

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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THE STUDY OF MASONIC HISTORY.

WE have more than once remarked how desirable it is that the Craft should do all in its power to encourage the study of Masonic history. Never a day passes, but some of our more enthusiastic brethren utter a few well-chosen phrases in the highest degree eulogistic of Freemasonry, its profession, and its practice. We listen to these utterances with a great deal of pleasure. We know them to be sincere, and we believe them to be true. But with all this enthusiasm for the science itself, we note, with extreme regret, that very little heed is paid to its early origin and rare development in different countries. The brethren who are so proud of antecedent generations of Craftsmen, are strangely indifferent about the obstacles they had to encounter, the victories they won, and the prejudices they at length succeeded in outliving, until at length Freemasonry, instead of being the butt of other persons' ridicule, won for itself the admiration and respect of men of all classes and creeds. We say there are only a very few of the more studiously inclined who care for these things. The bulk of members exhibit a strange *inertia* in all that relates to our history, and many are so ill-informed that almost any myth may be made to pass current as an event which actually took place.

We are partly indebted for this state of indifference to many of our own writers, who, in their eagerness to enhance the respectability of Freemasonry, have converted a number of interesting legends into matter-of-fact history. This, too, is a reason why the outer world so often laughs at us when we speak of the great antiquity of the Craft. We have no manner of doubt whatever that Freemasonry is of very remote origin, but we do not rest its claims to antiquity on the very unsubstantial basis so many assign to it. We believe in the antiquity, but not in its circumstantiality, as delineated by most of our Masonic historians. But we are digressing from the purpose of our present article, which is to impress on Lodges, and especially on Lodges of Instruction, the propriety of encouraging historic studies. The latter do excellent work, but the extent of their curriculum is mostly limited to the ceremonies and lectures. We yield to none in the importance we attach to these branches of Masonic labour, but it must be obvious to all that the iteration of the same work becomes in a very short period of time wearisome, and particularly to those whose avocations permit them to attend with greater or less regularity. But even if we are content with the amount of knowledge that may be thus acquired, it is still desirable—we may even go further, and say it is absolutely necessary—there should be occasional historic illustrations, in order that brethren may know the meaning of the many allusions which are made in the course of these ceremonies and lectures. Persons eminent in Biblical and profane history are frequently referred to, but our Catechetical system of instruction hardly allows much room for explanation of the propriety of these references. Again, without some kind of exposition, many brethren must leave the Lodge much in the same condition of mind as a newly-married couple when they leave as one flesh the church they had shortly before entered as two—that is, in amazement. There are many strange legends introduced, which, without their intent and purpose is made apparent, must, figuratively speaking, prove a very Gordian knot for the Masonic novice to untie. There are likewise not a few anachronisms which have been permitted to creep in, or, we should say, perhaps, which having been introduced

from the old operative legends, have been permitted to remain. We believe these departures from historic fact are capable of a rational explanation, and it is certainly desirable that some such explanation should occasionally be offered.

This, however, is only a small item in the general account of Freemasonry, which it is desirable we should have expounded. Whether we carry back our Society to early times, or whether we consider that Freemasonry, as it is now constituted, dates back no further than the commencement of last century, it is equally desirable we should learn something of the rise and progress of our Order. It is notorious that only a very limited number of brethren have ever given their minds to the study of such records as have been handed down to us. Now, an Englishman who had not mastered, at least, the outlines of English history, who was not cognisant of its most noteworthy incidents, would consider himself in no slight measure disgraced by his ignorance. Or, to put the matter more gently, his ignorance would cause him grave dissatisfaction, and the chances are many that he would not lose much time in supplying the defect. So with a Frenchman, a German, an American, an Italian. There is, in fact, no one, be his country what it may, who would not experience a sense of shame on finding himself ill-informed about the principal events in his country's life. And yet we Masons, who profess to be in search of greater illumination, are content to go on, week after week, and month after month, without troubling ourselves to inquire what are the main features of our history, and who were the most eminent Masonic personages who have gone before us. We consider this apathy amounts to a very serious dereliction of duty on our part—a dereliction of duty for which it is impossible for any one to offer any reasonable apology. We have a history, and every Craftsman who has found time and inclination to study it, must feel all the more proud of his Order. Whatever, as we have said, may be the true connection existing between the philosophies of a very remote past and our present speculative Freemasonry, it must be apparent to all, that we cannot have existed as a body corporate for close upon one hundred and sixty years but some vicissitudes of fortune must have befallen us, and some eminent personages figured among our members. It is, indeed, a matter of fact, and not of speculation, that Masonry, in its progress from the year 1717 till now, has experienced many troubles from without, and not a few internal disquietudes. We have been attacked by clerics and by governments. We have been denounced publicly as the enemies of all religion and order; while among ourselves there have been several periods in our history in which we Masons have shown that we had little, if any, respect for that love and harmonious feeling towards one another which it is one of the chief purposes of Freemasonry to inculcate. But, in spite of these virulent attacks from without, and these unhappy intestine commotions, the Society has gone on flourishing, till it is not too much of an exaggeration to say that Freemasonry is now a power in the world, and, what is better still, a power whose influence is always brought to bear in the direction of the good and the beautiful. When we speak of Freemasonry as being a power which has a certain influence, we do not, of course, mean that it is an organised body either political, like a government, or religious, like a church. The only force there is in the influence of Freemasonry is the force of its moral teaching. It is this fact which makes its progress so marvellous that, having no material force to back it up, no religious terrors to fulminate against its enemies

it has gone on expanding till now there is not a country in the world in which Masonry has not its disciples. True, these disciples in some few countries are forbidden to congregate in Lodges; but no edict of Pope or Emperor is able to extirpate from their breasts a firm belief in the beauties of our Masonic science. The law is obeyed—for it is a leading principle of our Society that the ordinances of a government must be religiously observed—but the faith remains. Is there not in all this a magnificent field for study? If we are proud of a Society which has done all this, is it not well worth our while to learn how this progress has been achieved, and to whom, under heaven, we are indebted for this achievement? The abstruser points of Masonic doctrine and Masonic research may not find favour with some of us, but our history during the last century and a half is worth studying, and there is no intellect so feeble but it may grasp and keep firm hold of the most conspicuous events of that period. And if we English Masons need any encouragement to enter heartily upon the pursuit of this knowledge, it only needs that we should look to what our Transatlantic brethren are doing now, and have been doing for years past. Our history finds favour with them: they read, mark, learn, and digest it; and consequently there are in the United States many able exponents of the history of Freemasonry. Shall it be said of Craftsmen in the United Kingdom, whence has sprung all our modern Freemasonry, that we are less curious about our Craft than the Americans; that we, in the old country are less proud of her than our cousins of the new? We are certain the question, when it has been fairly and fully considered, will be answered emphatically in the negative, and that no long time will elapse ere our present state of apathy will give place to one of energy and earnest study in the domain of history. Lodges, as in the case of some of our Lodges of Instruction—may do much towards securing this desirable consummation; but, after all, it is to Grand Lodge we must look for the needful encouragement. There is already one endowment, left by the late Bro. William Preston, the annual interest of which is payable to whoever delivers the Prestonian lecture. A very small expenditure of trouble would soon induce as great an amount of interest in our history as in our ceremonies and lectures. But the initiative in this, as in all matters pertaining to the Craft, lies clearly with Grand Lodge.

THE COLOURED MASON QUESTION.

By Bro. JACOB NORTON.

IN the two replies of October 14th and 28th, to my article on the Coloured Mason question, you, Bro. Editor, intimated your unwillingness to have a controversy with me upon the subject at issue; the fact is, I did not anticipate a controversy. I have not quoted a solitary line from your article, and have but barely referred to you, as not knowing what Bro. Findel knew in 1861. I cheerfully concede that on most Masonic topics you are better informed than I am, but on this particular topic I claim to be better informed. I was surprised last Summer to read in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, the paragraph from the *New York Dispatch*, about the Grand Lodge of England repossessing itself, in a rather underhanded manner, of the African Lodge Charter. This story had already been exploded by Bro. Findel, and I naturally concluded that you, Bro. Editor, had not read that part of Bro. Findel's history. The tenor of your article on the Coloured Question tended to confirm that belief, hence, I was induced to write the true history of the case, for the information of the English Craft. The FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is read by our Boston Masons, and they alone can consistently undertake to controvert either my facts or inferences. But, believe me, they will not attempt it. "Facts," though unpleasant, "are stubborn things." The question here is virtually settled, viz., that as far as legitimacy is concerned, there are six of one and half a dozen of the other; either both are legitimate, or *vice versa*. The cry now is, "We don't want discussion." "We have believed (said a prominent Mason to me), for nearly a century that the African Lodge was clandestine, and what is the use of upsetting our belief?" Bro. Gardner, the ablest Mason in Boston, tried hard to persuade himself of the illegality of the coloured organisations in America. His address, in 1870, was received with shouts of exultation by the *nigger* haters; one Masonic journal triumphantly exclaimed, "What will Jacob Norton say to his Grand Master's address?" but my reply to the said address has never been attacked, and why? The Rev. Bro. Charles Griswold, P.G.M. of Minnesota, in his article in the "Voice of Masonry," April number, says:—

"When Grand Master Gardner . . . March, 1870, reviewed the status of the coloured Masons in this country, it was supposed that his facts were so stubborn, and his arguments so unanswerable, as to for ever put to rest all questions relating thereto, and it came very generally to be conceded that the coloured Lodges are hopelessly out

in the cold, and must for ever be regarded as clandestine; but during the past few years everything Masonic has been undergoing a very severe scrutiny. . . . Especially is this true with reference to those questions under discussion, relating to the coloured Lodges. A thorough investigation has brought to the surface facts so positive in their nature, and arguments so conclusive, as to put the legitimacy of the coloured Lodges in this country beyond the possibility of being successfully controverted."

Again, the rejection of the motion by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, in October last, to recognise the African Grand Lodge in that State as an independent G.L., was not on account of illegitimacy, that was not disputed, but on account of its conflicting with the constitution of Ohio, which contains a clause of exclusive jurisdiction. If, then, an Ohio coloured Mason should wish to visit an English Lodge, how could he consistently be debarred admission?

You, my worthy brother, have declared that you have no objection to coloured Masons. Now, I never supposed that you did object to colour or race, and never said so. My remarks referred to our American pretenders, that colour was not their objection. I am able to demonstrate that this is a new doctrine here, and it originated only since the Grand Orient of France rebuked the injustice of the American Grand Lodges to the Coloured organisations, and I am even prepared to prove, notwithstanding their protestations to the contrary, that colour, and that alone, is the drawback now to the recognition of the said brethren.

I stated that Prince Hall applied to the 1777 Grand Lodge for a charter: you made a point thereof. I now beg pardon for my mistake: for, on referring to Bro. Gardner's address, I found that Hall applied to G.M. Warren for a Charter; so that point is disposed of. But your point is, that a letter from Union Lodge, New York, in 1791, asserted that since the war the Masonic bodies in the different States had considered themselves independent, and you triumphantly ask, whether I am prepared to rebut the evidence of that letter? In answer, I beg to state that I not only concede it, but will even add, that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts itself, in 1783, issued a dictum of exclusive jurisdiction;—and what then? There is an adage that "it takes two to make a bargain." The question now is, has the G.L. of England assented to that dictum? and have the Lodges in Massachusetts assented? The fact is, the Grand Lodge of England had never been informed that there were any other Lodges in Boston, save those of its own creation; and the English Provincial G.L. had not written a line to London since 1770. The English G.L. really did not know, in 1784, whether any Masonic Lodges survived in Boston after the war. Again, St. John's Lodge, in Boston, was evidently dormant from the beginning of the war till 1784. It seems even to have lost its Charter. And, according to the assertion of the late C. W. Moore, John Rowe, the English Provincial G.M. appointed in 1768, granted a charter to St. John's Lodge in 1784, or a year after the so-called Grand Lodge issued its dictum of exclusive jurisdiction. This statement of Moore is discredited here, but, nevertheless, it is a well-known fact that the Masons in Boston of English origin regarded the St. Andrew's Lodge of Scotch origin, and her progeny, including the new G.L., as clandestine Masons; and even St. Andrew's Lodge itself did not acknowledge the legality of the G.L. of Massachusetts before 1809.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts even now upholds the same doctrine. For instance, the said G.L. chartered a Lodge in Valparaiso, in 1853. A Grand Orient had either then already existed there, or it had been organised since; the Grand Orient requested the Lodge to enrol itself under its jurisdiction. It also notified the G.L. of Massachusetts of its law of exclusive jurisdiction, but our Massachusetts Grand Lodge paid no attention thereto, and had actually chartered since then a second Lodge in Valparaiso, or some other part of Chili. I think it needs no argument to prove that if Massachusetts is right in establishing Lodges in Chili, that the Grand Lodge of England had greater right to Charter a Lodge in Boston in 1784.

But here is a case still more pertinent. The Duke of Sussex granted a charter to Hebrew Masons in Frankfort-on-the-Maine, and the Lodge is still under English jurisdiction. If the Duke of Sussex could violate a German jurisdiction on behalf of Jewish Masons, the Duke of Cumberland could, with equal justice, invade an American jurisdiction (suppose it was so) on behalf of coloured Masons.

I shall now proceed to sum up the arguments *pro* and *con* in an imaginary scene.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lodge of —.—Half an hour before the Lodge opened, Bro. White Jonathan and Bro. Jonathan Black were introduced to the Tyler, as Bro. Masons, who wished to visit the Lodge. The former seemed very much excited. "I must speak with Bro. John Bull, your W.M.," said he, "ere I enter the Lodge." Just then Bro. Bull came in, and after an introduction, they retired to a private room, where the following dialogue took place:—

Jonathan.—"I hail from St. John's Lodge, Boston. I am, therefore, all right, but that nigger there belongs to the African Lodge, which was erased from your books, and, contrary to American Masonic jurisprudence, the blacks organized a Grand Lodge in our jurisdiction, which established nigger Lodges all over the U.S.; he is, therefore, all wrong; he is a clandestine, and, if you admit him, our American Grand Lodge will certainly resent your insult to their authority."

John Bull.—"I am aware that your St. John's and his African Lodge derived their respective powers from our Grand Lodge, and am also aware that both Lodges acted wrong in so doing, and were I guided by American Masonic jurisprudence, I would kick the pair of you downstairs (figuratively so, of course), and would give you the hardest kicking. The whole history of Colonial Grand Lodge is a tissue of irregularities and deceptions. You paid no attention to the conditions of your Warrants or the Book of Constitutions. According to your Records, you have chartered forty Lodges, and registered here only five. The fees of the remaining thirty-five Lodges due to our Grand Lodge you have spent in trumpeting, drumming, and feasting on St. John's Days. From 1770 to about 1840, you did not even

inform us of your very existence; our Grand Lodge, therefore, not only erased the African Lodge in 1813, but your St. John's Lodge, with forty other American Lodges besides, were so erased. It really seems that you were ashamed to write a line to our Grand Lodge until after your misdeeds were forgotten here. On the other hand, the African Lodge paid us four guineas for its Charter—just twice the sum you paid for yours; and between the years 1789 and 1797, the African Lodge generously donated to our Charity Fund the sum of £5 14s 5d. And, though you knew very well that the African Lodge was legally constituted, yet, because they were Africans, you would not acknowledge them, and your Whites unscrupulously invented all manner of falsehoods about the said Lodge. The Africans merely neglected to correspond with our Grand Secretary, for which neglect they apologised in 1824; and it was not until after waiting three years in vain for an answer before they declared their Masonic independence."

Jonathan.—"You will at least admit that, after 1792, when the Lodges of Scotch and English origin united, that our Grand Lodge then became a Grand Lodge *de facto*, as well as *de jure*, and that all Masons in our jurisdiction must then have become amenable to its laws. Now, in 1827, when the Blacks began to charter Lodges, our Grand Lodge had been in operation for thirty-five consecutive years, we were visited by foreigners, and we visited foreign Lodges all over the world; we, therefore, had a prescriptive right, according to all laws, Masonic and otherwise, and the Blacks were certainly guilty of violating Masonic laws by invading a jurisdiction already established; in fact, they rebelled against our authority."

John Bull.—"My dear Brother, these are mere legal quibbles, for if the Blacks had organised a Grand Lodge in Boston, in 1776, you Whites would not have cared about their prescriptive rights, nor about their claim of *de facto* and *de jure*. Your Grand Lodge of 1792 did not invite the African Lodge to participate in the making of your laws; the Africans were, therefore, not amenable to those laws, nor are they now; they never were your subjects, and they consequently never rebelled against your authority; and your own unjust laws precluded them from being subject to your authority. Now, whenever a government presumes to establish injustice by law, the aggrieved are justified to appeal to the higher law, a law which overrides all other human laws—I mean the law of necessity. By that law we have tried and condemned a king for treason, and expelled a legal dynasty; by that law George Washington made your nation independent, and Abraham Lincoln freed your slaves; and by the same law have you assumed your Masonic independence. Bro. Gardner, your P.G.M., now Judge of your Superior Court, could claim no higher legality for your Grand Lodge than that of *revolution* and *assumption*. On our part, we admitted your necessity and forgave your shortcomings."

In 1827, the African Lodge also had cause to appeal to that higher law; its offences to us were less than yours, and its necessity was much greater. The African Lodge paid for its Masonry, and was equally, with your Lodge, entitled to all Masonic privileges. Your St. John's Lodge, while still subject to our Grand Lodge, for it did not then acknowledge any other Grand Lodge, ignored the rights of the African Lodge; and after 1792, your Grand Lodge, in conjunction with the other American Grand Lodges, entered into a conspiracy to rob the Africans of their Masonic rights. After our Grand Secretary refused to notice their humble petition, their Masonic life, which was as dear to them as it is to us, became seriously endangered. Self-preservation, therefore, the very highest kind of necessity, compelled and justified them to form a Grand Lodge, to scatter Masonic Lodges among their people in their native land, and to create for themselves Masonic homes all over the country. The case may now be summed up. Three distinct Grand Lodges were successively organized by revolution and assumption in Boston—namely, in 1777, 1792, and in 1827. The two former were organized by white Masons, and the latter by coloured. If the White brethren had a right to revolution and assumption, the same right must be also conceded to the Blacks, especially as their necessity was most urgent, and it wholly arose through the unmasonic conduct of the white Masons. Viewing, therefore, the question from every point, I really can see no reason in your Boston notion that *you* are all right, and *he* is all wrong."

Jonathan.—"You may, if you please, call my arguments legal quibbles, but I say law must be respected. I don't care for Mr. Lincoln's abolition of slavery, nor about shortcomings of the past, either, to your Grand Lodge or the negroes. All I have to say is this: You have tacitly acknowledged the legality of our Grand Lodge, and it is now your bounden duty to respect our laws."

John Bull.—"The drift of your argument amounts to this, Law is paramount to justice; if a Black man offends against the law, he must be rigorously punished; but if a White man offends, then you don't care about it. These ideas of yours are truly a violation of the laws of Masonry and humanity, and we cannot respect such laws. According to my opinion, Bro. Black is either legitimately, or illegitimately, legally, or illegally (which you please), your Masonic equal, and unless you can prove him otherwise unworthy, I must extend to him the same privileges as I will extend to you."

Our Yankee visitor is a Democratic stump orator; the chief article in his political creed is, that "a nigger is not equal to a white man." Bro. John Bull's remarks, therefore, touched his most tender spot. The wrath which he had hitherto kept bottled up, now began to escape; and, like the steam of a locomotive, it began to issue in distinct puffs, and as its rapidity increased, it became a continuous roar, and now comes out his true reasons.

Jonathan.—"I say nothing against Black's character; he is a decent sort of a man, and upright too; but you can't make me believe that a nigger is my equal. No, Sir! he is of an inferior race. Did you ever hear of a nigger Shakespeare, or a Sir Isaac Newton? Would you like your daughter to marry a nigger? I tell you a nigger is a nigger, and if you want to see niggers, go to a plantation in South Carolina; a nigger is not my equal. You don't know what a nigger is."

John Bull.—"As it is now time to open the Lodge, I can here only

say that *we* have nothing to do with race, but only with individuals, for *we* are of all kindreds. You have admitted that Black is an upright man; it is, therefore, my duty to admit him. We may hereafter resume our discussion. At present, I beg to invite you to the hospitality of our Lodge."

Jonathan.—"No, Sir! I won't sit with a nigger in a Lodge, and I won't discuss with you. We believe that the niggers are clandestine, and you have no right to question my belief." [Exit Jonathan.]

Nothing now remains but, according to ancient custom, to shake hands with my plucky antagonist, and part as friends. There was no malice between us, and there ought to be no envy when the judges shall have awarded the belt to the deserving champion. And, in plain English, I sincerely thank my opponent for having permitted me to have my say.

[Our esteemed contributor, Bro. Jacob Norton, will, we doubt not, recognise the propriety of closing the argument on this vexed question. The subject is not one to which we consider we should be justified in devoting further space. We opened the ball—to use a familiar expression—with an article calling on our Grand Lodge to lay down some rule for the guidance of Lodge officers should they be ever called upon to decide as to the admission or non-admission of a member of one of these Coloured Masonic organisations. At the same time, we indicated our belief that should one present himself he ought not to be admitted. Beyond this the subject has no interest for English Masons. However, in dismissing the matter, Bro. Norton will, perhaps, excuse us for saying that his conduct reminds us of the general, who, finding his enemy's position to be impregnable, marches his army all round it, fires off a few rounds of artillery in any direction but the right one, and then retires in the belief he has gained a substantial victory. Bro. Norton's arguments have not affected our position in any way. We have pounded him till he has not a word to say on the real point at issue, which is not whether "African" Lodge was or was not illegal, but whether a body of Masons has a right to invade the jurisdiction of another body of Masons. We say, emphatically, it has not; and, were it possible for a Lodge or Lodges to be established in any one of our English provinces, claiming to exist as a Masonic body or bodies, without paying allegiance to our Grand Lodge, we have a very firm belief that the latter would decline to recognise it or them. Bro. Norton asks, if our Grand Lodge, England, has recognised the claim advanced by American Grand Lodges to exclusive jurisdiction over their several states or territories? Our answer is, decidedly, Yes; and the proof—that several of the American Grand Lodges interchange representatives with our English Grand Lodge. Then, Bro. Norton adduces a case in which the Massachusetts Grand Lodge chartered a Lodge in Valparaiso, and still claims it as a daughter Lodge, though there is in Chili a supreme Masonic authority. Were we called upon to decide this case upon the circumstances as described to us by Bro. Norton, we should rule that this act of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge was an invasion of the rights of the Chili Grand Orient. The next case which Bro. Norton adduces of the Lodge of Hebrew Masons chartered at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, by our late Grand Master the Duke of Sussex, is no help to him whatever, and we are surprised so skilful a dialectician as Bro. Norton should have committed so grave an error as he has done in this paragraph of the above commentary. In the first place, when the Duke of Sussex was Grand Master, Frankfort-on-the-Maine was a free Imperial city, having its own government and laws, but no supreme Masonic authority; and if it chose to place itself Masonically under the wing of our English Grand Lodge, there was no power on earth could say it nay. It was only at the conclusion of the Seven Weeks' war in 1866, that this Frankfort became incorporate with the North German Confederation, and it is now part and parcel of the German Empire. This Lodge is no longer on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, and therefore this illustration is a serious detriment instead of an assistance to Bro. Norton's argument. But the most egregious error which our amiable contributor has fallen into is in affirming that what the Duke of Sussex did, during his tenure of the Grand Mastership (1813-1843), in the way of violating a German jurisdiction which did not at the time exist, justified an irregular action on the part of Grand Master the Duke of Cumberland, who reigned, Masonically, from 1782 to 1790—the year of his death. We see clearly enough that a precedent established by the Duke of Cumberland would justify the conduct of any one of his successors, but not how the conduct of any Grand Master would serve as a

precedent for one of his predecessors. This is something like the proverbial Irishman's progression backwards, or as though we might say that certain people inherited their property from their heirs and successors. Bro. Norton, you must have just a wee drop of Irish blood in your veins, or you never would have made such a bull. Nevertheless, very dear Brother—in imagination, of course—we take you friendly by the hand, and wish you God speed in all your undertakings, Masonic and profane. Only, please be careful in other discussions not to reverse the natural order of things, and justify the past by the future. We greet you well, Bro. Norton, and send you hearty good wishes for a merry Christmastide and a happy New Year.—ED. FREEMASONS' CHRONICLE.]

THE MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

Blackwood commences with a further part of "A Woman Hater." Dr. Rhoda Gale again plays an important part, and is destined, we imagine, to render valuable aid in unravelling certain mysterious antecedents in the history of Mr. Severn, who is now engaged to marry Miss Vizard. The picture of the ancestral home of the Vizards is admirably drawn, and indeed in all the scenes depicted in this section of the story the writer has succeeded even beyond expectation. As regards the story of "The Secret Chamber," our readers will gather from the title what is its character. It is not too much to say that it possesses a "thrilling" interest—that we believe to be the proper expression—while, at the same time, it comes legitimately within the range of family mysteries. "A Winter Reverie" is delightful reading, and so, too, No. III. of "Devious Rambles with a Definite Object." The other contributions include a lively description of "A German Bath," a review of "Prejevalsky's Mongolia and Solitudes of Northern Tibet," together with the usual political article, the subject of which is "The Conference at Constantinople." Those of our readers whose political views are the same as *Maga's*, will, no doubt, derive much pleasure from reading it.

We rarely see a number of *Temple Bar* which is not crowded with articles exhibiting a very high order of merit. This month fiction, history, and dramatic criticism are worthily represented; the first, by Mr. Anthony Trollope's story of "The American Senator," and "My Uncle's Darling;" the second, by an able sketch of "Henry the Fourth and la Belle Gabrielle;" and the last by another of the series of very popular sketches of "Our old Actors," "The Elder Matthews" being the actor whose career and attributes the writer has chosen to portray. Then there are biographical sketches of the late "George Stubbs, R.A.," and a short essay on "Vulgarity," with a Spanish picture, cleverly described, of "Toilers on the River." But the verses by G. J. Whyte-Melville, entitled "The Object of a Life," are unquestionably the chief attraction of the number.

Another magazine to which we are always ready to accord a hearty welcome is *Cornhill*. The new serial story, commenced last month, of "Erema; or, my Father's Sin," is worthy of all praise, while in "Carità," which has been current for a longer time, the interest is well sustained, the story being life-like, and full of incident. "Towards the North Pole," as the title indicates, describes the progress of Arctic discovery, and our readers may be sure that the expedition recently returned to England claims its share of attention; its sledge labours being principally noticed. An essay on "Culture and Modern Poetry," and two biographical sketches of "Charles of Orleans," and "Abraham Cowley," complete the list of contributions.

Baily contains a short, but well-written history, entitled "The Straight Tip," together with a continuation of "The Recollections of Mr. Coleman." Those who are fond of analysing the performances of our Public School Cricketers will find ample to employ their leisure moments on "Cricket; the School Averages," in which the batting and bowling averages of each member of the principal Public Schools Elevens is carefully recorded, and the leading characteristics of each boy's play described. "Our Van" is more heavily laden than usual, while the quality is, as usual, excellent.

Tinsleys' has latterly varied its programme very considerably, and beyond all question for the better. Serial fiction still occupies the most prominent place in the programme; but, relatively to the other contents, the prominence is no longer so distinguishable. Thus Mr. Albert Vandam contributes a paper on "Dramatic Adaptation," for which "Peril" at the Prince of Wales serves as the text. The author of "The Old Candidate" and other works writes a tale, entitled "Vaccination to Matrimony." In addition are an article on "Darwinism," by Mr. Henry Penning; "A Quest," in two chapters; "Too Late to Mend," and "Veneer," by W. Maclirie. In the way of poetry we find another of the "Love Songs of all Nations," and a gracefully-written set of verses on "True Friendship," by Mrs. M. A. Baines, whose acrostics on the months we have had so much pleasure in quoting in previous issues. This little poem we take leave to reproduce here.

Oh! for a kind and loving friend,
Who knows our better thoughts untold;
Who'll for truth's sake our name defend,
And virtues more than faults unfold!

Oh! for a pair of trustful eyes
To look into our own, and see
What's hidden from the worldly-wise,
Yet all so plain to you and me!

Oh! for an honest hand to clasp,
When heart and hand are pledged to you!
Th' unspoken promise of that grasp,
Would say, "Twill be ever true."

When earthly friends are false, and prove
How fleeting are all things below;
For peace turn to the FRIEND above,
No change can such love ever know.

A new volume of *Cassell's Family Magazine* is commenced this month, and with it two new serial tales, one by J. Berwick Harwood, entitled "Paul Knox, Pitman;" and the other, "My Guardian," by Miss Ada Cambridge. We like them both, and shall watch their progress with keen interest. Miss Julia Goddard contributes some very appropriate "Christmas Verses." The bulk of the other contributions are of a practical character, such as the directions laid down in answer to the question, "What shall we do before the Doctor comes?" "Gardening in December," Mr. Payne's very seasonable instructions about bishop, mulled claret, and wassail, bowl, and other "Christmas Cheer," "How to Decorate a House at Christmas Time," together with "Chit-Chat on Dress," and "The Gatherer's" Notes. In addition to these are "Some Curiosities of Evergreens," contributed by Mr. J. E. Taylor, F.L.S., F.G.S., &c., and a readable account of "Windsor Castle and its Romances." The frontispiece is a well-executed engraving of "Windsor Castle."

We have received from the same firm of publishers (Messrs. Cassell, Petter and Galpin) Part I. of a new *Natural History*, intended for the use of the student and general reader, and giving all the latest information derived from authentic sources. This work will be issued in monthly parts, at the modest price of sevenpence each part, and will be illustrated with about two thousand wood engravings. Knowing, as we do, the value of these various serial publications, we strongly advise any of our readers whose library may not be already furnished with such a work, to order this *Natural History* to be sent them regularly. This Part I. treats of "Quadrumania-Apes and Monkeys," and is unquestionably an excellent number. If succeeding parts exhibit the same degree of merit and the same accuracy of description, the work, when completed, will, indeed, be a treasure to the naturalist.

In Part IV. of *The Countries of the World*, we find ourselves still lingering in the Arctic regions, but progress is gradually being made to a southerly direction. The whale fishery is noticed at some length, and there is a very good engraving of "Attacking a Whale with a Hand Harpoon."

Among the contents of the *Leisure Hour* must be mentioned the first part of an interesting biography of "Joseph Mazzini," a description of "Ormuz," an account of "The American Centennial Exhibition," and a paper on "Early Civilisation," in which the Rev. Canon Rawlinson sums up the results of the inquiries in previous papers. "Wit in Court" is highly amusing, while No. IV. of "American Caricaturists" is a worthy sequel to the former three. There are two admirable papers, entitled respectively "Iron Mining and Iron Manufacture in India," and "London District Post-Offices," nor must we overlook the merits of "Antiquarian Gossip on the Months" and "Weather Proverbs." These last are brought to a close, with some general instructions for correctly reading the barometer, as December furnishes only one proverb:—

"Thunder in December presages fine weather."

In the way of Antiquarian Gossip, we find a more interesting array of old and quaint customs than usual. We quote the following from Gay's Trivia on St. Stephen's, or, as it is more generally known, Boxing-day:—

"Some boys are rich by birth, beyond all wants,
Beloved by uncles and kind good all aunts;
When time comes round a Christmas-box they bear,
And one day makes them rich for all the year."

At Drayton Beauchamp, in the county of Bucks, it seems, there was a custom for this day called *Stephening*. All the inhabitants had to go the rectory, and eat as much bread and cheese, and drink as much ale, as they chose, at the expense of the rector. In Scotland, the last day of the year is known as "Hogmanay." It is a great holiday, and, early in the morning, children go round to the better class of houses for the customary dole of oaten bread, singing at the same time—

"Hogmanay,
Trololay,
Give us of your white bread and none of your grey."

We note that, in the *Sunday at Home*, Dr. Stoughton's series of articles on "Westminster Abbey" is still current, while Mrs. Finn contributes No. IV. of her series of papers on "Agriculture in Palestine."

The Royal Masonic Cyclopædia of History, Rites, Symbolism, and Biography. Part V. Edited by Kenneth B. H. Mackenzie, IX^o ("Cryptonymus"). London: Bro. John Hogg, 15A Paternoster-row, E.C.

THIS part takes us as far as the beginning of the letter S, and there only remains one more part to be issued, when the Cyclopædia will be complete. We notice the same evidence of careful research and thoughtful selection of matter on the part of the Editor in this as in the preceding parts, and we are quite satisfied the work, when perfect, will prove an invaluable addition to every studious Mason's library. Bro. Mackenzie is worthy of all praise for the time and labour he must have spent in the preparation of this work, and we trust the brethren will show their appreciation of his Cyclopædia by purchasing it.

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.

—:O:—

ERRATIC SHILLINGS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I confess I am at a loss to understand why the shilling difference between a guinea and a pound should be described by your correspondent "ALPHA" as an "erratic" shilling. He very properly advocates the conversion of the pound subscription to the R.M.B.I. into a guinea one; but the shilling which is needed to change the former into the latter has no existence, and cannot therefore be erratic, or anything else. It is simply, as the present Sir Robert Peel, I believe, once said in the House of Commons of something, "conspicuous by its absence." However, I fully recognise the propriety of the change which "ALPHA" recommends, and the justice of the grounds on which he recommends it. The man who contributes a pound would as readily contribute a guinea, and these insignificant shilling differences must, in a subscription of (say £10,000), increase the total amount by the very handsome sum of £500—that is, of enough to pay for additional 12½ male annuitants at the increased rate of £40, or of about 20 at the rate of £26 per annum. There is, so far as I can see, no reason whatever why the terms of subscription to the Benevolent should not be assimilated to those of the Girls' and Boys' Institutions. Let it be "guineas" in the case of all three, and I do not doubt the extra shillings will be "erratic" enough to find their way into the coffers of the Benevolent, as they do now into those of the other two charities.

So far I recognise the propriety of ALPHA's suggestion, and shall be delighted beyond measure if between now and the month of February next so excellent a change is made. But the proposal to elect additional male annuitants at an inferior rate should not be made too hastily. For my part, I think it would be a far better plan to increase the invested property of the Institution, so that it may be better prepared to guard against "a rainy day." We cannot always reckon on the annual festivals yielding their £10,000 or £12,000. A war, the rumour of war, the momentary depression of trade, or other cause, will be sure to affect people as well in their bestowal of alms as in their ordinary expenditure. In any one of these contingencies arising, there will, in fact, be less to give, and consequently less for our Institutions to receive. However, let us take a leaf out of Mrs. Grundy's book. Let us first catch these "erratic" shillings. It will be time enough then to consider about their disposal.

At all events I am wholly for the guineas, as I am wholly and fraternally yours,

"R. C."

ORDER OF PROCEEDING AT LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I belong to a Lodge of Instruction, one of whose bye-laws decrees that on the first meeting of the month the ceremony and Lecture of the first degree is to be worked. At the meeting, this week, our worthy Preceptor was unavoidably absent. The W.M. having concluded the ceremony of initiation, no one present was competent to put the questions of the sections. There being yet an hour to spare, and no initiate present, it was suggested that the Lodge should be opened in a higher degree, and either the W.M., or some brother by his appointment, should rehearse another ceremony. Exception, however, was taken to this proposition, on the ground that such a course was contrary to the bye-laws, and, if adopted, the matter, if brought under the notice of the Mother Lodge, would undoubtedly incur censure. After some discussion, the W.M. offered to vacate the chair in favour of any brother who would work the 1st degree, but no one volunteering, he went through the ceremony again.

Will you kindly permit me to ask, through your columns, whether, under the circumstances, we were bound to remain in the first degree?

We had complied with the bye-laws as far as we were able, and certainly there is nothing in its wording which limits us to the first degree. If we are to be thoroughly consistent with the literal rendering, we ought always to work the seven sections, as well as the ceremony, instead of a portion only of the former, as is usually done.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

T. W. OCKENDEN.

7th December 1876.

"A MASON" ON FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The thanks of every true Mason is due to you for the very able leading article in your issue of the 9th inst. It hardly seems possible that a member of our Order, of 25 years' standing, could so mistake our tenets and the teachings of our whole system, as to assert that "Masonry is antagonistic to Religion." The question is, what does the individual making the assertion understand by religion? Very many are apt to look upon outward form and ceremony as true religion, utterly ignoring the pure sentiment itself which Freemasonry so forcibly teaches by inculcating Brotherly Love

and Charity. Viewed in this light, I believe that Masonry is antagonistic to the spread of sectarianism, so often mis-called religion; for it teaches a man to look beyond the trammels of prejudice, and the narrow mindedness of sect, and to found his religion on a surer and broader basis. As an example of this, we need only refer to our Jewish brethren; surely they cannot be called an irreligious body, and yet we see with what zeal they enter into our mysteries, casting aside much of what was traditional bigotry. As a proof of this I may mention that last Friday night the son of the Jewish minister of Newcastle-upon-Tyne was exalted in the Chapter "De Sussex," in the presence and with the consent of his father. Knowing the great sanctity with which the Jewish Sabbath is observed, we can hail this as a great fact to show that Masonry and religion can go hand-in-hand; and as an answer to the gross calumny that our Order is antagonistic to the spread of religion.

Yours fraternally,

R. A.

12th Dec. 1876.

WHICH IS CORRECT?

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I hope our Bro. Stevens has not lost sight of, nor exhausted this subject. These differences of opinion are of service to those who take any interest in the Craft.

Yours fraternally,

VIGILANT.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE following officers of the Chapter "De Goode Hoop," have been elected for the ensuing year:—R. le Sueur President, J. C. Wessels Inspector, J. T. C. Inglesby S.W., H. P. du Preez J.W., J. G. Maynard Orator, J. Wocke Treasurer, T. Pybus Chancellor, R. W. Robins Examiner, G. Manuel M. of C., K. N. de Kock Ambassador, E. Brandt Organist.

From the *Diamond Field* we take the following gratifying incident in connection with the Masonic Lodge "Peace and Harmony," at Dutoitspan:—"Before the departure of the Junior Warden of this Lodge for Cape Town, on Wednesday week, the following address, beautifully engrossed by Bro. Charles Martell sen., was presented to him:—

"To Bro. William Glendenning Welch, Junior Warden, Lodge 'Peace and Harmony,' Dutoitspan.

"DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—We, the undersigned, officers and other members of the Lodge 'Peace and Harmony,' working under Charter of the Grand East of the Netherlands, beg to express our regret at your departure from amongst us; and we desire to assure you that our most kindly and fraternal wishes will follow you to whatever sphere you may be called upon to labour in.

"From the time you first saw the light in our Lodge you have been most regular in your attendance at labour, most intelligent in assisting the Rulers of the Craft, and unceasing in exertion to promote the true principles of the Order. By the zeal you have displayed others have been induced to emulate your action, with advantage to our Lodge and to the Fraternity generally. As Junior Warden of the Lodge 'Peace and Harmony' you have given the brethren unqualified satisfaction, and we regard with affectionate approval the hearty manner in which at all times you practically showed your devotion to those beautiful principles of our Order:—

"BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH.

"We trust that the Great Architect of the Universe may be pleased to bless you in all your undertakings, to direct your footsteps in the right path, to guide your thoughts always to the true conception of man's mission here, so that in endeavouring faithfully to fulfil God's will as revealed, you may be rewarded hereafter by a seat in

"THE GRAND LODGE ABOVE."

To this Bro. Welch made the following reply:—

"WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,—I feel grateful to the brethren of the Lodge 'Peace and Harmony,' for the expression of their kind wishes on my leaving Dutoitspan, and thus necessarily ceasing to be an active member of the Lodge. From my connection with the Lodge 'Peace and Harmony' I have derived much profitable instruction, and from my intercourse with the brethren no ordinary pleasure. Wherever I may be, I shall watch with unceasing interest the progress of my Mother Lodge, and I trust the precepts impressively inculcated by its Masonic teachings may never be forgotten by me.

"I would wish to make special acknowledgment of the truly fraternal treatment I have always received at the hands of my brethren, and of the kindness which they invariably have extended to me. If, as one of the principal officers of the Lodge, I have succeeded in winning your approval, the fact is, in a great measure, due to the support my brethren have always accorded to me.

"Yours gratefully and fraternally,

"W. G. WELCH."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—In variable temperatures, cold wet weather, and damp, foggy atmospheres, what is to be done to keep the human body healthy, to protect the weak, to renovate the diseased? The reply is: supplement the suppressed action of the skin, through an alternative like these Pills, by a freer action on the bowels, liver and kidneys; this will preserve the delicate internal structures from congestion, irritation, and inflammation, and carry off those noxious matters ordinarily transmitted through the integument. A course so natural must commend itself, and elicit the unqualified approbation of all who think and understand how nature invariably aids a defective organ by accomplishing its unperformed functions by means of increased activity elsewhere.

SIXTH ANNUAL RE-UNION OF THE MEMBERS OF MOTHER KILWINNING IN GLASGOW.

THIS re-union was held in St. John's Hall, which was kindly lent for the occasion. Bro. J. M. McCash, Esq., of Dalry, R.W.M. of 290, presided; supported by Bros. R. Wylie Sec. P.P.G.M. of Ayrshire, D. M. Nelson R.W.M. 3 bis G.S.D., Muller G.D. of M., R. Smithson of 1270 (E.C.), J. Easton I.P.M. 579, P.G.S.W. Glasgow, J. Walker Sec. of the Committee. The Croupiers were Bros. H. Taylor as S.W., supported by Bros. J. F. Tweed P.J.W., G. W. Wheeler, J. Speirs, Gavin Park, G. Nelson and Donaldson, and the J.W., W. Jamison, supported by Bros. Scobo, McWalters, McMillan and Duncan. Amongst the other distinguished guests were Bros. R. Bell P.E.C. and Wm. Shaw E.C. of St. Mungo Encampment, along with Colonel Robertson the American Consul, Bros. Baillie Donald of Aberdeen, J. A. Fergusson P.S.W., and Whinton, the Treasurer, and oldest member of Mother Kilwinning. Letters of apology were read from Colonel Muir P.G.M., R. Montigne P.G.W., Wor. Bro. Partick S.P.G.M., and J. Baird S.E.M. Glasgow. After ample justice had been done to the purveying of Bro. Shand, the Steward of St. John's Hall, the Chairman, in a few well chosen remarks, gave the "Queen and the Craft." God save the Queen was sung by Bro. Clarke. The Prince of Wales, Grand Patron of Scottish Masonry. "God bless the Prince of Wales," was given by Bro. Nelson. "The three Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland," was given from the chair, and responded to by Bro. D. M. Nelson G.S.D., who said his experience as a Grand Lodge officer was only that of a few days, but he felt sure that Sir Michael S. Stewart was a man of energy and ability, and he would set himself to work to remedy the evils pointed out by the Chairman now that they had been brought under his notice, and, as a humble member, he should be glad to lend his aid to the work; in fact, the Province of Glasgow had long since set an example in this direction. It was a rather a curious coincidence that the three Grand Masters had all a connexion with the neighbouring province—for the Prince of Wales was Baron of Renfrew, the Duke of Abercorn is Marquis of Paisley, and they all knew that their own G.M. had his principal seat in that county. Well, in addition, they had the services of Colonel Campbell of Blythswood, whom all knew to be a practical man, whether in Masonry or any thing connected with the interest of the county. He felt sure that in future the Grand Lodge would see that their practice was more fully in accordance with their excellent precepts. (Applause).

The J.W. Bro. W. Jamison, in a brief speech, gave the "Grand Lodges of America," and called on Bro. W. Shaw E.C. of St. Mungo Encampment, who had just returned from there, to respond, which he did, giving an interesting account of the kind way in which himself and P.E. Commander Robt. Bell had been received, both in the United States and Canada. Also a sketch of the rise of the Order in the States, more particularly of its progress in Philadelphia from 1730, its formation into a District Grand Lodge in 1732, and its forming an Independent Grand Lodge in 1785, then describing the rapid progress and their present magnificent temple, which is larger than that of King Solomon, and almost rivals it in magnificence; while they have 370 Lodges on their roll, and a membership of 38,328. Wherever he went he found a great respect for Scotch Masonry, and a deep-seated veneration for the Mother Lodge of Kilwinning, as being the cradle from whence the present system had sprung. (Cheers.) His only regret was that this response had not been given by Sir Knight R. Bell, or their mutual friend Colonel Robertson, the American Consul for Leith. The Croupier gave "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," dwelling on the excellence of each arm of the service, and the significance of the toast at the present time. Bro. Captain Donaldson responded, showing the patriotic nature of the Volunteer Corps, the extra qualifications that were now required from its officers, which were calculated to give more confidence to the men. Should our regulars be called upon to go abroad, he felt quite confident of the ability of the volunteers to protect our shores from foreign invaders. The Chairman then gave the toast of the evening, "The Mother Lodge," the formation of which, he said, was coeval with the building of the Abbey in 1140. From that time to the present they had steadfastly continued at work, partly as operative, but latterly purely as speculative Masons; and though they had done so much for Masonry, Masonry had done but very little for them. They had heard of the magnificence of the Temple at Philadelphia, and though he would not say their old Lodge room was a disgrace to them, still he must say it was not worthy of the high place the Lodge held in Masonry; and he trusted that her sons who dwelt in Glasgow, and had the capital, would soon try to assist in getting a better home for the Old Lady who had cradled Masonry in its infancy, and not only so, but had granted many charters to daughter Lodges in the olden times, thus spreading a knowledge of the Craft. About the beginning of the century her rulers—and he would not now dispute their wisdom—agreed to give up their old privileges to a Parliament of Lodges meeting in Edinburgh. This Parliament should be the servant, but he was sometimes afraid they were trying to become the masters, of the Lodges. He was glad there were two Grand Lodge officers present, and that Bro. Nelson had assured them of the desire of the G.L. to redress their grievances, for they did feel in the West that they had some serious grievances; but he would be willing to put their complaints into Bro. Nelson's hands and he hoped he would be able to get a satisfactory settlement of some of them, so that when they next met he might be able to say we have no more serious complaints to make from Ayrshire. (Cheers.) The next toast was, "Our Last-laid Stones." Bro. J. A. Fergusson Proxy S.W. said it was at all times pleasant to have to propose such a toast. He had often done so, but never with greater gratification than on this occasion; for on Wednesday they had initiated five gentlemen, all of whom he believed would be an honour to the Craft. He would ask Baillie McDonald, an old friend of twenty-five years stand-

ing to respond. Bro. McDonald said it might be asked why an old man like him should wish to join the Order. Well, he had done so because he had found that their boast of their universal brotherhood was something more than a name; it was a reality. Last year he had been on the Continent, with Bro. Fergusson's partner, Bro. Shaw. They wanted some important information there, and Bro. Shaw applied for it to a Brother Mason at Bruges. He was not at home, but his good lady was, and she was worthy of being a Mason's wife, for she gave them the required information, treated them kindly, and sent them on their way to Ostend. Here they met with another Mason, a perfect stranger; but he treated Mr. Shaw as a brother, and me also, because I was a friend of his. Well, this year Bro. Shaw was in America, and there, because he was a Mason, and a son of Mother Kilwinning, they did not appear as if they could do enough for him; and he (Bro. Macdonald) seeing the reality of Masonic brotherhood, had joined, and hoped he should be no disgrace to the Order. Bro. Wylie P.G.S. Ayrshire, proposed "The Province of Glasgow." This, he said, had long been known as the model Province in Scotland; it had twenty-nine Lodges, the next in size and number to Ayrshire. It was full of life and activity. These Lodges were all working well, and keeping up the old landmarks; they had likewise a good benevolent fund: in fact, if all the Provinces would go and do likewise, there would not be the complaint of which they had heard. He had hoped that his old and respected friend, John Baird P.S.G.M., would have replied, but, in his absence, he would ask Bro. G. W. Wheeler to do so. Bro. Wheeler said it was an unexpected honour to have to reply, but, fortunately, the state of the Province had been so ably described by their esteemed Secretary, that he need not say much. As to the grievances of which the chairman had spoken, he could assure him he might rely on the Province of Glasgow to assist in redressing them. Fortunately we have, as P.G. officers, men of energy as well as of ability. They efficiently superintend each Lodge, look to their working, and also into their books, so seeing that work was efficiently performed between the times of visitation. By the system of putting on a small sum to the entrance fee of each initiate, they had raised a good Benevolent Fund, and they were pleased to see and hear of the progress of other Provinces, and, as on this occasion, to meet with the office-bearers of another Province, and assure them of their willingness to assist them in effecting any reform in the G.L. that might be necessary. By their Master and Wardens attending at G.L., they had been able, after the lapse of some years, to put in a representative from the West at the last election. At the next they must get in a Mother Kilwinning man for Ayrshire, and so assist to carry on the true principles of Masonry by rewarding merit. (Cheers.) The Chairman then gave "Our Hosts, the Lodge St. John's, No. 3 bis." He had previously no idea they had so fine a hall in Glasgow, and he found that while they would not let their hall, they were willing to grant the free use of it to the Mother Lodge. Bro. Nelson, R.W.M. of St. John's, said he was pleased when his Mother Lodge was praised, because he knew she deserved it; and it afforded them—the oldest Lodge in Glasgow—pleasure to open their hall for the annual meeting of the Glasgow members of the oldest Lodge in Ayrshire, if not in the world. Bro. McGregor R.W.M., of No. 458, St. John's, Busby, responded on behalf of the visitors. "The Lord Provost and Magistrates of Glasgow" was proposed by Bro. Taylor, and responded to by ex-Councillor Nelson. Bro. Scott gave "The Press," which was responded to by Bro. J. Stewart, of the *Daily Mail*. The Chairman then gave "Colonel Robertson and all American Masons." The gallant Colonel expressed the pleasure he felt at being present. Bro. R. Bell also replied. Thanks to the Chairman, Croupiers, and Committee, who had got up the meeting, were given and responded to, Bro. J. A. Fergusson replying for the Committee. The excellent singing of Bros. J. Clark, Nelson, Brodie, Wallace, McWalters, Shira, Scobo, and Ross contributed much to enhance the pleasure of the meeting.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

SATURDAY, 16th DECEMBER.

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

MONDAY, 18th DECEMBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem, St. John's-sq., Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
185—Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
331—Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro.
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth.
985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1238—Gooch, Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall.
1502—Israel, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
R. A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
R. A. 482—St. James's, New Inn, Handsworth, Staffordshire.

TUESDAY, 19th DECEMBER.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1472—Henley, Railway Tavern, Stratford New Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
R.A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
402—Royal Sussex, George the Fourth, Nottingham.
1006—Tregullov, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
R. A. 41—Royal Cumberland, Old Orchard-street, Bath.
R. A. 419—St. Peter's, Swan Hotel, Wolverhampton.
R. A. 792—Oliver, Bull-ring-lane, Grimsby.

WEDNESDAY, 20th DECEMBER.

174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.0. (Instruction.)
212—Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C.
862—Whittington, Black Bull, Holborn, at 8. (Instruction.)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1239—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance.
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover. (Instruction.)
200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough.
221—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
633—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire.
969—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Great Driffield.
1036—Walton, St. Lawrence Boys' School, Kirkdale.
1114—Joppa, Corn Hall, Fakenham.
1129—St. Chad's, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
1161—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. Germain's, Cornwall.
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich.
1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Atheneum, Lancaster.
1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea.
R. A. 294—Shakespeare, Masonic Room, High-street, Warwick.
R. A. 403—Hertford, Town Hall, Hertford.
R. A. 417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester.
R. A. 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.
R. A. 632—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Trowbridge.
R. A. 907—Royal Albert, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, E.C.
R. A. 1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.

THURSDAY, 21st DECEMBER.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
169—Temperance, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
813—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton.
1139—South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
1339—Stockwell, Half Moon, Herne Hill.
1426—The Great City, 111 Cheapside, E.C., at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road.
M.M.—Temple, Gun Tavern, Wapping. (Instruction.)
56—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
280—Worcester, Bell Hotel, Worcester.
343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston.
523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester.
663—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
1181—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Battle, Sussex.
1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon.
1612—West Middlesex, Railway Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
R. A. 339—Regularity, Crown Hotel, King-street, Penrith.

FRIDAY, 22nd DECEMBER.

House Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road. (Instruction.)
933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1269—Hervey, Fanch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1273—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

SATURDAY, 23rd DECEMBER.

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

IRELAND.

WEDNESDAY—161—Excelsior, Bishop-street, Tuam.
THURSDAY—129—Industry, Dundoran, Donegal.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

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

MONDAY.

R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

WEDNESDAY.

1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
1301—Brighouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse.
R. A. 290—Prosperity, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield

THURSDAY.

600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.

FRIDAY.

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

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

MONDAY.

424—Borough, Freemason's Hall, West-street, Gateshead.
M. M. 124—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Queen-street, Sunderland.

TUESDAY.

1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
R.A. 80—St. John, Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, Sunderland.

WEDNESDAY.

1334—Norman, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham.
1339—Fenwick, Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, Sunderland.

THURSDAY.

531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Regent's-square, Hartlepool.
940—Philanthropy, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road, Stockton-on-Tees.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—41—St. Luke, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—36—St. David, Ship Hotel, East Register-street.
405—Rifle, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—160—Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, 62 Nicolson-street.
THURSDAY—18—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
226—Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-street.
R. A. 152—Perseverance, Lodge Room, 86 Constitution-street

SCOTLAND.

WEDNESDAY—0—Mother Kilwinning, Freemasons' Hall, Kilwinning.

GLASGOW AND THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

All the Meetings are at 8.0 p.m., unless otherwise stated.

MONDAY—120—St. Mirren's, 5 Moss-street, Paisley.
332—Union, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
581—Plantation, McLean-street, Govan-road, Glasgow.
TUESDAY—3 bis.—St. John's, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
73—Thistle and Rose, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
87—Thistle, Freemasons' Hall, Cathedral-street, Glasgow.
437—Govanvale, Partland Hall, Govan-road, Glasgow.
WEDNESDAY—117—St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, Douglas-street, Partick.
128—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow.
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
465—St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road, Glasgow.
553—St. Vincent, Freemasons' Hall, Dumbarton-road.
FRIDAY—408—Clyde, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee Meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Bro. Col. Creation V.P. in the chair. The Secretary, Bro. Jas. Terry, read the minutes of the former meeting, which were confirmed. A letter was read, announcing that H.R.H. Prince Leopold would take the chair at the next Anniversary Festival, which is to be held on the 12th of February, instead of the 14th, as previously announced. The secretary informed the Committee that a cheque for £50, less legacy duty, had been received from the executors of the late Bro. Gates. He also informed them that, up to the present time, there were 175 Stewards. The death of one male annuitant was announced. Eight male and six female candidates were placed on the list of annuitants. Bro. J. Constable proposed that the use of the Hall at Croydon be granted, on the 3rd January, for the purpose of giving the annuitants the Annual Entertainment. A vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman. There were present Bros. S. Rawson, Hyde-Palica, Jas. Brett, W. Stephens, Griffiths Smith, A. H. Tattershall, J. Nunn, J. W. White, R. H. Girard, T. Cubitt, J. Newton, Case, H. M. Levy, Warren, C. F. Hogard, H. Massey, J. Constable, Erasmus Wilson, Hill, Nettleship, &c.

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THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF THIS INSTITUTION will take place on Monday, the 12th February 1877, at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, London, upon which occasion

H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., &c., &c.

R.W. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire,

has graciously signified his intention of presiding.

Brethren desirous of accepting the office of Steward upon this auspicious occasion will greatly oblige by forwarding their names, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give every information required.

JAMES TERRY, Prov. G.D.C. Herts,
Secretary.

* H.R.H. Prince Leopold has been pleased to alter the day of the Festival from Wednesday the 14th February (being Ash Wednesday) to Monday the 12th.

4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

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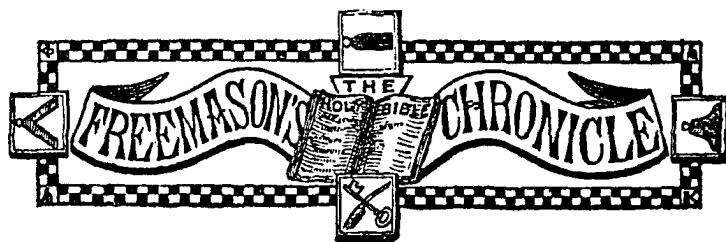
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

LAST Saturday the Queen held a Council at Windsor, at which the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Right Hon. Stephen Cave, M.P., were present. Parliament, which stood prorogued to the 12th instant, was further prorogued till 8th February, on which day it will meet for the despatch of business. The Marquess of Tweeddale had an audience of Her Majesty for the purpose of delivering up the badge and riband of the Order of the Thistle worn by his late father. Captain John Richardson having then been presented as Secretary of the Order in succession to his father, Sir John Richardson, Sir William Stirling Maxwell, Bart., preceded by Captain Richardson, the Secretary, was introduced into the Royal presence, received the honour of knighthood, and was then invested with the insignia of the Thistle. Captain George S. Nares, R.N., preceded by Sir Albert W. Woods, Registrar and Secretary of the Bath, was then introduced to Her Majesty, received the honour of knighthood, and was invested with the insignia of the Civil Division of the Second Class or Knights Commander of the Bath. Captain Henry Stephenson, R.N., then received from the Queen the insignia of the Third Class (Civil), or Companions of the Bath. The Prince and Princess Christian dined with Her Majesty on Saturday, as did the Right Hon. the Home Secretary, Mr. Theodore Martin, and Sir William S. Maxwell.

The same day His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived at Marlborough House from a visit to the Maharajah Dhuleep Sing, at Elvedon Hall, Thetford. On Monday, the Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Princess Louis of Hesse, and attended by her suite, returned to Marlborough House from Sandringham. On Tuesday the Prince of Wales was present at the meeting in St. James's Hall of the Royal Geographical Society, when Captains Sir George Nares, Stephenson, and Markham, severally read some highly interesting papers relating to the recent Arctic discoveries, the first of them being general in its character, and noting the results of the expedition; while Captain Stephenson described the winter quarters of the Discovery, and how he and her officers and crew passed the winter; and Captain Markham directed his attention chiefly to the

various sledging expeditions that were undertaken. Sir Rutherford Alcock, the President, occupied the chair, and, at the conclusion of the addresses, the Prince of Wales proposed a vote of thanks. He was eloquently supported by a former President of the Society, Sir Henry Rawlinson, and, at the suggestion of the Chairman, the vote was passed with three enthusiastic cheers.

On Friday last, what was designated as a Conference, was held at St. James's Hall, for the purpose of denouncing sympathy with the Turks. The Duke of Westminster took the chair at the commencement of the proceedings at twelve o'clock. A variety of speakers having expressed their views on the subject, a brief adjournment took place. On reassembling at 4 p.m., the Earl of Shaftesbury took the chair, and the discussion of the pre-arranged topics was continued, among the speakers being Mr. Gladstone, who delivered one of his impassioned addresses to an excited and sympathetic audience. Whether these appeals of his are better calculated to secure peace than the calm judicial action of our Foreign Secretary is a matter which may fairly be questioned. Our readers will, of course, decide this for themselves. For our own part we begin to think these so-called conferences and meetings are a public nuisance; and, for this reason, we shall be thankful when Parliament meets, about the usual time in February.

A large and influential meeting was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Tuesday—the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair—for the purpose of considering the best means of promoting a memorial to the late Mr. George Moore. Lord Hampton, Sir Sydney Waterlow, Bishop Claughton, the Rev. Dr. Stoughton, Alderman Lawrence, and others were present. Letters expressing regret at being unable to attend, and approval of the objects of the meeting, were read from the Duke of Westminster, Lord Muncaster, Earl Russell, Lord Shaftesbury, the Bishops of London and Carlisle, &c., &c. The Archbishop of Canterbury having briefly addressed those present, a series of resolutions, to the effect that a memorial should be established, that subscriptions to that end be raised, and that a Committee be appointed to carry out the scheme, were duly proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed to. A cordial vote of thanks to the Chair brought the proceedings to a close.

Last Saturday saw the end of the Smithfield Club Cattle Show, and the dispersion of the animals which had been exhibited. Many of them, of course, have already found their way into the market, while others, again, have been sent to try their fortune at other Agricultural Shows. On Wednesday, the Birmingham fat Cattle Show, which ordinarily precedes that held at the Agricultural Hall, was opened, and remains open till Monday. This, next to our London Show, is one of the most important in the country, and we are not surprised to learn that it has proved a great success both in the quality and number of the entries, the latter, as compared with last year, being—in cattle, 204 to 119; in sheep, 105 to 72; and in pigs, 66 to 41. Most of our best breeders were represented. Mr. Joseph Stratton won the first prize for shorthorn heifers, and also a special prize of £100. Mr. Kidner, whose Devon ox took the Champion Plate as the best beast in the Smithfield Club Show, was here, also, best in Devons, and likewise took the Elkington Challenge Shield, his exhibit being pronounced the best in the Show. Lords Lonsdale, Walsingham, and Chesham were among the principal winners of sheep prizes. The show of pigs was excellent, and there was a very numerous exhibition of poultry and pigeons, the poultry exhibits being a little over 2,000, and the pigeons 670.

A further series of experiments with the 80-ton gun is being conducted at Shoeburyness, and the artillerists who are watching them appear to express themselves satisfied with the results. If not as monstrous as the guns built for the Italian Government by Sir William Armstrong, these Woolwich infants seem to be as formidable an engine of war as we are likely to need. A bolt that weighs three quarters of a ton, with a charge of 370 lbs, ought to be enough to break through any defences which could be raised against it, nor does it much matter if a ship is sunk or well smashed by a 100-tonner or an 80-tonner. However, it seems to be generally conceded that as Italy has bought a bigger gun from one of our manufacturers than we have got for our own use, we must not remain as we are, but set to work manufacturing 160-tonners, and if need be, 200-tonners. When, however, we have got so far, it will be necessary to design larger and heavier

metalled ships, till at length the limit of gun-making and ship-building will be reached, we presume, at last.

Early on Tuesday morning a terrible collision occurred between two barques, of Boston and Liverpool respectively, some eighteen miles off the Start Point, Devon, whereby fifteen lives have been lost. The Liverpool barque, named the Huddersfield, sank in a few minutes; two of her crew, however, contrived to get aboard the Robert Kelly, of Boston, the remaining fifteen being lost. Shortly after, the Robert Kelly was found to be in a sinking condition, and had to be abandoned, those on board, to the number of nineteen, and including the captain's wife, taking to an open boat. Fortunately, after tossing about for some two hours, they were picked up by the brigantine Avoka, though, the sea being so rough at the time, each person had to fasten a rope round him, and be dragged on board. The rescued people were landed at Portland on Wednesday, and were received at the Sailors' Home, Weymouth, where they met with every attention from the officials.

Matters do not appear to be running smoothly in connection with the Presidential election. It is said the canvassing boards have declared the election in South Carolina and Florida to have resulted in a victory for the Republican candidate, Hayes. On the other hand, it is urged that these two States are admittedly Democratic, and that, if the returning officers have done their duty fairly as between the rival parties, there is no doubt the election has gone in favour of Tilden, the Democrat. We know not what may happen, but it is evident there is a rapidly growing excitement about the issue throughout the whole of the United States, and the conduct of the President, of the military, and others, is being fiercely canvassed. We trust the man who is returned will be the man who has really received the majority of votes.

The news from Constantinople appears to be of a far more reassuring character than any we have received for some time past, and the belief is gaining ground that after all there may be no conflict between Turkey and Russia, and therefore no danger of this local being converted into a general European war. A number of preliminary meetings of the plenipotentiaries are being held, with a view, no doubt, to define strictly the questions which will have to be formally decided by the Conference. Some feeling is said to have been expressed in Turkish circles at the non-participation of the Turkish plenipotentiaries in these preliminary conferences, but this will not, we hope, be productive of very serious results. We trust these bright hopes may be realised; but unless we know the real value of the reports that reach this country, we should not like to pin our faith to newspaper telegrams. While there is peace, there is always hope it may continue, and this we sincerely trust may be borne out in the present case.

Old Warrants.

—:O:—

No. 47.

No. 207, "Ancients;" No. 259 at the "Union of 1813," No. 184 from A.D. 1832, and No. 158 from A.D. 1863.

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TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—We the GRAND LODGE of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince EDWIN, at York, Anno Domini Nine Hundred Twenty and Six, and in the Year of Masonry, Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and Six) in ample Form assembled, viz. THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL and Most Noble Prince JOHN (the 3rd), Duke, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine; Earl of Strathtay and Strathardle; Viscount of Balquhain, Glenbroun and Glenlyon; Lord Murray, Belveny and Gask; Hereditary Captain and Constable of the Castle and Constabulary of Kilskenven; Hereditary Keeper of the Palace of Falkland; and in that part of Great Britain called England, &c. Masonical Jurisdiction therewith belonging GRAND MASTER OF MASONS: The Right Worshipful William Dickey, DEPUTY GRAND MASTER; The Right Worshipful Robert Davy, Esq., SENIOR GRAND WARDEN, and the Right Worshipful George Stewart, Esq., JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN (with the approbation and consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster) Do hereby authorise and empower our Trusty and Well beloved Brethren, viz., The Worshipful JOHN HARRALD one of our MASTER MASONS, The Worshipful George Allen his SENIOR WARDEN, and The Worshipful Jonathan West, his JUNIOR WARDEN, to Form

and Hold a LODGE of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS aforesaid at the sign of the Marquis of Granby in the Town of Sheerness and County of Kent, upon the 1st and 4th Monday in each Kalender Month, and on all seasonable Times and Lawful Occasions, and in the said LODGE (when duly congregated) to admit and make FREE MASONS according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the ROYAL CRAFT in all Ages and Nations throughout the known World. And, We do hereby further authorise and empower our said Trusty and Well beloved Brethren, John Harrald, George Allen, and Jonathan West (with the Consent of the Members of their LODGE) to nominate, chuse, and install their Successors, to whom they shall deliver this WARRANT, and invest them with their Powers and Dignities as FREE MASONS, &c. And such Successors shall in like manner nominate and chuse and install their Successors, &c. &c. &c. Such Installations to be upon (or near) every St. JOHN'S DAY during the Continuance of this LODGE for Ever, Providing the above named Brethren and all their Successors always pay due Respect to this Right Worshipful GRAND LODGE, otherwise this WARRANT to be of no Force nor Virtue.

Given under our Hands and the SEAL of our GRAND LODGE in LONDON this Twenty Fifth day of September in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy and Eight, and in the year of MASONRY Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy and Eight.

JAS. JONES,
Grand Secretary.

NOTE.—Along the margin, at the left hand of the Warrant, is inscribed:—

No. 207

Received and delivered to Brothers Springfield, Watts and Missin, by order of the Rt. W. Deputy Grand Master.

ROBT. LESLIE G.S.
4th Dec. 1797.

NOTE.—This Warrant is registered in the Grand Lodge, Vol. 8, Letter H.

The present title, No., &c. are, The Adams Lodge, No. 158, Freemasons' Hall, Sheerness.

No. 48.

No. 266, "Ancients;" No. 336 at the "Union of 1813," No. 235 from A.D. 1832, and No. 199 from A.D. 1863.

GRAND MASTER ANTRIM.

WATKIN LEWIS S.G.W. JAMES AGAR D.G.M. JOHN BUNN J.G.W.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—We the Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince Edwin, at York, Anno Domini 926, and in the year of Masonry 4926), in ample form assembled, viz., The Right Worshipful the Most Noble and Puissant Prince Randall William McDonnell Marquis and Earl of Antrim, Viscount Dunluce and Baron of Antrim, Knight of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, Lord Lieutenant of the County of Antrim, one of His Majesty's most Honorable Privy Council, Grand Master of Masons,—The Right Worshipful James Agar Esq. Deputy Grand Master, The Right Worshipful Sir Watkin Lewis Kn^t. Senior Grand Warden and The Right Worshipful John Bunn Esq. Junior Grand Warden (with the approbation and consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster), Do hereby authorise and empower our Trusty and Well beloved Brethren, viz., The Worshipful Thomas Stubbersfield one of our Master Masons, The Worshipful John Hills his Senior Warden, and The Worshipful William Elden his Junior Warden, to Form and Hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons aforesaid, at the Castle Inn or elsewhere in the Town of Maidstone in the County of Kent upon the first Monday in every Callender Month, on all seasonable Times and lawful Occasions, And in the said Lodge (when duly congregated) to admit and make Free Masons according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft in all ages and nations throughout the known World. And We do hereby further authorise and empower our said Trusty and Well beloved Brethren, Thomas Stubbersfield, John Hills, and William Elden (with the consent of the Members of their Lodge) to nominate, chuse and install their Successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, and invest them with their Powers and Dignities as Free Masons, &c., and such Successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse and install their Successors, &c., &c., &c. Such installation to be upon (or near) every St. John's Day during the continuance of this Lodge for ever, Providing the above named Brethren, and all their Successors always pay due Respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force nor Virtue.

Given under our Hands and the Seal of our Grand Lodge in London, this Twenty second day of February, in the Year of our Lord 1791, and in the Year of Masonry 5791.

ROBERT LESLIE,
Grand Secretary.

NOTE.—This Warrant is registered in the Grand Lodge, Vol. 8, Letter E, No. 266.

Transferred and Granted to be held at Dover in the within County of Kent (being first duly Registered pursuant to the Statute in that case made and provided).

By order of the Rt. Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

ROBT. LESLIE, Grand Secretary.

This Warrant transferred from Maidstone to Dover in 1801, the

number continuing 266. When the two Grand Lodges were united in December 1813, the number became 336, and in the year 1832, when the numbers were closed up (many Lodges having ceased to meet), it became No. 235.

See letter from WM. GRAY CLARKE, Esq., G. Sec., 1st March 1860.

HENRY S. BOYTON, W.M. No. 199.

The present title, No., &c. are, The Lodge of Peace & Harmony, No. 199, Dover.

CRITICISM AND DRAMATIC CRITICS.

WITHOUT laying ourselves open to the charge of being *laudatores temporis acti*, we think we may safely express our conviction that the dramatic criticism of the present day is not what it has been in times past. We do not merely refer to the period when Hazlitt, Leigh Hunt, Charles Lamb, and Wainwright were the principal writers of this species of literature, but even a generation later than this we contend a sounder and healthier criticism prevailed than is to be found at the present time. Oxford and Tom Taylor in their younger days, Henry Morley, Slingsby Lawrence, and Frederick Guest Tomlins formed certainly a stronger phalanx than the Morris's, Scott's, Broughton's, and Thomas's of the present day. The mere fact of the verdicts of dramatic critics being so frequently questioned by theatrical managers, and so often disproved by the logic of events, speaks volumes as to the quality of the criticism, and the respect in which its judgments are held. Nor is this a matter for surprise. Pope tells us that—

"A man must serve his time to every trade,
Save criticism; critics all are ready made,"

and the conductors of newspapers certainly seem to act upon this conviction. To commence with the deity of Printing House Square, has any man yet been able to discover in its present dramatic critic one single qualification for the post he holds beyond the fact that he is the son of his father? Without fear of contradiction, we assert that in the case of four critics out of every five at present on the London press, the experience and knowledge which they possess has been acquired since they were installed in their posts. Thus it happens that when women with the stature of a giantess, and the manners of a fish fag, purchase an appearance in a leading character, a chorus of admiration is raised by the press critics at their magnificent presence and commanding talents; thus it is that shameless creatures, swept from the streets on to the stage, are permitted to essay impersonation consecrated by the memories of England's most delightful actresses.

These reflections have been forced upon us by the appearance in the columns of a contemporary of an extraordinary criticism upon the little one-act comedy entitled "Toto chez Tata," in which the charming actress Madame Chantmont so recently appeared. The following is the description of the plot, as given by our contemporary:—"Toto is a youthful student, who becomes fascinated with a Parisian *cocotte*, and puts aside his lessons, in order to take lessons in love, but his parents and guardians, thinking a schoolboy might be better employed, shut him up, with his book, in a garret, feeding him upon bread and water. The indignant youth tells his story to the audience, and as the curtain falls we find him making merry over a bottle of Malaga, sent from this young lady, who sympathises with him in his imprisonment." Now, we have had the pleasure of witnessing this play on two occasions, and we have the book of it now before us. We are, therefore, in a position to assure our readers that almost every word of this description is incorrect. Toto does not become fascinated by a Parisian *cocotte*; on the contrary, he is selected by his fellow-students to go and tell the woman that they despise her. He does not put aside his lessons to take lessons in love, for the idea of love, save of love for his parents and guardians, never suggests itself to his mind. His parents and guardians do not shut him up in a garret, for the lad is living at a boarding school, and it is the master of the school who shuts him up. Last, though not least, of this chain of blunders, it is not the young lady who sends him the bottle of Malaga, but his guardian, the Marquis de Château-Lunsac. After this, may we not ask, what respect or consideration is due to such criticism? Or, need we feel surprised that Mr. Hollingshead, Mr. Chatterton, Mr. Emery, and so many other theatrical managers and actors, should challenge the verdict of such critics?

Royal Chapter, Kingston, Jamaica, No. 207.—The quarterly convocation of this Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, on 26th October. Present—M.E. Comps. Langley Z., Gassia H., Davis J. The election of officers then took place, when the following were elected:—M.E. Gassia Z., Davis H., Shorlock J., Comps. Sindo S.E., Ward S.N., Bamed Treasurer, Albeya P.S., Magnus Janitor. This is the oldest Chapter in the Island, having been resuscitated during the last twelve months after an abeyance of fifteen years. The Installation takes place in January.

Glenlyon Lodge, Jamaica, No. 346 (S.C.)—Wor. Bro. H. Dias has been re-elected as Master of the Glenlyon Lodge.

Sussex Lodge, Jamaica, No. 354.—The members of this Lodge, having sold their premises to the Government, have purchased, for £1,200, large and extensive premises, situated in Upper Hanover-street. These will shortly be enlarged and consecrated.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 3.—This Lodge held its meeting on Wednesday, the 13th of December, at Freemasons' Hall, London. Present: Bros. George Phillips W.M., Perryman S.W., Cadwell P.M. and J.W., Squire P.M. Secretary, Dearsley P.M. Treasurer, McDougall S.D., Cook J.D., Dr. Clark I.G., Potts Tyler, Past Masters Bros. Burland and Crag. Visitors—Bros. Ormer 907, Garrod 511, and Allison 90. The Lodge having been formally opened, Messrs. John Block and Milestone were initiated, after which Bro. Scott was passed, and Bro. Spooner raised. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, and resulted in favour of the S.W., Bro. Perryman. The Treasurer and Tyler were both re-elected. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to a capital dinner, a very pleasant evening being enlivened with some good singing.

Albion Lodge, No. 9.—This Lodge held its meeting on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street. Present—Bros. W. R. Marsh W.M., W. T. Scott S.W., W. R. Lake J.W., James Abbott Sec., T. Moring Treas., F. McCarthy S.D., S. Coste D.C., E. Coste Steward, James Forbes Organist, James Rawles Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. J. Cater, H. S. Friend, S. Vallentine, and H. Albert; Bros. Harvey, Longstaff, E. D. Willey, Thompson, Chifferiel, Watson, Saunders, Benkel and Holroyd. Visitors—Bros. George S. Jones, Solomons 46, New Jersey, U.S.A., E. B. Barr, *Southern Star*, 1158. The business consisted of the raising of Bro. J. Longstaff. After which a ballot was taken for W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for ensuing year, which resulted as follows:—W. T. Scott W.M., T. Moring P.M. Treas., James Rawles Tyler. Bro. S. Vallentine was elected Treasurer of Benevolent Fund. After which the brethren appointed the Audit Committee. The Lodge was then closed.

Kent Lodge of Instruction, No. 15.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Bro. Hallows, the Checquers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow. Present—Bros. Hallows W.M., Badkin S.W., Franklin J.W., Saunders Sec., Pinder P.M. Preceptor, Brand S.D., Sanders J.D., Oldroyd I.G., Christian, Groome, Evannett, Upwood, Weston, &c. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was admirably rehearsed by the W.M., whom we congratulate on the rapid strides he has made in our beautiful ritual. Bro. Evannett acted as candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the first section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Christian, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Badkin was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Doyle's Lodge, No. 84.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, 13th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Court-place, Guernsey. Present—Bros. Highton Wilkins W.M., Robert H. Payne S.W., C. W. Inman J.W., Frederick Clarke Sec., J. H. Guilbert Treas., Edward K. Corbin S.D., Jos. H. Parker J.D., Aurelius F. Corbin I.G., Nicholas Manger Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. James Galliene P.D.P.G.M., J. La Serre, James B. Gardner. Visitors—Bros. Hewitt 749, W. W. Martin, Norton, 69. The bye-laws of the Lodge having been read, according to ancient custom, the election of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year took place, which resulted in the re-election of Bro. H. Wilkins. Bro. Guilbert was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Manger Tyler. Bro. Charles Poole, of Lodge 21, was elected a joining member.

St. John's Lodge, No. 90.—The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 11th inst., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, and being the election night a large number of brethren were present. The W.M., Bro. W. W. Venn, occupied the chair. Present—Bros. Egles, J. Griffin, Stephens, McDougall, Adam, Alderman and Sheriff Hadley P.G.A.D.C. Past Masters Bros. Brown, Rock, Allison, and several other brethren. Visitors—Bros. East (of Israel, 205, one of the Sheriffs of London), Spicer (of Fitzroy Lodge), Bateman, Gadsby, C. Warwick, Jordan, &c. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read. Bro. Bowden was passed. The election for W.M. then took place, and was unanimously in favour of Bro. Storiner. Bro. Egles was re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Goddard P.M. was re-elected Tyler. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. Sheriff Hadley responding for the Grand Officers. Bro. Hadley proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master," and dwelt on his excellent working, and the admirable manner in which he discharged the duties of his office. The toast of "The Worshipful Master Elect" was proposed by the W.M., who congratulated the Lodge upon the selection made. The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. Sheriff East, who spoke in complimentary terms of the pleasure experienced by him on his visit to the Lodge. The toasts of "The Hon. Secretary," "The Treasurer," and "The Director of Ceremonies" were responded to by the several officers, and "The Officers and Tyler" concluded a most enjoyable evening. Bros. Gadsby, Jordan, and Adam contributed some excellent harmony, and recitations were given by Bros. Allison and Rock.

Prudent Brethren Chapter, No. 145.—This Chapter met on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, and was numerously attended, both by members and visitors. Comp. E. A. Long occupied the chair of M.E.Z. Present—T. Bull H., E. Moody J., J. Last P.Z. Treasurer, G. States P.Z. S.E., and P.Z.'s John Boyd, H. Dicketts, W. Platt, Warrington, and E. J. Walford. The Chapter having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, ballots were taken for the admission of Bros. John Jermyn Boyd 23, W. C. Lentz 23, and L. Bishop 60, proposed by Comp. J. Boyd P.Z., and seconded by Comp. H. Dicketts P.Z. The election of Principals and Officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—Comp. T. Bull M.E.Z., E. Moody H., E. H. Thiellay J.,

J. Last Treasurer, G. S. States P.Z. S.E., Manley Asst. S.E., Parkins S.N., Cox P.S., Venn 1st Asst., Haslett 2nd Asst. The M.E.Z. was installed by Comp. Long I.P.Z., and the H. by Comp. John Boyd P.Z. The J., Comp. E. H. Thiellay, was unable to attend, in consequence of indisposition. By the courtesy of the M.E.Z., Comp. John Boyd P.Z. occupied the chair, for the purpose of exalting his son and the other two candidates. The working was fully appreciated by every Comp. present, the principals being perfect in their several parts. Comp. John Boyd then gave the lecture and address, which, being so rarely given, was listened to with great pleasure. Previous to commencing, he stated that as it was seldom that Companions of the Order heard anything but the ceremonies, it was the intention of the Chapter at future meetings to give some portions of the lectures and sections. He then proceeded with the lecture on "The R. A. Jewel." The resignation of two Comps. was accepted, with regret. Comp. Belfrage proposed, and Comp. Long P.Z. seconded, "That a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Comp. Boyd, for his excellent rendering of the lecture on 'The R. A. Jewel.'" The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions sat down to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Comp. Dawkins (the manager). Grace having been said, the M.E.Z., with his usual ability and geniality, gave the usual Loyal and Royal Arch toasts. The National Anthem having been sung, by Comps. Theodore Distin, Carter, and Miss Florence Lavender, the toast of "The Grand Z. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and the toast of "The Grand H. and J." was next given, coupled with the name of "Col. Creaton P.G.S.B., P.Z. No. 2" who, in responding, said those distinguished noblemen were indeed worthy of the honour they had received, and he felt proud to respond on their behalf; but we must give the meed of praise to this Chapter, which is, indeed, par excellence; it is a model Chapter, and he had never witnessed better working in his life. Comp. Long I.P.Z. then proposed the toast of "The M.E.Z." who, he said, had filled every office in the Lodge and Chapter with credit to himself and satisfaction to the Companions; we can congratulate ourselves on falling under such pleasant superintendence. We are in the constellation Taurus. At the present moment we have on either side stars of lesser magnitude. On each of his horns, and around him, are a cluster of stars, we may call the Pleiades, and we may say we have a miniature representative of the Grand Constellation, the Bull. Comp. Bull responded, and said he thanked them heartily for placing him in the proud position he now occupied, he hoped to discharge his duties to their satisfaction. The M.E.Z. then proposed the toast of "The Visitors," and mentioned their names *seriatim*. Many of these were distinguished in the Order, and they were pleased to see them present. Comp. Hyde Pullen P.G.D.C., in a very eloquent speech, returned thanks, and in the course of his remarks paid a compliment to the working he had witnessed in the Chapter. Every detail had been well carried out. He had seen the introduction of the son of Comp. John Boyd P.Z., who he hoped would emulate the bright example of his respected father, whom they were all proud of. (Cheers). In conclusion, he thanked them, in the name of the Visitors, for the hospitality shown them. Comp. Carter sang very sweetly "My Pretty Jane." The M.E.Z. then proposed the toast of "The newly exalted Companions," one of whom is a son of our old and esteemed Companion John Boyd, the other his nephew, and the third an old friend, who informs me he has known me for over twenty years. I need not say that, from their excellent recommendations, we are pleased to see them among us. I am sure they will be an acquisition to the Order. Comp. Boyd jun. returned thanks in an excellent speech, and said he felt a pleasure in being among them; it was indeed gratifying to hear the encomiums passed on the working of the Chapter by those distinguished Companions, Colonel Creaton and Hyde Pullen. He paid a deserving compliment to Comps. Boyd and the M.E.Z. for the cordial reception they had met with. Companions W. C. Lentz and L. Bishop followed, with very excellent speeches. The M.E.Z. said he had a very pleasing duty to perform—and that was to propose the health of the "P.Z.'s." They all had seen how admirably they had discharged their duties, but they must not forget the I.P.Z., Comp. Long, remembering how successful his year of office has been, his perfect working, and the many happy hours they had passed under his presidency. Comp. Long, in returning thanks, said: I rise with great pleasure to return thanks on behalf of myself and the Past Principals; it was pleasing to hear from the M.E.Z. and Companions these expressions of satisfaction for the manner the duties had been conducted, but this evening, being a P.Z. for the first time, I feel like a monarch retired from business; but not like him, because, going into retirement, we carry with us the satisfaction of the Companions. The M.E.Z. then proposed "The Health of Comp. E. Moody," the newly installed H., and spoke of his qualifications. They had seen his working, and he was able to fill every office the Chapter required of him. Miss Florence Lavender then sang "Tell me, my Heart," which was deservedly applauded. The M.E.Z. said he had an especial toast, it was a very pleasing one—viz., "The Health of Comp. J. Boyd." (Loud cheers.) It was to him they owed the existence of the Chapter. Whatever duty is required of him he is always ready and willing to perform. You have seen what he has done this evening, and know his worth. The toast was received with great enthusiasm. Comp. Boyd having replied, the M.E.Z. proposed the toast of "The Treasurer, Comp. J. Last, together with that of Comp. G. S. States S.E." The M.E.Z. stated he could testify to the ability and zeal they had always shown in the discharge of their respective duties, and he hoped they would be spared for many years to be among them. (Cheers.) Comp. Last returned thanks. He hoped the wishes of the M.E.Z. might be realised. Comp. G. S. States followed, and, in the course of his speech mentioned, the Public Night that was given, when 370 Companions were present. He hoped they would have another, and he was sure it would be numerously attended. He said he thanked them for the confidence reposed in him, which would always be an incentive to him to do

his duty. The toasts of "The Junior Officers," and "The Janitor" concluded a most intellectual and harmonious evening. Among the visitors were Comps. S. Rawson V.I.G.S. China, E. G. Scott 77, J. B. Amor Regularity, Col. Creaton P.Z. P.G.J.B. No. 2, Hyde Pullen P.G.D.C., H. G. Buss P.Z. 177, H. Massey P.Z. 619, H. M. Levy P.Z. 188, J. Constable II. elect 141, C. Duke Emulation 40, Hastings, T. W. Murley, C. Martin 25, Fletcher 180, H. C. Levander P.Z. 720.

Caveac Lodge, No. 176.—This Lodge met at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on Saturday, the 9th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Walter Miller Goes W.M., who was well supported by officers, members, and visitors. Amongst those present were—Bros. Percival, A. Nairne P.M. (who, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Stride, officiated as S.W.), J. B. Sorrell J.W., Stausfield S.D., Neumegen J.D., Thorpe I.G., C. Dorey P.M. Secretary, C. Browne P.M. and D.C., and Past Masters Sorrell I.P.M., P. Browne Treasurer, Besley, and Lemann. Also Bros. Jones, Payne, Morrice, Lamb, Griffiths, Akenhead, Kirkness, Moore, Bryson, and others. The Lodge was visited by the W. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, representing "Westminster and Keystone" No. 10, James Stevens P.M., "The Great City" No. 1426, A. H. Lilley P.M., "Fortitude and Old Cumberland" No. 12, John Constable P.M., "Tranquillity" No. 185, Edward Clarke P.M., "Caledonian" 134, and Alfred Grubb 73, "Irish Constitution." The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. Henry Bryson was passed to the second degree in a most able and efficient manner, and, no further business being before the Lodge, it was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served in the usual excellent manner so long identified with the management of the Albion. On the cloth being cleared, the usual loyal and principle Masonic toasts were introduced by the W.M. in brief but admirable terms, and were duly acknowledged. For Grand Lodge Officers, Bro. Simpson responded, in a speech congratulatory of the work and progress of the Lodge, and, referring briefly to the propositions before the Grand Lodge on the subject of the commemoration of the return of the M.W.G.M. from India, expressed the hope that, whatever decision might be arrived at by the Special Grand Lodge, about to be holden, it would be unanimous, and be accepted by the Craft generally with satisfaction. The W.M.'s health was drunk with much enthusiasm, and the kind and truthful remarks as to his courtesy and efficiency, with which the toast was introduced, were heartily endorsed by all present. The several visitors responded to the toast proposed in their honour, Bro. Stevens remarking that he had attended to represent "The Great City" Lodge, then holding its meeting in Cannon-street, bringing with him the cordial greetings and hearty good wishes of that Lodge, and suggesting that when several Lodges met in the metropolis on the same evening, visits of representation from one Lodge to another would tend greatly to the mutual advantage of the respective Lodges, and cement that good feeling which each entertained for the other; but which, from the circumstance of concurrent dates of meeting, they were unable otherwise to evince. His remarks were received with considerable favour, and we have been informed that at a later period of the evening, Bro. Stevens was enabled to convey to the members of "The Great City" Lodge, through its W.M., and before they separated, the hearty response of the "Caveac" Lodge, and to express his sense of the generous welcome which had been accorded to him as their representative on this occasion. Bro. Dovey Sec., and Bro. Browne Treas., having acknowledged the toast, coupled with their respective offices, the charity box received a liberal deposit, and after further compliments had been paid to the officers, the final toast was proposed, prior to which, however, the brethren, as is the annual custom in this Lodge, united to ensure to their worthy Tyler a liberal provision for his Christmas cheer; and so with the consciousness of duty performed, and charitable instincts indulged, this interesting ceremony was brought to a close, and the members of the "Caveac" separated with seasonable good wishes towards each other, and until the New Year shall once more re-unite them.

Domestic Lodge, No. 177.—The regular meeting of this numerous and flourishing Lodge was held on Friday, the 8th inst. at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. G. Everett I.P.M. occupied the chair, in the absence of the W.M., who lately met with a severe accident. James Willing jun. S.W., Palmer J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. Treas., Williams Sec., Buscall S.D., G. Clarke J.D., White D.C., and Bros. J. Jones, Goodfellow, Harris, Pierpoint, Purchase, Hertage, Rendersleigh, Abrams, Thomson, Tribe, Renkauff, Plummer; and P.M.'s Kent C.C., Elmes, Haydon, Walford and Ferguson. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Millen was raised to the 3rd degree, and Bro. Cox was passed to the 2nd. Ballots were then taken for the admission of Messrs. H. E. Read, W. R. Pether, R. Scatterwood, C. J. Davies, and G. W. Brangwin; which proving in their favour, they were duly initiated into the Order. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. James Willing S.W. was unanimously elected to fill that office, the announcement being received with acclamation by all present. Bro. J. Smith was re-elected Treas., and Daly Tyler. The Audit Committee were appointed, it consisted of Bros. Harris, Jones, Everett jun. Scard and Foxcroft. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of the usual banquet, provided in Bro. Clemow's best style, and superintended by Bro. Smith. The acting W.M. presided, and proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. The health of the W.M. elect was received with enthusiasm, and was suitably replied to. The toasts of the Wardens, Officers, and the Tyler concluded a very pleasant evening. Visitors—Bros. Still, Lansdown, Wordley, Jones, Hunt, Ohren, Macers, Stiles, Cunningham, Crowder and Hall.

Royal Arch Chapter, No. 178.—A Mark Master Masons' Lodge in connection with this Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Castle-street, on Friday evening the 8th inst. at half-past five o'clock. Present—Bro. R. M. Tilly W.M. presiding. Bros. A. Murchie S.W.,

J. McBride J.W., J. Higginson Sec. and Treas., T. Falcoun S.D., W. Graham J.D., W. R. Kelly M.O., T. Talleutire S.O., T. Byron J.O., J. Darling I.G., and Magill Tyler. Visitors were present from Belfast and Lurgan. Bro. W. Redfern Kelly conferred the Mark Degree in a very superior and workmanlike manner upon the undermentioned brethren of the Lodge, viz.:—Bros. A. Boyd P.M., W. Wilson P.M., Johnston P.M., Wm. J. Gilliland, W. J. Knox jnn., and J. Stewart. After which the Lodge was closed in ancient form.

Wiltshire Keystone Mark Lodge, No. 178.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Wednesday, the 6th of December, at the Town Hall, Devizes. Present—Bros. the Rev. T. F. T. Ravenshaw, P.G.M.Ch. W.M., the Rev. H. Richardson S.W., J. Chandler J.W., D. A. Gibbs M.O., J. H. Chandler J.O., William Nott I.P.M. Secretary, Thos. Raymond S.D., C. R. Barnes J.D., W. Day and H. Howso Stewards, Thos. Ford as I.G., John Hayter Tyler, Visitor Bro. J. W. Barmam M.D., Old York T. I. Lodge. Business.—After minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. Geo. Parry of Hengist (Craft) Lodge No. 195, Bournemouth, and proved unanimous. Bro. Parry, and also Bro. H. C. Tombs, Prov. G. Sec. (Craft) Wilts, who had been approved at a former meeting, were advanced to this degree. The W.M. then requested Bro. William Nott I.P.M. to take the chair. This was done, and Bro. Nott proceeded to instal the W.M. elect for the ensuing year, Bro. the Rev. H. Richardson, into the chair of A. The newly installed W.M. appointed and invested his officers, and the accounts for the year having been passed, sundry routine business was disposed of. A proposition of a candidate for advancement at the next meeting in March was handed in, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Crown Hotel.

St. John's Lodge, No. 178.—This Lodge held its Monthly Communication in the Masonic Hall, Castle-street, Lisburn, on Friday, the 8th inst. There was a crowded attendance of the members, those present including visiting brethren from the following Lodges:—Nos. 24, 66, 121, 167, 272, 384, 565, 602, numbering upwards of 50. The installation of officers for the ensuing year, being the first business on the paper, was disposed of as follows:—Bros. Boyd as W.M., Higginson S.W., McComb J.W., W. J. Gilliland Secretary and Treasurer, Vernon S.D., McClelland J.D., Nelson I.G. Those elected were presented by Bros. McBride and Johnston. The charges were impressively given by Bro. Redfern Kelly, when the newly-installed officers were severally invested with the respective badges of their office. Bro. Kelly then proceeded to confer the Third Degree on Bro. John M'Waters Boomer. The solemn and lucid manner in which Bro. Kelly imparted the sublime degree left a lasting impression on those brethren who were privileged to take part in the ceremony. Some routine business having been transacted, the Communication was closed. The brethren then adjourned to the commodious refreshment-room of the Lodge, where a short time was agreeably spent in that social concord which is eminently the characteristic of the Masonic society.

Temple Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 173.—The regular meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, the 11th inst., at the Green Dragon Tavern, Stepney-green, Bro. Geo. Ward Verry W.M. in the chair. Bros. E. Gottheil S.W., Tarquand as J.W., T. Mortlock P.M. Treas., Sturtevant Hon. Sec., Marsh M.O., N. Gluckstein as S.O., Mole J.O., Christian S.D., Wallington J.D., Tory I.G., Lacy P.M., F. Binckes P.G.J.W., G.S. &c. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. David Wrae J.W. 1306 C.L., and E. West P.M. 1076 C.L., were advanced to the degree. This being the night of election of officers for the ensuing year, the ballot proved unanimous in favour of Bros. Gottheil W.M., T. Mortlock P.M. Treas., and Grant Tyler. The brethren next adjourned to refreshment. After "The Health of the Queen," and "Prosperity of Mark Masonry," the W.M. proposed the name of "The M.W. the Earl of Limerick," who, at the last meeting of the Grand Mark Lodge, was for the third time elected as chief of the Order. The Grand Master has endeared himself to every Mark Mason, by the unflagging interest he has ever taken in the degree. The next in order came "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers." Mark Masons have reason to think well of his Lordship, were it only for the alacrity in which he acceded to the request of taking the office of D.G.M., when it became vacant by the lamented death of the late Deputy, Bro. Romaine Callender. There were two Grand Officers present in the Lodge, namely, Bros. Mortlock and Lacy, the W.M. continued, and he would couple the name of Bro. Lacy with the toast. This having been responded to, the health of the initiates was replied to by both advances, and the W.M. next submitted the name of Bro. Gottheil W.M. elect, who thanked the Worshipful Master for the flattering terms in which he was good enough to speak of him, and the brethren for the cordiality with which his name had been received. The happiest hours in Masonry, he assured them, were spent in the Temple Mark Lodge, in which there is neither envy, jealousy, bickering, or cliquism of any kind, but all are united as one happy family. In conclusion, he promised that the interests of the Lodge will have all due care, and when his year of office shall have expired he hoped to deliver the Charter to his successor as pure and unsullied as it was when in the hands of his predecessors. The responses of the several officers were characterised by frank confessions of shortcomings in their duties, and earnest promises of amendment, which gave great satisfaction to the W.M. and Past Masters, whose pleasure thereat was indicated by repeated "hear, hear's." Bros. Mortlock, Constable, Sturtevant, Wallington, and Davis, contributed to the harmony of the proceedings by some very excellent singing.

St. James Union Lodge, No. 180.—The election meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at the Freemason's Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. W. C. Parsons I.P.M. occupied the chair, in the absence of the W.M. Present—Bros. L. Annett

S.W., Pillin J.W., G. Bubb P.M., H. A. Stacey P.M., S. A. Cameron P.M. as S.D., Harrison J.D., Farwig I.G., Stollard W.S., and Past Masters L. Herf, J. Stacey, Robinson, Stoner, and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Dibley was raised to the 3rd degree, and Mr. Sarti was ballotted for, and initiated into the Order. Great credit is due to Bro. W. C. Parsons, who at so short a notice occupied the chair, and performed the duties required of him, to the satisfaction of all present. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. L. Annett S.W., who had filled every office in the Lodge, was unanimously elected. He was informed by the acting W.M. that the brethren could not have found a better representative, to which he suitably replied. Bro. G. Bubb P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Gilbert P.M. Tyler. Bro. Stoner P.M. was re-elected Treasurer to the Benevolent Fund, and a P.M. jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Gillard W.M., on his retirement from the chair, as a mark of respect for his services as W.M. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Crown room, to a banquet provided by Bro. Dawkins, and superintended by Bro. Knill. Bro. Parsons I.P.M., as acting W.M., proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M. elect," said it was not often that so young a member of the Lodge had so far qualified himself. Their future W.M. was eminently qualified to fill the chair. He felt a pride in proposing the toast that had fallen to his lot for two consecutive years. They had worked in Freemasonry together, and he was sure he was one who would carry out every duty to their satisfaction. Bro. Annett suitably responded, and thanked Bro. Parsons for his kind expressions, and hoped to do all required of him. He hoped to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, and that would be a sufficient guarantee that he had merited the encomiums passed on him. Bro. G. Bubb P.M., in proposing the toast of "The acting W.M.," Bro. Parsons, characterised him as one who, in the chair that he had so ably filled, not only in the Lodge, but also at the banquet table, showed his aptitude for the office. Bro. Parsons briefly and appropriately replied. The toasts of "The Initiate," "P.M.'s" and "The Visitors" followed, and were severally responded to, after which the toast of "The Tyler" was given. Bros. Davies, McRae, Sarti, L. Herf, Warner, and Pillin contributed to the harmony.

United Chatham Lodge of Benevolence, No. 184.—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, 12th December, at the Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Kent. Present—Bros. Elias Gorham W.M., Simon Young S.W., William Rankine J.W., Charles E. Clark Secretary, Jessie Gustavus Redman P.M. Treasurer, Edward J. Middleton S.D., William A. Rudd J.D., Samuel Varren D.C., Alfred W. Tiunis and Frederick Bloom Stewards, Hugh Russell McKean I.G., John Drago Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Redman P.P.G. Superintendent of Works, Barley P.P.A.D.C., Hewett I.P.M., and Cecil Henry Fielding Chaplain. Visitor—Bro. Firman. Business—After the usual preliminaries, the election of W.M. for the ensuing year took place, when Bro. Young was unanimously chosen. Bro. Redman Treasurer, and Bro. Drago Tyler, were both unanimously re-elected. Bros. Scott, Ruscoc, Burnham, and Whitmore were raised to the 3rd degree, after which the Lodge was closed.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge met on Wednesday the 13th inst., at Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Coleman-street, E.C. Bro. F. Croaker in the chair. Bros. Loewenstark S.W., Walker J.W., J. K. Pitt Sec., Constable P.M. Treas., Fenner S.D., Lay J.D., Staley I.G., E. Gottheil P.M. Preceptor, James Stevens P.M., and an average number of regular attendants. The principal business of the evening consisted of the rehearsal of the second degree, Bro. I. P. Cohen acting as candidate. The first section of the Lecture was then worked by Bro. Constable, assisted by the brethren. The new landlord of this tavern having informed the Lodge that unless a fee of half a guinea per meeting was paid it would not answer his purpose to allow the use of the room, this Lodge will be compelled to remove. The new quarters have not as yet been fixed upon, and until then the meetings will take place as usual. Bro. M. D. Loewenstark having been elected W.M. for the ensuing week intends to rehearse the third ceremony. After which Bro. G. B. Abbott will give the second of the series of Lectures commenced on the 29th November. The large room will again be secured, for the greater convenience of the numerous brethren who attended on the former occasion, and who are no doubt anxious to hear the sequel to the interesting account of Masonic doings in years gone by. Brethren desirous of acquiring a knowledge of Masonic history should attend, and they will find their time has not been spent unprofitably.

Royal Brunswick Lodge, No. 296, Sheffield.—The installation meeting of this prosperous Lodge was held in the Cutler's Hall, Sheffield, on Monday evening, the 11th inst., on which occasion the W.M. Bro. Henry Ecroyd presided. A ballot was taken for Bro. the Rev. Canon Blakeney, Vicar of St. Paul's, Sheffield, who was elected a joining member. The W.M. elect, Bro. John Ridal, was then duly placed in the chair of K.S. The Board of Installing Masters numbered twenty-one. The Installing Officer was Bro. P.M. Ensor Drury P.P.G.W. of West Yorks. After having been saluted in ancient form, Bro. Ridal appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Henry Ecroyd I.P.M., Walter Nicholson S.W., Robert Schott J.W., Dr. M. de Bartolomé P.M. and P.P.G.W. Treasurer, William Skinner S.D., John Marples J.D., Thomas Harrison D.C., Samuel Suckley Organist, Clement Carr I.G., Moses Hartley and Walter Parkin Stewards, and Bro. Hessey Tyler. The very responsible duties of Charity Steward were again entrusted to Bro. Arnison P.M. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent repast, served in the banqueting room of the Cutler's Hall. Amongst the visitors present were Bros. Thomas William Tew, Deputy Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, Major Ryan G.S. of Scotland, W. Hale W.M. of the Scarsdale Lodge, Chester-

field, Clement Hamil Perrot (P.G. Organist) W.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, Rotherham, Samuel B. Ellis W.M. of the Wentworth Lodge, Sheffield, William Jervis W.M. elect of the Britannia Lodge, Sheffield, &c.

Shakespeare Lodge, No. 284.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday the 12th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Warwick. Present—Bros. F. H. Haynes M.D. W.M., S. H. Smith S.W., Brabazon Campbell J.W., S. W. Cooke P.P.G.S. Works Sec., George Wilson M.D. S.D., Thursfield M.D. J.D., C. Fontaine Browne S., N. Merriew I.G. Bro. Purser Tyler. Past Master—Bro. Margetts. The business of the evening consisted of the initiation of Mr. W. Wakefield, the passing of Bro. Spilsbury and the raising of Bro. Crofts. After which the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year took place. Bro. S. C. Smith S.W. was chosen for the office of W.M., and the Treasurer and Tyler were re-elected.

Pomfret Lodge, No. 380.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Thursday, the 7th of December, at the new Masonic buildings, Abington-street, Northampton. Present: Bros. M. A. Boime P.M. W.M., R. Winty S.W., J. U. Stanton P.M. J.W., G. Robinson P.M. Secretary, B. Wilkins D. Pr. G.M. Treasurer, F. Gadsby S.D., H. W. Parker J.D., J. T. Groon P.M. D.C., J. S. Norman I.G., Dean and Kirby Tylers. Past Masters—Bros. Flowitt, Cotton, Kellett, &c. Visitors—Bros. Greville and W. H. Linnell 445, and a very good attendance of the brethren. Business—Bro. J. Spoor was raised to the degree of M.M., the W.M. being assisted in the ceremony by Bro. Wilkins. Mr. A. J. Jeffery (a Lewis), was duly initiated, the W.M. officiating. Bro. Winter was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. After the labours of the evening, the brethren spent a couple of hours in a most convivial and harmonious manner.

Benevolent Lodge, No. 446.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, 7th December, at the Town Hall, Wells, Somerset. Present—Bros. A. Turale Perkins P.P.G.J.W. W.M., F. B. Wickenden S.W., J. Kearton J.W., L. E. Newnam Secretary, J. H. Holloway P.M. and Treasurer, C. Brown S.D., R. Wingfield Cox J.D., B. Duke I.G., W. Woodard Tyler, Past Masters Bros. J. T. Knight, T. Purnell, W. Drayton, A. Elsworth, W. Fisher, R. Tyley. Visitors—Bros. A. Hill and A. K. Ainsworth. Business—The Lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., and the minutes read and confirmed. Bros. Hill and Ainsworth were ballotted for as joining members, and unanimously elected. Mr. S. P. Russ, having been duly ballotted for, was admitted and initiated by the W.M. in his usual impressive manner. Bro. F. B. Wickenden P.S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. T. Purnell was elected Treasurer, Bro. Woodard being re-elected Tyler for the twenty-sixth time. The business of the evening being concluded, the brethren retired from labour to refreshment, and the health of the W.M. and the W.M. elect were given, and cordially received. Bro. Perkins, who has held the chair for the past two years, carries with him, on his retirement from office, the best wishes of the brethren, to whom he has endeared himself by his general urbanity and courtesy, as well as by the efficient manner in which he has carried on the duties of the Lodge. We are glad to hear that it is the intention of the Lodge to present him with the Charity Jewel, in recognition of his having twice represented the Lodge at the annual festivals during his term of office, as well as the many other services which Captain Perkins has rendered, not only to the Lodge in general, but to its members in particular.

St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 465, Glasgow.—This Lodge held its election meeting, in the Hall, on Thursday, 7th Dec. Present—Bros. Gilchrist R.W.M., J. Clark D.M., J. McLeish S.M., J. Davidson S.W., Wm. Chalmers J.W., R. Donaldson Treasurer, Wm. Campbell Sec., and the Rev. W. E. Bradshaw Chaplain. In the East were the following visitors:—Bros. J. Kinnaird R.W.M., G. Macdonald I.P.M., G. W. Wheeler P.M. 73, J. Booth R.W.M., J. Miller P.M. 87, A. Fergusson R.W.M. 354, J. Morgan I.P.M. 219, Wm. Phillips R.W.M. 556, R. Aikman R.W.M., and J. Law I.P.M. 570, and no less than 164 members signed the Roll book. The Rev. W. C. Bradshaw read a letter of condolence with the widow and orphans of the late Bro. David Younger, who was one of the founders of this Lodge, which was ordered to be signed on behalf of the Lodge and forwarded. The report of the auditors showed that during the past year nearly £60 had been paid off the expenses of fitting up their new hall. The R.W.M. then said as he, as well as the I.P.M. of the Lodge, had both been proposed for the office of Master, he would ask Bro. G. W. Wheeler to preside; and with the assistance of the other R.W.M. and P.M.'s present, conduct the whole of the elections, as they had two candidates for nearly every office. Bro. Wheeler having taken the chair, the ballot showed a majority of two votes in favour of Bro. David Reid, the I.P.M. In most cases, the contest was very close. In the case of the Treasurer, it resulted in a tie, and eventually Bro. Heron by one vote gained the office over Bro. Donaldson, who had held it for four years. The following were declared duly elected: Bros. D. Reid R.W.M., John Fyfe D.M., J. Mills S.M., Jas. Annand S.W., J. Morton J.W., John Rogers Sec., A. Herir Treas., Rev. W. C. Bradshaw Chap., Peter Douglas S.D., D. McDonald J.D., J. McDonald B.B., D. McMaster Architect, R. Maxwell Jeweller, J. Anderson S.S., J. Morrison J.S., J. Anderson, Sir B. C. McDonald S.B., J. McDonald P.G.S., A. Adams D of M., A. McCall D. of C., Jas. Mullen I.G., and P. Johnson Tyler. After thanks to the presiding Bro. and the other Masters who had assisted, the Lodge was closed, and immediately a Board of Installed Masters was formed, comprised of the nine brethren mentioned above, when Bro. Kennard, of No. 73, was duly installed by Bro. J. Morgan I.P.M. of 219, Bro. D. Reid, of St. Andrews, having previously obtained the degree.

Plantation Lodge, No. 581.—The installation meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, when J. Morgan P.G.S. installed Bro. Stobo for the second time.

Humphrey Chetham Lodge, No. 645.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday 6th December, at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. Present—Bros. W. H. Barlow W.M., John Ed. Lees S.W., W. C. Gilles J.W., Robt. Richardson Sec., S. Kelly J.D., O. Dean D.C., F. Weddle Steward, A. Middleton I.G., J. Sly Tyler. Past Masters—Bros. C. F. Matier I.P.M., C. Gütz and E. Simpson. Visitors—Bros. T. Bentor Truth 521, James Batchelden W.M. 1458, C. R. Dykes 1425, Chas. H. McKay, 97 Robt. Cunningham 104, G. Hunt, Reserve, Boston, Mass. U.S.A. Business—The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when the W.M. passed Bros. Graham, Craig and Dowling, and Bro. I.P.M. Matier passed Bro. Stenhouse. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, when the W.M. raised Bro. Canning. This being the evening for the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the ballot was taken, and it was unanimous for Bro. Lees S.W. Bro. Duffield was re-elected Treas., and Bro. J. Sly Tyler. The Lodge was closed at 10 p.m., when the brethren adjourned to the festive board; the chair being occupied by the W.M., who proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts in graceful and felicitous terms.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—The weekly meeting took place at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday, 12th December. Present—Bros. Perrin W.M., Hewlett S.W., Barker J.W., Saunders S.D., Dallas J.D., Johnson I.G., Wallington P.M. Preceptor, Worsley Secretary; also Bros. Smith, Perry, Lovelock, Cambridge, Weige, Foliot, and P.M. Wright. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Lovelock candidate. Bro. Cambridge worked the 1st section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was opened to the 3rd degree, and closed down. Bro. Hewlett worked the 3rd and 4th sections of the lecture. Bro. Hewlett was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation.

Urban Lodge of Instruction, No. 1196.—The above Lodge of Instruction held its first meeting on Wednesday, 6th December, at Bro. T. G. Willett's, the Three Bucks Tavern, Gresham-street, City. Bro. J. Tickle W.M. of the Urban Lodge, officiating as W.M. for the evening. C. Hawksley S.W., W. Wilkins J.W., E. Hollands S.D., C. Young J.D., C. Willett I.G., J. L. Mather P.M. Preceptor, J. Wall Secretary. The ceremonies of initiation and passing were worked by the W.M. After the election of new members and other business, the Lodge was closed in due form.

Hervey Lodge, No. 1260.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 12th of December, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Present—Bros. George Harrison W.M., J. H. Southwood S.W., H. Hollingsworth J.W., George King jun. P.M. Secretary, Dr. Jabez Hogg P.M. Treasurer, J. Sandiland Ward S.D., E. J. Goodacre J.D., J. T. Spalding I.G., Edward S. Foot jun. Assist. Sec., C. T. Speight Tyler. Visitors—J. Green, R. S. Archbold, J. Rogerson, Vagg, F. Ough, F. Egan, Frank Herold, E. A. Wells, P. Anger and W. W. Morgan. On the assembling of the brethren, the Lodge was opened, and the business was proceeded with. The minutes were read and duly received confirmation. The ceremonial portion of the proceedings commenced with the raising of Bros. Spender, Sheward, and Robins. Bro. Jackson was then examined, and afterwards advanced to the degree of Fellow Craft. The ballot was next taken on behalf of Mr. William Good Ellis, and being successful, that gentleman was formally received into our Order. The whole of the ceremonies were performed by the W.M., who, though but a young Mason, has made himself proficient in every way to conduct successfully the business of his Lodge. The usual routine business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed. The members of this Lodge have made it a rule, for some time past, not to hold their festive gatherings at the Tavern, and after their labours they retire elsewhere for their banquet. On this occasion the Inns of Court Hotel was selected, and, under the management of Bro. Charles Gosden, the repast was served. After justice had been done to a well-spread board, the W.M., Bro. George Harrison, gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, that of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen" being warmly received. In proposing "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M.," Bro. Harrison said all were acquainted with the amount of interest taken by His Royal Highness in all matters affecting the Craft, and he was convinced all would join heartily in drinking his health. This toast was followed by that of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers Present and Past," with which the W.M. said he would couple the name of their highly-esteemed I.P.M., Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg. Bro. Hogg said he sincerely thanked the brethren for the hearty way they had received the toast. The present Grand Officers were worthy of the high position they held; they had, at the late meeting of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, given ample evidence of their capability, by the way in which they had worked the Sections. They were always ready, when called upon, to do any duty that was required. He sincerely thanked the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast. Bro. Hogg proposed the health of the W.M. All the members of the Hervey Lodge were satisfied with the way in which Bro. Harrison performed his duties. He was always to be found at his post, and was most energetic in the performance of all that was required of him. Bro. Harrison regretted that he had not the power to express his feelings. So long as the brethren supported him, he would always try to do his duty. If his actions had given satisfaction, he could assure all that his course was an easy one, and he hoped to follow it so long as he was connected with the Lodge. The health of the Initiate was given from the Chair, and after a reply from Bro. Ellis, Bro. Speight sang the "Entered Apprentice" song. "The Health of the Visitors" was responded to by Br. Dr. Egan W.M. 858, who was followed by Bros.

Ough, Green, Wells, and others. Bro. Hogg next rose, and said he had a special toast to propose, it was that of the Press, and with it he would couple the name of Bro. Morgan. Our worthy Bro. Hogg referred to some unpleasant matters in which the Hervey Lodge had been compelled to take an active part, and said he was greatly pleased with the remarks which had been made by the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE in connection therewith. All present knew Bro. Morgan, and all entertained towards him the greatest respect, and he called on all present to honour the toast. After Bro. Wells had favoured the Company with a humorous song, Bro. Morgan replied. He said it was often imperative on people to do disagreeable things to enable them to arrive at the conclusion they had done their duty. He would not touch upon the matter to which Bro. Hogg had referred further than to say, that he was not one who thought all these disagreeable incidents should be kept quiet. The members of the Lodge were acting—as they thought—honestly and consistently, and "what honest men deserve they may challenge 'gainst the world." He was pleased to know that, in the unhappy case referred to, the brethren had not given the second degree to the individual initiated. He hoped they would pursue the course proposed to them that evening by previous speakers, and use due caution in their selection of candidates. Bro. Morgan concluded his remarks by thanking the brethren for the hearty way in which they had received the toast. The toast of the P.M.'s was replied to by Bro. G. King jun., who said it was only by sufferance that he was amongst them, however, as he had his medical attendants present he should hold them responsible if he did wrong. The "Officers" was replied to by Bro. Southwood S.W., who said that they had a good captain, and they were pleased to know that their efforts to do their duty were appreciated. They all hoped in the fulness of time for preferment, and would all try to merit the confidence of the members. During the evening, in addition to those we have named, Bros. Herold, Ough and others exerted themselves most successfully to amuse the company. The call for the Tyler brought an agreeable evening to a close.

The Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—Met at the Cannon-street Hotel on Saturday the 9th inst. Present—Bros. J. Seax W.M., R. Stanway S.W., J. Freeman J.W., J. H. Townend I.P.M., Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G.P. Chaplain, N. B. Headon P.M. Treasurer, Edward Moody P.M. Sec., G. W. Blackie S.D., W. H. Catchpole J.D., T. Hamer I.G., Kibble and Hook Stewards, W. Steadman P.M. Tyler, and Bros. J. Hartley, Luggar, Lockett, Ginders, Potter, Kibble, Colmer, DeLeliva, Wright, Shaw, Cartwright, Skinner, Hooker, W. H. Thompson, Wyler, Headon, Stephens, Frith, Middleton, Lewis, Baber, Bertram, Bowen, Dulan, Macqueen, Hannaford, H. Thompson, Archer, Moore, Hooper, Davis, Hudd, Jendick, Lord, Browne, White, J. R. Hartley, and Visitors Bros. Rev. A. Galbraith and C. Capel, Macnamara University Lodge, Dublin, Watts S.D. 507, Triggs 157, and Roberts 1594. Lodge was opened about 3.30, minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Shaw and Cartwright were raised, Bro. Libessart was passed, and Mr. Louis Charles Brocks was initiated. Motion to alter the bye-law 10 was negatived. Lodge was closed about 7.30, and the brethren adjourned to supper, about fifty sitting down, at conclusion of which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The health of the W.M. was enthusiastically received, and, in responding, the W.M. said he fully appreciated the honour the brethren had done him in placing him in the proud position of Master of such a Lodge, he should endeavour always to tread in the footsteps of his predecessors. The W.M. proposed the health of the initiate, who made a short but effective reply. The W.M. said he had just received from Bro. J. Stevens P.M. a communication from the Caveac Lodge (from a visit to which Bro. J. Stevens had just returned), to the effect that the members of the Caveac Lodge sent their heartiest greetings to the members of the Great City Lodge. Bro. J. Stevens asked the permission of the W.M. to state that he, in company with Bro. Simpson, had been received in the most fraternal manner at the Caveac Lodge, the officers and members of which had desired him to state that, as the members were prevented from exchanging visits, by the meetings of the two Lodges being held on the same evenings, they should be glad on some future occasion to receive a deputation from the Great City Lodge, when they promised a hearty and fraternal reception. The toasts of the "Past Masters" was responded to by Bro. J. H. Townend I.P.M. In response to the toast of the "Treasurer and Secretary," proposed by the W.M., in very flattering terms, and enthusiastically received by the brethren, Bro. N. B. Headon P.M. and Treasurer said, that although his duties were not very onerous, he thanked the brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast, and he should like to appeal to the members of the Lodge, now, he said, numbering considerably over one hundred, to make the work of the Secretary as light as possible, by paying their subscriptions promptly, and in one sum, although the bye-laws admitted of its being paid in two instalments. Bro. Moody, in responding, said, that heavy as the duties of the Secretary had now become, he should never tire of performing them while the W.M. and brethren were so appreciative of his efforts. The toast of the visitors was responded to by Bro. Roberts 1594 (who likewise greatly added to the amusement of the brethren by a song, eulogistic of the Ap Morgans, the Owen Owen's, and other members of the great family of Taffy). The toast of the officers was very ably responded to by Bro. Stanway S.W. Bro. Jenkins, Organist, also said a few words in reply. Bros. Stevens, Bertram, Hook, Kibble, and Frith, contributed some excellent singing, and the Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant meeting to a conclusion, about ten o'clock.

Eboracum Lodge, 1611.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Queen's Hotel, York, on Monday evening, when there was, as usual, a full attendance of officers and members, the W.M. Bro. Thomas Cooper P.M. presiding. The business consisted of an initiation and three raisings, and the ceremonies were performed

in a manner that left nothing to be desired. Several visitors from Wakefield, Liverpool, Newcastle and Manchester were present. On the motion of the J.W., seconded by the J.D., it was resolved to increase the annual subscription of the Lodge to £1 5s, and to devote 5s out of this sum to a Charity Fund, to be disposed of at the end of each financial year, by the vote of the Lodge, to some purpose in connection with the Masonic Charities. This step was taken in consequence of suggestions thrown out by the D. Prov. Grand Master at the Prov. Grand Lodge Meeting of the North and East Ridings, held at Redcar last August, that a small sum should be voluntarily subscribed by each member of the Lodges in the province, in order that the province might do more for the Charities in the future than it had done in time past, and we believe that the Eboracum Lodge, though the youngest but one in the province, has been the first to take steps in the direction indicated.

CONCERT AT THE BOW AND BROMLEY INSTITUTE.

THE truly charitable instinct of the East-end Masons, abundantly conspicuous on many occasions, was again exemplified on Thursday, the 14th inst. By the assistance of a Committee of Stewards, consisting of some thirty odd brethren, more or less eminent, and under the immediate patronage of the Secretaries of the three Institutions, a Grand Concert was given at the Bow and Bromley Institute, the entire profits of which will be divided amongst the Masonic Charities. The Hall of the Institute, exceedingly lofty, is not over spacious, and, having no gallery, affords accommodation for only about five hundred persons. The floor is level, but the platform, holding a magnificent organ, is sufficiently elevated to secure an uninterrupted view to the entire audience. The decorations and panellings are chaste, of neutral tints, and very pleasing to the eye. Shortly after the appointed time, the proceedings commenced with an organ solo, by Mendelssohn, excellently performed by Miss

Georgiana Conves. The first portion of the programme included a variety of songs, duets, violin solos, &c., mostly of the old-fashioned kind, yet none the less pleasing, owing to the care which every one of the artistes bestowed upon their respective performances. The May-pole song was satisfactorily rendered by Miss Coyte Turner. Mr. Arthur E. Hooper, though excellent, was somewhat deficient in his upper notes, in which the wanted ring and clearness was missing. Special mention must be made of the talented Miss Jessie Royd, whose exquisite rendering of "The Bird that came in Spring," by Benedict, elicited the most enthusiastic applause, to which she very graciously responded with the well-known old ballad, "Jeanette." Bro. Farquharson delighted the audience with his characteristic song, "Oh, ruddier than the Cherry" (Handel), on being vociferously re-demanded, he gave, with exceeding humour, "The fat Grey Man." Miss Martha Harries was also most favourably received, the audience at once recognising the latent talent of the young artiste. Madame Wensley was simply exquisite. The three part, by Mesdames Wensley, Royd, and Harries, received its due meed of approbation. After a short interval, the second part of the programme was proceeded with, and we can only reiterate the gratification and delight loudly expressed by the audience after each performance, which concluded with "A romance of Juvenile Literature," by Bro. Farquharson, which was most enthusiastically applauded. Previous to the separation of the audience, Bro. Binckes, in most eloquent terms proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Blain, which was seconded by Bro. Terry, and most enthusiastically carried, with hurrahs and great cheering. Bro. Blain expressed his thanks. The enterprising Bro. C. Blain, whose indefatigable labours as Secretary to the Entertainment Committee contributed in no small degree to the success which crowned their efforts, will not fail to inscribe the 14th of December as a red letter day in his career, for on that very day the members of the River Lee Traders' Protection Society presented him with a handsome gold watch and chain, value fifty guineas, for important services rendered in organising the same. It should be mentioned that the services of the artistes were gratuitously rendered.

THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—On 26th December, ROBINSON CRUSOE.

DRURY LANE.—This evening (last time), at 7.0, THAT BEAUTIFUL BICEPS. At 7.45, RICHARD III., and THE STORM FIEND. On 26th December, THE FORTY THIEVES.

ADELPHI.—At 7, GIVE A DOG A BAD NAME. At 8, SHAUGRAUN.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A ROUGH DIAMOND, DAN'L DRUCE, and BIRDS IN THEIR LITTLE NESTS AGREE.

STRAND.—At 7.0, KEEP YOUR TEMPER. At 7.50, CREMORNE and DAN'L TRADUCED. On Thursday, THE LYING DUTCHMAN.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0 MR. AND MRS. WHITE. At 7.45, JANE SHORE, and THE MAGIC FLUTE (last night).

OLYMPIC.—At 7, CRAZED. At 7.45, NO THOROUGHFARE. On Monday, at 7, BOOTS AT THE SWAN, and SI SLOCUM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, PERIL.

GAIETY.—At 7.10, FARCE, THE MAN IN POSSESSION and THE SPELLING BEE.

GLOBE.—At 7.0, THE TWO GREGORIES. At 7.45, HUNTED DOWN and A WILL WITH A VENGEANCE (last night).

LYCEUM.—At 7, DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND. At 7.45, MACBETH.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG. At 8.0, OUR BOYS, and a FEARFUL FOG.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, LONDON ASSURANCE. At 10.30, NILSSON OR NOTHING.

CRITERION.—At 7.30, THE WALL OF CHINA. At 8, A TALE OF A TUB. At 8.45 HOT WATER.

FOLLY.—At 7.30, CHECKMATE. At 8.40, ROBINSON CRUSOE.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.45, NOT SUCH A FOOL AS HE LOOKS. At 9.30, LITTLE DON CAESAR.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, FARCE. At 8.0, LE VOYAGE DANS LA LUNE, &c. On Monday, DIE FLEDERMAUS.

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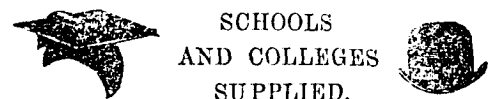
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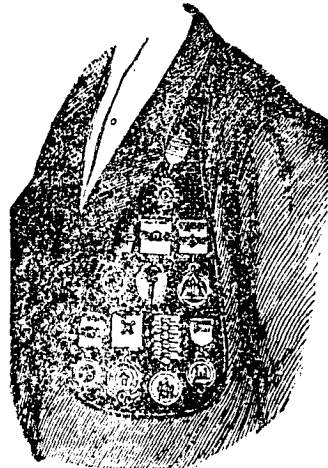


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