

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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FREEMASONRY IN BERKS AND BUCKS.

AS is the case in most of our Provinces, the early records of Freemasonry in Berks and Bucks were so indifferently kept or looked after, that it is well nigh impossible to throw any light on the history of its introduction into these counties, and the progress it subsequently made. However, from Cole's List of Lodges for 1763, we gather that a Lodge, No. 244, constituted on the 6th June 1759, was held at the Mermaid, Windsor, and from an historical sketch by Bro. Biggs, till recently Grand Secretary of the Province, we learn that a Lodge, No. 195, existed anterior to 1783 at Reading, there being in possession of Lodge Union, No. 414 of that town, two mahogany columns (Ionic and Corinthian) for the Wardens' pedestals having, on a brass plate let into the bottom, the inscription, "Lodge, 195, the gift of Bro. Wm. Coyler, W. Master, 18th April 1783." There are, likewise, in possession of the same Lodge, a mahogany box of the same style of workmanship for the Secretary's use, "The gift of William Chaplin and Edward Richardson, Lodge, 195," and a Cambridge Bible, printed in the year 1769, "the gift of T. Burton P.M. to Lodge, 195." According to Hughan's *List of Lodges on the Roll of the United Grand Lodge of England A.D.* 1814, there was a Lodge of Virtue, No. 122, at Reading, holding under the Grand Lodge Ancients, which on the re-numbering of Lodges became Lodge No. 147 after the Union, and deceased, as will be seen hereafter, some time between the years 1814 and 1832. In the same list we find a St. John's Lodge, Windsor, which in 1813, stood No. 269 on the Roll of the Ancients, became by the Union No. 340 in 1814, and, by the alteration of numbers, No. 230 in 1832. This Lodge has since passed away. The oldest existing Lodge, the Etonian, Windsor, was warranted by the Duke of Atholl on 27th May 1794, and held, therefore, under the Grand Lodge Ancients, the Warrant being originally granted to meet at the Crown and Cushion Inn at Eton, in the county of Bucks, and was No. 284, "Ancients," in 1813, 359 in 1814 after the Union, 252 in 1832, and 209 in 1863. In 1794, according to Bro. Biggs, Colonel John Deacon was appointed Prov. Grand Master of Berkshire by the then Grand Master, George Prince of Wales, and in 1796 Sir John Throgmorton, Bart., had conferred upon him the same office for the county of Bucks. The latter of these is mentioned in the *Freemasons' Magazine*, Vol. VI., for January and June 1796, as having been present in his capacity of Prov. Grand Master for Buckinghamshire at the Grand Feast for that year held at Freemasons' Hall on 11th May, under the presidency of his Royal Highness the Grand Master. On the retirement in 1817 of Bro. Arthur Stanhope, who succeeded Colonel Deacon, in 1795 from the Prov. Grand Mastership of Berks, Sir John Throgmorton was re-appointed Prov. Grand Master for the united counties, and from that date till now they have remained one Province. This is about all that is known of Freemasonry in these counties till the year 1813, when we find the earliest authentic record known to be in existence, in the shape of a minute book of the aforesaid Lodge of Virtue, No. 122, of Reading, and from this, which commences with 4th January 1813, we learn that the Officers of the Lodge at that day were J. B. Monck, Esq., M.P., W.M., John Parker S.W., John Hornbuckle J.W., Joseph Warry S.D., Thomas Williams J.D., Matthew Boulter Treasurer, and Nathan Elliott Secretary. The minutes of the first meeting record, that owing to the irregularities which had occurred, all arrears of

fines up to St. John's Day should be considered void. In 1814 Bro. H. Hall, the then Secretary, having misapplied the funds of the Lodge, was expelled, and the same year, owing to the Union which had happily taken place between the Grand Lodges of the "Moderns" and "Ancients" respectively, the Lodge was renumbered, and became No. 147 on the Roll of the United Grand Lodge. At this time the Lodge included among its members Bro. Letchworth, Mayor and Alderman, the well known classical scholar Dr. Valpy, James and John Sutton, Blackall Simonds, Esq.,—described as "still living" at the time Bro. Biggs compiled the sketch from which we have extracted most of these particulars, that is, in 1871,—William Montagu, of Caversham, and Dr. Workman. On the 7th September 1814, the Lodge bespoke, at the Theatre, Reading, the play of *The Way to get Married*, but it does not seem to have recovered from the financial difficulties caused by the late Secretary's defalcations, for on the 2nd November of the same year, a Mr. Coles's bill, of a fraction over £16, was "ordered to be paid as soon as the Lodge funds would permit." The historian, however, has not recorded whether this order—albeit it was formally entered on the minutes and read and confirmed, we presume, at the next regular meeting—was deemed satisfactory by the aforesaid Mr. Coles. On the 18th of this month, Cornet Brandon was passed and raised on the same night, a not uncommon practice in those days. On the 7th December a letter was read from Grand Lodge inviting a deputation to attend for the purpose of receiving instructions as to the Union of the Grand Lodges, and accordingly a deputation, consisting of the Master, Wardens, and a Bro. Bath—one of the masters in Dr. Valpy's school—attended and received the requisite instruction on 7th June 1815. On the 3rd May just preceding, application for a Warrant, signed by the Officers and members, to hold a new Lodge at Newbury, was granted by G. Master the Duke of Sussex, and this was constituted in the following year under the style and title of the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 672, John Parker being the first W. Master, and John Hoskins and Edward Poynter Hoskins the first Wardens. Its existence, however, was of the briefest. It made no returns to Grand Lodge after 1818, and ceased to be on the 5th March 1828. But to return to the Lodge of Virtue. Nothing further is recorded till the year 1820, when there appears to have been a falling off in the number of members. But few meetings were held, and on the 8th May 1822, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony with but *six* brethren present. For nearly twelve years after this, it remained in abeyance, the furniture and effects being removed to Coley Park, the residence of J. B. Monck Esq., M.P., W.M. in 1813, for safe custody. In fact, it actually ceased to exist, for when on the 17th September 1833, the brethren again assembled together as a Lodge of Freemasons, it was under a new Warrant, as the Lodge of Union, No. 507, since altered to No. 414. Why a new Warrant should have been deemed necessary, does not appear on the record, for many existing Lodges have been in abeyance for as long, or even a longer time. The effect is, of course, to place the Lodge of Union as the second on the roll of Lodges in the Province of Berks and Bucks, the post of honour falling to the Etonian, which till the alteration in numbers in 1832 ranked as No. 359 only. However, the Lodge of Union met, as we have said, on the 17th September 1833, at the "Wheat Rick Inn," on the East side of London-street, and Bro. Graynham Rackstraw was installed first W. Master, while Bros. Baker and Munday were the Senior and Junior Wardens respectively, the celebrated

Bro. Peter Gilks being present in the capacity of Instructor. When the Lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet, and on this occasion there was drunk with great enthusiasm the health of Bro. John Ramsbottom, as Provincial Grand Master, though a Provincial Grand Lodge does not appear to have been regularly constituted till May 1837. On the 8th October 1833, the meeting of the Lodge was suspended for an hour and a half, in order that some fifty ladies might be admitted to see its decorations. On the 10th December of the same year the Lodge moved from the Wheat Rick Inn to the Upper Ship Inn and increased in numbers. On 2nd December 1835, a dispensation was granted by the Provincial G. Master for the burial of Bro. Charles Smith with Masonic rites. On 11th June 1836 the Lodge removed from the Upper Ship to the Woolpack, where it remained till its removal to the old buildings in St. Lawrence's Churchyard, on the 17th May 1837, when an emergency meeting was held for the purpose of receiving the Provincial Lodge. On this occasion Bro. Ramsbottom congratulated the brethren on the opportunity thus afforded them of constituting a Grand Lodge of Berkshire and of organising a scheme for the purchasing of the necessary regalia. From the list of officers which Bro. Biggs has appended to his historical sketch we learn that Captain Montague was appointed Deputy Prov. Grand Master, John Ramsbottom jun. and Samuel Ramsbottom Prov. Grand Senior and Junior Wardens respectively, Rev. Bro. Benwell Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. W. Leigh Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. J. F. Baker Prov. Grand Secretary, and Bros. R. T. Woodhouse, M.D., Palmer. Wood, and Nathaniel Treasure as Prov. Grand Senior Deacon, Supt. of Works, Director of Ceremonies, and Pursuivant respectively. On 7th November 1837, Dr. Woodhouse was installed as Master of the Union Lodge, and held the office for two years. On 26th October, on the occasion of the foundation stone of the new chapel in the cemetery being laid by Bro. Ramsbottom P.G.M. in the presence of several Grand Officers, the same Dr. Woodhouse was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master. On 22nd April 1843, mourning for twelve months was decreed in consequence of the death of Grand Master the Duke of Sussex, and on 17th November 1845, it was ordered that the brethren in the Province should wear mourning for six months out of respect to Bro. Ramsbottom P.G.M., deceased. On the 21st February 1848, the late Marquis of Downshire, was installed as Provincial Grand Master, having previously been installed as W.M. of the Union Lodge. Up to this time there were in the two counties together, but the two Lodges, Etonian, Eton, and Union of Reading, and it is not till the 21st March 1850, that a warrant was granted for the constitution of a Lodge at Newbury, now bearing the style and title of "The Berkshire Lodge of Hope, No. 574." Bro. John Parker—query, the same who was the first W.M. of the defunct Royal Sussex, No. 672, founded in the same town in 1815—being the first W.M., and Bros. John Beale and Edward Balding, the first Senior and Junior Wardens respectively. On the 5th April 1852, at a meeting of the Lodge of Union, Bro. Robert Gibson made an offer of 40,000 bricks towards building a new Masonic Hall. The offer was accepted, and ultimately it was resolved to erect one in the Grey Friars Road. On the 25th April 1851, a warrant was granted for the Buckingham Lodge, then No. 861, now No. 591, Aylesbury, and the Lodge was consecrated on the 3rd May 1852, A. A. le Kan being the first W.M., and J. B. Reade and Chas. Lowndes the first Senior and Junior Wardens respectively. After a lapse of six years a Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 20th December 1858 at Reading, and adjourned till the 23rd of March of the following year, for the appointment of officers, and likewise for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new Masonic Hall, the ceremony being performed by the Marquis of Downshire, Grand Master of the Province, assisted by his Officers and a large number of brethren, the sermon being preached at St. Lawrence's Church, by the Rev. A. Roberts, P. Prov. Grand Chaplain. A short time previously—that is on the 10th February 1859—a new Lodge known as the Windsor Castle Lodge, now No. 771, was consecrated with Bro. Madigan as the first Worshipful Master. On the 10th May 1859, was founded the St. John's Lodge, No. 795, Maidenhead, the first W. Master being Bro. Egbert Steer Cousins, and the first S. and J. Wardens Bro. Charles Venables and John Langton respectively. The ceremony was performed in the Town Hall by Bro. Jeremiah Hood P.M. 82, Prov.

G.D.C. Herts, in the presence of a considerable gathering of brethren. On the 20th November 1860, the new Masonic Hall in Grey Friars Road, Reading, was opened, the ceremony, which consisted of the opening and closing in the three degrees, being of a simple character. The Lodge Room or Hall is capacious, measuring 38 ft. by 24 ft., but the ante-rooms are very confined in space, and consequently unsuited for the purposes for which they are designed. Bro. J. B. Clacy was the architect, and Bro. H. L. Orton the builder, and the total cost, including site and decorations, amounted to £1,350. On the 15th December 1860, Bro. John Hervey P.G. Deacon, now Grand Sec., consecrated the Scientific Lodge, No. 840, at Stoney Stratford, and subsequently installed Bro. J. E. McConnell as W.M., the Wardens being Bros. Smith and Stevenson. In 1862 this Lodge migrated to Wolverton, where it still flourishes. In 1861 the Marquis of Downshire, who, during the fourteen years he had been the Prov. Grand Master, held only four Grand Lodges, resigned his post, and the Province was in October 1862 accordingly placed under the charge of Bro. Æ. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar, and he, with the assistance of Bro. Joseph Devereux, of Windsor, the Prov. Grand Secretary, and other active brethren, revived the condition of Freemasonry in the Province. In 1863, two new Lodges were consecrated, namely, the Abbey Lodge, No. 945, at Abingdon, and the St. Barnabas, No. 948, at Linsdale, the Rev. R. W. Norman being installed the first Worshipful Master of the former, and Bro. James Shugar of the latter. On the 19th November 1864, the Windsor Masonic Hall was dedicated, the chief credit being due to Bro. Devereux, who conceived and, aided by other brethren, carried out the idea of a building specially set apart for Masonry. On 17th May 1866, a second Lodge, the Grey Friars, No. 1101, was consecrated by Bro. McIntyre, G. Registrar in charge of the Province, at Reading. On the 21st May 1869 a Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Windsor, when Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., was installed as Grand Master of the Province, the ceremony being most impressively rendered by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary. On 25th February 1870, Bro. Rev. R. J. Simpson, who had been Chaplain of the Grey Friars, No. 1101, from its foundation, being about to leave the Province, was presented with a most affectionate address in testimony of the services he had rendered and the respect in which he was held. On the 27th May following, at a Prov. G. Lodge held especially for the purpose, a Code of Bye Laws for the Province was discussed and adopted, and on the 1st July of the same year H.R.H. the Prince of Wales performed his first Masonic ceremony subsequent to his initiation by the late King of Sweden by laying the foundation stone of the Reading Grammar School, Sir Daniel Gooch, Prov. G. Master, and over three hundred brethren being present. The same year the Methuen Lodge, No. 631, founded in April 1854, removed from Swindon, Wilts, to Maidenhead, and it has since migrated to Taplow, Bucks. In 1872, the St. Peter and St. Paul Lodge, No. 1410, was consecrated at Newport Pagnel, Bucks; in 1874, the Alma Mater, No. 1492, at Bletchley, and the Wycombe, No. 1501, at High Wycombe, both in the same county; in 1875, Freemasonry received a great accession of strength at Maidenhead, owing to the constitution of a new Lodge—the Ellington, No. 1566—and in 1876, Stoney Stratford, which, as we have shown, had a few years previously been able to boast of a "Scientific" Lodge, but, owing to its migration to Wolverton, had been left unprovided with Masonic accommodation, awakened once again to a proper sense of its Masonic requirements, and the result of such was the consecration of the Watling Street Lodge, No. 1639, having its headquarters at the Cock Hotel.

In respect of R. Arch Masonry, we note that a Warrant for the Downshire Chapter, Reading, was granted in 1851, the Marquis of Downshire being Z., Comps. J. B. Gibson H., Sir J. W. Hayes, Bart., J. It does not, however, appear to have been successful, and was erased in 1861. On 1st February 1865, a Warrant for the Windsor Castle Chapter, No. 771, was granted, the principals being Comps. Jas. Cottrell Z., Jas. Devereux H., and John Wiggington J. On 22nd October 1867, was consecrated by Comps. Devereux and Nuggeridge, the Union Chapter, No. 414, Reading with Comps. W. Biggs as Z., Geo. Botly as H., and F. A. Bulley as J. On the 13th December 1870 the Buckingham Chapter, No. 591, Aylesbury, was consecrated, Comps. Rev. O. J. Grace, Rev. G. S. Ffinden and John Williams being Z., H., and J. respectively. The St.

Barnabas Chapter, No. 948, Linslade, and the St. George's, No. 840, have since swelled the number of R.A. Chapters to five, and in the person of Sir Daniel Gooch, who was appointed in the year 1875, the Prov. G. Chapter has a most efficient Superintendent. Such, in brief, is a history of Constitutional Freemasonry in the Province of Berks and Bucks, the chief details being derived from Bro. Biggs's interesting sketch. May it long flourish like a green bay tree!

THE FOUR OLD LODGES.

BRO. R. F. GOULD.

(Continued from page 69.)

§ 21.

MANIFESTO OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL LODGE OF ANTIQUITY, 1778.

Reprinted from HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN YORK (Hughan).

—:O:—

To all regular FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS.

I.

Original MS. in the Lodge of Antiquity, A.D. 1696. Book of Constitutions 1723, pp 32, 33—1733, p 63—1767, p 84. Illustrations of Masonry, 1775, p 198. Freemason's Calendar, &c. MS. in the British Museum, and a variety of Publications on the subject of Masonry. Old MS. in the hands of Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead, near Sheffield, Yorkshire, written in the reign of K. Henry 8th.

WHEREAS the Society of Free Masons is universally acknowledged to be of ancient standing and great repute in this kingdom, as by our Records and Printed Constitutions, it appears that the first Grand Lodge in England was held at York, in the Year 926, by virtue of a Royal Charter, granted by King Athelstan—And, under the patronage and government of this Grand Lodge, the Society considerably increased; and the ancient charges and regulations of the Order so far obtained the sanction of Kings and Princes, and other eminent persons, that they always paid due allegiance to the said Grand Assembly.⁽¹⁾

II.

Constitution Book, 1733, p 81—1767, p 103 & seq. Illustrations of Masonry, p 234 & seq. Old Records Constitution Book, 1723, pp 52, 60, 60, 72—1733, pp 150, 155—1767, pp 341, 341. Illustrations of Masonry, p 119, MS. in the Lodge of Antiquity.

AND WHEREAS it appears, by our Records, that in the year 1567, the increase of Lodges in the South of England being so great as to require some Nominal Patron to superintend their government, it was resolved that a person under the title of Grand Master for the South should be appointed for that purpose, with the approbation of the Grand Lodge at York, to whom the whole Fraternity at large were bound to pay tribute and acknowledge subjection.—And, after the appointment of such Patron, Masonry flourished under the guardianship of him and his successors in the South, until the Civil Wars and other intestine commotions interrupted the assemblies of the brethren.⁽²⁾

III.

Constitution Book, 1733, p 106—1767, p 176. Illustrations of Masonry, p 244. Biographia Britannica, vol. 1, Ashmole. Constitution Book, 1733, p 109—1767, p 188.

AND WHEREAS, it also appears that, in the year 1693, the Meetings of the Fraternity in their regular Lodges in the South became less frequent and chiefly occasional, *except* in or near places where great works were carried on.—At which time the Lodge of Antiquity, or (as it was then called) the Old Lodge of St. Paul, with a few others of small note, continued to meet under the patronage of Sir Christopher Wren, and assisted him in rearing that superb Structure from which this respectable Lodge derived its Title. But on completing this Edifice in 1710, and Sir Christopher Wren's retiring into the country, the few remaining Lodges, in London and its suburbs, continued, without any nominal Patron, in a declining state for about the space of seven years.⁽³⁾

IV.

Constitution Book, 1733, p 109—1767, pp 189, 189. Illustrations of Masonry, pp 246, 247. Constitution Book, 1723, p 70. Ibid. Ibid, pp 73, 74. Constitution Book, 1723, p 69.

AND WHEREAS, in the year 1717, the Fraternity in London agreed to cement under a new Grand Master, and with that view the Old Lodge of St. Paul, jointly with three other Lodges, assembled in form, constituted themselves a nominal Grand Lodge *pro tempore*, and elected a Grand Master to preside over their future general meetings, whom they afterwards invested with a power to constitute subordinate Lodges, and to convene the Fraternity at stated periods in Grand Lodge, in order to make Laws, with their consent and approbation, for the good government of the Society at large—BUT SUBJECT to certain conditions and restrictions then expressly stipulated, and which are more fully set forth in the 39th article of the general regulations, in the first book of Constitutions. This article, with 38 others, was afterwards, at a meeting of the Brethren in and about the cities of London and Westminster, in the year 1721, solemnly approved of, ratified and confirmed by them and signed in their presence by the Master and Wardens of the Four Old Lodges

on the one part, and Philip Duke of Wharton, then Grand Master, Dr. Desaguliers D.G.M., Joshua Timson and William Hawkins Grand Wardens, and the Masters and Wardens of sixteen Lodges which had been constituted by the Fraternity, betwixt 1717 and 1721, on the other part. And these articles the Grand Master engaged for himself and his successors, when duly installed, in all time coming to observe and keep sacred and inviolable—By these prudent precautions the ancient Landmarks (as they are properly styled) of the Four Old Lodges were intended to be secured against any encroachments on their Masonic rights and privileges.⁽⁴⁾

V.

See the alterations in the last Edition of the Book of Constitutions, by comparing it with former Editions. See also State of Facts, by Bro. Preston, *passim*.

AND WHEREAS, of late years, notwithstanding the said solemn engagement in the year 1721, sundry innovations and encroachments have been made, and are still making on the original plan and government of Masonry, by the present nominal Grand Lodge in London, highly injurious to the institution itself, and tending to subvert and destroy the ancient rights and privileges of the Society, more particularly of those members of it under whose sanction, and by whose authority, the said Grand Lodge was first established and now exists.

VI.

Constitution Book, 1733, p 185. State of Facts, by Brother Preston, pp 33, 49.

AND WHEREAS, at this present time, there only remains one of the said four original ancient Lodges—The Old Lodge of St. Paul, or, as it is now emphatically styled, The Lodge of Antiquity. Two of the said four ancient Lodges having been extinct many years, and the Master of the other of them having, on the part of his Lodge, in open Grand Lodge relinquished all such inherent rights and privileges which, as a private Lodge acting by an immemorial Constitution, it enjoyed.—BUT, The Lodge of Antiquity, conscious of its own dignity, which the members thereof are resolutely determined to support, and justly incensed at the violent measures and proceedings which have been lately adopted and pursued by the said nominal Grand Lodge, wherein they have assumed an unlawful prerogative over the Lodge of Antiquity, in manifest breach of the aforesaid 39th article, by which means the peaceable government of that respectable Lodge has been repeatedly interrupted, and even the original independent power thereof, in respect to its own Internal Government, disputed.⁽⁵⁾

VII.

State of Facts, *passim*.

THEREFORE, and on account of the Arbitrary Edicts and Laws which the said nominal Grand Lodge has, from time to time, presumed to issue and attempted to enforce, repugnant to the ancient Laws and principles of Free Masonry, and highly injurious to the Lodge of Antiquity.⁽⁶⁾

VIII.

WE, the Master, Wardens, and Members of the Lodge of Antiquity, considering ourselves bound in duty, as well as honour, to preserve inviolable the ancient rights and privileges of the Order, and, as far as in our power, to hand them down to posterity in their native purity and excellence, do hereby, for ourselves and our successors, solemnly disavow and discountenance such unlawful measures and proceedings of the said nominal Grand Lodge; and do hereby declare and announce to all our Masonic Brethren throughout the Globe, That the said Grand Lodge has, by such arbitrary conduct, evidently violated the conditions expressed in the aforesaid 39th article of the general regulations, in the observance of which article the permanency of their authority solely depended.⁽⁷⁾

IX.

And in consequence thereof, WE, do by these presents retract from, and recal, all such rights and powers, as WE, or our predecessors, did conditionally give to the said nominal Grand Lodge in London; and do hereby disannul and make void all future Edicts and Laws which the said Grand Lodge may presume to issue and enforce, by virtue of such sanction, as representatives of the ancient and honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons.⁽⁸⁾

X.

Records in the Grand Lodge of York. Constitution Book, 1723, p 60.

AND WHEREAS we have, on full enquiry and due examination, happily discovered, that the aforesaid truly ancient Grand Lodge at York does still exist; and have authentic Records to produce of their antiquity, long before the establishment of the nominal Grand Lodge in London, in the year 1717; We do, therefore, hereby solemnly avow, acknowledge, and admit the Authority of the said Most Worshipful Grand Lodge at York, as the truly ancient and only regular governing Grand Lodge of Masons in England, to whom the Fraternity all owe and are rightfully bound to pay allegiance.

XI.

Private Correspondence.

AND WHEREAS the present members of the said Grand Lodge at York have acknowledged the ancient power and authority of the Lodge of Antiquity in London as a private Lodge, and have proposed to form an alliance with the said Lodge, on the most generous and disinterested principles.—We do hereby acknowledge this generous mark of their friendship towards us, and gratefully accept their liberal, candid, and ingenuous offers of alliance:—And do hereby, from a firm persuasion of the justice of our cause, announce

a general union with all Regular Masons throughout the world, who shall join us in supporting the original principles of Free Masonry,—in promoting and extending the authority of the said truly ancient Grand Lodge at York, and under such respectable auspices in propagating Masonry on its pure, genuine and original plan.

XII.

AND LASTLY, we do earnestly solicit the hearty concurrence of all regular Lodges of the Fraternity in all places where Freemasonry is legally established, to enable us to carry into execution the afore-said plan, which is so apparently beneficial to our most excellent institution,—and at the present critical juncture, so essentially necessary to curb the arbitrary power which has been already exerted, or which hereafter may be illegally assumed, by the nominal Grand Lodge in London,—and so timely prevent such un-Masonic proceedings from becoming a disgrace to the Society at large.

By order of the Right Worshipful Lodge of Antiquity, in open Lodge assembled, this 16th day of December, A.D. 1778. A.L. 5782.

J. SEALY, Secretary.

*** As a few Expelled Members of the Lodge of Antiquity have presumed to associate as Masons at the Mitre Tavern, in Fleet Street, under the denomination of this Lodge,—Notice is hereby given, that the Right Worshipful Lodge of Antiquity, acting by an Immemorial Constitution, is removed from the said Mitre Tavern, to the Queen's Arms Tavern, in St. Paul's Church-Yard; where all letters to the Lodge are requested to be directed.

(1) It is somewhat singular and noteworthy to mark the fact that these Manuscript Constitutions, of whatever date, usually agree in stating that the General Assembly was held at York; even the M.S. Constitutions of Scotland contain the same statement, and admit York to have been the first favoured City for a General Assemblage of the Craft. Though we are not anxious to invest Legends with the significance of Historical facts, yet we cannot but think so uniform an agreement respecting York, in Manuscripts found in different parts of England and Scotland, and of such various dates, must have its origin in something more stable than fiction.—“History of Freemason in York” (Hughan), p 38.

Much unnecessary stir has been made about the York Constitution of A.D. 926. None such exist now, and no one can say where they did, or when.—*Ibid.* p 39.

There can scarcely be a doubt that there does not exist a Masonic Charter of the year 926. Should, however, an original be found similar to Krause's translation, it could nevertheless lay no claim to be called a York Charter.—“Findel,” p 90.

The common legend of a Grand Lodge having been convened at York by Edwyn, son of King Athelstane, A.D. 926, is disposed of in Sharon Turner's “History of the Anglo-Saxons (vol. ii., pp 325-365), where it appears that Athelstane acceded to the Crown in 924, he had no son, Edwyn was his brother, and in the same year, on a false charge of conspiring against him, was exposed at sea in an open boat and drowned.

(2) In 1567, it is stated in the famous Manifesto of the Lodge of Antiquity of 1778, the Grand Lodge permitted the creation of a Grand Master for the South, but of this no other proof is, as I am aware, so far forthcoming, and this is the only existing evidence that in 1567 there was a Grand Lodge at York.—“The Connection of York with the History of Freemasonry in England” (Rev. A. F. A. Woodford.)

But York being in a remote part of the kingdom, it was many years ago thought proper, for the convenience of the Fraternity, to remove the Grand Lodge from that city to the Metropolis—and the present Grand Lodge of England are the true York Masons. (?)—“Principles of Freemasonry Delineated” (Trueman), Exeter, 1777, p 153.

(3) As against this disparagement of the other old lodges, it will be sufficient to remind the reader that the 1st Grand Lodge was held under the banner of the lodge, meeting at the Apple Tree Tavern, original No. 3, a member of which lodge was elected the first Grand Master, upon whose vacation of this office, the honour of supplying the head of the Craft next devolved upon original No. 4.

“It must be borne in mind that the seventeenth century had been very turbulent and full of commotions: Masonry, therefore, which can only flourish in times of peace, continued in a fluctuating state, and found many difficulties to struggle with. In such unsettled seasons, particular Lodges could not be regularly attended in the Southern parts of England, near the principal theatre of political action; but were held occasionally when circumstances favoured the brethren, except in or near places where great Works were carried on. Thus Sir Robert Clayton held an occasional Lodge of his Brother Masters at St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark, A.D. 1693, and to advise the governors about the best design of rebuilding that Hospital as it now stands most beautiful; near which a stated Lodge continued for a long time afterwards. Besides that and the Old Lodge of St. Pauls, some brothers, living in 1730, remembered another in Piccadilly over against St. James Church, one near Westminster Abby, another near Covent Garden, one in Holborn, one on Tower Hill, and some more that assembled statedly.”—(Constitution, 1738, p 106; 1756 and 1767, p 176; and 1784, p 193.)

(4) See §§ 3, 15 and 22; also p 4, note 7, and p 67, note 1.

(5) See §§ 6, 9-12, and 16.

(6) Compare with Part III. *post.*

(7) See § 22 (II.) *post.*

(8) Bro. Hughan says (“History of Freemasonry in York,” p 56), “Reasons were not wanting to give a colour to the action on the part of the York authorities; on the other hand, the ‘Lodge of Antiquity’ presumed too much on their ‘time immemorial’ privileges after forming a part of the Grand Lodge of England, 1717.” But with all deference to so high an authority, I venture to question the soundness of the conclusion he has drawn.

The right to expel from the Union (exercised by the Grand Lodge in 1747, see § 12) would imply a right to secede from the Union; if many could withdraw from one, one could withdraw from many. If the Union could become inconvenient or disagreeable to all the Lodges but one, such majority might become disagreeable to that one. If the many, for that reason could expel, why could not the one for that reason retire? And if the logic of expulsion be sound, that of secession is equally sound. These rights it might be contended— if there was any right at all to break up the compact of Union— were correlatives.

But the privilege of secession, possessed by the time immemorial lodges, though fully justified by precedent, derived yet a higher sanction from principle. Since without conceding the rights of expulsion and secession to be correlatives, either of the four old Lodges could protest against ejection because it involved compulsion, and yet claim a right to retire, because if compelled to remain, that was equally a compulsory restraint. Both really involve the same principle, ejection and imprisonment, they are equally acts of compulsion, and this might be alike objected to in both cases.

A Lodge compelled to go or remain had a forcible restraint imposed on its will, but in seceding it imposed no restraint on the will of others—they remained free to follow (*i.e.*, the time immemorial lodges) or to continue as before. It may be urged that reasonable men would not have framed a system exposed to ruin at any time by the secession of its constituents. But the question is, not whether the terms of the compact were wise or prudent, but simply what those terms were, and the force they possessed.

(“Ambrose's Letters,” New York, 1865, pp 41, 205; “Spence's American Union,” 2nd Ed., pp 198—200 and 210.) Many points of similarity will be found in the principle of State Rights (U.S.A.), and in that upon which the rights of the Old Lodges are, or were, based. A comparison is recommended between Art. 39 “Constitutions G. L. of England, A.D. 1723” (§§ 15 (V.) *ante* and 22 *post*), and Art. 2 “Constitutions U.S. of America, A.D. 1781,” viz.: “Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not, by this confederation, expressly delegated to the United States in Congress assembled.” Compare also:

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| 1. The four original Lodges—rights of? | 1. The thirteen original States—rights of? |
| 2. New Lodges—rights of—by Grant or Charter of Grand Lodge? | 2. New States—rights of—by Grant or Charter of Congress? |
| 3. The rights of all Lodges (1717 to 1813) original and new—as affected by Amendments of Constitution? | 3. The rights of all States, original and new—as affected by Amendments of Constitution. |

NEW ZEALAND.

OUR Budget of News from this prosperous colony, which came to hand by the mail on Monday, is somewhat voluminous. We gather from it that Masonry is in a very flourishing condition in the Northern Island, and Lodges are being multiplied rapidly. The District G. Master of Auckland, Bro. Graham, had left for the South, which was causing some inconvenience, especially as his Deputy, Bro. Wildman, resides on the Thames Goldfield, some forty miles distant. A new Lodge, under the Irish Constitution, was shortly to be opened at Gisborne.

Funeral of a Veteran.—Donald McKenzie, who, as a man, soldier and Freemason, was one of the oldest in the colony, expired on Friday, 14th June, at his residence, Onehunga. Amongst his last wishes was that he should be buried with Masonic honours. The request was conveyed through the Officers of Lodge Manukau, and of course it was complied with. The deceased was born in the year 1800, and consequently at the time of his death was 78 years of age. His father was a soldier in the 42nd Highlanders (the famous “Black Watch”), and young McKenzie, on the discharge of his father, joined the regiment when 19 years of age, and in November 1819 he was initiated a Freemason in the 42nd Highlanders' Lodge, hailing under the Grand Lodge of Scotland. This Lodge has since become dormant. Mr. McKenzie served with the regiment in which he was born, during the trying times of 1815, when the famous battle of Waterloo was won and lost. He did not take an active part in that famous fight and victory, but he was on the scene the preceding day, and was under fire. He was then connected with the baggage guard, which was several times attacked by the French troops. He was amongst the oldest settlers in the Pensioners' Settlement of Onehunga. On the opening of Lodge Manukau, S.C., of Onehunga, he resumed his connection with Freemasonry, and, as already stated, one of his latest wishes was that he should be recognised as a Mason, with the customary mortuary ceremonials. The Masonic brethren responded in a most fraternal spirit. Not only did Lodge Manukau muster in full strength on Sunday, but every Lodge in Auckland, including Lodge Remuera, was fully represented by Officers and brethren, and at least 150 members of the Craft took part in the procession. Captain Burns, of the Artillery Company, kindly placed the excellent band of his corps at the disposal of the parade, as a recognition of the military claims of the veteran, and they added

largely to the impressiveness of the solemn cortege. The Lodge Manukan was opened, and raised to the third degree, after which the order of procession was formed in the Lodge. Brother M. Niccol R.W.M. presided, and Brother Hendry ably officiated as Marshall. The procession, headed by the band, playing appropriate solemn selections, marched through the main street of Onehunga and up the by-street to the late residence of the deceased. Here the procession opened, and the Officers came to the front, and after the coffin containing the deceased was taken out, the line of march was resumed to St. Peter's Cemetery, the band playing the Dead March in "Saul," and other appropriate solemn tunes. The son and grandchildren of deceased followed the coffin in the capacity of chief mourners. At the entrance to the cemetery the procession again opened out, and the coffin was carried up the centre, where it was met by the Rev. Mr. Tomlinson, incumbent of St. Peter's. The remains were taken into the church, where the portion of the burial service of the Church of England appointed to be read in churches was read by the rev. gentleman. Upon the removal of the coffin to the grave the brethren formed a cordon round it, while the Rev. Mr. Tomlinson concluded the ritual, consigning the body of the deceased to the earth in the sure and certain hope of a resurrection. The R.W.M. then, in a feeling and impressive manner, gave the solemn and impressive address from the Masonic ritual, after which the brethren cast their acacia sprigs into the open grave, and gave the grand honours of the Order. There was an immense concourse of people present during the ceremony, probably the largest that was ever collected on such an occasion in Onehunga. The residents were greatly gratified at the marked respect paid to their old neighbour. The old pensioners and their wives listened with mingled feelings to the solemn strains of the Dead March from the band, the sounds no doubt bringing back many strange recollections to their breasts, and while the streets were lined with the young and healthy, the aged couples looked wistfully on and after the procession from their cottage doors. At the conclusion of the burial service, the brethren marched back to the Lodge room, where the Lodge was duly closed, and the visiting brethren took their departure for home.

Presentations.—One of the most interesting and imposing events in connection with Freemasonry which has taken place in Auckland since the starting of the Order in New Zealand, was the presentation of a Past Master's jewel, by the United Service Lodge, to Bro. P.M. Burns, on Wednesday evening, the 29th May. A feature was that the chiefs of the three Prov. Grand Lodges met for the first time to do honour to a member of recognised worth, and every Lodge in the district was fully represented. The Ara and Manukan attended as Lodges, and there was hardly a Lodge in the North Island unrepresented, besides which there were several Southern Lodges which had members present. Amongst those present were Bros. G. P. Pierce P.G.M. I.C., G. S. Graham D.G.M. E.C., F. Whitaker P.G.M. S.C., E. T. Wildman D.D.G.M. E.C., T. Rycroft W.M. 421 I.C., G. Redfern P.M. 421 I.C., W. Sloane P.M. 421 I.C., A. Brock P.M. 421 I.C., J. H. Burns P.M. 421 I.C., Josh. Hydes P.M. 421 I.C., M. M. Levy W.M. 348 I.C., Jas. Buchanan P.M. 348 I.C., J. Trimble P.M. I.C., H. G. Wade P.M. 689 E.C., Thos. Cole W.M. 689 E.C., M. S. Leers P.M. 380 I.C., P.P.G.J.D. Victoria, Rev. C. M. Nelson W.M. 1338 E.C., W. P. Moat W.M. 1710 E.C., M. Niccol W.M. 586 S.C., W. C. Walker W.M. 418 S.C., E. K. Tyler P.M. Prov. G. Sec., Trimble P.M. 111 I.C. The Lodges represented included the Ara, United Service, Rodney, Waitemata, Corinthian, Prince of Wales, Manukan, Tauranganui, Dunedin, Sir Walter Scott, and others. After the regular Lodge business had been disposed of, Bro. Pierce R.W.P.G.M. made the presentation. It was a massive jewel of Past Masters' Order, with a suitable inscription. In making the presentation, Bro. Pierce referred in terms of commendation and eulogy to the great pains and ability which he had observed Bro. Burns display. He was a good all-round man, good as a Volunteer officer, good as a public man, and good in the working of the benefit orders to which he belonged, but what they had met that night for was, more especially to recognise the good which he had done to Freemasonry here, and he attributed the high position which the United Service Lodge now held to the energy displayed by Bro. Burns. Bro. Burns, in reply, felt deeply the honour conferred on him by the large number of visiting brethren and the Lodge, and hoped that his future conduct in Freemasonry would merit their approbation. A banquet was then held. It was a really efficient and excellent spread, which reflected credit on Mr. Hood, the caterer, and on his establishment, and merited the encomiums which it received. The following toasts were proposed and responded to, the chair being occupied by the Master of the Lodge:—The Queen and Craft, The Three Grand Masters of the English, Irish and Scottish Constitutions, The Provincial Grand Master I.C., responded to in a neat speech by Bro. Pierce. The other Provincial Grand Lodges were also proposed and responded to, after which Bro. Pierce proposed the toast of the evening, The Health of Bro. Burns. This was responded to in a neat and modest speech by the recipient. The health of Bro. Wildman D.D.G.M. E.C. was also drunk, as well as those of the sister Lodges. Other toasts followed, and as there was quite an array of excellent singers, and Bro. Wildman accompanied on the piano, a musical treat of no ordinary character was afforded, and a very pleasant evening was passed.

On the 24th June, a particularly interesting ceremony, consisting of the presentation of a P.M.'s jewel, took place at the regular monthly meeting of the Lodge St. Andrew, S.C. The meeting was held at the Lodge-room, Masonic Hotel. There was a large attendance of brethren, and amongst the visitors were Bros. A. Whitaker R.W. P.G.M. S.C., E. Tyler P.G.S. S.C. P.M. 348 S.C., Trimble P.M. 111 I.C., Buchanan 1840 E.C., Burns 421 I.C., R. C. Dyer D.G. Pursuivant E.C., Wade D.G.S. E.C., and other dignitaries of the Order. After the regular business of the Lodge, consisting of initiation, raising &c.,

the proceeding in open Lodge terminated in the presentation of a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Walker, who for the last three years has occupied the chair of R.W.M. in the St. Andrew's Lodge. The jewel has a gold segment on top and bottom, and an intermediate scroll, the whole bearing the inscription "Lodge St. Andrew, No. 418, S.C." Beneath this is the square and compass wrought in gold, with a blazing sun in the middle, and in the centre of the sun is a beautiful emerald. The jewel itself is locket-shaped. The obverse side bears the square, compass, and segment, and on the inverse side, beautifully and artistically engraved, is the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. W. C. Walker P.M., by the Officers and Brethren of Lodge St. Andrew 418, S.C., as a token of their appreciation of his ability and untiring attention, while discharging his duties as Right Worshipful Master during the years 1866, 1867, and 1868. Dated, Auckland, New Zealand, 1878." Bros. P.M.'s Tyler and Burns led Bro. Walker, the recipient, to the chair, which was occupied by the R.W.P.G.M. Bro. Whitaker said on this interesting occasion they were called to do honour to a brother to whom honour was due, and an occasion of this kind afforded an opportunity of impressing on the other brethren the duty of which they had a bright and good example. As they all knew, it was easier to preach than practise, but when they found one who preached and practised as did Brother Walker, it was fit that he should be recognised. Bro. Walker was admitted to St. Andrew's Lodge in 1871. He immediately commenced rising, and after going through the several offices to the satisfaction of the brethren, he rose to the position of Right Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and he had now held this position for three years. This was an unusual occurrence, but Bro. Walker had been found so courteous, so conscientious, and so efficient, that the brethren had unanimously chosen him to this honourable position on each occasion. He believed he was justified in saying that during the time Brother Walker had been in office, he had never missed attending his Lodge but once, and that was through illness. He was sure few Masons fulfilled their duties so well, and the handsome presentation did credit to the Lodge as well as to the recipient. Addressing Bro. Walker, the R.W.P.G.M. then said: Bro. Walker, I now at the request of the Lodge St. Andrew, present to you this jewel. Parenthetically, I am glad to say that it has been manufactured in Auckland. In presenting it to you, I feel it is worthy of the occasion, as your conduct has been such as to merit it from the Lodge. I know that in future you will work up to the principles you have so far carried out, and I therefore feel pleasure and honour, Bro. Walker, in, at the request of your Lodge, presenting to you this Past Master's jewel. Bro. Walker, addressing the R.W.P.G.M. and brethren, said, that he was unable to express his thanks for the kind manner in which the presentation had been made, and for the presentation itself. He felt that he had only done his duty, and he had done so not to win the favour of the P.G.M. nor yet of the Lodge, but to carry out his obligation. He had erred as others had done, but he had done his best to the utmost of his power and ability in the interests of the Craft generally and St. Andrew's Lodge in particular, and he might now lay his hand on his heart and say he had never willingly violated his obligation. He thanked them for the great honour they had done him, and while he lived in New Zealand, or when, as he intended, he should return to his native home, his brightest thought would be his reception that night. The event was celebrated by a banquet, to which most of the brethren remained. It was a *recherché* and well-served spread, reflecting credit on the catering abilities of Mr. Hood. Bro. Walker occupied (of right) the chair, with his Wardens in their proper positions. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured, after which Bro. Wade P.M. proposed the "Guest of the Evening." Bro. Walker responded, and alluded to the flattering terms in which he had that night been spoken of by the Provincial Grand Master and Bro. Wade. He would make it his endeavour to do better in the future than the past. "Visiting Brethren" was proposed by Bro. Hewson, and responded to by Bros. P.M. Buchanan (E.C.), Trimble (I.C.), and Dunwoodie (S.C.). Bro. Spencer, on behalf of Lodge St. George, Dargaville (the youngest Lodge in the colony), also responded. "The Officers of Lodge St. Andrew" was proposed by Bro. Buchanan, and responded to by Bro. T. Whitson D.M. The toasts of Poor and Distressed Masons, and the Host and Hostess followed. In the intervals songs were sung, and a convivial evening was passed.

Rodney Lodge, No. 1711.—The installation of the Officers of the Rodney Lodge, No. 1711, E.C., for the ensuing year, took place at the Lodge Room, Warkworth Hotel, on Thursday, the 23rd May. Although the weather was unpropitious, there was a good attendance. The first business, after the Lodge had been opened in the first degree by W.M. Bro. Moat, was the proposal of a candidate, after which the principal ceremonies were commenced. Bro. P.M. Leers, who, twelve months since, acted as Consecrating Officer and Installing Master of the above Lodge, acted also as Installing Master on this occasion. Bro. W. P. Moat, the Master elect, was presented to the Installing Master by Bros. M. W. Munro and C. Thomson, and duly obligated and installed. The Master having been duly proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees, the following brethren were installed in their various offices by Bro. W. P. Moat:—Bros. M. W. Munro S.W., C. Thomson J.W., J. Darrach Treas., J. S. Darrach Sec., F. Howard S.D., J. Brebner J.D., G. Dibble I.G., and C. Griffin M.C. Bro. Leers addressed and charged the Wardens and Brethren on their several duties. An excellent spread was provided by Bro. Brebner. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and responded to. The toast of "The Host and Hostess" was duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all present at the second installation banquet of the Rodney Lodge.

Masonic Trip to Dargaville.—A correspondent writes:—The paddle steamer City of Cork left the Queen-street Wharf on 17th June, with a large number of Freemasons on board, to take part in the Consecration of the St. George Lodge at Dargaville, Northern

Wairoa, among whom were Bros. M. S. Leers P.M. 942 E.C., 380 I.C., I. C. Victoria, P.P.J.G.D., W. J. Rees P.M. 348 I.C., P.M. 421 I.C., P.G.S., J. H. Burns P.M. 421 I.C., P.M. 154 E.C., M.W. P.G.D.C. I.C., and a number of other less illustrious brethren of the fraternity. Arriving at Riverhead, we proceeded by rail to Helensville. Arrived at Kumea at 3.15. Left a letter bag, apparently without any letters, and arrived at Helensville at 4.30 p.m. We were met by Mr. Clarke, of the Railway Terminus Hotel (late of the City Club). The accommodation of this house would do credit to any hotel in the city. Left Helensville by the steamer Minnie Casey, at 12 midnight, arriving at Dargaville on Tuesday afternoon at 2.30. During the passage of the steamer up the splendid Wairoa River, marks of progress were visible on both sides, showing what an industrious population can do. This part of the Province has been neglected in the past by the Provincial Government. The General Government have made great promises, and if faithfully kept a great future is in store for the residents of this District. It being my first visit to Dargaville, the future city of the North, I was surprised at the progress made. We found a large town properly laid out, and the buildings which are erected would do credit to many of the villa residences in the suburbs. On Sunday last, a very handsome church was opened, built at a cost of about £1,000. The fittings are very tastefully executed, and the architect and builder must feel proud of the result. The town is situated in a commanding position. The roads and drainage can be completed without any engineering difficulty. As my object in visiting Dargaville was to aid in the consecration of the Lodge, and the installation of Bro. Dargaville as the first W.M., we proceeded to inspect the building, and finding everything correct, at noon on Wednesday the Lodge was consecrated by Bros. Leers P.M. acting D.D.G.M., Burns P.M. acting D.G.D.C., Rees P.M. acting D.G. Org., George Powley D.G.S.W., Rev. F. Gould D.G. Chaplain, W. Mackinn D.G.J.W., Wells D.G.S.D., Austin D.G.J.D., Spiers D.G.P., and Dr. Morton D.G. Tyler. After the consecration, Bro. Dargaville was installed W.M. by Bro. P.M. Leers, in a very impressive manner. Bros. George Powley S.W., Morton J.W., and Robert Dargaville Treas. The investiture of the rest of the Officers was postponed until the next monthly meeting. In the evening, the brethren sat down to a *récherché* banquet, provided by Mr. Raynes, at the Kaihu Hotel. This hotel was the surprise of all who had not visited the district before. The house is well furnished, and the comforts provided do credit to Mr. and Mrs. Raynes, whose attention and courtesy during our stay were very gratifying.

One of our most pleasant anticipations was the promised excursion to the head of the river in the steamer Tangihua, at the invitation of Bro. J. M. Dargaville. The morning was ushered in with rain, but about 9 o'clock the weather cleared, and a beautiful day appeared in prospect. We left the wharf with a large party of ladies and gentlemen. The scenery on both sides of the river was enchanting. The dark and lofty kahikatea was interspersed with the graceful punga and weeping willows. On arriving at Mr. Watson's our party landed and dispersed in various directions—some proceeding to inspect the remains of a primitive flour mill, while others went to the house to see the family. Amongst the Visitors was the Rev. F. Gould, who was rather unexpectedly required to perform the rite of baptism, Mr. Dargaville standing godfather. Having partaken of refreshments, we re-embarked, and, after a splendid passage, reached Dargaville at 8 p.m., exceedingly gratified with our pleasant excursion. After supper, we bid good-by to Mr. and Mrs. Raynes, of the Kaihu Hotel, and took up our quarters on board the steamer *en route* for Helensville, arriving there next morning at 11.30.

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:—

A PUZZLE SOLVED.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It strikes me that Bro. Jacob Norton belongs to that class of critics which is known as the hypercritical. I have no doubt that Rev. Bro. Woodford is quite capable of defending his own work, but Bro. Norton should have some consideration for the faults which are inevitable in a large Cyclopædia. That what the latter is pleased to denominate "*the Aberdour Puzzle*," might never have arisen had a little more care been taken in reading the proofs is most likely; that the information as at present arranged in the Cyclopædia might lead ignorant people to imagine there were two Aberdours, one G.M. Scotland and the other G.M. England, is not to be denied; but with all due deference to Bro. Norton, some allowance should be made for faulty arrangements in a work of nearly 1,000 pages. As for the confusion between Morton and Heaton, it seems to me this is a mere printer's error which has escaped correction. Had the copy been in my handwriting, at least I should have offered this explanation. As I have been frequently told, those who compose my copy are not favourably impressed with my handwriting, and, *mirabile dictu*, do not consider it by any means a brilliant exhibition of calligraphy. But to return to the Aberdour difficulty, or rather the difficulty which Bro. Norton has apparently raised, and by which he is, or was, so perplexed. The editor of the Cyclopædia might have been more careful, but I do not think he has misled any one conversant with Masonic history—I beg his pardon,

except Bro. Norton, who has brought up a tremendous array of matter in order to correct a clerical error; in short, a Nasmyth hammer to crack a nut! *Cui bono?*

Truly yours,

GAMMA.

OUR FRENCH BRETHREN.

We have been favoured with copy of a letter addressed by the Council of the Grand Orient of France to foreign and French Lodges, and beg to place before our readers the following translation.

A.: L.: G.: D.: G.: A.: D.: L'UNIV.:

Grand Orient of France,

Supreme Council for France and the French Possessions,

O.: of Paris, 1st August 1878 (E.: V.:)

To Foreign Masonic Powers and the Lodges in their several jurisdictions, as well as to the Lodges in that of the Grand Orient of France. Thrice Greeting:—

VERY DEAR BRETHREN,—The General Assembly of the Grand Orient of France, at which the Presidents and Delegates of all the Lodges in its jurisdiction will be present, will be held during the second week of September, and, as is usually the case, the Session will terminate with a banquet, to be given at the hotel of the Grand Orient, 16 Rue Cadet, on Saturday, the 14th of the month.

The Universal Exhibition will still be open to the public at the time of this gathering, and doubtless will have attracted to Paris, from all parts of the world, a considerable number of Freemasons. Under these circumstances, the Council of the Order, inspired with a happy recollection of the fête held under similar conditions during the Exhibition of 1867, have arrived at the conclusion that the meeting of the General Assembly would offer an excellent opportunity for strengthening the ties which unite the members of the great Masonic family. They therefore invite the Freemasons of other Orients and Lodges to join with their French brethren in giving a character for universality to the approaching Fête.

The Grand Orient of France entertains the hope that this appeal will be favourably received; and for its part, it rejoices in being able, at a Convention of Masons of different Rites, to offer the brethren, who may convene together, the testimony of its deep and fraternal sympathy.

Accept, Very Dear Brethren, the assurance of our sentiments of esteem and brotherly affection.

In the name of the Council of the Order,

(Signed)

DE SAINT JEAN, President.

CH. COUSIN } Vice-Presidents.

CAUBET } Vice-Presidents.

POULLI } Secretaries.

DE HEREDIA } Secretaries.

GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The labours of the Grand Orient will commence at 4 p.m.

The banquet will take place at 6 p.m.

Tickets, the subscription or price of which is fixed at 15 francs, to be obtained at the Secretariat of the Grand Orient, 16 Rue Cadet.

N.B.—The subscription is, and will remain open till the 5th September, and not later. This arrangement being necessary in order that the Stewards may know beforehand the number of those who intend being present at the banquet.

A MASONIC GRIP.—And speaking of signs reminds me of an old-time Masonic incident. When the anti-Masonic hostility was at its height, one of the hostiles met a sturdy old Boston caulker and framer, with a hand as hard as iron and as big as a ham, and, taking him by the hand, he began making grips of a significant character, that the old caulker did not answer. "I thought you were a Mason," said the gripper. "Well, suppose I am; what then?" "Why, you seem to know nothing of your own signs that I have been making you." "Oh, was that what you were doing? Well, you did not make the sign right. See here now;" and taking the gripper's hand in his, he crushed his tarry, caulking-iron grip upon it, till the bones cracked, and the fellow danced with a howl of pain. "There," said old Oakum, "that is the grip of the first degree, and when you want the second come to me." He never came for further light. The signs should be judiciously used, and never played with. They are serious things, and the one to whom they have been confided should regard them as a sacred trust, kept ready for use when the proper time comes, and then not too lavishly.—*Masonic Jewel*.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This cooling medicine has the happiest effect when the blood is overheated, and a tendency to inflammatory action is set up in the system. One pill taken shortly before dinner does away with indigestion, fullness and flatulency indicative of a weak stomach or disordered liver. A few pills taken at bedtime act as alteratives and aperients; they not only relieve the bowels, but regulate every organ connected with them; overcome all acrid humours and excrete a free supply of all the secretions essential to our well-being. Holloway's Pills thoroughly cleanse and perfectly regulate the circulation; and beget a feeling of comfort in hot climates and high temperature which is most desirable for the preservation of health.

PICNIC OF THE CEDEWAIN LODGE, No. 1504.

THE Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of this highly prosperous Lodge, held their annual Pic-nic, on Friday, the 2nd inst. The place de rendezvous was reached by the Cambrian railway, from Newtown, after a run of about thirty miles — sometimes through luxuriant vallies, at others past forest-clad hills and deep deliles, holding each and all in warm admiration and intense, nay, almost breathless rapture, for the trip was through one of the grandest routes a tourist could select. In due course the party alighted at Machynlleth Station, and it was only then that the strength of the party was apparent. During the trip we had secluded ourselves (with a "rare" few) in a bachelors' box, and over a smoke cracked a joke, thus losing the company of the gentler sex, who now disclosed to us their genial presence. While we enumerate the names of the brethren, it is but right to say that each was accompanied by either his wife, daughter, or a friend, thereby confuting the fallacy which attributes to Freemasons the appellation "selfish." Bros. C. Morgan, John Danily, E. R. Morris, F. Britton, Rev. John Williams, Pryce Jones, Robert Jones, D. Morgan, C. D. Ray, T. Turner, Richard Jones, J. Owen, T. E. Izgard, Dr. E. Monro, T. M. Taylor, W. Francis, L. Lewis, J. Nunn, E. Jones, A. Ikin, S. Davies. There were others whose names we could not obtain. Each member of the Lodge had the privilege of inviting two friends, this made the party number sixty-seven. Great were the speculations as to how the weather would turn out; "but soon the morn, like lobster boiled, from black to red began to turn," and a fresh breeze cleared the horizon of every cloud, and made the day such a one as could be desired by those who wished to enjoy a mountain ascent and mountain landscapes. The delightful spot selected by our esteemed brethren was Plas Machynlleth, the Manor of Bro. the Most Hon. the Marquis of Londonderry. Here, on the grassy mead, beneath the shade of majestic trees, a cold collation was spread, and by two o'clock all sat down to do ample justice to the repast. This is indeed a charming locality, and no prettier spot could be selected. Each enjoyed the good things provided, and all scanned with cheerful expression the magnificent scenery that surrounded us. The dinner over, Rev. Bro. Williams returned thanks to the G.A.O.T.U., and each responded with thankful heart. The musicians who had been engaged for the occasion, during dinner discoursed a variety of popular Welsh airs. They now fell to, while the company for a short time dispersed to explore the natural beauties of Cymry. For ourselves, we take kindly to the mountains on Montgomeryshire side, and on this occasion we wandered towards the mouth of the far famed Dovy. Upwards and onwards, each stride bringing the traveller nearer the goal of his ambition, and each step creating a longing desire to look back on the receding panorama which not long ago lay before him, only in different but equally grand perspective. After over an hour's climbing, an elevation was attained, which commanded a view that could not be surpassed. Gazing inland, as far as the eye can reach and the mind discern, we see the grand beacons of Montgomery and Merionethshire, gently converge to each other and throw, as it were, their giant forms to nestle the quaint old town of Machynlleth in the plain. Out from the mountain ranges, and skirting the town on the right, gently winds the clear water of the good river Dovy. Fall many an angler has been tempted to linger on the banks of this river, and oft and again has his rod been weighted by the dashing struggle of the noble salmon, with which the river abounds, and of which, well garnished, we partook of this day. Down comes the sparkling waters, through the lovely vale below, and gazing seaward we perceive where, like a silvery serpent, it empties itself into its parent the ocean. But the scene before us defies the extent of our descriptive powers. Here where we stand, we are about 2,000 feet above the level of the sea; across the vale, bearing to the left, rises the still loftier Gran-y-Gessel, while far to the north, and more lofty still, rises the majestic Cader Idris, whose peak ascends nearly 3,000 feet. Away to the west is seen, glistening in the brilliant sunbeams, Cardigan Bay, and while we drink in the beauties of the picturesque scene, we wonder why Englishmen will travel abroad for change of scene and beauty of landscape, when here we have mountain and vale, river and ocean, and a country replete with historic recollections. From where we stand we can note the site of ancient Maglenn, a Roman station; while at hand can be traced the "Old Parliament House" where, in 1402, Owen Glyndwr, after accepting the Crown of Wales, exercised his sovereignty by assembling a parliament. But we must not stay longer, as even now the hour has passed when it had been arranged tea should be spread, and in our rambling, pensive tour, we have deprived ourselves of the cheerful society and merry dance on the velvet-like lawn of the Plas. However, we rejoin our friends at the Railway Station, in time to meet the last train, when we find every one highly delighted with the day's trip. Great credit is due to the Catering Committee; to Bro. Nunn, who acted as D. of C.; to Bro. R. Jones, who acted as Secretary; and to Bro. Foster. The arrangements made by the Cambrian Railway Company were very satisfactory to all the brethren of the Cedewain Lodge, than whom there is not a more genial and fraternal body of Freemasons. In conclusion, we wish them and their families every prosperity.

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MASONIC COURTESY.

AT the first cursory glance at the heading of this article, the reader might possibly be inclined to say, "surely there is no necessity for urging upon the Craft the propriety of paying due attention to strict Masonic courtesy." Now, we are free to say there is. Our idea of Freemasonry teaches us to believe that the mere formalities of the Lodge room are not sufficient, that a closer tie should exist among the brethren, and that the teachings in the Lodge room should be practically exemplified in our every day life. There we are taught to meet as brethren, yet we daily witness the back-bitings, the jealousy and the contemptible meanness that some members of the Craft display toward each other, whom, for certain reasons, they, from their self-exalted standpoint, deem unworthy of their esteem or friendship. Like the Pharisees of old, they inwardly thank their God they are not as the Publican and Sinner. These men, by such a course, give the outside world an opportunity to cast a sneer at the Fraternity.

We hold, that in a community so extensive as ours, wide differences of opinion in politics, religion and business matters must necessarily exist among its members. The believer in the Koran views the faith of the Christian as erroneous, and the red man fails to understand the proclivities of the white. But on these points we should agree to differ; the hand of friendship should be extended to all alike, the act of courtesy should ever be passed between brothers who are bound together by the same solemn vows. It is impossible we can all move in the same social sphere or associate in the same business or political circle; but we can meet each other with that courtesy which always exists between gentlemen, and should be especially marked between Craftsmen.

How cold our Lodge-rooms, in some instances, have appeared to the newly initiated. He has received his first degree, and finds himself a stranger among those whom, according to the ritual, he has just been taught to look upon as brethren. He leaves with a heavy weight in his breast; he is disappointed, perchance disgusted, and leaves the Lodge-room never to re-enter it. We know of such cases from personal experience. How different is it when, after being brought to light and initiated into the mysteries of the first degree, he finds himself cordially welcomed by his newly found brothers, when they crowd round him with cheerful greeting and kindly words; when they encourage him by their courteous welcome and warm, genial, fraternal manner: that initiate leaves the Lodge-room feeling that he has met with brothers, that he is a member, with rights and privileges, in the great Masonic fraternity, and his heart warms within him, as in his secret chamber he exclaims to himself, "I am a Free Mason."

Again, note the different receptions given in different Lodges to the visitor. In the one, a formal greeting, similar to a presidential reception at the White House; in the other, a cordial, whole-souled, courteous welcome, as brother gives to brother after a long absence from the paternal roof. In the first instance, a most unfavourable impression is produced upon the visiting brother; in the second, all the good qualities, and genial nature of the brother are brought to the surface, and often lasting and endearing friendships are formed, that perhaps in after years are looked back upon as green oases in the sandy desert of life.

If brethren then, by ordinary Masonic courtesy can accomplish so much, why are they over careless in practising it? Life is not, to all, so bright and cheerful that they can afford to lose the mite of happiness and pleasure that the simple act of brotherly kindness can bestow. It is a trifle to him that gives, but often a priceless treasure to him that receives. By all our teachings we are bound to exercise it, by every tenet of the Craft we are taught that it is not only our duty, but our high privilege to bestow it.

Fortunately, in Canada we can pride ourselves as a rule upon the courtesy with which we generally welcome the visitor and receive the newly made brother, and it is right that it should be so. Masonry is something more than a mere symbolism, and there is not anything that so speedily attracts the attention of the visitor as the manner of his reception and welcome. Much depends upon the Worshipful Master; if he is cold, formal and precise, his welcome will accord with his manner, and the chilling reception will prevent the visiting brother making a reputation of his visit. It is very essential then that he who presides in the Oriental Chair should be urbane and courteous, displaying thus his knowledge of one of the leading characteristics of the Craft. The manner of the Master must, to a certain extent, raise or injure the Lodge; it is therefore very advisable, in the election of their Officers (but more especially their First Officer), that the brethren should select one who is not only a good ritualist and acquainted with the law, but who possesses a gentlemanly, kind and courteous manner, and the brethren themselves should vie with each other, not only to be courteous in the Lodge room, but also out of the Lodge room, and be particularly careful to prove their devotion to the Craft by being ever ready to welcome, with a cordial greeting, a kindly smile and Masonic courtesy the strange Brother, the Visitor and the newly initiated.—Masonic Jewel.

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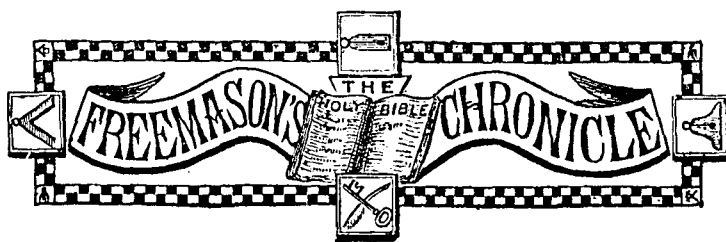
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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE labours of the House of Lords have not seriously taxed their Lordships' energies during the past few days. A personal explanation between Lords Carnarvon and Beaconsfield, the reception of a message from the Queen, thanking them for their recent loyal address on the subject of the Duke of Connaught's income, and the passage through one or other of the necessary stages of certain measures, like the Highways Bill, which had been sent up from the Commons, occupying about an hour and a half on Thursday last. Half an hour sufficed for the transaction of Friday's business, and on Monday the sitting was not of much longer duration. On Tuesday, after sundry measures had been advanced, a discussion arose on the Reserve Forces, *apropos* of a question put to the Government by the Earl of Camperdown, who was desirous of learning how many of the reserves who had been called out, and since dismissed to their homes, had lost their civil employment. Lord Napier of Magdala, Viscount Bury, the Duke of Cambridge, and others took part in the debate.

In the House of Commons the great Eastern Debate was continued on Thursday and Friday last. On the former day Mr. Lowe opened the battle by making a tremendous and somewhat malicious attack on the Government, but Lord John Manners, who followed the right honourable gentleman, was fully equal to the occasion, and defended Ministers in a speech of great dignity and sound argument. On Friday, the principal speakers were Lord Elcho, who gave an independent support to the Government. Mr. W. E. Forster, who opposed them, Mr. Roebuck, who also supported Ministers, and Sir W. Harcourt who spoke against them. The one remaining speech worthy of notice was that of Sir Stafford Northcote, who summed up the case of Ministers with great calmness and lucidity. On the division being taken, it was found that 195 supported the resolution of Lord Hartington, while 338 opposed it, so that the majority for the Government was 143, or more considerable than it has ever been previously. On Monday the Chancellor of the Exchequer gave some indication of the procedure of public business during the rest of the Session. In Committee the House made further progress with the Estimates. On Tuesday, the House resolved itself into Committee of Ways and Means, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that a sum of two millions be granted towards the deficit caused by the additional expenditure which had been incurred over and above that which the House had sanctioned in the Budget. A long and desultory debate followed in the course of which the Ministerial policy, both financial and otherwise, was assailed by Messrs,

Gladstone and Childers. However, the money was voted. In the course of the evening there was a "scene" of no little excitement. Major O'Gorman insisted on interrupting the Secretary of State for War, and when called to order by the Speaker, refused to obey. Thereupon, on the proposition of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, seconded by Mr. Lowe, the Major, having been first named by the Speaker, was directed to withdraw, and a motion that he be called upon to attend the day following and make suitable apology to the House or be punished, was agreed to. Accordingly, on Wednesday, Major O'Gorman having been called, made his appearance, and at once tendered a most manly and sincere apology for his neglect to obey the Speaker's call to order. The apology was at once accepted, on the motion of the Chancellor, seconded by Lord Hartington. The rest of the sitting was occupied in Committee on the Military and other Estimates.

The Court at Osborne has been increased by the arrival of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, who we rejoice to say, has recovered from his recent indisposition. Both the Queen and the Prince have been to inspect the wreck of the *Eurydice*, which at the time was in Sandown Bay, but has since been towed to a securer position, where it is sheltered from the heavy seas which it was feared would cause her to break up. She will at once be towed into Portsmouth Harbour. The Prince and Princess of Wales having concluded their visit to the Duke of Richmond and Gordon at Goodwood, are now in the Isle of Wight, or rather, on the Royal yacht *Osborne*, where they have been joined by their children, and where it is expected, they will remain for some time. It is believed that the Duke of Connaught's marriage will take place in February next, in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

The chief Masonic event of the week has been the installation of Sir E. A. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., as Prov. G. Master of Worcestershire. The ceremony was entrusted to Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and it is to be hoped that under the auspices of the new P.G.M. the lethargy which appears to have prevailed for so long in this Province will be overcome, and that we shall find Worcestershire playing a satisfactory part in the general affairs of the Craft. It should likewise be mentioned that at the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, held on Monday, the 5th inst., the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold were elected honorary members of Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary, Bro. Murray Lyon, was directed to notify their Royal Highnesses of their election.

There are few who will rejoice—and that too with so much reason—more when the present Session of Parliament comes to an end than the Earl of Beaconsfield and the Marquis of Salisbury. The tremendous anxieties of the first half of the year are now being followed by the fatigues of victory. The explanations in Parliament gave place to a visit to the Queen. Then came the great political banquet of the 27th ult., and then the visit to the City on Saturday last, when the freedom of the City was conferred on the noble lords at Guildhall, and the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained them and their colleagues at a grand banquet at the Mansion House. It is hardly worth while to describe the reception in detail, as our readers are no doubt already well posted in all the particulars. Suffice it that the Premier and his colleague were loudly cheered, along the whole route, that Temple Bar—or rather what still remains of it—was made to look gay, and that the Guildhall was thronged to overflowing by citizens and visitors, assembled to pay homage to two of our foremost statesmen. The ceremony of presentation was of the usual formal character, and the speeches of the noble lords were brief and to the point. The enthusiasm at the meeting was immense and proved how popular the Ministry is in the City. In the evening, at the banquet at the Mansion House, there was equal warmth of feeling displayed. All the Ministers were present, with the exception of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, who had been entertaining the Prince and Princess of Wales at Goodwood. On Tuesday the delegates of about five hundred Conservative Associations had an interview by appointment with the Prime Minister and the Marquis of Salisbury at the Foreign Office, and on the latter entering the applause was vociferous. The first hour and a half were occupied in presenting the delegates, who were not far under a thousand, and as each of them shook hands with the two Ministers in turn, it will be imagined the noble lords had to undergo a somewhat trying ordeal. They survived it, however, and the speeches they made on

the occasion were interrupted by frequent outbursts of applause. We can imagine that the end of the Session, when Ministers can enjoy what little peace is permitted to our public men, must be looked forward to with no small amount of anxiety.

Tuesday next is fixed for the Review at Spithead of what is known as the Special Service Squadron, consisting of sixteen ironclads, turret and broadside, three gun boats, and a despatch vessel. Sir Cooper Key is in command, and Rear-Admiral Boys is his second. The squadron includes such vessels as the *Thunderer*, the *Hercules*, the *Belleisle*, the *Warrior*, the *Boadicea*, the *Penelope*, the *Resistance*, the *Valiant*, and the *Hector*. This is a most formidable squadron, and had not our plenipotentiaries at Berlin brought home with them "peace with honour," would have played an important part in any naval operations it might have been necessary for the Government to undertake. Yet it is only one of many squadrons afloat, to say nothing of the ships available immediately, or at short notice, for active service. The review will be a great attraction, and there will be several vessels placed at the disposal of the Houses of Parliament and the officers of the Army, Navy, and Civil Service. Given, therefore, fine weather, and Portsmouth will have a magnificent treat. While on the subject, we may mention that the *Inflexible*, which, when complete, will be armed with four eighty-one ton guns, and be the most powerful ironclad afloat, had a preliminary run on Tuesday, for the purpose of testing her speed, but owing to there being something wrong with the blades of her screw, the result was not as satisfactory as might have been wished. She attained a speed of over $13\frac{1}{2}$ knots, but the officials are satisfied she will realise the expected 14 knots. The cost of this vessel is set down at £700,000, so that our modern vessels of war are rather costly affairs.

The Bank Holiday on Monday was turned to very good account by the London public, and about the usual quantity of liquor was consumed, or, as the weather was none of the coolest, the usual and a little more. We wonder if any statistician will be at the pains of calculating how much is contributed to the public revenue in the shape of Customs and Excise duties on one of these public holidays. It would be an interesting question to determine this, and a far greater test whether Bank holidays are an unmixed good or an unmixed evil, than the number of police charges the following morning.

Shoeburyness is not ordinarily an attractive place, but this week the National Artillery Association has been holding its annual meeting, and consequently there are over a thousand Volunteer Artillerymen in camp, comprising nearly a hundred detachments who have met together to compete for the Queen's and other prizes. From all accounts the Camp is conducted in a most orderly manner, and the Volunteers here, as at Wimbledon, succeed in winning high encomiums from the regular officers in command.

This being Cricket Week at Canterbury, the ancient city has been thronged with visitors, and has given itself up to a course of pleasure with the most sincere devotion. Dinners, and private theatricals in the evening, and Cricket during the day, with luncheon at intervals, is not a bad way of spending a holiday; so, at least, think the good people of Canterbury, and we cannot say they have not reason on their side. On the contrary, if our engagements permitted, there is no place we should more gladly visit under such conditions.

The new Governor of Cyprus is settling down, and the work of organization has commenced in earnest, though necessarily but little progress has been made up to the present time. It seems that at no distant time the garrison will be reduced to a couple of British regiments and a battery of Artillery, and the Indian contingent sent home again, it being intended that the island should be a station rather than a garrison. And a very nice station it will prove when all is ship-shape, only people must not follow the example of certain members of the Opposition, and expect things to be completed before they are well begun. The work of making Cyprus rich and prosperous as of yore will take time.

The Austrian occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina has already been attended with bloodshed, as the Moslem Begs are offering a strenuous, though hopeless, resistance to the occupying force. This, it is believed, is not the fault of the Turkish Government, though there are not wanting persons who say that the Turkish authorities are

at the bottom of the resistance. This, however, may well be doubted, and we prefer to think that the resistance is that of a number of individuals banded together against the foreigner. The insurrection in the Rhodope Mountains still continues, in spite of all attempts to quell it. In short, matters in Turkey might go more smoothly than they are going, though, no doubt, the disturbances may be set down as both local and temporary in their character. In other respects the Berlin Treaty is being duly carried out, and without serious difficulty.

No doubt our readers are aware that for some time past the Board of General Purposes has been investigating some very ugly circumstances in connection with one of the elections at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, an erroneous statement having been made of the result of one of the scrutinies. They are probably aware, likewise, that at a meeting of the Board, specially convened for the purpose, the principal offender, himself a member of the said Board, and a Past Grand Officer—albeit of rank of little or no account—was sentenced to two years' suspension from all his Masonic rights and privileges. In other words, the offender in question will, during that period of time, be reduced to the same level as the cowan or profane. The offence, which was of a heinous character, having been proved, the punishment, which is far from being excessive, has quickly followed. As Horace hath it:—

"Raro antequantem scelestum
Deseruit pede Pœna claudo.

It may be as well to state that the verdict and sentence were passed by a unanimous vote, so that there cannot possibly be the slightest shadow of a shade of doubt as to the guilt of the accused person. We propose offering a few general remarks on the subject of Masonic offences and punishments next week.

We beg to acknowledge, with fraternal thanks, copy of the report delivered by the Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D., to the Grand Chapter of the Rose Croix Degree in Ireland, at the Triennial Convocation held on the 19th of June last, at Dublin. We learn from this, and with great pleasure, that the Degree is in a very flourishing condition, and though the number of Chapters is still twelve, as it was at the Convocation in 1875, namely, seven in Dublin and five in the Provinces, still, the number of members has increased from 290 to 340, or at the rate of 13 per annum as compared with 10 per annum during the period from 1872 to 1875. It is equally satisfactory to know that financially likewise the Degree is flourishing, for, although a heavy expenditure was incurred last year for printing and furniture for Grand Chapter, there was, at the beginning of 1878, a handsome sum in hand for current expenses, as well as a reserve fund of £360 in Government Stock.

An oration on the beauties and claims of Freemasonry will be delivered in the Large Hall of the Surrey Masonic Club, on Saturday, 17th August 1878, at 8 p.m. precisely, by Bro. William Darley, P.M. Lodge No. 158, and late Assessor to the Honourable Board of Trade.

SYNOPSIS OF ORATION.—FREEMASONRY—Its Loyalty—Its Veneration for the Deity—Its encouragement of Arts and Sciences—Its moral excellence—Its advancement of civil and religious liberty—Its cementing influence—Its adaptation as a basis for the peace, happiness, and prosperity of all nations—Its crowning influence and claims.

We note from the *Keystone* that the corner stone of a new Masonic Temple at St. John's, New Brunswick, was laid on the 2nd July, by Grand Master Clinch, with imposing ceremonial. Twelve Lodges and three Chapters took part on the occasion, two Commanderies and five bands being present and acting as an escort. The oration was delivered by Past Grand Master Wedderburn. Both the Commanderies gave banquets, and later in the evening there was a promenade concert, at which some 1,500 persons were present. It will be remembered that the Masonic Temple shared the fate of pretty well the whole of the City of St. John at the recent terrible conflagration.

We learn, from the same source, that the Grand Lodge of New York has in its jurisdiction as many as 78 Lodges,

with an aggregate membership of 78,050 brethren. Last year, 2,954 candidates were made Masons, and 1,048 brethren died. Over 5,000 brethren are unaffiliated, owing to the fact of their not having paid up their dues.

We gather from *le Monde Maçonnique*, which takes its information from *El Universo*, that a new Lodge has been founded at Cadiz, under the title of the Lodge of Peace. It appears, likewise, that this *El Universo* is a new journal whose self-imposed mission is "to expound unceasingly the lofty and generous principles of Freemasonry, to propagate instruction in accordance with those principles, and to compel their practical introduction into real life, so that Freemasonry may prove to be an institution which is truly instructive and beneficent." It also considers Freemasonry is an eminently progressive institution, and it is this character which makes it loved and welcomed by all well-disposed people. *Le Monde Maçonnique* considers that a journal which is animated by such sentiments, and maintains the strictest impartiality, is capable of rendering real service, and wishes it all prosperity in its career. We re-echo the wish.

COMMITTEE MEETING, BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE General Committee met on the 3rd inst., when Bro. H. W. Hunt was elected chairman. There were also present Bros. Hyde Pullen, F. A. Adlard, W. H. Perryman, H. Browse, R. T. Morris, Donald M. Dewar, E. C. Massey, J. W. M. Dosell. After the confirmation of the minutes of the last General Committee, the minutes of the Quarterly General Court and of the House Committee were also read, together with the report of the Audit Committee, and the bills passed by that committee were ordered for payment. A petition on behalf of a son of the late Bro. F. W. Steinam was accepted, and an outfit the value of £5 ordered for a former scholar, W. P. Barrett. The Secretary reported as the result of the late Festival, that all the lists but one had come in, and that the sum so received exceeded £10,400. A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF ENGLAND.

THE Quarterly Convocation was held at Freemasons' Hall on the 7th inst. Present—Comps. Samuel Rawson Z., Capt. Platte H., Capt. Phillips J., Col. Clerke P.S.; Rev. C. W. Arnold Assistant S.E., Erasmus Wilson N., H. G. Buss as E., J. L. Thomas Sword Bearer, Robertson D.C. There were also many others present, among whom were Comps. Col. Creaton, Nunn, Long, Rucker, Pullen, Glaisher, Gray, Filer and Holman. The report of the Committee of General Purposes was read, and petitions for five new Chapters were granted, to be attached to Lodges No. 142, 1044, 1066, 1399 and 1533.

READING MASONS.

FROM THE "VOICE OF MASONRY."

ONE of the greatest drawbacks to the Craft is that its members, as a rule, do not *read* sufficiently; we mean by that, do not *study* the periodical literature of the day which is devoted to the development of Masonic lore. This is greatly to be deplored, as, at the present period of our history, the diffusion of light is required to a greater extent than it has, perhaps, been for many years, and never before were there so many of the leading minds of the Fraternity, devoting their time, energies and talent to the dissemination of Masonic knowledge. The ignorance displayed by the majority of the Order with regard to the traditions, the history, the jurisprudence and the principles of Freemasonry, is truly lamentable, and the fault lies entirely at our own doors; we initiate, pass and raise a man, give him certain signs and tokens, administer to him certain obligations, tell him to read the Book of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and the by-laws of his own Lodge, and then inform him he is a full-fledged Master Mason. What a mockery! The brother is on the very threshold of the Institution, and barely understands its first principles. This is the time to impress upon his mind that our symbolism is a study in itself; that our history has absorbed the attention of the most erudite antiquarians, and is still shrouded in mystery; that our jurisprudence is written, unwritten, general and local; that our traditions are sublime truths elucidated and developed under the shades of fancy and poetry. This should be told to the neophyte; the works of standard Masonic writers should be recommended to him, and he should be advised to at once subscribe for one or more of the leading Masonic journals of the day. If this course were pursued a healthy interest would be excited, and the Mason having discovered there was something more in the Institution than mere ritual, day after day, month after month, and year after year, would become more ardent in his researches, more diligent in his studies, more anxious to become a Master in the Craft.

In former days, when Masonry was forced to hide its head to preserve its vitality, and it was necessary for brethren to meet with the

greatest secrecy, in the loneliest places, then it was impossible to disseminate as much light as might have been desired; its mysteries had been handed down through generations by the "living voice," yet, through all those ages and amidst all those drawbacks and persecutions it lived, but now the age of reason and intellectual strength is assuming vast proportions, and as the mind of man develops so does the science of Freemasonry advance, and it can only advance by its members enlightening themselves in all its branches, rites, history, jurisprudence, symbolism, principles and traditions, and thus can only be accomplished by hard, unwearied study—by becoming **READING MASONS**.

How often have our readers heard the Worshipful Master glibly confer a degree, *verbatim*, too, at that, in a rapid, monotonous tone, without a word of comment or explanation, without even an emphasis upon a single important point. The candidate wonders, he has advanced a grade, but has he obtained value for his money? No, the ignorance of that official has probably cast cold water upon his preconceived ideas of the Institution. If the Worshipful Master had briefly, even hastily given an outline as to the origin of the degree, and the principles of the Fraternity, or called upon some other member before the evening was over, to discuss some subject in connection with the Institution, then the neophyte would have become interested, he would have at once grasped the thought that there was a hidden something beneath the surface which he could only obtain by study; his mind would have been turned to the advisability, nay, the necessity of searching for more light, by reading those works or periodicals that should be, yet are seldom found in a Masonic Lodge. At all events, the probability is that on the first opportunity he would ask his older brethren where and by what means he could obtain "more light."

It is the want of knowledge, in fact this *gross* ignorance, that has done so much harm to our Institution; that has driven some of our best men from our portals, and at the present time there is no excuse for it. On all sides, at little expense, can be procured most valuable works on every subject connected with the Craft, written, too, in such easy style that the initiated can understand, though to the profane they may appear a "conglomeration of absurdities," and besides our standard works, we have on this continent especially, weeklies and monthlies devoted to the interests of the Fraternity, in which regularly appear articles on every conceivable Masonic subject, written, as a rule, by brethren whose experience and knowledge are well known throughout the Masonic literary world.

It is really lamentable to contemplate the little interest that thousands and tens of thousands of Masons take in the literature of the Craft. Announce a *récherché* re-union of Royal Arch Companions, or a street parade of Knights Templars and all is flurry and excitement. Announce, on the other hand, a lecture upon Freemasonry, and the hall will be only half filled. Show, parade, pageantry usurp the place of those higher ambitions that all the symbolism of Masonry so steadily and constantly inculcates. This is not as it should be, and those who really have the welfare of the Craft at heart, should make an almost superhuman effort to check this love for tinsel and glitter, for the pure gold that lies within the reach of every brother. The very cheapness of the Masonic periodical renders it within the reach of every Mason. No Lodge should be permitted to exercise its functions that does not subscribe to one or more of the Masonic journals of the day. It is impossible for a member of the Craft to keep versed on the stirring events of the Masonic world unless he subscribes to, reads and studies a Masonic paper. The best Masonic ritualist is ignorant of our mysteries unless he is a *Reading Mason*. The assertion may appear bold, but such is the fact. The *Reading Mason* though he is ignorant of ritual, has a sublime knowledge of the symbolism of the Craft that no mere ritualist can ever possess.

As I before remarked, there is greater reason now than ever that "The Sons of Light," should become "*Reading Masons*;" when our numbers were limited to hundreds and thousands, forced by bigotry, prejudice and intolerance to meet in hidden places, then the opportunity for studying our mysteries was slight; but with the march of civilization the science of Masonry made greater strides, and as we increased in numbers and spread in every quarter of the globe our system was developed, the Masonic tree sent forth different shoots, which became great and mighty branches, assuming peculiar forms, bringing forth lovely blossoms and sweet fruits, varying in the many countries according to the tastes, ideas and principles of those who trained them. The Freemasonry of the Nineteenth Century, is very different, with its many rites, to the simple symbolism that existed at the translation of Operative to Speculative Masonry in and about the eventful era of 1717. At that time most of the brethren were Entered Apprentices, few were even Fellow Crafts, and fewer still Master Masons, whilst, until the schism of the Grand Lodge of England, the beautiful degree of the Royal Arch was merely a crude appendage, with certain secrets attached, to the third degree. And so Masonry has developed. At one time, aided by the Jacobins, it threatened to become a political organization, and at another, seized upon by the Saints, it would have floated into a fanatical religious society, if it had not been for the stern determination of the Grand Lodge of England (or rather at that period the Grand Lodges of England), to maintain their degrees as the basis and foundation of all others.

But to return to our subject. Our argument is this: That as we increase in numbers, as new Grand Lodges spring up, as our many rites develop, it becomes more imperative upon members of the Craft to read and study. We have withstood the assaults of politicians, laughed at the fiery mutterings and fierce tirades of ignorant branches of the Protestant church, and defied the thunderbolts and anathemas of Rome; but now, we are called upon to defend our principles, our honour, our faith against traitors from within, and it is upon the *Reading Masons* we rely, brethren who are versed in our traditions, our history and our laws, men who are with us because they devote their lives to our interests; these men can see what a frightful

abyss yawns before us, if for a moment we yield to the tongue of the atheistical philosophers of the Grand Orient of France. To crush that movement we must principally rely upon the Masonic press, and the Masonic press must be supported in its efforts to expose this damnable attempt to remove the chief corner-stone of our temple. Such being the case, let Grand Masters and those in authority urge constantly upon the Craft the necessity of reading anything and everything that pertains to Masonry; let Worshipful Masters of Lodges teach neophytes the absolute necessity for *studying* our standard authors, and reading our principal Masonic publications; let Lodges endeavour everywhere to build up libraries, taking the Grand Secretary of Utah, our friend, R.W. CHRISTOPHER DIENL, and his young Grand Lodge, as an example of how much can be accomplished in a very short time; let every brother purchase what Masonic books he can afford, and subscribe for one or more Masonic periodicals, then every brother will be able to discuss Masonic questions sensibly and logically, and all the efforts of a Grand Orient of France will be crushed. And that event will occur all the sooner by the brethren reading up the history of the subject and studying the landmarks and principles of our Fraternity.

Again, the Mason that does not read knows little or naught of what occurs beyond his own Grand Lodge, possibly Lodge jurisdiction. His ideas, like his mind, are contracted. By reading he gradually comprehends the cosmopolitan character of the Order, and becomes acquainted with its proceedings throughout all parts of the world. For example, the invasion, last month, by the Grand Lodge of Scotland of a sister jurisdiction, with which she was on terms of alliance (Quebec), is, of itself, a second important event in the Masonic history of 1878. It is, itself, a subject of vast interest to the Craft, as on its settlement rests the question of Grand Lodge sovereignty on this continent. True, American jurisdictions have before been invaded, but not by Grand Lodges working in the Anglo-Saxon tongue. The Masons made in these two Lodges in Montreal (King Solomon and Argyle), hailing under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, are clandestine or they are not. The Masonic press will be the means through which the question will be discussed, and those who read, will, in reality be the ones who will finally decide the same. We merely give this as a sample. Again, we might refer to the formation of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, a body not recognised by any Grand Lodge in the World. The Mason who does not read has probably never heard of this spurious body, he meets one of these so-called brethren and unwittingly admits him to his Lodge; if he had been a *Reading Mason* he would have been aware that the Grand Lodge of Canada (foolishly so-called), was the Supreme Governing Body for the Province of Ontario, and thus he would not and could not have been the means of admitting a clandestine Mason into his Lodge. We could cite many such examples but space forbids. Every year fresh events of interest occur, and it is only through the Masonic press that their merits or demerits can be discussed.

Much, then, has yet to be accomplished to make the members of the brotherhood *Reading Masons*. If, however, a commencement once is made, the stone will soon gather rich moss, in which will be imbedded hidden treasures of priceless worth. Our Lodge rooms, our Chapters, our councils, and our asylums would attract the erudite, the philosophic and the learned. We should find that even the Masonry of to-day was in its infancy; we would be astonished at our own ignorance. Brethren of ability and learning, finding that the Craft was interested in dissertations upon subjects connected with the Fraternity, would yet more earnestly labour, and on discovering the precious gems would discourse upon them at our meetings; would publish essays upon them, and thus the mind of the body politic of Freemasonry would develop and expand, would grasp new ideas, would originate mighty thoughts. Our Institution, it is said, is founded upon the purest principles of piety and virtue, but they again are assisted and leaned upon the "science of Freemasonry," and the science of Freemasonry is progressive, liberal and rational in its character, and can only be comprehended by the most profound study and careful reading. Such being the case, how necessary is it to cultivate the mind and encourage the younger members in their efforts to obtain light. The present is the time to do this, and we cannot too strongly urge upon all those who have the Fraternity at heart to put out every effort, to strain every nerve, to harden every muscle, so as to inculcate this desire, this thirst for Masonic Knowledge, which is so essential for the welfare, the progress and the permanence of Freemasonry. Brethren, if you are *Reading Masons* encourage others to become so, if you are not *Reading Masons*, and have not discovered the wondrous mysteries of our Craft, seek them by reading and study. The sooner you ally yourselves with the reading portions of the Fraternity the sooner you will appreciate and understand the mysteries of our Order, and delight in that which to you now appears crude, illogical and incomprehensible.

ROBERT RAMSAY.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—CYPRUS, its history and characteristics. THE MICROPHONE AND TELEPHONE. THE GIANT PLATE MACHINE. DUBOSCQ'S CHROMATIC FOUNTAIN. TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION with the DIVER, &c. THE PARIS EXHIBITION. THE KAFFIR WAR. PROF. PEPPER'S Interesting and Instructive Sanitary Lectures, entitled PURE AIR, PURE FOOD and PURE WATER. EVOLUTION OF SPECIES.—Concluding daily, at 4 and 9, with a MUSICAL JUMBLE and THE BABES IN THE WOOD, by Mr. SEMOUR SMITH.—Admission to the whole, 1s; Open at 12 and 7, Carriages at 5 and 11.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, ROMEO AND JULIET, SWIMMING MATCH, &c. On Thursday, Firework Display, &c. Open daily, Aquarium, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, FRA DIAVOLO. On Monday, TROTTER MEETING. Open daily. HIPPODROME, NUBIAN CARAVAN, &c.

EGYPTIAN (LARGE HALL).—MASKELYNE AND COOKE, Daily at 3 and 8 o'clock.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

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SATURDAY, 10th AUGUST.

1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
R. A. 1183—Lewis, King's Arms, Hotel, Wood Green.

869—Gresham, Cheshunt Great House, Cheshunt Park.
1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
1637—Unity, De Burgh Hotel, West Drayton, Middlesex.

MONDAY, 12th AUGUST.

174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction.)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30. (In.)
1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
1625—Tredgar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)

75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth.
104—St. John, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport.
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields.
292—Sincerity, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.
297—Witham, New Masonic Hall, Lincoln.
481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
589—Druid's Love and Liberty, Masonic Hall, Redruth.
665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyne Regis.
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
797—Hanley, Hanley Hall, Dartmouth.
893—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall.
1121—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Hindport-road, Barrow-in-Furness.
1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham.
1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1436—Sandgate, Masonic Hall, Sandgate.
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1575—Clive, Corbet Arms, Market Drayton.
1592—Abbey, Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds.
1611—Eboracum, Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, York.
1618—Handyside, Zetland Hotel, Saltburn-by-Sea.

TUESDAY, 13th AUGUST.

55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7. (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
141—Faith, 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
167—St. John, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead.
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1446—Mount Edgecumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1471—Islington, Three Bucks, Gresham-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1607—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1639—St. Martin's-le-Grand, The London, Fleet-street, E.C.
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-street-rd. at 8. (In.)
1604—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro.
184—United Chatham of Benevolence, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Kent.
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
272—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Main Ridge, Boston.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-st., Newc.-on-Tyne. (Instr.)
603—Belvedere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
610—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
626—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
829—Sydney, Black Horse Hotel, Sidcup.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport.
1250—Gilbert Greenhall, Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington.
1325—Stanley, 244 Gt. Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
1414—Krole, Masonic Hall, Sevenoaks.
1465—Ockenden, Talbot Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex.
1713—Wilbraham, Walton Institute, Walton.

WEDNESDAY, 14th AUGUST.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7. (Instruction.)
201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town at 8. (In.)
538—La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, W., at 7.45. (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8. (Instruction.)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1196—Urban, The Three Bucks, Gresham-street, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1280—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8.30. (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-street, Wapping.
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton, at 8. (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.)

125—Prince Edwin, White Hart Hotel, Hythe.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover. (Instruction.)
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
225—St. Luke, Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich.
281—Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
499—Stortford, Chequer's Inn, Bishop's Stortford.
483—Sympathy, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
666—Benevolence, Private Room, Prince Town, Da moor, Devon.
795—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1209—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate.
1245—Denison, Grand Hotel, Scarborough.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
1342—Walker, Hope and Anchor Inn, Byker, Newcastle.
1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool.
1393—Baldwin, The Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham.
1434—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7. (Instruction.)
1547—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1582—Llanidloes, Trewythen Hotel, Llanidloes, North Wales.
1643—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne.
R. A. 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
M. M. 192—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, The Parade, Berwick.

THURSDAY, 15th AUGUST.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 7. (Instruction.)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
720—Pannure General Lodge of Instruction, Antelope Tavern, Lorn-road, Brixton, at 8.
1227—Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton, E.
1339—Stockwell, Half Moon, Herne Hill.
1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 9. (In.)
R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
M. M.—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.30. (Inst.)

56—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston.
1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby.
1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town.
1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon.

FRIDAY, 16th AUGUST.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction.)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, Punch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park Master Masons' Lodge of Inst. Finsbury Park Tavern, at 8.
1293—Royal Standard, Alwyno Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
1363—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (Inst.)
516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
541—De Lorraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street-west, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30 (Instruction.)
1096—Lord Warden, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
1393—Hammer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)

SATURDAY, 17th AUGUST.

1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
615—St. John and St. Paul, Pier Hotel, Erith, Kent.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham.
303—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood.

MONDAY.

61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, New-road, Batley.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
403—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford.
R. A. 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY.

448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
1214—Scarborough, Scarborough Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley.
1522—Olicana, Crescent Hotel, Ilkley.
1545—Baildon, Masonic Room, Northgate, Baildon.
R. A. 265—Judea, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley.
R. A. 239—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.

WEDNESDAY.

290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield.
337—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slaithwaite.

THURSDAY.

600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley.
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
1514—Thornhill, Dearn House, Lindley, Huddersfield.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
R. A. 337—Confidence, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.

FRIDAY.

401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaidburn.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1031—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.
1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield.
1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
R. A. 937—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—At the meeting of this Lodge which took place on Wednesday, the 7th inst., at the Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C. The attendance was limited, owing no doubt to the fact that many brethren who are most regular in their visits are away enjoying themselves on their holiday trip. There were, however, sufficient to open the Lodge and proceed to business. Bro. Kennett Harris occupied the chair, Brown S.W., Biddle J.W., Gottheil P.M., J. K. Pitt Sec., Moss J.D., Woodward I.G. The initiation ceremony was rehearsed. Bro. Harris claimed the indulgence of those present, he having been greatly worried on account of a serious fire, which a day or two ago unfortunately occurred in his business premises, Monkwell-street; the insurance not covering his loss by several hundred pounds. Taking this into consideration, we are bound to state the work was performed, certainly not faultlessly, but still with commendable ability. Three of the sections were worked, several of the responses being given by Bro. Secretary Pitt in an unexpectedly fluent

manner,—that brother seemingly having become at last alive to the fact that a Mason of several years' standing, and who has taken so warm an interest in the Order, might be expected to possess some knowledge of the ritual and sections, of which, however, hitherto there had been no indications. We trust Bro. Pitt will persevere in his efforts, for he possesses all the qualities calculated to make him an eloquent and intelligent exponent. Bro. Brown, W.M. of the Sincerity, will preside on Wednesday next. Those who are acquainted with this brother's working, both in Craft and Arch, will bear testimony to his abilities; and those who have not that advantage, will be gratified to witness the work done with exceptional skill. Lodge opens at 7 p.m.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—At the present time many of our Lodges of instruction are closed; still there is a large section of our brethren who, no matter whether it be summer or winter, devote one or more nights of each week to acquiring Masonic instruction. As we have time after time said, there are at the Dalhousie several competent brethren who are always ready to impart to the tyro the Masonic knowledge they themselves have acquired. Hence, whenever we visit this Lodge of Instruction we invariably find a fair attendance of members of the Craft. On Tuesday, 6th of August, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Bros. J. Lorkin W.M., Forss S.W., Skitter J.W., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas., Hunt S.D., Gilham J.D., Polak I.G., Wallington Preceptor. Bros. Tarquand, Verry, &c. Lodge was opened and minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Christian candidate. The Lodge was opened up, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Christian still acting as candidate. Bro. Forss was elected W.M. for next Tuesday.

MARK MASONRY.

THE Annual Meeting of the Masonic Mark Master Masons' Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon was held on Tuesday, 30th July, at the Masonic Hall, Devon-square, in the town of Newton. R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. Tanner Davey J.P. P.G.M.M. presided, supported by his Officers:—V.W. Bro. the Rev. R. Bowden P.P.G. Chap. D.P.G.M. pro tem; W. Bros. Dr. Woodgates S.G.W., Major J. G. Shanks P.P.G.S.W. J.G.W. pro tem, J. B. Gover M.O., T. B. Richards J.O., the Rev. T. W. Lemon M.A. P.P.G.C. Chap. pro tem, R. B. Twose Treas., Elliot Square Reg., Vincent Bird Past G.M.O. of England P.P.G.T. Sec., J. G. H. Evans D.C., R. Blight A.D.C., Jno. Masters S. of Works., R. Pengelly St. B., Thos. Searle Purs., H. Stocker St., Jno. Rogers Tyler. Among the brethren present were also the following P.P.G. Officers and Lodge Officers:—W. Bros. S. Jones Past S.G.W. of England, John Du Pré Past G.St.B. of England, J. T. Shapland P.P.G.J.W., S. Jew P.P.G.M.O., A. Bodley P.P.G.J.O., L. D. Westcott P.P.G. Treas., Jos. Ansten Past P.G.S.D. of England, E. Aitken-Davies P.P.G.J.D., J. M. Hifloy P.P.G.J.D., W. Browning P.P.G.J.D., Jno. Olver W.M. 215 P.P.G.A.D.C., J. H. Toms P.M. and Treas. 100 P.P.G.St.B., C. Croydon P.P.G.St.B., E. J. Knight W.M. 16 P.P.G.S.B., Jno. Blackler W.M. 91, S. D. Nicholls W.M. 186; Bros. the Rev. F. A. S. Bellamy Chap. 35, E. Binding J.W. 16, J. H. Stephens S.W. 48, H. Bridgman M.O. 91, J. R. W. Quinn R.N. S.W. 64, H. Horton J.O. 35, W. Vicary S.O. 215, F. Littleton J.W. 48, J. S. Saunders S.W. 215, Jno. Stocker S.W. 15, Jas. Jerman J.W. 15, Jno. Ingle J.D. 215, W. Harris J.W. 215, Jno. Neno I.G. 76, Jno. Allen Past S.W. 96, Jno. S. Roach I.G. 50, Henry Clark J.D. 15, H. G. Beachey M.O. 215, E. Thos. Fulford S.O. 15, W. F. Quicke D.C. 15, F. J. Pratt M.O. 100, Charles G. Vicary S.D. 215 and Canynge, Bristol, C. Pope Sec. 215, Herbert Martin Reg. 215, Charles Stevens I.G. 215, Lewis E. Bearne O. 215, Jno. Haywood Tyler 215. The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, held at Tavistock, 17th Oct. 1877, were read and confirmed. The Secretary, W. Bro. Bird, reported that all the dues and fees had been paid. There was a balance remaining in hand of £23 2s 7d. At a meeting of the Board of General Purposes, held at the Masonic Temple, Plymouth, on the evening of 26th July, the accounts were duly audited. Several applications for relief had been received, but not being submitted in accordance with the regulations, could not be accepted. They had to be deferred. The Board of General Purposes recommended that none of the money at present in hand should be voted by that meeting. The Treasurer, W. Bro. R. B. Twose, read his report in detail, which, together with the report of the Board of General Purposes, confirmed the Secretary's report. The reports were unanimously received and adopted. W. Bros. S. Jew, J. B. Gover, C. Godtschalk, and L. D. Westcott were reappointed the Board of General Purposes. The ceremony of the constitution of the new Mark Lodge as the Devon Lodge, No. 215, was then proceeded with. The new Devon Lodge was opened by the W.M. designate, W. Bro. John Olver. The P.G. Secretary announced to the P.G.M.M. that the W.M. and members desired to be constituted and consecrated in antient form, and the P.G. Secretary read the warrant from the M.W. the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Limerick, authorising the constitution of the said Lodge. In reply to a query from the P.G.M.M., the brethren of the new Lodge signified their assent to the appointment of the Officers named in the warrant, and nominated W. Bro. John Olver W.M., Bros. John S. Saunders S.W., W. Harris J.W., H. George Beachey M.O., W. Vicary S.O., F. D. Bewes J.O., C. G. Vicary S.D., John Ingle J.D., H. Martin Registrar of Marks, William Vicary Treasurer, C. Pope Secretary, Charles Stevens I.G., John Haywood Tyler. The Master and members of the new Lodge were pledged to obey the laws and constitution of the G.L. of Mark Masters. The P.G.M.M. then declared the Devon Mark Lodge, No. 215, to be a regular and duly constituted Lodge. The ceremony of the consecration of the Lodge

followed:—The P.G.M.M. gave the Invocation, and the P.G. Chap. pro tem, the Rev. T. W. Lemon, offered up the consecration and dedication prayers. At the close of the consecration of the new Lodge, the ordinary business of the P.G. Lodge was resumed. On the proposition of W. Bro. R. B. Twose, seconded by W. Bro. Major Shanks R.M., Bro. William Vicary, 215, was unanimously elected the Treasurer for the ensuing year, and W. Bro. John Rogers was re-elected the Tyler. The P.G.M.M. then invested the following brethren as the Officers for the ensuing year:—V.W. Bro. the Rev. R. Bowden D.P.G.M.; W. Bros. the Hon. W. H. Joliffe 35 P.S.G.W., H. Horton 35 P.J.G.W., C. Godtschalk 66 P.G.M.O., Lieut. J. R. W. Quinn R.N. 64 P.G.S.O., John Blackler 91 P.G.J.O., the Rev. F. A. S. Bellamy 35 P.G. Chap., W. Vicary P.G. Treas., J. H. Keats 50 P.G. Reg., V. W. Bro. Vincent Bird 64 P.G. Sec., R. Lose 48 P.G.St.B., W. Cole 9 P.G.J.D., John Stocker 15 P.G.S.W., H. Stocker 15 P.G.D.C., T. Searle 100 P.G.A.D.C., John Moysey 76 P.G.S.B., John H. Stephens 48 P.G.St.B., E. Binding 16 P.G.O., J. E. Galliford 9 P.G. Purs., F. Littleton 48, John Allen 96, S. D. Nicholls 23 P.G. Stewards, John Rogers P.G. Tyler. In the evening the brethren dined in two parties, those that left early at Magor's Commercial Hotel, and the others later, at the Globe Hotel.

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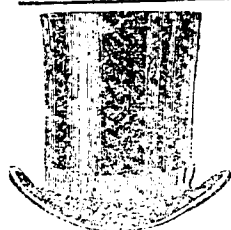
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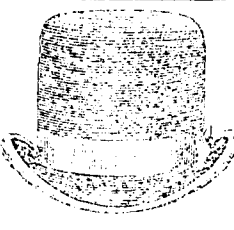
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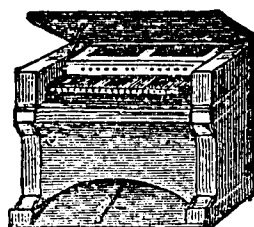
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