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GRAND LODGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

THIS Grand Lodge held its Quarterly Communication on the 8th ult., M.W.G.M. Percival Lowell Everett, numerously supported by the brethren, presiding. Having been opened in ample form at 2 p.m., a very finely executed square and compasses of solid silver were presented, through the Recording Grand Secretary, by R.W. Bro. George William Sutton P.G.W., and on the motion of R.W. John T. Heard P.G.M., the thanks of Grand Lodge were voted to Bro. Sutton for his elegant and acceptable gift. The present having been duly received and adjusted in its place on the Great Light, the Records of the Annual and Stated Communications of December 1875, as well as of the Special Communication of 9th February, were approved, those of the former being taken as read. Bye-laws and amendments to Bye-laws, from a number of Lodges, were submitted for approval, and referred to the Committee on Bye-laws. Subsequently the Committee reported favourably both of the full codes of laws and of the amended codes, and recommended them to Grand Lodge for approval. The proceedings of Star Lodge, Athol, *re* the trial of a brother, were submitted for examination and approval, and were referred to the Committee on Trials. The Committee having duly examined the proceedings drew up their report, recommending that the action of Star Lodge, in expelling the brother in question be approved and confirmed, and it was approved and confirmed accordingly. The charter of Aconcagua Lodge, Valparaiso, Chili, having been destroyed by fire, it was voted unanimously, on the motion of the Grand Secretary, that a new charter, signed by the present Grand Officers with the date of this Order, but in all other respects an exact copy of the original charter, be issued. The thanks of Grand Lodge to Bro. D. Z. Smith, Salem, for having, at the last Grand Festival, presented an ancient pitcher covered with Masonic emblems, were voted unanimously. The roll of Lodges having been called, a vote of thanks to Grand Lodge from Washington National Monument Society for its subscription voted at the last Annual Communication was read and recorded. The Committee to whom the Grand Master's Annual Address had been referred then presented their report, in which they fully endorsed the Grand Master's statements. The Committee to which had been recommended certain proposed amendments to Article IV., Part III. of the Grand Constitutions on the subject of Trials, Suspensions, and Expulsions, submitted an additional amendment, which was unanimously adopted by Grand Lodge. On the proposed article, as amended, being then submitted to Grand Lodge for its final approval, a full discussion ensued, and ultimately a division was taken, when the new article was declared to be adopted by an overwhelming majority, the total yeas being 263, and total nays 59. The Committee on Healing having submitted two reports referred to them for the adoption of Grand Lodge, the reports were adopted accordingly. A Committee having, at the request of the Grand Master, been appointed to investigate certain matters of complaint made relative to the proposed trial of a sojourning brother, and the Commissioners of Trials under the new article of the Constitutions having been appointed, further time was granted to the Committees not yet able to report, and as there was no further business to be considered, Grand Lodge was closed in ample form at 6 p.m.

THE STUDY OF MASONRY.

WE have many times congratulated our readers on the recent extension of the Craft in this and other countries. We have spoken more than once of the greater influence it now wields. Even the paltry abuse of a particular sect of Christians has answered no other purpose than that of raising us in the good opinion of our fellows. Indeed, they who condemn us sink lower and lower, while we who are contemned rise higher and higher in public estimation. But let not brethren imagine that, because the horizon is now clear, and there is nowhere visible a single threatening cloud, even so big as a man's hand, a time of trial—when the stuff we are made of will be severely, nay even rudely, tested—will never come. It is in human nature that a prosperous man should raise up to himself enemies. Not all at once, it is true. The less prosperous are, first of all, a trifle jealous, then spiteful, then malicious, then open and declared enemies. Thus the more brilliant our position and prospects, the more needful is it we should be mindful of the old adage about being forewarned, and consequently forearmed. For the day may come when Freemasonry, now so prosperous everywhere, may have to combat not one, but a host of enemies, and to put forth its whole strength in order to overcome them. We have no manner of doubt that it will prevail in the future, as it has again and again prevailed in the past, but it rests entirely with Craftsmen, individually and collectively, whether the victory shall be gained easily, or only after a serious and prolonged conflict.

So grave an opening may induce some of our readers to believe that we are about inflicting on them a series of very lacrymose vaticinations as to the future of our Order. We have no such intention; indeed, there is no reason why we should do so. As far as can be judged at present, there are hardly any grounds for anticipating that Masonry, if true to itself, will have other than a prosperous career. But there are dangers threatening us, and these from within rather than from without the pale of Masonry. We are numerically stronger, and our influence proportionately greater, but are the efforts we make to consolidate our strength in a just proportion? We invite none to join us, but do the new members who flock daily, and of their own free will, to our standard, appreciate fully what it is to become a Mason, and what are a Mason's duties? They cannot, of course, help knowing, when they enter the precincts of the Lodge, and submit themselves to the grave ordeal of initiation into our mysteries, that they take upon themselves, voluntarily, certain solemn obligations. But it is almost needless to point out that the nature and extent of these obligations are differently interpreted by different brethren. A regular and periodical attendance at the meetings of their Lodge, a strict observance of certain forms and ceremonies, a never-failing presence at the banquet, and a just homage to the Masonic sentiments that customarily succeed the banquet—these, in the minds of some, are the *alpha* and *omega* of the obligations they have bound themselves to fulfil; and they fulfil them accordingly, *con gusto*. Others, less rigidly observant of these rites—if we may call them such—consider Masonry a mere Charity organisation, and that when they have contributed according to their means to the various institutions it fosters, they have discharged themselves of their duty. Some there are who take a higher, more glorious, and we may pertinently add, a juster view of the real scope of our Order. Of course, it is creditable to a member that he should

regularly attend his Lodge, and learn as quickly and as perfectly as he can the routine of Lodge business. We have faith in the enjoyment of the pleasures of the social board, while he who contributes of his means to the cause of Charity is worthy of all praise. But the duties of a Mason end not here, and, unfortunately, it is a small minority of Craftsmen who are alive to this truth. Let us illustrate our meaning more fully. The professing Christian, Jew, or Mohammedan, who attends his place of worship the prescribed number of times per day or per week, fulfils his duty so far, literally, but not necessarily in the spirit. It may be he is virtuous as regards this particular virtue of obedience to prescription; or it may be he is obedient because obedience is enjoined upon him. Again, familiarity with a certain ritual, the observance of certain ceremonies, and the bestowal of alms, may be the outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual excellence, but they are by no means necessarily so. And just as there are many who are Christians, Jews, Mohammedans, in name only, so are there Freemasons. They are initiated, and take the vows. They attend Lodge, become more or less acquainted with a few forms and formulæ, and subscribe to every charity, yet are they little more than nominal Masons. They confounded the outward form with the inward grace. They observe, but they understand not. They follow in the prescribed path of duty, but they know not why they follow.

It cannot, of course, be denied that much good results when people do what is right, but it is far better they should do so because they know why it should be done. And the "why" is not to be learned without study, by merely attending Lodge, repeating, parrot-like, certain words, eating sundry dinners, and giving occasional gifts. But what time is devoted to study? Now and again, in some exemplary Lodges, a lecture is given, or a tracing-board explained, over and above the ordinary business of the meeting. Lodges of instruction are also held, where brethren, by diligence and punctual attendance, may soon learn our ceremonials, and become proficient in working the sections. But how many trouble themselves to attend these latter, and for how long or how often does even the most exemplary Lodge devote itself to study? We do not expect all brethren to become learned exponents of the mysteries of the Craft, but we should like them in the first place to realise that a few grips and passwords do not constitute Masonry, and in the next to exhibit some desire to know more of its abstruse doctrines. Were the philosophers of old content with proclaiming their doctrines? Were their disciples content with bare statements of doctrine? Did not the former teach, and the latter study? Do ministers of religion confine themselves to enunciating the tenets they severally profess? Are they not, on the contrary, diligent always in expounding the true nature of those tenets, and why it is fit they should be so scrupulously observed? Yet Masons leave Masonry to explain itself. It has a beautiful symbolism, but a verbal explanation of the symbols is, perhaps, all the bulk of the Craft ever exhibits any curiosity about.

The truth is, Masonry is fashionable. Men join our ranks with as much *insouciance* as they make the grand tour of Europe. The "set" they mix with has travelled, has seen. Paris, Vienna, Florence, Rome, Naples; has "done" the Rhine, Switzerland, the Alps, the Apennines, and even perhaps Egypt and the Pyramids, and they must follow in its footsteps. They would "do" the moon if it were accessible and a resort of fashion. But the beautiful scenery they pass through has no charm for them. The vestiges of former civilizations arouse in them no enthusiasm. Their duty is to travel, for Fashion has so willed it, and they are devotees of the fickle jade. And so as regards Masonry. Princes and nobles, men of letters and men of wealth, are on the muster-roll of our Order, and everybody who thinks he is anybody must join us likewise. It is only necessary that he should be free, of good repute, have attained his majority, and come voluntarily to seek admission to our ranks. He is proposed and balloted for, and, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, he finds himself with no further ado a Mason, a "brother of the mystic tie." And having taken his degrees, he subsides into a regular Lodge attendant, makes his signs with due solemnity, eats heartily at the banquet, and renders due honour to each Masonic toast. This, in his idea, is being a Mason, this the only sacrifice he feels bound to offer to the idol he so reverently worships. What is Masonry, whence it came, who invented it, or whether, like Topsy,

it grew of nothing? these and like matters concern him not. These are points no fashionable Masonic "fellow" can be expected to understand.

Here, then, is the real danger to Masonry; that access of members should bring with it no real access of strength. Mere numbers are of little avail without training. Let it be once established as a custom, as a fashion which shall never change, that Masonry is a science to be studied, and that all who enrol themselves under our banners must at least master its grammar, if they attain not proficiency to translate its mysteries; let it be once recognised that ignorance of Masonic precept is not a fashionable, and therefore, perhaps, a pardonable weakness, but the reverse of creditable in those who display it; and we need have no fear whatever as to the future stability of our Order. It is a fair question for argument, whether, with all our wonderful growth of late years, the light of Masonry is diffused over a proportionately wider surface. We do not think it is, and it is because we hold this opinion that we urge now, as we have urged before, that brethren should study more our beautiful science. It will not repent them, when they have made some progress, of the time withdrawn from other occupations. On the contrary, they will become more and more enamoured of its doctrine; and if, unhappily, fresh conflicts await us, they will be a source of strength to the Order instead of a source of weakness.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 25).

AN ABLE PRECEPTOR.

"Teach me, good Sir, thy solemn lore,
And with thy precepts sage enlighten me:
I would the light of truth, in one grand stream,
Should flood my ardent soul."

THE Teutonic mind is just now in the ascendant in Europe. German ideas are fashionable, and the vast literature of the Fatherland is exciting great and deserved interest in the minds of people who hitherto have looked to France for their intellectual pabulum. To thinkers and men of letters this change is by no means surprising. The influence of Germany upon the leading minds of this country has been paramount for more than a generation. They have turned to her men of letters, for philosophy, for criticism, and for philology. Carlyle has devoted himself to the task of interpreting the thoughts and even the words of her chief writers. His translation of "Wilhelm Meister" is confessedly the best which has yet appeared, and his essays on German literature are a mine of intellectual wealth. But perhaps the highest compliment ever paid to a nation of thinkers by a great master of English, was paid by our cynical Chelsea philosopher when, under the title of "Sartor Resartus," he sketched the struggles of a great soul in its efforts to solve the mighty problems of existence. The hero of the book is a German, and the action of the fiction—or shall we say prose poem?—turns upon the sufferings and the heroic resolves of a thinker, and that thinker just such a one as Germany daily turns out from her universities. If we are to amend our methods of Biblical criticism the Germans will certainly show us the way to do it; and if philology is to be elevated into a science we shall owe the fact to the untiring industry of a German, Professor Max Muller. But although the influence of the German mind upon literature is potent for good, it is likely, we trust, to be not less potent in the arena of morals and sociology. The German is a much more homely man than the Frenchman. He likes simplicity; he loves home. He cares little or nothing for tawdry and vulgar finery. His hours and habits are much more natural than those of our brilliant but superficial neighbours, and if German ideas should at any time leaven our social life, the result cannot but be beneficial to the community at large. Military glory has never had the same charm for the Teuton that it has for the Gaul. The military masters of the Continent are much more likely to keep the peace, now that their bayonets are omnipotent, than were the French under the Empire. The passion for conquest does not indeed come with success in the field, but our Teutonic friends have too much natural good sense to lose their heads; and if the peace is broken, we are sure the provocation will not come from the newly consolidated Empire. We have been led to these reflections because the subject of our Masonic Portrait is a son of the

Fatherland. He was born in Prussian Poland, in the year 1821, and was educated in the district school of Fraustadt, on the borders of Silesia. On leaving school, he entered a merchant's counting-house, but disliking his position or his employment, he came to England with the view of pushing his fortune, and landed at Blackwall, in 1847, friendless, and with little of this world's goods to spare. Happily, he fell in with friends, and was soon engaged in the warehouse of a wholesale dealer. By steady industry and attention to business, he managed to rise in the estimation of his superiors, and was speedily transferred to a position of trust and confidence in the counting-house. When he arrived in this country, he did not understand a word of English, and during his studies he never had a master; yet his knowledge of our language would shame many a native. His letters and papers on Masonry are admirably and lucidly written, and bear all the marks of a powerful and comprehensive mind. During his career in the mercantile house to which we have referred, he married, and has now three daughters. But he was not fated to remain long in a condition of servitude. It was his ambition to be his own master, and at a time when the new art of "sun painting" was beginning to attract popular notice he ventured to turn his attention to it, and started like a brave, courageous man as he is, as a professor of the art of photography. At this time he knew little of the technical portion of the business, but his steady determination helped him to conquer all the difficulties of the art, and at the present time he is the master of a good business, and is second to none of his contemporaries in artistic skill or conscientious attention to his clients.

Our brother's Masonic career commenced in the year 1861, when he was initiated in the Lodge of Faith. He became Master in 1866 but resigned his connection with the Lodge in 1873, and is now a member of No. 185. In 1868 he was exalted, in Victoria Chapter; and was advanced, in Mark Lodge, Newport, Isle of Wight, in 1871. He was one of the founders of Faith Chapter, and became Z. designate in 1873. He was also one of the original Projectors of the Temple Mark Lodge, No. 173, and is at the present time its S.W. He has served as Secretary of the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, and, upon the retirement of Bro. T. Foulger from the office of Preceptor, he succeeded him in that office, which he has held with high distinction for several years. He has been Preceptor of other Lodges of Instruction, and has, we need scarcely say, rendered eminent services to the Craft. He was one of the promoters of the fund for the establishment of a Freemasons' Life Boat, and acted as secretary during the period of incubation, but, although a testimonial was proposed, with a view of marking the universal appreciation of his valuable services in connection with the fund, it was refused by our hero, who accounted himself sufficiently rewarded for his laborious services by the brilliant results achieved. The boat was stationed at North Berwick, and has, we believe, rendered signal service on more than one occasion to distressed mariners.

Our brother is regarded by those who are capable of forming an opinion on the subject as a profoundly learned Mason. He is perfect in ritual to the very letter, and, indeed, there is no portion of Craft or Arch Masonry, whether it be ceremony, sections or installation, of which he is not a perfect master. His fame, indeed, as an able Preceptor has been sounded far and wide in the Masonic World, and it has been his fortune to instruct many brothers who have since risen to high distinction in the Craft. If our hero's life has been uneventful, it is not wanting in lessons, which are valuable, indeed, to those who can read them. Industry, integrity and earnestness are his characteristics, and with these weapons, and no others, he has conquered. He is a member of that grand old race which, from the days of Abraham to the present time, has been remarkable for its God-fearing, virtue-loving propensities. Our opinion of the Jews has already been expressed in these columns, and we need merely say of our brother that his charities in connection with his people are princely. While we are writing, we have before us a scrap of paper which eloquently speaks of his munificence in this respect. It is a subscription sheet, and has reference to the building fund of the East London Synagogue. It came into our hands by the merest chance, yet on glancing our eye over it we find that our generous brother has placed his name against two figures which represent a considerable sum in hard cash. He has always a coin and a pleasant word for a distressed Mason, be he Christian or Deist; but he does not forget

his own people, and possibly if we could search his heart we should find that where the religion of his fathers is concerned, the joy of giving is immeasurably superior to the pleasure of receiving. Loved at home, respected abroad, a pillar of Masonry, and a pious man, who really believes that God punishes the unjust man in this world (would to Heaven that this belief were universal!) He has little occasion to sigh over unrealised dreams of ambition. His genius might have helped him to great things, but he has preferred the path of quiet virtue, the straight and narrow road which leads to social, domestic, and religious peace.

ODDS AND ENDS.

By Walter Spencer, F.R.G.S.

IN last week's news we read, that General Kirkham (said to be the bearer of a letter from King John of Abyssinia to Earl Derby) remains a prisoner in Massowah. It may not be generally known that this officer served in the "Ever Victorious Army," under Gordon, was twice dangerously wounded, and distinguished himself throughout that campaign. In the attack on Soochow, a bullet fractured his skull, and the portion of bone which had been depressed upon the brain was removed by trepanning; this he afterwards had mounted into a small model of a skull, which he wore as a breastpin. The last night I spent at Shanghai was in Kirkham's quarters, and little could either of us imagine that twelve years afterwards he and his old commander would be engaged on opposite sides, Gordon again pressing forward to conquest, and himself a prisoner of the Khedive.

Well I remember a pleasant sojourn during that troublous time of Taipingdom, in company with another officer and a guard of green turbans, at the old Buddhist monastery of Tien-tang. I, a wretched invalid with dysentery, had to nurse and watch my comrade most carefully to prevent his turning his head or straining his neck, for he was wounded in dangerous proximity to the jugular. The vast Temple, with its echoing pavements, the cool forest glades in which it is embowered, in strong contrast to past scenes of turmoil, made it to us indeed an abode of peace. Yet even to this sacred spot, and in those early times, the foreign snob was not unknown. Young England and America would occasionally break in upon its solitudes in the shape of a shooting or exploring party from one of the foreign settlements: and only they who have witnessed the reckless and contemptuous behaviour of some of the younger, and (let me hope) the less refined of Europeans in the East, can understand the shock which the inoffensive natives must frequently experience. The banging of fire-arms would then resound in the Temple precincts, the fish be stirred up in the sacred tank, over painted wall and sculptured plinth doggerel obscenity and cockney's autographs record the inroad. In condemnation of this latter, I affixed a document like the usual Chinese porch-texts, by the door of the apartments allotted to visitors, with the following inscription:—

"The modern fool derides the Gods of old
Triumphant in the worship of his idol—GOLD—
With nose in air, and scorn in addled brain,
Struts through the cloisters with supreme disdain.
Here—mids't the mem'ries of a by-gone time,
The last frail remnants of the once sublime—
Barbarian bullies crack their silly jest,
Spurn the meek priest, intrude upon his rest,
And, with loud laughter at his looks averse,
Puff their cheroots and leave him with a curse;
Whilst placid idols on their massive thrones
Hollowly echo the unwonted tones.

But you and I, my reader, who in peace
Have come in quest of health and grateful ease,
Good taste and feeling, in their strong control,
Would keep from outraging the meanest soul.
And so I leave these lines; the record poor
May yet reprove the base, and check the boor.
Reluctant though I be to write at all,
Where wretched rhymesters leave their ribald scrawl,
And idiots scratch their names upon the wall."

MAGIC SYMBOLS IN MASONRY.

(Continued from page 163.)

IT is our grateful duty to acknowledge indebtedness to another explorer of our theme—Bro. T. B. Rosseter—for his communication of March 18. He cites Ceres, the goddess of Corn, &c.: relative to this Deity or Genius we agree with Fellowes* in the surmise that she is especially symbolised in our Ritual in the pass-word to the 2nd degree, under the name of Cybele, the pronunciation of which has been corrupted.

We have found a Rosicrucian MS., which states that the Cross pointed with the letters DEUS is the distinguishing mark of that Society. It is a symbol of *Light*, containing within its angles the letters LVX, and refers to the co-existence of God and Light, indicating also the omniscience of God and the immortality of the soul. The same MS. gives a rule for the Rosicrucian aspirant, as follows:—

1. The first teaching of R.C. is to abandon entirely all vague and unprofitable speculation, and to concentrate the mind upon that which leads to truth. Truth must be the end of all study, and thus when the aspirant finds any favourite pre-conception in danger of being overturned, he must not pause in his investigations, but must steadily pursue them; truth demands the sacrifice, and will yield a fitting reward.

2. The mind must at once cast off all idiotic dreamings of the impossible, or rather the unnatural. The earth is a school of study, of trial, and of probation; the fruits of which will be gathered in the hereafter. Many doctrines of the utmost value have been perverted and misrepresented by the ignorant and unthinking. Many valuable teachings have been misunderstood from the mode of conveying them, such as the Philosopher's Stone and the Water of Life. The one, as vulgarly known, turns everything to gold, the other prolongs life. It is needless to say that such meanings cannot apply to them, for with the one gold would become of less account than the dust underneath the foot; with the other the world would become overcrowded and men would die of famine. Two great truths were concealed under these names. These will be revealed to the aspirant at a fitting moment.

3. Reason must guide the aspirant in his search after the truth. Whatever seems improbable or allegorical must be carefully considered, and the true weight given to it. Much that is allegorical contains rare gold, even as the dark earth contains the precious stones. But allegories or improbable things must not be lightly dismissed. The man groping in the mud found a pearl.

4. Men are not born with the same virtue, vice and intellect. In one virtue and intellect predominate, in another vice and intellect, whereas the generality of men are born virtuous, or vicious or intellectual, in various degrees, however. But it is only virtue or vice, allied to intellect, that raises a man above his fellows. The junction of mind and passion, whether of good or evil. If all were good, there could be no criterion. Without a shadow we could not understand the light.

5. But reason must be of a grave and elevated character, men often call that reason which is desire, and crimes have been committed in the name of reason, as well as of liberty. Let the aspirant then study "What is reason in me?"

6. Men must therefore not be judged by their deeds alone, the passions from which they spring must be taken into account. We know not how much has been resisted, although we do know how much has not. Not to condemn men, but the springs of action, is a principle of true philosophy. It might be as just to condemn the ball that kills as a man for his actions, when we remember his frailties.

7. But man has to answer for his deeds: and herein it must be remembered that while endowed with mind and passion, man is still in a manner a free will agent. But this free will is not positive, but comparative. The man of fortune is not likely to steal a loaf of bread, which a famishing and penniless man will. In the one it would be a crime, in the other it is self-preservation.

8. Death is the inheritance of the human race. All must die. But as the elements wear away the earth from the granite, and leave huge blocks exposed; as the fire clears the dross from the gold, so does death remove the baser part of man. He passes then into a new existence, into new spheres, and becomes exposed to other influences, his position will be changed in relation to his neighbours, and he who is highest on earth may be the lowest in the hereafter; the lowest here may be the highest hereafter.

9. The aspirant must carefully study the theologies; some of them called mythologies, but improperly so, of all times. The Bible in particular demands his earnest and close attention. But in this most important duty the pure lamp of reason must be kept shining brightly, and neither prejudice nor early teaching must obscure its ray.

10. Reason, however, as has been already written, must be carefully considered. It is a dangerous weapon in unskilled hands, and those who have boasted of following only reason, have often only followed an ignis fatuus, a myth, which has led them into paths far remote from the truth.

11. The aspirant must carefully make himself master, so far as he can, of himself. "Man, know thyself," is the saying of an ancient sage, which by extension yields a knowledge of all mankind, for the only thing that cannot change on earth is human nature.

12. Finally, let the aspirant banish from his mind all hope of greatness in this life, for he knows not but the next hour may be his

last; let him seek true knowledge, for that he takes with him beyond the grave, where it is all useful, and where it will prove of everlasting service.

We have attained thus far to a glimpse of the *Astral Light* defined by Eliphaz Levi, which may be thus summarised. It is universally diffused through heaven and earth; being either subtle or fixed, according to the degree of its polarisation, and called by Hermes the grand *Telesma*. When producing visible splendor, it is called *Light*; it was created before all else, by the fiat, "Let there be Light!" It has both substance and motion, is a fluid and a perpetual vibration. The inherent force of its motion is called *magnetism*. In space, it is the æther or the ethereal light; in organic beings it is the *magnetic fluid*; in man, the *astral or spiritual body*. The will-power of intelligent beings act directly upon it, and through it brings all nature under the dominion of intelligence. It is the mirror of thoughts and of all forms; it retains the images of what has been, contains the reflection of past worlds, and also the prescience of worlds to come. It is the instrument of thaumaturgy and divination.

We will now glance at the powers of the Hebrew alphabet, as expounded by Levi from the Cabbala, premising that the mystic meaning and divine virtue of Numbers formed an important part of the philosophy of Pythagoras, who appears to have learned them in the East, where he long resided, and whence he emerged an adept in ancient mysteries. In numbers he saw the principle of all things, believing that creation was effected by their harmonious combination, and that they existed before the world. According to his doctrine, numbers are of two kinds—intellectual and scientific. *Intellectual number* has always existed in the Divine Mind, it is the basis of universal order and the chain which binds all things. *Scientific number* is the generative cause of Multiplicity, which proceeds from Unity. Scientific numbers are equal or odd. Equal numbers are said to be female, and odd numbers male, because even numbers admit of generation and division. Odd numbers are the most perfect, and to each he ascribed a peculiar character.

"Progress, says Levi, is movement, and movement is Life, the only answer which Reason can give to objections concerning the existence of evil. In the Hebrew alphabet there is one initial letter, the generator of all others, *Iod*; there are two mother letters opposed yet analogous, *Aleph* and *Mem*; seven double letters, *Beth*, *Ghimel*, *Daleth*, *Caph*, *Phé*, *Resch*, and *Tau*; finally, twelve simple letters, making in all twenty-two. Unity is represented in a relative manner by *Aleph*, Trinity by *Iod*, *Mem*, *Schin*, or *Aleph*, *Mem*, *Schin*; seven by *Beth*, *Ghimel*, *Daleth*, *Caph*, *Phé*, *Resch*, *Tau*. Twelve is represented by the other letters. Twelve being the 3 multiplied by 4, re-enters into the symbolism of the 7. Each letter, moreover, represents a number, each group of letters a series of numbers. The numbers represent absolute philosophic ideas, they are abbreviated hieroglyphics.

The prime letters stand,

Iod—for the Absolute principle, the producing Being.

Mem—for the Spirit—or Jachin.

Schin—for Matter—or Boaz.

The double letters stand,

Beth—for thought, the Moon, or the Angel Gabriel.

Ghimel—Love, Will, Venus, or the Angel Anael.

Daleth—Force, Jupiter, or Sachiël Melech.

Caph—Violence, work, Mars, or Samaël Zebaoth.

Phé—Intelligence, Mercury, or Raphael.

Resch—Destruction and regeneration, Time, Saturn.

Tau—Truth, Light, or Cassiël, the Sun, Michael, Chief of the Elohim.

The simple letters are divided into four threes, which bear the 4 letters of the tetragram as titles. In the Divine Tetragram, the *Iod* figures as the active principle, the *Hé* represents the passive productive principle, the *cteis*; the *Vau* symbolises the union of both, or the lingam, and the final *Hé* the secondary productive principle, i.e., passive reproduction in the world of effects and forms.

The twelve simple letters divided into groups of three symbolise again the primitive triangle interpreted and influenced by each letter of the tetragram. Therein the philosophy and religious dogma of the Cabbala are indicated completely, though under a veil. Thus Levi paraphrases the allegory of Genesis. "In the (*Iod*) beginning *Æloïm* (the balanced power, Jachin and Boaz) created the heaven (spirit) and the earth (matter)."

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

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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THE RECENT ELECTIONS, BOYS' AND GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My object in addressing you on the remarks made in your columns last week, about the paucity of votes recorded for sundry of the candidates at the recent elections, is not so much to express my concurrence with the views to which you give utterance as to mention that a precedent for withdrawing the names of those candidates who do not, after a certain number of trials, obtain a certain minimum of votes will be found among the regulations of the Masonic Female Orphan, and the Orphan Boys' Schools, Dublin. The rule I allude to is published in the voting papers issued at the elections to these Charities, and reads as follows:—

"Any child whose name shall have been three times upon the voting papers, and shall not, upon any occasion, have received twenty votes, shall not again be put forward as a candidate."

I think it would be wise to adopt a similar rule at the elections to our Boys' and Girls' Schools, with this difference, however. Our schools are larger, and the votes and candidates more numerous; in their case, then, a much higher minimum would be desirable.

Fraternally yours,
TOT QUOT.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am desirous of obtaining your opinion on the meaning of the words "properly clothed" as applied to the admission of brethren into Lodge. In the article "Of Regalia," in the Book of Constitutions, the clothing and insignia to be worn by the Craft are set forth, and we are told that no "brother shall, on any pretence, be admitted into Grand Lodge or any subordinate Lodge without his proper clothing." In the enumeration I find Jewels, Collars and Aprons specified, and as I believe in adhering to every jot and tittle of our written law, I want to discover if I am right in assuming that the general practice is wrong, viz.: that Officers of Lodges in visiting other Lodges do not wear their collars and jewels of office. I have heard of a brother wearing his collar in another Lodge and being rebuked for so doing by the W.M., but though following the rule, it seems to me that W.M.'s are unconstitutional in not insisting on such being worn, and should refuse admission to brethren presenting themselves "without their proper clothing." At the same time I should much like to know what are the "jewels, medals or devices" recognized by Grand Lodge as part of pure, ancient Masonry. As I have often to give my *dictum* on such matters, and as my ruling, founded as I believe upon a proper study of the Constitutions is so often at variance with common usage, I want to find out what is right.

Yours truly, P.M.

BRO. REV. A. F. A. WOODFORD'S RESOLUTION—ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have been much interested in reading your article respecting the above, and the proceedings of the last General Court of the R. M. I. B.; and I trust that its most fraternal and judicious council will be followed by all concerned. Allow me to thank you for the article on behalf of many of your readers. "Peace, not War," is what we desire, and especially so in all Masonic assemblies; but it is lamentable to read of the opposite to this motto being evidently the feeling uppermost in the minds of many of the combatants on Monday last! Your regret that Bro. Moss was not heard is shared in by many, and surely he has not much inducement to attend the Quarterly Courts on behalf of West Yorkshire if he is to be refused a hearing. I most warmly support Bro. Woodford's motion, but at the same time regret exceedingly the commotion which it caused, and especially the unbrotherly treatment which Brother Moss received, who though evidently supporting a weak and un-Masonic cause, so far as Bro. Tew was concerned, had a right to expect a patient hearing, which right the Chairman should have secured for him or dissolved the meeting.

Yours fraternally,
IMPARTIALITY.

TOWER of OBSERVATION, 15th April 1876.

GRAND LODGE HONOURS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read with interest the correspondence in your columns on the subject of the distribution of Grand Lodge Honours. To while away an idle hour I occasionally refer to the Masonic publications of past years, and notice that with us—as

with Empires and States—History repeats itself. Without urging the absolute analogy between 1844 and 1876, the following remarks from the "Freemason's Quarterly Review, New Series, June 1844," seem to me not inappropriate to the present time, and, at all events, worth reproducing.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"THE OTHER ONE."

London, 17th April 1876.

"We now approach a subject of considerable importance, and one which, we are certain, disturbs the mind of many a contemplative Mason, and it is this. *The Secret power that has for a long time existed, and even now exists*: Why this was ever permitted, is among the anomalies that are difficult to account for, but to break it up by all means, and even expose it, if necessary, is essential to justice, and by speaking out, to prevent the Grand Master from being placed in a false position, is equally our duty and our determination. The M.W. Grand Master cannot of himself become perfectly acquainted with the best mode of supplying the vacancies as they occur; it becomes, therefore, a matter of necessity, as well as of principle, while these subjects pass in review before him, to seek for information wherever it is to be found, and especially to confer with such brethren as may supply such information as character and experience enable to do. We do not doubt but that the Grand Secretary has, and will continue to place before his superior the just claims of many deserving brethren; but we do not hesitate to express our regret that the Grand Secretary has suffered his generally excellent judgment to be influenced, and that even in the recent appointments, *the Secret power* has, to a certain extent, succeeded. Let there be no more of this; the secret Council is confined to three or four whose claims, by service, or station, if they have any claims whatever, have already been rewarded to excess."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

E. M. M. (Montreal).—Your note to hand. Trust your hopes will be realised.

THIRTY YEARS OLD.—Your letter has been received, but you must comply with our rule, which requires a correspondent to supply his name and address.

CONSECRATION OF THE LEY SPRING LODGE, 1598.

ON the 15th instant Bro. Terry P.M. 1278 and P.G.D.C. Herts assisted by Bro. C. G. Hill S.W. 1366, consecrated, at the Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone, the Ley Spring Lodge, No. 1598, after which Bro. Barford P.M. 55 and 1228 proceeded, in the most able manner, to instal Bro. P. A. Bianchi as first W.M. The officers appointed were:—Bros. G. E. Walters S.W., J. Buscoll J.W., J. W. Roberts Secretary, R. Hogg S.D., W. Allen J.D., L. Lewis I.G., T. Varley D.C., S. Potts Tyler. The usual charges were then given and the customary congratulations made. It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously carried, that Bro. Terry should become an honorary member of the Lodge. Bro. Terry, in reply, assured the W.M. of the pleasure it had given him to consecrate the Ley Spring Lodge, and expressed his wishes for its future prosperity. After a short interval the brethren sat down to an excellent repast, provided in Bro. Barford's usual *récherché* style; the W.M. presided, and upon the removal of the cloth, gave the toast of Her Majesty the Queen, and referred to the pleasure which the whole of the Craft must feel at the early return of the M.W.G.M. Bro. Terry then proposed the health of the W.M., and passed some very high eulogiums upon the working capabilities of the officers; the toast was honoured in a most hearty manner. The W.M. said he had to thank Bro. Terry for proposing his health, and the brethren for the hearty way in which they had responded to it, and assured them of his conviction that the brethren whom he had appointed to office would give him that assistance that would enable him to carry out the duties of the chair in such a manner as would do great credit to the Lodge. We would remark that great praise is due to the founders of this Lodge, more especially to the indefatigable exertions of the S.W., who, ever since the idea was formed of starting a new Lodge, has not left a stone unturned to make it a success. The healths of the Officers and Visitors were given, and duly responded to, and the Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable evening. Bros. Lewis and Varley rendered some excellent singing, Bro. Young accompanying upon the piano. Visitors:—Bros. T. Barford P.M. 1228 and 55, W. H. Myers P.M. 820, W.M. 1445, F. Y. Latreille P.M. 1056, W. Mundy P.M. 1228, W. A. Thorp P.M. 1228, P. Edinger W.M. 95, W. T. Christian J.D. 1278, G. C. Young Organist 820, G. Blackie 1426, J. Taylor 298, W. C. Claridge 1421, C. Vile 49, F. H. Varley 33, T. Corbett 143, and W. Bailey 49. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. G. C. Young Organist 820 and 1445.

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

REVIEWS.

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

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Official Directory for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall. Sixth year of publication. Edited by William James Hughan, P.M. Lodge of Fortitude, Truro, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England, P. Prov. G. Secretary of Cornwall, &c., &c. Truro: Printed at the Royal Cornwall Gazette Office, 1876.

THOUGH this Directory is printed "for private circulation," we take leave to indicate as precisely as possible the nature of its contents, in the hope that brethren in other provinces may follow the admirable example set them by Bro. Hughan, and compile or at least edit the compilation of similar directories for other provinces. The more material of this kind we have the more likely is it we shall be able to welcome the comprehensive history of English Freemasonry, which, bearing the merits of Findel and other Masonic historians in mind, we nevertheless unhesitatingly affirm has yet to be written. True, lists of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, of the Lodges in each province, with the dates of their constitution and their respective rolls of P.M.'s, of the Grand and Provincial Grand Chapters, &c., &c., of the Grand Mark and Provincial Grand Mark Lodges, &c., &c., with regulations as to regalia and stewardships at the Charity Festivals, and one or more statistical tables of local interest are, as it were, but a drop in the ocean of information that must be collected towards the compilation of a history. But, in the course of time, a number of such drops will go some way towards forming a respectable sheet of water. At all events, it is a satisfaction to historically studious brethren to know that such a directory has been compiled for one of our numerous provinces, and that the compiler is no other than Bro. Hughan. The directory is in three parts, or, to speak more accurately perhaps, there are three directories bound in one. The first gives all the needful information as to Craft Masonry, the names and numbers of the various Lodges in the Province, with the dates of their constitution, the Grand Officers of England and of the Province, and the roll of centenary Lodges of Cornwall. The second furnishes similar information as regards Royal Arch Masonry, while the third relates to Mark Masonry, these two being in their first year of publication only. Then follow particulars respecting the Masonic Charities, stewardships, regalia, centenary jewels, &c., and lastly, we have two statistical tables, of which the first shows the voting power of Cornwall in connection with our Charities, while the latter shows the strength and distribution of the Craft in the Province, there being in all twenty-seven Lodges, with a total membership of 1433.

Constitution, General Statutes and Ordinances of the Sovereign Sanctuary of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Masonry, in and for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and its Dependencies; with the Public Ceremonials, and a Sketch of the History of the Rite. Printed by authority of the Sovereign Sanctuary in and for Great Britain and Ireland, &c., 1875. John Hogg and Co., 15A Paternoster-row, London, E.C.

THE work is in three books. The first of these contains the Constitution, Statutes and Ordinances of the Rite. Book II. is occupied with a full account of the Public Ceremonials. The third book contains a complete history of the Rite, in four parts. Part I. is by way of preface; part II. sketches the history of the Rite in France; part III. in America; and part IV. in the United Kingdom. Taking the work as a whole, we do not think it possible to have written a fuller or more exhaustive account of this Rite, of which Bro. Yarker is the M.I.S. Grand Master General in this country. The Constitution, Statutes, &c., are given at length. The minutest detail, as far as is permissible, of the Public Ceremonials is fully described, while the historical section is clear, precise, methodically arranged, and correct, so far, at least, as we have been enabled to follow the very sinuous course which this and other aspiring Rites have observed in their career. We cannot take upon ourselves to predict, or even surmise the degree of favour with which this history will be received by our readers. We feel assured, however, that if as students or intending candidates for admission into this Order, they are in any wise anxious to become acquainted with its history, they cannot do better than consult this work, published, as it is, by the Sovereign Sanctuary or Governing Body of the Rite.

Compte-Rendu des Travaux du Convent des Suprêmes Conseils du Rite Ecossais ancien et accepté, Réuni à Lausanne (Suisse) en Septembre, 1875. Publié par les soins du Suprême Conseil de Suisse, Lausanne. Imprimerie Jules Jaquenod, Cité-Devant, 1876.

THIS pamphlet contains a full account of the labours of the Masonic Congress held at Lausanne in the month of September last, from its assembly when the T.P.S.G.C. Very Ill. Bro. Jules Besançon, assisted by the Very Ill. Bro. A. Amberny, L.G.C., opened the proceedings on the 6th of that month to its close on the 22nd, when a Manifesto of Principles was drawn up and agreed to be published, and the President delivered his farewell address to the Congress. At the commencement, representatives from the Supreme Councils of England, Scotland, Belgium, France, &c., presented themselves, and their powers having been verified, were admitted. The President having delivered his inaugural address, the Grand Orator then at length enunciated the principles which animated the brethren generally, and which would be their guide in the course of deliberation they were about entering upon. The Grand Chancellor also addressed the meeting and after some preliminary business, the first sitting of the Congress

came to a close. After further sessions, a Treaty of Union, Alliance and Confederation of the Supreme Grand Councils of the Accepted Scottish Rite, accompanied by a full declaration of principles, was signed, sealed and delivered by their assembled representatives on the 22nd September. A list of Supreme Councils was also prepared, the rights of each being recognised, and the limits of their several jurisdictions defined. The recognition of the Supreme Council of Brazil was, however, deferred till the claims of two rival bodies to be such Council had been authoritatively determined by the Tribunal constituted under Article 7 of the Treaty of Alliance. The Congress closed with the following address from the President, Jules Besançon:—

"Very Illustrious Brethren:—

The Masonic Congress at Lausanne has accomplished its task, but before formally closing its session, your President would convey to you his thanks. Never, owing to your kind and fraternal spirit, was a formidable duty rendered so easy of accomplishment. The questions that were submitted to your deliberations and which you have happily solved were of grave importance. These were to (a) complete the work of 1786 by reconciling the Grand Constitutions to the spirit of the present age, without at the same time depriving them of that lofty character for wisdom which distinguished our predecessors in Masonry. We venture to say these efforts of ours have been crowned with complete success. We have had no resistance to overcome, and each of us has been able to add his stone to the common edifice (b.) To determine the basis of a Treaty of Alliance among the different Scottish Supreme Councils, and to bring closer still the bonds which unite them. Here again, a wonderful progress has been made. Henceforth Scottish Masonry will be an indissoluble body, as it were one united family, in spite of the distribution of its members, and the differences that exist among them in manners, nationality, and religion. This indeed, is the true ideal of Freemasonry. Our Congress has been unwilling to separate without first issuing a warm manifesto to all the friends of light and of progress. Scottish Masonry regards them all as companions in its labours and invites them to combat with it against intolerance and prejudices.

All these important decisions have been arrived at unanimously, as becomes true Masonry. Thus the Royal Art will derive from this general consensus additional force wherewith to battle against the darkness of superstition and ignorance. Our trust in Masonry will be rekindled, and every Lodge will become a centre of Light, whose beneficial influence will extend over and transform the whole profane world. May the G.A.O.T.U. crown our aspirations and fertilize the field of our labours.

In the name of God, of St. John, and of the Confederate Supreme Councils, I close the labours of this Congress of Lausanne."

Picturesque Europe. Part II. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin: London, Paris, and New York.

WE have only just received the second part of this admirable periodical. It quite realises the favourable opinion we expressed of the opening number, the high standard of merit already exhibited both in the illustrations and the letter-press being fully maintained. The former include a steel engraving of "Llyn Idwal," by C. G. Lewis, from a sketch by E. M. Wimperis, and a series of wood engravings by different artists. The earlier of these relate to Eton College, among them being "the Interior of the Quadrangle," "Staircase to the Upper Schools," "the Lower School," "the Old Fives Court," and "the Entrance to the Playing Fields." The later are of various scenes in North Wales, to which we are taken, now that Windsor and Eton have received that priority of notice, to which they are entitled. These are (1) "Conway Castle," by Whymper, from a sketch by P. Skelton; (2) and (3) "Buddian Castle," and "the Banqueting Hall, Conway Castle," by the same artists; (4) "Cliffs on the Conway Mountain, North Wales," by W. H. Boot; (5) "Pandy Mill and Fall near Bettwys-y-Coed, North Wales," by T. L. Rowbotham; and (6) "Shepherd's Orag on the Llugwy," by E. M. W.; these three last being also engraved by Mr. Whymper. The accompanying narrative is clearly and ably written, being sufficiently explanatory, without at the same time, and as too frequently happens, being overlaid with too great an abundance of detail. Messrs. Cassell and Co. have, for some years, exhibited a most praiseworthy desire to meet the public taste for illustrated serial literature of a high-class character; but we do not think they ever made a happier choice than when they resolved on bringing out this periodical. We imagine, at least, the public are of this mind, for the reception accorded to *Picturesque Europe* has been generally, and we may add deservedly, cordial.

Hail to the Lord Mayor! Civic song and chorus. Dedicated (by special permission) to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor. Written and composed by Michael Watson. London: J. Williamson, 19 Great Portland-street, Oxford Circus, W.—This is a very effective song, and supplies a want that has long been felt by many. As commemorative of the glories of the greatest, the wealthiest, and one of the most ancient cities of the civilised world, this song will, no doubt, enjoy a lasting popularity. As a composition, too, it deserves to be well received. The words are simple, and so is the melody. Yet both are tuneful, and more likely to impress people favourably than had they been more ambitious and more elaborate. No doubt we shall find Mr. Watson's song, where it deserves to be, in the programme of songs to be sung at all future civic entertainments, and where it may be appropriately arranged to follow the toast of the Lord Mayor.

CHINESE CARVING.—For Sale, an elaborately carved Set of Ivory Chessmen. The Kings stand 8½ inches high, the other pieces in proportion. Knights and Jaws on horseback, all mounted on stands, with concentric balls. Can be seen, and full particulars obtained, on application to W. W. MORGAN, 67 Barbican.—*Advt.*

THE DRAMA.

**The Easter Novelties — Armadale at the Globe—
Wrinkles at the Prince of Wales's—Queen Mary at
the Lyceum—The Royal Aquarium Theatre — The
Criterion—Charles Mathews.**

THE present Easter-tide has been signalised by a larger number of theatrical novelties than has been usual in this season for some years past. One entirely new theatre has been opened, and the programme at nearly all the old places of attraction has been either modified or entirely changed. To begin with, we have at the GLOBE THEATRE a dramatised version of Mr. Wilkie Collins's *Armadale*, under the less euphonious title of *Miss Gwilt*. The plot is of an extremely intricate description, but it will probably be familiar to most readers of popular fiction. The play abounds in incidents, some powerful, others rather ultra-melodramatic, and in striking and effective situations. The obvious purpose of the play, viz.: to provide a new impersonation for Miss Ada Cavendish, is fully answered, for the character of Miss Gwilt admits of much powerful and picturesque acting. As performed on the opening night, a sense of tediousness was produced in the audience by the long waits between the acts; but it may fairly be expected that after the first few performances this objection will be removed. Miss Cavendish sustained the title rôle with fine effect, and was ably seconded by Mr. Arthur Cecil in the part of Dr. Downward, by Mr. R. C. Lyons as Allen Armadale, Mr. L. Boyne as Midwinter, and Mr. F. D. Lyons as Captain Manuel.

Mr. Byron's new comedy, entitled *Wrinkles*, produced on Saturday last at the PRINCE OF WALES'S, cannot be termed a success. The author appears to have got altogether out of his latitude in regard to the construction of the play, and notwithstanding its witty dialogue and admirable acting of Mrs. Bancroft and her excellent company, the audience were anything but satisfied.

Queen Mary, at the LYCEUM, produced on Tuesday, achieved a greater success than had been generally anticipated. The play, as originally written, is scarcely to be recognised in the version actually performed. Fully one-half the characters have disappeared. Cardinal Pole and Cranmer, Sir Thomas Wyatt and Bishop Bonner, the finely drawn character, Sir Ralph Bagenhall, and a crowd of less important personages have all been excised from the *dramatis personæ*. Whole pages of dialogue have, of course, gone with them, and the result is a moderately good acting play, with some fine scenes and speeches, and scope for excellent acting. The part of Queen Mary is, of course, sustained by Miss Bateman, who brings to the interpretation a large amount of intelligence and dramatic power. Her younger sister, Miss Isabel Bateman, is equally successful in the part of Elizabeth. Mr. Irving is admirable as Philip, a cold, cynical, heartless monster, and Messrs. Swinburne and Brooke, in the characters respectively of Gardiner and Simon Renard, are also deserving of commendation. The play is a striking one, and will probably attract a large number of people to the house, but as there is scarcely a single character, or scene, from first to last of it, that is capable of evoking one spark of human sympathy, it can never be an enduring success.

The ROYAL AQUARIUM THEATRE is a handsome and elegant addition to the list of our metropolitan places of amusement. The play of *Jo* has been removed here from the GLOBE, and the admirable acting of Miss Jennie Lee will probably continue to secure for it a large amount of public favour.

A three-act farce, entitled *The Great Divorce Case*, is the *pièce de résistance* at the CRITERION. It is preceded by *The Wall of China*, and the performance concludes with a new Easter burlesque, entitled *Robin Hood*. We will probably have something further to say about this next week.

Charles Mathews has returned to the Gaiety, as fresh and young as ever, and in the characters of Adonis Evergreen, in *My Awful Dad*, and of Plumper, in *Cool as a Cucumber*, will probably continue, for the next few weeks, to delight the habitués of this theatre.

The productions at the St. JAMES'S, CHARING CROSS, and other theatres, as also the performance at DRURY LANE, of Signor Rossi, we will probably refer to next week.

The ceremony of consecration and installation will be worked in the Faith Lodge of Instruction, No. 141, held at the Restaurant, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria Street, S.W., on Tuesday, the 9th of May, at seven o'clock precisely, by Bro. James Terry P.P.G.D.C. Herts and P.M. 228, 1278, 1366, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution of Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. J. Rhodes, I.G. No. 1328.

PROTEST.—It is rather a dangerous thing to have a protest entered on the minutes of a Lodge without very strong reasons. The Book of Constitutions is stringent on the matter, see page 80, article 4. "The majority of the members present at any Lodge duly summoned have an undoubted right to regulate their own proceedings, provided that they are consistent with the general laws and regulations of the Craft; no member, therefore, shall be permitted to enter in the minute-book of his Lodge a protest against any resolution or proceeding which may have taken place, unless it shall appear to him to be contrary to the laws and usages of the Craft, and for the purpose of complaining or appealing to a higher Masonic authority." Protestors, be cautious, particularly when a vote has been passed for a charitable object!

RESTORATION OF CHESTER CATHEDRAL.

THE Annual Provincial Grand Chapter of the Western Division of Lancashire, was held on the 18th April, in the Chapter room at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Comp. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G. Superintendent presided, and he was supported by a very large gathering of P.G. Officers and Companions under his Masonic rule. After the transaction of some formal business, the following were appointed Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—Comps. J. Prescott P.G.H., G. D. Pochin P.G.S., Dr. J. Kellett Smith P.G. Reg., T. Armstrong P.G.T. (re-elected), H. S. Alpass P.G.S.E. (re-appointed), Dr. S. J. McGeorge P.G.S.N., W. Sharp P.G. Soj., R. Dodgson, P.G.A. Soj., J. Holland P.G. 2nd A. Soj., T. Nevett P.G.S.B., J. T. Callow P.G.St.B., H. Nelson P.G.D.C. (re-appointed), J. Skeaf P.G.O., J. Wainwright P.G.S., and P. Ball P.G. Janitor (re-elected). On the motion of Comp. T. Wylie, it was resolved to vote £25 from the funds of the Provincial Grand Chapter towards the Masonic contribution from West Lancashire in aid of the restoration of Chester Cathedral, and it was further agreed that a recommendation should be sent by the Prov. G. Superintendent, in the name of the P.G. Chapter, to all the Chapters in the Province to supplement that amount by subscriptions.—This was all the business of importance.

An especial Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons was immediately afterwards held in the Lodge room of the Hall, at which Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Dep. G.M. of England, R.W.P.G.M. West Lancashire, presided, for the purpose of considering a letter which had been received from the Rev. E. Deacle, precentor of Chester Cathedral, with reference to the proposed contribution by the Freemasons of West Lancashire towards the restoration of Chester Cathedral. There was an attendance of upwards of 200 brethren, comprising a strong representation of past and present P.G. Officers, W.M.'s, P.M.'s and Officers from the Lodges in the Division. The P.G.M. explained that at the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge a letter was read from Mr. Deacle in reference to this matter, but it was then thought desirable to postpone the consideration of the matter, in consequence of the brethren being then engaged in raising money for the Benevolent Institution. Since that time he had received a letter from Mr. Deacle, and he (Lord Skelmersdale) had taken it upon himself to promise that the Masons in that province would present a sedilla to the Cathedral, which would cost about £450. He thought this a much more appropriate presentation from the Masons than the pavement or coranna, the other two things which had been suggested. Bro. R. Wylie P.P.G.J.D. then moved that the sum of £100 be voted from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge towards the presentation of a sedilla to the Cathedral. The motion was seconded by Bro. Deacle, P.G.J.W. Several brethren opposed the vote on the ground that there were members of different creeds connected with the Lodges who might not sympathise in the movement, and also because the Province of West Lancashire embraced more than one diocese, which might as well claim aid of this kind in cathedral restoration. Bro. H. S. Alpass P.G. Sec., in supporting the motion for the vote, pointed out that amongst the 4,400 Freemasons in the Province of West Lancashire no fewer than 3,200 were resident in the diocese of Chester. With regard to the objection raised as to the different creeds to be found in the Masonic body, he stated as the result of a long experience that the clergymen of the Church of England were almost the only ministers who joined the Order, a fact which he considered a complete answer to the repeated charges of irreligion which had been made against Freemasonry. After some further discussion, the motion was carried by an overwhelming majority; and it was also resolved that the P.G.M. should recommend the members of private Lodges within his province to supplement the vote of the Provincial Grand Lodge. Lord Skelmersdale intimated his intention of subscribing £25 towards the object. After £55 had been voted for relief and assistance in the education of deceased Freemasons' children, the proceedings of the special meeting terminated.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

THE ROYAL ORIENTAL ORDER OF SIKHA
AND THE SAL B'HAI.

AN Ashayana of the Royal Oriental Order was held at Kensington on Wednesday, the 12th April. One of the Sponsors presided, and was supported by one of the Censors and other members of the Order. The keys were passed to regulate the present year, and much important business connected with the interior organisation of the Order was arranged. It was ordered: That facilities should be given for meetings of the Order on foreign stations, and that greater powers should be created for the development of certain portions of the Order. A committee of seven was appointed for the adjustment of various important points, and the measures to be adopted in reference to the return of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. from the ancient seat of the Order were fully discussed. The offices of Historical Interpreter and Geometrician were confirmed; after which the Ashayana was closed.

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INSTALLATION OF H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,

Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

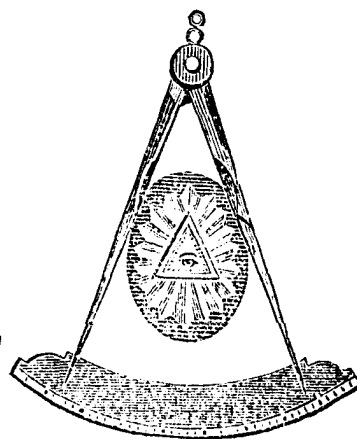
HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28TH OF APRIL LAST,
IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By Bro. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.W. No. 1201.



Application for Circulars and for all particulars to be made to the

ROYAL MASONIC INSTALLATION GALLERY COMPANY, 213 REGENT STREET LONDON, W.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

AND

THE COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF LIMERICK, M.W. GRAND MARK MASTER
MASON.

THE RT. HON. LORD SKELMERSDALE, R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MARK
MASTER MASON.

A MOVEABLE GRAND LODGE will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol, on Friday, the 25th inst., at Half-past Three o'clock precisely.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Bristol will be constituted in due form.

Bro. W. A. P. Powell will be installed as R.W. Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason of Bristol, by the M.W.G.M.M.M.

The articles in the Book of Constitution having reference to the attendance of Grand Officers do not apply to this meeting.

A banquet will be provided at the Montagu Tavern, at Half-past Five o'clock. Tickets, 10s 6d each, including Dessert and Waiters.

It is particularly requested that Tickets for the Banquet be applied for from Bro. WILLIAM HODGES, Rose Villa, Stapleton-road, Bristol, not later than Monday, the 24th instant.

By command,

OFFICE: 2 Red Lion Square,
Holborn, London, W.C.

FREDERICK HINGKES, P.G.J.W.
Grand Secretary.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

IN compliance with a requisition received in accordance with rule 8, a Special General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Tuesday, the 25th day of April 1876, at Three o'clock in the afternoon precisely, to consider the propriety of altering Law IV., page 12 of the Rules and Regulations by substituting the figures £10 for £36; and Law IV., page 13, by substituting the figures £32 for £28, and further to consider any proposition or motion which may then be brought forward to carry into effect the proposed alterations.

OFFICE: 4 FREEMASONS' HALL,
London, W.C., 15th April 1876.

By order,

JAMES TERRY,
Secretary.

THE LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

THE CLUB PREMISES, SITUATE
101 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET,

ARE NOW BEING FITTED UP, AND WILL

SHORTLY BE OPENED TO THE MEMBERS.

THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, now payable, is available to 1st May 1877, and is fixed at—£33s for Town Members, i.e., Members residing within twenty miles of the Club, and £1 11s 6d for Country Members, without entrance fee. Members incur no liability beyond their subscription. None but Freemasons are eligible for Membership.

THE NEXT ELECTION OF MEMBERS will be held on 27th April, after which date it is anticipated that it will be necessary to impose an Entrance Fee, and raise the Annual Subscriptions—upwards of 500 Brethren having already joined.

FORMS FOR APPLICATION for Membership may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Offices of the LONDON MASONIC CLUB COMPANY LIMITED, 37 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

JOHN A. LATHBURY, Secretary.

A MONUMENTAL WORK.

NOW IN PREPARATION.

HISTORY OF EVERY LODGE UNDER THE GRAND LODGE
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

Will be Edited by a distinguished Grand Officer.

In a work of this magnitude, the kind co-operation of all Brethren who are in possession of facts not generally known, will be invaluable, and thankfully acknowledged.

SPENCER AND CO., 23a GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

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

THE GRAND FESTIVAL will be held on Wednesday, 26th April 1876, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London.

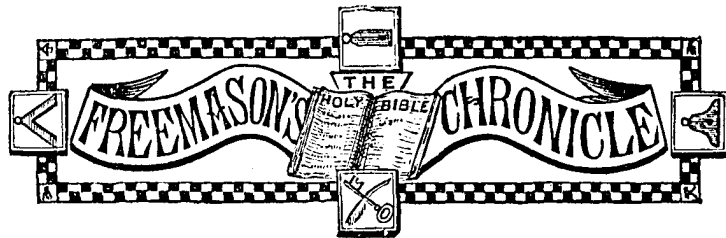
Tickets may be obtained of the Grand Stewards, but no tickets will be issued after 4 o'clock on the day preceding the Festival.

Dinner at half-past six o'clock precisely.

The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. Kuhe, G. Org.; Brethren must appear in full Masonic Craft Clothing.

CHARLES J. MORGAN,

Hon. Sec. Board of Grand Stewards.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE Queen is still enjoying her holiday at Coburg, and has received the visit of the Emperor William, who arrived on Tuesday afternoon. Nor, in spite of the dismal anticipations of the loyal Mr. Anderson, have we as yet heard of the British Constitution having fallen out of gear by reason of her Majesty's absence. Perhaps it may be a consolation to the honourable member for Glasgow, however, to know that the Queen started on her return journey on Wednesday, and will reach Windsor this afternoon; while his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is slowly making his way home from his Indian tour; that he has already reached and been heartily received at Gibraltar, and that grand preparations are being made at Portsmouth and in London to give him a splendid and cordial welcome on his reaching England. At Gibraltar, his reception was magnificent, and differed so far from all previous receptions that among those who greeted him was one of his brothers, his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. In other respects his visit to Gibraltar resembled his visits to other cities and towns. There were, of course, royal salutes, dinners, balls, banquets, illuminations, and the like. One only feature deserves particular notice. The Prince laid the foundation-stone of the New Market with the usual Masonic ceremonial, in the presence of a large and enthusiastic crowd of spectators, and expressed himself highly gratified at meeting so many of the brethren on so interesting an occasion. It is arranged that the Prince shall visit Seville and Madrid, to which latter city he has been invited by the young king Alfonso. He was to start on Thursday, accompanied by his brother, the Duke of Connaught, who is to return to England with him, and thence will reach Lisbon on the 1st proximo. As regards the collection of animals which his Royal Highness made in India, preparations are already being made for their reception at the Zoological Gardens. They number, it is reported, somewhere about 150, and include elephants, tigers, leopards, bears, two wild dogs and a wild cat, an

ichneumon, zebus, deer, antelopes, monkeys, ostriches, and different kinds of fowl, pheasants, partridges, and pigeons, and a Cashmerian blackbird.

Considering all things, Easter has passed away more agreeably than could have been expected. We ought, perhaps, to apologise to our readers for referring again this week to the weather, but unhappily, references of this kind are almost unavoidable, especially when there are holidays in the case. Thursday of last week was one of the dreariest and most miserable days conceivable, even in this miserable climate of ours. The morning of Good Friday broke most inauspiciously, but as the day advanced, the weather condescended to brighten somewhat, and the holiday folk were consequently not wholly deprived of their holiday. The Alexandra Palace offered as its principal attraction a Grand Sacred Music Festival, with Mr. Sims Reeves as leading *artiste*, and over twenty thousand people flocked thither in the hope of hearing the great English tenor. Nor were they disappointed, Mr. Reeves was in excellent voice, and delighted the vast audience, who redemanded his third and last song—an air from the *Messiah*. Previous to this concert the visitors were entertained with music, the bands of the Coldstream, Grenadier, and 2nd Life Guards being present. In the evening a Second Concert of Sacred Music was given in the concert room by the Welsh Choral Union and Band of Harps, under the direction of Mr. John Thomas, harpist to the Queen. After sunset the Palace was illuminated and presented a very animated appearance. The Crystal Palace offered similar attractions, and drew an equally large attendance of visitors, the number of those who paid, over and above the season ticket holders, being close on twenty thousand. Here, too, a part of the musical entertainment was furnished by military bands, those of the Horse Guards, Artillery, and Scotch Fusilier Guards being present, in addition to the full band of the company. Here, too, a Sacred Concert was provided, Mesdames Lemmens-Sherrington and Patey being the principal Soloists. At the Royal Albert Hall, Handel's Oratorio of the *Messiah* was given by the Royal Albert Choral Society, the principal singers being Mesdames Lemmens-Sherrington and Patey and Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Barnby conducting, and Mr. Willing presiding at the Organ. At Lillie Bridge, came off the Cumberland and Westmoreland Wrestling Society's Sports, formerly held at the Agricultural Hall. There was quite an average attendance of spectators, though the sport is said not to have been up to the average of former years. A Wrestler named Atkinson, of Northworth, won the first prize both in the Light and Middle Weight Contests, and was very nearly securing the same honour in the All Weights Contest, but his opponent Ivinson, of Baldeak, was far too heavy a man for him to cope with successfully. In addition there were some pole jumping, and a 440 yards handicap, run in heats, the winner of the final being Cash (38 yards), time 51½ seconds.

Easter Monday may also be written down a success. The weather was inviting enough to attract the holiday-makers out in their thousands and tens of thousands. The Crystal Palace, with its Grand Spectacular Burlesque, drew over sixty thousand visitors, who fed and rejoiced themselves to their hearts' content the whole day long. The rival institution at Muswell Hill drew a still larger number to witness the Grand Easter Spectacle of Turco the Terrible, the performances of the Jackley Troupe, Broeckmann's Circus from Berlin, and the other entertainments provided. Cremorne, North Woolwich, the Music Halls, and the other places of public amusement, each and every of them offered as varied and tempting a programme as the resources of their several establishments would permit. In fact, all the world and his wife took advantage of the Bank Holiday and went pleasuring; and all the world and his wife already show symptoms of recovery from the very severe ordeal in the way of eating, drinking, and travelling, to which they were obliged to submit. The Volunteers, too, who went down to Tring and had a field-day and the usual march past, appear to have spent their holiday very satisfactorily. It may be questioned if they are any wiser for the evolutions they performed, which, according to all accounts, appear to have been distinguished by a considerable amount of blundering; battalions firing into each other at short range without rhyme or reason, and the new formation being dispensed with in favour of the old system. Still the revival of this review marks an epoch in the history of volunteering, and we trust it may be repeated regularly, as of old, on future

Easter Mondays. The credit of the revival is assigned by common consent to the zeal and energy of Lord Ranelagh, who commanded one of the brigades. Nor were these the only occurrences that marked Easter Monday. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs went in State to Christ's Church, Newgate-street, for the purpose of hearing the annual Spital Sermon, which this year was preached by the Bishop of Exeter. In the evening the usual Easter banquet was held at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor being specially honoured by the presence of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, who returned thanks for the toast of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family. The banquet was served in the Egyptian Hall, and among the two hundred and sixty guests present were a number of the Aldermen and leading citizens of London. We may mention here that the following day, the Christ Hospital Boys, according to ancient custom, went in procession to the Mansion House, where they were regaled by the Lord Mayor with buns and wine, each boy being presented with a coin of the realm, differing in value according to his rank in the school.

Outside London, Easter appears to have passed pleasantly enough, except in Limerick, where the Nationalists and the Home-rulers seem to have devoted Monday to the national pastime of breaking heads. Messrs. Isaac Butt and O'Shaughnessy were to have addressed their constituents on that day. Accordingly a procession, headed by a band, was formed, and proceeded to the O'Connell statue, where Mr. Butt and his colleague proposed to give an account of their Parliamentary stewardship. But the extreme Nationalists, the remnant of the Fenian conspiracy, had determined otherwise. These are a small but resolute body, and having armed themselves with bludgeons and other objectionable weapons, met the procession on its way, and at once made a tremendous attack on the band, who were well belaboured, while their instruments, especially the big drum, were damaged or destroyed, and the banners were torn and otherwise damaged. A considerable number of persons were very seriously injured, but the Nationalists being outnumbered were at length driven from the ground, and the two members essayed to address the multitude, but their speeches were quite inaudible. A number of arrests have been made, among them a man named Daly, who has, on more than one occasion recently, proved himself an able organiser. Many of the wounded are in hospital, the injuries in several cases being reported dangerous. Anticipating a renewal of the disturbance on Tuesday, the authorities, both military and civil, made the necessary preparations. The soldiery were under arms all night, twenty rounds of ball cartridge being served out to each man. The constabulary also were fully armed, those from the outlying districts being called in. No further disturbances arose, though the excitement throughout the city was very great. This, and the march of Kenealy's "ragged rascals" to hold a demonstration in Hyde Park, are the only unseasonable events that have occurred this Eastertide.

Mr. Dion Boucicault, playwright and actor, is again bestirring himself about the Fenian prisoners. On Tuesday, in various parts of the metropolis, a number of printed bills, with a black or mourning border, appeared, with the signature at foot of "Dion Boucicault." We have no desire to say harsh things of the Fenians or any other misguided political individuals. But the country has all through endorsed the sentences passed on these disturbers of the public peace—two of them, it seems, were accessories to the murder of Sergeant Brett, at Manchester. We commend to Mr. Boucicault's notice the old adage, "The cobbler to his last." Let him stick to his acting, and leave politics to politicians. His present action is likely to bring upon him the contempt of decent people, rather than fame. If he is anxious to recruit a waning popularity let him direct his sympathy to worthier objects. Heaven knows there are many in all parts of the country who sorely need it, and something more substantial besides. Let him leave treason-felons to the punishment that is their due.

The police have succeeded in tracing the murderer of the Blackburn girl, Emily Hollands. A barber of that town, named Fish, has been arrested, and a portion of the unhappy girl's remains found in the chimney of his shop. Fish has since confessed that he committed the foul crime. The tramp Taylor, arrested on suspicion, has been released from custody. Another mysterious death has occurred at Brompton. A lady by the name of Portis was found

dead in her bed, and a quantity of jewellery she was known to have in the room has disappeared. It is believed she died of suffocation from chloroform. A man named Wallace and his wife are said to be concerned in the matter, and the inquest has been adjourned till Wednesday next, in order that a post mortem examination might be made of the stomach, and that the police may have time to make inquiries, and trace the persons alleged to be implicated.

The contest for the Public Schools Racquet Cup has resulted in the victory of Harrow, who thus scores a fifth success over all its rivals. The contestants were Harrow, Eton (winner, last year), Winchester, Cheltenham, Marlborough, and Haileybury. In the first match Harrow defeated Haileybury. Eton was then pitted against Winchester, and won somewhat easily. In the struggle between Cheltenham and Marlborough the latter proved the victor by four games to two. On Tuesday Eton defeated Marlborough, Harrow having drawn a bye, and then the final struggle was fought out between the great rival blues, Eton and Harrow, the result being, as we have stated, a victory for Harrow.

A new Hamlet has appeared at Drury Lane, Signor Rossi having undertaken to enact the character. We have not seen the performance, but to judge from the accounts we have read, we should imagine his impersonation was a complete failure. The other interesting news in the theatrical world is the production of a version of Tennyson's *Queen Mary* at the Lyceum, and the addition to our metropolitan theatres of the Royal Aquarium Theatre, Westminster, which has been licensed by the Lord Chamberlain to Mr. Stephen Coleman, and was opened on Saturday with "Jo," the theatrical rendering of Dickens's *Bleak House*. The National Anthem and a congratulatory address from the pen of Mr. Clement W. Scott preceded the regular performance. As regards the Italian Opera, the performances at the Royal Italian, Covent Garden, have been attractive as usual, but no special comment seems necessary. Next Saturday, Her Majesty's, Drury Lane, inaugurates its season, the opera for the opening night being Gounod's *Taust*, in which Madame Christine Nilsson will sustain the part of Margherita. Bro. Sir Michael Costa will resume the direction of the orchestra, while that highly popular favourite Mdlle. Titiens will re-appear as one of the *prime donne*. The programme includes only two revivals, of *Medea* and of Rossini's *Othello*, but the announcements are of a character to satisfy the most exacting *habitué*. We wish Bro. Mapleson a successful career during the coming season.

Owners of valuable dogs in and around the metropolis are becoming seriously alarmed by the numerous cases of poisoning which have lately occurred. It is evident that a gang of wanton ruffians are working systematically, and the death of many valuable animals is already recorded. Rewards are offered amounting, in the aggregate, to somewhere about £350, but as yet no clue to the perpetrators of these outrages has been found. We can easily understand that dog-stealing may be a profitable occupation, as is evidenced by the well known story of the dog fancier, who refused to sell a lady one of his pets on the ground that she intended taking it with her into some remote part of the country; but that any good can come of dog-poisoning seems incomprehensible.

Several members of Parliament have been availing themselves of the Easter holidays to address their constituents, or one, or more sections of the public. Of the failure of Mr. Butt and his colleague to make themselves heard, we have already spoken. In England, however, our M.P.'s have been less noisily received. Mr. Lowe, for instance, made a long speech at Retford, on Monday, the occasion being a banquet to Mr. Bristowe, the defeated Liberal candidate at the recent election, and the subject the present state of the Liberal Party. The same day, Mr. Wheelhouse, one of the Conservative members for Leeds, addressed the Wibsey Conservative Association, and congratulated his audience on the progress made, thus far, in public business, during this Session; while the Speaker was very warmly received at the Wisbech Mechanics' Institute Conversazione, and spoke at considerable length on "Great Powers," these being not what are ordinarily understood by the Great Powers, but powers which are even greater still, such as public opinion, religion, the press, steam and electricity, wealth, &c., &c.

At a meeting, on Tuesday, of the Statistical Society, Mr. Chubb read a highly interesting and important paper,

on "The Supply of Gas to the Metropolis," pointing out the quantity of gas consumed, the coal used in manufacture, the amount of share and loan capital raised by the united Companies, the maximum rate of dividend paid, and a mass of other details connected with the introduction and progressive use of gas as a lighting power. He also traced the history of the leading Gas Companies, and contrasted the cost to the English consumer with the amount paid in other countries. A discussion followed, in which Professor Leone Levi and others took part, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Chubb brought the meeting to a close.

An accident that might have been attended with far more serious consequences, occurred, on Monday, to Mr. Simmons, an aeronaut, who, in company with Lieut. Bailey, of the 27th Regiment, made a balloon ascent, on Monday, from the Botanic Gardens, Belfast. The weather was very hazy, and when some ten miles had been traversed, an attempt was made to descend, the clouds being very near the ground; the balloon, however, came in contact with a house, and the occupants were very much shaken. Immediately afterwards, Lieut. Bailey dropped from the car some ten feet, and escaped injury. The balloon then reascended, but on the valve being a second time opened, the car, in its descent, struck against a wall, and Mr. Simmons was flung violently to the ground. The balloon then sailed off, and has not been heard of since. A reward, however, is offered for its recovery. Mr. Simmons is much bruised and shaken, but not otherwise seriously injured.

Whether Polo will be ever firmly established as an English sport, is a question we have no intention of discussing. That it has attained a high degree of popularity is certain, and as the Emperor of Germany has invited a number of the best English players over to Berlin, with a view to introducing it as a military pastime, its present popularity will, doubtless, go on increasing. On Monday and Tuesday, a grand meeting was held near Brighton. On the former day two teams of the Scots Greys, respectively captained by Colonel Nugent and Mr. M'Clintock Bunbury, contended, the result being in favour of the latter, by two goals to none. Two Polo pony races were also held, the victory in each being secured by Captain Farquhar. On Tuesday a match was played between the Scots Greys and the 12th Lancers, and as the former had three of their best men absent, the Lancers obtained a somewhat easy victory. A pony race, won by Mr. Hippsley's No Name, was also run, and there were sundry pigeon matches in the shooting inclosure.

The news from the East of Europe is even less satisfactory than it was last week. No end of "shaves" are flying about, and it is even said that Montenegro has joined the insurgents, but this seems at least doubtful. The state of public feeling is very unsettled in Servia, and there is no doubt this principality is eager to extend the present sphere of the contest. Very hard fighting is reported to have taken place between the insurgents and the Turks in the neighbourhood of Nicksich. The insurgents claim to have repulsed their enemy with heavy loss; but, on the other hand, Moukhtar Pacha has telegraphed to Constantinople that he has had six days hard fighting, and inflicted heavy losses on the insurgents, though the latter were twice his strength, and openly assisted by the Prince of Montenegro. The object of Moukhtar's expedition was to victual Nicksich, and according to his statement, he succeeded in conveying provisions to the small port of Presjeka, within a three hours march from that place. But whatever the real state of the case, it is evident the continuance of the insurrection is viewed, generally throughout Europe, with great alarm, or the European Bourses would not exhibit so much depression. There has been a congress in Paris of Roman Catholic Committees from all the departments of France, at which the Archbishop of Paris delivered an address which appears to have given great satisfaction to his hearers. The dismissal of a number of prefects who differ in political opinions with the majority in the new Legislative Assembly, does not seem to have given satisfaction, either to the Conservative minority or the Gambettists. The former are angry that any changes should have been made by the Government, while the latter are dissatisfied because more of these municipal officers have not received their *congé*. The proposal, that the Austrian National Bank should join in establishing a national bank for Hungary, has been rejected by the Committee of the former, to which it was referred. No final decision has been arrived at in connection with the revision of the Austro-Hungarian Union

Treaty, but the questions at issue are expected to be settled shortly. The Emperor and Empress of Brazil have arrived in the United States, and on Monday paid a visit to the Academy of Music at New York. The inquiry into the Emma Mine and the whisky frauds is still in progress. The news from other countries has no special interest.

The sixth annual ball in aid of the City and Metropolitan Police Orphanage will take place on Thursday, the 4th of May, at the Cannon-street Hotel, under the patronage of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Knight, Bro. Sheriff Bressit, Col. Fraser K.C.B., Major Bowman, Bro. Lieut. F. Kent C.C., and an efficient committee and stewards. The ball-room arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. T. Butler.

The Domestic Chapter of Instruction, which was established many years since, under the superintendence of the late Comp. Dr. Ladd, who, in his day, was recognised as one of the best Preceptors of R.A. Masonry, has lately been in abeyance, but was resuscitated on Wednesday last, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, We Comp. John Boyd P.Z. occupied the chair, and he was supported by a goodly attendance. Companions of the Royal Arch at the West End, should avail themselves of the advantages for Instruction which the re-establishment of this Chapter of Instruction now affords.

A Moveable Grand Lodge of M.M.M. will be held by the M.W.G.M.M.M. the Earl of Limerick at Freemasons' Hall, Bristol, on Friday next, the 28th instant, at 3.30 p.m., for the purpose of Constituting the Provincial Grand Lodge of M.M.M. of Bristol, and installing Bro. William A. F. Powell as Provincial G.M.M. A banquet will be afterwards held at the Montague Tavern, at 5.30 p.m. Tickets, wine, &c., inclusive, half-a-guinea. Those who wish to be present at the latter are requested to apply for tickets, not later than Monday, to Bro. William Hodges, acting Provincial G.S., Rose-villa, Stapleton-road, Bristol.

Bro. W. J. Murlis, W.M. 1489, has been elected a Guardian of the Parish of Kensington; 4799 votes were polled for him.

On Wednesday, the 26th inst., the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire will meet at Nuncaton, presided over by the Right Hon. and Right Worshipful Bro. Lord Leigh, its zealous and popular chief, for the purpose of assisting to lay the foundation stone of a new church on the site of the old Abbey Church of that town. The W.M. of the Lodge of Antiquity, London, has very kindly consented to lend the mallet, of which our former Grand Master, *Sir Christopher Wren*, made use when performing a similar ceremony for St. Paul's Cathedral, to Lord Leigh for the occasion. The Abbey Lodge, No. 432, will do the honours; and we know that in course of the proceedings the claims of charity will certainly not be neglected by our brethren of Warwickshire.

The Phoenix Lodge, No. 914, at Port Royal, Jamaica, which was established specially for Naval and Military brethren on the station, has, we are glad to learn, completed a new convenient Temple or Masonic Hall. A warrant for the formation of a Royal Arch Chapter has also lately been granted to it. Masonry is still flourishing on the island, as in the days when our esteemed Bro. Dr. Robert Hamilton led the van.

To-morrow is St. George's Day, and accordingly our Annual Grand Festival will be held on Wednesday next, the 26th inst. In the absence of the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M., or Bro. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M., will preside, and invest the Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Grand Lodge will be opened at 5 p.m., and the customary banquet will be held in Freemasons' Hall at the hour of six. Our London Brethren are aware, of course, that by the Constitutions, no private Lodge in the metropolitan district is permitted to hold a Masonic feast on the day of the Grand Festival.

The opening of the grand hall of the Surrey Masonic Hall was celebrated by a ball, on Wednesday evening. A number of distinguished brethren, including Colonel Burdett, J. Boyd P.G.P., E. Clark, and others, were present, and about two hundred ladies and gentlemen. An ode, composed by Bro. Poynter, was recited in the course of the evening by Bro. G. J. Dawson. Dancing, to the music of Bro. Dan Godfrey's band, was continued to an early hour on Thursday morning. The ball was held on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

The usual Monthly Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, 19th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Bro. J. M. Clabon, P.G.D. President in the Chair, J. Nunn, P.G.S.B., S.V.P., J. Brett, P.G.P., J.V.P. Grants from the former meeting, amounting to £320, were confirmed; 33 new cases were relieved, to the amount of £452. Among those present were Bros. H. Bartlett, Hyde Pullen, J. Boyd, H. Massey, J. Smith, Griffiths Smith, W. Stephens, C. Hogard, H. Dicketts, S. May, B. Head, W. H. Myers, T. Kingston, H. W. Hemsworth, G. B. Gates, J. Younghusband, J. R. Foulger, J. Turner, J. J. Berry, A. R. Wade, G. Brooke, L. Jacobs, J. Pringle, J. J. Nelson, W. J. Murlis, J. H. Watts, W. Stuart, W. R. Marsh, H. Williams, W. B. Baxter, H. S. Goodhall, J. Hervey, H. G. Buss, W. Stuart, B. Swallow, Pendlebury, &c.

PRESENTATION TO DR. W. P. MILLS P.M., BY LODGE 376.

ON Wednesday evening, 19th April, a very gratifying presentation was made, at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, to Dr. W. P. Mills, who for many years has acted as Treasurer of the Perfect Friendship Lodge. The Lodge was well attended, amongst those present being the officers of the Lodge: Bros. J. H. Staddon W.M., H. Sidney S.W., A. Read J.W., H. Luff Secretary, J. G. Churchyard S.D., W. B. Jefferies J.D., W. T. Westgate D.C., W. Green I.G. Past Masters Bros. W. J. Jack, N. Tracy, J. A. Pettit, J. B. Fraser, A. Gamman, W. Spalding, W. A. Elliston. The British Union Lodge was represented by Bros. C. F. Long P.M., W. Boby P.M., A. D. George P.M. St. Luke's Lodge by Bros. W. Daking S.W., A. C. Barber P.M., &c., &c. The Prince of Wales Lodge by Bros. F. Bennett, W. Clark J.W., D. D. Steele, &c., &c. Amongst the members of the Perfect Friendship Lodge were Bros. F. Fisher, L. Callaway, T. Hooper, T. R. Elkington, A. Cannon, W. H. Spicer, S. R. Anness, R. Anness, W. R. Davis, H. G. Bishop, H. D. Harrison, &c., &c. The presentation consisted of an illuminated address, beautifully executed by Miss Tracy, together with a drawing-room clock and pair of ornaments, all enclosed under glass shades; the clock, an eight-day one, and the ornaments, are made of ormolu and enamel, and have medallions very richly painted, representing hunting scenes. The articles, which are valued at 40 guineas, were supplied by Bro. J. B. Fraser (Messrs. R. D. and J. B. Fraser), and were much admired by the brethren. The address was as follows:—

"To W. P. Mills, M.D., P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Suffolk.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—We, the Worshipful Master, Wardens, Past Masters, and Brethren of the Perfect Friendship Lodge of Freemasons, No. 376, beg your acceptance of the accompanying time-piece and ornaments as a slight token of the high estimation of the many valuable services rendered our Lodge, especially as Treasurer, during a period of 26 years.

"Wishing you long life and happiness,

"We subscribe ourselves,

"Yours fraternally."

(Here follow the signatures of the W.M. and present officers and Past Masters and Brethren of the Lodge.)

Upon a gilt plate within the shade of the clock was the following inscription:—"Presented by the Brethren of Lodge Perfect Friendship, No. 376, to W. P. Mills, M.D., P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Suffolk, as a mark of esteem, and in recognition of his services as Treasurer for 26 years." After the passing of two brethren and the initiation of Mr. W. Roe, the presentation was made by the W.M., Bro. J. H. Staddon, who in a most felicitous speech expressed the obligations the brethren were under to their worthy Treasurer for acting in that capacity for the long period of 26 years, and asked his acceptance of the scroll, ornaments, and time-piece. Bro. Mills suitably responded, and stated his inability to sufficiently express his thanks to the brethren for their handsome and unexpected presentation. The Lodge having been closed in due and ancient form, the brethren retired to the banqueting room, and about 50 sat down to supper.—*East Anglian Daily Times*.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Unfailing Restoratives.—When the climate, age, or hardships, have undermined the health, skin diseases are prone to arise and augment the existing weakness. Holloway's medicaments daily prove most serviceable even under the most untoward circumstances. This well known and highly esteemed unguent possesses the finest balsamic virtues, which soothe and heal without inflaming or irritating the most tender skin or most sensitive sore. Holloway's Ointment and Pills are infallible for curing bad legs, varicose veins, swelled ankles, and erysipelas. They have long been famed for their power of subduing glandular inflammations, local irritations, prickly heat, and that annoying eruption which frequently springs from neglecting out-door exercise.

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.

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SATURDAY, 22nd APRIL.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall.
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

MONDAY, 24th APRIL.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem, St. John's-square, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
183—Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate, E.C.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
1177—Tenby, Royal Assembly Rooms, Tenby, Pembroke.
R. A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
M. M. 148—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.

TUESDAY, 25th APRIL.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
186—Industry, The Restaurant, 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W.
205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel.
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, E.C.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.

253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle.
357—Apollo University, Masonic Hall, Oxford.
573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen.
1016—Elkington, Masonic Rooms, New-street, Birmingham.
1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton.
R. A. 103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
R. A. 823—Everton, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 26th APRIL.

Grand Festival, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1521—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover. (Instruction.)
996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk.
1039—St. John's, George Hotel, Lichfield.
R. A. 236—Zetland, Masonic Hall, York.

THURSDAY, 27th APRIL.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
13—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square, at 7. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1189—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
R. A. 217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.
106—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
214—Hope and Unity, White Hart Hotel, Romford.
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
966—St. Edward's Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford.
R. A. 57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Osborn-street, Hull.
R. A. 216—Sacred Delta, Masonic Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool.
R. A. 279—Fortitude, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester.

FRIDAY, 28th APRIL.

569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, Clay-road.
861—Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Islington, N.
933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 7.30. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, Herts.
R. A. 471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.

SATURDAY, 29th APRIL.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

WEDNESDAY.

301—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
1283—Ryburn, Private Rooms, Town Hall-street, Sowerby-bridge.

THURSDAY.

810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham.

FRIDAY.

R. A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
R. A. 212—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster.

SATURDAY.

1162—Wharfedale, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

MONDAY.

48—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead.

TUESDAY.

1167—Alnwick, Masque Hall, Market-place, Alnwick.
R. A. 91—De Lambton, Freemasons' Hall, Queen-street, Sunderland.

WEDNESDAY.

1119—St. Eode, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow.
M. M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THURSDAY.

1118—Fraternity, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road, Stockton-on-Tees.
R. A. 424—De Burgh, Freemasons' Hall, West-street, Gateshead.
R. A. 431—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields.

IRELAND.

MONDAY—795—Ashfield, Private Room, Cootehill, Co. Cavan.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—319—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexandra Hall, Cockburn-street.
R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John Fisherrow, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—392—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—102—St. Mark, 213 Buchanan-street,
103—Union and Crown, 170 Buchanan-street.
219—Star, 12 Trongate.
302—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.
511—Marie Stewart, Freemasons' Hall, Crosshill.
R. A.—122—Phetis, 35 St. James's-street.
TUESDAY—119—Neptune, 35 St. James's-street.
513—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Dalmuir.
R. A.—67—Ch. heiral, 24 Struthers-street.
R. A.—73—Caledonian of Unity, 170 Buchanan-street.
WEDNESDAY—510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
THURSDAY—Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow Quarterly Communication, 213 Buchanan-street.
570—Kennair, Freemasons' Hall, Springburn.
R. A.—117—Govan, Portland-Hall, Govan.
FRIDAY—R. A. 79—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.
153—Royal Arch, School-room, Pollockshaws.
347—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Rutherglen.
SATURDAY—R. A. 143—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Holytown.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

St. Mungo Encampment Knights Templar, Glasgow.

—The monthly meeting of this body was held on Monday, the 17th instant, in St. Mark's Hall, Sir Knight R. Bell E.C. presiding, assisted by Sir Knights Wheeler Prelate, H. J. Shields 33° Acting Recorder, C. McKenzie M., J. McLeish W., W. F. Shaw C.C., J. O. Park S.C., J. McDade J.C., J. B. Hardie Sentinel. A petition was presented from Comp. John De Neel, 2nd Principal of Chapter 122, who was decreed as a pilgrim, and afterwards created a squire of the Order, after which Sir Knights R. Bell E. Commander, and W. F. Shaw Deputy Commander or Generalissimo, were appointed as representatives of the Encampment, to proceed to the United States and take part in the expected Templar demonstration at Philadelphia and elsewhere at the Centennial Celebrations.

St. John's Lodge, No. 3 bis.—This Lodge met on Tuesday, the 18th instant, under the presidency of Bro. Nelson R.W.M. There was a large attendance of the members and visitors, amongst whom were Bros. J. Adams, from Canada, of Lodge 58, Dorie, Rev. Joseph Bain, of Acacia Lodge, No. 225. The work consisted of the raising of six brethren, which was done in the way that has raised the fame of St. John's.

Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73.—The installation meeting and regular Convocation of this Chapter was held on the 13th instant, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Comps. J. H. Batten M.E.Z., H. A. Dubois H. and M.E.Z. elect, J. W. Baldwin J. and H. elect, F. Walters P.G. 1st Assistant Middlesex, P.Z. S.E., and J. Mason J. elect. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes of the former Convocation were confirmed. Comp. W. Smeed then installed Comps. H. A. Dubois Z., J. W. Baldwin H., and J. Mason J. He then invested Comps. F. Walters P.Z. S.E., T. J. Sabine Treasurer, Loewenstark S.N., Cousins P.S., Adams 1st Asst., Parsons 2nd Asst., and Laing Janitor. Comp. W. Smeed, by the courtesy of the M.E.Z., then exalted Bros. H. Hand 1017, C. Parsons 77, H. Ireland 87, and C. J. Strome 498, in so able and perfect a manner that a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to him, and recorded on the minutes. A very elegant gold P.Z. jewel was presented to Comp. J. H. Batten, the retiring Z., for services rendered by him in that capacity during his year of office. The Chapter was then closed, and the usual banquet took place. The loyal and R.A. toasts followed, and some capital speeches were made. The Janitor's toast was given, and the Companions separated.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, 18th instant, at 170 Buchanan-street, when Bro. Wheeler passed Bros. Reid and Mitchell to the Fellow Craft degree, after which the R.W.M. raised three brethren to the sublime degree, in a very careful manner.

Thistle Lodge, No. 87.—This Lodge held a harmony meeting on Tuesday, the 18th instant, which was largely attended both by members and visitors. The singing and reciting were calculated to enhance the pleasure of any meeting, and would have done no injustice to professionals.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 37.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at the White Hart, College-street, Lambeth. Bros. B. Clegg W.M., C. Walker S.W., T. Ross J.W., J. G. Bond P.M. Treasurer, W. Stuart P.M. Secretary, A. Timothy S.D., C. Nott J.D., J. Skinner I.G., W. Robinson D.C., J. Janeway W.S. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Holland, Marshall, Grigg, Goodhall, Ashford and Duffield were passed to the 2nd degree; Bros. Sambell, Webb, Hirst, Quin, Wright, Birch and Doney were raised to the degree of Master Masons, and Messrs. Hancock, Bred, Alder, Evans and Coudry were initiated into the Order. The working was very perfectly rendered. The proposal for the removal of the Lodge will be discussed at a future meeting. The members so rapidly increase that the rooms

are not sufficiently commodious, and the committee appointed will report thereon. The Lodge was then closed.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday last, at Bro. Bell's Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C. Present—Bros. Turquand W.M., Reed S.W., Abell J.W., J. Constable Treasurer, F. Croaker S.D., Tollis-Steward, Walker I.G., Christopher Tyler; P.M. Bro. E. Gotthel Preceptor. Visitors—Bros. Thompson and Ellis. Business—The 3rd degree was worked by the W.M. in his usual eloquent style, to the intense satisfaction of all present, he also worked the whole of the sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Reed was elected W.M. for the following week, the meeting consisted of upwards of twenty-three brethren.

Bank of England Lodge, No. 263.—Met at the Albion Tavern, on Thursday, the 13th inst. Owing to the inclemency of the weather and other causes, there was not a very full muster. The Provincial Grand Organist of Middlesex was the only visitor. No business, other than the disposal of the votes to the Charities, came before the meeting.

Union Lodge, No. 332.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 17th instant, at 170 Buchanan-street, when Bro. McKirdy R.W.M. initiated one gentleman and raised a brother to the sublime degree.

Clyde Lodge, No. 408.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Friday, the 14th instant, for the purpose of initiating gentlemen into the Order. The work was well performed by the R.W.M., Bro. Harper. The third degree was afterwards conferred on a brother of this Lodge, and on one for the Lodge Kilwinning, No. 4, for which Bro. R. Prout, of No. 4, returned thanks.

Frederick Chapter of Unity, No. 452.—Having removed its quarters from Sutton, met at Croydon, on Tuesday, the 18th April. Bro. E. J. Harty was exalted. Most excellent Comp. James Glaisher performed the ceremony with that solemnity and efficiency which is so well known. Comp. Baber was installed into the chair of Z., and the proceedings terminated with a banquet and social enjoyment.

Polish National Lodge, No. 534.—On Thursday, the 13th instant, the Installation meeting of this Lodge was largely attended by members and visitors, amongst others Bros. Hyde Pullen P.S.G.B., J. B. Sorrell W.M. 176, F. Sumner Knyvett W.M. 1491, Sergeant P.M., and several others. The Lodge having been opened, the W.M., Bro. W. G. Moore, proceeded to raise Bro. W. Croucher, after which the Lodge was resumed to the 2nd degree, when Bro. F. Rath S.W. was presented to the W.M. for installation, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Moore in a masterly manner, calling forth unanimous expressions of approval from the brethren. Messrs. Brown, Hasledon and Jones were afterwards initiated by the W.M., and no other business offering the Lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Rath. The usual loyal and customary toasts having been responded to, the health of the W.M. was proposed by the I.P.M., and very cordially responded to by the brethren, the W.M. acknowledging the compliment in very graceful terms. The health of the Initiates was acknowledged by Bro. Brown. The W.M. then proposed the health of Bro. Moore, the I.P.M., and commented upon the able and impressive manner in which he had performed the ceremony of Installation. Bro. Moore, in responding, referred to the prosperous condition of the Lodge, and wished for the W.M. the same measure of success which had attended him during his year of office. Bro. Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B. and other visitors responded to the toast of the Visitors, expressing their favourable opinion of the working of the Lodge generally. The health of the Officers was then proposed, and the Tyler's toast having been duly honoured, the brethren separated, after the enjoyment of an exceedingly pleasant evening.

Dramatic Lodge, No. 571.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, on Wednesday, the 19th instant. The R.W.M. Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, H. W. Jackman S.W., William Sievwright J.W., W. Barbour Tr., D. Campbell Sec., J. Smyth S.D., J. B. Hardie Tyler. The R.W.M., in excellent style, initiated Mr. Walter Buchanan into the Order, and afterwards passed Bro. Connel to the Fellow Craft degree. There were a great many visitors present, including Bros. C. S. De Roslarten of Le Union de la Orient Bosphorus Lodge, John H. Sutcliffe of King Solomon Lodge, Australia, Allan C. Wylie P.P.G.S.B. Herts, James Adams 58, Doric, Canada, G. W. Wheeler 73, J. Lauchlan 87, J. Sherlock 212, J. M. Oliver S.W. 360, J. Boord 413, Wm. Phillips R.W.M. 506, J. Ferguson P.M. 543, J. Law P.M. 570, and Allan C. Bodge 869.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 360.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting, also the last of the season, on Thursday, the 13th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bros. W. H. Wallington W.M., Smith S.W. and Worsley J.W. pro tem, White S.D., Mason J.D., Dodson I.G., Gilchrist Tyler. Lodge opened in due form with prayer; the minutes of the last Lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Cole, Turner and Lipson having answered the usual questions, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. Silcock was passed to the second degree, after which the installation of Bro. H. Dallwood, W.M. elect (this being the second time of his occupying the chair) was proceeded with, the beautiful

ceremony being rendered by Bro. Wallington in such a manner as, if possible, to exceed any of his previous efforts; the ceremony being given in a clear and unhesitating style, proving the careful study bestowed by Bro. Wallington in committing it to memory. The newly installed W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follow:—Bros. Wallington I.P.M. and Treasurer, White S.W., Dodson J.W., Gittell P.M. Sec., Seymour Smith Org., Wiege, S.D., Worsley J.D., Dickens I.G., Senecle P.M. and Cheshire Stewards, Cull D.C., Gilchrist Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee was then read; it showed the Lodge to be in a prosperous condition, there being a good balance of cash in hand. Lodge was then closed in due form, when the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served up and attended to in Bro. Smith's well-known style. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to most heartily. The I.P.M. in proposing the health of the W.M. observed that he was in an enviable position on that particular occasion. Bro. Dallwood having previously occupied the chair, it needed no speech of his to inform the brethren of the many excellent qualities, both socially and Masonically, possessed by our present W.M. The health of the P.M.'s was then proposed, and the name of Bro. Wallington I.P.M. coupled therewith. The W.M. embraced the opportunity—when presenting him with the P.M. jewel, as also a testimonial on vellum—to congratulate him on his very successful year of office, also on the able manner in which he had conducted the duties of the Lodge. He hoped he might be spared many years to be with them, to render his valuable assistance. Bro. Wallington briefly returned thanks for the honours the brethren conferred upon him, and trusted the Lodge would continue to prosper, this he was sure would be the case with the aid of such promising officers as the W.M. had that evening selected. The health of the Visitors was then proposed, there being several present. Bro. Driscoll P.M., a very old Mason, who has on several occasions officiated as Installing Master, responded briefly, thanking the brethren of the Dalhousie Lodge for the hospitality and kindness he and other visitors always received at their hands. He expressed his great pleasure at seeing a member of the Lodge able for the future to dispense with his services as Installing Master; he should, however, always feel the same deep interest in their proceedings he hitherto had done. Several excellent songs were sung, by Bros. Seymour Smith, Farmer, Wiege, Dallwood, Wallington, Worsley, Dodson, &c., and a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close. The Tyler's toast being given, the brethren separated until the meeting in October next.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, 18th inst., at the Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney. Bros. Smith W.M., Perrin S.W., Cambridge J.W., Wiege S.D., Johnson I.G., Wallington Preceptor. Lodge opened in first and second degrees; Bro. Horsley, having answered the usual questions, was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the ceremony being rendered very impressive by the W.M. The Preceptor gave the traditional history, and the 3rd Section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Horsley. Bro. Perrin was unanimously elected W.M. for Tuesday, 2nd May, next Tuesday being the date for working the 15 sections, when Bro. Pinder will preside. Lodge closed in due form.

Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at the Grotto Hotel, Cross Deep, Twickenham. Bros. J. Hayward W.M., Johnson S.W., Wolgemuth J.W., T. Price S.D., Nicoll J.D., W. Platt P.M. Secretary, W. B. Woodman D.C., Cook I.G., Rohrs S., and P.M.'s W. Smeed, Waghorn and McIlwham. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed. Bro. Johnson, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented to the Lodge, and installed into the chair by Bro. W. Smeed P.M. P.G.W. Middlesex. The W.M. having been saluted, then invested his officers:—Bros. Wolgemuth S.W., T. Price J.W., W. Platt P.M. Secretary, Cook re-appointed S.D., W. B. Woodman J.D., Argyle I.G., Aston D.C., Rohrs S., Riley Tyler. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. W. Smeed P.M. for the able manner he had performed the ceremony of installation. The audit report was read and adopted. A telegram was received from the R.W. Col. Bardett P.G.M., regretting his inability to attend, on account of his military duties. The W.M. then, in appropriate terms, presented, in the name of the Lodge, to the retiring W.M. a very elegant gold and artistically designed P.M. jewel, with the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. J. Hayward P.M. in testimony of the great zeal and ability displayed by him during the year he presided as W.M. 12th April 1876." The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Powell. The W.M. gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. J. Hayward I.P.M. proposed the toast of the W.M., whom he characterised as one able to carry out the requirements of the chair. This was duly responded to, Bros. W. Smeed and McIlwham returned thanks for the toast of the P.M.'s. Bros. Lover J.W. 1158 and S. Jewell 1559 returned thanks for the Visitors, who were Bros. J. Wright W.M. New Preston Lodge, Cousins Etonian Lodge 209, and Stevens. The toast of the Wardens and Officers was given, and responded to, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very delightful evening, in spite of the unpropitious state of the weather. Bros. W. Smeed, W. Platt, McIlwham contributed to the harmony.

Harrogate and Claro Lodge, No. 1001.—This Lodge held its meeting, on 14th April, at Harrogate. This being the annual installation, the following brethren were placed in the chairs: Bros. T. T. Powell W.M., Geo. Renton jun. S.W., M. Perkin J.W., J. Stephenson S.D., M. Blume J.D., J. England P.M. D.C., S. Sugden Steward, A. Hiscoe I.G., W. Hodgson Tyler, J. H. Matthews Secretary, R. Ackrill P.M. Treasurer, Rev. R. Dyson P.M. Chaplain. Visitors Bros. H. Crooke, Prov. Grand Secretary Durham, Phillips P.M., Castle.

ford (installing master). A portrait of the M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was presented to the Lodge by Bro. Paul Fruh J.D. on his retirement from office.

Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 12th of April, at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present—Bros. E. Margrett S.W. acting W.M., W. P. Ivey P.M. Sec. acting S.W., A. Welch J.W., J. Newman Steward acting Sec., J. T. Stransom Treas. and acting J.D., W. G. Flanagan S.D., J. Early Danks I.G., W. Hemmings Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. G. Chancellor, J. T. Brown. Members Bros. Robinson, Simonds, Hukins, White, Bailey, Blackwell, Phillips, and Rolfe. Visitors Bros. J. F. Brown Temperance 739, Heathcote Pythagoras 447, formerly 654. Business—The Secretary read a letter from the W.M., stating that he was unavoidably absent on urgent business. The S.W. opened the Lodge in the first degree. The minutes of the last regular Lodge and joint Lodge of Emergency with that of 414, were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. Lieut.-Col. Heathcote as a joining member, who was declared to be unanimously elected, and was admitted as a member. Bro. F. W. White being a candidate to be passed to the second degree, answered, in a very satisfactory manner, the usual questions, and retired to be prepared. The S.W. vacated the chair in favour of the Secretary, who opened the Lodge in the second degree, and passed Bro. White to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. T. Simonds being a candidate to be raised to the third degree, replied satisfactorily to the usual questions, and retired to be prepared. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, when the Secretary vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Brown P.M., who raised Bro. Simonds to the sublime degree of M.M. in his usual correct and impressive manner. The Lodge was resumed to the second degree. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree. The S.W., Bro. Margrett, proposed and the acting W.M. seconded, "That this Lodge do join with the Lodge of Union, 414, in providing accommodation for the forthcoming Provincial Grand Lodge in May, and that a sum not exceeding a moiety of five pounds be applied from the funds of the Lodge for that purpose," which was carried. The Secretary was requested to read a letter from the Chaplain, asking for vote of money by the Lodge to be applied to the fund of his Stewardship at the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The acting W.M. stated that a vote had already been passed for a second forty guineas to the Institution, but the payment of it was deferred in consequence of the insufficiency of funds; but now, from the balance sheet to December 1875 (of which each brother has had a copy), which showed a surplus of £53 odd, with about £25 subscriptions due at Christmas last unpaid, he thought it an excellent opportunity to vote the required amount to make the W.M. for the time being a Vice-President, which would be thirty instead of forty guineas. The Provincial Grand Lodge having apportioned ten guineas of their Charity fund to the Grey Friars Lodge, Bro. Chancellor P.M., Provincial Grand Treasurer, seconded the proposition. A long discussion ensued; amendments were proposed, but not seconded, when it was put to the vote, and declared to be carried. The S.W., Bro. Margrett, protested against the vote, and desired that his protest may be recorded on the minutes. The labours of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed according to ancient form.

Macdonald Lodge, No. 1216.—This Lodge met at the Head Quarters of the 1st Surrey Rifles, at Camberwell, on the evening of Thursday, the 13th inst., when there were present:—Bros. J. Hepburn Hastie W.M., M. S. Larham S.W., James Stevens P.M. as J.W., J. W. Carnell S.D., C. Fountain J.D., F. Cozens Org., W. C. Hale I.G., also P.M.'s Bros. W. J. Messenger, G. Waterall, S. H. Wagstaff; and Bros. Captain A. Styan Treas., J. J. Curtis Sec., Holland, Golding, Bradley, Jarman, Clay, Edmonstone, Yonge, Grant, &c., &c. The Lodge was opened in the three degrees, and Bro. Yonge was raised as M.M. The Lodge having been closed down to the 1st degree, Mr. Christopher T. Dunford was introduced and initiated. The ceremonies were performed in a most admirable and careful manner, and with full musical service, to the expressed delight of the visitors and members. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, and the unanimous vote of the Lodge was recorded in favour of Bro. M. S. Larham; Bro. Captain Styan was also unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Grant, who, it was observed with regret, looked scarcely recovered from his late indisposition, was in like manner re-elected Tyler. The W.M. having referred to the flourishing condition of the Lodge funds, proposed that a sum of 40 guineas be voted in equal moieties to the Masonic Institutions for Boys and Girls, the respective amounts being placed on the lists of Bro. Waterall P.M., who will represent the Lodge at the ensuing Festival of the Girls' School, and Bro. Wagstaff P.M., who will fulfil a similar office at the Boys' School Festival. The W.M.'s proposition was carried *nem con.* On the proposition of Bro. Stevens P.M., who spoke on behalf of the P.M.'s present in terms of high appreciation of the eminent services of Bro. Hastie during his year of office, and the perfection with which he had carried out the ritual of the Order, the P.M. jewel of the Lodge, of the value of ten guineas, was unanimously voted for presentation to that worthy brother on his retiring from the chair of K.S. Bro. Wagstaff P.M. stated that a further life governorship would be constituted during the ensuing week, and that the society formed in connection with the Lodge for promoting the interests of the Masonic Charities was progressing most satisfactorily. The committee for Audit was next appointed, and the business terminated. The Lodge was closed with musical service. Refreshment followed labour, and at an early hour the brethren, amongst whom were the following visitors, viz., Bros. C. G. Cobham W.M. 957, E. W. Fisher 700, Fullager 14, Greenway 874, Pennewar 1329, and Middlemass of the Sphinx Lodge, separated.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 19th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. W.M., G. Harrison S.W. and W.M. elect, Southwood J.W., Hollingsworth S.D., J. S. Ward J.D., G. King jun. P.M. Secretary, Goodacre I.G., G. King sen. P.M. D.C., C. J. Speight Tyler, and Bros. Foot, Beeton, H. Condy, Mason, Robins, Spender, Salmon, Portway, Hodgkinson, &c. The Lodge was opened at half-past three, and the minutes of the former meeting and emergency were read and confirmed. Letters of apology were read from several brethren, distinguished in the Order, regretting their inability to be present. Bros. Mason, Fitch and Condy were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Dr. Abbott Smith, late No. 12, was elected a joining member, and Messrs. Sherward and James were duly initiated into the Order, the ceremonies being rendered by the W.M. in his accustomed perfect and impressive manner. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Harrison S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge and installed into the chair by Bro. G. King jun. P.M. The customary salutes having been given, the W.M. invested his officers:—Bros. Jabez Hogg I.P.M. Treasurer, G. King jun. P.M. Sec., Southwood S.W., Hollingsworth J.W., J. S. Ward S.D., Goodacre J.D., Spalding I.G., King P.M. D.C., and Speight Tyler. The Installing Master gave the concluding addresses, and was deservedly complimented at the conclusion of the ceremony. Bro. Seymour Smith conducted the musical arrangements, and added solemnity to the proceedings. The report of the Audit Committee was read and adopted, a sum of £10 10s was placed on the list of the S.W., who is a Steward for the next Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School. A letter of condolence was sent to the relatives of a deceased P.M. A notice of motion was given that a committee be formed to carry out the necessary arrangements for a summer banquet. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Inns of Court Hotel, where they partook of a banquet, superintended by Bro. D. Sherwell, that gave great satisfaction. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the usual speeches of the Wardens, Officers, &c. During the evening the W.M. presented, in the name of the Lodge, a very elegant P.M. jewel, with suitable inscription, to the retiring W.M., Bro. Jabez Hogg P.G.D., in recognition of the valuable services rendered to the Lodge by him during his year of office, and as a slight token of the great regard and esteem he is held in by every brother in the Lodge. Bro. Hogg, in a feeling manner, returned thanks for the gift. The newly initiated brethren, Bros. Sherward and James, each gave the sum of £10 10s to the Girls' School, showing that they were fully impressed with the ceremony, and did not forget that noble attribute, "Charity." The musical arrangements gave great satisfaction. Bro. S. Smith was assisted by Bro. G. T. Carter. The visitors were Bros. J. Green W.M. 27, Atkins P.M. 27, G. F. Carter P.M. 143, Hollis P.M. 167, H. Massey P.M. 619, Stewart P.M. 898, Cleaner 12, Sears 299, Richards 733, Harrison 771, Braven 1288, and A. Portbury 1426.

Hyde Park Lodge, No. 1425.—The installation meeting of this young but flourishing Lodge was held on Thursday evening, 13th April, at Bro. Browning's Restaurant, Paddington. Bro. W. F. Savage, who was retiring from the chair, worked the first part of the installation ceremony, being assisted, in the latter part, by Bro. Read, and the whole of the beautiful ceremony was worked in the most impressive manner. One little episode cannot be overlooked; on the appointment of the incoming Master, Bro. John Cruttenden, the S.W.'s chair was held by his brother, H. Cruttenden P.P.G. Sword Bearer of Kent, and the J.W.'s chair was held by his aged father, Bro. John Cruttenden, also a Past Grand Officer of Kent, Bro. John Cruttenden (the elder) is well known in Masonry, and it must have been to him a most pleasing sight to see his two sons occupying such exalted positions. Later in the ceremony, the son of the newly-installed W.M. entered the Lodge, so that there were present in the Lodge room three generations of the name of John Cruttenden, a fact, we believe, almost unprecedented. The officers were invested by the W.M., viz.:—Bros. Sones S.W., Gellion J.W., Alexander S.D., John Headon J.D., Clark I.G., Craig Principal Steward, Monger re-elected as Tyler. Bro. the Rev. J. Heaton was re-elected and invested as Chaplain, amidst great acclamation, as were also Bros. Langridge and Read, who have acted respectively as Treasurer and Secretary of the Lodge since its formation. A very elegant P.M.'s jewel was presented to the retiring Master. It had the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. W. F. Savage P.M., for the very able manner in which he has performed the Masonic ceremonies during the time he has been W.M." The Lodge being closed, a recherche banquet was put on the table, which reflected the greatest credit on Bro. Alsopp and those under his direction. The usual Masonic toasts having been given and replied to, the brethren separated, after an extremely enjoyable evening. Many visitors were present, and all were thoroughly pleased with the evening's entertainment, all expressed cordial wishes of success to this, which we have no doubt will prove to be one of the most flourishing Lodges in the Craft. We congratulate Bro. Cruttenden on the very favourable auspices under which he takes the management of the Hyde Park Lodge.

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THE THEATRES, &c.

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GAIETY.—At 7.45, SILENT WOMAN. At 8.30, MY AWFUL DAD. At 10.30, COOL AS A CUCUMBER.

CHARING CROSS.—At 8, ALL FOR THEM. At 8.45, STARVATION REFUSING PLUNTY, Subject. At 9.45, YOUNG RIP VAN WINKLE.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, FASCINATING FELLOWS. At 8.0, THE GASCON. At 10.45, VESTA'S TEMPLE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, QUITE BY ACCIDENT. At 8.0, WRINKLES.

ROYAL AQUARIUM THEATRE.—At 7.30, THE TAILOR MAKES THE MAN. At 8.15, JO.

GLOBE.—MISS GWILT.

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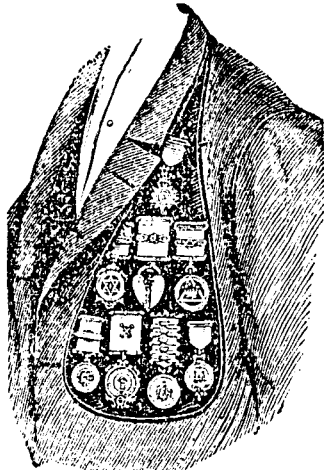
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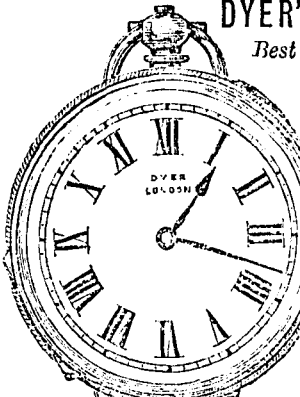
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