

THE

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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MASONIC ZEAL.

WE drew attention last week to the unequal manner in which the various Masonic Lodges throughout the country show their appreciation of the great Masonic Charities. In other respects, also, the amount of Masonic zeal might be shown to be no less unequal and various. Some Lodges seem never to tire of well doing, and in every great Masonic movement their names are to be found amongst the foremost, the most active, and the most liberal. Others, on the contrary, are slow to move, and if they move at all, come lagging in at the extreme rear. Is there a Lifeboat to be established or to be endowed for the honour of the Craft, we could guess pretty nearly what Lodges would figure upon the first list of subscriptions, what upon the last, and what not at all. It is precisely the same if a publication is started in the interests of the Craft, if a great Masonic festival is to be organised, or in fact in any movement whatever that makes a demand upon the personal exertions or liberality of the Fraternity.

It is difficult to find a satisfactory explanation for this seeming want of harmony amongst the various sections of the Craft. That some Lodges are more wealthy than others might explain why some should give more liberally, but it offers no elucidation of the fact that some Lodges give much and often, whilst others give nothing, or next to nothing. Our principles are the same, our hopes, aspirations, and sympathies should also be in perfect harmony. Yet we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that whilst we are all brothers, some of us must be considered to be weak brothers. Masonic enthusiasm is not equally distributed, whilst in some Lodges it can hardly be said to exist at all.

We know many men, who, at first, have been most enthusiastic supporters of any reasonable proposition, and who readily commit themselves to advocate almost any scheme, yet on the slightest rebuff have been equally ready to find a plausible reason for not doing what they had undertaken. By this means individuals undertake liabilities and incur responsibilities which, without such promised support, they would never have entertained.

As in Lodges, so also, though in a lesser degree, in the case of individuals. In every Lodge there are active and passive members. The Mason who is prompt and ready to initiate or follow up whatever he thinks will advance the interests of the Craft, and the meek half-hearted brother who attends but seldom, proposes nothing, and restricts his share in any Lodge discussion to suggesting difficulties in the way of the proposals of others; these men are to be found in most Lodges, and often in about the same proportions. Fortunately, however, the robust party, even if only equal in numbers to the weaker, is generally the stronger in argument and influence; and so the half-hearted are gradually brought to a sense of their responsibilities, and made to assume at least the appearance of zeal. But, in those Lodges where the torpid elements are in a considerable majority, the most active and zealous members in time lose heart by the constant discouragement they receive, and the maxim *point de zèle* becomes the order of the day. Henceforward, in every Masonic movement, they are conspicuous on the lists of supporters or subscribers only by their absence. How to extend amongst the many the zeal, activity, and enthusiasm which already so worthily distinguish the few, is a problem which it must be the wish of every true Mason to solve.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 18.)

THE MYSTIC.

“Great honours are great burdens, but on whom
They are cast with envy, he doth bear two loads.
His cares must still be double to his joys,
In any dignity; where, if he err,
He finds no pardon, and, for doing well,
A most small praise, and that wrung out by force.”

WAS the elixir of life a fable, and the philosopher's stone a myth? Did that mysterious order, the Rosicrucians, ever exist, or are the stories which are told of it mere allegories? Was there ever such a structure in Europe as the House of the Holy Ghost, and is “Christian Rosy Cross” but the invention of the fertile mind which invented, so say the sceptics, the fable of mystics who dealt in occult science, and studied laws of nature which are still unknown to the learned of our day? If these questions were put to a man of science, he would return no doubtful answer. He would tell us that the Rosicrucian mysteries are but fables, and the elixir a mere dream of a heated imagination. Yet, in spite of the ban which science has placed upon studies which are beyond the range of experimental research, there are mystics who do not fear to affirm that the Rosy Cross is no fable, and the elixir no mere dream of an enthusiast, but a great reality. These men do not, indeed, pretend that the stores of knowledge which were once the peculiar property of a secret order, are now in their keeping, but they affirm that the tools, or symbols, by the aid of which those secrets may be rediscovered, are theirs. Those symbols, indeed, speak a language which, wherever intelligent beings exist, must have a tangible meaning, for they are drawn from the eternal fount of all wisdom, and have been revealed to man by his study of the physical universe. The idea that mathematical signs are eloquent teachers of great moral as well as scientific truths has been held by man for many ages. The Egyptian symbol of eternity was a circle, but it was a circle made eloquent by the artist who gave it the form of a serpent, the ancient type of wisdom. Pages of occult lore have been written on the pentacle, which, in Masonic rites, and those of deeper meaning, into which we cannot now penetrate, has a value which we are certainly not called upon to reveal in this paper. A few years since it was considered a reproach to call a man a “mystic,” but spiritualism, with its startling phenomena, has compelled thoughtful men to ask whether, after all, there may not be more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy; and with the growing demand for inquiry into this new “crase” a certain freedom of opinion has been conceded by all but the dogmatist of science. A man may now declare himself a spiritualist, or a mystic, without exciting the derision of his fellows. The attitude of the scientific world is distinctly unscientific with reference to the “gross superstitions” of the spiritualist. It demands that the phenomena shall be exhibited under conditions which the spiritualist declares to be fatal to discovery of truth, and it pooh, poohs! the evidence of believers because the testing glasses and measuring scales of the materialists are not permitted to play their part in a *séance*. Electricity might have remained one of the hidden forces of nature if the enquirers of the past had insisted upon compelling it to conform to rules of their own making. The expositions of Messrs. Crookes and Varley are contemptuously set aside by Professor Tyndall, on the ground that they are fallacious, but this

eminent son of science, with unscientific disdain, declines to follow in the track and study for himself. We do not venture to express an opinion upon the phenomena of so-called spiritualism, nor upon the theories of those of the Craft who are engaged in a diligent enquiry into the Rosicrucian mysteries, our mind is fully open to receive truth from whatever quarter it may come to us, but we are constrained to say that we should sorrow much if the narrow theories of the materialist should prove to be true. Man sighs for a higher and a noble life. The great cry of the human heart in these days is for more light, and the univereal want of man is some tangible evidence that the mind and the individuality exist beyond the grave. If the mystics of the Rosy Cross, or the spiritualists can give an adequate solution to this profound mystery they will have rendered mankind an inestimable service. Armed with a belief in the immortality of the soul, faith will again be possible to us all. Faith in things unseen by the vulgar eye, faith in the existence of a spiritual empire co-extensive with the vast material universe which lies around us.

We feel, then, no hostility towards those whose studies have carried them away beyond the narrow boundary of experimental science, and we have selected the title of our paper in no mocking spirit, but with a sincere desire to do honour to the brother who is sitting to us for his portrait. If he feels inclined to quarrel with us for applying the word "mystic" to him, we may at once hasten to assure him that it conveys to our mind merely the idea of a philosophy which refuses to be fettered by the set rules of evidence, or by the instruments which are used for weighing and measuring ponderable bodies. The mind is the true realm of the mystic. Into this mysterious world the materialist has indeed entered, and he seeks to solve its problems by vague talk about the grey and white matter, and the convolutions of the brain. If there is anything in the Rosicrucian mysteries, the key to its lost secrets must first be sought in the vast realm of mind. The orbit of intellect has never yet been measured, and, as Dr. Holmes has remarked, there are minds so vast that the curve they describe does not sensibly differ from a straight line. But this study is not for us now; we are merely attempting to trace some rough and blurred outline of a brother, who, whatever high views he may have of human destiny and human discovery, is first, and before all things, a practical Mason.

Our brother, then, although born of English parents, first saw the light in Dublin, and received a classical education under the tuition of the Rev. Benjamin Gibson and Mr. D. P. Sullivan. He was a schoolfellow of Major General Clarke, an eminent Mason, who is too well known by the Craft to need further mention here. Our brother distinguished himself at Montjoy Academy, and holds high testimonials for his proficiency in classical and mathematical studies. At an early period in his career he was a clerk in the Government Emigration office in his native city. In 1855 he came to London, the grand goal of all men who possess energy and talent, and entered actively into business pursuits. He did not, however, succeed as a man of commerce, and was again compelled to try his fortune with the quill. In the year 1862 he was appointed to a clerkship in the Grand Secretary's office, and was promoted to be second clerk and cashier in 1866. In this comparatively obscure position he remained until November 1872, when he was elected Secretary of the Girls' School. The income of this institution was then £5,200, but in the following year it reached the large sum of £7,700, and in 1875 £8,664 was realised. These advances in the financial prosperity are due in a great measure to his active exertions, and wise administration. His Masonic career is brief but eventful, he was initiated in the Royal Union Lodge, Uxbridge, in 1861, and is now honorary member of eighty Lodges and Chapters. He was the first P.G. Secretary of Middlesex, on the Provincial Grand Lodge being established, and was P.G.S.W. in 1875. In the same year he attained the rank of Prov. G.H. in Chapter, the highest possible position within reach of Masonic ambition. He has passed the chair of every Masonic degree that is known in this country, and is a most active and zealous worker in the cause. He is constantly engaged, either in the duties of his office, or in the not less congenial task of spreading the principles of Masonry, and has had the honour of consecrating all the Lodges in the province of Middlesex. Yet, although he has proved himself to be worthy of all the honours that Masonry has to bestow, he has not yet obtained those of Grand Lodge. He has

still to make his way to the dais, and perhaps he will find this task more difficult of achievement than any of the labours in which he has hitherto engaged. This distinction indeed is an honour to which many aspire, but few are fortunate enough to obtain. Our great Masonic Parliament is based upon the popular suffrage, and its decrees therefore are entitled to due respect. We believe that no unworthy Mason has ever received the highest honours of the Craft. Grand Lodge in this, as in other matters which come under its notice, no doubt acts wisely, and if our brother really aspires to the last distinction which the Fraternity has to bestow, we can merely counsel him to take courage, and to exercise patience. His time may yet come.

Our brother may emphatically be styled a literary Mason. He is learned in the lore of the Order, and has written some very able papers on Royal Arch Masonry, which attracted their due share of attention. He is the editor of our mystic contemporary, "The Rosicrucian," and has contributed many able articles to its columns. A true mystic would be manifestly unfitted for his researches without a touch of the poetical element in his nature. The highest and grandest truths find their fullest and fittest expression in numbers, and the true poet is ever an antagonist to that fleshly school which seeks to degrade the nature of man to a level with the brutes. Our brother has written some verses which have achieved popularity, and his song of the "Red Cross" has been sung by many who know little or nothing of the true nature of this wondrous symbol.

EAST, WEST AND SOUTH.

BY A WANDERING FREEMASON.

VII.

THE Duke desired to have the Spanish officials his hosts, to dine with him the following evening, and invitations were given to that effect. His Equerries, M. Chevalier, Lord Charles Beresford, and other officers were lodged at his quarters in San Sebastian. The leading British residents, notwithstanding their disappointment with the address, determined with characteristic hospitality, to make some of the Galatea's junior officers comfortable also, at their houses. The arrangements again fell to my lot to make, and I still retain the letter of thanks from the commanding officer which acknowledged my exertions.

Next day (Sunday) early salutes from the bay and batteries announced the birthday of H. R. H. the Princess of Prussia. In the afternoon, the invited guests repaired to the Duke's house to dinner. The Governor-General and the Archbishop were unable to be of the number, but there were the Commander-in-Chief, the Admiral, and though last, not least, the Chief Justice, or Regent of the Royal Audience, Don Manuel de Ostolaza.

Of the last-named, I must say a word; for of the many noble and true-hearted Spaniards I have known abroad, he was the truest and the noblest—a large hearted man of even tolerance and vast experience of human nature. He came from Spain to his post in 1866, and put up at a private boarding house, with the Duc d'Alençon, the Baron de Bache, and myself. After the departure of the former we became fast friends. At official proceedings, when he was not present, he would always send his carriage and servants for my use in substitution for my humbler vehicle. For advice in questions of International Law, I found his friendship invaluable, and on one occasion, his aid prevented serious injustice and trouble to a British subject.

An Englishman, whose wife was ordered home to Europe for the preservation of her life, by her medical attendant, had determined to wind up his affairs finally, in order to accompany her. Worried exceedingly with a multitude of details, and worn out with anxiety, he was one day pestered about some trifling business by a native. Saying that he would attend to it another time, he ordered the man to leave his house; which, with considerable impertinence the fellow refused to do. The Englishman probably lost his temper, and pushed the man down the stairs. This was enough for an astute Indian to make a case. Knowing that the passage of the family had been taken to Europe, and that the avoidance of delay would be worth some pecuniary sacrifice, he left the house limping, took to his

bed, and employed a hanger on of the law to commence a suit for grievous assault. Our countryman treated it lightly, all unconscious of the dire injuries which were promptly imputed to him by the Indian "Escribientes" of the local Alcalde, which soon covered many a ream of paper. In the Philippines, there is no such thing as a trifling "pleito," or action-at-law. The unlucky European who gets into the meshes of that complicated system of justice has, ever after, too good cause to remember it. There are no *viva voce* examinations and cross examinations, all is slowly and laboriously written, and got up on reams and reams of paper, signed by a notary on every leaf. The object of the underlings is to swell the fees to the State by covering as many sheets of paper as possible (at 1s per stamped sheet), and to endeavour to get some pickings by seizing every opportunity for errands, intervention, and meddling. The Alcalde is assisted by an "Escribano," or notary, and native interests are represented by a public prosecutor or "Fiscal," each of them Spaniards. Indisposition of one of these brings all to a stop; frequently, business takes one of them out of town; native writers mislay urgent papers, and by one of the thousand dexterities, known only to themselves, can protract a suit almost indefinitely, until pulled up by some awakened superior.

When the vessel in which our friend and his family were to sail, was advertised to start in ten days, he did what he ought to have done at first, apply to H.M.'s Consulate. I told him he ran great risk of detention, and induced him to put the case in the hands of a lawyer, for the purpose of stirring up all concerned. Things now went on in better train, except that the complainant put in his claim for heavy damages,—incapacitated for work, medical expenses, &c., &c. The "Fiscal" of the case whom I did not know, had, it seems, lately arrived from Spain, knew nothing of the Indian character, less of the English, and was imbued with the determination that no wrong should be suffered by a native, without the fullest redress. Had the defendant been a Spaniard, acquaintance-ship or backstairs influence would probably have exonerated him; but with an Englishman, all wore a different complexion. Three times I attended the Alcadia to hear the pleadings of the Fiscal and the lawyer; the former expatiating on "lawlessness, enormity, defenceless population, &c., &c." asking that an example should be made once and for all. He demanded the utmost allowed by law, for assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. This violence, I confess, startled me, but I was positively thunderstruck, when *the day before the sailing of the vessel*, the Alcalde sent me a copy of his sentence, "*Two months imprisonment.*"

The British subject soon appeared, in the utmost distress and indignation. His sick wife, children, and baggage were on board, his passage to England paid, his business sold, and his affairs wound up. The warrant was out, his passport stopped; any moment he might be taken, jail lay before him, and his wife might die on the voyage. Of this contingency I had made the Alcalde aware, and knowing the real merits of the case, my blood boiled at the pig-headedness or possible malice of that official. There was but one hope—inspired with which I drove instantly to the lawyer's, obtained the papers, and crossed the river to see Ostolaza. I found him at luncheon and trespassed on his patience, whilst I gave a rapid history of the case and sorted out the documents which illustrated its salient parts. He skimmed through them with me, and asked me, on my honour, whether I were convinced that it was a "trumped up" claim. I replied unhesitatingly that it was. The true friend then blazed up; he ordered his carriage and drove in state to the private dwelling of that Alcalde, rated him unsparingly, tore up the signatures, and with peremptory order which suffered no remonstrance, obtained reversal of the sentence on the spot. Whether this were consistent with official forms, I know not, but the same supreme power of the Regent in the judicature of the Colony was exercised on my favour on one other occasion, and I have often seen Alcaldes (magistrates of the first instance) quail before him.

That night the Englishman was released from all anxiety, and left for England on the following day.

Don Manuel Ostalaza, therefore, merits more than a passing word; besides, his manner had a singular charm, and though sixty years of age, he was full of energy and wit.

The Colonial Government ordered everything for the

Royal guest on a most liberal scale, and actually paid 20 dols. or £5 for every cover placed on table at the dinner I now describe. Some contractor must have made a good thing of it, for though an English resident (Dr. Burke, noted for his advanced tastes and liberal hospitality) loaned his chief cook for the occasion—the spread was nothing extraordinary.

Coffee was coming, as it should, immediately after the cheese and celery, when the guests, whose seats faced the entrance-hall, were petrified by an unexpected apparition. A tall, stalwart piper, in kilt, bonnet and sporran complete, with silver mounted bagpipes swelling on his bosom, marched up with measured and majestic pace. The Spaniards had never beheld such a spectacle—their open-mouthed astonishment was changed into I know not what, when the Highland instrument began to yelp and screech after the manner of its kind. I must plead guilty to a want of appreciation of this music (?) and, after dinner, I think it calculated to drive one mad. On came the splendid piper, blowing and squeezing at his pet, which skirled and strained and shrieked with most unearthly vehemence. All conversation was suspended, and the astonished gazers held their breath with awe. Whether the Spaniards thought of the feast of Domitian, and believed this to be a prelude to some ghastly tragedy, I cannot tell; but they looked as though they anticipated more than even the torture of the ears. Three times did this mysterious visitant encircle the table, discoursing what may have been sweetest of melody to those who understand it, and then stalked away through the hall and out of sight as slowly and majestically as he came. The Spaniards who were present, will not soon forget Prince Alfred's piper. As an example of their delightful ignorance of everything British, I may observe, that they habitually spoke of Mr. Yorke as the *Duke of York*; they may have thought the piper even his superior, or to have been the ship's boatswain, or the ghost of one of our English kings.

I was chatting away with my opposite neighbours, Lieutenant Haig and the Admiral's Aide, when I was surprised to hear my name as though called by some one. Expecting nothing less, I looked around and saw the Duke tilting back his chair prior to calling me again. Of course I jumped up, and was then asked to translate a toast which he was about to give. It was, the health of his sister, the Princess of Prussia, whose birthday it was that day.

MASONIC LIFE GOVERNORSHIP ASSOCIATIONS.

ANOTHER of these useful adjuncts to the Craft was established on Monday last, the 28th ult., at the Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street. This, which is styled the City Masonic Benevolent Association, has been inaugurated under the auspices of the Sincerity Lodge of Instruction. The objects are to secure to the brethren, by weekly instalments, the Life Governorships of the three Masonic Charities, and when we add that the following brethren are founders, it is a sufficient guarantee for good faith.

President—Bro. S. H. RAWLEY P.M. 174.

Vice-President—Bro. CHARLES LACEY P.P.G.D. Herts.

Treasurer—Bro. G. WARD VERRY P.M. 554, P.Z. 554, Sec. 1278.

Secretary—Bro. J. NEWTON P.M. 174, P.Z. 174, H. 975.

Committee:

(With power to add to their number.)

Bro. E. J. MOORE P.M. 174.

Bro. SALMONESI 27.

Bro. F. BROWN 174.

Bro. J. BERRY W.M. 554.

Bro. BLACKHALL J.D. 1349,

Bro. FRAZER 174.

Bro. A. H. BROWN 174.

We heartily wish success to the enterprise.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Precarious Position.—Though the cruel cold and severe trials of winter have at length passed away, many of their ill consequences still lurk within the frames of the feeble, delicate, and aged, ready to seize upon them from any trifling exciting cause, and rapidly pass through the curable stages to that irremediable condition, whence no human art can extricate the patient. When the throat, air-tubes, lungs, heart, or the sensitive membranes of joints, prone to gout or rheumatism, have received mischief from atmospheric influences or other sources, Holloway's Ointment, early and diligently rubbed upon the surface, as near as possible to the seat of suffering, will give great comfort and safety from danger.

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, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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OUR FUTURE PROSPECTS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Masonry, it may be safely asserted, was never in a more flourishing condition than at the present time, as evinced by the announcement, in your last week's issue, that warrants had been issued for no less than eighteen new Lodges during the past quarter. The Statistical Article with which you favoured us in the same number has deeply interested me. It is true that, owing to the strenuous exertions made by zealous brethren, many members of our Order are becoming Life Governors of our Institutions, through the various Masonic Charities Associations, and that large amounts are subscribed to the several Benevolent Funds attached to Lodges, but this is, in itself, not sufficient for the numerous pressing claims that are constantly being made. It has occurred to me that a movement might be inaugurated, whereby every subscribing member to a Lodge should be enabled to raise something annually towards the support of our Institutions. You have pointed out more than once that an annual contribution of 5s to each of our Charities would produce an amount that would exceed the requirements of the Institutions as at present constituted. It may be urged that these Institutions will grow, and that should the amount we may now fix as the maximum be raised, new demands would arise. This argument I will not attempt to controvert, but I would urge that it is sufficient now to provide for present requirements, and let future demands be tackled when they arise. The question for consideration is—How is this to be done? For sake of illustration we agree that 15s per annum from every member of the Craft who subscribes to a Lodge will give the amount we are so anxious to see raised. Again I ask—How is this to be done? And, in the way of most writers who ask questions, I will endeavour to reply. At the present day, for numerous reasons—which we need not now consider—Lodges are increasing the amount of their subscriptions. Why not apportion 15s of this amount towards the support of our Charitable Institutions? In those of our Lodges where but six or seven meetings are held during the year, and appeals are made through appointed stewards, a call is made at nearly all the gatherings, and those amongst us who, perhaps, are too ready to avail themselves of any excuse that may arise, frequently urge they seldom attend a Lodge without having to put their hands into their pockets, hence they prefer to stop at home. Another suggestion I would respectfully offer!—Let our respected secretaries take counsel, and see what can be done in the question of Past Masters' testimonials. How would it be if, in any given months, or month—were it deemed advisable—the result of acknowledged merit should be accepted, as it really should be, not for what it was intrinsically worth, but for what it was given. The veteran soldier, whose breast is bespangled with decoration, looks as fondly on his iron cross as on his diamond decoration, and I am sure we have in our ranks many who would as soon exhibit an iron or bone ornament, provided it represented what had been achieved by the wearer, as they would exhibit the most costly jewel, set though it might be with diamonds.

I have frequently heard remarks to the effect that P.M.'s jewels are now given so indiscriminately that a truly conscientious Mason almost feels ashamed to wear one, so little being required by the members of some Lodges at the hands of their W.M. ere they vote him the jewel which should only be given for valuable services rendered. To instance more especially what I mean,—a case occurs to me where a W.M., who had not spoken fifty words—leaving out of the question the mere formal opening of the Lodge in the first and second degrees, the third he never had the courage to attempt—during the entire year of his Mastership, and who shone conspicuously from the fact that he never had visitors, nor was honoured by any addition to the number of his member roll, this man, I say, was voted a P.M.'s jewel for the valuable services he had rendered to his Lodge. I think this, Sir, needs no further remark.

I could add much more to this communication, but I fear I shall weary your readers. What I want is, that some of your correspondents will endeavour to follow out the very dim outline I have drawn, and suggest some practical way in which our noble Institutions, may be permanently benefited, and the reckless waste of Lodge funds prevented.

Yours fraternally,

AN ASPIRANT.

GRAND LODGE HONOURS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In reference to the correspondence upon this subject in your columns, I venture to assert that no principle of selection which is adopted in the secular world is followed by our Masonic rulers.

It is an undoubted fact that many brethren are appointed to Grand Lodge honours irrespective of their Masonic labours or merits, and if proof be wanting, I have particulars sufficient to substantiate the assertion; probably some of these brethren have been selected for services rendered, but unknown to the general body of the Craft.

Am I to assume, Sir, that the recipients of Grand Lodge honours are selected from a certain circle of society, and that no one who has not obtained a passport to that circle can be admitted to the dais?

It is well known that there are a few exceptions to the so-called rule of selection to which I have referred, but the very fact that we point with some degree of wonder and astonishment to two or three brethren, who, without the aid of birth or fortune, have risen to a high position in Masonry, proves that I am justified in asserting that mere Masonic labour and charitable exertions are not regarded as sufficient qualifications for the Masonic dignity of Grand Lodge.

The belief to which I incline is, that the apathy of the Craft (proverbially known) with regard to this subject is rather the result of ignorance than indifference.

Masons are content with a vague declaration of equality, and they have not yet discovered that, in practice, we, like some States of society, have our aristocracy and our commons.

When will the Masonic commons endeavour to put an end to a Government which ignores in its practice the first principles of Freemasonry?

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

ENQUIRER.

OUR SYMBOLISM.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

Sevenoaks, 23rd February 1876.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—The title of your articles, "Masonry and Magic," refers, I presume, to the use of the symbolism current in our Order, which is common to many ancient schools of philosophy, and the origin of which is shrouded in darkness. For as to any intermixture of Theurgia with the practice of Freemasonry as we understand it, even in remotest times, I am an entire disbeliever. It is probable that such studies were pursued in the adyta of ancient India, Egypt and Greece, and that they were intimately connected with ancient Theosophy, but their relation to the scientific wonders of olden time remains to be shown. It must be evident to every student of our ritual that many links in its symbolism have been dropped; the astronomical allegory, for instance, which underlies it, is imperfectly developed. The onward path of the candidate and his revolution, if I may so term it, in an orbit punctuated by the sun, the moon and the Master of the Lodge, is a fruitful subject of speculation. The late Bro. Melville, in his great work, "Veritas," has exposed to view many of those "missing links," and shown that a deeper meaning lies veiled under astronomical signs, closely related to the secrets of ancient initiations. The origin of the astronomical signs for the constellations and the zodiac lies far back in the mists of antiquity together with the symbols now considered Masonic.

The five-pointed star refers to higher mysteries than our five points, so does the double triangle or seal of Solomon, but I have yet to learn that the magical properties attributed to them by dreamers and mystics or by the mediæval Rosicrucians have any foundation in fact.

Can you throw any light upon the origin or Masonic reference (as to the Craft) of the symbols pertaining to the Christian degrees?

Yours fraternally,

PARMENIO.

A meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held on Wednesday next, the 8th inst., at three o'clock in the afternoon, for the transaction of general business.

The Doric Lodge of Instruction meets every Friday evening, at eight o'clock, at the Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End Road. Bro. T. Austin is the Preceptor, and the Lodge has, on its roll of members, a large number of brethren who have attained eminence as workers of Masonic Ritual.

Brother Sam Hague's Minstrels have been performing nightly to crowded audiences at the Philharmonic Theatre, Islington, Bro. J. D. Solomon being the lessee, and Bro. T. Stanley Dust the business manager. This troupe has been playing for five consecutive years at the St. James's Hall, Liverpool. A fire, however, took place on 1st May 1875, which caused them to make a tour, until their new hall will be completed. Their success at the Philharmonic has been such that the proprietor has taken down the private boxes in order to afford additional space for the public. On Ash Wednesday they performed to crowded houses at Croydon. A visit to the Philharmonic during their stay in London will not be regretted.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Brighton Aquarium, arrangements were made whereby the services of Bro. G. Reeves Smith were retained; he to continue to occupy the position of Secretary and General Manager. The shareholders may be congratulated on their securing the services of one who, from its opening to the present time, has untiringly and successfully worked to promote their interests.

REVIEWS.

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

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All the World Over: Edited by EDWIN HODDER, F.R.G.S., author of "Memories of New Zealand Life," "On Holy Ground," &c. Volume II. London: Thomas Cook and Son, Ludgate-circus; Hodder and Stoughton, 27 Paternoster-row. 1876.

THIS, though one of the most recent, is very far from being the least attractive of our periodicals, and as each fresh volume is completed it is presented to the public in a neat, we may say handsome, cover. Thus in the course of time there will be quite an array of prettily bound volumes. Nor are the merits of *All the World Over* confined to mere external adornment. Its speciality is the numerous papers and notes on travel, which form, in fact, the bulk of the contents. The former are well written descriptions of home and foreign cities, scenery, habits, customs, and the like, sometimes in detached papers, as are those in which the Editor describes Alexandria and Cairo, sometimes in the form of a series, as are Mr. Ritchie's articles, entitled "On the Track of the Pilgrim Fathers." The latter contains, among much valuable matter, plenty of good sound advice for the benefit of intending travellers. Under the head of "Our Travellers' Club," we find a number of questions propounded, and answers given on such important details as the best kind of equipment and the best time for, and the probable cost of a tour in this, or that country, as to the relative merits of different means of transit, or of the different routes to one and the same place, as to the health of localities, &c. We have, besides, with each volume, a considerable number of very fair illustrations, half-a-dozen maps or plans of cities and towns, and a carefully prepared index. In fact, as far as we can judge, no feature that would be likely to enhance the merit of this Magazine has been overlooked, for, as the public are in love with serial stories, Mr. Ambrose Heath contributes an excellent tale, in 12 chapters, entitled "A Love Chase; or, Autumn Manœuvres." Thus, with well-written descriptive papers, useful notes, well-drawn maps, fair illustrations, and a love story to beguile the intervals of study, *All the World Over* exhibits a combination of points of usual strength. There may be some few who will expect an even stronger guarantee than this. To such we offer the name of Cook and Son as one of the publishing firms, and the tried literary reputation of the Editor.

Freemasonry: a Catholic Bond of Love and Unity to the Churches. Sermon preached in St. Paul's Church, Rothesay, on St. John's Eve, 1875. By R. Gascoigne Weldon, M.A., Incumbent and Hon. Chaplain. Published by request of the R.W.M. and Brethren of St. John's (292), Rothesay. Proceeds to be given to aid in building a larger Church in Rothesay. London: Strahan and Co.; Edinburgh: R. Grant and Son; Dublin: W. H. Smith and Son; Glasgow: Menzies and Co.; Rothesay: W. C. Harvey. 1876.

THE text of this sermon is from the Gospel of St. John: "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another," and following verse, the Rev. Chaplain has been highly successful in his treatment. The tone is excellent throughout, the language is excellent, more ornate, perhaps, than we usually hear from the pulpit, the style fervent and impressive. Even the most bigoted enemy of the Order will find it difficult to note a flaw in the application of the text to the ruling principle of Freemasonry—Charity, by which, as is very properly pointed out, not even almsgiving only is intended, but charity, in its fullest and widest signification, the charity of which another of the Apostles so eloquently wrote in one of his Epistles. It is an admirable sermon, and as the purpose to which the proceeds of the sale will be devoted is equally admirable, we advise our readers to buy and judge for themselves. The modest outlay necessary to procure it will be well spent in a twofold source. The brother who buys one will obtain a stout apology for Freemasonry, and will likewise promote the cause of religion in the good town of Rothesay. We quote one sentence, in which the writer speaks of the Order thus:—

"Till these good times come again, and as an earnest of them, I hail your mighty brotherhood, stretching out its hands over all creeds, countries, colour; embracing all, uniting all, for it joins by one common tie, initiates by one common form, Jew, Greek, Barbarian, and Scythian; Albert Edward Prince of Wales, as well as the poorest, humblest man now before me; teaching all one common language, one common faith: 'Honour all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, honour the King.'"

The Keystone Centennial Masonic Almanack, 1876. Philadelphia Masonic Publishing Company.

THIS will be found a very useful almanack, especially by the Pennsylvania brethren. It will likewise prove interesting to English Craftsmen, containing, as it does, full particulars of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Commandery, Grand Council, and other Masonic bodies in the State, including the Grand Officers and the several charitable funds connected with Masonry. We gather from these that, according to the latest authentic returns, issued up to 27th December 1874, there were 357 Lodges working up to that date, with an aggregate membership of 38,137. Since then, 13 new Lodges have been constituted, so that there are now 370 Lodges in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge Charity possesses a capital of close on 60,000 dollars, the beneficiaries being "poor and respectable widows, orphan children, mothers and unmarried sisters of brother Master Masons who die in good standing." The Stephen Girard Charity Fund amounts now to 59,000 dollars, having increased

to the extent of 4,600 dollars in the past two years, the interest being applied to "the relief of poor and respectable brethren in the Masonic Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania." Under Grand Chapter are "97 Chapters, 3 Mark Lodges, and 10,100 Companion R.A. Masons." The Grand Commandery rules over 54 Commanderies, the number of Knights being 5,467. The annual Grand Conclave will be held at Philadelphia on 30th May, and two following days, "when there will be a GRAND RE-UNION OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, in commemoration of the HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, to which all the Commanderies in the world have been invited." The Grand Council has under its jurisdiction 27 Councils, and 2,113 members, and there are four bodies working under the A. and A. Scottish Rite in Philadelphia. A full list of Lodges, Chapters, Councils, &c., is added, thus completing the needful information respecting the Craft in this State. May its prosperity be ever on the increase!

The Royal Masonic Cyclopædia. Part III.

AN apology is now offered for the slight delay that has occurred in the appearance of this number. No apology, we think, was needed. We are already half-way through the work, which is one involving a vast amount of labour and research on the part of the editor. It is far better that an occasional delay should happen, and the work be made as accurate as possible, than that strict punctuality should be observed, and then, perhaps, a discovery made of sundry errors. We have every confidence that Bro. Kenneth Mackenzie will do his work well. It is a heavy task, the extent of which can only be judged by those who have had imposed upon them the labour of compilation. He has succeeded well thus far, and we are quite content he should take his own time—within reasonable limits, of course—in completing the volume.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday last, at the Temple, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. The Hall was crowded, owing, no doubt, to the election of the M.W.G.M., who had been nominated on a former occasion. The R.W. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M. was in the chair, R.W. the Marquis of Hamilton S.G.W., Pattison P.G.M. Kent G.J.W., Rt. W. Bro. Beach M.P. P.G.M. Hampshire, Rt. W. Bro. Bagshawe P.G.M. Essex, Rt. W. Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot P.G.M. Staffordshire, Col. Burdett P.G.M. Middlesex, Bros. Wigram G.C., J. R. Simpson P.G.C., J. C. Martyn P.G.C., Sir Albert Woods (Garter) G.D.C., J. Clabon P.G.D., Æ McIntyre G.R., S. Tomkins G.T., T. Fenn P.A.G.D.C., Brackstone Baker P.G.D., J. B. Monckton P.G.D. President Board of General Purposes, Hutton (Ex Sheriff) P.G.D., R. W. Stewart P.G.D., Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., J. Nunn P.G.S.B., C. J. Parkinson P.G.D., J. A. Rucker P.G.D., Lt.-Col. Creaton P.G.D., J. Mason P.G.S.B., S. Rawson D.G.M. China, F. Binckes, Jas. Terry. Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. John Hervey G.S. read the regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st December 1875 were read and confirmed. Bro J. M. Case P.G.S. proposed, and Bro. Rhys Williams seconded, amidst enthusiastic cheering, the election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. Bro. S. Tomkins was unanimously elected S.W. and Treasurer. Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter was read, and the following Grants were confirmed:

A Brother of the Cecil Lodge, No. 449	...	£75	0	0
The widow of a Brother of No. 169	...	50	0	0
A Brother of the Alfred Lodge, No. 340, Oxford		50	0	0
A Brother of the Enoch Lodge, No. 11, London		75	0	0
A Brother of the London Lodge, No. 108, London		75	0	0

The report of the Board of General Purposes was taken as read. The Finance Committee and Auditors' Reports were read.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form. The following brethren were also present:—F. Derry P.G.J.W. Staff, J. Abrahams, J. Wright, O. Roberts, J. Bingemann, J. Constable, W. Stephens, B. Cundick, J. B. Shackleton, J. Cox, J. Carnaby, R. H. Marsh, H. Wood, E. Marsh P.G.S., Hogg P.G.S., J. Taylor, A. Wootton, E. J. Harty, J. P. Godfrey, E. M. Haigh, J. Pakes, S. Rosenthal, W. B. Woodman, J. Hayward, Waygood, A. Wallace, T. Kingston, J. Defries, A. Hollingsworth, J. Bull, G. Everett, J. W. Baldwin, H. Massey, E. Thompson, Lancaster, C. E. Lacey, J. White, Field, Scott, E. Moody, J. L. Thomas, H. W. Vallance P.G.S., O. Grady P.G.S., E. H. Thiellay, B. Swallow, W. C. Parsons, J. H. Watts, W. Mauders, Erasmus Wilson P.G.S., Col. Starkie, Major Clerke, Bentley Shaw, H. M. Levy, J. Miller, J. Peartree, &c.

H.R.H. Prince Leopold, after sitting to Bro. E. M. Haigh for a series of photographs, in his insignia of office as Provincial Grand Master Oxon, honoured Bro. E. J. Harty with a visit to his rooms, and favoured him with his autograph in the visiting book. His Royal Highness has also accorded his special patronage for the Installation Engraving.

CONSECRATION OF ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE LODGE, No. 1593.

ONE of the most interesting meetings of the year took place within the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, on the 22nd ult., when a goodly number of eminent brethren assembled for the purpose of consecrating the above Lodge. As we so recently gave the detailed particulars of this ceremony, we need only remark that the formula was not only ably, but most eloquently performed, by the Rev. Bro. Thos. Robinson M.A. P.M. 88, 709, P.P.G.S.W. Kent, who afterwards installed Professor Robert Kalley Miller P.M. 859, P.P.J.G.W. Cambridge, W.M. designate, into the chair of K.S. The W.M. then invested the Wardens designate, viz., Bros. Scott James Bailey Wilcox R.N. S.W., and Thos. Charles Pascoe R.N. J.W. The following officers were then appointed and invested:—Bros. Dr. Pink Treasurer, W. J. Blakey P.M. 184, 1174 P.P.A.D.C. Kent, Secretary pro tem, Lieut. Southwell T. Bourke S.D., Lieut. Francis Knowles J.D., Lieut. George Cotton Stapleton I.G., Lieut. Francis A. Symes Organist.

After several names had been tendered for increasing the numbers of the Lodge, it was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Trafalgar Hotel, where they were regaled with the good things of life. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., in terms which elicited the warmest enthusiasm, and "Our Hercules," in his response for Grand Lodge Officers, took the opportunity to enlarge upon the merits of our Charitable Institutions, and by his open, honest and candid declarations, succeeded in cementing more firmly the ties of friendship, which the founders of this Lodge have so long held towards him. Upon the toast of the Consecrating and Installing Officer being given, which was received with vociferous cheering, the W.M. thanked our Rev. Brother, on behalf of the Lodge, for the inestimable service he had rendered in the day's proceedings.

Bro. Robinson briefly responded, assuring the brethren that the pleasure was equally great to him, inasmuch that the founding brethren were bound to make the Lodge an unprecedented success. He desired, before sitting down, to propose the toast of the W.M., a brother whose talent had won for him great honours. Not only had he distinguished himself at the University of Cambridge, but as a Mason he had made his "Mark," and all wished him health to continue the labours to which he was so fondly attached. The remainder of the toasts having been gone through, the brethren separated. Amongst those present were—Bros. Skinner G. Gilbert, C. G. Robinson W.M. 709, Dudley Court, J. C. Dockwell, A. Wodehouse, F. Binckes P.G.S., W. Bristow P.G.S., G. White W.M. 1174, T. S. Warno P.M. 20, P.P.G.A.S. Kent, E. G. Bumstead P.M. 548, Dr. Crittenden W.M. 548, J. J. West P.M. 548, Captain Watson P.P.G.D.C. Kent, J. C. Scard W.M. 140, with his two Wardens, E. A. Maund J.W. 859, J. Shaw W.M. 79, H. W. Townsend S.W. 1428, R. Trim P.M. 1320, L. B. Sparks 140, Madgwick 1029, H. Robert 79. We congratulate the members of this Lodge upon its consecration, and hope the bright and happy future may be realised, and in wishing the W.M. health and strength to perform his duties, beg to say, we shall be glad to hear from him at all times upon Masonic matters in the interest of his Lodge.

CONSECRATION OF THE UPPER NORWOOD LODGE, No. 1586.

A WARRANT having been granted for a new Lodge as above, the brethren assembled at the White Hart Hotel, Upper Norwood, on the 26th ult. Bro. Frances P.M., P.G.D. Surrey, was the Consecrating officer, and he discharged his duty in a very perfect manner. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Jas. Coward P.G.O., and the singing was excellently rendered by Bros. Fox and Steadman. A board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Jas. Kew P.M. 179, in a very efficient manner, installed Bro. Muller into the chair. The following were the officers appointed—Bros. Hopekirk P.M. 179 S.W., G. Cragg J.W., Hammond P.M. Trea., Drake Sec., Kidman S.D., Paul J.D., Boyer I.G., Pugsley D.C., Crouch W.S., Pringle A.S., Guest Org. Several brethren were proposed for joining, and propositions for initiation were handed in. Votes of thanks were unanimously given, and recorded on the minutes, and honorary membership to Bros. Frances, Kew, Coward, Fox, Steadman, and Hammond P.G.S. Middlesex. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, provided by Bro. Ledger. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts and complimentary speeches were given. Bros. Fox and Steadman contributed to the harmony, Bro. Coward presiding at the pianoforte. The Visitors were Bros. Kain P.P.G.S., Warwick, Benham W.M. 1339, J. F. Sawyer and Hopwood P.M. 1512.

On Tuesday next the Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction will hold its anniversary meeting at the Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, supper on table at 7 o'clock.

Bro. R. W. Bell, late of the Enterprise Tavern, Long Acre, has purchased Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, where several Lodges and Chapters are held. Bro. Bell, well known as a caterer, will doubtless prove a worthy successor to Bro. Gosden.

Bro. Wills, F.H.S., of the Royal Exotic Nursery, Onslow-crescent, had the honour of receiving the commands of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh for the floral decorations of the Royal Albert Hall and the Royal Box. He also supplied the magnificent and tastefully arranged bouquets that were presented to Her Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and H.R.H. the Princess Beatrice.

PROVINCE OF SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION.)

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE AT SWANSEA.

THE ceremony of consecration of the Caradoc Lodge, No. 1573, took place on Thursday, the 17th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Caerstreet, Swansea. There was a large gathering of brethren, every Lodge in the province being represented, together with an unusually large number of visitors from the sister province and the neighbouring towns.

The Lodge was opened at two o'clock by Bro. George Bradford, P. Prov. G. Sup. Works., P.M. No. 237, assisted by the P.M.'s and officers of the same Lodge.

The Lodge having been opened in due form, the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot, the W. the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Edward James Morris, and the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, entered the Lodge in procession, marshalled by the P.G.D.C. Bro. Evan Thomas W.M., No. 679; the following officers being in attendance: Bros. W. Whittington P.S.G.W., James G. Hall P.P.S.G.W., Marmaduke Tennant P.P.S.W., George B. Brock P.P.S.G.W., Rowland Thomas P.P.J.G.W., George Allen P.P.J.G.W., T. D. Daniel P.P.J.G.W., Rev. J. J. S. Moore LL.D., P.G.C., John Jones P.G. Treas., James Goodall P.G. Reg., Lawrence Tulloch P.P.G. Reg., Samuel B. Power P.P.G. Reg., Charles Taylor P.G.D., Seigmund Weichert P.P.G.D., James Hurman P.P.G.D., W. H. Tucker P.P.G.D., W. H. Davies P.P.G.D., Edward Daniel P.P.G.D., W. G. Davies P.P.G. Sup. Wks., George Bradford P.P.G. Sup. Wks., Evan Thomas P.G.D.C., W. L. R. Jackson P.G.D.C., Thomas Powell P.P.G.D.C., J. Jones-Hewson P.P.G.D.C., E. F. Daniel P.G.S.B., John Rogers P.P.G.S.B., Arthur L. Struvé P.G. Org., Howel W. Williams P.P.G. Pnrst., Thomas G. Glass P. Prov. Grand Pnrst., Thomas Thomas, William Little, Thomas McKimm, D. R. David, G. H. White P.G. Stewards, George Bullerwell P.G. Tyler. Also Bros. W. J. Morgan P.P.J.G.W. Western Division, Rev. A. H. P. Trewman P.P.G.C. Somerset, C. V. Harding P.G. Org. W. Division, J. B. Hall P.G.D.C. Leicester, W. Harries, Tenby; E. W. Fenton, Hereford; J. Edwards Price, W. Paxton Garrett, E. S. Hartland, W. Aubrey Essery, J. C. Sladen, J. L. White, W. Mitchell, D. C. Jones, J. R. Davies, D. Rosser, J. Bowen, W. Morgan, W. Dobbs, W. Watkins, D. Jenkins, G. Shaddich, H. Simons, S. Thompson, R. Main, J. S. Woolley, G. J. Alexander, M. Wayne Morgan, H. K. Bill, A. F. Bayntun, H. A. Latimer, R. D. Burnie, John B. Richards, John Rhys, J. Moody, W. Garland, and many others.

The chair having been taken by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. James Goodall P.G. Reg. and P.M. No. 237 read the petition and warrant of constitution, after which the ceremony of consecration was performed by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master in his usual masterly and impressive manner, assisted by the W. the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and by Bros. Marmaduke Tennant P.P.S.G.W. and P.M. No. 833, Rowland Thomas P.P.J.G.W., and P.M. No. 364, and S. Weichert P.P.S.G.D., and W.M. No. 36, Bro. Evan Thomas ably assisting as P.G.D.C. The oration was delivered and the customary prayers were offered up by the Prov. G. Chaplain Bro. the Rev. J. J. S. Moore LL.D., and Bro. Arthur L. Struvé presided with great ability at the organ.

At the conclusion of the consecration ceremony, the W.M. designate of the Caradoc Lodge, Bro. John Rogers P.P.G.S.B., was presented to the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, by the V.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, who referred in terms of high commendations to the zeal, ability and Masonic knowledge displayed by this brother, who was accordingly installed as First W.M. in accordance with ancient custom. The ceremonial observances being conducted throughout by the R.W.P.G.M.

The following brethren were then appointed and invested as officers for the year:—Bros. James Livingston (Mayor of Swansea) S.W., Rev. John J. Stevenson Moore LL.D., P.G. Chaplain J.W., W. Michell Treasurer, J. L. White Secretary, J. C. Sladen S.D., W. Dobbs J.D., W. A. Essery D.C., D. C. Jones I.G., W. Watkins and David Rosser Stewards, and George Bullerwell P.G.T. Tyler.

Votes of thanks having been proposed, agreed to, and acknowledged by the R.W.P.G.M., and the W.D.P.G.M., several candidates were proposed for initiation, and after some routine business the Lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together at the Mackworth Arms Hotel, Bro. W. Stone catering, to the satisfaction of all concerned. The W.M. Bro. John Rogers presided, supported by the R.W. the P.G.M., the W. the D.P.G.M., and an excellent attendance of P.G. Masters and other brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with marked ability. Bro. Harding, of Carmarthen, presided with great ability at the pianoforte, and favoured the brethren with a few of his choicest songs. The harmony of the evening was further contributed by Bros. H. W. Williams, J. Jones-Hewson, and others, and a most agreeable and enjoyable evening was spent. The Caradoc Lodge thus takes its place among the established Lodges in the province. It starts on its career with the hearty good wishes of the brotherhood, and that career, it may be predicted, will be one of usefulness to the Craft, and honour to the province. The Lodge will be presided over by one of the most capable Masons in the district, one who has already won golden opinions for accurate working, skilled in the noble science, and admirably qualified for the position to which he has been elevated by the suffrages of the brotherhood, and aided by a carefully-selected staff of officers. We doubt not the Lodge will soon earn a repute for being a thoroughly well-worked, well-conducted, and prosperous one.—*Cambrian*.

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 14d 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.

THE ANTI-MASONIC VICAR.

FROM THE "SQUARE."

"I HAVE sent for you, although I know my summons must be inconvenient, because I choose you to be present at an interview which has been forced on me by a deputation from the Freemasons: they aim at persuading me to allow them to assemble in my church. A likely matter, indeed! a very likely matter!"

So spake, with flushed cheek and quivering lip, my well-intentioned, but nervous incumbent, one memorable Saturday in the month of August.

"Very well, sir," was my reply; "you may depend on my heeding and recollecting the sentiments of each party."

"Would to Heaven!"—this was an aside—"that these Mason people had chosen some other day than Saturday for their conference! Neither sermon written! The Lending Library accounts all in confusion; Mrs. Watkinson's sick baby to baptize; and two funerals in the afternoon to a certainty!"

"They must be cut short—yes! very, very short!" ejaculated the vicar, decisively and emphatically.

"What, the sermons?" cried I, reverting at once to the topic uppermost in my own mind. "Oh, very well; your views, sir, are mine. They shall be shortened to a certainty."

"You are dreaming," remarked my superior, pettishly. "I allude to the speeches, the oratorical displays, the verbiage of these mystics."

"Ah, precisely so," was my dutiful reply. "You, sir, and no other, hold the check-string: the length of the interview must depend on your pleasure. Masons!" this was another aside—"I wish they were all walled up in the Pyramids. Six: and no tidings. It will be midnight before I shall have completed my preparations for to-morrow."

"I am not narrow-minded," resumed Mr. Gresham, fidgeting fretfully in his chair; "far from it, my views are liberal and enlarged; I never by any chance indulge in a harsh surmise touching any one of my fellow-creatures. But these Mason people alarm me. They have a secret; there is some extraordinary bond, stringent and well understood, by which they support each other. I look upon them as little better than conspirators." Then, after a brief pause, "In fact, they are conspirators."

"You really think so?" said I, for the first time feeling an interest in the subject.

"I do—seriously and solemnly," said the vicar, with an air of the most earnest and portentous gravity.

"Rat-tat-tat! Rap, rap!"

"The Deputation, sir," said the butler, bowing five middle-aged gentlemen into the study.

For a set of "conspirators" they were the oddest-looking people imaginable. There they stood, a knot of portly, frank-featured, cheerful men, upon whom the cares of life sat lightly; who greeted their pastor with a smile, and seemed in high good humour with themselves and all around them.

The spokesman of the party began his story. He said, in substance, that a new Lodge being about to be opened within a mile and a-half of Fairstream, it was the wish of the brethren (the more firmly to engraft on the noble tree of this new Masonic scion) to go in procession to Church, and there listen to a sermon from a clerical brother. In this arrangement he, in the name of the Lodge, represented by the parties then in his presence, most respectfully requested the vicar's concurrence.

That reverend personage, with a most distant and forbidding air, replied, that he could sanction no such proceedings.

Perplexed by this response, which was equally unpalatable and unexpected, the deputation, with deference, demanded my incumbent's reasons for refusal.

"They are many and various," replied he; "but resolve themselves mainly into these four. First: *There is nothing Church about you!*"

The deputation stared.

"I repeat, that of Freemasons as a body the Church knows nothing. You admit into your fellowship men of all creeds. Your principles and intentions may be pure and praiseworthy; and such I trust they are. But the Church is not privy to them. The Church is in ignorance respecting them. The Church does not recognise them, and therefore, as a ministering servant of the Church, I must decline affording you any countenance or support."

The banker here submitted to the vicar, that in works of charity—in supporting an infirmary, a dispensary, a clothing club, a stranger's friend society—identity of creed was not essential. Men of different shades of religious belief could harmoniously and advantageously combine in carrying out a benevolent project. And one of the leading principles of Freemasonry was active, and untiring, and widely spread benevolence. Could success crown any charitable project, any scheme of philanthropy, any plan for succouring the suffering and the necessitous if no assistance was accepted save from those who held one and the same religious creed? "*Charity,*" he contended, "*knew no creed.*" No shackles, forged by human opinions, could or ought to trammel her. He was no friend to his species who would seek to impose them."

The vicar shook his head repeatedly, in token of vehement dissent from these observations, and proceeded.

"Next I object to you because you are friendly to processions; and, I am given to understand, purpose advancing to church in long and elaborate array. All processions, all emblems, all symbols, I abominate. Such accessories, in the sanctuary, absolutely indecent; I will not call them unholy; I term them downright profane. What has a thinking being—particularly when proceeding, for the purpose of worship, to the temple of his Creator—what has he to do with processions? They are, one and all, abominations."

The little placeman here briskly stepped forward and said, that "in that Book, with which he was sure the vicar was better acquainted than any one of them, processions were repeatedly men-

tioned, and never condemned. They occur in all parts of the sacred volume, and in a very early portion of it. A procession of no ordinary description followed Jacob's remains when, with filial love, Joseph brought them out of Egypt into Canaan. A procession, long and elaborately arranged, attended the removal of the Ark from its temporary sojourn in the house of Obed Edom. A procession, glorious and imposing, preceded the dedication of Solomon's Temple. A procession—"

"Pray," said the vicar, sharply, "do you mean to contend that any one of these processions was at all the counterpart of a Masonic procession?"

"I do not, I disclaim all such irreverent intention," returned the other gravely, "my object was simply to show that, by the very highest authority which man can produce, processions are not forbidden. Usage sanctions their adoption among ourselves. They form a part of our most august ceremonies. When the peers present an address to the sovereign on his escape from the hands of an assassin, on the birth of an heir to the throne, on the marriage of one of the royal family, they repair to the royal presence in procession. At the coronation of the sovereign one of the most important features in the pageant is a gorgeous and lengthened procession. That procession, let me remind you, Sir, wends its way to the house of God, and for the purpose of worship. It enters the Abbey. There divine service is performed; in the course of which the sovereign receives the crown and takes an oath to the people. These points are pressed on you as pertinent to the subject. Surely, after considering them, you will hold us blameless, if, as Masons, we wish to 'go up to the house of God in company'—in other words, 'in procession?'"

"Plausible, but hollow!" was the vicar's comment; then, after a pause, "you have failed to convince me. I object to you, strongly, on the score of your processions, and I object to you still more decidedly on the score of your—secret. You are a secret society; are held together by a stringent oath; now I hold that, wherever there is mystery there is iniquity!"

"A harsh conclusion, indeed!" exclaimed Mr. Walford, the merchant, who now took part in the discussion; "you cannot be serious in maintaining it? When you assert secrecy to be criminal, you have forgotten its universal agency. It has escaped you how largely it pervades both public and private life. In every department its operation is traceable. The naval commander sails from his country's shores under sealed orders. He has private papers which contain his instructions. These he is to open in a certain latitude and longitude. Meanwhile their import is 'secret' to him, and to those who serve under him. But he accepts his trust unhesitatingly. The 'secrecy' in which his orders are veiled does not indispose him towards their fulfilment, make him suspicious of their origin, doubtful of their necessity, or render their faithful performance one whit less obligatory upon his part. His duty is to obey. Take another instance: The cabinet council which deliberates on the interests of this great country, and advises the sovereign in matters of policy, is sworn to secrecy. No member of it is allowed, without distinct permission from the reigning prince, to divulge one syllable of what passes at its sittings. *It is a secret conclave.* But no one questions, on that account, the legality or propriety of its decisions. In private life secrecy obtains. In a commercial partnership there are secrets—the secrets of the firm. To them each co-partner is privy; but is solemnly bound not to disclose them. In a family there are secrets. In most households there are facts which the heads of that household do not divulge to their servants, children, and dependents. Prudence enjoins secrecy. So that, in public and in private life, in affairs of state, and affairs of commerce, secrecy, more or less, prevails; why, then, should it be objected to the Freemason, that in his Order there is a secret which is essential to the existence of the fraternity, and which he is bound to hold sacred?"

"Ha! ha! ha! An adroit evasion of a very awkward accusation!" cried the vicar, with an enjoyable chuckle: "who is the General of your Order? There must be Jesuits amongst ye. No argument from Stoneyhurst could be more jesuitically pointed!" And again the vicar laughed heartily.

The deputation did not join him. They looked on in silence. Perhaps they thought the refusal of the Church a sufficient annoyance, without the addition of the vicar's bantering. His pleasantry was not infectious. Perchance they held with the delinquent negro, in one of our West India colonies, who was first severely reprimanded, and then soundly thrashed by his owner: "Massa, massa; no preachee too and floggee too!"

At length one of them, with great gravity, inquired whether Mr. Gresham had any further objections to urge?

"Oh, dear, yes! I am hostile to you because you combine."

The banker now fired his broadside.

"We do. We are a city at unity in itself. We form a band of united brethren, bound by one solemn obligation, stringent upon all, from the highest to the lowest; and the object of our combination, boundless charity and untiring benevolence. We must be charitable and kindly affectioned to all; but more especially to our brethren. With them we are ever to sympathise readily, and their necessities to succour cheerfully. Respect are we to have none, neither as to colour, creed, or country. And yet it is our charity, to be neither indiscriminate, wasteful, nor heedless. We are to prefer the worthy brother, and to reject the worthless. And our warrant for so doing is His command who has said, 'Thou shalt open thine hand wide to thy Brother, and to thy poor, and to thy needy in thy land.'"

"The latter remark none can gainsay," said the vicar, coldly; "and thus, I believe, our interview terminates."

The deputation retired desperately chagrined.

The Church was closed against them. The new Lodge was opened, but there was no public procession, and no sermon. To me, lightly and carelessly as I then thought of the Fraternity, there seemed much that was inexplicable in the rebuff which it sustained.

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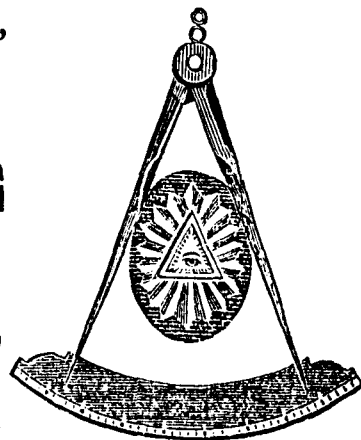
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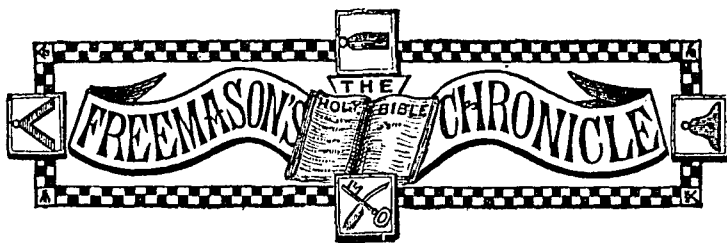
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

IN the House of Lords on Friday, Lord Granville ex-
plained a statement, made by Mr. Disraeli the night
before, when speaking on the Fugitive Slave Cir-
cular, after which the Appellate Jurisdiction Bill
was discussed and read a second time. On Mon-
day Lord Stanley of Alderley drew attention to
the state of affairs in the Malay Peninsula. On
Tuesday the Lord Chancellor moved the second reading
of the Crossed Cheques Bill, which, after some discussion,
was read. On Thursday the Archbishop of Canterbury
moved the second reading of the Ecclesiastical Offices and
Fees Bill, which being done, the Bill was afterwards
referred to a Select Committee. On the motion of Lord
Redesdale, an order was agreed to, by which it was made
compulsory that all appeals in their Lordships' House
should be heard before not less than three Law Lords.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply in the

House of Commons on Friday last, Mr. J. Holms expressed an opinion that, in his idea, some reform was necessary in our military system. His views were embodied in a resolution, which was opposed by General Shute and others. Mr. Secretary Hardy, in the course of his remarks on the subject, said he considered the course adopted by Mr. Holms of addressing public meetings during the recess on the subject was objectionable. Mr. Holms afterwards offered to withdraw his resolution, but this the House refused, and it was negatived, without a division. Several votes for the Civil Service were then agreed to. On Monday Mr. Anderson gave notice that he intended moving, at an early date, a resolution with respect to the collision between the Alberta and the Mistletoe. Mr. Goschen then called the attention of the House to the loss of the Vanguard, criticising the conduct of several of the officers at great length and with some severity. Mr. Hunt replied, and stated that for months he had been assailed on this subject, but considered that he had done all he could in the matter; after some further discussion, and some remarks from Mr. Disraeli, the motion of Mr. Goschen, for the production of certain papers, was agreed to. On Tuesday Mr. Secretary Cross stated, in reply to Mr. Pell, that it was the intention of the Government to bring in the promised measure relating to prisons about the time the Budget was introduced. Sir C. Dilke then directed attention to the question of the unreformed municipal corporations, on which subject some amount of discussion ensued. On Wednesday a proposal to read the Municipal Franchise (Ireland) Bill a second time, made by Major O'Gorman, was fully considered, and eventually negatived, the House, on dividing, shewing a majority of 28 against the reading. After some further unimportant business the House adjourned. On Thursday two new members took their seats, viz.:—Mr. Denison for East Retford, and Mr. Brown for Horsham. Captain Nolan proposed, on the order of the day for going into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, that the inducements to enter the army be increased, which, after some discussion, was negatived, without a division. Some other proposals were made, and the House then went into Committee of Supply, when Mr. Secretary Hardy made his annual military statement.

Her Majesty the Queen, attended by the Princess of Wales, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold was present at a concert at the Albert Hall, on Friday last. On Tuesday a Levée was held at St. James's Palace, by the Duke of Edinburgh, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen.

Intelligence has been received of the total loss of the ship "Strathmore," which was wrecked on a rock near the Crozet group of islands on the 1st of July last, during a fog. It is stated that out of a total of 89 souls on board 45 are missing. On Wednesday, the "Glenaray," of Glasgow, from Adelaide, went ashore during a dense fog, off the Isle of Wight, and became a total wreck. All hands were saved by the Coast-guard and others.

Abroad, the principal event of the week has been the flight of Don Carlos and the consequent stoppage of the long Civil War in Spain. On Monday he asked for the protection of France, which was accorded him, and he then started for England. The French authorities have determined to put a stop to ready money betting, and this rule being enforced at a race meeting on Sunday last, caused great commotion, several men being served with notice of prosecution. Some disastrous floods have taken place on the Continent, France, Austria and Hungary especially suffering.

We heartily congratulate our good Brother, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, upon the success of his researches after what is known as the "Wilson M.S. Constitution," which, we trust, may prove to be of more archaeological value than has been supposed.

We see, by a contemporary, that he has traced this M.S., which was noticed by the Masonic writers Hutchinson and Preston and ascribed to the time of Henry VIII., into the possession of a relative of Sir Thomas Phillips, to whom it had been sold by the Wilson family. It is on vellum, and ascribed by its present owner to the 17th century. In the "Old Charges of British Freemasons," by the eminent Masonic writer, William James Hughan, Past Grand Deacon, issued in 1872, we find the above classified with the various ancient Constitutions, whose originals were then unknown, as Y.

Obituary.

It is our painful duty to chronicle, this week, the death—which occurred on 27th ultimo—of Brother William Farnfield, a worthy Mason, whose labours extended over a period of upwards of fifty years. Bro. Farnfield was initiated in the Lodge of Union on 31st August 1825, and continued a member until his death. He was P.M. of the Lodge, and for many years its Secretary. He joined the Constitutional Lodge, No. 55, on 17th February 1830, and was a member till 1873; was also P.M. of this Lodge, and for many years Secretary. He joined St. George and Corner Stone Lodge, No. 5, on 8th February 1869, his membership terminating December 1872; here also he acted as Secretary. He was exalted in St. George's Chapter, No. 5, on 1st November 1830, and was a member till 1873; was P.Z. and S.E. for many years. He was the first Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, which position he held till October 1872. He was for more than 40 years in the Grand Secretary's Office, and held the rank of Asst. Grand Secretary for many years, in fact he was the only brother who ever held that position. For several years past infirmity had compelled him to retire from active duty, but so highly were his past services appreciated that his declining years were solaced by Pensions from Grand Lodge and the Institution of which he was the late Secretary. Bro. Farnfield's remains were interred at Tooting Cemetery, on Thursday last. His mourning family may, with laudable pride, look back and revere his memory, for no brother ever carried out the duties of a father more faithfully.

Bro. John Hawker, P.M. 871, died suddenly on Friday, 18th February, at the comparatively early age of 51. He suffered from heart disease, and was only ill for a short space of time. He was initiated in the Royal Oak Lodge, 871, on the 22nd October 1862, and continued a subscribing member up to his death. He served the office of W.M. in 1868, doing all the work and installing his successor. He was a Life Subscriber to one of the Charities. He took an active interest in his Lodge, seldom missed a meeting, and was well and deservedly respected by all who knew him. He has left a widow and a family to lament the heavy loss they have sustained.

THE DRAMA.

"Jo" at the Globe.—The Rival Othellos.

THE production, at the GLOBE Theatre, of a play founded upon the more tragic and dramatic incidents in Mr. Dicken's "Bleak House," has evoked a considerable amount of attention and criticism. The episode of the death of the street arab, "Jo," the murder of Mr. Tulkinghorn, and the grave, misdirected suspicions to which that crime gave rise, are eminently susceptible of dramatic treatment, and in the drama under review are brought into effective prominence. The centre of interest is undoubtedly "Jo," and Snagsby and Chadband, Lady Dedlock and Mr. Bucket are more or less subordinated to the general purpose of the play. In this the author has shown a wise discretion. It is a common fault with dramatic writers in adapting novels to the stage that they attempt too much. They forget how much wider the scope of a novel is than that of a play. The former will admit of several more or less distinct threads of interest. In the latter it is essential that there should be but one central story, and that every other episode introduced should be clearly subordinated to this. Yet if the author is to be complimented on the skill of his own work he is no less to be congratulated on his good fortune in obtaining adequate exponents for the various characters. Miss Jennie Lee, in particular, who sustains the part of Jo, is a real acquisition to the London stage, from which she has been far too long away. Some of our readers may recollect her success at the Lyceum in a somewhat analogous character about five years since. Her present performance, however, shows a manifest advance upon that. The pathos of this admirable character is fully brought out, and a thousand little natural touches testify to the thoroughness of the actress's study. The other parts in the play are also well sustained, and it can scarcely be doubted that the production will prove a success.

Some years ago, when Mr. Fechter and the late Mr. G. V. Brooke were competing for London favour in the character of Othello, a kind of farcical burlesque was brought out (based, we believe, upon an older play of a similar kind), entitled "The Rival Othellos." The conjunction of the two histrionic planets, Salvini and Henry Irving, in this part during the past few months, has been thought to furnish a sufficient reason for the revival of this farce, and it is now being performed with considerable success at the STRAND. Mr. Terry presents a humorous caricature of Mr. Irving in the part, and M. Marius is equally happy in hitting off the weaknesses of the impersonation of Signor Salvini.

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, 4th MARCH.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

1460—Thames Valley, Ship Hotel, Halliford, near Shepperton.

MONDAY, 6th MARCH.

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.
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire.
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge.
478—Churchill, Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, Oxford.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
1051—Rowley, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 7th MARCH.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Tavern, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)

101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1261—Golden Rule, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Piccadilly.

61—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
120—Paladin, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
158—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness-on-Sea.
209—Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor.
493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester.
658—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
702—Sherborne, Subscription Rooms, Stroud, Gloucester.
734—Londesborough, Victoria Hotel, Brillington Quay.
847—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, High-street, Honiton, Devon.
948—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linsdale, Leighton Buzzard.
1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cockermouth.
1034—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford.
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbot.
1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1322—Waveley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1336—Square and Compass, Wynnstay Arms, High-street, Wrexham.
R. A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

WEDNESDAY, 8th MARCH.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
9—Albion, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, W.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.30 (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havoclock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)

281—Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
615—St. John and St. Paul's, Pier Hotel, Frith, Kent.
666—Benevolence, Private Room, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
1008—Royal St. Edmund's, Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds.
1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.
R. A.—693—St. Woolos, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.

THURSDAY, 9th MARCH.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Albion Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston. (Instruction.)

35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith, Cumberland.
459—Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Bridgeland-street, Bideford, Devon.
546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Longton, Stafford.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chambers, Abingdon, Berks.
991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay-on-Tyne.
1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Cheetham, Lancashire.
1098—St. George's, Private Rooms, Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Mon.
1204—Roid's, Belle Vue Hotel, Malvern, Worcestershire.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
1457—Bagshaw, Bald Faced Stag, Buckhurst-hill.
R. A.—554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

FRIDAY, 10th MARCH.

1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 7.30. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.

33—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
697—United, George Hotel, Colchester.
1087—Beaumont, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1259—Rock, Bedford House, Bedford-road, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.

SATURDAY, 11th MARCH.

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.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

R. A. 308—Affability, Station House, Bottoms, Eastwood.

MONDAY.

61—Probity, Freemason's Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemason's Hall, New-road, Batley.
408—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, York.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds.
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
1302—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax.
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley.
1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford.
R. A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.
R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY.

265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.
1214—Scarborough, Wilton Arms Hotel, Batley.
R. A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R. A. 600—Sincerity, Freemason's Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

WEDNESDAY.

258—Amphibious, Freemason's Hall, Heckmondwike.
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.
387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

THURSDAY.

139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield.
337—Candour, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.

FRIDAY.

401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaiburn.
458—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goole.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harrogate.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.

SATURDAY.

149—Peace Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

MONDAY.

431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields.

TUESDAY.

124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham.
393—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, The Parade, Berwick-on-Tweed.
695—Northumberland, Assembly Rooms, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

WEDNESDAY.

661—Fawcett, Masonic Hall, North-road, Seaham Harbour.
R. A. 24—De Swinburne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street-west, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THURSDAY.

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland.
636—De Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth.
659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth.
991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Willington-quay.
R. A. 509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road, Stockton-on-Tees.

FRIDAY.

1121—Wear Valley, King's Arms Hotel, Bishop Auckland.

SCOTLAND.

TUESDAY—41—St. Cuthbert Kilwinning, Masonic Lodge, Kirkcudbright.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. & C.), 86 Constitution-street.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-street.
R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—8—Journymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—58—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's-street.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 35.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Thursday the 2nd March, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. Present—Bros. T. Pulsford Lodge 1328 W.M., G. Davis S.W., G. Dyer J.W., T. Cull Secretary, Neighbour S.D., Harrison J.D., Bentley I.G.; also Bros. Mander Preceptor, Belfrage, Watts, Farwig, T. O. Davis and Blundell. Business—Lodge opened, minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections were worked by Bros. Mander, Farwig and Cull, respectively. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. T. O. Davis being the candidate. The 4th section was then worked by Bro. Watts. Bro. T. O. Davis, Lodge 1201, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. T. Davis was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes for the manner in which the W.M. had carried out the duties of the chair for the first time in this Lodge of Instruction. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony. The Secretary announced that, in accordance with the Rules of the Lodge, the fifteen sections would be worked on the 30th March, at 7 p.m., and that Bro. Mander, Preceptor, would preside.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73, Glasgow.—This Lodge held an Emergency Meeting on Thursday, 24th. Feb., Bro. G. McDonald R.W.M. in the chair, J. Steward P.M. as S.W., J. Kinnaird J.W., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as S.D., G. McDonald jun. J.D., J. McLeish I.G., D. Ramsay T. Visitors Wm. Bell I.P.M., 3 bis, L. J. Dunbar Stirling Rock, J. Matthews Z. Chap. 119, Campbellton, J. Muir R.W.M. Danoon, J. McLeish D.M. The petition of Mr. D. M. Neil having been unanimously sustained, the R.W.M., in order that the West county brethren might display their ability, requested the

Master of the Danoon Argyle Lodge to work the degree. Bro. Muir, in a very satisfactory manner, then initiated the candidate, and the Lodge was duly closed after according a vote of thanks to Bro. Muir.

Caledonian of Unity Chapter, No. 73.—This Chapter held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 29th of February. Present—Comps. G. W. Wheeler 1st Principal, G. McDonald P.Z. as H., J. Kennard J., J. Balfour Scribe E., C. Arthur N., J. Bannerman Treas., D. Gilchrist 1st S., D. Hewitt 2nd S., J. Kay 3rd S., Wm. Jamieson Janitor. Visitors—Comps. J. O. Park P.Z. 122, Wm. Dalber R.W.M. 703, of Chapter 87. Business—The conferring of the degree of excellent Master on Bros. W. F. Pollock, F. Jenkinson, Wm. Hoy, R. Harden and Wm. Harden, and the same five brethren were afterwards exalted to the Royal Arch Degree.

Commercial Chapter, No. 79, Glasgow.—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Friday, 25th February, the Z. Comp. J. Lamb presiding, who opened a Lodge of Mark Masters, Comp. Mason H. as S.O., A. Mercer J.O., J. Munro Scribe E., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 acting as S.D. Bro. McLean, of Lodge 360, was then introduced and duly advanced to that degree by Bro. Lamb, in a very careful manner. Amongst the Visitors was Bro. W. Smith P.G.H., of Glasgow.

Lodge of Friendship, No. 100.—The members of this Lodge met on Thursday, the 24th ult., at the Town Hall, Great Yarmouth, for the installation of a W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. E. J. Bonfellow was installed W.M., and the installation was carried out by Installing-Master Bro. Oswald Diver. The W.M. appointed as his officers for the ensuing year—Bros. J. Bond I.P.M., Richard Martins S.W., R. W. Hubbard J.W., J. W. French S.D., E. Bostock J.D., L. Spence I.G., C. M. Kirkham and J. A. Wade Stewards, D. R. Fowler Secretary, and J. Holt Tyler, Rev. J. J. Gurney, Incumbent of St. James', was appointed Chaplain, and Fred. Welham Organist. Amongst the Visiting Brothers present were the Rev. Dr. Mangan P.P.G.J.W. Norths and Hunts, J. C. Smith P.M. 100, A. M. F. Morgan D.P.G.M., Thos. Lord W.M. of 1500, J. S. Offord W.M. of 213, G. Brittain P.M. 1500 P.G.O., and H. Smart P.M. 996. P.M.'s Bros. A. Hanlon, E. Howes, J. Franklin, and H. Campling. After the installation ceremony the brethren adjourned to the Crown and Anchor, where about 50 gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous banquet, laid in his usual excellent style by Bro. J. Franklin.

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 102.—This Lodge held its regular fortnightly meeting on Monday the 28th ultimo, at their own Hall, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. J. Mitchell I.P.M. acting as R.W.M., J. Kerr S.M. acting S.W., J. Thorn J.W., G. Pattison Treas., J. Littlejohn I.G., J. B. Hardie Tyler. Past Master Bro. T. Halket. Visitors—Bros. Wm. Bell I.P.M. 3 bis, T. Gordon P.M. 408, J. M. Innes D.M. 408, J. Bisland S.W. 408, Wm. Dobson R.W.M. Dramatic Lodge, 573. The business of the evening consisted in the initiation of four gentlemen, which ceremony was carefully and impressively performed by the presiding R.W.M.

Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, No. 152, Leith.—A special meeting of this Chapter was held in the Chapter Room, Constitution-street, on Tuesday evening 22nd ult., on the occasion of a visitation from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland. Among those present were Comps. John Laurie M.E.Z., George Hudson H., David Turner J., David Laird S.E., John Neill S.N., E. Drummond Treasurer, J. W. Sceales S., G. A. Laurie S., J. Reid Chancellor, G. M. Davidson, &c. The Chapter having been duly opened, and the usual preliminaries gone through, the Stewards ushered in the deputation from Supreme Royal Arch Chapter, headed by the M.E. Depute Grand Principal, Henry Inglis, Esq. of Torsauce, and attended by Comps. L. Mackersy G.S.E., A. Mitchell Grand Treasurer, A. Hay Grand Recorder, D. Kinnier, &c., &c. The reception being over, Comp. Laurie M.E.Z., in welcoming the deputation, returned thanks on behalf of the Chapter, and stated it would give much pleasure to have the Most Excellent Depute Grand Principal enrolled as an honorary member of Chapter Perseverance 152, which was received with acclamation. Comp. H. Inglis M.E.D.G.Z. having been duly elected, returned thanks for the honour conferred on him in being affiliated to the Chapter. The usual business being over, the Companions adjourned to a banquet. The usual Masonic and patriotic toasts were duly given and responded to. Comp. Laurie M.E.Z., in a well chosen speech, then gave the toast of the evening, "The Most Excellent Depute Grand Principal," to which Comp. Henry Inglis made suitable reply, and proposed "Long Life and Prosperity to Comp. Laurie M.E.Z." which was received with great enthusiasm by the Companions. Comp. Laurie replied in feeling terms, for the manner in which his name had been mentioned, and the hearty response given by the Companions. The evening was much enlivened by the vocal abilities of several Companions. A glee party, under the directorship of Comp. G. M. Davidson, Director of Music to the Chapter, rendered much enjoyment to the proceedings of the evening. Comp. G. J. Laurie presided at the piano, with great ability.

Caveac Chapter, No. 176.—This Chapter held its regular convocation on Saturday, 26th ult., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, City. Present—Comps. G. K. Lemann acting as M.E.Z., in the absence of Dr. Wyman, R. S. Foreman P.Z. as H., J. B. Sorrell J., F. Walters P.J., 1st A.S. Middlesex, P.Z., acting as P.S., S. Powncoby 1st A.S., R. P. Tebb 2nd A.S., H. Fajja C.E. D.C. Visitors—Comp. Waterworth, &c. The Chapter was opened by the acting M.E.Z., the minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots for joining were unanimous in favour of Comp. A. Williams, late 176. Ballots for Exaltation were taken in favour of Bros. W. E.

Jameson 49, L. W. Moore 176, T. Cargill 49, R. Griggs 228, M. Underwood 1423. R. R. Browning, J. H. Dodson, W. E. Jameson, T. Cargill and R. Griggs. The last five members being present were exalted. Notice of motion was given that a testimonial be presented to the Treasurer. A vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Lemann for his valuable services in the chair.

Union and Crown Lodge, No. 183.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, the 28th ultimo, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Present—Bros. Muir R.W.M., G. Muir Deputy Master, J. M. Palmer S.M., Wm. Thomas S.W., Wm. Forsyth J.W., Jas. Gilles Sec., Neil Cameron Treas., J. W. Palmer S.D., A. Greeges J.D. Past Masters Bros. A. Bain, J. Gilles, and W. Muir Wright I.P.M. There was a large attendance of members and visitors. The business was very heavy, and consisted of eight initiations, which ceremony was carefully worked by Bro. P.M. Gilles P.G. Treasurer. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, when Bro. Muir Wright I.P.M. passed two brethren to the Fellow Craft degree. The Lodge was resumed to the 3rd degree, when Bro. Gilles raised two fellow Craftsmen to the sublime degree of Master Masons. The R.W.M. then closed the Lodge, all the work having been ably performed.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 1st instant, at Bro. Gosden's, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street, E.C. Present—Bros. Blackhall W.M., Abell S.W., Reed J.W., J. K. Pitt Secretary, Biddell S.D., W. C. Corner J.D., Turner I.G., Christopher Tyler; P.M. Bro. Gottheil Preceptor. Business—Lodge opened, and minutes confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Fenner acting as candidate. The 3rd section of the first lecture was then worked, Bro. Reed putting the questions, and Bro. Gottheil dictating answers. Several brethren, amongst whom we may specially mention Bro. W. C. Corner, distinguished themselves by the knowledge they had acquired in the Lodge. The 4th section followed, the questions being asked by Bro. Gottheil, and here Bro. Turquand rendered goodly assistance. The 5th section was confined to Bros. Gottheil and Turquand, and was rehearsed in a most satisfactory way. Bro. Fisher, of the Marquis of Ripon Lodge, was elected member. Bro. Abell was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A notice of motion was brought forward, that the time for meeting be altered from 7.30 to 7 o'clock, and this will be discussed and settled at next meeting.

Rowley Chapter, No. 1051.—The regular meeting of the Rowley Chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster, on Monday, 21st February. The chairs were occupied by Comps. James M. Moore M.E.Z., Hall P.Z. as H., and W. Heald J.; There were also present Comps. J. Daniel Moore, M.D., Past Grand Standard Bearer of England, as E., Edmund Simpson Prov. G.S. Treas., W. Wearing N., W. Hall P.S., J. Taylor and J. Ellershaw Assist. Sojs., A. L. P. Dodson, H. Longman, and J. Watson Janitor. The Chapter was opened and the usual business transacted, the ballot was taken for Bros. J. J. Crookell, Lodge of Fortitude, No. 281, William Duff S.W. Morecambe Lodge, No. 1561, and Thomas Longmire J.W., Morecambe Lodge, No. 1561, who were unanimously elected, and being in attendance were duly exalted to the degree of Royal Arch Chapter by the M.E.Z., who also delivered the mystical lecture of the degree: the symbolical being given by Comp. Dr. Moore, and the historical by Comp. Heald J. The ballot was taken for officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follow:—Comps. E. Airey M.E.Z., William Heald H., F. Dean J., E. Simpson Treas., Dr. Moore E., W. Wearing N., W. Hall P.S., and John Watson Janitor. A candidate was proposed for exaltation, and the Chapter closed in due form. The installation of the Principals elect will probably take place on the 20th March, when Comp. Dr. Moore P. Prov. G.H. will officiate as Installing Officer.

Burdett Lodge, No. 1293.—This Lodge held an Emergency meeting at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, the 26th instant. Present—Bros. David W. Pearce W.M., James W. Berrie S.W., Edward J. Southwell J.W., H. G. Buss (Prov. G. Treas.) Sec., Rev. David Shaboe S.D., Robt. L. Sindell J.D., Hugh M. Gordon I.G., John Gilbert Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. Keily, Phythian; Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master. Visitor—Bro. Harold M. Carter, S.W. 173. Business—Bro. C. H. Brookfield was raised in a efficient manner by Bro. Keily, the I.P.M., by special permission of the W.M., and Mr. Thos. P. W. Forrester was then initiated by the W.M.

Acacia Lodge, No. 1309.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ultimo, at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall, Middlesex. Present—Bros. Charles Horsley (P.M. &c.) W.M., Rushworth (in absence of Bro. Terrier) S.W., George acting as J.W., Fredk. Walters P.M. Treas., Thomas Wells Cave Sec., Slater P.M. S.D., Tebb I.G. P.M.'s Bros. Stahen and Walters. Visitors—Bros. Hill, Royal Brunswick Lodge, Brighton, and Wall, Prosperity Lodge, 65. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the Rev. J. S. Fothergill. Mr. H. Rowland Brown, barrister-at-law, was initiated, and Bro. Ranger was passed. Bros. Morgan and Sutcliffe were raised to the third degree. Bro. Walters, Treasurer, gave notice of his intention to propose a P.M.'s Jewel to Bro. Horsley on his retiring from the chair. The Lodge was then closed.

Langthorne Lodge, 1421.—This Lodge held its first regular meeting under the presidency of the newly installed W.M., Bro. R. G. Owen, at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, E., on the 24th ult., when

the following officers were present:—Bros. Benj. Candick S.W., H. Carter J.W., C. W. Ashdown P.M. Secretary, C. Lacy P.M. P.G.J.D. Herts., T. S. Taylor S.D., H. N. Taylor J.D., G. F. Dix I.G., W. J. Rivett D.C., S. Morris W.S., M. Sherwin Organist, W. Steedman Tyler, together with a number of brethren and several visitors. The Lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Claridge, of this Lodge, and Bro. Geo. F. Crane, of the Lodge Rose of Denmark No. 975, were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The Lodge was closed down to the first degree, and the ballot taken for Mr. Jno. Young as a candidate for initiation, which proving unanimous in his favour, that gentleman being in attendance, was admitted, and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, the ceremonies throughout being very creditably performed by the W.M. and his newly invested officers, most of whom being young, though energetic Masons, will no doubt, ere long, endeavour to render the working of this Lodge equal to that of any Lodge presided over by older and more expert brethren. The report of the audit committee was, after some discussion, unanimously received and adopted, and the nomination of Bro. C. W. Ashdown P.M. and Secretary to represent the Lodge as Steward at the forthcoming Annual Festival of the Girls' School, brought the business of the evening to a conclusion. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, separating in peace and harmony, after spending a most pleasant and enjoyable evening. The visitors were Bros. E. W. Clarke W.M. 975, E. Y. Lattrielle P.M. 1056, A. Grimsdale 1381, J. Boulton 1056, R. Lewthwaite 282, and J. Alcock P.M. 1228. The Organist, Bro. M. Sherwin, and several other brethren also contributed greatly to the harmony of the evening.

Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, 23rd ultimo, at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High-street, Southwark. Present—Bros. T. J. Sabine P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex and P.M. 73 W.M., J. C. Mason S.W., E. S. Stidolph J.W., Rev. H. J. Hatch Chap., W. Hudson P.M. 315 P.P.G.S.D. Sussex Treas., F. Walters P.M. 73 P.P.G.P. Middlesex Sec., W. J. Kemp S.D., C. W. Hudson J.D., H. Faija I.G., W. Y. Laing P.M. 45 Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. T. J. H. Wilkins as I.P.M. Visitors—Bros. R. Griggs W.M. 228, H. Keeble P.M. 1275, J. B. Langley W.M. 1423, R. Kemp 879, &c. Upon the confirmation of the minutes, ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. E. Hooper, A. F. Diack, R. C. Harrison, H. Blackwell and P. Levy, which proving unanimous, the W.M. initiated those gentlemen, with his usual skill, after which the Lodge was closed, and the brethren separated.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction.—The regular weekly meeting of this Lodge was held at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday, 29th February, when Bro. Wallington, Preceptor and W.M. of the Mother Lodge, No. 860, gave his maiden attempt at the rehearsal of the Installation Ceremony, which gave promise for future efforts of the same sound and steady work for which the said worthy Brother is noted. Bro. Smith of 860 was installed as W.M., and appointed his officers thus:—Bros. Worsley S.W., F. Allen J.W. and Treasurer, Christian, J.D. of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, Secretary, Allen S.D., Brown J.D., and Johnson I.G. Brethren present—Bros. Ashburner, P.M. of the Burdett Coutts Lodge, who gave valuable assistance to the Installing Master, Wright P.M., Folliott W.M., Saunders, Barker, Brand, Williams, &c. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of passing, which, for so young a Mason, was excellently and distinctly rendered. Lodge resumed to the 1st degree, and Bro. Allen worked the 3rd section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Worsley, also a young member of the Lodge, and a promising good worker, was elected W.M. for Tuesday, 14th inst. On Tuesday next, 7th March, the annual Supper will take place, when Bro. Wallington will preside.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland.—This Chapter held its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, 1st of March, at Freemasons' Hall, George-Street, Edinburgh, at 5 p.m. Present—Most Excellent Companions McLean, Z. No. 1, acting Grand Z., J. W. Duthie Z. 67 as H., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 as Grand J., L. Mackensy Grand Scribe E., J. Mitchell Treasurer, Major Hemuth Rawson of Garon 1st G.S., B. Turner 112 2nd G.S., H. J. Shields Z. 143 as 3rd G.S. The principal business consisted of the appointment of Grand Officers, who were Sir Michael Shaw Steward 1st Grand Principal, Lord Rosslyn Past Grand Principal, Henry Inglis of Torosone Depute Grand Principal, Earl of Mar and Kellie 2nd Grand Principal, E. M. Hamilton 3rd Grand Principal, L. Mackensy W.S. Grand Scribe E., Wm. Main Grand Scribe N., Wm. Mitchell Grand Treasurer, Alexander Hay Grand Recorder, Major Hemuth Rawson of Garon First Grand Sojourner, F. Colt Gartshaw 2nd Grand Sojourner, W. N. Wilson 3rd Grand Sojourner, James Barker Grand Janitor. The recognition of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and recommendation of Comp. Hay as representative, and the creating of a Charter for a new Chapter to be called the Waterloo, No. 166, at Wellington, in New Zealand.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Friday, 25th ult., at the Metropolitan Club, 269 Pentonville-road, King's Cross. Bro. James Willing jun. occupied the chair, H. B. Fowler S.W., C. G. Scales J.W., W. M. Stiles Secretary, Berrie S.D., Side I.G.; and Bros. Michael Jordan, Stiles, Jordan, H. Stiles, Scales, Cave, Morgan, Read, Solomon, Blease, Child, Little, W. H. Lee 1521, and Bro. Adams P.G.P. Preceptor. The Lodge of Instruction was opened and the ceremony of initiation rehearsed, Bro. Solomon acting as candidate. The ceremony of installation was perfectly rendered by Bro. James Willing, Bro. Michael

acting as W.M. elect. The 2nd section of the 1st section followed, excellently worked by the brethren, assisted by Bro. T. Adams. Bros. Morgan and Carr were elected joining members.

Philips Rose Croix Chapter, Lancaster.—The installation meeting of this Chapter was held on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster. The M.W.S. Bro. W. Wearing presided, and after other business had been transacted, Illus. Bro. Dr. Moore 31° G.I.I.C. took the chair as installing officer, and duly installed Bro. Edward Airey the M.W.S. elect into the chair as head of the Chapter. The M.W.S. was saluted in accordance with his newly acquired rank, and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. W. Wearing P.S., Dr. Moore 31° I.I.P., W. J. Sly 1st General, H. Longman 2nd General and Recorder, Capt. C. H. Garnett, G. Marsh, Wm. Hall Rap, A. L. P. Dodson Capt. of Lines, R. Taylor Equerry. The addresses were delivered to the M.W.S., officers, and brethren, the alms collected, and the Chapter closed in due form.

Northumberland and Berwick Lodge of Mark Masters.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday the 23rd ultimo, at Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Present—Bros. R. H. Holmes Prov. G.J.W. W.M., W. S. Hughes P.P.G.S. of W., S.W. W. E. Franklin J.W., John Edward Robson, Prov. G.O. Sec., Richard Locke Treas., L. Armstrong S.O., T. J. Armstrong J.O., T. Halladay S.D., J. C. Bell J.D., Wm. Foulsham P.P.G.J.W. D.C., J. D. Stephen Steward, R. G. Salmon I.G., H. C. Martin Tyler. Past Master Bro. John Ridsdale. Visitor—Bro. Samuel Harris, of Albany Lodge. Business—There being a candidate, this beautiful degree was ably given by the W.M. Bro. W. Foulsham P.M. congratulated the members upon the great prosperity of this Lodge, and the good attendance and excellent working of its officers. The Lodge expressed deep regret upon learning the death of the D.G.M., Bro. W. Romaine Callendar. Another candidate was proposed for advancement.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—Some fifteen or twenty years ago this was one of the most noted of the Lodges where instruction was imparted, and many Masons who at the present day hold high position in the Order acquired their knowledge of the ritual from its Preceptors. From a variety of causes the attendance declined, and for some time the Lodge of Instruction ceased working. The parent Lodge, however, ranks amongst its members some of the most painstaking and persevering brethren in the Craft, and, accordingly, an effort has been made to resuscitate the Lodge of Instruction, and for this purpose the services of our worthy Brother Jas. Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, were called into requisition. Bro. Terry is at all times ready to assist in the ceremonies of consecration and installation. Saturday, the 26th February, was fixed, and on the evening of that day a large muster of members of our Order, both from the immediate neighbourhood and the surrounding districts, attended at the Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, Islington, where it has been arranged the Lodge of Instruction shall hold its future meetings. Bro. Terry briefly explained the object of the gathering, and rehearsed the ceremony of consecration in a most effective and impressive manner. At the conclusion Bro. John Constable introduced Bro. W. B. Heath as the W.M. elect, and Bro. Terry installed him into the chair of King Solomon. The investiture of officers followed: Bro. Cooper S.W., Main J.W., R. Percy S.D., Stock J.D., Saul I.G., Halford Treasurer, and Killick Secretary. The W.M. then rose and said, that all present could not but feel greatly indebted to Bro. Terry for the great kindness he had shown in coming amongst them, and for the excellent way in which he had conducted the business of the evening. He had great pleasure in moving a vote of thanks, which he was convinced would be unanimously accorded. This was seconded by Bro. Halford, and was carried amid acclamation. Bro. Terry replied. A proposition was then made that Bros. Heath and Cooper should be elected honorary members, which was carried, and duly acknowledged. After a large addition had been made to the list of members, the Lodge was closed, and a goodly contingent partook of a slight repast, and afterwards spent a pleasant hour in social converse. The ceremonies of the evening were rendered doubly impressive by the able assistance of Bro. Whaley, 813, who presided at the harmonium. It is intended that the Percy Lodge of Instruction shall meet each Saturday evening, at eight o'clock, under the Preceptorship of Bro. Richard Percy. If we might be allowed a suggestion, we would remark that the time fixed is too late; 7 or 7.30 would be much better for those brethren who reside at a distance.

Drogheda Lodge, No. 411.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Drogheda, on the 10th ultimo. Present—Bros. Whitty W.M., Dean P.M. as S.W., Glenn J.W., Griffin S.D., Preston J.D., Hannan Chaplain, Horan Organist, Supple I.G., Browne Tyler, F. E. Clarke, P.M. H.K.T. Sec. and Treas. Past Masters Bros. Dean, Clarke, Harbinson, Parsons, Jeffers. Visitors—Bros. Wisdom, Lodge 84, Wilkins 351. Business transacted—Bro. E. C. Bassett was passed to the Fellow Craft degree, and Mr. H. G. Cary initiated. Two new members were proposed for initiation, one brother for affiliation, and a former member of the Lodge (recently afflicted) was proposed for honorary membership.

Borough Lodge, No. 424.—This Lodge held its annual meeting on Monday, the 21st of February, at Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead. Business—Installation of Bro. W. C. L. Hartig as W.M., who appointed the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. A. Anderson S.W., T. S. Miller J.W., T. S. Wraith P.M. Secretary,

J. Marchant P.M. Treasurer, P. J. Jackson S.D., Geo. Hardy J.D., J. Marchant D.C., Jas Ward S.S. and B. Grant J.S. Stewards, John Roy I.G., J. Curry Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. E. Robson P.M. 48, Joseph Cook P.M. 481, Adam Wilson M.D. P.M. 1342, R. Gregory W.M. 48. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Half Moon Inn, and partook of a sumptuous dinner, provided by Bro. T. Pearson, after which the evening was spent in harmony.

Cherwell Lodge, No. 599.—The anniversary meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 28th ult., at the Red Lion Hotel, Banbury, when Bro. John Potts, P. Prov. G. Sup. of Works Oxon, was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. R. Havers, P.G.S.D. of England, in an impressive and masterly manner. Bro. Potts afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follow:—Bros. Rev. J. Spittal S.W., Rev. A. Ayton J.W., R. Havers P.G.S.D. Treasurer, J. B. Looker P.M. Secretary, Capt. H. C. Norris S.D., E. J. Hartley P.M. J.D., Dr. Griffin P.M. D.C., W. Chamberlin and T. Fowler Stewards, R. C. Humfrey I.G., T. Moss Tyler. The brethren afterwards dined together, under the presidency of the newly installed W.M.

Whittington Chapter, No. 862.—The regular convocation of this Chapter was held on Friday, the 25th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Comps. W. Stephens as Z., Jas. Weaver P.Z. as H., J. Kingston J., Murlis S.N., Tinney P.S., &c. The Chapter was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. H. Caff 511, and J. Symonds, M.D., 1356 were duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. The Chapter was then closed and the usual banquet followed. The loyal and R.A. toasts were given, also that of the Z., principals and officers. Comp. McIntyre, of Melbourne, was present as a visitor.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Monday, 21st February, at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Present—Bros. S. O. Lewin W.M., H. J. Tison W.M. elect and S.W., John J. Pakes J.W., Frederick Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. Sec., John Baxter Langley J.D., R. Harman D.C., J. G. Vohmann Steward, H. J. Fisher Organist, J. Bavin P.M. 147 Tyler. Past Masters Bros. G. Andrews, F. Walters, &c. Visitors B. and G. Chapman P.M. 167, and G. Whittle 1155, &c., A. Makers, H. W. F. Fellows, G. Potter, E. Good, T. Horton, J. Ragg, F. H. Barr, J. G. Thomas, R. J. Harvey, J. Rennie, E. James, J. Woollett, G. A. Leighton, W. Simmons, G. Eve. Ballots were unanimous in favour of Messrs. G. Eve, G. A. Leighton, and W. Simmons, and these gentlemen were initiated by the W.M. and Bro. G. Andrews I.P.M., who ably conducted the proceedings. In consequence of the awfully sudden death of Bro. J. Hawker P.M., senior initiate and nearly senior P.M., it was agreed not to have a banquet on installation meeting. He died on Friday Feb. 18th, aged 51. There was no banquet or any refreshments supplied.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—The Installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 24th ultimo, at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford. Present—Bros. S. O. Lewin W.M., H. J. Fuson W.M. elect S.W., J. J. Pakes J.W., W. Andrews P.M. Treas., Frederick Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. 871, Sec., W. Wyatt P.M. S.D., John Baxter Langley W.M. 1423 J.D., G. T. Limm I.G., R. Harman D.C., J. G. Vohmann Steward, H. J. Fisher Organist, J. Bavin P.M. 147 Tyler. Past Masters Bros. F. Walters, W. Andrews, W. Myatt, G. Andrews, J. Truelove. Visitors—Bros. H. J. Green W.M. 1538, E. Debar W.M. 169, J. T. Tibbals P.M. 169, J. Patte P.M. 147, J. Lightfoot P.M. 147, J. J. West P.M. 548, H. Keeble P.M. 1275, &c. The minutes were unanimously confirmed. Bro. F. Walters P.M. Sec. presented Bro. H. J. Tison to Bro. G. Andrews for installation. The following are the officers:—S. O. Lewin I.P.M., W. Andrews P.M. Treas. (re-invested for ninth time), F. Walters (father of the Lodge) Sec. (re-invested 16th time), J. J. Pakes S.W., John Baxter Langley J.W., H. J. Fisher Organist (re-invested third time), G. T. Limm S.D., R. Harman J.D., J. G. Vohmann I.G., J. Andrews D.C., W. Myatt W.S., J. Bavin P.M. 147 Tyler. On the motion of Bro. F. Walters, it was unanimously resolved that a vote of thanks be given to Bro. G. Andrews, for his admirable, painstaking manner during Installation. A P.M.'s Jewel (the most valuable ever given in this Lodge) was presented to Bro. Lewin. It was arranged that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of Bro. John Hawker. Ten pounds was voted from Lodge funds to a male annuitant.

Phoenix Lodge, No. 904, Rotherham.—The anniversary meeting of this Lodge was held on the 24th ult., when Bro. Clement Hamil Perrot (a Past Master of the Lodge) was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, by Bro. Oxley P.M. and P.P.G.R. of West Yorks. The W.M., after being saluted and proclaimed in the three degrees, appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. John Fawcett I.P.M., Benjamin Saville S.W., H. I. Bingham J.W., Thomas W. Roome Secretary, J. W. Wragg S.D., Charles Harvey J.D., and Wilfrid Badger I.G. Bro. Needham P.M. was appointed Almoner. The ballot was taken for a candidate, who had been proposed and seconded at the last regular Lodge, when he was declared not elected. Heartly good wishes were presented from Lodges 108, 139, 241, 296, and 1239. Amongst the Visitors present were Bros. Thomas Jefferson S.W. of the London Lodge, No. 108, London, William Jervis S.W. and John Arthur Binney, of the Britannia Lodge, No. 139, Sheffield, John Cobham P.M. of the Merchants' Lodge, No. 241, Liverpool, Henry Ecroyd W.M., and John Ridal S.W. of the Royal Branswick Lodge, No. 296, Sheffield, William White W.M. and Samuel Bramhall Ellis S.W. of the Wentworth Lodge, No. 1239, Sheffield. During the evening, the W.M. called the attention of these of his brethren who were pre-

sent at the Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, to the Pictorial Record of that event now being engraved under the auspices of Bro. E. J. Harty, at No. 213 Regent-street, London, and advised them to send their cartes without delay, so that their portraits may be included amongst those inserted. Attention was also called to the London Masonic Club, now in course of construction on an eligible site in Queen Victoria-street, London, E.C., and those brethren desirous of joining were informed that a ballot would be taken on the 1st of March, after which joining members will be liable to an entrance fee. Bro. Marsh (Solicitor) expressed a wish to know how far brethren, who become subscribers, will be liable for the debts of the club. Bro. Henry Ecroyd (of Sheffield) pointed out that the prospectus as well as the application forms distributed amongst brethren likely to avail themselves of the advantages offered by the club, distinctly state that *members incur no liability whatever beyond their subscriptions*. Bro. Marsh, in reply, said that the undertaking being "proprietary," it was a question how far subscribers may become responsible for the liabilities under certain possible contingencies, and he desired that the promoters of the club would explain on whom the liabilities will fall should the club, unfortunately, prove unsuccessful. Many brethren doubtless have similar scruples about joining the club in the absence of definite information on these points, and if the worthy Secretary—Bro. Captain Lathbury—will kindly give the information asked for by Bro. Marsh, in the columns of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, he will obtain the active support of many worthy country Masons.

MOTHER KILWINNING FESTIVAL.

THE Bairns of the Old Mother, in Glasgow and its vicinity, are now so numerous that they have now, for the fifth year, held a Festival together. On this, as on a previous occasion, the R.W.M. of St. John's, No. 3 bis, which claims as great, or even greater, antiquity than the Mother Lodge, kindly placed their magnificent hall at their disposal. This is as it should be, and shows that true Masonic spirit, which looks above all petty jealousies, or foolish rivalries, to the general good of the Craft.

The chair was occupied by Bro. R. Willie, Past Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, but who delights in the humbler title of the Secretary of Mother Kilwinning. He was supported by Bros. J. A. Ferguson P.S.W. No. 0, J. Thompson F.G.S. No. 0, J. Shaw No. 0, D. M. Neilson R.W.M. 3 bis, W. Bell I.P.M. 3 bis, J. Baird P.M. 3 bis, D.P.G.M. of Glasgow, and P. Brownlie J.W. 3 bis, Stodart, Secretary of the Glasgow Committee, acted as S.W., supported by Bros. Jamieson and Balfour P.G.D. of C., J. Walker as J.W., supported by Bros. J. Tweed P.J.W. No. 0, and C. Stobo, there were about 50 other members of the Old Mother present, who did ample justice to the bill of fare provided by Bro. J. C. Galloway, after which the Secretary read letters of apology from Col. W. M. Neilson P.G.M. Glasgow, Sir James Ferguson, Bart., Rev. J. Gils, of Kilburn, P.G. Chaplain, and others. The Chairman, in an excellent manner, gave the usual Loyal toasts, which were heartily responded to. Bros. Brodie at the harmonium, and D. B. Fleming with his voice, leading in the National Anthem, and "God Bless the Prince of Wales." The toast of the Army, Navy and Reserve Forces were replied to by Bro. Sergt. Reid.

The Chairman said they had now got to that part of the programme where what was known as the "chairman's address" came in, but first of all he felt it to be his duty to thank them for honouring him with the position of chairman on that occasion to preside over the "sons of light" who were cradled in the Mother Lodge Kilwinning. Assembled as they were that night around the social board, drawn together by the most sacred ties of brotherhood, he had chosen as text for his few remarks, "What is Freemasonry?" They were again invited to answer that question by those who had not entered within the portals of the Masonic temple; and as they were aware their Order had been assailed and anathematised by the Church of Rome. Well, Freemasonry, as they understood it in these days, had been defined as "a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols—faith, hope, and charity being among its brightest jewels." Its principles were inconvertible, they were based on the broadest ethical truths; it was founded on the Bible. Freemasonry sought to infuse its members with the spirit of love, charity, and benevolence; to break down the partition wall between class and class. In a Masonic Lodge, peer and peasant, rich and poor, learned and illiterate, met fraternally on the same level. Freemasonry had been denounced for being a "secret" society, but he held that whatever and whenever secrecy was necessary, it was also commendable. But what were those secrets? Remove from Masonry the pass-words, signs, and tokens, and the manner of conferring the degrees, and the whole secrecy of the matter disappeared. The benefits of the Order, however, remained, being reserved for the initiated who contributed to its support; and its cosmopolitan language was used only as a sign and test of brotherhood. (Applause.) Having referred to the olden times when Masonry was exclusively a guild society, when none but operative Masons were admitted to enjoy its privileges, the chairman said it was worthy of remark that the Lodge Glasgow St. John, within whose walls they were highly privileged to meet that evening, was the last to give up this ancient character. Within that time honoured Lodge non-operatives were not admitted until so recently as the year 1842; and not till the year 1850 did they see fit to join themselves with the Grand Lodge of Scotland. (Applause.) In concluding his remarks, the chairman said that the Freemasons did what in them lay to aid in healing dissensions and in bringing good and honest men into one indissoluble brotherhood. The door of a Masonic Lodge was open to every man of "good report," irrespective of his religious or political creed. Notwithstanding all that had been said by the un-initiated against Freemasonry—and he admitted that, like all merely human institutions, it was not perfect—the fraternity seemed in a

fair way of becoming co-extensive with *terra firma*. (Applause.) It was a somewhat trite saying that "the sun never sets on the British dominions," an apt and forcible illustration of the wide distribution of their Order. (Applause.) Lodges had been formed in all the great geographical divisions of the world, in Europe, Asia, China, along the coast of Africa, the two Americas, and Australia. Hence they might truly say that in almost every clime there was a Lodge, and in every Lodge a band of brethren—thereby doing somewhat to hasten the time of which our national poet prophesied—

"When man to man, the world o'er,
Shall brithers be and a' that."

The chairman resumed his seat amid much applause. The toast of the "Province of Glasgow" was given by Bro. Thomson, F.G.S., and responded to by Bro. John Baird P.G.S.M. The latter said he felt exceedingly sorry that the P.G.M., Bro. Neilson, had not been able to be with them that night. He could assure them, however, that he (the P.G.M.) had been successful in promoting and maintaining the cause of Masonry in Glasgow. That he had been successful was shown by the fact that there were now 28 Lodges within the province, and that, at the last visitation of them by the P.G.L. every one of them was found to be in a promising condition. (Applause.) The prosperous condition of the P.G.L. itself was shown by their now being able to give away regularly a large amount in charity. Before sitting down, Bro. Baird begged to propose the toast of "Mother Kilwinning." In so doing he remarked that it certainly did seem strange that in every country in the globe the name of Mother Kilwinning should be known. Such was the case, however, and that its prosperity might yet more increase, and its borders be extended in

time to come, was the wish not only of those present but in every quarter where Masonry was known. (Applause.)

Bro. J. A. Fergusson P.S.W. replied, stating the gratification he experienced at the way in which so eminent a member of St. John 3½, had proposed this toast, it was a pleasure to find that the Glasgow brethren had so warm a feeling towards the old mother. The chairman proposed prosperity to St. John 3½, and though they could not show them so fine a building in Kilwinning he could assure them of a hearty welcome when they came to see them in their "auld clay bigging." Bro. Neilson R.W.M. of St. John replied in an excellent speech, stating the pleasure it gave him as well as the other officers of the Lodge to welcome under their roof the descendants of those who had rocked the cradle of Freemasonry in the dark ages of humanity. Bro. Walker J.W., in a very elegant speech, proposed the Clergy, contending they had done more for the permanent interest of Scotland than any other class of men. In the absence of the Chaplain, Bro. Jamieson replied. The Visiting Brethren was proposed by the S.W., and replied to in a brief but effective manner by Bro. P. Brownlie J.W. of 3 bis. Bro. G. Grant, in a highly humorous speech, proposed the Ladies, who found a capital exponent of the claim in the reply of Bro. G. Stobo. The croupier gave the Press, which was responded to by Bro. J. Johnson, of the *North British Mail*. Bro. Bell proposed the Chairman, and Bro. G. W. Wheeler the croupiers, Bros. Stodart and Walker. Bro. Shaw proposed the Committee and Bro. Fergusson responded. Auld Lang Syno was then sung by the whole company, we should also say that Bros. Brodie, Clark, Duncan, Fleming, Shira, Smith, Granger, Johnson, Wheeler and others contributed, by their songs and recitations, to enhance the harmony of this highly successfulre-union of the Glasgow bairns of Mother Kilwinning.

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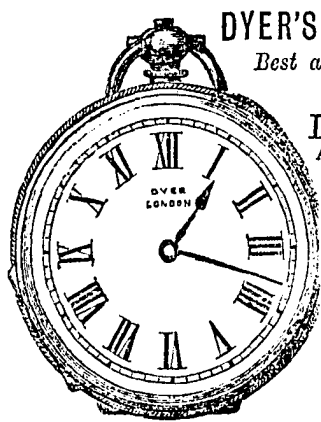
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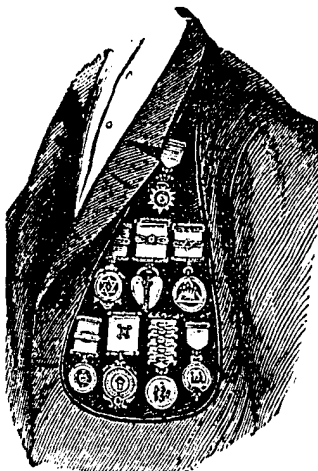
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