

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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OUTSIDE IDEAS OF FREEMASONRY.

WE have heard of a cynic who defined truth as "undiscovered falsehood," and we have no doubt that the answer was characteristic of the man. This, however, is not the general acceptation of the term, but rather the narrow view of a class, who, being unaccustomed to describe things as they are, consider themselves representative specimens of humanity in general, and have the impudence to include all others in their category. In the case in point the use of the word "undiscovered," leads us to suppose some pains were taken to give a certain amount of colour to the lie, or that there was some apparent reason for it. Even under such circumstances, however, it is usual with Englishmen to treat with scorn the man who is found to be guilty in this respect; but when a man lies or perjures himself merely for the sake of doing so, he deservedly calls down upon himself the most utter contempt, if not pity, of those to whom he thinks to pander. In this class of individual may be included those who in their greed for gain hope, by sensational articles on the rites and ceremonies of Freemasonry, or of other secret societies, to create a demand for their wares, and perhaps acquire a somewhat unenviable notoriety. This may be, and in our opinion is, in most cases a mere display of the annoyance felt by unworthy candidates at not having received the benefits they anticipated from association with the Order. We believe we are justified in saying that such Incubations are appreciated only by those who, like the writers, know no sense of honour, and by those who are utterly ignorant of the first principles of morality. Who would accept the word of a man who by his own lips convicts himself as a wilful perjurer? In the majority of the so-called "accounts of our ceremonies" there is a certain amount of truth, but usually nothing more than may be learned by any one taking the trouble to enquire for himself. For instance, most persons know that an obligation not to divulge anything that is communicated is among the first things that a candidate is called upon to undertake, and this is usually made especially prominent by those who make it their pleasure to profess a knowledge of what they do not understand. The next thing this class of writers do is, to make a boast of having broken their promise, and then they ask their readers to believe what follows. We pity the ignorance they thus display, and their utter want of knowledge of gentlemanly behaviour or of the feelings of gentlemen.

A writer in the last week's number of one of the London periodicals has taken upon himself the task of exposing what he is pleased to term the childish mummeries of Freemasons. After quoting the following passage from the *Times*:—"Perhaps if Freemasons disclosed their secrets they would lose little worth keeping, and the world would acquire little worth acquiring," he says, "This is all the more true, as the Freemasons have no secrets. . . . I am not myself a Freemason, but I have often amused myself by passing for one." What does he mean by this? Does he suppose that the mere exhibition of a token, or the flourish of a supposed sign—more than likely not having anything whatever to do with any of the Masonic signs—constitutes him a member of our Order, or leads others to suppose that he is one? We should say not, unless it be those who themselves are among the uninitiated. After describing what he thinks he knows of the opening of a Lodge, and which we, as Freemasons, politely inform him would immediately gain for him summary expulsion from the

Masonic meeting, and that may be, if he happened to get among a party who were warm on the subject, in a rather unseemly manner, he proceeds with the ceremony of initiation, in one part of which he says the candidate "repeats the oath, in which he engages to keep inviolate the secrets of the Order." Just so, and having done that, we ask him on what ground he wishes us to believe the statements he puts forward? If a man can, and does take the oath to which he refers, and then supplies the copy for such an *exposé* as he would wish us to believe he gives, we hold that the man must be a fool, or expects his readers are fools, to believe one word of his statement. He condescends, later on, to describe "the association as useful as a charitable organisation," and proceeds, "but assuredly it is full time that reasonable human beings should no longer waste their time in the frivolous nonsense that goes on at Lodges, or that secrecy should be affected when there is no necessity for it." We hold that secrecy is necessary if only to keep from our meetings such men as the writer we have referred to. We should like to know his name, in order that we might find out the Lodge which has so justly refused him admission, for we entertain no doubt but that such an event has occurred. We should like to offer our thanks to its members for having so judiciously guarded the character of the Order.

The Annual Convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Middlesex will be held on Saturday, the 2nd of August, under the superintendence of the R.W. Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. Grand Z., at the Grammar School, Enfield Town. Prov. Grand Chapter will be opened at 4 p.m., and the banquet will take place at 5.30, at the George Inn. Tickets for the latter (21s each) may be obtained of the Prov. G. Scribe E. Comp. H. C. Levander, 30 North Villas, N.W. We wish the Companions a fine day, and feel assured if such is the case they will enjoy their visit to this picturesque part of the county.

The Summer Banquet of the Henley Lodge, No. 1472, will take place on Wednesday, the 30th July, at the Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend. The dinner is announced for five o'clock, and will be presided over by the W.M. Bro. Turner.

The brethren of Dublin are just now making strenuous efforts to increase the accommodation of their Female Orphan School. It having been decided that it would not be safe, consistent with the sanitary comforts of the inmates, to still further enlarge the present building, an eligible site has been secured, comprising nine acres, situate at the junction of Blackrock and Simmon's Court Roads. Plans have been prepared for a new schoolhouse, designed for the reception of seventy girls, and so arranged as to admit of extension in the future. The cost of building and furnishing is estimated at £12,000, of which sum £5,000 has been voted from the invested capital of the Charity on condition that a like sum of £5,000 is contributed by members of the Order to this special fund. Already we understand that promises have been received which reach close on £3000, so that we may confidently look to the scheme being speedily carried out. We wish our Irish brethren every success in their undertaking, which when completed will become another of the splendid monuments which are the boast of our Order and the pride of its members.

MORE PUZZLES ABOUT DUNCKERLEY.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

IN the editor's sketch of Dunckerley, in the *Freemason's Magazine*, 1793 (p 379), it is stated that Dunckerley had many letters from the first men of the age, that the said letters would fill an octavo volume; that the editor was anxious to enrich his magazine with many of those letters, but the modesty of Bro. Dunckerley precluded the editor from obtaining more than two; one of these letters was from a noble Viscount, now a Marquis, and the other from the late General Adolphus Oughton, K.B., and these two letters were printed in the said magazine.

The said Viscount's letter was incorporated by Bro. "Q." in his article in this paper, 28th December last. The letter contains neither location, name, nor date. We have only the editor's word that a Viscount sent that letter to Bro. Dunckerley. The said letter referred to Dunckerley's good fortune in getting a pension from the King. The writer was, however, puzzled; as the following will show:—He said, "I cannot divine to what channel you owe that piece of good fortune; if in any degree to one person, to whom I mentioned your affair (whose benevolence of heart and public virtues I know are only obscured by public prejudices)," &c. In a footnote, the mysterious person referred to between the parentheses is said to have been the Earl of Bute.

When Bro. Dunckerley furnished the said letter for publication, he must have informed the editor that "a Viscount, now a Marquis," wrote it; and also, that the Earl of Bute was referred to by the Viscount. That the writer of the said letter meant to convey the idea that Lord Bute was the party he hinted at, I believe. But I really cannot believe that a Viscount, and a particular friend and admirer of the Earl of Bute, could possibly have imputed Bro. Dunckerley's success to the Earl of Bute's agency or intercession with the King in his (Dunckerley's) behalf.

To make this clear to the general reader, I must inform him that King George III. imbibed very arbitrary notions from his early associates. His family owed the English crown to a revolution; the descendants of the legitimate dynasty were living when George III. became King; he had no objection to wear a crown of which others were deprived by revolution, but he nevertheless hated the party who made his family Kings of England; the revolution of 1688 was associated with liberty, but King George learned from his mother, and books she put into his possession, to hate all kind of liberty except his own liberty. Accordingly, soon after his accession to the throne, he dismissed the Whig ministry of his grandfather, and appointed a Tory ministry; his great favourite and adviser was the Earl of Bute; who was not only the favourite of King, but also of the King's mother. In 1762 Bute took the the Premiership into his own hands, but he suddenly resigned in 1763. The ex-minister, however, exerted himself in drumming up a new ministry, but from that time, Adolphus, the historian of the reign of George III., dates the loss of Bute's influence with the King, though Lord Brougham dates it about two years later. The new, or what is known as the Granville Ministry, soon got into loggerheads with its royal master; the king wanted to govern as well as reign, but the ministry wanted the King to leave the governing part to them; they were even bold enough to remonstrate against the King's appointments to important offices without their assent. So in 1765 the Granville ministry was ignominiously dismissed, and the King ordered his uncle, the Duke of Cumberland, to get him another ministry. The Duke called upon Pitt, but Pitt would have nothing to do with ministries. The Duke next tried other personages, who also declined the honour. In that dilemma the King was willing to restore the Granville ministry, but the Granvillites demanded promises from the King that he should never consult the Earl of Bute; that he should dismiss Bute's brother from an office he held in Scotland; and two or three other promises. The King tried to compromise, but the ministry would not budge an inch. Early in July, the royal uncle was again commissioned to hunt up a ministry, and for the want of a more agreeable one the King was obliged to accept the Rockingham Ministry. We see then that in 1765 the Earl of Bute was evidently excluded from open interference, at least, with state affairs.

Pitt, who was all powerful with the people, though he said he would support the Rockingham Ministry, was nevertheless opposed to them, and in the first Parliament held under the new ministry, in January 1766, Pitt denounced in the House of Commons "the overruling influence" with the King, meaning Lord Bute. But Conway, one of the ministers, warmly denied any kind of overruling influence. The King himself declared in a solemn manner, that at the moment when Pitt was talking of an overruling influence, he had no communication whatever, either on business, on state affairs, or private matters with his ex-minister; that he had reason to be dissatisfied with Lord Bute; that he had pledged his word not to permit his interference, and from that moment upon his word and honour as a gentleman, he had never spoken with him in private, and scarcely ever in public. Again, Lord Bute himself was accustomed "to complain to his intimate friends, both in his travels and at home, that he was neglected by his sovereign." "This avowal," says Adolphus, "from a man so cautious as Lord Bute, outweighs all the vague assertions of those who maintain the existence of his mysterious agency [with the king] and proves that the loss of his influence had sunk deep in his mind." (History of England, by Adolphus, 1822; Vol. i. pp 126-7).

Lord Brougham, as already intimated, placed the downfall of the favourite's influence to the period soon after the appointment of the Rockingham administration, and he attributed it to the King's discovery of Bute's too close intimacy with the Dowager Princess of Wales, and he relates the following curious anecdote:—

Princess Amelia, the King's aunt, formed a plan of bringing once more the King and the Earl of Bute together, and on a day when the King was to pay her a visit at her villa in Gannisbury, near

Brentford, she invited Lord Bute, probably without informing him of her foolish intention, and while Bute was walking in the garden, she took her nephew downstairs, saying, there was no one there but an old friend whom he had not seen for years, and before the King could ask any question, he saw Lord Bute in the garden; the King instantly turned round to avoid him, and reproved the silly old woman sharply, &c. To which the editor of the "Pictorial History of England" (Vol. v. p 44) adds:—"We know ourselves, from a living and indisputable authority, that George III. himself related this anecdote to a confidential friend and servant, omitting, however, the name of the lady."

On the same page (44) I found a letter addressed to a newspaper by Lord Monstard, son of Lord Bute, as follows:—

"He (Lord Bute) does authorise me to say, that he declares upon his solemn word of honour that he has not had the honour of waiting upon His Majesty but at his levée or drawing-room; nor has he presumed to offer any advice or opinion concerning the disposition of offices, or the conduct of any measure, either directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other, from the time when the late Duke of Cumberland was consulted in the arrangement of a ministry in 1765, to the present hour" (viz. 1778). So we see that all parties agree that the disavowance of friendship between the King and Lord Bute took place not later than 1765.

Now, Dunckerley's posthumous MS. in the *Freemason's Magazine*, 1796, written by himself, states that Dunckerley did not arrive in England before 7th November 1765, that an effort was made in 1766 to interest the Princess Amelia and the King's mother in his behalf, without success. But in April 1767 his misfortune, as he calls it, was laid before the King, and the King granted him £100 a year on the 7th of May following (1767). And now, I cannot help being very much puzzled; after reading the accumulated evidence of Bute's fall from favouritism in 1765, how any one can believe that a Viscount, and a friend of Bute, could have hinted in a letter to Dunckerley after 7th May 1767, that the Earl of Bute interceded with the King in behalf of Dunckerley in the month of April or May 1767?

The second letter to Dunckerley in the *Freemason's Magazine* was dated Edinburgh, 18th November 1767, and signed by James Adolphus Oughton. After condoling Bro. Dunckerley on the state of ill health of Mrs. Dunckerley, the writer added, "Mrs. Oughton joins me in wishing you all possible happiness," &c. The allusion by an English General and a K.B. too, to his wife as Mrs. Oughton, and not Lady Oughton, naturally puzzled me, and made me anxious to learn something about such an unheard of specimen of English aristocratic humility. After searching through a great many volumes for Gen. Oughton without success, I at last found a clue in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1793, Vol. 63, p 1216. The following is an obituary notice of the General's wife:—

"20th (probably of November), in Norton Street, Lady Oughton, widow of the late Lieutenant General Dickinson Oughton, K.B., who died about twelve years ago. He was the immediate descendant of Sir Adolphus Oughton, Bart., of Fletchbrook, in Warwickshire, M.P. for Coventry, who was created as we have recorded in our Volume VI., p 55," (viz. in 1736).

This is certainly a curious puzzle. The *Gentleman's Magazine* has it, Dickinson Oughton; the *Freemason's Magazine* calls him Gen. Adolphus Oughton, and the letter to Dunckerley is signed by James Adolphus Oughton. The puzzle is, were there at that time three Generals Oughton? a Sir Dickenson Oughton? a Sir Adolphus Oughton? and a Sir James Adolphus Oughton? Which is which?

The next puzzle is still more curious. I read the Dunckerley sketch in the *Freemason's Magazine*, 1793, in 1870. I had to consult the said Magazine since then, but never re-perused the sketch about Dunckerley. My subsequent reading about Dunckerley in Oliver's works and in several Masonic Cyclopædias, served to give me an impression that the increase of Dunckerley's pension from £100 to £800 was mentioned in the *Freemason's Magazine* in 1793. The Viscount's letter to Dunckerley (which Bro. "Q." reprinted) raised in my mind the Lord Bute Puzzle, which induced me to re-peruse the Dunckerley sketch in the magazine of 1793; and to my surprise I only found there that a "Great personage was graciously pleased to make a provision for him." In a subsequent part of this Dunckerley narrative the writer says, "by the munificence of his sovereign, the Prince of Wales, and Duke of York," Mr. Dunckerley was made comfortable,* but there is no evidence that the King increased Dunckerley's pension, nor is there £800 or any other amount specified in the said narrative.

It is a puzzle that while, according to Dunckerley's biographer in 1793, the Duke of Clarence did then figure as "Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Knights of Rose Crucius, Templars, and Kadosh," according to Bro. Kenning's Cyclopædia, the Duke of Clarence was not initiated into Masonry before 9th March 1796."

The autobiography of Dunckerley, printed after his death (already referred to), makes no allusion whatever to any subsequent addition to the £100 granted to him in 1767. The first mention of a subsequent increase to £800 in Dunckerley's income was by an anonymous

* The Prince of Wales and Duke of York were respectively born in 1762 and 1763. The former was initiated into Masonry February 1787, and the latter 21st November the same year. It is probable (for even that is a puzzle) that Dunckerley may have then introduced the R.A., Templarism, &c. among the Moderns, which of course led the ignorant to believe that he was an extraordinary Masonic luminary; and he may then have been pointed out to one or both of the royal brothers, as their left handed great grand uncle, whom the King had granted a pension of £100 a-year; and taking the grand uncleship for granted they may have made some addition to his income, or perhaps procured for him some rooms at Hampton Court. It is of course impossible to say as to how much the royal brothers may have contributed to Dunckerley's income; but as to their having increased it to £800 a-year, we must have a better authority for it than that of an anonymous Masonic writer in 1842.

writer in Bro. Crucefix's "Freemason's Quarterly," in 1842. All that is written there about Dunckerley was a re-hash from the Freemasons' Magazine of the last century. Volumes I., III. and VI. of the said publication are referred to by the writer in footnotes, and no other authority whatever is given there. Oliver, in his "Revelations of a Square," the Masonic Cyclopaedists, and other Masonic writers, repeated the additions made to Dunckerley's biography in 1842, and these additions are now received as *authentic Masonic history*. The puzzle, however, here is, how came the writer in 1842 (forty-seven years after Dunckerley died) to know so many more matters about Dunckerley than either Dunckerley himself, his executors, or his eulogising friend and biographer the editor of the *Freemason's Magazine* of 1723, &c., seemed to know?

All we know of Dunckerley, emanating direct or indirect from himself, is contained in the four first volumes of the *Freemason's Magazine* of the last century. The first volume has Dunckerley's biography by the editor, to whom Dunckerley doubtless communicated his history, names, dates, &c. The fourth volume contains Dunckerley's autobiography printed from his own MS. by request of his executors; the second and third volumes contain his letters, addresses, &c.; among which there are three letters from Dunckerley to the Earl of Chesterfield, the second of these *only* has a date, viz., 1st June 1748. In the first volume the editor remarks, "But having no parliamentary interest, nor any friend in power that he (Dunckerley) knew of to assist him, his modest merit was sufficient to procure him a command," meaning the position of gunner.

Now, if Dunckerley had really corresponded with Lord Chesterfield as early as 1748, how could he have said that he had no friends in power that he knew of? Again, with the intimate acquaintance of Chesterfield, Ed. Walpole, and Gen. Oughton, is it not surprising that he did not immediately in 1760 communicate to them (especially to Lord Chesterfield) who had held high offices during the reign of George II., that the king was his father?

In Dunckerley's autobiography, Vol. IV. he stated that "soon after [1761] I was appointed by Lord Anson to be gunner of the Prince, a ship of second rate." Which certainly implies that it was his first appointment as gunner. But further on, in the same article, he says, that "At the siege of Louisburg, Admiral Boscawen granted me a warrant as teacher of the mathematics on board the Vanguard in addition to my being gunner of the same ship." Now, had the siege of Louisburg taken place after 1761, it would have been all right, and there would have been no puzzle. But the fact is, Louisburg was besieged and taken by the English in 1758, or three years before 1761; and if he was then already a gunner, why did he inform us of his appointment after 1761?

It is wonderful that Dunckerley's history should be immersed and surrounded with so many puzzles; his parentage is a puzzle, his life and history up to the year 1760 is a puzzle, it is a puzzle as to where and when he was initiated into Masonry: it is a puzzle as to where and when he obtained the Royal Arch and other high degrees: it is a puzzle by what legal authority he established Chapters, Commanderies, Kadosh, &c. among the Moderns. The mysterious initials of the names in his letters are all puzzles. It is a puzzle that our professional Masonic writers were never puzzled with those puzzles. But the most bewildering puzzle of all puzzles is, that Masonic writers now should constantly manifest disapprobation and ill-feeling towards brethren who call attention to Masonic puzzles, including the Dunckerley puzzles.

I must here ask,—Why cannot some one ascertain and publish as to when Dunckerley introduced the high degrees? When the Grand Master appointed him to so many Provincial Grand Master-ships? And as to when the G.L. made him a P.G.S.W.? Surely these facts ought to be ascertained from records in the Grand Secretary's office.

PROV. G. MARK LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight was held at the Town Hall, Cowes, on Thursday, the 17th ult., when there were present the M.W. P.G.M.M. Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, V.W. Bro. W. Hickman D.P.G.M.; Bros. Gen. Hooper P.P.J.G.W., R. L. Loveland P.P.J.G.W., T. Giles P.P.G.M.O., T. W. Faulkner P.G. St. B. (England and Wales), J. E. Le Feuvre P.G. Sec., H. Cawto P.P.G.S.O., G. F. Lancaster P.P.G.I. of W., R. Osborne P.G.J.D., T. G. Pulley P.G. St. B., J. H. Askham P.G.I.G., T. Benham P.G.S.D., J. Blount Thomas W.M. 63, J. G. Wheeler W.M. 140, H. J. Guy W.M. 2, W. Sellwood S.W. 54, W. D. Parkhouse Secretary 62, Haxthausen P.M. 140, G. A. Mursell S.O. 140, W. C. Ross J.O. 140, W. J. Hurst S.D. 140, J. G. Jones I.G. 140, G. Westall S.D. 54, J. C. Airs 140, R. J. Turney I.G. 2, R. Sullivan 140, J. Winship I.G. 63, J. Getcliffe 140, G. W. Munt 140, H. Stone 54, and others. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the accounts of the P.G.M. Lodge were produced by the auditors, showing a small balance in hand. The P.G.M. Master having completed a second period of three years' service, the D.P.G.M. Master, Bro. Hickman, proposed that his name should be again submitted to the Grand Mark Master for re-appointment to the office, this was seconded by Gen. Hooper P.P.G.J.W., and received the unanimous assent of the P.G. Lodge, there being a general feeling of satisfaction that the Lodge should be presided over by a Past Grand Master of England who took such an interest in the degree. It being the turn of this Prov. Grand Mark Lodge to nominate a brother as Grand Steward, Bro. Le Feuvre P.G.M. Sec. proposed that the name of Bro. R. L. Loveland, P.P.G.J.W., should be forwarded to the Grand Master for such an appointment. This was seconded by Bro. Parkhouse, and resolved on unanimously. Some alterations in the by-laws relating to the receipt and payment of moneys belonging to P.G.M. Lodge having been made, it became the melancholy duty of the P.G. Lodge

to elect a successor to the present P.G.M. Treasurer, Bro. J. Lillywhite of Portsmouth, who since his election last year had been attacked with serious illness, which, under existing circumstances, gave no prospect of recovery. The D.P.G. Master proposed that Bro. R. L. Loveland should be elected Treasurer, and took the opportunity of drawing attention to the interest always taken by Bro. Loveland in the Order, and that the appointment would be peculiarly appropriate considering the connection of that brother with London, Ryde, and the Mainland. Bro. G. F. Lancaster P.P.G.I.W. seconded the proposition, which was very cordially and unanimously carried. The P.G. Secretary read an abstract of the returns of the Lodges of the Province, showing that they were in a fairly satisfactory state. A vote of £5 5s having been made to the Mark Benevolent Fund, and a very sincere expression of sympathy having been ordered to be sent by the P.G. Secretary to Mrs. Lillywhite on her husband's illness, the P.G. Master appointed his Officers as follow:—

Bro. W. Hickman 63	...	Prov. D.G.M.M.
" T. W. Faulkner 140	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. Blount Thomas 63	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" G. F. Lancaster 2	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" W. B. Rogers 125	...	Prov. G.S.O.
" T. J. Pulley 54	...	Prov. G.J.C.
" Rev. G. R. Johnson 17	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" R. L. Loveland 63	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" O. Haxthausen 140	...	Prov. G. Reg. Mks.
" J. E. Le Feuvre 63	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. G. Wheeler 140	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" G. Westall 54	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" W. D. Parkhouse 62	...	Prov. G.I. of Wks.
" C. B. Whitcomb 2	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. Sellwood 54	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" J. Winship 63	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" K. G. Westley 63	...	Prov. G.O.
" G. A. Mursell 140	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" R. J. Turney 2 and H. Stone 54	...	Prov. G. Stewards
" Watson	...	Prov. G. Tyler

The minute books of the Lodges were then examined, giving occasion to a few "admonitions" on the part of the P.G. Master, after which an adjournment was made to the Fountain Hotel, where a very excellent dinner had been provided, and the brethren satisfied the wants of the inner man, whilst indulging in mutual congratulations on the success of the meeting, which the sun had favoured with its presence, making its appearance it was said, for the first time this year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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VIEWS ON CHARITY VOTING.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I shall not waste time in attempting argument with Bro. Simpson. It is utterly futile to do so, as his superb egotism carries everything before it. "I am Sir Oracle, and when I open my mouth let no dog bark!" So be it!

Neither will I discuss "antecedents," nor reply to vague insinuations.

The odium of being a paid Officer I am content to share with Cabinet Ministers, great Officers of State, Judges, legal and other officials, the Archbishops, Bishops, and Clergy generally, including, as I believe, your reverend correspondent, all of whom receive remuneration for their services, and freely express their views and opinions within the immediate sphere of their respective duties.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.

21st July 1879.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read the letters of the Rev. Bro. Simpson and Bro. Binckes, and regret they have not expended their ink and paper on some other question. I am assured Bro. Simpson is sincere in what he undertakes, but I am convinced his views are not palatable to the Craft at large. I am not one to urge that there are not abuses in the present system, but Bro. Simpson has not propounded any scheme, so far as I am aware, that will remedy these abuses. I almost fear that evil effects will result if the antagonistic preclivities of your two correspondents are allowed further to develop themselves.

Yours sincerely,

AMICUS.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The Great Need.—The blood is the life and on its purity depends our health, if not our existence. These Pills thoroughly cleanse this vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that power strengthen and invigorate the whole system, healthily stimulate sluggish organs, repress over-excited action, and establish order of circulation and secretion throughout every part of the body. The balsamic nature of Holloway's Pills commands them to the favour of debilitated and nervous constitutions which they soon re-uscitate. They dislodge all obstructions, both in the bowels and elsewhere, and are, on that account, much sought after for promoting regularity of action in young females and delicate persons who are naturally weak, or who from some cause have become so.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.

THE members of the Province of Surrey assembled, under the banner of the Royal Albert Edward Lodge, at Redhill, on Tuesday, when the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master General Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., was supported by his Deputy, the V.W. Brother the Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., Past G. Chap., and a large number of past and present Grand Officers and brethren of the Province, with a distinguished band of Visitors. Amongst those who signed the attendance book were:—Bros. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell H. Clerke P.G.D., R. W. H. Giddy D.G.M. Griqualand, South Africa, Dr. Brushfield P.S.G.W., J. Beveridge Spence P.J.G.W., George Price P.G.Tr., Edwd. Milner P.G. Reg., C. Greenwood P.G.Sec., Edwin Wells P.J.G.D., C. T. Speight G. Tyler, C. H. Woodward P.P.G.J.W. H. J. Strong P.P.G.J.W., H. S. Brownrigg P.P.G.S.B., H. E. Frances, P.P.G.S.D., C. J. Smith P.P.S.G.W., Godson Godson P.M. 69, John Rhodes P.P.G.O., Jas. Boor P.M. 370, G. E. Pym P.P.G.D.C., C. Veal P.P.G.S.D., Henry J. Dumas P.P.G.J.W., D. G. Drakeford P.P.G. Ch., J. S. Streeter, F. Buckland, C. Edmands I.P.M. 452, John Bond, J. B. Boucher, Horatio T. Taylor, R. H. Groombridge, S. J. Turquand, T. Wood, W. Ledger, J. Mount, J. Webster, R. H. Evans, W. H. Saunders, G. B. Brodie, J. L. Sim, W. Male, W. D. May, W. W. Eller, James Amos, Stanislaus Makooski, H. Simmons, Alfred Larty, C. Pawley, H. Browne, W. J. Kemp, Henry Brass, W. W. Morgan, W. O. Laker, W. Rock, F. A. Manning, E. Marsh, Chas. Moody, G. Benson, J. H. Parker Wilson, T. Blackston, J. Officer, U. Bach, C. Greenwood jun., &c. On the assembling and opening of Grand Lodge, the first business transacted was the calling over the Lodges in the Province. The roll now includes nineteen, viz.:—

St. George's 370	Royal Albert Edward 1362
Grove 410	Wey Side 1395
Surrey 416	Addiscombe 1556
Frederick of Unity 452	St. John's 1564
East Surrey Lodge of Concord 463	Studholme 1591
Royal Alfred 777	Friendship and Harmony 1616
Dobie 889	Brownrigg 1638
St. Andrews's 1046	Albert Edward 1714
Dorking 1149	Parthenon 1826
Lorne 1347	

Of these all, with the exception of Nos. 777 and 1591, were represented, a most satisfactory result. The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting held at Dorking, in July last, were read and confirmed. The report of the Finance and Audit Committee showed the monetary condition of the Province was most satisfactory. The Committee recommended that grants of fifteen guineas be made to each of the Charitable Institutions belonging to the Craft—the Girls' School, the Boys' School, and the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons. It was also recommended that a sum of five guineas be voted to the Redhill and Reigate Cottage Hospital. The brethren were unanimous in their vote for the re-election of Bro. Price as Prov. Grand Treasurer, and the Prov. Grand Master reinvested that worthy brother. The recommendations for the several grants enumerated above were then confirmed by Prov. Grand Lodge, and the R.W. Grand Master reappointed V.W. Bro. Arnold P.G.C. as his Deputy for the ensuing twelve months, gracefully expressing his indebtedness to Bro. Arnold for his services, and his appreciation of the way in which the duties were carried out. The following is a list of those who received the several collars for the year:—

Dr. Brodie	...	...	S.G.W.
Major Gant	...	...	J.G.W.
Rev. James Amos	...	...	G. Chap.
Aldridge	...	...	G. Reg.
C. Greenwood	...	...	G. Sec.
Taylor	...	...	S.G.D.
Browse	...	...	J.G.D.
May	...	...	G. S. Works
S. J. Turquand	...	...	G.D.C.
Buckland	...	...	A.G.D.C.
Viscount Mandeville	...	...	G. Sword Bearer
Wilson	...	...	G. Organist
Moody	...	...	G.P.
Mount	...	...	A.G.P.
Speight	...	...	G. Tyler (reappointed)

GRAND STEWARDS.—Bros. Yaxley 463, Saunders 889, Officer 1362, Trower 1395, Mullett 1556, Youlder 1638.

After the appointments, Gen. Brownrigg addressed the members of his Province. He commenced by remarking that he had not much to communicate to them, but he could not omit to tender his thanks for the way in which they had responded to his summons. He was pleased to state that since last they met one new child had been added to their family, and that applications had been made for two other warrants; in one of these cases, however, he had thought it advisable to discountenance the application, on the principle that it might trench somewhat on the ground comprised in the area of a Lodge already working. He professed his regret that other engagements had not left him so much time for visiting the Lodges as he might have desired, but his Deputy in this respect had rendered him invaluable service. He directed the attention of the members of certain Lodges to the irregularity they exhibited in not sending both Bro. Arnold and himself notice when they were about to meet; he desired this might invariably be done. He much preferred dropping in at a Lodge quietly, when they were about to transact their ordinary business, to attending on installation nights or special occasions. Gen. Brownrigg then made passing allusion to some dissensions that had occurred in days gone by, and how gratified he was that on the occasion he referred to his suggestion that he might be allowed to arbitrate on the question at issue had been entertained. He

urged on the brethren that when disagreeable matters arose, that they should avoid paying attention to reports, which were often greatly exaggerated, and had a tendency to foster rather than to suppress strife. He announced that he had received letters of regret from Masters of adjoining Provinces—Sir Daniel Gooch, Col. Bardett, Sir W. W. Burrell—at their inability to be present on this occasion, and closed his remarks by again thanking the brethren for their attendance. The general business matters of the Province were then considered, and a notice of motion that had been given by V.W. Bro. the Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, "That the Charity Jewel shall be given by Provincial Grand Lodge to Masons of the Province who have served as Stewards of the three Charities," was discussed. Some diversity of opinion seemed to arise as to how far this rule, if adopted, should be extended, and Bro. Dr. Strong moved an amendment. Bro. H. E. Frances P.P.G.S.D. also seemed to think that sufficient time had not been allowed for the consideration of the proposal, whereupon he moved that the question stand over till the next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge. This amendment was put to the meeting and carried, thus disposing of the question at issue for twelve months, by which time, doubtless, the brethren will have considered the proposal in its various bearings, and a unanimity of feeling will be arrived at. Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed. Bro. Henry Brass, M.A., F.G.S., Incumbent of St. Matthias, Red Hill, had, with characteristic courtesy placed his church at the disposal of Prov. Grand Lodge, and personally conducted a short service. The sermon was preached by the Prov. Grand Chaplain the Rev. James Amos, from Jude 20. We have great pleasure in reproducing the discourse of our Rev. Brother.

"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith."

To be happy is a general design. To communicate happiness is a design good and great. The pursuit of happiness is not universally successful. Nothing is more sedulously sought for, but nothing is more constantly eluding the grasp. A form, we fancy to be hers, attracts the step in every period of life; but the ardent follower finds, too often, that he has been chasing a cold, lifeless, cheating, unsatisfying vision. Man is ever seeking some refuge from the cares, the anxieties, the sorrows of life; but it is a constant experience to find all chance of escape, apparently, cut off at every point; blow after blow falling upon a crushed and wounded spirit; and so, faint and bleeding, as it were, he staggers on, to receive the last sad stroke, that lays him lifeless in the tomb. Happiness is so rarely attained to, because it is sought for in a wrong direction. The idea is too fondly cherished, that pleasure, honour, influence, ease and wealth, which seems to command them all, are the accompaniments of happiness: are the potent charms, that summon her to our presence, and compel her to bring her sweetness to our hearts. The qualifications of rank and fortune are but external. And those, truly, are wisely taught, who are instructed to prize them very lightly, in comparison with more solid, more precious, more gratifying acquisitions of honour and virtue. The secret of happiness is found in what we are; not in what we have. In following the straight and undeviating line of conduct, marked out for our pursuits in the volume of the sacred writings, we are ever accompanied by a stream from those rivers of pleasure which are at God's right hand for evermore. There is such an adaptation to our nature and condition, in living according to the unerring standard of truth and justice, which God, in His wisdom, has afforded us; and there is, besides, so great a blessing which God, in His approval, makes to attend upon the steps of that man, whose simple aim is, that his words and actions may ascend, pure and unpolluted, to the throne of grace; that such a course is ever marked, by a serenity unknown to others. That blessed book, which is given as the rule and guide of our faith, is full of illustrations, to win us on to lead this holy, this happy life. Sometimes it is suggested to our mind, as the growth of some beautiful tree, whose verdure betrays that her branches are full of sap; or again, as in the passage before us, it is very frequently likened to the erection of some stately and superb edifice. Dwelling on this latter view, I conceive that each man should be building up himself according to the draft or plan delineated by God. His eye should ever be upon the pattern which has been laid down in direct commands; upon the models exhibited in the recorded lives of the good and great. And, above all, upon the perfect example of Him, in whom dwelt all the fullness of the God-head bodily. In building up a character approved by God, a great advance has been made, when you have attained to some meekness, and lowliness of heart. When, guided into that most interesting of human studies, the knowledge of yourself, you are affected with such a sense of your own imperfections, that you are ready to believe that others are better than what you are. You will have reached no small eminence in good things, if you are taught to bend, with humility, and resignation, to the will of your Heavenly Father. If you learn to repose with confidence upon the wisdom of the dispensations of divine providence; in the comforting assurance that all things work together for good to those who love God. You have added an imposing height to the structure of your mind, when Charity, when heavenly love, becomes, in very truth, the predominant characteristic of your heart. When you have attained to this virtue, in its fullest sense, you may justly realise that you are planting a summit to the whole edifice. This is that virtue which, enjoying the approbation of heaven as well as earth, enables the possessor to judge with candour, to admonish with friendship, and to reprehend with mercy: which moves him to drop a tear of sympathy on the failings of a brother, and to pour the healing balm of consolation into the bosom of the afflicted. In the estimation of God, he who has this virtue has his grasp upon a most excellent gift; and he who has it not, is poor indeed, is absolutely nothing. As you have it, you already hold communion with the skies; as you fail of it, you are of the earth, and earthy. But when character is regarded as a building, it is not so much this virtue, and that, which you are to introduce, but it is a certain symmetry, an harmonious union of them all, which is looked for. Benevolence, and charity, will shine out

with their appropriate lustre; prudence will direct you, temperance chasten you, fortitude support you, and justice will be the guide of all your actions. The whole figure implies that arduous toil should be brought to bear upon the work. And on the other hand, it is not suggested that modest quiet as well as persistent labour is mostly associated with real and satisfactory advance. The gorgeous palace rises amid comparative silence. The materials, mainly brought from a distance and fashioned far away, are placed in their position, without unmeaning noise and obtrusive tumult. This was a special feature in the erection of King Solomon's Temple. The peculiar sacredness of the building, and its evident intention, as an illustration of the snitable development of the powers of man, called for this, in an eminent degree. Each stone was, at a distance, smoothed and rendered fit for the hand of the more experienced workman, and by him the elaboration was carried on so far, that it had only to be brought to the site, and quietly raised, and gently put into its place. Silently, and steadily, the Temple rose, like the quiet opening out of some beauteous flower, and so it was that in the rearing of that structure, whose final magnificence drew out the applause of men, with one simultaneous accord,

"No ponderous axes rung;
Like some tall palm, the wondrous fabric sprung."

In this transitory life, we are never destined to reach to the complete realisation of that sketch of goodness, which has been defined for our instruction. But the whole analogy, which we have been considering, is altogether without meaning, if we are making no progress in the right direction; if there is no growth in goodness, however small. We expect the tower, which is left unfinished and abandoned by the builders, to be soon taken up by ill-omened and destructive birds, to be miserably exposed to the cruel gusts of howling tempests, and speedily to fall into a ruin. In the arduous undertaking of the good man's life, we may be thankful for any assistance we can get. And, herein, I linger for a moment to-day, on the obvious advantage we derive from the companionship of just and upright men—of men, from whose converse we may gather recreation, consolation, sympathy, and instruction; from whose lives we may get the force of example, and the stimulus of emulation. It is possible that the casual observer may imagine that there is some quaintness in the forms and procedure of that ancient institution, in connection with which we meet to-day: but so to the mere passer by may appear the helpful but intricate scaffolding, which covers the walls of some stately palace, which by its assistance is rising unseen in all beauty behind. A firm but humble confidence may surely be felt, in the substantial value of our association, inasmuch as it is founded on the purest principles of piety and virtue; as it directs us, as a first duty, to the serious contemplation of the Word of God: as it is over bidding us to repair to that divine source from which alone grace and help are to be found; and makes it a chief concern that we should be building up ourselves, on our most holy faith. As we are fighting with temptation, grappling with duty, and struggling with sorrow, sweet and friendly, and safe, is the voice that calls us to live in the light and love of God; that teaches us the practice of prayer; that cheers us with the hope of salvation; through Him who was once as a stone, rejected; but who is now, to those who trust Him, a corner stone, a tried stone, a sure foundation; and who, hereafter, will dawn upon the world a morning star, to bring peace, and tranquillity to the faithful and obedient of the human race. In this congregation, there is not one who is not bound by serious obligations to carry on the arduous, but happy work of self-discipline and self-improvement—indeed, with many the calls to it must be so frequent, and so loud, that there is some danger lest they should get habituated to them, and may fail to receive the appropriate effect: and so they may become content, that comparatively few should tread, alone, the high and difficult path of religious virtue—insensible, alike of their own great loss, and to the discouraging effect upon those about them, who are entitled to the invigorating influences of bright, wholesome, and elevating example. But I am persuaded better things of you, beloved. You will strive so to live as to convince the world that you are fired with a holy ambition to excel in what is good, and great. You will I trust make it abundantly clear that your efforts are all tending to enable you to serve God more faithfully, to lead better lives yourselves, and to do more good to others.

The Banquet was served at the Public Hall, under the presidency of Gen. Brownrigg, who, on the removal of the cloth, gave the Loyal and Masonic toasts. He referred to Her Most Gracious Majesty as the daughter of a Mason, the mother of Masons, and urged that, in the order of things, she might be expected to become the grandmother of Masons. In giving the health of the M.W. the Grand Master, Gen. Brownrigg remarked that the social position of the Prince of Wales had unquestionably tended to increase the interest in our Order. Still, he could but think that, without these adventitious aids, Freemasonry would have held its own. In speaking to the toast of the M.W. Pro G.M. the Earl of Carnarvon, the D.G.M. Lord Skelmersdale, and Grand Officers Present and Past, the Prov. Grand Master said all were represented; we have with us to-night Bro. Giddy D.G.M. Grigualand, Bro. Arnold Past Grand Chaplain—but of him more anon; and Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke. He would call on Bro. Giddy to reply. Bro. Giddy could not but consider it a very high compliment paid him in selecting him as respondent for Grand Officers. On their behalf he tendered his sincere thanks. With regard to the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master no better men could be found. Personally, he experienced great pleasure in being present that day. In the words of the song with which they were to be favoured with next—"From the desert he came;" Grigualand was a matter of some 8000 miles distant. He would tender his best thanks for the reception given him. After Bro. Lawler had sang the song referred to, Bro. Rev. C. W. Arnold proposed the health of the Provincial Grand Master, and made special mention of the care displayed by Gen. Brownrigg in his consideration of the several claims of those who were deemed eligible for office. The Prov. G.M.

in reply said that the toast, as a matter of course, was one that was given with cordiality and drunk with geniality. He was convinced the brethren of his Province thought well of him. Remarks had frequently been made that he was a business man; no man who had been tried as a soldier (and he was sorry to say he had been 47 years one) could help acquiring habits of business. He had had, in his Province, throughout, a support and cordial welcome wherever he went. He had succeeded a brother who in his day was very popular, and he felt that brother's mantle had fallen on him. He would now direct their attention to the next toast he had the honour to propose—The health of the V.W. the D.G.M. of Surrey, and the Prov. Grand Officers Present and Past—in giving this toast he felt particularly fortunate in having so able a Deputy. He had compared notes with other Provincial Grand Masters, and he had come to the conclusion that he was singularly fortunate, and he expressed this conviction openly and freely. As for the Provincial Grand Officers they always ably supported him, and he felt grateful for the kindness at all times shown. Bro. Arnold acknowledged the hearty way in which the toast had been received, and thanked the Prov. Grand Master for the kind things he had said of him. Bro. Arnold then briefly urged on the brethren the advantages to be derived from carrying out a uniform system of working throughout the Province, and advocated the establishment of Lodges of Instruction. He forcibly urged that brethren should not be placed into chairs until they had evidenced that they possessed the qualifications requisite to perform the duties that devolved upon them; and impressed upon the members of the Province the desirability of establishing a Board of Installed Masters who should decide upon the fitness of candidates for office. For the Visitors Bros. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke and the Rev. Henry Brass, Incumbent of St. Matthew's, Redhill, replied; the Provincial Grand Treasurer and Provincial Grand Secretary's claims for recognition were not overlooked; both these brethren replied, Bro. Greenwood reminding the members of Prov. Grand Lodge that this was the twenty-fifth time Bro. Price and he had been entrusted with the collars of their respective offices. In proposing success to the entertaining Lodge, Genl. Brownrigg commented on the admirable way in which the day's proceedings had been conducted, and the compliment paid them was acknowledged by Bros. Major Gant and Officer. In speaking to the toast of the W.M. and Wardens of the other Lodges in the Province, reference was made to the desire Gen. Brownrigg had previously expressed that he desired all the offices should be considered as of equal value; with this toast was associated the name of Bro. Buckland. The proceedings throughout were very agreeable, and eminently satisfactory. The collection made after the service realised £4 12s 6d, and this amount was expended in clearing a debt that had attached itself to the local Ragged Schools. The musical arrangements of the day were entrusted to Bro. John Rhodes, P.P.G. Org., who had secured the services of the veteran Bro. T. Lawler and Bros. Baxter and G. T. Carter. The Tyler gave the final toast of the day, and the brethren separated.

PROV. GRAND LODGE OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE brethren of the county of Hertfordshire were fortunate in having selected a fine day for their annual gathering in Prov. Grand Lodge, for Wednesday last brought us indeed almost the first taste of summer that we have this year enjoyed. Although it has been an accident almost to obtain a gleam of sunshine for any event within the past few months, the goddess Fortune smiled most benignantly upon the brethren as they streamed into the old-fashioned but picturesque little town of Berkhamstead, to participate in the festivities which had been marked out for the day. The Castle grounds were merry with the laughter of a host of Sunday School children, who had come from Watford by the same train in which the brethren from the up stations travelled, and it being market day, the principal street presented an unusually lively appearance. Towards three o'clock there was a goodly muster of Prov. Grand Officers and brethren at the Town Hall, which had been secured for the event, and Herts may be congratulated this year upon the very satisfactory attendance, under the banner of the Berkhamstead Lodge 504. Prov. Grand Lodge was opened at three o'clock by a procession of Grand Officers, who were received with the usual acclaim by the brethren assembled. The R.W. Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, presided, supported by Bro. J. Sedgwick Deputy Prov. G. Master, with Bros. John E. Dawson as Prov. Grand Senior Warden, J. Terry Prov. Grand Junior Warden, Revs. G. Finch and Oswald Thompson Prov. G. Chaplains, F. H. Wilson Iles P.G. Sec., G. D. Groom P.S.G.D., Thomas Kent P.J.G.D., Frederick Levick Prov. G. Purs., Thomas Thomas and Thomas Wright P.G. Tylors. Amongst those also present we noticed:—Bros. Thomas S. Carter P.M. 403 P.P.G.S.D., James Shilcock P.M. 449 P.P.J.G.W., Fred. Venables W.M. 1385 P.P.G.P., James Cntbush P.M. 1385 P.P.A.D.C., William H. Rowe P.M. 504 P.P. Grand Superintendent of Works, John L. Mather P.M. 1580 P.G.D.C., John E. Lane P.M. 504 P.G. Pursuivant, Robert A. Wright P.M. 504 P.P.G.S.D., Frederick Levick S.W. 404 P.G.A.P., W. C. Maddever W.M. 504, W. J. Crutch 1580 P.P.G.S., Henry C. Finch P.M. 404 P.P.G. Reg., W. Wilson G.P. P.M. 504 P.P.J.G.W., Charles Lacey P.M. 1577, E. T. Foord P.P.G.S.B., F. D. Rees Copestick 869 P.P.G.S.B., Edgar Bowyer P.M. 1580 P.P.G.J.D., W. B. Heath P.M. 504 P.P.G.S.W., D. C. Foster P.M. 504 P.G.S.B., H. Hollis P.M. 504 P.G.S.B., J. J. Berry P.M. 551, Rev. W. H. W. Casely Cranbourne Chaplain 1580, Witham M. Bywater P.M. Athelstan 19, Edward Baxter P.M. 504, Thomas Harvey Hill 504, F. Lane 504, Robert Coombes 12, George Graveley 898, Frederick A. Ford 1580, Thomas F. Reid Organist Earl of Zetland 1304, J. W. Purrott W.M. 1479, T. S. Watts P.M. 916, A. W. Nash W.M. 409, W. Bristo P.M. 860, J. S. Lee 404, Ernest Knight P.M. 1361,

H. C. Lambert 504, H. J. Foster 504, John Greig 504, E. Harker 504, Edward Swain W.M. 803, Joseph Round 310, Samuel Harris 310, W. Hunter W.M. 1677, A. Wade W.M. 449, I. N. Edwards W.M. 1479, C. E. Reynier 404, T. C. Chapman W.M. 869, William Browne Kidder P.M. 12, George Wilson P.M. and Treas. 173, Edmond Wilkin 1385, J. H. Wilkin 1385, G. Young 1757, H. J. Amphlett 1511, John Jos. Hatton 504, W. Field W.M. 504, Jos. Copestick P.M. 269, R. A. Brooke P.M. 404, E. Massey P.M. 1297, R. Fisher Young P.M. 1385, John Eldridge P.M. 167, J. F. Rowe 504, J. Bonsor P.M. 1580, Thos. Hyland 1580, Charles Bullock 504, S. J. Woolley W.M. 1327, J. Knight 1327, A. Parker P.P.G. Reg., John Middleton 834 (acting as Tyler), &c. The proceedings having been opened in due form, and with prayer, offered by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, the roll of Prov. Grand Officers and of Lodges was called, the responses showing that not one Lodge in the Province was unrepresented. The Prov. Grand Secretary then read the minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge, which were confirmed and signed by the Prov. G.M. The election of Prov. Grand Treasurer was next proceeded with, and a letter was read from Bro. Alfred James Copeland, tendering the office he has for some years held as Treasurer, stating that his many engagements prevented him from bestowing that time upon the duties that he wished. It was then resolved, on the motion of Bro. T. S. Carter, seconded by Bro. J. Terry, that Bro. F. Sumner Knyvett be elected to the office. Bro. W. Wilson, Grand Purs. of England, moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Copeland for the very able and satisfactory manner in which he had carried out the duties of Prov. Grand Treasurer, and that the Prov. Grand Secretary be instructed to convey to Bro. Copeland the thanks of Prov. Grand Lodge in the usual way. This was agreed to amidst loud applause. Bro. Knyvett, in acknowledging the compliment paid to him, expressed the hope that he might carry out the duties in such a way as would entitle him to a similar mark of esteem and appreciation as had just been paid to Bro. Copeland. The Provincial Grand Master expressed his cordial concurrence in the vote which had been passed to Bro. Copeland, and was quite sure that although they had secured a worthy successor in the person of Bro. Knyvett, they all regretted very much the loss of Bro. Copeland's services. The Prov. G.M., before investing his Officers, said he was about to appoint Bro. Fredk. H. Wilson Iles, their Prov. Grand Sec. and P.M. of the Watford Lodge 404, as Deputy Prov. G.M. for the ensuing five years. He took this opportunity of expressing his thanks to Bro. J. Sedgwick, his present Deputy, and a well-known Mason in the Province, for the cordial way in which he had supported him during his tenure of office. In accordance with the custom in the Province, the office of Dep. G.M. was held for a certain period, and Bro. Sedgwick's time having expired, he had placed his collar at the disposal of the Prov. G.M., who now bestowed it upon their late Prov. G. Sec. Bro. Iles then took the obligation, and was invested with his collar and jewel amidst the loud cheering of the brethren. The following Prov. Grand Officers were then appointed for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. H. Rowe P.M. 504 Prov. G.S.W., T. S. Carter P.M. 403 Prov. G.J.W., Rev. Oswald Thompson and W. H. W. Casely Prov. G. Chaplains, F. Sumner Knyvett P.M. 404 P.G. Treas., I. N. Edwards P.M. 1479 P.G. Reg., John E. Dawson I.P.M. 404 P.G. Sec., W. C. Maddrever W.M. 504 P.G.S.D., R. F. Young I.P.M. 1385 P.G.J.D., T. C. Chapman W.M. 869 P.G. Sup. of Works, J. L. Mather P.M. 1580 P.G.D.C., A. W. Nash W.M. 409 Assist. D.C., John Purrott W.M. 1479 P.G. Sd. Bearer, John T. Lee S.D. 404 P.G. Organist, Wm. Bonsor I.P.M. 1580 P.G. Par., H. C. Lambert I.G. 504 Assist. Par., John Hatton, John Greig, Charles Bullock, Henry Foster of 504, and Frederick A. Ford and T. Ryland Stewards. Bros. T. Thomas 504 and T. Wright 403 (re-elected) P.G. Tylers. It was subsequently moved by Bro. T. S. Carter, and seconded by the Prov. G. Sec., that the sum of twenty guineas be voted from the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. This was carried unanimously, and it was also resolved, on the motion of Bro. Terry, seconded by the Deputy Prov. G. Master, that the sum of ten pounds be voted to the Berkhamstead Lodge towards defraying the expenses of entertaining Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. T. S. Carter moved, and Bro. W. Wilson seconded, that the sum of ten guineas be voted from the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge to the West Herts Infirmary at Hemel Hempstead.—Carried. The Deputy Prov. G. Master next proposed, and the Prov. G. Master seconded, that pursuant to the recommendation from the Board of Finance to Provincial Grand Lodge, the sum of twenty-five pounds be contributed to the fund being raised amongst the Masons of England for the restoration of the West Front of St. Albans Abbey. This was carried by acclamation. It was also agreed, on the motion of the Prov. G. Sec., and seconded by Bro. Terry, that the publication of the Provincial Calendar be continued. After some formal business had been transacted, Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, and the brethren subsequently repaired to the King's Arms Hotel, where a most *recherché* banquet was provided by Mrs. Lane. Notwithstanding the presence of a much larger attendance of guests than had been anticipated, the arrangements were carried out in admirable style, and reflected the highest credit on the proprietress of the hotel and her staff of assistants. The dining-hall was handsomely decorated with flags, shields and various devices, whilst the tables were prettily set out with vases and epergnes of exquisite flowers, which emitted a delightful fragrance and imparted a picturesque aspect to the room. At the conclusion of the tempting *menu* the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, and were most enthusiastically received.

In proposing the health of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sedgwick said he was quite sure it was a toast which the brethren would receive with enthusiasm. Speaking for himself, he had reason to be deeply grateful to the Prov. G.M. for the honourable position he had been enabled to fill during the past five years. Their Grand Master had given him an opportunity, as an old Mason, but who had grown rather rusty, of reviving the work which he did forty years ago. He valued and appreciated the manner in which the Prov. Grand Master had performed his duties, and he had great

pleasure in asking the brethren to join with him in drinking to his health. He wished the hon. member many years of happiness and prosperity, and he only expressed the sentiments of all present when he hoped that he would long continue to adorn the Order of which he was now so bright an ornament. The toast was received with loud cheers, and in responding the Prov. Grand Master said if it had given the proposer of this toast half as much pleasure to belong to the Craft during the last five years as it had himself to preside over this Province, then he was sure Bro. Sedgwick must be highly satisfied. No Prov. Grand Master, whether under the English Constitution or any other, ever had a pleasanter Grand Lodge to preside over than this. He could only say it gave him very great pleasure to come amongst them, under the banner of one of the Lodges of which he was a subscribing member as well as Grand Master, and in a neighbourhood in which he had passed most of his life. He augured from this very successful gathering that the Province would go on and flourish. Within the last year they had consecrated another Lodge at Hemel Hempstead, one of the last towns in the county of any size in which a Masonic Lodge was wanted. He did hear of a little hostile feeling on the part of some brethren in a neighbouring town, which he would not name, who thought it would somewhat interfere with their Lodge; but he thought there was ample room for both. Both were flourishing, and he did not see why there should not be a good Lodge in both towns. He considered it was a mistake to have too large a Lodge, for though it might come a little cheaper, they ran the risk of having coteries formed, and so on. Therefore, he saw no reason why these two Lodges should not prosper. He sincerely trusted the Province would go on, for it certainly had taken a wonderful stride during the past few years, and he wished it to flourish so long, at all events, as he had the honour of presiding over it. He assured them that nothing should be wanting on his part to make it both harmonious and successful. They knew he had duties in another place, duties which had been of unparalleled hardness of late, which called him away; but he asked them to join with him in drinking the next toast—the Visitors. Hospitality was one of the great virtues of a Freemason's heart, and he should ask them, therefore, to drink the health of the visitors who had honoured them with their company. He associated with the toast the name of his friend Bro. L'Estrange, W.M. of No. 10, who responded. He and the Prov. Grand Master were many years at Eton together, and they went to Oxford about the same time, and therefore it was with great pleasure he was the guest of their Prov. Grand Master that evening. Moreover, they saw the light together in the Apollo University Lodge, and occasionally they met in that London Lodge of which they were both members, the Westminster and Keystone. He thanked the company from his heart for the cordiality with which they had received the mention of his name in connection with the toast. The Prov. G. M. next proposed the V.W. Deputy Prov. G.M. and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers Present and Past. He trusted that the reception they gave the toast was but an earnest that they had not altogether unappreciated the selection which it had been his endeavour to make that day. He had chosen the best and most leading men, so far as he could understand, in the Lodges of this Province. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. F. H. Wilson Iles, who had been known to them for many years past as their most efficient Prov. G. Sec., who in that capacity had done a great deal for the Province, and had rendered him assistance such as he should never forget to the close of his existence. He sincerely trusted Bro. Iles might be spared to perform, in his (the speaker's) absence, the duties which would now devolve upon him. But he had another name which he wished also to associate with this toast, and he should be remiss indeed if he did not mention the name of his late Deputy G.M. Bro. Sedgwick. For many years, as the elder brethren knew, he filled the office of Prov. G. Sec. Since he had had the honour of presiding over the Craft in his Province in the position of Deputy, he had gained the esteem and affection of every brother, and he would live long in the hearts of every one in the Province. Bro. Iles said more eloquence than he could command was necessary in responding to this toast. He felt sincerely the honour which had been done him to-day, and assured them it should be his earnest endeavour to carry out the duties of his office efficiently, and to support the Prov. Grand Master in all his undertakings in the Province. The Prov. Grand Officers were not the men he took them to be if they rested on their laurels. They would do their work in their respective Lodges, and he felt sure the brethren were satisfied with the choice which their Prov. Grand Master had made to-day. On his own part, he hoped that during the next five years he should do credit to the choice made in his own appointment, although he felt some regret at relinquishing the Office of Grand Sec.; yet he should look back with satisfaction and pleasure upon the kindness he had invariably received at their hands. He had made many personal friends during that time, and he trusted he had made very few, if any, enemies. He felt it a great honour to succeed to this high office, and again thanked them for the cordiality with which they had received the toast. Bro. J. Sedgwick also suitably replied to the toast. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master then proposed "The Masonic Charities," in doing which he intimated that he proposed next year going up as a Steward for the Boys' School, and he should take it as a great compliment if the brethren of the Province would liberally support him in that undertaking. Bro. Terry, whose name was coupled with the toast, said when they considered that the youngest Lodge in the Province was numbered something like 1750, and that now on the roll of Grand Lodge there were Lodges numbering as high as 1832, they could form some idea of the growth of the Craft during the past nine months, during which time no less than eighty Lodges had been added to the roll. The claims also upon the benevolence of the Craft had correspondingly increased, and he was sorry to say that at the next election of candidates for the Girls' School, in October, they would be in the unfortunate position of having 48 candidates with only 18 vacancies. There would have

been only nine had it not been that nine additional admissions had been placed upon the list. With respect to the boys, at the next election there would be 72 candidates and only 16 to be elected. In the Benevolent Institution, which he trusted was not the least important, there would be, he was afraid, a list of something like 80 candidates, and at the present time there was the prospect of only 16 vacancies. During the last five years this Province had taken a position it had never assumed in the Craft, and he attributed it to their being presided over by their present Prov. Grand Master. During that time he had had the honour of seeing two Lodges added to the roll; and this, when they remembered the peculiar position in which Herts was placed, unlike the populous manufacturing districts, was very satisfactory. Thanks to the energy of their Prov. G. Master and the brethren who took the position of Stewards, this Province stood No. 1 in the list of subscriptions this year for the Girls' School. He hoped and trusted this might go on. There were 207 girls being clothed, fed, and educated in their magnificent Institution at Battersea Rise; 217 boys were in like manner being educated at Wood Green; and under the Benevolent Institution there were 303 annuitants. These Institutions needed and deserved a great amount of support, and he was happy to say that notwithstanding the depression in trade, the support accorded to them during the past few years had in no way diminished, but had actually increased. He concluded by urging the brethren to support their Deputy Grand Master in his position as Steward next year. The Lodges of the Province was then given, coupled with the name of the W.M. of Berkhamstead Lodge, who responded, and the official list closed with the Tyler's toast. The speeches of the evening were interspersed with vocal and instrumental selections of music, given in admirable style by Bros. Seymour Smith, Upstone and Lord. This part of the day's arrangements was under the direction of Bro. J. P. Haskins.

NON-AFFILIATION.

FROM THE "MASONIC NEWSPAPER."

PROBABLY no spectre has ever arisen which threatens to do so much towards disturbing the harmony, and even endanger the life of the institution, as this one of "non-affiliation for non-payment of dues," and still by a singular exhibition of blindness to its best interests, this evil has its origin, and receives its nourishment, from within "the household of the faithful."

That it was the evident design of the originators to render the institution a blessing, and not a burden to its votaries, no one well read in Masonic history will for an instant question; and how far that amiable purpose has been distorted, we call upon all thinking members of the Order to "Read, Consider and Digest." In the olden time this question of annual dues was an unknown quantity in the great problem of Masonic life, the Lodges being regarded in the light of social and charitable clubs, supported by the voluntary contributions of the brethren, and by small fines imposed for non-attendance or breaches of the bye-laws, which were paid cheerfully. From this fund the debts contracted by the Lodge were paid, leaving a handsome margin from which charity was dispensed, and that, too, with no niggard hand. "Boards of Relief" were unheard of, and Freemasonry made rapid strides upon the highway to success and prosperity.

Freemasonry grew and flourished, until the year 1873 found it in this country and state, and from that time until the present, all who read Masonic journals are familiar with the difficulties which it has been called upon to encounter.

Where, or at what time, the present system of annual dues originated, history does not inform us, so we feel obliged to consider it "an invention of the enemy," for its influence has been evil, and its result promises to be disastrous to the Fraternity in this and every similarly burdened jurisdiction; like "the old man of the mountain," it is tightening a fatal grasp round the neck of one of the grandest institutions ever devised for the benefit of man, and unless, like Sinbad, the Fraternity fling off this incubus, who shall predict its fate?

It is a well-known fact that the great mass of those who make up the Masonic Fraternity in the State of New York are far from being millionaires; they are, on the contrary, hard-working men who, in the main, depend upon their daily labour for support. That this class forms also the most desirable material for our Lodges must be a fact, patent to every observing brother. Since the stagnation of business in 1873, many worthy and deserving brothers have, from causes over which they have no control, been gradually getting into arrears with their Lodges, and perhaps also Chapters, Commanderies, Councils, and Scottish Rite Bodies, until to remove the load proved a task beyond their means. These unfortunate brothers may have occupied positions of honour in the several bodies with which they were connected, performing their tasks with dignity, and in a manner which reflected credit upon the Fraternity; does this fact assist them in the hour of necessity? Not at all; had they been drones, instead of the busy bees which they were, the consequences would have been none the less harsh.

In the midst of domestic misfortune or financial oppression comes additional adversity, and that, too, from an unexpected quarter. Throughout the grand principles of Freemasonry we find the beautiful sentiments of "brotherly love, relief, and truth" held up, not only for the admiration of an unbelieving world, but for the consolation of unfortunate members of the Society. The sentiments in themselves are truly grand, and certainly God-inspired, for they teach lessons derived from the known "Word," the "Great Light" of the Institution. Let us consider, however, the wide difference which exists between profession and practice, as here plainly exemplified, and following out our suppositious case, state that the brother holds

membership in Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Council, and is equally enthusiastic and delighted in his connection with all of these bodies. His dues accrue, and at the same time house rent becomes due, or some little bill for household necessities demands payment, and here comes the difficulty. In the struggle between his Masonic pride and zeal and the home demands, naturally—for the Institution teaches that "a man must be a kind husband and an indulgent father"—he satisfies the cravings of his family, and receives a summons from the Craft to pay his dues or show cause why he should not be stricken from the roll.

His feelings are hurt, and in many cases the warm partizan is transformed into either a cold, careless unaffiliate or an outspoken opponent of the once beloved Order. What should he have done?—gone before the several bodies where he had once served long and faithfully, and humbled still further the little honest pride left within him for an institution which dealt a death-blow to an already wronged and injured brother? We say no—a thousand times no! Better sever at once the connection, and bury the past than ask for that charity which is plainly taught by the institution as belonging to him of right, and which is wrongfully withheld by a perversion of the landmarks of Freemasonry. The brother, to maintain his dignity, suffers himself to be stricken from the roll, the voting being done, perhaps, by brethren fresh from the preparation room, and who are consequently in ignorance of the time, labour and substance which he had expended to give them the privilege which they so woefully misused.

Look at the consequences of this action, and compare the Masonic status of this unfortunate brother with that of the wrongdoer, one who had been expelled from the Order: the one suffers for his poverty equally with he who had violated his solemn engagements. The expelled brother is permitted, according to the laws of New York, to petition for restoration, and can then affiliate with any Lodge upon the payment of a small fee; the un-affiliate can rejoin his Lodge, but must pay all his indebtedness from the time at which he was "dropped" up to his re-affiliation; thus plainly paying for all the time during which he suffered by the denial of "Masonic rites and benefits." That this is unjust, is, in our opinion, to put it very mildly.

The result of this perversion of Masonic doctrine is that with every year the institution loses, instead of gaining strength; old war-horses are led out to die in the cold, and desirable material from which to make Masons become frightened off by the exhibition of unkindness so plainly seen upon every side. This is all wrong; it is un-Masonic and uncharitable in the highest degree; it makes poverty not a misfortune, but a crime, for which additional punishment must be heaped upon the offender, and Masonic landmarks perverted in order that he may be made to feel the heinousness of his guilt.

The "Great Light" declares "Woe unto him who shall remove a Landmark," and we add woe unto Freemasonry unless this great wrong is righted, and that speedily.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This Evening, at 8, IL PETIT DU NORD (last night of the season).

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—This Morning, AIDA. This Evening, IL FLAUTO MAGICO. On Monday, CARMEN. On Thursday, IL TALISMANO. On Wednesday, AIDA.

GLOBE.—At 7.15, DON QUIXOTE JUNIOR. At 8.5, LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.

HAYMARKET.—ROMEO AND JULIET, or AS YOU LIKE IT.

STRAND.—At 7.15, RUTH'S ROMANCE. At 8.0, MADAME FAVART.

GAIETY.—At 7.30, OPERETTA. At 8.15, STAGE STRUCK. At 9.15, PRETTY ESMERALDA.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, ONCE AGAIN. At 8.0, THE GIRLS, and A HIGHLAND FLING.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.0, HEADS OR TAILS. At 8.45, SWEETHEARTS and GOOD FOR NOTHING.

ADELPHI.—At 7.30, No. 1 ROUND THE CORNER. At 8.0, AMY ROBSART.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, THE LAUGHING HYÆNA. At 8.15, THE WORSHIP OF BACCHUS.

LYCEUM.—This evening at 8, EUGENE ARAM.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.45, DRINK.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.45, CUPS AND SAUCERS. At 8.30 H.M.S. PINAFORE, &c.

ROYALTY.—At 8.0, CRUTCH AND TOOTHPICK. At 10, VENUS.

FOLLY.—At 7.45, FARCE. At 8.20, THE FIRST NIGHT. At 9.30, ANOTHER DRINK.

CRITERION.—At 7.30, MEG'S DIVERSION. At 9.0, TRUTH. On Monday, JILTED.

IMPERIAL.—At 7.40, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER. At 10.10, LADY OF LYONS (last night).

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.40, FARCE. At 8.15, VENICE.

STANDARD.—At 7.15, EUGENE ARAM and THE OSTLER'S VISION.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT. On Thursday, FIREWORKS. Open daily. Aquarium, Dr. Carver, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, CIRCUS, PROMENADE CONCERT, &c. On Monday, SUNDAY SCHOOL FESTIVAL. Open daily. VOKES FAMILY, &c.

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ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—METEMPSYCHOSIS; THE FAIRY DELL; THE ELECTRIC LIGHT; GAS, what it does and can do. THE STEAM ENGINE; THE ZULU WAR. VOYAGES IN THE AIR, and THE WONDER OF MODERN SCIENCE. STOKES ON MEMORY. LEOTARD'S Automaton. Diver, Diving Bells, &c.—Admission 1s. Open at 12 and 7. Carriages at 5 and 10.

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The Banquet will take place at the GEORGE INN, ENFIELD TOWN, at 5.30 p.m. Tickets, One Guinea each.

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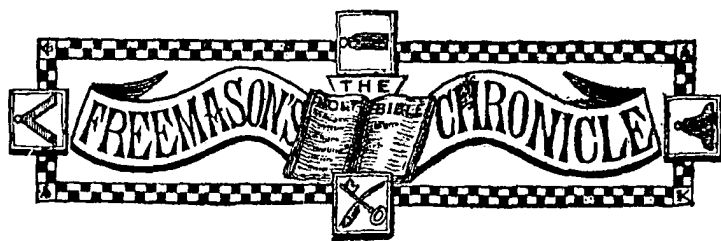
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CONSECRATION OF THE ST. ANDREW'S LODGE, No. 1817, SHOEBOURNE.

AMONG the first Masonic duties that have fallen to the lot of the newly appointed Grand Master of Essex (Lord Tenterden), is that of the consecration of the St. Andrew's Lodge, which event took place on Tuesday, at the Cambridge Hotel, Shoeboorne. The ceremonies of the day commenced at two o'clock, at which time the R.W. Bro. Lord Tenterden opened the Lodge, having previously appointed Bros. Wood and Shepherd as the Wardens *pro tem*, with Bro. Pissey as I.G., Wigram D. Prov. G.M. as Chaplain, Harris Secretary. The Prov. Grand Master first announced that he had received a telegram from Bro. Ralling, the Prov. Grand Secretary, announcing that, in consequence of the heavy rains, the train had been delayed, which made it impossible for him to attend the meeting. The ceremony was then proceeded with, and in due course the Prov. Grand Master called upon the Chaplain to deliver the oration. Bro. Wigram, in the course of his address said:—I shall be brief in my remarks, but I trust they will be appropriate. You have, brethren, been already reminded that the event of to-day is one of great importance and solemnity. In my opinion there are two facts which lend themselves to making it so. The first, which points out the progress that Freemasonry is making in every part of the country, and especially in the Province of Essex, as evidenced from the fact that fourteen years ago, at the time of the consecration of the Priory Lodge, at Southend, there were but 1000 on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, while at the present time the number, as taken by this we are now constituting, is 1817, an increase of 817 Lodges throughout the country. Of this number, nine belong to our own district. Both these point to the rapid growth of Freemasonry, which was never more popular than at the present time. This great increase teaches us a most important lesson—that we should be careful how we act as Freemasons. It behoves us to be very careful in our behaviour, for a Mason should act as one in whom the world may repose confidence. We are to-day gathered together to consecrate a Lodge where no Lodge has ever been held before, and this fact alone will cause the inhabitants to watch attentively all whom they know are Freemasons, and therefore I hope you will do your best to keep up the credit of the Craft in the district. Remember the honour of Freemasonry in this part of Essex rests in your hands, and I hope it will remain as pure and unsullied as you will receive it this day from the hands of the Prov. Grand Master. The remaining portion of the consecration ceremony was then completed, and the Lodge resumed to the second degree, when Bro. Charles Eltham was presented as the W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. This ceremony was performed by Bro. A. Lucking, who, on the readmission of the brethren, called for the usual salutes. The W.M. then appointed the following as Officers for the year:—Bro. George J. Glasscock S.W., James M. Farr J.W., Hall (after being duly proposed and unanimously elected by the Lodge) Treas., J. M. Harris (P.P.A.G.D. of C.) Sec., F. Howell S.D., Rev. H. J. Hatch J.D., S. M. Walker I.G. Bro. Whittingham was unanimously elected as Tyler, and duly installed as such. Bro. Lucking then delivered the addresses from the west and south, and the Prov. Grand Master that from the east. Four propositions for initiation were handed in, as were also the names of two brethren who wish to join the Lodge. Before closing the Lodge, the W.M. said—Brethren, I rise to thank our Prov. Grand Master for so kindly coming here to-day, and I hope he will accept the position of honorary member of the Lodge. I also hope that the brethren who have assisted

him in the ceremonies of the day will also accept a similar compliment from us. Lord Tenterden, in reply, said—It is a very great pleasure for me to find that one of my first duties as Master of Freemasonry in Essex is to institute a new Lodge, especially in this part of the county with which I am so intimately connected. I accept with pleasure the position of honorary member you have so kindly offered me, and hope I may on some future occasion have the opportunity of visiting you as a regularly constituted and flourishing Lodge. Bro. Wigram then said—On behalf of the other Officers of the Province, I thank you for the reception that has been accorded us. We join in wishing the Lodge every prosperity, and feel especial pleasure in attending, especially as this is the first Lodge which has been consecrated by our new Prov. Grand Master. The W.M. then said—I wish to propose a vote of thanks to Bro. A. Lucking for having come and acted as Director of Ceremonies in the consecration of the Lodge, and also for having installed me in my present position. It is the first opportunity I have had of witnessing the installation ceremony, and I am very much impressed with it. Bro. Lucking, in acknowledgement, said—I did not require any thanks. I feel it a great honour to have to instal the first Master of this, the first Lodge consecrated by our present Prov. Master. Nothing further offering, the W.M. proceeded to close the Lodge. The brethren afterwards adjourned to a spacious marquee, where dinner was served by the host in a creditable manner. The usual toasts followed. The first three were given very briefly, but none the less heartily; with the latter—the Prov. Grand Master and other Officers of Grand Lodge, was coupled the name of Bro. Matthew Clark Grand Deacon, who in reply said, on behalf of the Grand Officers of England, I tender my heartiest thanks. We all believe that they do their best for Masonry; my experience in the Grand Lodge convinces me that Freemasonry could not be under better management. The W.M. now proposed the health of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master Lord Tenterden, the Consecrating Officer of the day. He said, I now come to the fourth toast on the list, it is one which falls upon me as a most pleasing duty. I have most heartily to thank our Grand Master for coming down here to the consecration of our Lodge. I think it a very great honour. Lord Tenterden on rising to respond was received with the most hearty applause. He said: Brethren, I have to thank you—this I do most sincerely—for the cordial reception you have given me. I look upon it not only as a compliment to your Consecrating Officer, but also in my capacity as Master of your Province. It is very assuring to see so many present on this occasion, all of whom wish well for your Lodge, consecrated this day. Let us consider how that happy inauguration may best lead to the results which we hope will follow. If this Lodge is to prosper, and I hope it will do so, and spread its influence all over the world, it will be necessary to have good work and good material. By good work I do not mean mere letter perfection—which although very good in its way, is not all that is necessary—but heart perfection; that alone is the way by which you can impress the reality of our system on those who are initiated into our Order. We have to-day consecrated this Lodge to the glory of God and the welfare of our fellow creatures, and thus do the Officers of to-day and their successors undertake to further in every way in their power the interests of the Order. It is also necessary that you should have good material or it will be labour thrown away. What we want is, not that there should be a number of Lodges or brethren in England, but that we should be able to boast of our solidity, and in order that we should be able to support in the future the Lodges which may arise we should be most careful in building them up; therefore, in choosing your recruits you should choose stalwart men, men who will be able to support the dignity of the Lodge. The Lodge should always strive to be a model in its work, and in the selection of its members, so that when we hear of the Lodge at Shoeburyness we shall hear of one that it is a credit to any to belong to. In constituting a Lodge we should look to the general welfare of mankind, and as we may perchance leave foot-prints on the sands of time we should do good work in the present, so that those who come after may take it as a model. The other toasts usual on these occasions followed in quick succession, interspersed by songs and glees. The brethren did not leave until a late hour. Among those present were the Right Hon. Lord Tenterden Prov. Grand Master, S. R. Wigram D.P.G.M., S. F. Heaton P.G. Chap., A. Lucking P.G.D. of C., Thos. King P.G.P., Alfred Sturgeon P.G.S.D., E. E. Phillips P.J.G.W. Somersetshire, P.G. Deacon Essex, F. B. Shephard P.P.S.G.W. P.P.G.C., W. Pissey P.P.J.G.W., H. J. Sanson P.G.J.D., J. R. Hemmann P.G.D., Matthew Clark J.G.D., Frederick Binckes Sec. R.M.I.B. P.G. Steward, &c., F. Wood P.M. 1,000, C. Buckland J.D. 1,536, H. Harding Organist 1,536, G. Smith 1,536, T. King W.M. 160, H. Harper J.W. 160, W. D. Merritt J.D. 1,000, G. F. Jones S.W. 1,000, W. Lockey 1,000, H. Luker 1,000, G. Cox 1,000, F. Calrow, G. Kennedy Sec. 1,536, John Allen W.M. 1,734, D. Davies 913, James Godwin W.M. 1,343, D. Bartlett Sec. 1,343, J. Girling 1,000, D. Wright 1,024, W. J. Chignell 1,000, A. Brice 184, A. F. Collins 504, J. Harrington S.W. 160, W. Kilpin I.G. 160, G. Goodman 160, J. Horton 903, E. Winmill 160, F. F. Barrett S.D. 1,000, F. C. Johnston W.M. 1,000, &c.

VENERABLE ORDER OF ST. LAWRENCE.

Ebor Lodge.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at York, on the evening of Thursday, the 17th inst., the R.W.M. Bro. G. Simpson presiding, Bros. J. S. Cumberland S.W., T. B. Whytehead P.M. as J.W., M. Millington, Husband, Humphries, and others being also present. Bro. S. F. Bousfield was made free of the Order, the ceremonies and lecture being given by the R.W.M. with great effect. Allusion was made to the loss by death of the J.W. Bro. T. Cooper, whose interest in everything connected with Masonry was so great.

CONSECRATION OF ROYAL CLARENCE LODGE No. 1823, AT CLARE.

THE brethren of Clare and its vicinity have, during the past few years, added considerably to their number, and as a necessity have fostered a desire for a Lodge of their own, where they might assemble and enjoy those social pleasures which form the basis of Masonic brotherhood; in due course, therefore, a petition was sent in to the Grand Lodge of England praying for a warrant of constitution, which prayer having been granted by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Lodge has now been regularly consecrated, and opened for the purpose of Freemasonry. The ceremony, which took place on Wednesday, at the Half Moon Hotel, was conducted by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Lord Waveney, who was supported by the Deputy of the Province, Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, who opened the Lodge in the three degrees. The Prov. Grand Master, Deputy and Wardens of the Province were then saluted in due form, after which the ceremony was proceeded with. The Prov. Grand Master first said that the object of the meeting of the day was to receive into the bosom of the Craft the latest addition to its ranks. He considered it a great satisfaction to be able to be present and assist at the addition to the great Craft to which we belong. It was a great pleasure to him, as Provincial Grand Master, to assist in the consecration of an additional one to the number of the Lodges under his rule. The Provincial Grand Secretary having addressed the Provincial Grand Master, he ordered that the brethren be arranged in order, and then directed that the petition and warrant of the new Lodge be read, which having been done, he enquired of the petitioners if they approved of the officers named in the warrant. The Brethren having signified their approval, the Provincial Grand Master called on the Prov. Grand Chaplain (Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn), to deliver an oration on the nature and design of Freemasonry. That brother said:—It is customary on such occasions as the present to deliver a short address, but as we are on the present occasion to proceed to church, where I am sure you will hear an oration on the requirements of the Order, I shall content myself with a very few words. We appreciate the many benefits we derive from the practice of Freemasonry. The three grand principles of which—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth—should guide us in all our undertakings. We now stand on the very threshold of what, let us hope, will prove a most successful Lodge. Let it be said of one and all of you that you practise Freemasonry in your daily lives as well as in the Lodge. Let brotherly love distinguish your conduct not only within but without the precincts of the Lodge. We should ever help a brother in every way that lies in our power, and speak those comforting words which will prove relief to his heart. May your conduct show that you are Masons in more than name. May a sacred regard for truth be ever in your hearts. I have thought it necessary only to glance at these three virtues which we are taught in Freemasonry, but you are doubtless aware of many others we are taught in the Lodge. I hope the Great Architect of the Universe may give you strength to conduct yourself in such a way that the world will know there is really something in the grand tenets on which the Craft is founded. The brethren then proceeded in procession to the parish church, where service was performed by Bro. the Rev. J. W. Collins, the sermon being preached by Bro. the Rev. B. S. Barnes, from Psalm cxxii. 8. At its conclusion a collection was made, on behalf of the fund for the restoration of the church; this, it was announced later on, amounted to £6 15s 6½d.

The Rev. C. J. Martyn then took the chair, and Bro. Cooke having been duly presented, he was installed as the first Master of the new Lodge, and proceeded to invest the other Officers as follow:—Rev. J. W. Collins S.W., Rev. L. Klambrowski J.W., F. Fitch Treas., Stokoe Sec., Wheeler S.D., Geo I.G., Glazing Tyler. In investing the latter Officer the W.M. referred to the fact of his being one of the representatives of the old Lodge held at Clare. He had great pleasure in investing him in a similar position to that he occupied in the Lodge from the ashes of which, as it were, their Lodge had sprung. Bro. Lucia, the Secretary of the Province, previous to the close of the Lodge, announced that he had received letters of apology from several of the Prov. Grand Officers, regretting that from various reasons they were unable to meet the Prov. Grand Master. The Prov. Grand Master then rose and said—I do not know if what I have to say will come within the limits of a proposition for the good either of this Lodge or of Freemasonry in general, except that I intend to show what I hope will be for the good of the Order. The Prov. Grand Master then proceeded to show the connection between the old and present Masonic Fraternity, and addressed a few words to the brethren on the subject of the restoration of the parish church. The names of ten gentlemen were then handed in as candidates for initiation, but we understand that these are but a moiety of those who have here expressed a desire to join our mysteries. Seven brethren were also mentioned as wishing to join the Lodge. Before closing the Lodge, the W.M. said—I wish to bring before your notice a vote of thanks to those who have not only honoured us by their presence to-day, but have assisted in the formation of the Lodge. These, as you may be aware, are the Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Lucia Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. B. S. Barnes, who has this day given us such an admirable sermon, and Bro. Clarke, to whom we are indebted for mastering, preparing, and fitting us for what we have gone through this day. Lord Waveney, in reply, said—I speak in the first place for myself, and thank you for the appreciation you have expressed of what I have done. It is but my duty, but it has been a most pleasing one for me, witnessing as I have the way in which the work has been performed. Bro. Martyn said—I thank you for the compliment you have paid us. It is at all times a great pleasure to me to do anything to advance the interests of the Craft in this district. I feel sure your Master will, in the words of our

ritual, reflect honour on the choice of the brethren. Bro. Barnes followed. He hoped that the Clare Lodge would pursue a prosperous career, and that none of those present would live to see it anything but prosperous. Bros. Lucia and Clarke also responded. Bro. Stokoe, the Sec., proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn for the way in which he had carried out the ceremony of installation. Bro. Martyn briefly acknowledged the compliment thus paid him, and the W.M. then proceeded to close the Lodge. The brethren adjourned to the "Priory," where a most enjoyable banquet was served and partaken of by the brethren. At the conclusion of the banquet grace was said, and the W.M. proceeded to propose the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. After that of the Queen and the Craft, the National Anthem was sung. With the toast of the Grand Master of England was coupled the name of the Princess of Wales and the rest of the members of the Royal Family. Freemasonry was, the W.M. said, at the present time in the most promising condition, and much of its success, he considered, due to the Prince of Wales. With the health of the Prov. G. Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, the W.M. coupled the names of Bros. Martyn and Lucia. We may judge of our rulers as we do of the commander of a campaign. When success attends their efforts we may safely assume that they are what is required of them. Bro. Martyn was the first to reply. He desired to thank the brethren on behalf of the Grand Officers for the reception that had been given the toast. He fully endorsed what the Master had said about the Earl of Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale. No better men could have been selected to preside over us. The brethren had hoped that the Earl of Carnarvon would have been able to attend, but his engagements were such as not to admit of his being present. Whenever the rulers of the Craft could be of service they were ever present. Bro. Lucia followed, tendering his thanks for the way in which the toast had been received. The W.M. then rose to propose the toast of the Prov. Grand Master. In doing so he touched on ground nearer home. Not only is our Prov. G. Master welcomed in his position as ruler, but also as the Consecrating Officer of the day. Lord Waveney, in reply, said: It requires no preparation on my part to acknowledge with thankfulness the toast you have just received in the most hearty manner. In the whole course of my Masonic career I have never been received so heartily as I have been to-day. The Prov. Grand Master referred to the remarks which had been made from the chair on the duties of a Prov. Grand Master as set forth in THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE of last week. On behalf of those who had visited the Lodge, and especially for himself, Lord Waveney tendered hearty thanks for the reception that had been accorded them. The next toast was that of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. In proposing this the Master considered that he ought almost to wish for that brother's absence lest he might be accused of flattery. During his fourteen years connection with the Grand Lodge of England Bro. Martyn had been absent but twice, and on each occasion it was from reasons beyond his control. His duties, whether in connection with either of the many Lodges to which he belonged, or as Deputy Grand Master of the Province, were at all times carried out most efficiently and zealously. Masonry, the W.M. said, was not the first thought of Bro. Martyn, he had a position as parson to keep up, and this he did in the same efficient way as he did that of his various offices in Freemasonry. From his flock comes the same exhibition of hearty good feeling that comes from us. Bro. Martyn made a most appropriate reply. Often as his health had been proposed, it had never been proposed so heartily as on the present occasion. He had been told that, 25 years ago, at the consecration of the Old Clare Lodge Bro. Martyn—no relation of his—had been Deputy P.G.M., had replied in appropriate terms; he hoped that he too should have the credit of replying appropriately. Lord Waveney then assumed the gavel, and proposed the health of the Master, who replied in a few well-chosen words. The other toasts followed in due course, and the brethren parted after a most pleasant day. Among those present were Lord Waveney Prov. Grand Master Suffolk, Charles J. Martyn Deputy Prov. Grand Master, W. H. Lucia P.G.S.B. of England Prov. G. Sec., Henry C. Casley Prov. G.J.W., W. P. Phillips P.P.G.S.W., F. B. Wentworth P.G.S.D., J. M. Harvey P.G.P., Frederick Wheeler P.P.G.R., W. Clarke P.G.D. of C., J. H. Thompson P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, B. S. Barnes P.G.C., Parker J. Rennie 1,280, J. S. Cumberland W.M. 1,611, W. L. Lewis 1,224, E. O. Cockayne 1,543, A. E. Campbell 859 P.G.A.S., W. Elliot Shaw 78, T. B. Richardson, A. W. Cook 225, R. E. Jones S.W. 1,224, J. Hanly 51, C. Kenby 959, C. H. Vincent 1,224, S. Spurgin J.W. 1,224, H. Welham P.M. 1,224, H. Taverner J.D. 1,237, R. Aprile 1,224, Charles Gomersall I.P.M. 1,224, J. F. Hills P.M. 1,224, G. H. Grimwood P.M. 1,224, W. Watson Organist, E. H. Inman I.G. 1,224. We should observe that a Freemasons' Lodge was formerly held at Clare, the South Suffolk Lodge having been consecrated in the same house in 1823. The Lodge was removed to the Rose and Crown, Sudbury, and eventually ceased meeting.

A party of the brethren who arrived about noon were most hospitably entertained to luncheon at the Priory. We may add that this ancient building, with its massive walls and buttresses, pointed arches, and windows, and even a "piscina" in the garden wall, by the doorway, probably in ancient times forming the "cloisters," preserving still an ecclesiastical character, and still of some extent, was viewed with much interest. The grounds, too, are extensive, with well kept gardens, the whole admirably adapted for the purpose for which it is now used, that of a large academy for boys. We are pleased to add that there is every prospect of the new Lodge flourishing, and holding a distinguished position in the Province. It will probably number in a few weeks some forty members on its books, and its establishment is certainly of advantage to the ancient, picturesque town of Clare.

I think the best things a Freemason can do, are, to honour God, use his time industriously, respect himself, and take the world as it comes.—ROB. MORRIS.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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ST. PETER'S LODGE, No. 481.

THE installation meeting and festival of this Lodge took place on Monday, the 14th, at the Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. R. Eynon, supported by the Officers, and a good attendance of brethren. The minutes of the last meeting being confirmed, one brother was passed to the F.C. degree, the ceremony being creditably given by the W.M. Bro. John Usher S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented to the W.M. by Bro. E. D. Davis P.G.D.C., to receive the benefits of installation. All formalities having been gone through, and the brethren below the chair re-admitted to the Lodge, the newly installed G. Master was proclaimed and saluted according to ancient custom. He then appointed and invested the following brethren as Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. R. Eynon I.P.M., J. Duckett jun. S.W., J. Cook P.M. P.P.G.S.W. J.W., John Spearman P.M. Treasurer, A. Giblin W.M. 541 Sec., T. Printie S.D., G. Ford J.D., R. L. Armstrong P.M. D.C., R. Ferry Org., Stafford I.G., G. S. Sims Tyler; Macdonald and Weldon Stewards. The W.M. received the hearty good wishes of a large number of visiting brethren, and no other business offering itself, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Queen's Head Hotel, where they sat down to a capital repast. Full justice having been done to all the good things, and grace said, the W.M. rose to give the first toast, the Queen, which was duly honoured. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. next received the good wishes of the brethren. The toast of the Pro G.M. and Officers of Grand Lodge followed on the list, after which the W.M. gave the Earl Percy and Officers of the Prov. G. Lodge. In the course of his remarks he said the brethren will all know that the Prov. G. Lodge this year meets under the banner of this Lodge, and he trusted they would not fail to come up in such numbers as would do honour to them, particularly after the reception they had received last year at Alnwick. He was delighted they had that day amongst them the P.G.S.W., who had taken so great an interest in the working of all the Lodges in the Province during his year of office. He should therefore couple with the toast the name of Bro. Adam Robertson Provincial G.S.W., who, on rising, was received with cheers. He expressed the wish that the task had been put on some one else's shoulders, who would have done more justice to the P.G.M. It was useless for him to dilate upon his many virtues, or on the many important services he had rendered to the Province. He was no ornamental Mason—he was a working Mason in every sense of the word. He had served every office in the Lodge, and when he was Master one of his characteristics was punctuality. The moment the Lodge was called, Earl Percy was in the chair; during his Mastership he (Brother Robertson) had the pleasure of serving under him as one of his Wardens. It had afforded the Provincial Grand Officers a deal of pleasure, whilst officially visiting the Lodges, to see the uniform good working, and he trusted these visits would be repeated, as most of the P.G. Officers of this year were W.M.'s of Lodges. This gave them an opportunity of comparing their working with the other Lodges in the Province, and would tend to cement that good-fellowship which is the backbone of Freemasonry. Bro. R. L. Armstrong P.M., in a few well-chosen remarks, proposed the health of the P.G.M. of Durham and the Officers of that Province; with this toast he coupled the name of Bro. E. D. Davis P.P.G.S.W., whom he designated as his father in the Craft, and he prayed he might long be spared to be amongst them; when it should please the G.A.O.T.U. to remove him, he would leave a name behind him that would long be cherished and never be forgotten. Bro. Davis, who on rising was heartily received, said that he had to thank them on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master of Durham, who was the oldest in England, holding that important office since 1817, and since that time he had rendered the Craft much service. The Charity Committees of the two Provinces, he was glad to say, had become united, and much good might be expected from their joint efforts. He now came to a more difficult task—namely, to reply to the kind manner in which Bro. Armstrong had brought his name before them, for which he thanked him, and the brethren for the way in which they had received it. Bro. Armstrong had but lately taken the reins of power, and they all knew how well he used that power; when he (Bro. Davis) shall have passed away, he will still be a shining light in Masonry, and will then be able to remember one that loved him well as a man, and was always anxious for his success as a Mason. Bro. Eynon, in giving the next toast, said it was one that required few words of his to ensure its reception by the brethren; it was the health of the W.M. He was quite certain, from what he knew of the brethren and Officers of the Lodge, that they would give Bro. Usher every support. It gave him particular pleasure to submit this toast, because he had to assist at that brother's initiation, although in an inferior office. He wished him every success and a prosperous year, and called on all to drink his health in a bumper. The W.M. expressed his thanks, and assured the brethren he would endeavour to do his duty. He was much obliged for the support given him, and to the brethren for gathering round him in such numbers. He should say little now, but at the end of the year leave them to judge if he was deserving of all or any of the kind things said of him, and trusted to offer to his successor the Lodge in as prosperous a state as he then found it. Bro. Davis, in some feeling remarks, proposed the health of Bro. Eynon I.P.M., which was suitably replied to. The Past and Present Officers received their meed of praise, and the Visitors received a hearty welcome. Both toasts having been replied to, the Tyler was called, and brought a most enjoyable evening to a close. The Visitors present were:—Bros. E. D. Davis P.P.G.S.W., Adam Robertson P.G.S.W., S. Doukin P.M. P.P.G.D.C., G. I. Dean 541 P.M. P.P.G.J.D.

R. L. Armstrong P.M. 406 P.G.P., B. P. Ord I.P.M. P.G.O., W. M. Bell W.M. 1557, T. Alexander P.M. 773, J. Milburne P.M. 919, G. T. Chilton J.W. 1664, J. Wood S.W. 48, Fowler, Manchester, S. M. Harris Sec. 406, &c. We were somewhat surprised to notice that this Lodge was not in mourning, in token of respect to the memory of their late and much respected brother, P.M. George Thompson, who had for so many years laboured for this Lodge, and who had truly brought the Lodge to the position it now holds. All the other Lodges in the town have paid him that respect; we therefore notice the neglect the more in this, his mother Lodge, and the one for which he had done so much.

LEBANON LODGE, No. 1326.

THE installation meeting of this excellent working Provincial Lodge was held on Saturday, the 19th inst., and in spite of the pouring rain was numerously attended by members and visitors. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Bro. J. C. Woodrow the Lodge was opened by Bro. John Hammond P.G.D. Middlesex P.M., and the minutes were subsequently confirmed. Bro. Baldwin P.P.G.P. as S.W., J. B. Shackleton P.G.P. J.W., F. Walters P.P.G.D. Hon. Sec., Stone I.G., Lawrence D.C., P.M.'s W. Hammond P.P.G.D., Potts, H. Potter, F. Binckes P.G.S. (Hon. Member), and Bros. Knight, Stanton, Buckley, Rogers, Baker, Brown, J. W. Adams, &c. Bros. J. Smith and F. Dyo were passed to the 2nd degree, and Bros. H. J. Buckley, J. Cavell, W. R. Smith and D. Brown were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons, the acting W.M. performing the ceremonies in a very perfect manner. Bro. Woodrow having now arrived, Messrs. A. Driver and C. T. Tatum, who had previously been balloted for, were duly initiated into the Order by him. The report of the audit committee was adopted, it showed the Lodge was in a flourishing state. A Board of Installed Masters was opened and Bro. J. B. Shackleton P.G.P. Middlesex P.M. 1524, as W.M. Elect, was duly installed into the chair by Bro. J. Stevens P.M. 1426, who officiated by special request as Installing Master. The work was performed in a perfect and impressive manner and well merited were the encomiums passed on him at the conclusion. The W.M. having received the customary salutations, appointed and invested his Officers:—J. C. Woodrow I.P.M., J. Hammond P.G.D. Middlesex P.M. S.W., J. W. Baldwin P.M. J.W., Treas., F. Walters P.P.G.D. Middlesex Secretary, H. Glover P.M. S.D. Stone, J.D., Steinhauer I. G., Marsh Organist, F. Knight D.C., H. Potter P.M. W.S., Vassila A.W.S., Gilbert P.G.T. Middlesex Tyler. Bro. F. Walters proposed and Bro. J. C. Woodrow seconded that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the able and impressive manner in which Bro. Stevens had performed the installation ceremony, and that he be elected an honorary member. Bro. J. Hammond in seconding the proposition remarked that the brethren, in electing Bro. J. Stevens, would find him an acquisition to the Lodge, as he was to every Lodge with which he was associated. This was unanimously agreed to. Bro. J. Stevens, in returning thanks for the honour conferred, said his services would be at the command of the brethren, and he hoped that good feeling and harmony would prevail while the Lodge continued. Bro. F. Walters in feeling terms proposed that Bro. W. Hammond P.P.G.D. and Bro. R. Williams P.G.O. be elected honorary members; those brethren had always rendered great service, not only to the Lodge, but also to the Province. This resolution was carried unanimously, and the W.M. in eloquent terms supplemented Bro. Walters' remarks. A widow of a late Brother of the Lodge was relieved from its Funds. The W.M. then said that the brethren had seen and appreciated the services rendered by the I.P.M. Bro. Woodrow. They had thought fit to present him with a jewel of solid gold, set with diamonds—a gift worthy of his acceptance—for the able manner he had discharged the duties of the chair, and in token of the respect in which he is held by each member. In placing the jewel on Bro. Woodrow's breast (he the W.M.) hoped he might live long to wear it. Bro. Woodrow, in brief but appropriate terms, thanked the W.M. for his kind expressions, and the brethren for their valuable gift. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet and dessert, provided by Bro. Ballard, the new host. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. He referred to the fact of Her Majesty being the Patroness of our Order; while H.R.H. the Grand Master, by accepting that position, had lent a prestige to the Craft never before accorded it. We are proud to have the Prince of Wales at our head. The toast of the Pro G.M. and D.G.M. was next proposed, and then came the health of the R.W. Bro. Col. Burdett Prov. G.M. It was unnecessary to say how highly he was esteemed throughout the Province. He was constant in his visits to the several Lodges, and made himself conversant with the way in which they were being worked. Every member of the Province looked upon Col. Burdett as a thorough English gentleman. This toast was most enthusiastically received. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Sir Charles Bright, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers; he coupled with the toast the names of Bros. W. Hammond and Hurst. The former brother, in responding, said he felt it an honour to reply to the toast. The Province was but nine years old, and during that time it had been satisfactory to see so many Lodges established and flourishing under the auspices of Col. Burdett. He looked around, and saw many brethren belonging to this Lodge who had received Provincial honours. This was a source of pride to them all, and he thanked them for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast. Bro. J. Stevens now rose and said, that the I.P.M. being absent, he felt a great pleasure in proposing the health of the W.M. It was his fixed idea that the W.M. was the right man in the right place; theirs was a large Lodge, and if there should be another formed from it he hoped there would be nothing more result from the expansion than Unity, Peace and Harmony. In the W.M. you have a guide to that haven which every Mason wishes to reach; the haven of unity. He would ask them to drink the toast

heartily, and wish the W.M. success in every shape during his year of office. Brother Shackleton hoped, during his term, to be able to give them every satisfaction, and at the expiration of his year trusted he might hear the same expressions. His best endeavours would be for the welfare of the Lebanon Lodge, and he would do all he could to support Freemasonry and the Charities. Last year they had assisted the Girls' School and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; they had not as yet done anything for the Boys, but in the future they would. He thanked them for their kind reception. The next toast given was the health of the Installing Master; the W.M. was sure all had listened with great pleasure to Bro. Stevens' working of the ceremony of installation. Bro. Stevens had been elected an honorary member, and he (the W.M.) was pleased to see the unanimity with which the brethren had endorsed that proposition; he could say a great deal in Bro. Stevens's praise, and more of his merits, but in future doubtless they would see somewhat of his capabilities. Bro. J. Stevens, in a very eloquent speech, responded to the toast. He remarked how pleased he was to meet the Brethren and instal his old friend the W.M. into the chair; he spoke of the beauties of Freemasonry, and his remarks were listened to with great attention. He concluded by saying we have the glorious conviction that in spite of the shafts that are levelled against us, we know our strength. Personally his services were always at their command. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the newly-initiated. One brother had been obliged to leave, but the other was then present. However, he is about to leave this country to go to New Zealand; when he arrives there he will find the right hand of fellowship held out to him; Masons are to be found in every part of the globe. Bro. Tatum is but a young man, but he trusted a bright future career was open to him, and he hoped he would never forget their good wishes and the expression of God speed from the members of the Lebanon Lodge. Bro. Tatum in returning thanks for the cordial reception the toast had met with, hoped the good wishes of the brethren would be fully realised. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Visitors. Bros. Hurst P.A.G.P. Middlesex, Cash, Hutching 147, Freeman, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188, severally responded to the toast. Each complimented the W.M. for his genial presidency, and also Bro. Stevens for the excellent manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Masonic Charities. As Masons they were bound to support the Aged, the Girls, and the Boys, who are dependent on us. If at the expiration of his year of office they desired to give him a jewel, he would rather they should give double the amount to the Charities. The Lodge had liberally supported the Institutions, and he hoped they would continue to do so. Bro. F. Binckes P.G.S. and Secretary to the Boys' School was present, and he (the W.M.) regretted there was not a better attendance of members to meet him; still, those who were present would drink heartily to the toast, coupled with Bro. Binckes's name. This brother in an able speech returned thanks, remarking that the Boys' School was the poorest of the three Institutions; they were losers to the extent of £300 by a recent failure, but he was pleased to hear the Lodge would support his Institution in the future. The toast of the Officers was given, the W.M. hoping that the selection he had made would give satisfaction. The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings. Some excellent harmony was rendered. Among the Visitors were Bros. W. A. Barrett P.M. 1706 P.P.G.O. Oxon, Mrs. Doc., James Stevens P.M. 1426, Hutching 147, T. A. Thompson 1614, R. Boley 1201, J. Hurst 1512 P.A.G.P. Middlesex, Cash, and H. H. Levy P.M. 188.

In Memoriam.

It is with sincere regret we have to announce the death of Bro. L. M. Auerhaan, Treasurer of the Lodge of Joppa, No. 188. Bro. Auerhaan was a member of the Joppa Lodge over thirty years. His death will not only be lamented by his sorrowing widow and children, but by a numerous circle of Masonic and private friends. The suffering poor and distressed, of all denominations, will likewise miss a benefactor, who was always ready to listen to their appeals.

STOKES ON MEMORY.—At Mr. Stokes's popular Lectures on Memory at the Polytechnic Institution, some highly attractive methods of teaching are being explained by the author, including a plan of teaching the Multiplication Table by means of pictures. A bird with two wings stands for two, and a four legged animal stands for four, and in this fashion all the numbers are represented, a variety of charming pictures, thus taking the place of the ordinary unattractive numerals. Mr. Stokes commences at 12.30, and various other lectures and entertainments continue till 5 o'clock admission to the whole one shilling. For parents and children the Polytechnic is really the place to spend an instructive and profitable day.

I have always found Freemasonry better than Freemasons, as the model is better than the copy. Not that Freemasonry teaches how to make bad men good, but it certainly tends to make good men better, or at least to keep the good from degenerating. There are many better things in the world than Freemasonry, such as the family, the church, the profession by which we are supported, &c., and the man who puts Freemasonry before them will come to grief. —*Masonic Review*.

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, 26th JULY.

- 1541—Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, Maswell Hill, N. (Instruction.)
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7.
 R. A. 1044—Mid Surrey, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 R. A. 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
 1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.
 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe.
 1631—Chislehurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chislehurst.
 1799—Arnold, Marine Hotel, Walton on the Naze (Emergency).

MONDAY, 28th 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.)
 1308—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30. (In.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
 48—Industry, 31 Denmark-street, Gateshead.
 61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
 62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
 148—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.
 264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, New-road, Batley.
 408—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.
 467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham.
 613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport.
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1177—Tenby, Royal Assembly Rooms, Tenby, Pembroke.
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1512—Legion, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford.
 1575—Clive, Corbet Arms, Market Drayton.
 1611—Eboracum, Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, York. (Emergency.)
 R. A. 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY, 29th JULY.

- Audit Committee Girls' School, at 4.
 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.)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
 860—Dalbousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1349—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 Pontonville-road. (Instruction.)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8. (In.)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30. (Inst.)
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
 299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford.
 310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle.
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen.
 897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens, Lancashire.
 986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
 1214—Scarbro, Scarbro Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley.
 1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton.
 1566—Ellington, Bell Hotel, Maidenhead.
 R. A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester.

WEDNESDAY, 30th JULY.

- 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, 8. (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.)
 1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8. (Inst.)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8. (Instruction.)
 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.)
 86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire.
 125—Prince Edwin, White Hart Hotel, Hythe, Kent.
 128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury, Lancashire.
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
 277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham.
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds.
 397—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley.
 580—Harmony, Wheat-sheaf, Omskirk.
 758—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn.
 910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract.
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction.)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk.
 1093—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester.
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby. (Instruction.)
 1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow.
 1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley, near Manchester.
 1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester.
 1283—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge.
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7. (Instruction.)
 1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slaithwaite.
 1662—Hervey, George Hotel, Hayes.
 M. M. 24—Roberts, Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, Rochdale.
 K. T.—Alpass, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 R. C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester.

THURSDAY, 31st JULY.

- Summer Banquet of the Henley Lodge, 1472, at the Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
 General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
 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.)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston.
 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.)

- 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington.
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne.
 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield.
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden.
 296—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
 337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Saddleworth.
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire.
 346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-le-Dale, near Blackburn.
 369—Limestone Rock, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Clitheroe.
 456—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter.
 462—Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Accrington.
 636—D'Oyley, Masonic Hall, Morpeth.
 659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth.
 807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
 816—Royd, Spring Gardens Inn, Waville, near Rochdale.
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham.
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford.
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire.
 1576—Dee, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire.
 1612—West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 R. A. 266—Naphthali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood.
 M.M. 32—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.

FRIDAY, 1st AUGUST.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 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.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond-road, N.
 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. 70—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (Inst.)
 R. A. 1471—North London, Crown and Woolpack, St. John-st.-rd., at 8. (Inst.)
 Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 8.30.
 41—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds.
 401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaidburn.
 460—Sutherland of Unity, Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyme.
 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
 652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.
 998—Welchpool, Railway Station, Welchpool.
 1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.
 1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy.
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1528—Fort, Red Lion Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall.
 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
 1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
 1645—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 1664—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High street, Gosforth.
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7.
 R. A. 214—Hope and Unity, White Hart Hotel, Romford.
 R. A.—General Chap. of Improvement, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birm., at 5.30.
 K. T.—Loyal Volunteers, Queens Arms Hotel, George-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

SATURDAY, 2nd AUGUST.

- Prov. GRAND CHAPTER MIDDLESEX, Grammar School, Enfield Town, at 4 p.m.
 General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham.
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood.
 1223—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent.
 1458—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester.

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

Eboracum Conclave, No. 137.—On the 17th inst., this Conclave held its meeting in the Eboracum Lodge-rooms, Queen's Hotel, York, at 3 p.m. The members having previously lunched together, the Conclave was opened by E. Sir Knight T. B. Whytehead P.S. Int. Gen. unattached, there being also present E. Sir Knight J. S. Cumberland, V.E. and Sir Knights C. G. Padel S. Gen., M. Millington J. Gen., A. T. B. Turner Recorder, G. Simpson Treas., T. Humphries Prefect, W. P. Husband Herald, G. Balmford, J. Ward and others. The M.P.S. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zetland G. Sov. elect of England was then announced, and entered, accompanied by the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett Intendant Gen. North and East Yorkshire, and was saluted in due form. The business of the Conclave was then proceeded with, and Bro. S. F. Bousfield of the Marquis of Granby Lodge, No. 124, Darlington, was duly installed a Knight of the Order by the M.P.S. the Earl of Zetland, who afterwards alluded to the loss the Conclave had sustained by the death of the brother who had preceded him in the chair, their late Sovereign E. Sir Knight Thos. Cooper, and ended by proposing that a letter of condolence should be sent to the widow and family, which was carried. After the close of the Conclave, the St. Peter's Sanctuary K.I.S. and Commandery of St. John were successively opened, and those degrees conferred upon Sir Knight Bousfield by E. Sir Knight T. B. Whytehead, who proceeded to bring forward the sad case of the widow of a brother, a late clergyman in the neighbourhood, who had been left destitute with three children, and a sum of £2 10s was collected for her temporary relief. The Commandery and Sanctuary were then sealed.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—At Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, 119 Leadenhall-street, E.C., on Thursday evening last. Bros. J. Da Silva W.M., Norden S.W., Woodward J.W., Ellis J.D., Gimmingham I.G., Norden Hon. Sec., Webb Preceptor, Hogarth, Maidwell, Kahn, and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and resumed to the first, as an E.A. desired to take part in the proceedings, the W.M. thereupon rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Kahn acting as candidate. The first, second and third sections of the Lecture were worked by Bro. Ellis, assisted by the brethren. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Gimmingham for the able manner in which he worked the ceremony, it being the first time he had occupied the chair in this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Kahn answered the questions leading to the second degree. Bro. Norden was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Lodge was then closed with prayer.

York Lodge, No. 236.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, at York. Present—Bros. A. Baokle W.M., R. W. Hollon P.M., W. Valentine P.M., Geo. Balmford P.M., T. B. Whytehead P.M., G. C. Baskett S.W., W. H. Gainforth J.W., G. Kirby Secretary, and many other brethren. The minutes having been read, several notices of motion for the next meeting were given, and Bro. T. B. Whytehead then brought under notice the case of the widow of the late Bro. the Rev. W. B. Jones, who, by the sudden death of her husband, of virulent diphtheria, had been reduced to a condition of absolute penury. The case was supported by Bro. the Rev. W. Valentine, whose curate Bro. Jones had formerly been, and the Lodge made a temporary grant of relief, which was further supplemented by the gifts of several of the brethren. The W.M., in a very kindly speech, moved that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of the late Bro. T. Cooper P.M., and that the Lodge do go into mourning for three months, which was unanimously carried, and the Lodge was closed at 9 p.m.

High Cross Lodge, No. 754.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 23rd July, at the Seven Sisters' Hotel, Tottenham. Present—Bros. H. Stephens W.M., Burford S.W., Farren J.W., Roberts Treas., Cunningham Sec., Clements S.D., Garrod acting J.D., Tegg I.G., Verry Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. Dance, Barham, Wells, Townshend, Linzell, Jones; Sheppard, Blenkinsop, Turner, Lewis, Tilder, Bridgman, &c. Visitors—Bros. Colville P.M. and Young. The Lodge was opened in ancient form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The first business was to take the ballot for Mr. W. P. Mitchell, which proved unanimous in his favour, and he was admitted and duly initiated into Freemasonry. The Lodge having been advanced to the second degree, the W.M. proceeded to pass Bro. H. Cooper to that degree. On the Lodge being resumed, Bro. Geo. Burford the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. David Roberts was also elected Treasurer, and Bro. Verry Tyler. A collection was made by the brethren, supplemented by a donation from the Lodge, on behalf of Frederick Smith, an old and much respected waiter of the hotel, who had recently sustained a most severe domestic affliction. The Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren adjourned for refreshments, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Dance proposed the health of the W.M. Bro. H. Stephens thanked Bro. Dance for the kind expressions he had used in proposing his health. The amount of business that evening had detained them an unusual length of time in the Lodge-room. He should, therefore, be very brief in his remarks, but could not let the evening pass without again thanking the Past Masters, the Officers and Brethren, for the kind manner they had assisted him during his year of office; they had indeed rallied round him, and he trusted his successor would be equally well supported. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bro. Colville P.M. The health of the Initiate was given and ably responded to. Bro. Wells P.M. replied for the Past Masters. Other toasts followed, and the evening was enlivened by some excellent songs. Altogether a most enjoyable time was spent. The proceedings concluded with the Tyler's toast.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—On Tuesday evening last, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Bros. Forss W.M., Williams S.W., Clark J.W., J. Lorkin S.D., Greenwood J.D., Christian I.G., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas.; P.M. Wallington Preceptor; Bros. Hogarth, Brasted, C. Lorkin, Dawes, Quay, Morgan, Polak, Carr, and others. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Wardell answered the necessary questions. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Wardell as candidate. The Preceptor rehearsed the installation ceremony, placing Bro. Forss in the chair as W.M. Bro. Forss went through the formal investiture of his Officers. Bro. C. Lorkin worked the third and fourth sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Butt, of Lodge 1623, was elected a member. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Wallington for the efficient manner he had worked the ceremony. Bro. Williams was elected W.M. for Tuesday evening, 7th August. Next Tuesday will be the privilege night for the Secretary to fill the chair.

St. Michael's Lodge of Instruction, No. 211.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 24th inst., at the George Tavern, Australian-avenue, Barbican, E.C. Present—Bros. W. E. Young W.M., W. Radcliffe Treas. S.W., Jaques J.W., A. Withers Preceptor,

W. W. Morgan Sec., Peirce S.D., Brasted J.D. Lodge having been formally opened, the minutes were put to the meeting and duly confirmed. The W.M. having expressed his desire to rehearse the ceremony of raising, the Lodge was advanced, and Bro. Brasted offering himself as candidate, the customary test of merit was communicated, and on the Lodge being further advanced, the third ceremony was performed. The Lodge was, in due course, closed to the first degree, and an announcement was made that at the next meeting of the Lodge of Instruction the Officers of the mother Lodge would assume the positions which they there fill. It is to be hoped that they will be well supported. Another feature in connection with the meeting which should call for a large assembly is the fact that the ballot will be brought into requisition to decide who shall be entitled to rank as Life Subscribers to our Charities by means of the Association formed in connection with this Lodge of Instruction. It is expected that three Life Subscriptions will be disposed of in this manner, and as by the rules of the Association it is not necessary to pay up back subscriptions, it will offer a good opportunity for brethren wishing to qualify. The one subscription, payable next Thursday, will entitle to a participation in the ballot. Names of new members, and subscriptions, together with any particulars, may be had of the Hon. Sec. of the Association, Bro. W. W. Morgan jun., 67 Barbican, E.C. Country brethren are solicited to become members.

Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction, No. 1298.—A meeting was held on Friday, 18th July, at the Alwyne Castle, Canonbury. Present—Bros. Byng W.M., Mendelsohn S.W., Chant J.W., G. H. Hunter Secretary *pro tem*, Beattie S.D., Rowley J.D., Shackell P.M. Preceptor *pro tem*, Potter I.G.; Sheffield, Young, Ager, Rowe P.M., Eldridge P.M., Pierdon and Field. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Pierdon candidate. The Lodge was closed in the third degree, and the W.M. worked the first section of the second lecture. The Lodge was closed in the second degree, and the fourth section of the first lecture was worked by the W.M. A letter was read from Bro. Lardner, giving a list of the members of the West Smithfield Lodge of Instruction who will work the Fifteen Sections here next Friday; the Secretary took the opportunity to request the members to master strongly, and give their Visitors a hearty welcome, and announced that the Lodge would meet at 7, instead of at 8 o'clock, on that occasion.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. Pavitt's, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, Tuesday, July 22nd. Present—Bros. P.M. Musto W.M., P.M. Cundick S.W., Shepherd W.M. 1349 J.W., E. T. Worsley Sec. This being the fourth Tuesday in the month, in accordance with the announcement we made last week, sections only were worked. The Lodge was opened in the three degrees, and closed down to the first, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The sections were then worked by the following brethren:—Bros. Spencer first, Watkins second, Johnson fourth, Shepherd fifth, Cundick sixth, Andrews seventh; Rawe eighth, Keable ninth, Pavitt tenth, and Smith eleventh. There not being time to work the remainder, the Lodge resumed, when the following brethren were unanimously elected members—Bros. Burleton S.D. 860 and J.W. 1681, J. W. Hunt 1716, Captain Dart 214, Still 860, and Stone 541. In addition to those already named, there were present Bros. Barker, Ellis 860, Ellis, Butler, White, Sadler, &c. One of the visitors from the West End (Bro. Burleton) stated several others had arranged to accompany him, but the weather not being all that was desired they were prevented. He hoped, however, to see them next week, when Bro. P.M. Wallington 860 will work the Installation ceremony, commencing at 7.20. We shall do ourselves the pleasure of attending. Bro. Pavitt will be W.M. for the ensuing week. The Lodge was then closed, after which some friends of the host entertained the brethren with some beautiful music and capital singing. Several of the brethren assisted, and this caused a very pleasant evening to be spent. All departed highly gratified. Tuesday the 29th inst. will be set apart for the rehearsal of the Installation Ceremony.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—The fortnightly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Feathers, Ealing, on Thursday, the 17th inst., when there was a numerous gathering of the brethren to support Bro. Seward in the chair. The Officers were:—Bros. Seward jun. W.M., Rickwood S.W., Burr J.W., Ganner S.D., Green J.D., Wright I.G., Tucker Preceptor; Bros. Forree, Wells, Youens, Clark, Porter, Maling, Woolmer, &c., &c. After the opening of the Lodge, and the confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, the W.M. announced his intention of rehearsing the ceremony of raising, and opened the Lodge in the second degree. Bro. Youens having volunteered as a candidate, was interrogated in the usual questions, and the Lodge having been advanced to the third degree, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed in the usual careful and impressive manner for which Bro. Seward is well known. The Lodge was closed down to the first degree, when after some conversation it was decided to defer the Annual Banquet until the last Thursday in August, instead of holding it on the last Thursday in this month. Bro. Rickwood will be the W.M. at the next meeting, on the 31st inst., when we hope that there will be a good attendance of the brethren to support him.

WIMBLEDON MEETING.—The prize annually given by Messrs. Felton and Sons, proprietors of the "Spécialité" Sherry, has been this year awarded to Major Young, 39th Middlesex Rifles.

VALLEY FORGE.

FROM THE "KEYSTONE."

IT gives us pleasure to spread before our readers the following interesting address, which was delivered by Bro. Michael Nisbet, R.W. Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, at Valley Forge, on the day of its dedication as a Public Park, 19th June 1879, being the 101st anniversary of the evacuation of Valley Forge by the army of Bro. Gen. George Washington:—

Brothron,—In the days when Freemasons were few in number, they were confined to distinguished architects and operative masons. But in course of time, as the fame of the Fraternity became more widely extended, the lovers of learning and the friends of humanity were attracted to its ranks; and the noble and wealthy also eagerly seeking to become initiates, the Society became numerous, and ceasing, from these accessions, to be strictly operative, became symbolic.

Though thus changing its character, it still retained its intimate connection with architecture and the mechanic arts, and for this reason it has, from time immemorial, been customary on the part of those who desire the commencement or completion of any great public enterprise or undertaking to be attended with proper pomp and solemnity, to request our honourable and ancient Fraternity to take part in the proceedings.

Such an occasion is the present one. A number of public-spirited citizens have purchased these grounds for the purpose of maintaining them as a public park for ever, and when requested by the proper authorities to lay a corner-stone in this ancient and memorable building, we willingly acceded to the request, as it was not only in keeping with the ancient usages of Freemasonry, but it was also in keeping with another duty of the Craft, that of perpetuating and cherishing the memories of the worthy dead.

We are here, to-day, to perform our duty as Masons, in laying a corner-stone; we are here to assist in the ceremony intended for ever to perpetuate a memorable instance in the history of our country; and we are here to pay by our presence a tribute to the memory of the wise statesman, the brave soldier, the zealous patriot, and the true Mason—George Washington—whom this Grand Lodge delighted to honour while he lived, and to whom it dedicated its first constitution, "In Testimony, as well of his exalted Services to his Country, as of that noble Philanthropy which distinguishes him among Masons."

This spot has been made memorable as the place of encampment of the American army during the winter of 1777 and 1778. On the 11th day of December in the former year, it commenced its march for this place. Worn out by harassing and tiresome marches, and a life of continual hardship and danger during a campaign of four months, they were in the most deplorable condition. Without the commonest necessities of life, without clothing to protect them from the inclemency of the weather—many of them having nothing but rags to cover them, and numbers of them without shoes to their feet as they marched over the frozen ground—eight long weary days were passed in reaching their destination, the ground over which they passed being marked by the blood from their lacerated feet. It has been said of them that they appeared more like a set of mendicants than the defenders of the liberties of their country. Here, among the snow-clad hills, they lay down in their dreary camp, to contend with hunger, cold and wretchedness in every form. Their hardships and sufferings were sufficient to subdue the spirit of the bravest patriot heart, but, sustained by the immortal Washington—whom they loved and venerated—the existence of the camp was maintained through the gloomiest period of our Revolutionary war, and until he marched them forth to victory. Nothing in the history of the world surpasses the sublime heroism which animated and sustained these men during those trying times; their sufferings and hardships have endeared the spot to every American heart, and its preservation as a public park, for ever, will serve to transmit to posterity an incentive to emulate their patience and endurance, whenever the liberties of our country may be imperilled.

To this place also a Masonic tradition is attached. The early records of our Grand Lodge are lost, so that we cannot ascertain its correctness now, but as it is well known that warrants were granted during the Revolutionary War for Military Lodges, it is probably true. It is, that while our troops were here encamped, a Lodge was held in this building, in which, during that memorable winter, Lafayette—to whom the gratitude of our people is eminently due for his services to our country, and whom our Grand Lodge, in admiration of his high and various virtues, and for the attachment he had uniformly evinced for our liberties and happiness, honoured by creating him one of its members—was made a Mason by Washington. Here it seems that these two congenial minds, amidst the arduous duties of the camp, found gratification in the exchange of fraternal confidence and in performing the duties of the Lodge. This incident adds to our interest in this place.

When we look upon this fertile valley, and the hills by which it is surrounded, teeming with the industry of a happy, contented and independent people, who owe their present condition to the efforts of these worthy brethren, with what a feeling of overwhelming gratitude we recall the memories of the past!

No soaring monument, no imposing shaft, is necessary, to endear them to us; their services to our country, their devotion to Masonic principles, their practice of every true Masonic virtue, are engraved upon our hearts. We gratefully and affectionately recall them this day.

Masonic jests and stories are too commonly of vulgar character. Our Maker has given us the sense of mirth, and the gift of laughter, but to prostitute good humour to indecency is beastly.

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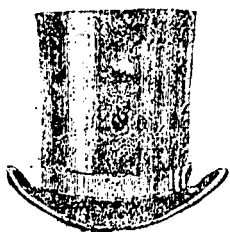
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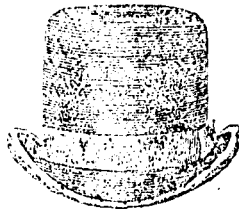
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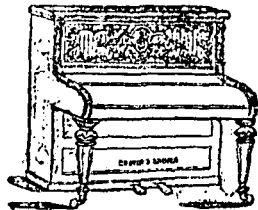
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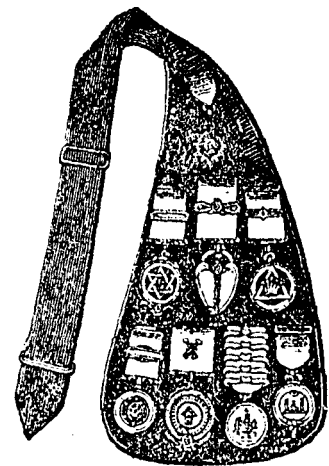
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