. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, and the meeting was adjourned. There were present Bros. Benj. Head P.G.D., John Symonds P.G.D., H. Browne P.G.D., F. Binckes P.G.S., T. W. White P.G.S., W. H. Main, G. King jun., P. Sanford, T. Bartlett, E. H. Thiellay, H. A. Dubois, W. Paas, H. Massa, R. W. Stuart P.G.D., G. Sinclair, R. W. Webster, A. H. Diaper, T. Massa, H. W. Hemsworth, John Boyd P.G.P., W. Wellsman, E. Clark, H. Massey, I. J. Wilson, G. Baker, T. F. Peacock, H. M. Levy, Griffiths Smith, &c.

Bro. Alderman Stone, G.S.W., has been appointed by the Lord Chancellor a magistrate for the Borough of Hastings.

Bro. Tweed, the enterprising publisher of Glasgow, has just issued a fine engraving of the celebrated parting of Kilwinning, by J. McDougal, in the possession of John McGairn, Esq., which he has dedicated to the Freemasons of Scotland, but we doubt not many of our English readers, as well as our Scotch ones, will be very glad to have a copy thereof, for, in addition to its merits as a work of art, which are conspicuous, it possesses increased interest to all Masonic students, as a faithful representation of the locale of, if not the oldest Lodge in existence, at any rate the one possessing the oldest authentic records. Each year numbers of Freemasons from America, as well as those from England and other Masonic jurisdictions, pay a visit to its shrine, to see the old Lodge, whose proud boast it is that it was the cradle of Masonry in the dark ages. To all such this engraving will recall pleasing associations, while those who have not been so fortunate as to view the spot will be able

to form a good estimate of its surroundings, as the artist has taken in, not only the "Auld Turrets," Steeple and Brig, but the whole of the picturesque village, while the sea in the distance forms a good back ground, and completes the picture.

We need scarcely tender an excuse to our readers for reproducing, from the *Hull Packet*, the following eulogy:—

"The FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE of last Saturday gives a very full and exhaustive digest of the whole of the Masonic events that took place in the last year; and all who are interested in the objects of the Craft should endeavour to possess so valuable and comprehensive a record of the year's doings. In closing the second volume of this very excellent publication the editor speaks gratefully of the success which has attended his efforts. Having perused it regularly, with much interest and pleasure, we can confidently recommend this as one of the very best journals of its class we have seen; and as a proof of its rapid advance in public favour we know that its circulation in this province has very largely extended of late. We wish for this admirable and well conducted 'weekly record of Masonic intelligence' every prosperity, believing it thoroughly and consistently reflects all that it is necessary and desirable to know of events in connection with the Craft."

We are given to understand that interesting discoveries may be looked for this year, in sequence of the labours of our distinguished Bro. Maudsley C.E., who laid bare the rock-scarp of Sion, and discovered the subterranean tanks in the walls of the City of David.

Bro. Sir John Bennett has been appointed Deputy of the Ward of Cheap. And Bro. James Ebenezer Saunders, Past Grand Deacon, has been appointed Deputy of the Ward of Coleman-street.

ARE YOU A MASON?

WE are sometimes asked this question on the streets, and by persons comparatively strangers to us; and our habit is not to answer it in Masonic form. The other day a young man whom we did not personally know asked us this question, and, as usual, we gave an answer in a form quite unmasonic. He, knowing our relations to the fraternity, said:—"You ought not to answer in that way you ought to say," &c. This young man had just been passed to the degree of Fellow Craft.

This simple matter is mentioned here for the purpose of cautioning the young craftsman against any and all display of his Masonic knowledge, unless in Masonic company, and then only absolutely for Masonic purposes.

No Mason is at liberty, much less may he be required, to use Masonic language, and turn Masonic phrases, and give Masonic signs because some one even though he be a Mason, should question, or seek to test him, with no other object in view than to display his own proficiency. If a stranger comes to you, and proposes to make a communication to you Masonically, or wishes to impart some Masonic matter of which he is informed, and which he desires for special purposes to communicate to you and to no other; or if he be in distress, and comes to you with a Masonic sign, and appeals to you as a Mason for relief, you may then ask him—"Are you a Mason?" and you have a right to expect a Masonic answer. He has given you the right to ask him the question, and he is bound in duty and honour and obligation to answer it. But all display of Masonic knowledge, and all desultory use of symbolic signs or language are out of order, and injurious to the Craft.

Be careful—In admitting visitors to the Lodges who are unknown not only as Masons, but as men, it is not possible for us to be too careful. I may know a man well and favourably, but I cannot know him to be a Mason without "strict trial, due examination, or lawful information." And if this be necessary in the case of a man of whom I may, in other relations, have a favourable knowledge, how much more necessary that I should be cautious concerning one of whom I have no knowledge, personal or otherwise, but who comes to me, and claims that he is a Mason, and asks of me Masonic recognition and favour.

And if this caution is necessary on the part of an individual Mason, it is all the more necessary on the part of a Lodge. If an individual Mason should be imposed upon by the unworthy, the imposition may end there; the next Mason may sift and detect the unworthy. But if a Lodge is imposed upon, though that cannot last long, yet it extends to a large number of brethren, and the impostor or unworthy person receives a sort of official Masonic endorsement.

Be careful, then: let your committees of examination be kind, but firm; brethren who understand the trick of the tongue, and the cunningness of the hand, and who will not be afraid to say, if they have the least doubt—"we are not satisfied."—*Masonic Review*.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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.

—:0:—

SATURDAY, 1st JANUARY, 1876.

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

MONDAY, 3rd JANUARY.

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

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors.
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire.
431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Cambridge.
491—Oakley, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, York.
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnastay Hotel, Oswestry.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 4th JANUARY.

55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Tavern, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
R. A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

120—Paladin, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
159—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness-on-Sea.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester.
558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
734—Londesborough, Victoria Hotel, Bridlington Quay.
847—Fortesque, Masonic Hall, High-street, Honiton, Devon.
1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cockermouth.
1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1322—Waveley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1336—Square and Compass, Wynnastay Arms, High-street, Wrexham.
1470—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans. (Instruction.)

WEDNESDAY, 5th JANUARY.

1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)

137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
203—Harmony, Masonic Room, Ann-street, Rochdale.
326—Moira, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol.
423—Sincerity, Angel House, Northwich, Cheshire.
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport.
645—Humphrey Chetham, Masonic Room, Cross-street, Manchester.
1144—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Alnwick.
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich.
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-street.
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea.
1363—Tyn dall, Town Hall, Chipping Sudbury, Gloucester.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.

THURSDAY, 6th JANUARY.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. (Instruction.)
260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
31—United Industrials, Guildhall Concert Room, High-street, Canterbury.
41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
249—Mariners, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
254—Trinity, Castle Hotel, Coventry.
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.
309—Harmony, Red Lion, Farnham.
442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.
463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.
531—St. Helens, Masonic Hall, Hartlepool.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Grimsby.
974—Pentalpha, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.
1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirby Lonsdale.
1292—Ancholme, Forester's Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1331—Aldershot Camp, Assembly Rooms, High-street, Aldershot.

FRIDAY, 7th JANUARY.

278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
242—St. George's, Victoria Room, Doncaster.
306—Alfred, Kilsall-street, Leeds.
574—Loyal Berkshire of Hope, Council Chamber, Newbury.
601—St. John's, Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Salop.
709—Invicta, Corn Exchange, Queen-street, Ashford.

SATURDAY, 8th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.0.
1426—Great City, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
1556—Addiscombe, Alma Tavern, Addiscombe.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—129—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. & C.), 86 Constitution-street.
THURSDAY—97—St. James, St. James' Hall, Writer's-court.
FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, E. Register-street.

SCOTLAND.

TUESDAY—41—St. Cuthbert Kilwinning, Masonic Lodge, Kirkcudbright.
WEDNESDAY—0—Mother of Kilwinning, Masonic Hall, Kilwinning.
21—Old St. John, Masonic Hall, Lanark.
THURSDAY—11—St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—126—St. Mirrens Hall, Paisley.
332—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.
556—Clydesdale, 106 Rose-street.
R. A.—119—Rosslyn, 25 Robertson-street.
TUESDAY—3 bis.—St. John's, St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street.
73—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.
87—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.
437—Govandale, Partland Hall, Govan.
503—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Dalnair.
WEDNESDAY—1—Kilwinning, 170 Buchanan-street.
354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street.
R. A. 87—Shamrock and Thistle, 12 Trongate.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.
465—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road.
553—St. Vincent, 180 Kent-road.
FRIDAY—R. A. 116—Council Hall, Rutherglen.
360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
408—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.
512—Thorn tree, Thornliobank.
SATURDAY—R. A. 143—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Holytown.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge, No. 24.—This Lodge held a meeting on Monday, the 27th December, at Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Present—Bros. Thos. Cochran W.M., Geo. Cockburn, W.M. elect, S.W., Pringle J.W., Loades Sec., W. Cockburn Treas., Taylor J.D., J. Bolam St., Taylor I.G., Currie Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. Brewis, Davis, Gillespie, Clapham P.P.G.S.W., T. Hall, Laws 541, Cooke 481, Anderson 541, Robinson 48. Visitors—Bros. R. H. Holmes P.M. P.G.R., Knox W.M. 406, Dean Secretary 541, Moin S.W. 541, Munday S.W. 406, Armstrong 406, Waters S.D. 636, Rev. E. Cohen 481. Business—Bro. Mendelsohn, of 48, was balloted for, and elected a joining member of this Lodge, and Mr. Scotter was balloted for and elected as a candidate for initiation. The W.M., Bro. Cochran, then, in a most able way, and with the assistance of the I.P.M., Bro. Brewis, proceeded to install Bro. Geo. Cockburn as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months. The newly installed W.M. was then duly saluted by the brethren present, and proclaimed, according to ancient form, Master of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge, No. 24. The charges belonging to this part of the ceremony were ably and impressively given by Bro. Brewis P.M. The following brethren received their respective collars of office:—A. Loades S.W., Jno. Taylor J.W., A. R. Taylor Secretary, Jno. Bolam S.D., Carr J.D., J. Brewis I.G., W. Cockburn P.M. Treasurer, W. Foulsham P.M. D.C., Liddle Organist, J. W. Boston S.S., T. Boston J.S., and J. Currie Tyler. Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the Alexandria Hotel, where they sat down to a banquet, served in the sumptuous style that has made that Hotel so famous. After grace the following toasts were proposed by the W.M.:—"Her Majesty the Queen," "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., and a happy return to him," "The Dukes of Edinburgh and Connaught, and rest of the Royal Family," "The Pro G.M. and the D.G.M. and Officers of Grand Lodge," "The P.G.M. Earl Percy, and D.P.G.M. Bro. Cockcroft, and officers of P.G.L. of Northumberland." Bro. Davis P.M. P.G.D.C., returned thanks for the Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge. "The P.G.M. of the Province of Durham, John Fawcett, Esq., and his officers," coupled with the name of Bro. Clapham P.M. P.G.S.W., who responded. Bro. Cochran I.P.M. then, amidst cheers, proposed the health of Bro. Cockburn, their newly-installed W.M., remarking that he was sure, from what he had seen of Bro. Cockburn, that he would make a painstaking Master, and trusted the Lodge would increase and prosper during his term of office. The W.M., in returning thanks, said he could not but be pleased at the way his health had been proposed and responded to, and hoped that he should be able, in every way, to carry out the wishes of the brethren, and to the best interests of the Lodge. Bro. Brewis P.M., in proposing the health of the I.P.M., Bro. Cochran, congratulated him on the great success that had attended his year of office; the Lodge has increased both in numbers and prosperity, and the report of the Treasurer was of such a nature as to delight every friend of the old No. 24. He certainly thought that the I.P.M. had bequeathed his successor a very hazardous task in keeping up the well-being of the Lodge to its present standard, but he hoped that next year he should be able to congratulate him, the present W.M., likewise, on a prosperous and harmonious term of office. The toast was drank with great enthusiasm. Bro. Holmes P.M. P.G.R., in a very humorous speech, proposed the P.M.'s, and, as usual, their healths were drunk with great cordiality. Bro. Hall P.M. responded. In giving the Present and Past Officers, Bro. Brewis P.M. spoke at some length on the great responsibilities devolving on brethren who undertook the subordinate offices of the Lodge. He eloquently reminded them how much depended on their punctuality and zealously performing their various duties; and upon them depended the harmony and good work that should characterise us as a body, and trusted that, as time rolled on, and each of them, in turn, filled the honourable chair now occupied by the W.M., that he would be equally fortunate in getting as able a body of officers to assist him as the present and past ones of Lodge 24. Bros. Loades S.W., and Taylor J.W., returned thanks. Then followed "Visiting brethren," proposed by the W.M., responded to by Bro. Scott. "Our absent brethren," by Bro. Thompson, and the Tyler's Toast concluding the proceedings.

St. John's, Kilwinning, Lodge, No. 28.—This Lodge held its election and installation meeting on Monday, the 21st of December, being St. John's Day, at the Black Bull Inn, Kirkin-tilloch, when Bro. David Reid I.P.M. 465 installed the following as the officers for the ensuing year. Bros. D. Cameron R.W.M., J. S. Allen Depute Master, J. Fletcher S.M., J. Baird S.W., W. Knox J.W., F. Morrison Secretary, J. Millar Treasurer, W. McArthur S.D., J. McCombey J.D., T. McLuskie D.C., J. McLuskie Steward, D. Rust Tyler. Business—After the installation the brethren spent a couple of hours in harmony, the best Masonic feeling prevailing.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Tuesday, the 28th of December, at 170 Buchanan Street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. George McDonald R.W.M., Alex. McLeod S.W., Wm. Macgregor acting J.W., J. Balfour acting Secretary, Wm. Jameson as S.D., J. Allan J.D., G. McDonald I.G., D. Ramsey Tyler. Visitors—Bros. J. S. Allen Depute Master 28, and D. Gilchrist R.W.M. 465. Business—A proposition was read from Mr. Archibald Davison, a gentleman who was about to proceed immediately to Central America, the Lodge, therefore, voted that the three degrees should be given; accordingly, he received the first at the hands of D. Gilchrist R.W.M. 465, the second from G. W. Wheeler, and was then raised to the Sublime Degree by the R.W.M., Bro. George McDonald.

Commercial Chapter, No. 79.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Friday, 24th of December, at the Chapter Rooms, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow. Present—Comps. J. Duthie Z. 67 as Z., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as H., J. MacCrombie acting J., J. Munro Scribe E., A. Mercer 87 1st Sojourner, J. Trainer 2nd S., J. Mennagh 3rd S. Business—A Lodge of Excellent Masters was opened by R. Mercer S.W., G. Wheeler J.W., when Bro. Bagton was duly entrusted with the secrets of that degree. The Chapter was then opened, and he was exalted into the Holy Royal Arch by Comp. Duthie.

Thetis Chapter, No. 122.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Monday, 27th December, in the Chapter Room, St. James-street, Glasgow. J. O. Park P.Z. presiding, assisted by G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as H., H. J. Shields Z. 143 as J., Alex. Mercer 87 as 1st S., R. Stevens 2nd, J. Bundon 3rd. The acting Z. informed the Chapter that the principal business was to instal their 3rd Principal in the chair of H., in consequence of the death of their late lamented friend Comp. Johnson. He found, from the pages of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, that the Red Cross of Constantine had held a Chapter of Sorrow for him; he regretted, as an officer the latter body, that he was not present at that meeting to mingle his regrets with those of his Brother Sir Knights. The Comps. of this Chapter knew how attentive to all his Masonic duties their friend had been, and he only hoped that his successor, whom they were about to instal in his place, would prove as efficient a Comp. With the assistance of Comps. Shield and Wheeler, he then installed Comps. J. De Neil as H., Wm. McAlister as J., and Alex. Love as Scribe N. There being no further business, the Chapter was then closed in due form.

Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145.—In consequence of the multiplicity of business at the installation meeting of this Lodge, an Emergency was held on Thursday, 23rd of December, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. John Boyd P.G.P. occupied the chair. Bros. E. H. Thiellay P.A.G.P. Middlesex (and W.M. elect) S.W., Moltke J.W., G. S. States P.G.S. Secretary, Haslett S.D., J. Hughes J.D., Leggott I.G., and Bros. Torry, Manby, &c. Lodge was opened, and Bro. W. Miller 1257 was unanimously elected a joining member. Bros. Curtis and Rees were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Bros. Walker and Woods were raised to the 3rd degree, by Bro. Boyd. Bro. John Boyd stated that, at the installation meeting, when the Lodge would complete its centenary, a numerous attendance of the brethren and visitors would be present. The large hall being engaged, the banquet would take place in the "Crown Room," and in order that the brethren and visitors should be comfortably seated (there being but a limited space) it would be advisable for the brethren to acquaint Bro. J. Boyd with names of intended visitors as early as possible. The Centenary Jewel of the Lodge was unanimously voted to the retiring W.M., Bro. G. Purkis. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. There was no banquet. Bro. Henry Wood S.W. Hornsey Lodge, 890, was present as a visitor.

Joppa Lodge, No. 188.—An Emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 30th ult., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C. Present—Bros. S. L. Hickman W.M., A. G. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., L. Auerhaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert A.G.P. Secretary, Miller S.D., M. Spiegel as J.D., A. Auerhaan I.G., H. Hymans D.C., P. E. Van Noorden Organist; P.M.'s L. Alexander, H. M. Levy; and Bros. Bottenheim, Cashel, Morris, Bernstein, L. M. Myers, Spiegel, Botibol, H. P. Isaac, Cohen, J. Lyon, J. Klein, I. Hyman. The Lodge was opened, and Messrs. R. Emanuel and C. F. Rasmus were initiated into the Order by the W.M., in his usual perfect and impressive manner. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. There was no banquet.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge met on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at Bro. Chard's, Abchurch-lane, E.C. Present—Bros. Walker W.M., Tollis S.W., Abell J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, Turquand P.M. S.D., Hollands J.D., Salmonse I.G., Christopher Tyler. The Lodge was opened punctually at 7.30, and the minutes read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bros. Pilton and Brown having answered the usual questions for raising then retired. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Pitt candidate. The whole service was conducted in a masterly manner, which gave perfect satisfaction to all. The ancient charge was given by the W.M., with good effect, Bro. Turquand acting Preceptor pro tem. It has not yet been decided where the future meetings of this Lodge of Instruction will be held.

Magherally Lodge, No. 203.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge room on Monday evening, 27th December, when a large attendance of members and visitors assembled. The W.M., Bro. William Hopkins, presided, and was supported by his officers, Robert Knox S.W., James F. Knox J.W., &c. The Lodge was opened and minutes of previous meeting confirmed. The W.M. elect, Bro. Robert Knox, was introduced, and duly installed by the retiring W.M., Bro. Hopkins. At the conclusion of the ceremony and

on admission of the brethren, the new W.M. was saluted according to ancient custom, he then invested his officers as follow:—A. Renshaw S.W., George Preston jun. J.W., Jas. Robinson S.D., Jno. Jardine J.D., Joseph Knox Sec. The retiring W.M. was highly complimented for the able and efficient manner in which he had conducted the duties of his office for the past year. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent supper, provided by the Stewards, Bros. James F. Knox and Robert Knox. After the cloth was removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Bro. Renshaw, in very eloquent terms, proposed the health of our newly installed W.M., who, he said, was one only to be known to be respected. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent songs which were capitally rendered by Bros. George Preston jun., Joseph Knox, A. Renshaw, Israel Walker, John Jardine, &c. After enjoying a very delightful evening, the brethren all retired to their homes, well pleased with the proceedings.

York Lodge, No. 236.—On Monday night the feast of St. John the Evangelist was celebrated at the York Lodge. A dinner was served by Bro. Pickersgill with all the care, attention, and excellence for which the City Arms is celebrated. The W.M., Brother Francis Rawling presided, and there was a large attendance, including visiting brethren from Thirsk and Lincoln. The musical services were under the direction of Bro. T. S. Camidge P.P.G.O., and several of the brethren contributed to the harmony on this occasion. A most enjoyable evening was spent, the usual toasts being proposed, and when the last Masonic toast was drunk the brethren separated.

Chaucer Lodge, No. 250.—The regular meeting of this new Lodge was held on the 22nd of December, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Bros. T. J. Sabine P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, in the chair. J. C. Mason S.W., E. J. Slidolph J.W. (Bro. F. Walters P.M. P.P.G.P. Middlesex, was unavoidably absent, through indisposition, the result of an accident), W. J. Kemp S.D., C. Hudson J.D., H. Faiza I.G., A. J. Hawkes D.C., P. Stedman W.S., and W. Laing P.M. 45 Tyler. Past Master J. H. Wilkinson, who acted as P.M. Bros. Hudson, J. H. Spencer, W. Wetherby, C. H. Willats, W. J. Walsham, C. Graham, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed, also the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th of October. Bros. E. Emanuel, J. E. Emanuel, J. Worster, P. W. Crosbie, and R. H. Willats, being in attendance, were severally raised to the 3rd degree, most perfectly and impressively by the W.M. The names of several candidates for initiation were handed in. The Steward for the R.M.B. Institution, made an eloquent appeal, and the institution will no doubt, derive benefit from his exertions. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet and dessert, which was provided by Bro. Spencer. The usual toasts followed. Among the visitors were Bros. E. Clark P.P.G.S.W. Middlesex, W. J. Walsham, C. Graham, E. Howard S.D. 181, R. Griggs S.W. 228, G. W. Frodsham 256, and J. W. Newson 315.

Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002.—This Lodge held an Emergency meeting on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the Masonic Rooms, Market-place, Cockermouth. Present—Bros. W. F. Lamonby P.G.S. W.M., W. Shilton P.M. P.P.G.S.B. as S.W., Rev. E. M. Rice J.W., Jas. Black Secretary, R. Robinson P.M. P.P.G.J.D. Treasurer, Josiah Raine J.D., J. Evering and S. Ferguson Stewards, Wm. Bird I.G., W. Potts Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. J. Pearson P.P.G.J.D. and W. H. Lewthwaite Organist P.P.G.S.; and Bros. Jas. Bolton, F. Ripley and S. Thwaite. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., after which the Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, when Bros. Lewthwaite and Evering respectively proposed and seconded, as a candidate for Masonry, Mr. G. Brash, proprietor of the *West Cumberland Times*. An unanimous vote being cast in Mr. Brash's favour, he was duly admitted into the Lodge, and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, by the W.M. Having retired, Bro. Brash returned to the Lodge, when, as several brethren had previous engagements, the W.M. and Bro. Robinson dispensed with the delivery of the charge and explanation of the tracing board, as had been originally intended.

Commercial Lodge, No. 1391.—This Lodge held its 72nd meeting on Monday, the 20th of December, at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester. Present—Bros. R. A. Barber jun. P.P.G.P. W.M., E. Mason S.W., J. Read as J.W., J. Ewing Secretary, A. Chamberlin S.D., G. Matt J.D., C. McBride P.G.A.D.C. D.C., H. Meadows Steward, S. Knight as I.G., C. Bembridge and J. Dunn Tylers, Bro. Clifton I.P.M. Visitors—Bros. Grant W.M. St. Peter's Lodge, Market Harboro', with several of his officers, who attended specially to see the 3rd degree worked by Bro. Barber W.M., J. T. Thorp W.M. 523, F. J. Baines P.M. 523, J. Macallister W.M. elect 279, &c. Business—Bros. John Harrison and Owen Jones were raised to the sublime degree by the W.M., who conducted the ceremony throughout.

Chiltern Lodge, No. 1470.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 21st of December, at the Town Hall, Dunstable, Beds. Present—Bros. Frederick Howell W.M., Haselgrove S.W., Randall S.D. as J.W., Saunders as Secretary, Cutler as S.D., Otway J.D., Rev. C. B. Harris Chaplain, Sinkwell I.G., T. Day Tyler, Bros. Gard, Cheshire, M. M. Harris, Tcale, Ballans, &c. Visitors—Bros. Wood 180, Phillips 475, Coleman 475, and Osborn 475. Business—The Lodge was opened in ancient form, and the minutes duly confirmed. The election of a W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, when (the S.W. having been recently installed W.M. of No. 475, and the J.W. having left the town) Bro. Howell was unanimously re-elected for a second term of office, and briefly expressed his thanks to the brethren for the honour they had conferred on him. The S.W. then proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the W.M. for his services to the Lodge during the past year; which having been duly seconded, was carried unanimously. In reply the W.M. remarked that during the year he had worked all the core.

monies, given the three lectures, and had the sections worked in No. 1470, and he thought the thanks of the Lodge were even more heartily due to its efficient officers than to himself. Nothing had occurred to mar the harmony of the brethren, and the Lodge had prospered much. He trusted that the coming year would be as happy and as prosperous as the past, and he most cordially thanked the brethren for their vote, and the confidence they evidently had in him as their W.M. He trusted he should do nothing to forfeit that esteem and sympathy which they had manifested towards him. The Chaplain then proposed, and the J.W. seconded a motion, to present Bro. Howell with a jewel in acknowledgment of his services. Carried. The W.M. then requested that Bro. Haselgrove W.M. of 475 (and S.W. of 1470) would perform the ceremony of installation, which request was evidently most gratifying to the members, so well known is Bro. Haselgrove for the ability with which he works every ceremony he undertakes. The ballot was then taken for Bro. F. Farr as a joining member, which proved unanimous. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Teale passed. It was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Ballans raised, both ceremonies being impressively given by the W.M. It was then closed in the second and third degrees; two joining members were proposed, and three candidates for initiation, and the Lodge was then closed after the usual interrogatories, and adjourned to the 18th January 1876. A short, but pleasant evening was afterwards spent at Bro. Saunders' (Sugar Loaf Hotel), a host whose catering leaves nothing to be desired.

HUMBER LODGE OF FREEMASONS, HULL.

FROM THE "HULL PACKET AND EAST RIDING TIMES."

THE installation of Bro. Alfred Wheatley Ansell as Worshipful Master of the Humber Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, No. 57, took place on Monday evening last, at the Freemason's Hall, Osborne Street. This gentleman has long been held in the high respect and esteem of the brethren, in consequence of his zeal and assiduity in promoting the interests of the Craft; and that his election to the Master's chair was carried by an almost unanimous vote of the Lodge must have been to him a gratifying evidence of his popularity amongst those with whom he has been so closely associated in Freemasonry. From his social position, as a member of the Town Council, and from his uniform urbanity and geniality of character, he has won the genuine esteem of his brethren; and there can be no doubt that his year of office will be most satisfactory to the Lodge and honourable to himself. The event of Monday evening attracted considerable attention and interest, and the imposing ceremony was witnessed by a very large and brilliant assemblage of the brethren, whose numbers were augmented by many officers and past officers of rank belonging to the various Lodges in the province. The Lodge was formally opened and the preliminary business transacted under the presidency of the retiring W.M., Bro. Jonathan West, after which the chair was taken by the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. John Pearson Bell, M.D., who ably performed the ceremony in accordance with the ancient formularies of the Craft. In the delivery of the charges the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master was ably assisted by Bro. Walter Reynolds P.M. of the Minerva Lodge, and Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies of North and East Yorks. At the conclusion of the very interesting ceremony the newly installed Master proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year, the collars having been thus bestowed:—Bros. Jonathan West I.P.M., Henry Tooze S.W., Edward Kidd J.W., William Tesseymann P.M. Chaplain, Morris Haberland Lecture Master, Alderman John Fountain P.M. Treasurer, Dr. William Banks Hay P.M. Treasurer of the Benevolent and Pension Fund, W. D. Keyworth P.M. P.Pr.G. Supt. of Works Almoner, William Henry Welsted Secretary, Thomas Cook S.D., T. David Wing J.D., Thomas Thompson D.C., J. W. Stephenson Org., Richard Beovers Chief Steward, Edward Stone I.G., Crier Tyler, and Isaac Dawson Assistant Tyler. The Worshipful Master then proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master for the admirable and impressive manner in which he had conducted the ceremony of installation; and this having been carried by acclamation, Bro. Dr. Bell suitably acknowledged the compliment which had been paid to him, and expressed the pleasure it always afforded him to be present at the gatherings of this his own Lodge. On the motion of P.M. Bro. Tesseymann, seconded by Bro. S. Cohen, it was unanimously resolved to present to Bro. Alderman Seaton P.M. an illuminated vellum, conveying to him the heartfelt thanks of the members for the valuable services he had rendered during the last eight years as assistant treasurer of the Benevolent and Pension Fund. Some other matters of routine business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed in due form.

The annual banquet was held in the commodious banquetting-hall of the Lodge, when there was a large and influential attendance. The Worshipful Master, Bro. Ansell, presided, and was supported in the chair by the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master of N. and E. Yorks., Bros. Jonathan West I.P.M., M. C. Peck P.M. Prov. Grand Secretary, W. Tesseymann P.M., Dr. W. B. Hay P.M., John Coatsworth P.M., Martin Kemp P.M., W. D. Keyworth P.M., Henry Preston P.M., Alderman Charles Wells P.M. 250, John Wilson P.M., Geo. Hardy P.M. 250, Walter Reynolds P.M. 250, John Thompson P.M. 250, William Needler P.M., R. T. Vivian P.M., John Hudson P.M., John Brooke W.M. of the Minerva Lodge 250, W. Hunt W.M. of the Kingston Lodge 1010, Bates P.M., and J. Robinson W.M. of the Pelham Pillar Lodge, Grimsby, Oates W.M. of the Alexandra Lodge 1511, Adjutant C. B. Bell, and a large number of the officers and brethren of the sister Lodges and other Lodges in the province. The duties of the vice-chair were ably discharged by the Wardens of the Humber Lodge, Bros. Henry Tooze and Edward Kidd, whilst Bro. Thomas Thompson officiated most efficiently as Director of Ceremonies. A

sumptuous repast was placed on the tables by Bro. Evelyn Cooke, whose catering and general arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren afforded the utmost satisfaction. The customary loyal and Craft toasts having been duly honoured, and the ancient Wassail cup passed round, the "healths of the Provincial Officers" was given in felicitous terms from the chair, and received with the utmost enthusiasm.

The W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in responding, said he could hardly find words to express the pleasure it afforded him to be present on this occasion, and to meet with the very enthusiastic reception they had just accorded to him. It was ever a source of pride and gratification to himself to come amongst an assemblage of his brethren, more especially in this his mother lodge. (Cheers.) It was something like thirty-four years since he had the honour of being Master of the Humber Lodge, and both before and since that time he had always taken peculiar interest in the welfare of that Lodge. He thanked them heartily for the way in which they had received the names of the Provincial Officers, and ventured to think that the impression made upon them by the R.W. Earl of Zetland, when recently Provincial Grand Lodge was held in this town would not readily be forgotten. (Hear, hear.) He was only a young Mason, but he was desirous of following in the footsteps of his illustrious uncle; and if his life was spared no doubt he would become quite as popular in the North and East Ridings as his late lamented predecessor had been. The manner in which his lordship attended to his Masonic duties was most exemplary; and at all times he evinced an anxiety to do all he could to promote the interests of the Craft in this province. (Hear, hear.) Speaking for himself, he (Dr. Bell) endeavoured to carry out the duties which devolved upon him to the utmost of his ability; and it was a source of unfeigned satisfaction to himself that during the past year he had not been called upon in his official capacity to arbitrate in any case of unpleasantness or difficulty amongst the brethren. (Applause.) Having alluded at considerable length to the general principles of the Craft, and the appointment of Provincial Grand Officers, the speaker congratulated the brethren of the Humber Lodge upon the high position it held, and the great amount of sympathy and confidence it enjoyed in the Province. The Province was altogether in a most flourishing condition, and he believed there was no Province in the kingdom in which greater harmony existed, or in which better officers could be found than in the Province of North and East Yorkshire. He alluded with very great pleasure to his recent visit to the Minerva Lodge in this town, and expressed the gratification it afforded him to notice that the ritual and working amongst the brethren of that Lodge so closely adhered to that of the Humber Lodge. He warmly exhorted a strict conformity to the ancient ritual, and deprecated any innovations into, or alterations of, that which had been so long practised in this Lodge. In conclusion, he proposed with sincere pleasure the "Health of the Worshipful Master of the Humber Lodge, and the newly-appointed officers." (Cheers.) Unless an institution had at its head a man of energy, capable of filling his office with something like credit to himself and to the benefit of the brethren, no good could arise either to the person who occupied that high position or to the society over which he presided. Bro. Ansell had been most attentive to his duties ever since he had been associated with this Lodge; and he believed there was no man more anxious to promote the true interests of Freemasonry than was their present Worshipful Master. (Loud applause.) They all knew that, as a citizen, he was a man of energy, and one who had placed himself in a prominent and good position in society. And he felt sure that Bro. Ansell would, so far as his energy and attention to his important duties were concerned, do his utmost to promote the welfare of his Lodge. (Cheers.) He believed their Worshipful Master had the hearty good wishes of every member of his Lodge. It was a rare thing indeed that an election occurred without two or three cliques being formed, and a neck and neck race for position being the result. But on this occasion he was happy to find that the brethren had been almost unanimous in their selection; and, therefore, Bro. Ansell must feel the greatest confidence as to his having the good wishes and support of almost every brother in the Lodge. (Applause.) He trusted this would be a very prosperous year for Freemasonry, and that the Worshipful Master would be supported in the chair by the frequent attendance and hearty co-operation of the Past Masters and others. He (the speaker) happened to be the oldest Past Master in the Lodge, and, therefore, he feared Bro. Ansell must not calculate upon his being always present; but he would make a point of attending as frequently as possible. (Applause.) Being a professional man, he felt he had other important duties to attend to; and, with all deference to his brethren, those duties must receive his first consideration, and those of Masonry afterwards. (Hear, hear.) He was pleased indeed to see the unanimity which prevailed amongst the brethren of the Lodge on this interesting occasion. They must recollect it was not every one who could, or ought to be, master of a Lodge. Many formed good foundation stones; others were more ornamental, and served for cornices (laughter); but very few were so perfectly wrought as rendered them suitable for keystones. (Hear, hear.) Still there must be strength and material, as well as grace and beauty; and he trusted there was no such feeling existing in this Lodge as jealousy. If that element were kept out the Lodge must go on prosperously for the next twelve months, and he heartily hoped such might be the case. (Applause.) The newly-appointed officers had been selected with judgment and care. Their friend and Bro. Tooze was well known to them all as having attended to his duties, for whom he had great personal respect, having known him for many years, both in and out of this Lodge. He trusted their Senior Warden might have health and attend well to his duties, and that his year might be both agreeable and satisfactory. (Applause.) Bro. Kidd was equally well known and zealous in Masonry. He trusted the Worshipful Master would have great help from his officers, and that the members generally would make a point of attending, and thus assisting to make the year a happy and prosperous one. (Loud applause.)

The Worshipful Master, in rising to respond, was most enthusi-

astically received. In responding to the toast he felt altogether inadequate to the task of conveying to them in words the pleasure and pride he now experienced. He was deeply gratified with the flattering reception they had accorded to him, and he regarded it as an augury that he should enjoy a happy and prosperous year of office. He knew of nothing more to be valued than the friendship and esteem of his fellow citizens, and more especially was this the case in Masonry, when the endeavour of the brethren was to aid each other to their mutual advantage and encouragement (hear, hear). He felt confident they would be indulgent to him in his shortcomings, and overcome his little failings; and, judging from the very cordial manner in which he had been greeted this evening, he felt satisfied he should, during his year, be heartily supported, not only by the brethren of his own lodge, but also by those of the sister lodges in the town (cheers). If there was one thing above all others that he desired to cultivate, it was the interchange of friendliness and interest between the lodges in this town. He considered that in recent years these interchanges had not been so frequent as they might have been; but he was certain that if they all made an effort in that direction very great advantage might result from it. He candidly confessed that in this lodge their duties had been of so arduous a character that they had given their Immediate Past Master but little time to visit the sister lodges. Therefore, however strong might have been Bro. West's desire in that direction, he felt it to be his paramount duty first to transact the business that pressed upon his attention before going amongst the brethren elsewhere. He (the speaker) should, however, take the earliest opportunity of visiting the sister lodges, and should induce the members of these lodges, by every means in his power, to return such visits (applause). In a town like Hull he felt great good might be done, amongst the large number of Masons, if they were all united in any cause. And when they considered that cause was Masonry, which meant charity, he felt they had a right to be united. Therefore they must make an effort to set aside an evening now and then to join the sister lodges and to invite their brethren to come amongst them. He could hardly express his pleasure and gratitude at seeing such an array of Past Masters and officers of the sister lodges as he saw around him on this occasion; and he thanked all those who had so generously supported him this evening (applause). He had carefully mapped out his work for the coming year. In a large lodge like this he knew there was much to be done, in order to maintain its dignity, and if possible to add to its lustre. He felt, moreover, that no Master was justified in vacating that chair without having done something for the brethren who had conferred so great an honour upon him. His predecessor, Bro. West, had done much; he had left a fund at his (the speaker's) command, which he hoped to augment by a similar amount, to be applied to the improvement and decoration of the lodge and the greater comfort of the brethren. He knew that the first great principle of Masonry was charity, and that the prosperity of Masonry could only be obtained by discipline and hard work, neither of which should be overlooked by him. He did not forget, moreover, that when their work had ceased they had to promote a feeling of harmony and concord amongst the brethren. In these matters the Master had a greater amount of duty devolving upon him than was observant to the general body of the members, and while in his position he could assure them he should do all that laid in his power to sustain the dignity of his lodge, to hand down the insignia of his office unsullied as he received it, and if possible to add fresh lustre to it (applause). He concluded by again thanking the brethren for the hearty reception they had given him.

Brothers Toozes and Kidd also responded for the newly-appointed officers, promising their hearty support to the Worshipful Master, and an assiduous attention to the duties which had been entrusted to them.

Bro. Tesseyman P.M., in proposing "the Retiring W. Master and his officers," said they had welcomed the coming, so should they speed the parting guests. The lodge had been ruled by the Immediate Past Master in a manner such as had not been excelled by any of his predecessors. Bro. West had many qualifications which made him eminently valuable to them as Master of this lodge, and if they looked around them they would find many reasons why they had come to such a satisfactory conclusion (applause). In the first place, he had kept the lodge in such good order, and the members altogether so harmoniously, that no less than 35 new members had been admitted during the past year—all, he hoped, good and true men (hear, hear). He had so managed the finances of the lodge as to leave them in a satisfactory condition, and they were in possession of a fair round balance, in three figures, for the use of the brethren for decorating their lodge, or any other purpose which the Worshipful Master might direct. Thus they were enabled to set their feet on a solid foundation, and go forward with great confidence to meet the coming year. Again, he would call their attention to the ceremonial of the lodge, which, he believed, had been performed as nearly perfect as they might ever hope it to be (applause). He had kept thoroughly in hand, and had been well supported by his officers, who had all been well up to their work. That reflected upon the good judgment and skill of the Master in selecting such members to assist him in ruling the lodge as he had confidence in. In their own spheres of action they had each been equal to their Master in all that was necessary for the fulfilment of their duties in a proper and efficient manner. Pointing to the late S.W., the high social and public position held by Bro. Summers was in itself a recommendation, and no doubt the late Master felt assured that a man who had gained so high a position in the town would zealously and efficiently discharge the duties that might devolve upon him in the lodge. Those duties had been thoroughly well done, and in no instance had the brethren been able to complain of any laxity of duty or efficiency in its S.W. (cheers). Their J.W., though not such an immense pillar of strength (laughter), had well discharged his duties, and, if anything, the comparison would be in Bro. Thomson's favour. A more zealous, painstaking, or industrious warden he had never known (applause). One of the salient features of the year had been the Masonic ball, the result of which

was that they had been able to devote a surplus of £45 to the Masonic charities. He trusted that the result of the forthcoming ball, on the 26th of January, would be even still more successful (cheers).

Bro. Jonathan West I.P.M. in responding, thanked the brethren for the compliment they had paid him. When he accepted office he determined to guard the ancient landmarks of the Order, and to promote, to his utmost, unanimity and concord amongst the brethren. In this endeavour, he felt he had been, to a certain extent, successful (applause). The Lodge funds had increased, and although they had upwards of 300 members, yet he questioned whether any other Lodge boasting of only 50 members, could have been more unanimous than had been the Humber Lodge. During the year there had not been a single discussion which had caused the least pain either to himself or to the officers, and that was a great achievement so far as unanimity was concerned. He trusted he should leave that chair with no less friends than he had when he entered it; and if the members were satisfied with the manner in which he had fulfilled his duties he was abundantly rewarded (cheers).

Bro. Francis Summers also briefly returned thanks, paying a high tribute of esteem and congratulation to the retiring Master and the members generally upon the increasing prosperity of the Humber Lodge (cheers).

The ex-Mayor (Bro. Alderman Wells) next proposed "The Past Masters and Founders of the Humber Lodge." Amongst these were names they all revered, and every Hull Mason must feel a thrill of pleasure pass through him as he reads the names emblazoned on the record of the Past Masters of this old and important Lodge. They were men of not only high position in the Craft, but of the highest social position in the town. (Hear, hear.) He congratulated Bro. Ansell upon the manner in which the Past Masters had rallied round him in the chair, as they had done his predecessors. It showed their interest in Masonry, and in the welfare of this Lodge, when so many men of rank and eminence assembled on such an occasion. (Cheers.)

The W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in responding, said it rarely happened that so many Past Masters were assembled together as he now saw around him, and it was gratifying that so many of them had thought fit to rally round Bro. Ansell on the day of his installation. (Applause.) In doing so they evidenced their desire that the Humber Lodge should go on and prosper; and no doubt Bro. Ansell would experience the value of having a P.M. constantly at his elbow in the performance of his official duties. (Hear, hear.) He was sure that their Immediate Past Master, from his great zeal in Masonry, would be often in his place, as he had been in the past. As to the founders, their names were always received with the utmost reverence and respect; and the speaker alluded at some length to the worth and merits of such men as Feetam, Stark, Crowe, and others whose portraits hung upon the walls of that room, and who had earned the affection of all who came after them by their zeal and assiduity in promoting the principles of Masonry. The speaker then went on to speak of the degrees, warning young brethren especially against an over anxiety to practise those which were not in accordance with the Grand Lodge of England, but to adhere to the recognised degrees, and to make them as perfect as possible. These were the principles laid down and acted upon by the founders of this Lodge, whose memories were so cherished by all Masons in the present day. In foreign countries politics and other matters were introduced into Masonic Lodges, in direct contravention of the first great principles of the Order; but he trusted no such disturbing elements would ever find their way into our Lodges in this country, but that the universality of Masonry which was one of its chief beauties, would always be strictly maintained. (Cheers.)

Bro. Dr. Hay P.M. also suitably responded to the toast.

Bro. Martin Kemp next gave the "Sister Lodges," on whose behalf Bro. John Brooke, W.M. of the Minerva Lodge, and Bro. Oates of the Alexandra Lodge, responded. Bro. H. Voight, on behalf of the W.M. of the Pelham Pillar Lodge, also expressed thanks for the cordial welcome extended to the brethren of other Lodges; and Bro. Brooke expressed himself in similar terms on behalf of Bro. Hunt, W.M. of the Kingston Lodge, who had been obliged to withdraw from the assembly before the toast was proposed.

Bro. Vivian P.M. then gave the "Masonic Charities," in whose behalf a most earnest appeal was made by Bro. John Thompson P.M., the Grand Steward of the Charities for this Province.

The Senior Warden then gave the "Visiting Brethren," on whose behalf Bro. Adjutant Bell, Bro. C. Newton, of the Minerva Lodge, and Bro. B. Barnett, of the Alexandra Lodge, severally responded.

The Junior Warden gave the last toast on the list, "The Ladies," for whom Bro. E. Stone and Bro. R. Toogood returned thanks.

The proceedings of the evening were enlivened by some excellent songs, Bro. J. W. Stephenson rendering most efficient service as accompanist.

AN OUNCE OF HELP WORTH A POUND OF PITY.—There was a great rush to the trap, in which sat a disconsolate mouse looking in blank dismay at the company of cousins clamouring outside.

"How could you be so foolish?" squeaked one.

"It goes to my very heart to see you, dear," squeaked another; while cries of "I wonder you were not more careful!" "What a thousand pities you should have fallen a sacrifice to your taste for cheese!" "How glad I should be to see you out of your trouble!" etc., etc., rose in a chorus from the rest.

"There, if you can't do better than sit there squeaking, be so good as to go," cried the prisoner, indignantly; "if you would set to work to gnaw the wires, so as to set me free, I would call you friends, and believe in your sympathy, but your 'noise and doing nothing' is worse than useless. Your wisdom, which is aggravating, comes too late, and your pity is as contemptible to me as it is cheap to you!"—Mrs. Prosser's Fables in "Leisure Hour."

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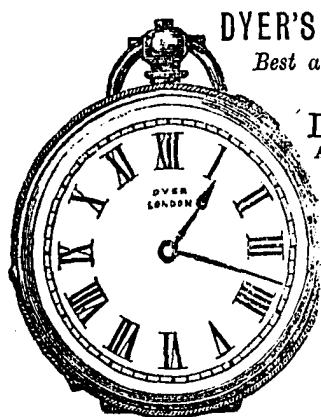
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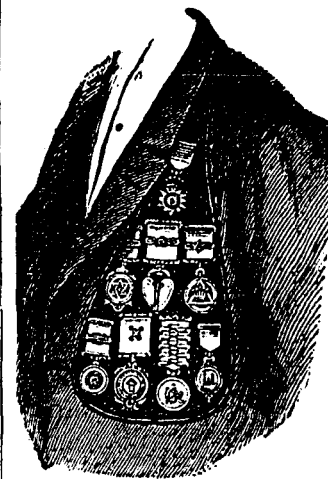
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