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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

ANALYSIS OF THE SUBSCRIPTION LISTS.

THAT the goddess Fortune is as fickle and capricious as ever is plentifully evidenced by the manner in which the barometer rises and falls when the "days of reckoning" come in connection with our several Masonic Charities. It were perhaps vain to sigh for the time when the tide of benevolence shall flow in one even and unvarying stream, and when the managers of our Institutions shall be able to calculate to a nicety the amount of revenue which, while steadily on the rise, will never fluctuate in an opposite direction. The same principle applies to all things mundane; and it is no doubt this which gives a charm and fascination to all matters in which speculation is involved. There are good crops and bad, rising and falling markets, briskness and depression in trade, and the balances are never allowed to remain for long at dead level. And so we prophecy and speculate on the eve of each of our recurring Festivals upon what kind of a harvest will be reaped, and whether the pulse of charity beats quickly or evinces a tendency in the reverse direction. It has been our pride to notice this year that notwithstanding the tightness of the money market, and the inability to give which has proved so disastrous to many other similar institutions, there has been no falling off in the amounts subscribed to the Charities which we regard as our peculiar care; but that, on the contrary, the Stewards' appeals to the brethren have been more vigorously responded to than ever before. We have had the gratification of raising our editorial hat to Bros. Terry and Hedges, and joining in the universal congratulations they have received from all quarters upon the triumphs which have been achieved in behalf of the objects with which they are so worthily associated. The magnificent sums realised for the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions cheered the heart of every truly good Mason, who has faith in the axiom that charity knows no bounds save that of prudence. Nor do we find that the efforts put forth in aid of the Boys' School furnish us with any very strong grounds for anticipating the "gigantic failure" which was hinted at by one of the speakers at the Festival last week. It is well understood that amongst very many Lodges the feeling prevails that if the efforts of the brethren are concentrated one year upon a certain branch of charitable work, they shall by a process of rotation be varied so as to afford an "all-round" help to all. Yet, although it would appear that this year affection has leaned more especially towards "Our Girls" and the "Old Folks," we do not think the lads at Wood Green have been treated at all in a niggardly spirit. Bro. Binckes, who fights like a valiant soldier in any cause that he may espouse, announced at the Alexandra Palace Festival, the other day, that a total of £10,534 3s had been handed in, notwithstanding that twelve lists remained outstanding. Compared with last year, when the Stewards met under all the *éclat* that attends a Royal presidency, the sum announced at the close of the day's festivities was £10,169, with twenty lists to come in. So that, allowing for the lists which we may reasonably anticipate will be shortly forthcoming, we may fairly assume that the aggregate will be on a par with, if not slightly in excess of, that of last year. It is quite true that, in comparison with the three preceding years—notably 1877, when no less than £13,160 was realised—

the support accorded to the Boys' Institution presents a falling off which becomes all the more serious when we consider the heavy obligations which the executive are under since the extension of the school buildings at Wood Green. We can only hope, however, that those and all other contingencies have been duly weighed and provided against, and that the hands of those who have the responsible work to do in the management of the Institution may be generously and heartily strengthened by the brethren generally. One welcome ray of sunshine broke in upon the meeting of Wednesday week, when it was announced that the Grand Lodge of Scotland, through its Past Grand Steward, the zealous and esteemed Bro. C. F. Matier, had sent in the very substantial donation of £204 15s to the fund. We hail this gift from the "land o' cakes" with genuine pleasure; and we cordially echo the sentiments expressed by the Earl of Rosslyn, when he trusted that the dawning interest then evinced by our Northern brethren might tend to heal certain misunderstandings which have doubtless been equally regretted on both sides of the Tweed.

It is not our duty here, however, to enter even superficially into the matter so delicately hinted at by the noble Earl who presided on the occasion, but to take a bird's eye view of the hard and dry facts which were presented in the statistics which were duly printed in the last issue of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE. Last year, the Metropolis was represented by 123 Stewards, of whom 104 appeared for 103 Lodges, whilst three represented as many Chapters, two figured under the head of A. and A. Rite and Mark, and fourteen were unattached. This year we find 105 Stewards respectively appearing for 91 Lodges, two Chapters, and five unattached. The total of their lists, including we presume fifty guineas from the Grosvenor Mark Lodge 144, per Bro. H. C. Levander, G. Reg. and Vice-President of the Institution, amounts to £5,345 1s 6d, as against £4,944 14s last year. This increase of £400 exemplifies that our Metropolitan brethren have by no means fallen out with their "old love," or relaxed in their efforts on behalf of the young lewises who are so hospitably cared for at the Wood Green academy. The place of honour is assigned to the young but vigorous Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, whose pleasant gatherings in the Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill, have often proved the subject of gratifying record in our columns. That valiant Past Master Bro. George Penn has most pluckily taken up the running this year, and has won in the commonest of canters, swelling the general fund by the magnificent sum of £525. None of the other Lodges have been able to reach even a moiety of that contribution, which places even Bro. F. Binckes and the other Grand Stewards, with their substantial £249 18s, completely in the shade. Coming next in the order of merit is the aristocratic Friends in Council Lodge 1383, championed by Bro. R. W. H. Giddy D.G.M. South Africa, who appears to have fought with a courage almost Zulu—without, of course any of their other propensities!—to raise the credit of his Lodge by sending in £207 2s, the third highest on the poll. Another Vice-President of the Institution, Bro. R. Clutton, so stimulated the members of St. Peter's Lodge at Westminster, 1537, of which he is the honoured Worshipful Master, as to produce a total of £143 10s; whilst his fellow Vice-President, Bro. C. Lacey P.P.G.D. Herts, is next in the order of rivalry, with £135 from the Sincerity Lodge 174. We congratulate the Robert Burns Lodge 25 upon making an appearance on this year's roll of liberal donors, and Bro. G. R. Shervill P.G.S. upon raising his Lodge to so prominent a position

amongst the "honourable mentions," with a total of £128 2s. He is overlapped, however, by a solitary sixpence, by Bro. Thomas Stevens P.M. of the Peckham Lodge 1475, which also we do not discover to have figured in last year's return. From the Kilburn Lodge 1608, Bro. Charles Brewer, as Worshipful Master, had the pleasure of celebrating his year of office by a contribution of £118 12s 6d; and it is infinitely to the credit of Bro. Charles Hubbard, considering the peculiar manner in which the Lily of Richmond Lodge 820 has lately been circumstanced, that he should during the second year of his able Mastership have contrived to raise the very creditable sum of £115 10s. This result fairly bears out the anticipations we formed at the time of Bro. Hubbard's installation, when we predicted a new era of prosperity to set in under his wise and discreet rule. Yet another Vice-President appears amongst the favoured twelve "over a hundred" contributors, and Bro. H. Brooks Marshall, of the Royal Hanover 1777—whose efforts as an Apprentice and Fellow Craft we have had occasion similarly to point out in our Analyses—brings up his hundred guineas as pluckily as he did for the Girls and the Benevolent Institution. Bro. Marshall evidently believes in treating them all alike—and certainly if it serves no other end, it is one way of preventing the jealousy that is often provoked by favouritism. Bro. W. Vaughan Morgan P.M. and also a Vice-President, brings £103 19s from the Burlington Lodge 96, whilst Bro. Geo. T. Brown P.M. and Sec. of the Prosperity 65, just comes within the charmed circle, by presenting exactly a hundred pounds. "Very nearly, but not quite," we see Bro. J. A. Farnfield, Vice-President, with £91 17s 6d on behalf of the Unions Lodge 256, while Bro. Thomas S. Mortlock P.M. of the Industry 186 appears for £87. Bro. James Chapman, of the Canonbury 657, for £84; the Worshipful Master of the Constitutional 55 (Bro. S. Pownceby), and Bro. H. A. Rigg, of the Prince of Wales 259, for £81 18s each. From Stockwell Lodge 1339 our well-known Bro. W. G. Brighten brought up £77 13s; and we are promised another contribution from the same direction when his co-steward's (Bro. J. M. Klenck) list is complete. The Old Concord 172 entrusted Bro. A. J. Dottridge P.M. with £78 15s; and La Tolerance 538 sent, through the hands of Bro. Thomas W. Cooper, its S.W., £73 10s. The Worshipful Master of the Macdonald 1216 (Bro. T. W. Carnell) totalled £76 18s; and Bro. Richard T. Kingham, of the Metropolitan 1507, £75 3s 6d. Bro. R. J. Fennell, from the Bromley St. Leonard 1805, "assisted" with £73 10s; and Bro. F. G. Richardson P.G. Steward and Vice-President £70 7s in favour of Bayard Lodge 1615. The remaining Lodges, whose contributions we have not space to allude to in detail, all behaved liberally; and with the nine Metropolitan lists still to come in, we may fairly reckon upon a substantial addition to the sum total already announced. We must not omit to mention the two London Chapters who have participated in this year's "round robin," viz., the Yarborough 554, who sent forward by Bro. John James Berry Z. £63; and the Macdonald 1216, whose Scribe N., A. C. Bradley, took up £23 2s. There is no memorandum this year from the A. and A. Rite, but Bro. H. C. Levander G. Reg. Vice-President, against whose name twenty guineas were placed in the former list to the credit of the A. and A. rite, now figures for fifty guineas, contributed by the Grosvenor Mark Lodge 144, showing that to whatever plough Bro. Levander puts his hand he never looks back.

We observe the names of no less than 98 Stewards representing the 29 contributing Provinces, whose united total was announced at the Festival as £5,189 1s 6d. Last year there were 31 Provinces assisting to make up a total of £5,152 18s 1d; showing that, although there were two more defaulters on this occasion, the aggregate result was a trifle greater. The absentees were Bristol, Cambridge, Cumberland and Westmorland, Herefordshire, Northampton and Hunts, South Wales E., South Wales W., Wilts, Yorks N. and E., Channel Islands, Jersey, and Isle of Man. We have often had occasion to lament the little interest manifested in Masonic charity by our brethren who dwell in the "islands of the sea," who must have peculiar notions about the moral obligations which rest upon them in common with the rest of the brotherhood. At all events their conspicuity is always marked by their absence from the charity lists, and it would seem that all the eloquence and energy of the Secretaries—usually so potent in other quarters—is powerless to move the compassion of our brethren "over the water." However, we are able to

extend a hearty grip to some Lodges whose faces have been hidden from our ken at the Festivals for many years, but who now, we hope, are going to make up for much lost time. We are not disposed to make invidious allusions however, and we assure our readers that the comparisons which are necessary in giving a statistical outline of the various Provinces are made in the utmost friendliness and good faith. Worcestershire, famous for its plums, has given the Boys a rare good "plum" this year, in the shape of £580 13s towards their Institution, and we are very glad to be able to congratulate that county upon standing prominently forward amongst Provincial fruit-bearers. The movement seems to have been taken in hand by two sturdy-hearted Prov. Grand Officers, who have infused unwonted benevolence into the hearts of their followers there. Bro. William Bristow, Prov. G.W. and Prov. Grand Secretary, on behalf of the Harmonic Lodge 252 (Dudley), presents the noble sum of £428 8s; whilst Bro. George Taylor Prov. Grand Purst., as Treasurer of the Hope and Charity Lodge 377 (Kidderminster), adds £152 5s. No doubt the sympathies of the other Lodges in the Province were enlisted in this grand effort, which, to say the least, is most creditable to the county and gratifying to the Craft. The "Garden of England," ever faithful to its Masonic instincts and alive to its responsibilities, sends, from nine out of its forty-three Lodges, £485 0s 6d, as against £478 last year. Bro. Goldsmith, of Chiselhurst, bears away the Kentish honours with a good round £117 1s; the Immediate Past Master of the Acacia 1314 (Bro. J. Wyer) coming next with £84, and the others ranging between £33 and £55. In addition to these sums the Peace and Harmony Chapter 199, sends up from Dover, per Bro. Edward Lukey, £118 13s, showing that the "Continental" port is as alive as ever in its proverbial interest in charitable work. We have so often alluded to the systematic exertions of the men of Kent in this direction that it would be superfluous here to reiterate the praises they have won; and we therefore pass on to the third upon the list—the ever present West Yorkshire, who again gives us a bumper in the shape of a cheque for £400. This comes from thirteen Lodges, represented by twenty-two Stewards; and although slightly below the average contributed by this liberal Province to all the Charities, is nevertheless a substantial evidence of that continuous benevolence which flows from the Western Division of the premier county. We would that their excellent example were contagious, but we are weary of alluding to the stinginess and apathy of the North and East Ridings, who are as usual merely the spectators of the good deeds of their brethren in the West. Gloucestershire sends up, within a pound, precisely the same amount, as to the former Festival, namely £378 10s. Only two out of its fourteen Lodges are represented by the four Stewards whose names are chronicled, Bro. Henry Godfrey V.P. heading the three emissaries from the Foundation Lodge 82 (Cheltenham) with £236 15s. Bro. the Baron de Ferrieres, whose zeal as a young Mason we have had occasion previously to admire, comes next with £94 10s, as J.W. of the same Lodge, whose Worshipful Master (Bro. W. Anslow Sole) adds a subscription of ten guineas. The Worshipful Master of the Royal Lebanon Lodge 493 (Bro. A. V. Hatton) brought up £36 15s, thus sustaining to within an ace the average of former years, and continuing the prestige Gloucestershire has always enjoyed for its charitable inclinations, especially in favour of "Our Boys." Berks and Bucks has made a wonderful and most laudable spurt on this occasion, its quota to the Fund being £305 14s, against £53 16s last year. Bro. Dick Radclyffe, always an earnest worker, headed the list in this Province with £131 16s from the Etonian Lodge 209 (Windsor), and he was followed by Bro. Chas. William Cox as Senior Warden of the Ellington 1566 (Maidenhead) with £67 1s. A handy little £42 was brought up by Bro. E. L. Shepherd Prov. G.S.B. from the Abbey Lodge 945; Bro. R. George Barton, of the Windsor Castle Lodge 771, £32 11s; while Bro. J. Reeve, Prov. G.S.B., on behalf of the Watling-street Lodge 1639 (Stony Stratford), is down for £21 16s, in addition to ten guineas from his co-Steward, Bro. Samuel K. Page. This is "excellently well done," Berks and Bucks, and we rejoice at the improving prospects of unity and liberality in your midst. There is no metaphorical "butter" in our allusion to the fine old county of Dorset, where we know so many staunch, true-hearted Masons dwell, when we compliment our Bro. R. N. Howard upon following so well in the footsteps of his leader, Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, in bestir-

ring the benevolent faculties of his fellow countymen. We can imagine the pride of this active Prov. G. Sec., as with a glow upon his face almost vying with the rose in his button hole, he handed in the sum of £295 2s to the fund. The thirteen Lodges in the county appear to have sent their contributions through one channel, namely, the Portland Lodge, No. 1037, and although the amount is very short of that last sent in, is nevertheless creditable for so small a Province. Derbyshire has been on the onward march since last we alluded to it in reference to the Boys' School; whereas on that occasion the contribution was only £56 14s, it is now swollen up to £227 2s, a little over the quadruple of the sum subscribed in 1878. Only three out of eighteen Lodges were represented, the great bulk of the proceeds coming from the Royal Sussex Lodge 353 (Winhill), from which Bro. G. T. Wright P.P.J.G.W. brought £161 12s, and the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. J. Booth, fifty guineas. Forty and twenty guineas respectively are set down to the account of Bros. W. L. Ball, of the Repose Lodge 802 (Derby), and Percy Wallis, St. Oswald 508. From Staffordshire also we witness a decided mark of progress, the total being £216 5s, against £35 14s last year. It is our invariable custom to report well of this Province, whose generosity is not confined merely to this or the other deserving object, and although on the present occasion only two out of its twenty-one Lodges appear on the list, yet the result is one upon which our brethren in the Potteries are to be complimented. Bro. W. Bayliss, as the Worshipful Master of the St. Matthew's Lodge 539 (Walsall), who is also a Vice-President of the Institution, brought up £183 15s. Some error appears to have crept into the Steward's list as representing Lodge 637, which is down for £32 11s.* No doubt this trifling mistake, which makes no difference in the amount, will be rectified, and the Brother, who is entitled to his "just due," will receive it in formal manner. Eighth in the order of precedence comes Hants and the Isle of Wight, which also presents a very bulky improvement upon its last year's list. Four Stewards were sent up by the thirty Lodges, Bro. T. Benham Provincial G. Purst. being the bearer of fifty guineas from the Panmure Lodge 723 at Aldershot; Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, Prov. G. Secretary, of £81 18s from the Southampton Lodge 130; Bro. A. Barfield Worshipful Master of Medina Lodge 35 (Cowes), fifteen guineas; and Bro. John Harrison, Prov G.S.W., £23 2s for the Carnarvon Lodge 804 (Havant). From North Wales and Salop, with its twenty-five Lodges, were sent up five Stewards, who amongst them brought up a total of £150 19s as against £169 1s last year; but the Eastern Division of the Province was not represented at this Festival. The Secretaries invariably look, and never in vain, to Warwickshire for a substantial modicum of aid; and last year, we remember, that of all the twenty-six Lodges in the Province the name of only one was absent. By a singular coincidence this year only one was present, namely, the Temperance, 739, from which Bro. J. C. Biermas brought £147 10s. This is considerably below last year's contribution, but the invariable generosity of our Warwickshire brethren forbids any odious comparison. Oxfordshire comes next, with £141 15s, which is nearly double the sum we had to record in 1878. Of its eight Lodges five put in an appearance, headed as usual by the Apollo University No. 357, which entrusted to Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, one of the newly appointed Grand Chaplains, £28 7s. Bro. James Mace Dormer, of the Alfred Lodge 340 (Oxford), follows, with twenty guineas; Bro. John Potts, of the Cherwell 599 (Banbury), with eighteen guineas; and Bro. T. B. Brown, of the Marlborough 1399 (Woodstock), with ten guineas. There is another list promised, by Bro. Thos. E. Withington, of the Churchill Lodge 478 (Oxford), which will of course go to still further increase this year's contribution from the University county compared with that of 1878. Somersetshire, by two out of its nineteen Lodges, sent up £133 8s, of which sum the Worshipful Master of the Agriculture Lodge 1199, Bro. C. L. F. Edwards, furnished £97 13s, and Bro. T. E. Jelley, of the Royal Clarence 976 (Bruton), £35 15s. This

* We have been informed that the published name of the Steward for Lodge No. 637 is wrong. It was represented at the Festival by Bro. J. W. Thomas P.M. P.G.S.B., and not by Bro. R. N. Howard as therein recorded. The amount of the list, according to a letter we have received from Bro. Thomas, was £33 11s 0d, but as he describes it as incomplete, we may, before the end of the year, look for an additional sum from this source.

county has always consistently discharged its duty to the Charities, and it is consequently needless to refer at greater length than we have already often done in the past to its various aids to the Masonic Institutions. Durham (twenty-five Lodges) is represented by Bro. Charles Sherriffe Lane, Worshipful Master of the Harbour of Refuge Lodge 764, into whose *omnium gatherum* the brethren had this year placed £134 4s. Sussex follows next, with £128 1s, an increase of something like ten pounds over last year's instalment, the representative of the Province on this occasion being Bro. Benjamin Bennett, of the Royal Brunswick Lodge 732 (Brighton). Middlesex is behind-hand compared with its previous efforts, five Lodges only making up a total of £122 7s, or about £80 less than at the Festival of 1878; and there is also a slight falling off in the amount from Suffolk, which is represented this year by the Right Hon. Lord Henniker, P.G.W., with £112 7s against his name. Essex is the last Province on the list which claims inclusion in the "hundred pound contributors," just exceeding that qualification by £3 7s 6d. Last year it was a great deal more than double that sum, which is remarkable considering the impetus which has lately been given to Masonry in that Province; but perhaps the brethren have had other calls, to which we know they are not slow to respond. Coming to the eleven Provinces whose lists did not run into three figures, the first to receive attention is Surrey, which, after its gallant effort for £205 16s last year, has relapsed into a lower form with only £97 2s 6d. This may appear slothful in comparison with previous exertions, but, as we recently pointed out, there is no reason to complain of what has been done by our brethren south of the Thames. West Lancashire, represented by three of its Lodges, comes next, with £79 16s; and East Lancashire (four Lodges), with two subscriptions of ten guineas each, by Bros. T. Hargreaves, of the Amity Lodge 283 (Haslingden), and J. Chadwick Mather; but there are lists to come in, so far as the Eastern Division is concerned, from the Friendship 41, St. John's 221, and Affability 317; and from the West we are promised a list, per Bro. Sylvester Mattinson, representing the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge 1609. There is no knowing what these brethren can do if they try; and it were vain therefore to make any speculation on so *ex parte* a case. Last year the Provinces sent up £315 15s and £57 5s respectively; and when we recollect the splendid achievements of West Lancashire in 1876 and 1877, and also that East Lancashire has an Educational Establishment of its own, we must not expect too great things in the present condition of trade, especially in the great manufacturing districts. Devonshire seldom fails to be represented, and this year its "dumpling" consists of £68 5s, entrusted to Bro. J. Edward Curteis, of the Sincerity Lodge 189 (East Stonehouse). This is a long way astern of last year's contribution; and our rosy-cheeked brethren in the South-west must be a little more "dapper" in future if they would maintain their credit as the second largest county. Lincolnshire makes a leap from sixteen guineas to £64 1s, Bro. William Pollitt, Worshipful Master of St. Albans Lodge 1294 (Grimsby) contributing £53 11s, and stalwart Bro. W. H. Roberts, who presides so genially over the Pelham Pillar 792, in the same noted fishing port, stands for a donation of ten guineas. Leicester and Rutland follows in order, with forty guineas, sent through the trusty hands of Bro. George Toller jun., and this must be considered an improvement on last year's blank return. We are glad to see Bedfordshire awaking to a sense of its duty, and we regard the £38 17s brought up by Bro. R. B. Smith, on behalf of the Stuart Lodge 540, as an earnest of better things to come. Monmouth, through Bro. William Watkins, Treasurer of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge 1429, contributes £37 16s, short of a quarter of its last year's quota; whilst "little Herts," of whose liberality none can find fault, sends £25, through Bro. Stephen Austin, Worshipful Master of the Hertford Lodge 403. Last, and least, comes Cheshire, with a ten guinea donation, presumably from Bro. John J. Cunnah, of the Independence Lodge 721; but it must be recollected that here also there is a Provincial Educational Institution to be looked after; so that the smallness of this year's subscription must not be regarded as an index of the charitable sentiments of the brethren of the thirty-six Lodges of which this Province is composed.

Having so recently given a copious analysis of what has been done by the various Lodges in London and the country for the Masonic Institutions, we deem it

necessary, with the pressure upon our space this week, to furnish only the above superficial *r  sum  * of this year's doings, and to congratulate Bro. Binckes and the Managers of the Boys' School upon the very fair amount of support which has been accorded to the Charity from all quarters. We must not shut our eyes to the fact that the other Institutions have both received very largely increased subscriptions this year; and in the present outlook of trade and commerce we must not anticipate too largely. Compared with many other Institutions which call for a relaxing of the purses of the large-hearted, we have reason to content ourselves with the motto "rest and be thankful."

INSTALLATION OF LORD TENTERDEN
PROV. G.M. FOR ESSEX.

AN important event, and one that marks an epoch in the history of Freemasonry in the Province of Essex, occurred on Wednesday, at Chelmsford, the occasion being the installation of the Right Hon. Lord Tenterden as Provincial Grand Master, a position to which he had been appointed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W. Grand Master of England. Reviewing the progress of the mystic art in the Province of Essex, we find that as far back as 1735 a Warrant was granted by the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) for a Lodge to be held at the Three Cnps, Colchester. This Lodge, which, according to the list published in 1736, was numbered 141 on the register of the Grand Lodge, and which at that time bore no distinctive name, had by the various "closings up" that occurred between that year and the time of the "Union" been respectively designated as No. 126, 76, 64, 51 and 47. In 1814 at the Union of the "Ancient" and "Modern" branches of Freemasonry it was again altered, on this occasion to No. 67, while at the change of 1863 it once more assumed its old number, and the one it now bears, viz., 51, it having been classified in the interim (i.e., from 1832 to 1863) as No. 59. As a proof of the tenacity of the Lodge to its native hostelry it may be mentioned that its present meetings are held at the same place as were those at the time of its foundation in 1735, an almost unprecedented event in the career of Freemasonry. Next as regards age among the Lodges at present existing in the Province is that meeting at Rochford (now numbered 160) which traces back its origin to the 4th of December 1766, and was then numbered 380. At its establishment, and for many years subsequent, the meetings of this Lodge were held in London, and later on at Bromley, Middlesex; finally, about the beginning of the present century, it migrated to its present locality, and assumed the name "Lodge of True Friendship," and as such it is now recorded in the Calendar of the Grand Lodge. No. 214 Hope and Unity Lodge, now meeting at Brentwood, was warranted by the "Ancients." For many years its meetings were held at Romford, its removal from that town being as recent as 1877. The fourth on the list—and the one which perhaps occupied the most prominent position in the ceremony of Wednesday—is that held at Chelmsford, now bearing the number 276. The early meetings of this Lodge were held under a dispensation from H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, who was Grand Master at the time of its establishment (1789). In 1793, however, it was regularly warranted and duly consecrated by the then Provincial Grand Master Bro. Thomas Dunckerley, who may perhaps be regarded as one of the most distinguished Masons that ever graced the Order. He has been justly described by Oliver as the "Oracle of Grand Lodge," and styled by Preston "that truly Masonic luminary." The Consecration took place on the anniversary of the birthday of the then Grand Master, H.R.H. George Prince of Wales, and from the accounts published at the time, the ceremony and general arrangements of the day must have been most interesting. At the time of the "Union" the affairs of the Province were presided over by Bro. William Wix, but under his rule, as well as that of his immediate predecessors and successors, Freemasonry does not appear to have made much advance in the Province; indeed no new Lodges were warranted there during a period of nearly half a century. The remaining Essex Lodges may therefore be looked upon as of comparatively recent establishment, their present numbers, names, places of meeting, and dates of Constitution being as under:—

No.	Name	Held at	Constituted
433	Hope	Brightlingsea	1836
453	Chigwell	Woodford	1838
650	Star in the East	Harwich	1855
697	United	Colchester	1857
1000	Priory	Southend	1864
1024	St. Peter	Maldon	1864
1280	Walden	Saffron Walden	1869
1312	St. Mary	Bocking	1870
1343	St. John	Gray's	1870
1437	Liberty of Havering	Romford	1873
1457	Bagshaw	Buckhurst Hill	1873
1513	Rosslyn	Dunmow	1875
1734	Trinity	Rayleigh	1877
1799	Arnold	Walton-on-the-Naze	1879
1817	St. Andrew	Shoburyness	1879

The present Provincial Grand Master (Lord Tenterden) was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of R.W. Bro. Robert J. Bagshaw, who had occupied the position for a period of nearly twenty-four years, his presidency of the Province dating from the 5th December 1854, until his death, which occurred on 14th August 1878. He was, like his successor, installed at Chelmsford, the ceremony being performed by the Earl of Yarborough, then Deputy

Grand Master of England, on the 17th of May 1855. Under his rule the number of Lodges in Essex increased considerably, no less than from eight to seventeen. Still the increase during the last few years was hardly so great as might have been expected, and from the fact that two warrants have already been granted since his decease, there may be some truth in the statement that he was somewhat averse to the formation of new Lodges. However this may be, the new Prov Grand Master starts with a roll of nineteen Lodges, most of which are in a flourishing condition, while signs are not wanting of still further increase taking place very shortly. The success which has already attended the Arnold Lodge, consecrated by Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, as recently as the 7th of May, can but act as an incentive to those brethren who contemplate applying for new warrants; and we are therefore the more assured that the Province will create ample work for its new ruler.

Lord Tenterden was first admitted to Masonic light on the 22nd January 1856, in the Lodge of Harmony, held at Richmond, Surrey. At the time of his initiation, and up to 1863 this Lodge was numbered 317 on the books of Grand Lodge. He was elected to preside over the Lodge in 1859, and again in 1864, on both of which occasions he displayed great ability in the duties required of him. In 1872 he was appointed by the Marquess of Ripon, Grand Master, to the position of Senior Warden in the Grand Lodge of England, his contemporary of the year in the chair of Junior Grand Warden being the late Hon. John Cranch Walker Vivian.

The Province has a good reputation as regards the Charities of our Order, and it is to be hoped the new Grand Master will make it his especial care that this feature is never neglected while the Province may remain under his guidance, but rather that increased efforts will be made by its members on behalf of those who are unfortunately obliged to crave the assistance of others. As an idea of what is expected of his lordship's constituency in the future, it may be as well to refer to what the Province has done for the central Masonic Charities during the past few years. The total of its contributions at the various Festivals of the three Institutions during the last five years amounts to about £1,050. Upwards of £626 having been contributed in that period to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, £256 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and £164 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The totals for the various years being as follow:—

1875	3	Stewards	...	...	...	154	11	6*
1876	3	"	...	...	...	187	8	0
1877	8	"	...	...	...	227	18	0
1878	9	"	...	...	...	362	15	4*
1879	3	"	...	...	...	114	7	6
						£1,047	0	4

It may thus be imagined that it will be no light task to keep the Province up to its standard as regards this feature of Freemasonry. It is well known that it is only by continued exertions that anything like success can be achieved, still we entertain no doubt but that such exertions as are required will be forthcoming, and that the reign on which Lord Tenterden has just entered will be a prosperous and pleasant one. Such we feel assured is the wish entertained by every Freemason, not only in his own Province of Essex, but throughout the country generally.

The ceremony of Wednesday took place in the Shire Hall, where the brethren assembled at one o'clock. Among those who signed the attendance book were the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M. of England, Lord Tenterden Prov. Grand Master Essex, Lord Ebrington Prov. G.M. designate of Devon, Sir Albert W. Woods P.G.W. and G.D.C., Rev. S. R. Wigram P.G.C., Rev. Charles J. Martyn P.G.C. Deputy Prov. G.M. Suffolk, R. W. H. Giddy D.G.M. Griqualand, South Africa; Ernest Emil Wendt G.S. (G. Corr.), Shadwell H. Clerke P.G.D., T. Fenn P.G.D., Rev. C. W. Arnold P.G.C. and D. Prov. G.M. Surrey, J. Nunn P.G.S.B. Senior Vice President Board of Benevolence, Matthew Clark J.G.D., Gordon W. Clark P.M. 255.

After the Grand Lodge had been formally opened, the Earl of Carnarvon was saluted according to ancient custom. The minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed, and the roll of the Lodges of the Province was called over. The announcement of the contributions of the Lodges of the Province was made, and the auditors' report was read.

The Earl of Carnarvon then said: I now will inform the Provincial Grand Lodge of the occasion which has called the brethren together. Brethren, you are aware that since the lamented death of your late Provincial Grand Master, this Province has been without its head, and it has pleased his Royal Highness the Grand Master to appoint our brother Lord Tenterden to fill this high office. I am quite satisfied from the way in which his name is received how popular that appointment will be with you. In some respects it is easier to pronounce praise upon a man in his absence than in his presence, but I think for the few remarks which I need make in this Grand Lodge, it will be better that Lord Tenterden himself should be here, and should hear what I have to say after the obligation has been administered to him, and therefore I shall now desire that the deputation, formed in the usual fashion, should proceed to introduce our Bro. Lord Tenterden.

Lord Tenterden was then introduced to the Grand Lodge, and formally installed as Provincial Grand Master.

The Earl of Carnarvon, after having installed Lord Tenterden, said:—Right Worshipful Sir, my noble Brother,—It has been my duty, and a most grateful duty it is to me, to place you in this chair. Very little indeed is needed now for me to add to the ceremony in which we have both taken this part. At the same time, it has always been held, I believe, customary that the Installing Master should at least tender his congratulations and good wishes, first of all to the Provincial Grand Master who henceforth is to rule the

* In each of these two cases there was the list of one Steward not returned at the time the lists were made up.

Province, and next to the Province that will be under his sway. I can with a most sincere conscience offer alike my congratulations and my good wishes to you and to the Province on this fortunate occasion, and I trust that this bright ray of physical sunshine which is, after the long wet and storms of the last few days, coming in at these windows is an augury—after the depression which this Province has undergone since the death of your late lamented Provincial Grand Master—is a fitting augury of that which is in store for the Province. But, Worshipful Sir, you are no novice in the duties of the Craft, and it would be utterly unnecessary for me to remind you of the duties and the obligations which you have to-day undertaken. You know then, well, and I am satisfied that you will fulfil them with all the conscientiousness and zeal and energy of character which have distinguished the other actions of your public life; and I rejoice to think that under your sway this Province will take as it were a new start in its Masonic life and career, and I hope thrive and grow in the exercise of all those Masonic virtues and duties without which our internal procedure, our forms, our ceremonies, and our symbols are all but naught. Brethren, some of you may have noticed only a few days ago a very remarkable article in one of our leading newspapers upon the present position of the Craft in England. It was a high encomium pronounced upon the Craft, though apparently written by one who had little real knowledge of our internal life and actions, but it was true in this, that it pointed out that under the veil of symbolism, and under the external forms of rites and ceremonies which had descended to us through successive generations, and from a very remote antiquity, that there was a real active life and vigour enshrined, and that the Craft lived—lived indeed in the goodwill of the outside world, lived in the respect of men, lived in the honour and the regard which the people of this country pay it because of the belief that it lived for active good and in the exercise of active virtues. Brethren, that was a tribute offered to the Craft by one who was not familiar with its inner meaning and its inner life; but we may well lay that tribute to heart, and each and all of us, whether we be acting collectively in our several Lodges, or whether we be acting separately and singly as individual Masons, endeavour to make the light of Masonry so shine forth in our whole lives, collectively and individually, that we may reflect honour and credit upon that body to which we all belong. Brethren, I have now only, as I began, so to end, by wishing your new Provincial Grand Master every good fortune in the chair which he fills. I need not wish him ability, I need not wish him tact, and conciliation, and firmness all combined, because I know he possesses those qualities, and I know that he will exercise them for the good of you all. Nor need I, I think, in conclusion, remind you that you have also duties to him, and that it is by obedience to rule, by loyalty to the commands of your Provincial Grand Master, by rendering him every assistance, both in your Lodges and individually as Masons, that you can not only lighten the burden which from time to time will rest upon his shoulders, but also promote the cause of Masonry in this Masonic Province of Essex.

Lord Tenterden then rose and said, after the cheering with which he was greeted had ceased, Brethren, before we proceed with the business of the day, I cannot refrain from saying a few words of very earnest thanks to our Prov. Grand Master for the kind manner in which he has spoken of me to you, and I also thank you, Brethren of the Province of Essex, for the welcome you have been good enough to accord to me.

The Rev. S. R. Wigram Past Grand Chaplain was then appointed by his lordship Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the following brethren were appointed to the other offices in the Province:—Bros. J. Earle W.M. 214 P.G.S.W., D. M. B. Wheeler W.M. 276 P.G.J.W., Rev. H. F. Heaton 1734 P.G. Chap., Andrew Durrant P.M. 276 P.G. Treas., T. J. Ralling I.P.M. 51 P.G. Sec., G. D. Clapham P.M. 1543 P.G. Reg., S. Leverett P.M. 1280 P.G.S.D., A. Sturgeon P.M. 1343 P.G.S.D., H. J. Sansom W.M. 1024 P.G.J.D., G. W. Patmore W.M. 1437 P.G.J.D., T. Nicholson P.M. 1457 P.G. Supt. of Wrks., Albert Lucking P.M. 1000 P.G.D. of Cer., J. A. Wardell P.M. 1000 P.G. Asst. D. of Cer., J. J. C. Turner J.W. 51 P.G. Org., A. F. Ginn W.M. 276 P.G. Swd. B., T. King W.M. 160 P.G. Purs., C. Blyth P.M. 433 P.G. Asst. Purs., T. S. Sarel 276 P.G. Tyler; J. S. Brown 276, A. Mead 276, F. M. Williams 1543, W. Whitechurch 1280, and G. Harvey 697 P.G. Stewards.

Lord Tenterden afterwards said he thought it would not be fitting or becoming of him if he allowed Grand Lodge to depart without saying a few words to the memory of their departed Bro. Bagshaw. He had had the pleasure of the acquaintance of Bro. Bagshaw, and he knew how zealous he was on behalf of Freemasonry, and when he was racked with the disease of which he died, he attended Grand Lodge regularly rather than that the Province of Essex should not be represented. He therefore moved a vote of the deep regret of the Province at the loss of their late Grand Master.

The vote having been seconded, was put to Grand Lodge and carried unanimously, and Bro. Matthew Clarke P.D.G.M. of the Province was entrusted to convey it to the family of the late Brother Bagshaw.

Lord Tenterden then proposed a vote of thanks to the Earl of Carnarvon for performing the ceremony of installation.

Bro. the Rev. S. R. Wigram D.P.G.M. seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

The Earl of Carnarvon, in reply, said it would be very wrong if, after having already engaged so much of the time of the Provincial Grand Lodge, he were to make anything of a reply to the words which had fallen from the Chair, and from the excellent brother who had seconded them. He simply said that it had been a double pleasure to be there, from his personal friendship for him, and from his knowledge of him as a Mason.

A vote of thanks was also passed to Bro. Matthew Clarke P.D.P.G.M. for the way in which he conducted the business of the Province during the absence of the late Bro. Bagshaw.

Bro. Ernst Emi Wendt, representative of the Three Grand Lodges of Berlin, presented the congratulations of those Lodges to Lord

Tenterden on his installation as Provincial Grand Master for Essex.

On the motion of the Rev. S. R. Wigram, a vote of thanks was passed to the Magistrates of the district for allowing the use of the Shire Hall for the purposes of the Grand Lodge on this installation. Ten guineas was voted to the Local Dispensary and Local Infirmary, and Grand Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to banquet, under the Presidency of the Prov. Grand Master. The usual toasts were afterwards proposed.

In giving that of the Queen and the Craft, Lord Tenterden said:—Brethren, there is an old saying that short reckonings make long friends. I think that expression may be supplemented by a further adage that short speeches make pleasant meetings. The first toast on our list needs no comment; the mere mention of it ensures a hearty welcome in this loyal Province of Essex. Brethren, I give you "The Queen and the Craft."

After the National Anthem, the Provincial Grand Master again rose; he said:—Brethren, when this Provincial Grand Lodge was last communed it was for the purpose of placing on the shore of Essex one of those life-boats that had been launched by the Craft as a thankoffering for the safe return of their Grand Master from his Indian tour. A more fitting memorial could not have been selected than that which was decided on by the Grand Lodge, when we remember that during the time our Craft was left without a head the Prince of Wales was found ready and willing to take the helm of the life-boat and labour for our rescue. I say the helm of the boat, for I am able to say, from having been among the Masonic advisers of H.R.H. for some years past, that H.R.H. does personally administer and govern the Craft to our great advantage. We have in the Prince of Wales no mere gilded figurehead at the top of the Craft, but we have instead the good head of an excellent man of business. The fact of the Prince of Wales being an admirable man of business ability has been testified on several occasions to the world at large, but more especially at the Exhibition last year at Paris when he acted as President of the British Section. The success of the English portion of that Exhibition was almost entirely owing to his exertions and his desire that there should be an adequate representation of the arts, products, and manufactures of the United Kingdom. I feel that I utter an expression gratifying to all of those present when I offer you an opportunity of showing in Essex your appreciation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Brethren, I give you the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England.

The Provincial Grand Master then proposed the health of the Installing Master. It was only those, he said, who knew how many and how various were the engagements of a man in Lord Carnarvon's position who could really appreciate how truly fraternal an act this was on his part. When he (Lord Tenterden) first went to the University of Oxford, the name which was the pride of the College as the first classman of his year was that of the Earl of Carnarvon. (Applause). Since then, when maturer years had verified the promise of the schools, they still found the noble Earl in the first class in life—first class as a statesman, as a classical scholar, as an orator and as a Freemason, and he had recently added to his other honours those of poetry. There was one measure which, as it met with universal assent, he might here mention without hesitation, which showed how the Earl of Carnarvon had made his mark on the world—an achievement, indeed, which deserved to be ever emblazoned on the time-honoured escutcheon of the Herberts. He referred to the great work of the Confederation of the Dominion of Canada. The Earl of Carnarvon found the British North American Provinces scattered, weak and disunited across the great breadth of the American continent; he left them a consolidated dominion, the very jewel of our Colonial empire. Many of them were aware how genially, with what courtesy and ability their most distinguished brother presided in Grand Lodge; they had all of them seen to-day how he could preside in a Provincial Grand Lodge, and he was sure that he need say no more to commend the toast of his health to their most hearty welcome.

The Earl of Carnarvon in reply said: He was afraid the Prov. G. Master had very greatly exaggerated his poor merits in every single case to which he had been pleased to allude. He could not accept the flattering compliments that his Lordship had been pleased to pay him in that difficult sphere of politics where men would offend respect censure and abuse than they did praise, and he doubted how far he could venture to appropriate to himself even those compliments which had been paid him in the quieter, the sorer, the more domestic sphere of other matters. But one thing he could say—that it was with infinite satisfaction and pleasure that he was asked to take the part of Installing Master there to-day. He came with the greatest satisfaction to himself to discharge a duty in which his sympathies were so strongly, so personally enlisted; and independently of the satisfaction he felt at having placed Lord Tenterden in the chair, and having offered to him the sincere homage of his good wishes in the task which he was henceforth undertaking in this Province, he also had received with infinite pleasure and satisfaction the kindly, and the more than kindly, welcome which the Province of Essex had been good enough to give him (cheers). It had been his fortune to attend many Provincial meetings in many parts of England, but this at least he would say, he had never attended any where he had been received more kindly and cordially than he had here to-day, and when he left them he should carry away the recollection of the heartiness with which an Essex body of Freemasons could make their brother Mason welcome (loud cheers).

The Provincial Grand Master then proposed "Lord Skelmersdale and the rest of the Grand Officers." He said that it was not a mere idle compliment that they paid this mark of respect, for Lord Skelmersdale was an earnest Mason, and was actually suffering his present illness through having come down to Walton-on-the-Naze to inaugurate a new Lodge. Lord Skelmersdale regretted very much that he was not present this day, but he was compelled to be absent through having Her Majesty's commands to attend upon her on her visit to

the Agricultural Show. Lord Kensington and others had also expressed their regret at their absence. The Grand Officers well manned the Craft, and he did not know how the Freemasons would get on without such brethren as Sir Albert Woods, Thomas Feun, and Bro. Martyn Past Grand Chaplain. He would particularly mention with regard to this toast, Bro. Alston, Past Grand Warden, whose father before him was—as he was—a worthy president over the Craft. Bro. Alston was one of the oldest Grand Officers, and the oldest living Grand Officer in the Province of Essex, and it was his name he would couple with the toast.

Bro. Alston in reply said the Grand Officers present have felt it a pleasure as well as a duty to support the chair on this auspicious occasion. To myself personally I may say that it has been a matter of intense interest to see placed in the chair of this Province a brother whom I have known so long, whose friendship I so value, and whose career I have so much admired, and we one and all of us feel most grateful to you for the hearty welcome which you have accorded us, and for the excellent cheer with which you have provided us. Your Provincial Grand Master has referred in terms which demand my warmest acknowledgments to one inexpressibly dear to me, who once occupied his chair. I will only say that if he could be present to-day he would fully ratify and approve the choice which his Royal Highness had made. For myself, I will say that I stand before you now as one, I believe, of the oldest members of the Grand Lodge of England, and for some years before that I was a member and a working member of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex. In coming before you to-day I have ventured to put on some of the clothing which belonged to me in this Grand Lodge, and I trust you will accept it as a compliment from me that I should have done so. I can truly say that to my Masonic connection with this Province, and it is not my only connection with this county, I owe some of the happiest recollections and experiences of my life; and time, which tries and proves all things, has only added to the halo with which those recollections are surrounded. I know the Province of Essex of old. It is a glorious Masonic Province; Masonic virtues shone always brightly here, and they will continue to do so, and for the comfort of your excellent Prov. Grand Master I will say that in no respect were the Masonic virtues more conspicuous than in the loyalty and the devotion which you were always ready to show to your Provincial Grand Master. In coming among you again to-day I miss many old accustomed faces, but others have taken their place, and are now engaged in spreading the tenets of Masonry throughout the Province; but I rejoice to find many of the old Lodges which I knew of old; I have been glad to see that grand old Lodge, the Angel Lodge at Colchester, so well represented. I rejoice to find that the Lodge at Chelmsford has been deemed worthy of being associated with the interesting ceremony of this day, and many other Lodges which I could name are still working with great advantage to themselves and to the Craft throughout the Province. When I first knew the Province there were but seven Lodges; I believe there are now nineteen. I need not refer to anything as better proving the success of the efforts made by your late most excellent Grand Master to spread Masonry throughout the Province. You have now had placed in your chair a brother who is destined to inaugurate an era of new prosperity. His untiring energy, his zeal for Masonry, and his excellent social qualities will be sure to attract to Masonry many others who have not yet joined you; and I feel certain that under his fostering care a great future is in store for Masonry throughout the Province. Brethren, I will detain you no longer, but assure you that I wish and pray that there may be a bright future for your Provincial Grand Master, and that Masonry under his beneficent presidency may prosper yet more than it ever has done in the Province of Essex.

The Earl of Carnarvon then proposed "The health of the Provincial Grand Master." He said: Brethren,—I have had a toast placed in my hands for which I thank those who have arranged the procedure of to-day. No toast could be more grateful to me to propose, no toast I am satisfied could meet with greater enthusiasm on your part. Brethren, we can none of us forget the cause which has called us together to-day. We can none of us forget who now occupies the chair of this Province. I have already had occasion more than once within the last few hours to offer the expressions of my own hearty good wishes for the success of my noble friend in the new duty that he has undertaken. I am very sanguine as to the mode in which he will discharge those duties. He has the guarantee, so to speak, of his whole past in his favour. My noble friend succeeded to a title and an already distinguished name. He was not a man to rest idle upon hereditary honours. His life has been emphatically, I should say, a life of hard, unsparing, laborious work. The frivolities, even the lighter pleasures in life, which form so large a portion of the existence of other men have passed comparatively by him; he has scorned a life of inglorious ease, and he has devoted time and strength and the energy both of mind and body to the service of the State. This has not been all. Step by step, patiently and by solid work, my noble friend has risen in the profession that he adorns, till at last he has arrived at the highest point of all, the highest post which I conceive any one in that profession can hold in England, the position of permanent under Secretary at the Foreign Office. Brethren, none but those who have had some experience as Ministers in a large department can tell how deeply indebted the country is to the permanent civil officers who practically manage and administer those departments. But if there be one officer in a great department upon whom hinges, so to speak, the whole administration of that department, and all abroad that that administration involves and carries with it, it is the permanent under Secretary. All day, every day, day and night I may say, the State has called upon him; he is the adviser of his political and parliamentary chief; he is the hinge upon which all of that great office, and with the office that great service, in a great measure turns; and this, I may truly say from experience, that among all that band of highly educated, able, laborious men to carry on the work of our public offices, whose merits receive far less recognition when some-

times contrasted by the showy and the tawdry qualities of those who are so deeply indebted to them—I speak it in all humility, because I have had the benefit of similar advice as my noble friend has given to a succession of foreign secretaries—I say none but those who have served in a great department as a parliamentary head can be aware how deeply indebted the Crown and the country are to those who fill such a situation as my noble friend now fills. And therefore, brethren, I say that a great Masonic Province like this may gratefully and well appreciate when it can command the services of such a Provincial Grand Master. I know how heavy the claims of public business are upon any one in my noble friend's position, but I have always found this in life, that those who are really the busiest find the greatest amount of time to give to other persons. I remember hearing a story of Count Cavour when he was at the head of the Foreign Department in Italy, which was a very stormy time. A friend visited him one morning early, and after talking five minutes proposed to hurry away, apologising for having detained him so long from public business. Count Cavour said, "Why, I have plenty of time; there are twenty-four hours in the day, and they surely are enough for all purposes." And I believe my noble friend here is of the same opinion, when he could take himself away from the despatches of the Foreign Office to devote himself body and mind to such an occasion as the present. I hardly know, when I see such a meeting as this, on what Masonic text to preach. It has been my duty so often to inculcate Masonic principles or duties that I feel almost afraid of repeating what I have said. There are, no doubt, particular duties which are specially applicable to particular times and seasons. The duty of our Masonic Charity is one; the worldwide brotherhood which unites us in so many climates and countries is another great feature; the code of morals, so to speak, which lies enshrined in the old charges of the Order which is concealed veiled in the ritual and symbolism such as that to which I alluded in the Grand Lodge to-day, these are all distinctive features of the Craft; they may all be dwelt upon with advantage at different times and under different circumstances, but the one word that I would take the liberty of saying to-day is perhaps on a somewhat different subject; it is to ask you to bear in mind, as it suggests itself to me to-day, that our Masonic organisation, and the duties of loyal Provincial obedience to those who are placed high in authority, lie at the very root of all our Masonic system in England. Brethren, the administration of a great Masonic Province like this depends first of all upon the tact, the management, and the administrative ability of the Provincial Grand Master. It depends, in the next place, upon the zeal and the intelligence of those Grand Officers whom he appoints; and, lastly, it depends upon the hearty zeal and the loyal obedience of the whole body of Masons scattered throughout the Province; and by that I mean the loyal obedience not merely of individual Masons, but of Lodges acting collectively together, as a part of the Masonic organisation; and let me say that just as this is true of the Provincial Grand Lodge, so also is it true of the organisation of each individual Lodge. The Master there is elected to his high office; he is bound to exercise the functions and duties of that office with the same qualities as the Provincial Grand Master brings to bear; he looks to his Officers to give him their hearty support in the work of the Lodge, and he looks again to the individual members of the Lodge to support him in a way that no written rules and no precise laws can possibly give. But, brethren, this is not perhaps all. It might seem to some that the great powers which are lodged in the hands of the Provincial Grand Master, as they are lodged in the hands of the Grand Master of the Craft, would make our ancient and venerable body despotic and absolute in its character and working. That is not at all the case. Our body seems to me to be happily blended together of the great principles of rule, of obedience, of loyalty, and yet also of great freedom. Freedom of election lies at the very root of the whole matter, and confidence, the offspring of that freedom of choice on the one hand, and of that considerate and temperate rule on the other. In this it has often occurred to me that there is a strong resemblance between Freemasonry—English Freemasonry—and the English Constitution. You have large powers, great authority, great responsibility, great freedom, and, if the whole machine is to work together harmoniously and satisfactorily, great confidence on the part of those who are governed in those who govern. That is, in fact, what I believe the English Constitution gives you, roughly speaking—that is what we look for, and what we have found I believe in our Masonic system. And perhaps this is, among other causes, one of the reasons—and one of the principal reasons—why Freemasonry in England has united itself in such harmonious bonds with all the great institutions of the country. I know, indeed, nothing more remarkable than the contrast which exists now, and which still more existed a few years ago between English Freemasonry and foreign. Here in England the great institutions of the country are more or less connected with Freemasonry. There has never been any jealousy of Freemasonry here. Parliament, even in its most jealous moods, always made exceptions in favour of English Lodges. There was no suspicion, no jealousy, no ill-will, and, as my noble friend I think also pointed out in one of his speeches to-day, it has been our special characteristic and pleasure that in this country we have had a succession of Royal Princes at the head of our Masonic system. Formerly, indeed, Freemasonry abroad was bound up with many of those secret bodies which could certainly not be said to be allied to the State—which were at enmity with the State—and it brought on foreign Freemasonry often much doubt—sometimes discredit. We, I am thankful to say, have ever been spared this, and I trust that through the long course of English Freemasonry which is yet in store we shall always maintain the same even, temperate way which we have maintained in times past—that we shall still feel that with the laws, the institutions, the authorities of this country we are closely allied, that whilst we are Masons we are equally Englishmen—Englishmen in all the spirit of the laws, in all the spirit of the Constitution—and then we shall carry on, I doubt not, Freemasonry if possible even one step higher,

and one step further than it has already achieved, we shall be able to hand down to those who come after us quite as great and fine a heritage as we have received from our forefathers (cheers). Brethren, in every Province it is necessary to have a high standard before us. In this Province you have had good traditions, and you now have at your head one who is fully competent to give those traditions practical life and effect. Let me congratulate him upon being placed in this chair; let me congratulate you upon having so good a Provincial Grand Master ruling over you. I beg to propose his health. Let me wish to him long life and success in the devotion of the same qualities to this Province that he has already given to his country, and let me wish for you all the happiness, and all the good fortune, and all the success that can flow from the wise, and temperate, and kindly, and conciliatory rule of your present Provincial Grand Master.

The Provincial Grand Master in reply said: Brethren,—I have to thank our Pro Grand Master for the too flattering and complimentary terms in which he has been good enough to propose my health to your notice, and I have to thank you, brethren of the Province of Essex, for the welcome that you have been good enough to accord to me on this occasion. Our Pro Grand Master has spoken of the organisation of Freemasonry. I am pretty confident that I am not wrong in supposing that in this town of Chelmsford at this very moment there are numbers of people who are asking the question, "What is it that all these gentlemen, wearing white ties and evening coats in the day time, have invaded our quiet neighbourhood for, with their little black bags and their tin boxes?" And, brethren, I do not doubt that to many the question has been put which has on this and other occasions been very frequently addressed to myself. "What is it that all you people are about? If you want to subscribe to schools and to asylums why don't you send your Post Office order and your cheques without all this fuss and paraphernalia?" Now, a lady told me the other day that she had discovered the secret. She said, "The fact is you men are so vain. You love to dress yourselves up; that is why the soldiers all wear red coats, and now the volunteers are going to wear red coats, and as for you people with the blue aprons, why you are no better." Other people say we are mere knife and fork philanthropists. Others again say, "the real fact is, there is nothing in it at all." Now, that reminds me of the story with regard to the Druses on Mount Lebanon. His lordship then proceeded to relate the story of one of a number of peeping busybodies who went into the Temple of the Druses, and finding it empty, returned and reported that there was "nothing in it," whereupon he was told that his story was disbelieved, and was ignominiously kicked out of the village. His lordship proceeded: Now, brethren, it cannot be said that there is nothing in our Lodges, for there is something in our Lodges—something which constitutes the very basis of our Masonic structure, and that is the Volume of the Sacred Law. Although with universal toleration we admit men of all creeds to the Craft, provided they are good men—I have myself initiated Persians, Parsees, Mussulmans, and Hindoos—yet all our work is begun, continued and completed in the name of Him whom we address in the spirit of that universal prayer written by our great poet Pope, a Roman Catholic:—

"Father of all, in every age,
In every clime adored
By saint, by savage, and by sage,
Jehovah, Jove, and Lord.
To Him whose temple is all space,
Whose altar—earth, sea, skies,
One chorus let all beings raise,
All Nature's incense rise."

It is, brethren, this spirit of toleration, this feeling of universal brotherhood under one great Heavenly Father, which constitutes as I deem it, the true object, the true principle of Freemasonry. It was for this object that Freemasonry was founded, and it is for this that it now claims to be maintained. Without going too far into the uncertainties of tradition, we are at all events sure of this—that the original object of Freemasonry was to provide a home, amongst their fellow brethren and Masons, where those skilled craftsmen who wandered in the pursuit of their craft might find in their travels a ready welcome. It was thus, brethren, that Freemasonry in former ages was the first to break down that barrier of distrust and exclusiveness which severed countries and provinces, and even towns. It is now of equal use, for Freemasonry, excluding as it does subjects of political and religious controversy, forms a neutral ground on which men of all classes, countries, and creeds may meet on the level and part upon the square. Brethren, that exclusiveness of which I have spoken has to some extent penetrated even to the present day. Most of you, I dare say, recollect the drawing of poor John Leech's two navvies, one of whom says to the other "Who be that, Bill?" and upon the other replying, "A stranger," he says, "'cave 'alf a brick at him." Well, brethren, that spirit was at one time very common amongst us. The other day I was reading the biography of one of our great naval heroes at the commencement of the present century. His creed was, "Fear God, honour the King, and hate the French." Now, brethren, we do, I hope, the two former, but the days for hatred of the French are happily passed away, and I trust may never come again. How little we now hate the French is shown in the chord of sympathy which has been touched in every English heart, in every English home for that unhappy lady who is now mourning for her gallant son slain in the English cause in South Africa. This spirit of universal brotherhood may perhaps by some be considered no longer of any moment in this country, but this is not so. Although political and religious rancour is happily no longer rife amongst us, there are many subjects upon which all men must differ, and by excluding those questions upon which men too frequently do differ, we are doing that which I am sure is of great good to this country; and I have seen myself a very remarkable instance of that in the United States of America where civil war had done its worst to scathe the land. Yet the brethren from the North could meet the brethren from the South

after the war, and clasp the hands of Freemasonry in brotherhood which had so recently been raised to shed each other's blood. I feel with our Pro Grand Master that Freemasonry has a great future before it, a great future, I venture to say, in this feeling of universal toleration and brotherhood, a great future not only in this country, but in all countries, in pacifying hostilities, in creating friendships, in linking together men of all countries, of all classes, of all religions, all races, and all creeds. And, brethren, we cannot do better than take the advice of our Pro Grand Master as to how we should best extend and promote this, which I venture to say is a noble object, of which Freemasons in this Province and all over the world may be justly proud. The way to promote it, brethren, is, to use an expression familiar to all of us, that we should show ourselves to be good Masons and good men, not only in our words and in our emblems, but in our acts—that we should in truth show ourselves to be men to whom the afflicted may pour forth their sorrows and find consolation, to whom the distressed may pour forth their suit and find relief—whose hands are guided by justice, and whose hearts are expanded by benevolence. I once more thank you most cordially for the kind welcome which has been given to me in this Province. I always felt that although I was not known to many amongst you it would be so—that one whose heart was in Freemasonry would never fail a warm welcome at the hands of Freemasons.

The Provincial Grand Master then said:—The Pro Grand Master has desired me to express his extreme regret that he has been obliged to leave before the end of our festivities. I have now devolving on me the very agreeable task of proposing the health of the Deputy Grand Master, Rev. S. R. Wigram P.G.C., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers Present and Past. I have for a long time had the pleasure of knowing our Bro. Wigram as distinguished in the Craft, distinguished as one of the Grand Chaplains, and distinguished, as I also know he has been, by his working at the Priory Lodge, at Southend; and it is with extreme gratification to me that he has accepted the position to which he has this day been appointed. You must all know that very much of the success of the Province depends on the Deputy of the Province. As the Pro Grand Master has told you, in the most flattering terms, I am engaged the bulk of my time, and must therefore leave the greater part of my duties to the brother who has this day been appointed my Deputy. We have among us in our Lodge the Past D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Matthew Clark, and I am especially pleased to see him. I feel sure that you also appreciate his services from the satisfaction with which you all agreed to the vote of thanks which has been passed upon him in Lodge. He is, with me, a Past Master of the Lodge of Harmony at Richmond, and has for many years past shared with me the duties of Secretary of that Lodge. I know from my personal experience that he is a good man, and you all know that he is a good Mason. We have to-day also invested several others who are worthy of the position to which they have been appointed. It was at the Lodge of Hope and Unity, at Romford, that I first received my early Masonic instruction. A friend of mine used to belong to that Lodge, and I was frequently present there as a visitor, and have on several occasions acted as one of its Officers, it is therefore with extreme pleasure that I have this day placed the W.M. of that Lodge in the chair of Senior Warden of the Province. The other Prov. Grand Officers are, I believe, equally well known to the Craft of Essex. I have done my best that the honours should be distributed to every point of our Provincial compass, and I hope that the various appointments will give satisfaction. I have pleasure in coupling with the toast the names of Bros. S. R. Wigram Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. Matthew Clark P.P.D.G.M. Bro. Wigram in reply said: I have to thank you, both on my own behalf and on behalf of the other Prov. Grand Officers. The honour I have received this day has come to me most acceptably. I am an Essex man, son of an Essex man, received the Masonic light in an Essex Lodge, and am a Past Master of two Essex Lodges. If we are spared to meet again at the end of twelve months, I hope you will receive this toast with as great cordiality as it has met to-night. We ask you to be to our virtues very kind, and to our follies ever blind. Bro. Clarke also offered a few remarks.

The Deputy Prov. G. Master stated that the Prov. Grand Master had entrusted to him the proposal of the next toast. He said:—I could at this moment express two wishes, one that the toast had fallen into better hands, and another that it had been placed earlier on the list so that it might have been given before those numerous visitors who have honoured us with their presence had been obliged to leave us. We have to-day been honoured with Masons conversant with the Craft, I may say in every part of the world. We are always proud to see our brethren among us, and tender them a hearty welcome. All we can do now is to honour those brethren who have to-day visited us by drinking heartily to the toast.

Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn in his reply tendered his thanks for the hearty reception accorded the toast. He hoped that he should have the pleasure of seeing several of the Essex brethren at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk on Monday next. He expressed the regret of the Master of his Province that he was unable to attend the meeting of to-day.

The health of the Officers of the Province, was acknowledged by Bro. Rev. F. Shepherd P.M. 276. Bro. Verey proposed the Masonic Charities, and Bro. J. Terry Sec. Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution replied.

A just compliment was paid by the Prov. Grand Master to the Committee of the Chelmsford Lodge, who had been entrusted with the arrangements of the day, and on the W.M. of that Lodge being called upon to respond, he expressed the thanks of his Lodge to those Prov. Grand Officers who had assisted him, more especially he wished to thank Bro. Ralling the Prov. Sec. who, he said, had been present at every meeting of the Committee.

Bro. Speight acted as toastmaster. During the evening a selection of music was performed, under the direction of Bro. W. Ganz, by Bros. John Hodges, Faulkner Leigh, C. B. Skett, and Thurley Beale.

PROVINCE OF KENT.

THE ANNUAL PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF KENT will be held at the **CONCERT HALL, MAIDSTONE**, on Wednesday, 9th July, at 12.0 noon precisely, when and where the Provincial Grand Officers and Past Officers, with the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of the Lodges in the Province, are convoked to attend.

By order of the R.W. P.G.M. Viscount Holmesdale, M.P.

ALFRED SPENCER,

Prov. G. Secretary.

Maidstone, 17th June 1879.

PROVINCE OF SURREY.

The R.W. Bro. Gen. STUDDHOLME BROWNRIGG, C.B. Provincial Grand Master.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a **PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE** will be held on Tuesday, the 22nd day of July, 1879, at One o'clock in the Afternoon punctually, at the Public Hall, Redhill, in the County of Surrey, when the Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the other brethren of the Province, are requested to attend.

By command of the R.W. Prov. G. Master,

CHARLES GREENWOOD,

Provincial Grand Secretary.

61 Nelson St., Blackfriars Road.
23rd June 1879.

The Banquet will take place at Four o'clock precisely, Tickets for which (price 15s) may be had of Bro. Major Gant, P.M., at the Mount, Reigate, or of the Provincial Grand Secretary.

The R.W.P.G. Master requests the attendance of the Brethren at Divine Service at St. Matthew's Church, Redhill, at 2.30 p.m. A Sermon will be preached by the Provincial Grand Chaplain. Brethren not to appear in Masonic costume at Divine Service.

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE.

Patrons:

His Royal Highness THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M. President.

Her Royal Highness THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, on Saturday, the 12th day of July 1879, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the general business of the Institution, to place candidates on the list for election in October next, and to declare the number of Girls then to be elected; also to consider the following notices of motion:—

By Bro. Thos. Meggy, Vice-President,

"That a Committee be appointed to regulate the manner in which the scrutiny of the votes shall be made, both for the Election of Candidates and for other purposes."

By Bro. Col. Creaton, Treasurer and Trustee,

"That Seven additional Girls be Elected at the Quarterly Court in October next, thereby raising the number of Elected Girls in the Institution to Two Hundred (making a total of 207 in all), seven of those now in the School having been admitted by purchase."

F. R. W. HEDGES,

Office—5 Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, W.C.

Secretary.

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Bro. F. J. SAWYER, Proprietor.

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T. MAIDWELL, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., City, E.C.

VITRUVIAN LODGE, No. 87.

BRO. ISAAC, who has for some time past provided for the requirements of this Lodge, begs to announce that he has obtained permission for the removal of his license to the Belvedere-road, and that he is about to erect commodious premises there. These will comprise

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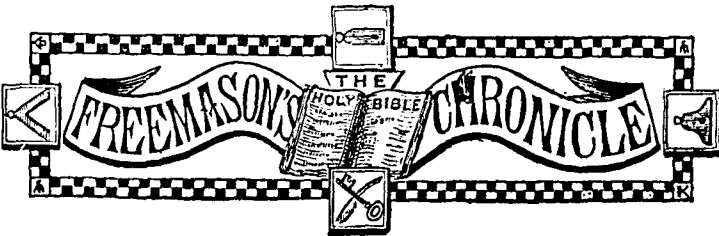
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PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF BERKSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE Annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks was held at the County Hall, Abingdon, on Thursday the 26th ult., and was largely attended by the members of the several Lodges in the Province, all but two being very fully represented. The London train calling at Reading conveyed the R.W. Provincial Grand Master Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., and Chairman of the Great Western Railway Company, to Didcot, where a considerable muster of brethren had assembled, and there a "special" was provided for the accommodation of the somewhat large party, enabling them to reach Abingdon in good time prior to the opening of Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. E. J. Trendell P.M. of the Abbey Lodge at Abingdon, in the most liberal manner received all comers as his guests, and placed his spacious dwelling and noble grounds at their disposal, entertaining them with a cold collation and means for refreshment prior to commencing labour. At the appointed hour the brethren assembled at the County Hall, over which the arms of the borough floated during the day in honour of their presence. The Provincial Grand Lodge was there opened by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, who was announced and accompanied in procession by the following Present and Past Grand Officers, viz., J. W. McCubbin J.G.W., C. R. Honey Chaplain, C. Stephens Treasurer, R. Bradley Secretary, W. W. Bingham S.D., W. J. Cantrell J.D., E. L. Shepherd Sword-bearer, E. Revill Purst., Dick Radcliffe, F. J. Ferguson, and A. H. Simpson Stewards; G. W. Dixon P.P.G.D.C., H. F. Turner P.P.S.D.C., J. P. Tilley jun. P.P.G.S.D., W. Biggs P.P.G. Sec., H. D'Almaine P.P.S.G.W., J. T. Morland P.P.G.R., H. Howard Hodges P.P.G.S.W., J. Wrightman P.P.J.W., G. Morland P.P.G.D.C., J. O. Carter P.P.G.D.C.,

B. T. Fountain P.P.G.T., W. Hedges P.P.G.D., C. Nowell A.G.P. There were present about 120 brethren, amongst whom were the Worshipful Brothers W. B. Farr P.D.G.S.W. Bengal, H. G. Layton P.P.G.C. Gloucestershire, W. Belcher P.P.J.G.W. Oxon., E. Hopwood P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, H. Plumridge P.P.G.O. Oxon., H. Toombs P.G.D., J. Terry Sec. R.M.B.I., C. F. Hogard 205, James Stevens P.M. 1216, 1426, J. Belsize W.M., A. B. Baker, R. Roberts, Mark Duffield, A. Lond, G. Blizzard, and W. Crowhurst, all of the Etonian Lodge No. 209, E. Baker I.P.M., M. J. Withers, D. Webb, S. Bradley of Union Lodge No. 414, R. Ravenor P.M., G. J. Coburn, J. W. Graham, and S. Knight of Hope Lodge No. 574, J. Adams P.M., J. W. Dover and G. French of Buckingham Lodge No. 591, S. B. Merriman, W. M. Methuen 631, W. Bingham, W. J. Cantrell, J. O. Carter and J. Stevens Windsor Castle Lodge No. 771, S. J. Baker W.M., J. Tomkins and T. Hyde of Abbey Lodge 945, W. G. Flanagan W.M., E. J. Blackwell, W. Cordrey, W. Ravenscroft and E. Margrett P.M. of Grey Friars Lodge No. 1101, W. H. Mason and J. Westfield of Wycombe Lodge No. 1501, J. J. Button P.M., E. J. Shrewsbury, A. Forund, W. J. Legg, C. W. Cox, C. A. Vardy, W. Morris, R. Silver, E. Davey, J. Rutland, H. Arrowsmith, A. C. Hewitt and R. Nicholson, of Ellington Lodge No. 1566, J. Elmes W.M. of Watling-street Lodge No. 1639, J. B. Jenkins W.M., M. Wheeler, W. Jackson, J. Toombs, J. Thickens, G. Adams, G. Wade, C. E. Belcher, W. J. Bacon, B. Reece and G. Tarrant of Lodge 1770, the foregoing being the several Lodges forming the Province. Also Bros. E. G. Bruton 340, E. Ayres 742, R. Pattick 820, E. J. Biggs 1472, and the following who did not append the number of their Lodges to their signatures, viz., W. King, J. H. Clarke, H. Poynter, J. Morris, J. T. Brown, H. D. Gooch, W. B. Comins, W. H. Trendell, J. Saxby, B. Challern, W. Ballard, J. H. Daly, John Ellis, W. Hemmings, J. Watts, R. Illsley, C. P. Smith, W. Hinckley, C. Wheeler, and J. Ballard. In the absence of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master the Rev. A. P. P. Cnst, Archdeacon of Buckingham, that office was filled by W. Bro. E. J. Trendell, and W. Bro. H. Howard Hodges officiated as Prov. S.G.W. The Roll of Lodges having been called over, and all but two found to be represented, the Roll of Provincial Grand Officers was next fairly responded to. The Minutes of the Annual Provincial Grand Lodge, holden at Windsor on the 3rd July 1878, were confirmed. A financial statement and the report of the Charity Committee were submitted, and both being of a highly satisfactory character were received and adopted. The report of the Provincial Grand Secretary in respect to numbers and progress of the several Lodges gave great satisfaction, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master taking occasion to offer the representatives of the Lodges present his congratulations thereon, incidentally remarking, however, that some of the Lodges had not so liberally subscribed to the Charity Fund as was customary with them in former years. He was, nevertheless, himself satisfied with the general progress of the Order in the Province, and desired that it should be fully understood how much he considered the credit of success was due to the earnest and indefatigable exertions of Bro. Biggs, the late Prov. Grand Secretary, to whom it was now his most agreeable duty to present a tangible recognition of the esteem and honour he had won in the discharge of his important office. The presentation he was now about to make was the result of a general subscription throughout the entire Province, and fairly testified to the thorough appreciation of Bro. Biggs' efforts in their behalf. Addressing Bro. Biggs in highly complimentary terms, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master handed to that worthy brother a purse containing a hundred guineas, pointing at the same time to a handsome marble mantel clock, and further requesting his acceptance of a massive silver snuff-box, from which he hoped the recipient might for many years to come "take a pinch" and a refreshing memory of the many good friends by whom he was surrounded. He called upon the Provincial Grand Lodge to salute Bro. Biggs with Masonic honours, and this was done in the most enthusiastic manner. Each article presented bore a suitable inscription, that on the clock being in the following words:—"Presented to Bro. William Biggs P.M. P.Z. P. Prov. G.S.W. Wilts, &c., by the brethren of the Provinces of Berks and Bucks, together with a purse of one hundred guineas, in recognition of his valuable services as Prov. Grand Secretary from 1869 to 1877. This presentation was made by Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., Provincial Grand Master, 26th June, 1879." Bro. Biggs, in reply, said that he felt overwhelmed by the kind expressions and courtesy of the Prov. Grand Master, who during his appointment had so greatly assisted his labours by ever affording a ready access on all necessary occasions, and whom he desired to say he highly honoured. That he had left his position as Prov. Grand Secretary with the approval of so large a body for services rendered he was indeed thankful. His anticipations during the fulfilment of his duties had been realised in the success which had attended them, but he had not anticipated such a magnificent return, for which, however, he had now to tender his heartiest acknowledgments. Bro. Biggs proceeded to give a somewhat rapid but very lucid account of the progress of the Province during eighty-five years, in the course of which period only six Provincial Grand Masters had presided over it. It had ever been highly favoured in respect of the occupant of the Provincial throne, but never more favoured than now in the person of Sir Daniel Gooch, who on entering on his Grand Mastership ruled but half the number of Freemasons now connected with the Province. His judicious selection of Prov. Grand Officers had greatly tended to the success which had been attained, and he gladly took this opportunity to express his opinion that never had a collar been better bestowed than that which had been conferred upon his successor, Bro. Bradley, to whom he personally returned thanks for relieving him of those duties which at his time of life he could not carry out to the satisfaction of himself as in former years. He was sincerely grateful to the brethren for their handsome gifts, which while he lived he should treasure for the sake of the memory of glad associations, and which would be transmitted to his family as a tribute of affection and regard of which they as well as himself might feel justly proud. Our worthy brother's reply, delivered with much feeling and manly dignity, was well received by his hearers, who again saluted

him as he resumed his seat. The Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed and invested in the following order, viz.:—S. Blandy Jenkins P.M. 745 W.M. 1770 G.S.W., H. Poynter P.M. 948 G.J.W., Rev. C. E. Honey 1101 G. Chap., Rev. Moses Margoliouth 1410 G. Asst. Chap., C. Stephens 414 G. Treas. re-elected, J. J. Britton W.M. 1566 G. Reg., Jabez Adams W.M. 591 G.S.D., Robert Roberts W.M. 209 G.J.D., Edward Baker W.M. 414 G. Supt. Wrks., R. Ravenor P.M. 574 G.D.C., Joseph Elmes P.M. 1639 G.A.D.C., Baker W.M. 945 G.S.B., J. Rutland 1566 G. Org., W. Flanagan W.M. 1101 G. Purst., Nowell G.A. Purst.; Cox, J. Leggett, Illsley, Vardy, E. Davies, E. J. Shresbury, all of 1566, G. Stewards, W. Hemmings re-elected G. Tyler. The next Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was appointed to be held at Maidenhead, under the banner of the Ellington Lodge, No. 1566. The sum of £78 15s was appropriated from the Charity Fund for distribution amongst sundry Lodges in aid of the Masonic Charities. Bros. R. Roberts W.M. 209, R. Bradley P.M. 414 P.G. Sec., and W. Goddard 771 were severally invested with the Provincial Charity jewel. Letters of apology from absent brethren were read, and no further business being brought forward, the Prov. G. Lodge was closed with solemn prayer. The banquet was given in the Council Chamber, the Prov. Grand Master presiding, and was fully attended, so fully, indeed, that one eminent brother and a magnate in the town, arriving after the brethren were seated, could not be accommodated, greatly to the regret of many there present. The tables were handsomely decorated by the liberal provision, and under the artistic direction of Bro. Dick Radclyffe, whose admirable and appropriate floral Masonic emblems at all times excite the wonder and delight of those who are favoured to witness the general effect produced. On this occasion some of his most valuable and choicest productions were tastefully scattered in profusion before the guests, who at the close of the proceedings were permitted to retain souvenirs from amongst them. Amongst the toasts at a later period of the day our worthy brother received a distinct acknowledgment of his generous addition to the pleasure of his brother Masons. Grace having been sung, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, referring to the necessity for enabling brethren to return by an early train, decided that both toasts and responses should be briefly given and returned. The Queen, the Grand Master, the Pro Grand Master and Grand Officers were loyally received, and severally followed by appropriate solos and glees by an excellent quartette party, comprising Bros. Clarke, Shepherd, Rowley and Plumridge, whose services throughout the post-prandial proceedings were worthy of the highest praise. To the toast of the Right Worshipful P.G.M., proposed by Bro. E. J. Trendell, Sir Daniel Gooch replied, with thanks for the manner in which he had been at all times received by the members of his Province, and congratulated them on this meeting having been an excellent and very happy gathering. Having determined to be brief in reply, he would make those few remarks suffice, and at once propose the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Officers, and couple with the toast the name of Bro. H. H. Hodges P.P.G.S.W., who following his chief's lead likewise made brief response. The Visitors were represented by Bro. Bruton, who returned thanks for the great hospitality and good friendship they had received. For the Masonic Charities, proposed by the Prov. Grand Chaplain Bro. the Rev. C. E. Honey, in excellent terms, Bro. J. Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, responded. After some very complimentary expressions to his entertainers, he said that the previous night had witnessed the completion of what might be called the Masonic year, with reference to the charitable institutions of the Order. At the three Festivals held this year the contributions received for these institutions had been as follows:—Benevolent Institution, £14,300; Girls' Schools, £12,200; Boys' Schools, £10,500; a total in round numbers of £37,000, which was in excess of that contributed in any previous year. He considered this a most satisfactory result, and when connected with the acknowledged adverse state of trade, it almost led one to believe that however others might be affected by such depression, the Order of Freemasons was peculiarly exempt therefrom. He would not infringe upon the decision of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master as to brevity of speech, and therefore would refrain from a lengthened explanation of the good work done by the several Charities, feeling assured that their respective claims were always considered by the Province, as was evinced by the liberal amounts that day granted, and he concluded by an earnest hope that the bread so cast upon the waters would never be lost to them. The remaining toasts were complimentary to Bro. E. J. Trendell, for his hospitality and welcome at Abbey Lodge; Bro. Dick Ratcliffe, for his generous adornment of the banquet table; the Abbey Lodge, for the reception of the Prov. Grand Lodge; the Prov. Grand Treasurer and Prov. Grand Sec., and the Prov. Grand Stewards; each of these were briefly acknowledged, and the Tyler's toast brought the meeting to a conclusion.

It is with pleasure we announce that it has been decided to recognise the past great and invaluable services rendered to the Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Gateshead, and the Craft generally, by our worthy Bro. J. E. Robson P.M. P.P.Sd. B. Durham, by presenting him with a suitable testimonial on his retiring from office and active working. A committee has been appointed to assist in this object, for which purpose subscriptions will be received by any of the following:—Bros. R. Whitfield W.M. 48, 5 Bloomfield-terrace, Gateshead; J. G. Smith J.W. 48, West-street, Gateshead; D. Sinclair P.M. 48, Quayside, Newcastle; Dr. R. F. Cook P.M. and D.C. 48, West-street, Gateshead; M. Corbitt I.P.M. 48, 40 Bewick-road, Gateshead.

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF THE DOMATIC LODGE, No. 177.

THE brethren of this Lodge held their Annual Summer Festival on Friday, 27th of June, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond. Bro. E. White, the W.M. of the Lodge, ably presided, supported by Past Masters G. Everett, Foulger, Kent, Buscall (I.P.M.), H. Elmes, Ferguson, and an efficient body of Stewards, who seemed to devote the whole of their energies to making the meeting worthy of this popular Lodge. There were 121 ladies and brethren present, the splendid banquet saloon of the hotel, commanding a fine view of the river, being devoted to their comfort by Bro. Hunt, who is likewise to be complimented on the way in which the banquet was put on the table. At the conclusion of the dinner, the W.M. gave the various toasts usual on such occasions. He considered that each of them deserved especial praise. He would have liked to debate on them to their fullest extent, but as they were so often and deservedly proposed, and generally met such hearty enthusiasm, he should be very brief on the present occasion, so as to give the company an opportunity of enjoying the amusements which had been provided. Bro. Buscall proposed the health of Bro. White. As far as the Lodge was concerned, he believed that its Worshipful Master was ready to devote the whole of his energies to its welfare. No one more fully had its interests at heart than he. When the question had arisen in Lodge as to the advisability of holding this summer festival, Bro. White had especially distinguished himself, and by his assiduity in promoting the movement had contributed greatly to its success. The fact of the attendance being far in advance of what was expected was, the speaker considered, ample evidence that the meeting had met the approval and support of a large majority of the members. There were none but would admit that the day had been a very pleasant one—it was to the W.M. they were indebted for it—and he felt assured that the arrangements had ensured the enjoyment of all. The W.M., in his reply, said that he felt highly flattered at the kind expressions of Bro. Buscall; he had not expected that he should be honoured with so large an assembly, and was pleased to find that it had proved such a great success. The Worshipful Master then proposed the health of the Visitors. They were, he said, very numerous, and therefore merited especial honour. He was pleased to greet them, and hoped that should the Domatic Lodge hold a summer festival next year, he should again have the pleasure of meeting those present. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. C. A. Smith, who in due course returned thanks for the hearty reception that had been accorded the guests of the day. The health of the Stewards was next given from the chair. The W.M. said that every credit was due to them for their exertions. He was also pleased to express his thanks to the Officers of the Lodge, who had so effectually rendered him aid, and between them contributed to make the day's gathering a complete success. Brother Spinks S.W. returned thanks, followed by Brother Kent P.M. in a very eloquent and humorous speech. The toast of the ladies was now given from the chair. The W.M. had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of a brother who he said would be sure to do justice to the toast, he meant Bro. G. Everett P.M. That brother felt very much flattered and honoured in being called upon to respond to what he considered was the toast of the evening. As a lady, he thanked the W.M. for the many kind things he had said; but he wished them to understand that Bro. White had said no more than the ladies were entitled to. The ladies knew what forlorn objects the men were, and the W.M. knew they were indebted to them for the success of the day. Although the ladies did not know the Masons' secret, they did know that the brethren well supported their three magnificent Charities; and knowing them to be engaged in such good work, they could trust they would always be profitably employed, although sometimes they might be kept out a little late. They might have a very good cause for it—looking to the interests of the noble Order. The room having been cleared, the ladies and brethren enjoyed a very agreeable evening, dancing being kept up with great spirit, Bros. F. Kent P.M. and J. R. Foulger efficiently acted as M.C.'s.

THE OLD FOLKS.

THE Annual Summer Entertainment was given on Tuesday, 1st of July, at the Asylum, Croydon. Notwithstanding the clerk of the weather was in the unamiable state of mind he has been displaying—we scarcely dare say for how long—there was a large attendance of brethren with their ladies, prominent amongst whom we noticed Bros. J. Terry, John Newton, C. J. Perceval, John Constable, C. G. Hill, G. Knill, J. E. Terry, W. Hicks, C. J. Hicks, G. M. Finch, A. Collins, J. J. Berry, E. H. Bowyer, E. G. Legge, F. Brener, R. H. Halford, Thomas Cubitt, Raynham Stewart, William Stephens, C. Perceval, S. E. Gold, G. Recknell, G. Ward Verry, H. J. Strong, M.D., A. Trewinnard, H. Massey, John Wright, W. W. Morgan, &c. On reaching the Institution, the brethren and ladies were received by the Warden, Bro. Norris, who with his daughter exerted themselves most successfully during the day to render the visit of their guests as agreeable as those many successful ones that have already been participated in by those who look forward to these very pleasant reunions. Bro. Terry, with a strong band of assistants, distributed the customary gifts of tea and tobacco, presented by the Supreme Council, 33rd degree, and then the party, prior to partaking of refreshment, proceeded on the house to house visitation which it has become the custom to indulge in on these occasions. A feature of the day was the inauguration of an elegant flag staff, 60 feet in height, surmounted by a weather cock, and the hoisting of the flag of the Institution, which we trust will spread itself to the breeze on many and

many a gala day in time to come. The residents are indebted for these, the latest of their "portables,"—as Mr. Wemmick might have designated these gifts,—to the noted East enders, Bros. J. J. Berry, T. J. Barnes, and J. G. Stevens, and it gladdened our hearts to hear some of our old friends descending most nautically on the merits of their new acquisition. The duty of providing an entertainment for the Old People had been delegated to the Royal Criterion Glee Singers and Campanologists. This party comprises the following artistes:—Mr. Harry Tipper, Conductor (Baritone), Mr. Frederick James (Tenor), Mr. F. Taylor (Bass), Mr. J. Wise (Elocutionist), Mr. H. T. Allen (Pianist). The entertainment provided was of a most versatile character, and called forth the unanimous approval of the audience, whose applause must to the exultants have been gratifying in the extreme. The great dexterity in manipulating their bells was commented on, while the delicacy of tone and perfection of harmony left nothing to be desired. On the completion of the performance, the customary votes of thanks were tendered, and the party returned to town in the saloon carriages that had been provided by the railway company.

MARK MASTER MASONS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

THE Annual Festival in aid of this Fund was held on Wednesday, 2nd July, at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, under the presidency of Lord Arthur Hill (P.M. 164, P.G.S.W. Sussex). The meeting was one of the most successful it has ever fallen to our lot to take part in, and resulted in a sum of £528 16s being collected. We are compelled to hold over our report of the proceedings until next week, but have pleasure in giving the following list of the Stewards, with the amounts collected by each:—

W. S. Gillard	P.G. Stwd., P.M. Science Lodge No. 128, Dorset	-	-	50	0	0
Baron de Ferrieres	Gloucestershire	-	-	31	12	0
G. F. Lancaster	Hants and the Isle of Wight	-	-	17	0	0
Rev. Daniel Ace, D.D.	Grand Chap., W.M. Hereward Lo. No. 227, Lincolnshire	-	-	16	16	0
Walter Spencer	P.G. Asst. Dir. of Cer., W.M. Bon Accord L., T.I.	-	-	14	3	6
Charles Jacques	G.J.D., P.M. Old Kent Lodge, T.I.	-	-	24	1	0
Thomas Cooper	P.M. York Lodge, T.I.	-	-	-	-	-
Thomas D. Bolton	P.G. Stwd., Carnarvon Lodge No. 7	-	-	38	17	0
Benj. H. Swallow	S.W. Thistle Lodge No. 8	-	-	20	0	0
E. B. Bright	J.O. Hiram Lodge No. 13	-	-	18	18	0
E. C. Milligan	P.M. St. Andrew's Lodge No. 31	-	-	30	5	0
Capt. Charles Hunter	P. G. Swd.Br., P.M. St. David's Lodge No. 38	-	-	18	17	0
John Clark	Britannia Lodge No. 53	-	-	5	5	0
Joseph Spencer	ditto ditto	-	-	5	5	0
S. B. Ellis	ditto ditto	-	-	5	5	0
T. J. Pulley	G. Stwd., P.M. Aldershot Military Lodge No. 51	-	-	15	15	0
E. Diggle	G.I.G., P.M. Temperance L. No. 53	-	-	5	5	0
R. L. Loveland	St. Andrew's Lodge No. 63	-	-	9	19	6
W. T. Clarke	Prov. G. Sec. Sussex, Royal Sussex Lodge No. 75	-	-	30	19	0
Robert Berridge	G. Dir. of Cer. P.M. Macdonald Lodge No. 104	-	-	21	0	0
G. M. Lowe, M.D.	P.M. Remigius Lodge No. 117	-	-	-	-	-
R. W. Philpott	Dover and Cinque Ports L. No. 152	-	-	10	10	0
A. Hopkinson	County Palatine Lodge No. 156	-	-	15	15	0
Rev. C. R. Davy	Prov. G. Master of Gloucestershire, P.M. Royal Sussex Lodge No. 177	-	-	5	5	0
R. Boggett	P.M. Humber Lodge No. 182	-	-	10	10	0
J. L. C. Hunter Little	P.M. St. John's Lodge No. 214	-	-	17	11	6
George Dalrymple	W.M. Henry Lodge No. 216	-	-	20	4	0
W. Ballard	W.M. Abbey Lodge No. 225	-	-	-	-	-
Edward Margrett	G. Stwd., W.M. Leopold L. No. 235	-	-	15	15	0
William Stephens	W.M. Clapton Lodge No. 236	-	-	-	-	-
Capt. George Wattson	P.G.J.D., W.M. St. Andrew's Lodge No. 237	-	-	-	-	-
T. Fredk. Halsey, M.P.	P.G.J.W., W.M. Watford L. No. 241	-	-	7	7	0
Dr. E. Passawer	W.M. Trinity College Ldg. No. 244	-	-	15	14	6
John Henry Hale	W.M. Simon de St. Liz L. No. 245	-	-	10	10	0
F. W. Ansell	W.M. Alfred Lodge No. 247	-	-	17	11	0

In consequence of the heavy demands on our space, we are compelled to hold over our report of the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Middlesex, which took place on Saturday last, at Great Stanmore. We may, however, here state that the day's proceedings were eminently satisfactory, and must have been gratifying to the Prov. Grand Master Colonel Burdett.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—SORES, WOUNDS AND ULCERS.—Every variety of sores, ulcer, eruption, boil, and carbuncle, is safely stopped in its destructive course by the timely application of this healing Ointment. It arrests unhealthy and substitutes healthy action, thus curing the inflamed, irritable, and spreading diseases affecting the skin. Holloway's Ointment has gained an imperishable fame for its facility in healing old inflammatory sores about the shins and ankles, and for bad legs and old wounds it cannot be equalled; nor is it less efficacious in gathered breasts and abscesses. When the complaint has been of long continuance, Holloway's Pills will expedite recovery, if taken in those doses which act as alteratives on the stomach, and tonics on the constitution.

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.

VIEWS ON CHARITY VOTING.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I must respectfully but earnestly demur to the running commentary introduced by your reporter into the few remarks I made at the consecration of the Clapham Lodge in returning thanks for the Officers of Grand Lodge.

In the first place, I hold that it is scarcely becoming in a reporter to take such a self-sufficient line, on whatever side of a question his sympathies may lie.

In the second place I dispute the accuracy of almost every statement he has been pleased to make.

It is in my humble opinion the province of a reporter to report *what has been said*, or if he thinks it worthless, to omit it altogether; but it is not his function to suppress what has been said, and give instead thereof his own personal commentary, thus taking the place of judge, jury, and witness.

Now, as to his statements.

1. With all due deference to him, I contend my views on charity voting are not peculiar, but held by three men out of every four who have no vested interests to serve, and have not been involved in the haphazard jobbery which the present system so manifestly fosters.

2. I deny that these views are even "antagonistic to the Craft at large;" on the contrary, I assert that if Masons were polled to-morrow, three-fourths would be found on the side of enquiry, justice and mercy, and therefore opposed to the abuses of the present system. To one thing I can speak without hesitation, that I know of dozens of influential Masons, holding high rank in the Craft, who have denounced these abuses in no measured terms, and who will before long speak out (as I have dared to do) their minds upon this subject.

3. Though the brethren present did not express any "concurrence" in the views put forth, I have yet to learn that such silence meant dissent; and as to "disapprobation," I certainly did not catch the faintest sound of it. I may add, that in far the larger proportion of Masonic meetings at which I have named the subject, the views I have ventured to express have been received with loud concurrence and approval.

4. I never even named the "Charity Organization Society," but simply stated that if any of the brethren happened to have opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the "Charity Voting Reform Association," next day, they would hear from Lord Derby some instructive statements on this subject, so deeply interesting to Masons.

The "Alexandra Palace meeting" was not in my mind when I named this, nor shall I stop to show which of the two meetings was likely to confer more dignity and real profit on Masonry. But I think I could do this, and easily too.

And now, Dear Sir and Brother, permit me to say that I shall always feel myself perfectly at liberty to express my opinions in every assembly of Masons, on any subject that is good for Masonry in general, or for the "Lodge in particular" of which I may be a member; and no amount of sneer or perverse comment, either on the part of Secretaries or reporters, shall deter me from having the honesty of my convictions, and expressing them too. Plain truth must be evil-spoken of at least for a time, and reform must ever encounter much opposition and obloquy, but both will and must eventually triumph; as in the case of the Royal Medical Benevolent College it has recently done, wherein 2,770 as against 364 Governors endorsed our views, which were carried by resolution at the annual meeting by 5 to 1, in the face of the Council, the majority of whom were hostile to reform; and so, please God, we shall have it in Freemasonry soon, and while our votes remain, they will be stripped of those unjust, undignified, wasteful, and cruel accompaniments,—voting days, exchanges, trafficking, and wholesale canvassing, which are "spots on our Feasts of Charity," and on our Charity itself.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

"WHICH IS CORRECT?"

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—By a printer's error in my letter of last week you have caused me to use the word *dependent* instead of *despondent*, a very different signification to what I had intended. Please correct in your next, and oblige,

Yours truly and fraternally,

A PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICER.

Plymouth, 30th June 1879.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—“A PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICER'S” letter in your last impression is evidently so kindly meant that I cannot feel regret that doubts as to the success of my endeavours are expressed, and that in some quarters “difficulty and disappointment to myself” are anticipated. I may be sanguine, as he supposes,—even as faultily so; but I am quite as persistent as I am sanguine; and whilst certain my object and the means adopted to gain it are proper, I shall not spare myself the necessary labour to attain it. The Knight of *de la Mancha* may be my prototype in some respects, but I aim at the perseverance of another type of

man to whom the lesson of the spider's oft-repeated failures and subsequent success was not lost.

Any way, the work I have announced is all but “in the press.” It is true that at the present the requisite number of subscribers to cover cost of publication has not been secured, but some two hundred copies are subscribed for, and I have every hope that the remaining three hundred will be forthcoming when it is perfectly understood I “mean business.” I scarcely understand your correspondent's expression “nervous and dependent.” I certainly am not the former, and as to the latter, I venture to express the hope that beyond seeking the reasonable support of my brother Masons, who will receive “quid pro quo,” the publication of the work will be undertaken without obligation (except for grateful co-operation) on my part towards any one.

The suggestion of your correspondent as to what he is pleased to term the “scheme” for the formation of a Lodge of Preceptors shall be carried into effect, as I plainly see—and thank him for pointing it out—that unless the practicability of its establishment can be generally understood approval and support could not be expected.

I have yet very many “points” to submit for the consideration of the members of the Craft interested in the subject, but the compilation of the proposed work is sufficient for my present leisure, so I defer their introduction until after the publication of “Uniformity of Masonic Ritual and Observance,” which I anticipate will be not later than the last week in July. Meanwhile I shall of course be glad to receive the names of further subscribers for the work.

Yours truly and fraternally,

JAMES STEVENS P.M. P.Z.

112 High-street, Clapham,
30th June 1879.

“ASSISTANCE” FUND.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to call attention to a matter which I think will prove of great importance to the Craft generally, viz., the suggestion of the M.W. Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn as to the advisability of establishing a fund for the assistance of Boys and Girls after leaving our institutions.

This is not a new topic, as it has often been discussed by me, and no doubt many brethren; it has at last happily been brought prominently and gracefully before the brethren by the M.W. P.G.M. of Scotland, the Earl of Rosslyn, in his speech at the Boys' Festival. As chairman of the Festival he remarked: “I will tell you a little fault, and I am sure I have only to mention it to find it immediately corrected. It is not impossible that at the end of their schooling career some of these boys may leave the school homeless and in need. It may be that the good seed sown may bear fruit during their scholastic career, but it may also be that the fruit will perish for want of cultivation at a later period. It may be that they leave the institution to fall into evil courses and evil ways, and even to suffer penury and poverty. This is the only blot I can find in your excellent institution.” I think another blot his Lordship has overlooked is the desirability of providing a sinking fund for the institutions, that they might be more independent of individual exertions, and not suffer from the vicissitudes of trade, hard times, &c.; however, this is digressing, so I return to the subject of his Lordship's remarks. I think he has struck a happy chord, there can be no doubt the children receive a splendid education, and are thoroughly cared for whilst in the institutions, but is it not proved that the comfort and ease the children experience in their early years makes it doubly hard to bear privations, when they have to face the stern fight of life. How often is it found that they are discouraged to give up, where others, who from childhood have been nursed in the rough school of life and are not so sensitive, plod on and succeed; a little assistance in such critical moments might be the means of laying the foundation of a life's success. I feel I am not competent to plead the children's cause as ably as I should like, and can only hope these remarks may strike the heart of some able writer who will take up the cause. I shall, therefore, content myself by stating a remedy. The M.W. and noble Chairman expressed his willingness to subscribe to such a fund, started for the purpose of assisting the children. I would propose therefore that on the next Stewards' papers a column is left for subscriptions and donations to the “Assistance” Fund. This would save expense of collecting, and as an inducement to brethren and Stewards to collect for the fund, to allow one vote say for every twenty pounds collected for this purpose. There need be no special banquet or festival. Simply let it be recognised as a special fund, and Stewards for the Boys' and Girls' Festivals invited to solicit subscriptions.

As such a fund only wants a start to be a reality, I would propose that one hundred brethren volunteer to raise subscriptions, and guarantee, say within two years, to collect at least one hundred pounds each, and if our M.W. Chairman heads the list, as he has promised, I have no doubt a good round sum would be soon forthcoming. This, invested in the names of trustees in Consols or other good security, would form the nucleus of a great charity fund. As deeds are better than words, I shall have much pleasure in offering my services as a Steward, and I guarantee no less than one hundred pounds within two years.

Having called attention to what I think is a want, may I hope you will give publicity to it, in the hope that the brethren will freely discuss the pros and cons with a view to finding out if the suggestion made by our illustrious chairman will prove as acceptable to the brethren at large as it does to yours,

Faithfully and fraternally,

DICK RADCLIFFE.

P.S. There are say 1600 Lodges, if each W.M. for the year 1880, instead of a jewel, were to propose the cost be placed to this fund no less than say £6,000 would be raised. I mention this to show how easy it would be in small matters to raise a large sum. To forego one banquet in each Lodge would treble this sum. Should we ever regret such privations?

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, 5th JULY.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
1815—Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley-road, Penge, at 3.30. (Consecration.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham.
615—St. John and St. Paul, Pier Hotel, Erith, Kent.
1223—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
1458—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester.

MONDAY, 7th JULY.

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.)
1260—John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, E.C., at 7.30. (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, Amburst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30. (In.)
1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
M. M. 139—Pannure, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors.
118—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.
164—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
166—Harmony, Hyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
381—Harmony and Industry, Smalley's Hotel, Market-street, Over Darwen.
431—St. George, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, N. Shields.
482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth, Staffordshire.
597—St. Cybi, Town Hall, Holyhead.
651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon.
691—Oakley, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.
823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.
850—St. Oswald, Assembly Room, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.
1009—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire.
1050—Gundulph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester.
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire.
1108—Royal Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, Yorks.
1180—Forward, Masonic Rooms, New Hall-street, Birmingham.
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds.
1230—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1261—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, White Swan Hotel, Halifax.
1380—Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Liverpool.
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
1510—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors, near Accrington.
1573—Caradoc, Masonic Hall, Caer-street, Swansea.
1678—Merlin, New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, South Wales.
1674—Caradoc, Town Hall, Rhyl.
1676—St. Nicholas, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle.
1798—Zion, Hulme Town Hall, Manchester.
R. A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds.
M. M. 37—Wyndham, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.

TUESDAY, 8th JULY.

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.)
880—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8. (Instruction.)
1310—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1471—Islington, Three Bucks, 23 Gresham-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8. (In.)
1604—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30. (Inst.)
93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro.
178—Antiquity, Royal Hotel, Wigan.
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.)
448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
473—Faithful, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone.
510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
628—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
696—St. Bartholomew, Anchor Hotel, Wednesbury.
726—Staffordshire Knot, North Western Hotel, Stafford.
820—Sydney, Black Horse Hotel, Sidcup.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport.
1250—Gilbert Greenhall, Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington.
1314—Acacia, Bell Hotel, B' o'aley, Kent.
1325—Str. ley, 214 Gt. Hon er-street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
1414—Knole, Masonic Hall, Sevenoaks.
1465—Ockenden, Talbot Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex.
1522—Olicana, Crescent Hotel, Ilkley.
1545—Baildon, Masonic Room, Northgate, Baildon.
1678—Tonbridge, New Public Hall, Tonbridge.
1713—Wilbraham, Walton Institute, Walton, Liverpool.
R. A. 265—Judea, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley.
R. A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
R. A. 758—Bridgewater, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire.
M. M. 6—Adams, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness.

WEDNESDAY, 9th JULY.

PROVINCIAL G. LODGE, KENT, Concert Hall, Maidstone.
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, S. (In.)
538—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45. (Inst.)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8. (Instruction.)
1041—Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8. (Inst.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8. (Instruction.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-street, Wapping.
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8. (Instruction.)
1558—Duke of Connaught, Class Room, Sutherland Chapel, Walworth, at 8. (In.)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction.)

54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham-street, Rochdale.
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton.
191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire.
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton.
225—St. Luke, Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich.
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester.
281—Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield.
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
483—Sympathy, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop.
666—Benevolence, Private Room, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton.
758—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
795—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead.
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, New Bailey-street, Salford.
854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Church-street, Tamworth.
1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1200—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate.
1248—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, Liverpool.
1398—Baldwin, The Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk.
1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham.
1434—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham.
1503—Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7. (Instruction.)
1547—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1643—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne.
R. A. 24—De Swinburne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle.
R. A. 387—Moravian, Masonic Hall, Shipley.
R. A. 462—Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Accrington.
M. M. 145—Constantine, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.
M. M. 192—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, The Parade, Berwick.

THURSDAY, 10th JULY.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8. (Instruction.)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
211—St. Michael, George, Australian Avenue, Barbican, E.C., at 8. (Inst.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8. (Instruction.)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1321—Emblematic, Tulse-hill Hotel, Tulse-hill.
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.)
R. A. 813—New Concord, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.

35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes.
97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Toward-road, Sunderland.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden.
216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
333—Royal Preston, Castle Hotel, Preston.
339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith, Cumberland.
546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Longton, Stafford.
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
734—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley.
991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay, Northumberland.
1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Cheetham, Lancashire.
1099—St. George, Private Room, Temperance Hotel, Tredegar, Mon.
1141—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1204—Royd, Imperial Hotel, Malvern, Worcestershire.
1273—St. Michael, Free Church School-rooms, Sittingbourne.
1369—Bala, Plasgoch Hotel, Bala.
1416—Falcon, Masonic Hall, Castle Yard, Thirsk.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.
1514—Thornhill, Dearn House, Lindley, Huddersfield.
1533—Corbet, Corbet Arms, Towyn.
1697—Hospitality, Royal Hotel, Waterfoot, near Manchester.
1782—Machen, Swan Hotel, Colleshill.
R. A. 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebburn Bridge.
R. A. 337—Confidence, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.
R. A. 613—Bridson, Masonic Hall, Southport.

FRIDAY, 11th JULY.

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.)
766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8. (Inst.)
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.)
1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8. (Instruction.)
1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 8.0. (Inst.)
London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C., at 6.
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (Inst.)
R. A. 1471—North London, Crown and Woolpack, St. John-st.-rd., at 8. (Inst.)
R. C.—Mount Calvary, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square.
36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.
453—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goole.
526—Honour, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.
662—Dartmouth, Dartmouth Hotel, West Bromwich.
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harrogate.
1087—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard.
1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7.
R. A. 993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.

SATURDAY, 12th JULY.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.
 1607—Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, N.
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
 1415—Campbell, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.
 1558—Addiscombe, Surrey Club, West Croydon.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—At Bro. Spurgin's, the Sportsman, City-road, on Monday, the 30th of June. Present—Bros. Poikan M.W., Willison S.W., Halle J.W., Tolmie Preceptor, A. W. Fenner Sec., Edmonds S.D., D. Moss J.D., Wing I.G., also Bro. J. W. Smith. Lodge was opened with all formalities, and the ceremony of raising was creditably rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Moss being the candidate. Bro. Fenner worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. D. Moss of the Star Lodge No. 1275 was elected a member, Bro. Willison was duly elected to preside at the next meeting, which will take place on the first Monday in September. On the proposition of Bro. A. W. Fenner, seconded by Bro. J. W. Smith, it was resolved that a letter expressing the sympathy of the brethren of this Lodge of Instruction be sent to Bro. Spurgin in his present illness, and also expressing their hope that he will soon recover, after which Lodge was closed and adjourned.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—Held at Bro. Fysh's, Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, on Saturday, the 28th ult. Bro. J. Lorkin presided, being ably supported by Bros. Fidler S.W., W. Williams J.W., A. W. Fenner Sec., Brasted acting Preceptor, Moss S.D., McMillan J.D., Valentine I.G.; also Bros. J. Millington, C. Lorkin, Garland, Yates, Garrod, Carr, and Fysh. Lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, and the ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed, Bro. Yates kindly officiating as candidate. Lodge was opened in the second degree; Bro. Garrod having proved himself an efficient F.C., was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed in a creditable manner, the traditional history being included, Bro. Garrod being the candidate. Lodge was called off for refreshment and on to labour. The W.M. worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed down to the first degree. Bros. Valentine, of the Star Lodge 1275, and Yates, of St. Barnabas Lodge 948, were elected members. Bro. Fidler was appointed W.M. for the next meeting, which is to take place on the first Saturday in September.

Whittington Lodge of Instruction, No. 826.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 25th June, at Bro. Hyde's, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street. Present:—Bros. H. R. Hallam W.M., Gush S.W., T. S. Brown J.W., R. P. Tate S.D., W. B. Kidder J.D., Pate I.G., Long Preceptor, and sixteen other brethren. After the Lodge had been opened in the three degrees, the Fifteen Sections were worked by the following brethren:—FIRST LECTURE—Bros. Pate, Abell, Gush, Abell, Long, J. S. Brown, Thompson; SECOND LECTURE—H. S. Hallam, Marston, Tate, Kidder, Brown; THIRD LECTURE—Tate, Long, Gush. The work was carried out in the most satisfactory manner and on its conclusion a vote of thanks was cordially voted to the W.M. Bro. H. R. Hallam, who had also the dignity of honorary membership conferred upon him.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held its weekly meeting on Tuesday evening last at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Bros. J. Lorkin W.M., Smyth S.W., Carr J.W., Polak S.D., Greenwood J.D., Hand I.G., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas., P.M. Wallington Preceptor; Bros. Brasted, Forss, Christian, Clark, Wardell, Bonner, Williams, Allen, C. Lorkin. Lodge was opened and minutes of last meeting were confirmed. Ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Forss as candidate. The W.M. worked the first, second, third and fourth sections of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Smyth was elected W.M. for next Tuesday evening.

Doric Lodge of Instruction, No. 933.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, 20th ultimo, at the Duke's Head, Whitechapel-road. Bros. E. S. Friedeberg W.M., Green S.W., Tait J.W., J. West S.D., Burr I.G., Wm. Musto P.M. Hon. Sec., &c. After preliminaries, Bro. Grounds answered the questions, and the ceremony of passing was ably rehearsed. Bro. West worked the first, second, third, and fourth sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. W. Musto P.M. acting as Preceptor. Lodge having been closed down, Bro. Musto proposed that a vote of thanks be awarded to Bro. Friedeberg for his excellent rendering of the ceremony and general conduct of the business of the evening. Although this was the first occasion of Bro. Friedeberg occupying the chair, he (Bro. Musto) had seldom seen the work better done, even by old and experienced brethren. This was carried unanimously, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. Bro. Green was elected to fulfil the Master's duties at the next meeting. Brethren desirous of Instruction will find this Lodge affords excellent opportunities of acquiring Masonic knowledge. The members meet every Friday evening.

Wandsworth Lodge of Instruction, No. 1,044.—On Wednesday, 25th June, several of the members spent a very enjoyable

day at Shepperton, whither they resorted for the purpose of enjoying a boating picnic. The morning was not a bright one, and but few had the courage to face the elements by a journey on the road. Amongst those brethren who travelled by rail were Bros. W. A. Morgan W.M. of 1,044, H. R. Jones, J. G. Carter, C. Digby and Mrs. Digby, J. J. Holland, F. W. Wardroper, F. Reed, Mrs. Reed, and Denham. Two boats were chartered, and a pleasant row, amidst delightful sunshine, for the dark clouds and rain had disappeared, was taken as far as Weybridge Ferry, where some slight refreshment was indulged in at a quaint boating hostelry. The return journey was then made,—with the tide in favour of the "Craft"—and the ladies and brethren sat down to a capital banquet, which was provided in a really first-class manner by Bro. R. Stone, of the Ship Hotel, whose savoury edibles were as much appreciated as his excellent wine. At the dinner the chair was taken by Bro. Morgan, while the Vice-chair was ably filled by Bro. Digby. The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given. The Chairman in feeling terms remarked, the day was one which he trusted would ever be thought of as a memorable one in the annals of local Freemasonry, for they were about to do honour to Bro. J. G. Carter, the worthy Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction. The brethren owed a debt of gratitude to their painstaking Preceptor for his untiring energy on their behalf. He (the Chairman) had much pleasure in presenting Bro. Carter, with a massive gold ring—a memento from the Lodge of Instruction—to show the respect in which he is held. The Vice-chairman warmly praised the Masonic tact of Bro. Carter, and felt that the brethren, in presenting the ring, were only bestowing honour where honour was due. Other brethren also spoke as to Bro. Carter's kindness. Bro. Carter suitably responded, and after some song from Bros. Digby, Holland, and others, tea was served and the party returned to town.

Lewis Lodge, No. 1185.—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 21st ult., at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood-green. Present—Bros. T. W. Bone W.M., J. W. Berrie S.W., G. D. Hooper J.W., T. H. Turner P.M. Sec., A. Durrant P.M. Treas., Lloyd S.D., Harrison J.D., Rev. Dr. Morris Chaplain, Pelton D.C., Harris Steward, Tolliss I.G., C. T. Speight Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Leared, Rowe, Durrant, Turner and Sayer. Visitors—Bros. Groome P.M. Finsbury 861, Harrison Fitzroy 569, &c. Business—The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Doree and Harrison (the latter of the Fitzroy Lodge) were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., and Bros. Richards and Joyce were passed to the degree of F.C. All business being ended, the brethren sat down to a cold collation (this Lodge annually, at this meeting, giving the cost of a banquet to the Masonic Charities), and spent a very enjoyable evening; Bros. Burgess Perry and others adding thereto by some very excellent songs.

Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction, No. 1298.—On Friday, 27th June, at the Alwyne Castle, Canonbury, N. Present—Bros. Gull W.M., Yeomans S.W., Rowley J.W., G. H. Hunter Sec. pro tem, Mendelsohn S.D., Beattie J.D., Byng Acting Preceptor, Potter I.G., and others. The minutes were read and confirmed. Ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Eldridge candidate; the ceremony of passing, Bro. Dickinson candidate; and the ceremony of raising, Bro. Edmonds being candidate. The Lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees. A cordial vote of thanks to the W.M. for his able working of the ceremonies was passed. The Lodge was closed in ancient form with solemn prayer.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 1,326.—The election meeting of this Lodge was held on 21st ult., at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. The W.M. Bro. J. C. Woodrow opened the Lodge, assisted by many Officers, Past Masters, and brethren. The resignation of the S.W. Bro. Capt. Williams was accepted with expressions of regret. Ballots, taken separately, were unanimous in favour of Bros. T. W. Adams, P.M. 1,623, and J. T. Burchill 1,656, being elected as joining members. Also for Messrs. William John Smith, and Frederick William Dye as candidates for initiation into Freemasonry. The W.M. Bro. J. C. Woodrow, in an able and impressive manner, passed Bros. H. J. Buckley, W. R. Smith, D. Brown, and J. Cavell to the second degree, initiated Messrs. Wm. John Smith, and Frederick Wm. Dye, each candidate introduced separately, which added to the solemnity of the beautiful working. The Bye-Laws were read. Bro. J. B. Shackleton was elected W.M., S. Wickens P.M., re-elected Treas., J. Gilbert P.G. Tyler Middlesex re-elected Tyler. Twenty guineas were voted to the Girl's School (per Sec., in memory of R. W. Little P.P.D.G.M. Middlesex); the usual Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. J. C. Woodrow W.M., for services rendered to the Lodge during his year of office. Petitions to the Lodge of Benevolence Fund of Middlesex were unanimously recommended and signed in open Lodge. Business being ended, the Lodge was closed and adjourned to meet on the 19th July, at one o'clock precisely. Banquet followed. The usual toasts were given and responded to. There were present besides those named, Bros. C. W. Fox P.M., E. Gilbert P.M., W. Hammond P.P.S.D. Middlesex P.M., F. Walters P.P.G.D. Middlesex P.M. Sec., J. Hanaman, C. Graham, Knight, W. Passila, C. H. Dye, E. Page, W. Blakeley, W. Stanton, C. Dunlop, and others. Visitors—Bros. D. B. Raw P.M. 969, J. H. Buttern P.M. 1,309, W. C. Davey 1,512.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning-town E., on Tuesday, 1st July. W. J. Smith W.M., Barker S.W., Lloyd J.W., Pavitt S.D., Spencer J.D., Glasspoole I.G., Worsley Sec.; also Bros. Watson, Wright, Dixon, Sadler, Wilshire, Watkins, Ellis 129, Rawe, Gye, and Morgan 1472. Lodge was opened in due form, with requirements fully observed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Watson as candidate. Bro. Spencer worked the first section,

Pavitt the second, Barker third, and Pavitt the fourth, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Gay and Morgan, of Henley Lodge 1472, were elected members. Bro. Barker was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Musto was in his place as Preceptor; his working was all that could be desired. We hear that several members of the Dalhousie Lodge 860 intend paying a visit to this Lodge of Instruction.

Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1275.—An ordinary meeting of the members of this Lodge of Instruction took place on Saturday evening, at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross, when the attendance fell rather short of the usual number, in consequence, no doubt, of the many brethren who were drawn away by the attractions presented on Coronation Day to the holiday public, and also by the holding of an important meeting in connection with a neighbouring Lodge at Chiselhurst. However, some excellent work was done, and brethren who are in the habit of attending this very popular Lodge of Instruction will readily understand us when we say the evening afforded a real intellectual treat. Bro. H. Shaw acted as W.M., with Bros. A. Abell S.W., W. W. Medcalf W.M. of 1671 as J.W., S. R. Speight P.M. 147 S.D., R. A. Smith J.D., John H. King I.G.; Bros. W. Andrews P.M. 871 Preceptor, G. Heming, H. W. Fellows, &c. Lodge having been opened in form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Brother W. Heming being the candidate. The manner in which the duties were performed testified to the admirable instruction imparted in this Lodge, and elicited the deserved approbation of the brethren present. Subsequently the explanation of the working tools, and the lecture on the tracing-board, were given by Bro. W. Andrews, whose abilities as a Preceptor are known far and wide. We never heard him in better elocutionary form, and the style in which he delivered himself of a somewhat laborious task drew from the brethren the heartiest expressions of admiration and approval. He was assisted most efficiently by Bro. Abell, and the brethren separated amidst many expressions of pleasure at the treat which had been afforded them.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 26th June, at Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C. Present—Bros. Moss W.M., Staley S.W., Paddle J.W., Saul Preceptor, Blackie Sec., H. Bertram S.D., Bisset J.D., Le Rosignol I.G., Harper, G. Taylor, C. Taylor, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, and the third section of the lecture worked. The Lodge was closed to the first degree, and the second section of that lecture worked. Bro. Saul was unanimously elected W.M. for the first Thursday in September, the usual meetings being suspended until that date. The Lodge was then closed in due form.

Royal Military Lodge of Instruction, No. 1449.—A meeting was held on 23rd June, 1879, at the Masonic Hall, Canterbury. Present:—Bros. H. Miskin W.M., J. F. Howarth S.W., T. Blamiers J.W., E. Beer (Treas.) D.C., W. Carter (Secretary) S.D., J. Vautier J.D., J. H. Naylor I.G.; Visitors—Bro. W. Ewell 31. After preliminaries, the questions leading from the first to the second degree were put to Bro. Beer, after which the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The Lodge was opened in the third, and lowered to second and first degrees. Nothing further having been offered, Lodge was closed.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday 23rd ult. Present—Bros. J. S. Cumberland W.M., T. B. Whytehead I.P.M., P. H. Rowland P.M., W. Beanland P.M., G. Balmford P.M. (Treas.), C. G. Padel S.W., J. T. Sellar J.W., M. Millington S.D., T. D. Smith J.D., G. Simpson M.C., A. T. Turner Assist. M.C., J. Kay Sec., J. Blenkin I.G., and many other brethren. The business consisted of the initiation of Mr. O. Marshall, which was performed by the W.M., the working tools being explained by the J.W., and the charge given by the S.W. It was arranged to hold a Lodge picnic, when Cawood Castle should be visited. During the hour of refreshment the proceedings were much enlivened by the glee singing of Bros. J. S. Cumberland, T. Humphries, J. E. Wilkinson, and O. Marshall.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—On Thursday, 19th June, at the Feathers Hotel, Ealing, Bros. Rickwood W.M., Acworth S.W., Coop J.W., Tucker Treasurer and Preceptor, Wells S.D., Seward jun. J.D., Yewens I.G.; Bros. Stephens, J. Murch, F. Botley, C. Botley. Visitor—Bro. Woolner, Stability No. 217. After compliance with customary requirements, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Woolner candidate. Bro. Cook then took the chair, and worked the ceremony of passing, Bro. Woolner candidate. Bro. Rickwood re-occupied the chair, and closed the Lodge in the second degree. Bro. Coop gave notice of his intention at the meeting on the 3rd proximo to bring forward the subject of the Lodge of Instruction banquet. The Secretary was requested to communicate with Bro. Beasley, the President of the Benevolent Association, with a view to obtaining approval of the Bye Laws of the Association. Bro. Woolner, Stability Lodge No. 217, was elected a member of this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Acworth was elected W.M. for next meeting, and the Lodge was closed in due form.

Paxton Lodge, No. 1686.—A meeting of the above was held at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, on Saturday the 28th June. There were present—Bros. Klenck I.P.M., H. E. Frances P.P.G.D. Surrey Sec., F. J. Sawyer J.W., Woodhams S.D., Basnett P.M. 1339 J.D.,

Dodd I.G., Goddard W.G.; Bros. Graves, Sharman, Moore, Dr. Pincote F.G.S., Damant, Partridge, Coward P.G.O. Hon. Organist. Visitors—Bros. Webb P.M. 1223, Butt P.M. 770, Pellatt 857. The business of the evening was to pass Bro. Pincote, to raise Bro. Pellatt 857, and to elect a W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler. In the absence of the W.M., the chair was taken by Bro. Frances, who well performed the duties of the evening. After the ceremonies, ballots were severally taken, and the following brethren declared unanimously elected: Bros. F. J. Sawyer S.W. W.M., J. M. Klenck P.M. Treasurer, Radford Tyler; Bros. Heller, Sharman, and James were elected Auditors. Letters were read apologising for the absence of Bros. F. W. Goddard W.M., W. H. Boswell J.W., and the Rev. R. J. Simpson P.G.O. Hon. Chaplain. The meeting of the Lodge occurring on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught to the Palace, a large influx of visitors was there in consequence, and only a very small room could be procured for the accommodation of the brethren, in which they were necessitated to dine, after the Lodge business was over; but notwithstanding this inconvenience, and in a temperature alternating between the Black Hole and Nova Zembla, the greatest good humour prevailed. The toasts were given, and enthusiastically honoured. The M.W.G.M.'s toast calling up the fact that his royal brother, a distinguished Freemason, was at that moment in the same building, a suggestion was made that a greeting should be sent him. Bro. Klenck P.M., who presided at the banquet, acting on this, pencilled on a Lodge summons the following message:—"Crystal Palace, 28th June 1879. The W.M. and Brethren of the Paxton Lodge, now meeting, send fraternal greeting and duty to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught G.S.W., &c., and to H.R.H. the Duchess." Means having been found to convey this, in the course of the evening H.R.H. graciously, through Captain Fitzgerald, sent the following pencilled reply:—"His Royal Highness has received with much gratification the fraternal greetings of the Paxton Lodge." Bro. Frances proposed the health of the presiding Master Bro. Klenck, eliciting from him an excellent reply. The health of the W.M. elect, Bro. F. J. Sawyer, was enthusiastically greeted, and in a few eloquent words was ably replied to. Bro. Webb, in replying for the Visitors, spoke highly of the working of Bro. Frances, which, he said, was proverbially good, and always a pleasure to him (Bro. Webb) to hear. Bro. Coward contributed much to the harmony and pleasure of the evening by some excellent pianoforte playing, and despite the inconvenience all had been put to, each brother's opinion was that a delightful evening had been spent.

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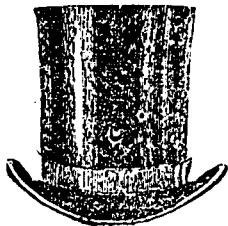
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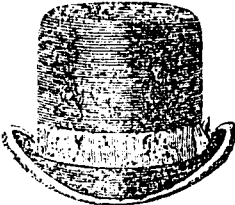
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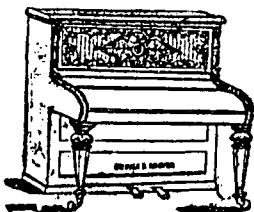
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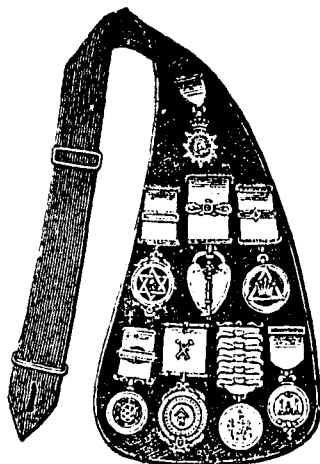
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