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OUR TWELFTH VOLUME.

WITH the present number we enter on our Twelfth Volume, and under the circumstances we feel justified in glancing back at the past which, thanks to the ever-increasing support of our many friends, we have had the good fortune to surmount, and at the same time to take a survey, as far as possible, of the future before us. We can say with honest pride that, as far as it has been possible, we have fulfilled the conditions we imposed on ourselves at first starting. We have endeavoured to furnish the latest and best intelligence it was in our power to obtain. We have striven on all occasions to be strictly impartial. We have neither hastily adopted nor as hastily surrendered the views we may have thought most satisfactory on this or that point; at the same time we have felt it to be our duty to retire with the best grace possible from any position we may have believed or ascertained to be untenable. We have studiously avoided saying anything which could, even with the most perverse ingenuity, be twisted into something personal, while, among our numerous correspondents, though it has been no new experience for us to discover the impossibility of pleasing all, we believe we may take upon ourselves to say we have succeeded in contenting the majority. So much for the past. As regards the future which lies before us,—we shall pursue the same policy, in the firm belief that, as it has enabled us to overcome thus far the difficulties attendant on all journalistic projects at the outset, so it will carry us to a more advanced stage, when the constituency we shall address will be still more numerous and, if possible, accept our views more readily. And, in order to arrive at this desirable consummation, we shall, as a matter of course, lose no chance of making our columns as attractive as possible. Having said this, we introduce to our friends and patrons the opening number of our Twelfth Volume in the hope they will be, as heretofore, both kind to any virtues we may possess, as well as blind to our faults.

THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE last of the Annual Festivals of our three Institutions—that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys—will be held on Thursday next, the 1st July, under the presidency of the Right Honourable the Earl of Lathom, Deputy Grand Master of England and Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire. The place selected for the gathering is the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, and the arrangements will be, in their main features, such as they have been in recent years, when the Festival has taken place at the Alexandra Palace. Then the brethren will appear in plain morning dress without Masonic insignia of any kind, and the festive board will be graced by the presence of numerous ladies, so that given a thorough July day, a well-ordered menu served by experienced caterers, and the never-failing attractions of this beautiful neighbourhood, the occasion ought to be a most successful one. Moreover, there is a conjunction of other circumstances which induces in us the belief that the Eighty-second Anniversary Festival of this Institution will be productive of financial results in excess of those achieved at any of its previous Festivals, nor are we indiscreetly sanguine in suggesting that even the brilliant successes of Bros. Terry and

Hedges may in this instance be surpassed. True, the much talked of revival of trade has not proved as considerable as had been expected, but Bro. Binckes has the satisfaction of being able to point to a Board of Stewards of unusual strength, both numerically and individually. The President of this Board is a host in himself, being none other than R.W. Bro. Le Gendre Starkie P.G.M. of East Lancashire. The acting Vice Presidents include Lord Cremorne, of Friendship No. 6, and Bros. J. Wordsworth, J. A. Rucker, President of the Colonial Board; H. Brooks Marshall, Clement R. N. Beswicke-Royds, and Lieut.-Col. Somerville Burney, all tried Masonic veterans, who have proved their worth on many a festive field day. The Hon. Treasurer is Bro. J. G. Stevens, who is likewise a veteran of some distinction, while Bro. Binckes does duty in the two-fold capacity of Secretary to the Institution and Secretary to the Board, so that with the promised services of some 280 additional brethren to uphold the cause of "Our Boys," we feel at liberty to indulge the hope that the Festival of Wednesday next will be a brilliant success. Nor is this by any means a rash speculation, when we bear in mind who and what manner of man it is who will preside. The Earl of Lathom is not only influential by reason of his position as Deputy Grand Master of England, but he has at his back one of the strongest of our Provinces. West Lancashire has on its roll upwards of eighty Lodges. Liverpool alone has thirty-two Lodges, and Preston, Lancaster, Wigan, Warrington, and other towns can point with pride to the firm hold which Freemasonry has established on them. At the last Festival at which the noble Earl, then Lord Skelmersdale, presided, his Province most liberally supported him, but we have grown accustomed to far larger amounts since then, and we may anticipate that the Western Division of Lancashire will leave no stone unturned to surpass, if possible, the brilliant result achieved by the Eastern Division, when Col. Starkie, its Provincial chief, took the chair at last year's Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and that Province sent up eighty-one Stewards, who raised among them upwards of £3,500 as their joint contributions towards a total of over £14,300. It is hardly possible, or were it the case, it would not be just, to expect that the chiefs of our largest Provinces, such as the two divisions of Lancashire and West Yorkshire, should monopolise among them the presidency on these occasions, but when they do find an opportunity for occupying the chair at one of our Festivals we naturally anticipate more brilliant results than usual. It is doing no injustice, even in thought, to a Province which can muster only some twenty or thirty Lodges when in its case we limit our anticipations to a few hundreds. When a small Province takes the lead we must look to other causes and in other directions in order to supplement the good work which it is doing to the best of its ability.

Then there are other circumstances to be taken into account. While the aggregate standard of contributions to our three Institutions may be, as nearly as possible, maintained from year to year, there is the possibility, amounting almost to a certainty, that the contributions to each of them, taken separately, will fluctuate. Thus, in 1877, the Boys' School, as regards the total of its subscription list, stood in the first place, the Benevolent was second, and the Girls' School third; in 1878, the Benevolent was first, the Boys' School second, and the Girls' School last; while, in 1879, the Benevolent was first, the Girls' School second, and the Boys' School third. In the case of the present year Brother Binckes may

find himself first, second, or third, but Brother Hedges must be either first or second, and Brother Terry either second or third. Here, then, it will be seen, the fluctuations in the positions held by the several Institutions are considerable as from one year to another, and it would appear to be Bro. Binckes's turn to occupy the first or second place on the list. However, a few days will suffice to determine this point, and therefore it is needless to pursue it further. One important consideration, however, must not be lost sight of. We refer to the fact of the permanent income of this School being considerably below that of either of its sister Institutions. That of the Benevolent exceeds £2,600 per annum, while that of the Girls' School, though a long way behind that sum, is, after all its recent outlay in the erection of additional premises and the purchase of Lyncombe House, still greatly in excess of the Boys' School income in this particular. This will be shown more particularly if we remind our readers that when it was resolved on building a new School at Wood Green for the accommodation of one hundred boys, —there are now over two hundred clothed, fed, and educated—the whole of the funded Stock, amounting to £13,100, was sold in order to assist in defraying the cost. This funded Stock has been replaced to the extent of £10,000, so that there yet remains a sum of £3,100 to be made good in order to bring this portion of the School's resources to what it was some eighteen years ago. If we turn to the Benevolent, which is the youngest of the three Charities, we find that while in May 1862 the invested moneys amounted to little short of £22,000, they now exceed £57,000; and, as we have said, there is an excess, though not so considerable as in the case of the Benevolent, on the part of the Girls' School in this respect over that of the Boys' School. Here, then, is a principal ground on which to rest our advocacy of the Boys' School in the present year, namely, because it is weakest in what should be one of its strongest points—its permanent resources. Its responsibilities are very great. Nearly the whole of the £10,000 which is required to defray the actual cost, to say nothing of the respectable balance there ought to be always in hand to meet unforeseen contingencies, must be raised annually by the voluntary contributions of the Craft. At the time to which we have gone back for the purpose of this comparison, the permanent income of the School was rather over than under the one-fourth part of its total income, which was about £2,000; now it may be somewhat over the one-twentieth part. This is a feature which we trust will not be without its influence on the result of next Thursday's Festival.

We have now touched on most, if not all, of the leading points in connection with the approaching anniversary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys—the last that will be held in the current year—and as we have said, it is not without many and substantial reasons that we are hopeful of a more than usually triumphant success. There is a deservedly popular President for the day, with one of our strongest Provinces to back him up. There is a strong body of Stewards, which in point of numbers has been rarely exceeded, and which includes the names of several of our representative Masons. It is about time that, in the natural order of things, Bro. Binckes should come to the front once again, and lastly, but chief reason of all, there is serious need why the permanent resources of the School should be increased. May our hopes be realised on one and all of these grounds!

ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

THE APPROACHING BAZAAR AND FANCY FAIR.

DURING the whole of the four days of next week, beginning with Tuesday and ending with Friday, the Freemasons' Tavern will be given up to a Bazaar and Fancy Fair in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund. This Fund, which owes its origin to certain views expressed by the Earl of Rosslyn, Past Grand Master Mason of Scotland, when presiding last year at the Annual Festival of the Boys' School, has thus far proved a great success, chiefly through the unwearied exertions of its Honorary Secretary, Bro. Dick

Radelyffe, who has laboured as few men know how to labour, in order to secure the means necessary for giving practical effect to his lordship's suggestion. So energetically has he worked, that the Fund appeals to the support of the whole Craft, under auspices such as Bro. Radelyffe, even in the utmost fervour of his enthusiasm, could hardly have anticipated. It has secured the patronage of His Royal Highness the Grand Master, and his brothers the Duke of Connaught, Past Grand Senior Warden, and Prince Leopold, Past Grand Junior Warden and Prov. Grand Master Oxon. Pro Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. Grand Master Somersetshire, has lent the influence of his name to the scheme, as also has the Deputy Grand Master the Earl of Lathom, Prov. Grand Master West Lancashire, who has taken an active part in the preliminary steps in connection with the Fund, and will show himself in a still more prominent capacity on Tuesday next. With these are associated the Duke of Abercorn, Grand Master of Ireland, Sir M. R. Shaw-Stewart, Bart., Grand Master Mason of Scotland, the Earl of Rosslyn, Past Grand Master of Scotland, who has taken, and will again take, a foremost place in the organisation of the Fund; the Chiefs of, including those already mentioned, over twenty Masonic Provinces—some of them Scotch—and the Deputy Chiefs of as many more, together with a strong array of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers Past and Present; and numerous influential brethren in the metropolis and in the country. Indeed, five-eighths of the English Provinces are represented by their respective Prov. Grand Masters and Deputy Prov. Grand Masters—one or other or both of them; so that the extent and distribution of the patronage shown augurs well not only for the success of next week's proceedings at Freemasons' Hall, but, what is still more important, for the future of the Fund. It will be strange, indeed, if, after next week and all these promises of support, the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund does not find itself a most tangible entity when the Bazaar and Fancy Fair held in its aid are events of the past.

The opening ceremony, which is fixed for one p.m. on Tuesday, will be attended with some pomp and circumstance, and will be carried out by the Earls of Lathom and Rosslyn, accompanied by their respective Countesses, while the Lord Mayor, Sir F. Wyatt Truscott, Grand Junior Warden, and the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex are to attend in state. During the ceremony a concert will be given under the direction of Bro. C. King-Hall. The patronesses include, in addition to the two ladies we have named, the Duchess of Athole, the Countess Sidney Inverurie, the Viscountess Doneraile, the Ladies Richard Grosvenor, Henniker, Arthur Hill, Mary Wilbraham Egerton, Londesborough, Daniel Gooch, H. St. John Halford, Ridley, F. Perkins, the Baroness Ferrières, and the Lady Mayoress, as well as Madame Fontaine-Besson, Mrs. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Mrs. C. J. Martyn, Mrs. T. W. Tew, Mrs. Gambier, Mrs. Langtry, Mrs. Cornwallis-West, &c. As for the entertainments which will be given, there will be no lack of them; indeed their number is legion, and the chief difficulty which the visitor will experience will doubtless be to see and enjoy them all, if his mind is a comprehensive one and his energy and the time at his disposal proportionate; or if the height of his ambition is less formidable, to discover which of the entertainments he can venture to leave unnoticed so as to experience the minimum loss of enjoyment. We have already mentioned the concert during the opening ceremony under Bro. C. King-Hall's direction. In addition an Orchestral Band, under Bro. W. J. Kent, will play selections in the large Hall from three to five p.m. daily. A series of Recitals will be given under the direction of Bros. Edward Terry and Walter Joyce, who will be assisted by Bros. Charles Warner, Soutar, McLean, Charles Tinney, Messrs. Harry Paulton, Edward Righton, James Fernandez, Miss Violet Cameron, Miss Nelly Farren, Mrs. Keely, &c. The name of the last mentioned lady may be singled out for special notice without the slightest chance of exciting any feeling of jealousy on the part of the other artists. She is known to the present generation only by repute, as a veteran actress of years gone by, who was almost, if not quite, without a rival in the class of characters she essayed. Only on rare occasions has she emerged from the life of retirement she has chosen to live for many years, so that the compliment she pays the Fraternity by assisting Bro. Terry is all the more worthy of our appreciation. Those who have enjoyed the good fortune of hear-

ing her will welcome her momentary return as it deserves to be welcomed; while those who have not had that same privilege will be the more eager to see a lady who in her day was among the brightest lights of the English stage. Besides these, there are concerts without number, by Bros. Lehmyer, Wilhelm Ganz P.G.O., and Augustus Tamplin; entertainments by Bro. George Buckland, Bro. Chaplin Henry, Bro. Seymour-Smith; vocal and instrumental music by the Pupils' Band and Choir of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; entertainments by the Royal Poland Street and Aquarium Handbell Ringers; a series of amusements and a surprise Aquarium by Bro. Cremer jun.; a Drawing room entertainment by Dr. Lynn; magic lantern entertainments by Bro. Middleton. Professor Faber's Talking Machine will exhibit its powers of conversation; a reception will be given—by the kind permission of Bro. Professor Millar—by Bro. General Tom Thumb, Commodore Knott, Miss Nellie Millar, and party, and there will be a Fine Art Gallery open under the superintendence of Bro. John Constable, as well as a special Stall furnished by Mr. Bland with a great variety of conjuring tricks, suitable for juveniles and adults. Those, however, who wish for a complete list of the different entertainments which will be provided must turn to the Supplement we publish this week, and there they will find the needful information. One name, however, we have passed over—that of the brilliant mistress of song, Mdle. Zaré Thalberg, who has kindly consented to sing during the gathering. As to the stalls, we understand they will be furnished with an infinite variety of attractive articles, while the "fun of the fair" will no doubt be continuous and hearty. The Bazaar Committee is a strong one, and with Bros. J. Constable as Chairman, Dick Radclyffe for Manager, Rev. C. J. Martyn Treasurer, S. Rosenthal President, and G. H. Stephens Vice President, of Stewards, James Stevens Director of Hall and Stall arrangements, R. G. Thomas, manager of New Sadler's Theatre, Director of Entertainments, and W. W. Morgan jun. as Secretary, will, we do not for a moment hesitate to say, be in a position, when all is over, to give an eminently satisfactory account of its arduous labours.

But a description of the approaching series of entertainments, without some explanation of the objects for which they are given would be necessarily incomplete. We have, however, so recently explained these objects, that a mere recapitulation of them must suffice on the present occasion. Indeed, they are sufficiently explained by the title to the Fund, which clearly demonstrates that its promoters are resolved, not on establishing, as many feared would be the case, a Fourth Masonic Charitable Institution, but a supplement to two of those already in existence, namely, the Boys' and Girls' Schools. Lord Rosslyn, when he presided at last year's Festival of the Boys' School, threw out a very practical suggestion to the effect that, while the education and treatment of the Boys were, to the best of his judgment, most creditable to the executive and the educational staff, a certain something was needed in order to complete the good work being done. Many of the pupils on leaving school are friendless, and without the means of turning the education they have received to account; and his Lordship expressed his belief that it would be well if there were some fund provided, out of which meritorious pupils so circumstanced could be assisted. Hence this Fund, the objects of which have now been clearly defined to be (1) "To assist Boys and Girls leaving the Masonic Schools in procuring situations, &c.;" (2) "To advance small amounts to aid in the purchase of tools, outfits, &c., and assist in obtaining apprenticeships, &c." After providing for the administration of the Fund, which is to be vested in "the hands of a Committee to be formed from the existing Committees of the Scholastic Institutions," with power to add to their number, as well as for an annual Report and Audit, the Interim Committee, appointed to make the necessary arrangements for carrying out the objects of the Fund, express their confident belief that it "will not necessitate a fourth Charity; on the contrary, it is to serve as a supplementary Fund to be dispensed by the Committee." There can now, therefore, be not the slightest doubt it is intended to be altogether subsidiary, and that it will only take cognisance of, and deal with, cases of deserving pupils who, on leaving school, find themselves friendless and without the means to procure situations. Yet there would appear to be those who, in the teeth of this statement, believe as firmly as ever that it is in contemplation to establish a fourth Charity. However, it is not worth while to put their opinions in the scale against the statements made by

a Committee which includes the Deputy Grand Master of England, the Past Grand Master of Scotland, the Right Hon. Lord Brooke, M.P., the Prov. Grand Master of Berks and Bucks, and other prominent brethren. The latter are in a position to know what are the purposes for which it is intended the Fund should be established; while the former, with nothing but their own vague opinions to guide them, are taking upon themselves the very unusual, and at the same time most ungraceful, part of calling in question statements made public with all the authority which belongs to gentlemen occupying some of the highest positions attainable in the Craft. We leave to these critics the somewhat difficult task of reconciling their opposition in its present form with the usages of society. It is one thing to misapprehend a person's meaning and intention, but it is an unpardonable sin to think of rejecting a statement as clear as language can possibly define it. It is not too late, however, for this unwise opposition to be withdrawn, and we are sure none will more readily forget it was ever offered than those who have laboured most assiduously in the attempt to establish this Fund, and who are consequently the very people whose purpose and motives have been so unreasonably called in question.

We have now explained for the second or third time the objects of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund. We have drawn attention to the distinguished and influential patronage it is receiving in all directions, and we have enumerated, as far as space would permit or circumstances may have rendered expedient, the principal entertainments which are held out to the brethren and the ladies who may "assist" at the Bazaar and Fancy Fair of next week in furtherance of the proposed scheme. It may be some will object that Fancy Fairs and Bazaars savour too strongly of the vanities of life. We shall not complain. We should have been prepared for something in the way of opposition, if it had been proposed to give a series of lectures on abstruse scientific subjects, an elaborate dinner, or a concert of vocal and instrumental music. It is the accompaniment of every project which is started. This, however, we will say—that we do not know of a better or more popular kind of entertainment for a purpose of this description than a Bazaar and Fancy Fair, singly or combined. Whenever it is proposed to adopt some pleasant plan for bringing people together with a view to promoting some charitable object a Bazaar or Fair is almost immediately suggested. Every one directly or indirectly interested in its success can take part in it. The fair dames and damsels in charge of stalls have rare opportunities of dispensing their wares and persuasive smiles, and if there is ever any slight hesitation in purchasing the former, there is no resisting the eloquence of the latter. Music, too—we have more than once heard—hath charms to soothe the savage breast, and there is so much of this promised us in connection with this particular Fête that, if any one in returning home from his visit to Freemasons' Tavern, has even the slightest savagery left in his composition he ought to be heartily ashamed of himself. In short, the arrangements, as far as it is possible to judge from the general terms of the programme set forth, seem calculated to afford pleasure to every possible variety of taste. And, given fine weather such as is usually hoped for, if not reckoned on, at this season of the year, the Bazaar and Fair in aid of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund should prove a success among Masonic successes, and these we all know have been both many and considerable. We close these remarks with the expression of our heartiest good wishes for the success of the entertainments of next week at Freemasons' Hall. May all who have even in the slightest degree contributed towards starting this Fund find their reward in the warm approval of their fellows, as well as in the delightful consciousness of having rendered service to the cause of Masonic Charity!

MEETING OF THE LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

THE June Meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, Bros. Joshua Nunn P.G.S.B. Senior Vice President, S. Rawson P. Dist. G.M. for China, C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P. and W. H. Perryman occupying the respective President's chairs. Recommendations to the amount of £135 made at the May meeting were confirmed at the opening of the Lodge. Out of thirty-three new cases twenty-eight were relieved, with a total sum of £870. Five cases were deferred, on account of not being complete.

REVIEWS.

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All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 23 Great Queen Street, W.C.

The Origin of Masonic Ritual and Tradition as manifested by the Geometrical Design and Symbolism of the Great Pyramid, the Everlasting Pillar, or Temple, of Witness to the Most High. A Lecture by Bro. William Rowbottom, Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 1028. Delivered, by request before the Fermor Hesketh Lodge, No. 1350, in the Masonic Temple, Liverpool, 10th February 1879; the Arboretum Lodge, Derby, No. 731, 13th August 1879; and the Royal Alfred Lodge, Alfreton, No. 1028, 25th February 1880. With Notes and Appendix. Alfreton: Printed and Published by and for the Author, of whom only copies can be obtained. 1880.

It would occupy too much of our space if we entered on a long discussion of the interesting matters which Bro. Rowbottom has considered in these pages. There has been always great diversity of opinion as to the objects which the builders of the Pyramids of Egypt had in view in the erection of those stupendous structures. Many have been wont to consider they were built, partly for religious and partly for sepulchral purposes, others for sepulchral only, and others, again, have held they were raised for astronomical purposes. It is obvious that were we to express any opinion on this dispute a well nigh endless controversy would follow, in which all who devoted any attention to the subject would very naturally claim a hearing. It is manifestly desirable, therefore, that we should do no more than indicate the many singular coincidences which have afforded a basis for Bro. Rowbottom's determination of certain important epochs in the world's history, and the numerous measurements of the great Pyramid on which, in their turn, such coincidences are based. It goes without saying that a study of the Pyramids and inquiries into their purposes will always find a multitude of enthusiasts eager to support this or that theory, and Masons especially give the most anxious attention to whatever may help to elucidate their origin and purpose. Egypt, as one of the earliest, if not the earliest home of civilisation, plays a conspicuous part in our Masonic curriculum, for it is generally—we should say rightly—held that Masonry and civilisation have always moved forward hand in hand together. There is, indeed, a fascination about almost everything relating to ancient Egypt, as well as to the mysteries connected with its government, and the inter-relations of its different castes, that it would have been pardonable if the formulators of our Ritual had connected Egypt and Freemasonry together without any show of reason. But the connection is founded on reason, as most brethren will have no hesitation in admitting; though they may not show Bro. Rowbottom's enthusiasm to the extent of considering the "Origin of Masonic Ritual and Tradition" as being "manifested by the Geometrical Design and Symbolism of the Great Pyramid." Just as we are willing to see a connection between Freemasonry and the teachings of Pythagoras and other philosophers, the objects of both being to inculcate the principles of true morality, so, for the same reason, but without making certain measurements of a pyramid the bases of a new or newly elaborated theory, we are willing to see a connection between the speculative Masonry of to-day and the Egyptian cult of the earlier ages. However, let us turn without further preface to the Lecture, and describe, as set forth in it, the very singular coincidences pointed out by Bro. Rowbottom as existing between the Great Pyramid and much that is familiar to our brethren generally.

Passing over the earlier parallelisms Bro. Rowbottom considers he has established, we note the discovery in 1797 of a socket hole at the N.E. angle sunk in the rock on which the Great Pyramid stands for the reception of the corner-stone, which was found to be larger than those at the other angles. Then the 24-in. gauge or ordinary two-foot rule of the Gothic nations approaches the most nearly to the measures in common use to the sacred cubit, which was estimated by Sir Isaac Newton at nearly 25 inches in length. This 25-in. cubit is the ten-millionth part of the earth's radius—the line from its surface to its centre—and is in the opinion of Sir John Herschel "the purest and most ideally perfect standard" measure imaginable. Moreover, 25 is "the perfect expression, or square, of the number 5," a number of infinite virtue among Jews and Masons. With this standard measure the architect of the Pyramids "laid out its base lines on a square of such a size that it had for its side lengths just so many cubits as there are days in the year, viz.: 365·242." Hence the sacred cubit's length "symbolised a day" and its use in this instance affords a perfect parallel with our symbolical application of the gauge in question. The height was then "determined at such an angle that it should be to the perimeter of the base as the radius of a circle is to its circumference," and "this height raised by 10 in its ninth power gives the distance of the earth from the sun round which it revolves yearly." Moreover, the "sum of the diagonals of the base gives the number 25,827"—which is also "given by the circuit measurement of the Pyramid at the King's Chamber level"—and "25,827 solar years are required to make one year of the heavens and to accomplish the precession of the equinoxes." This "combination of such geometric truths and the expression of now well-known, but long-forgotten natural laws," is held by Bro. Rowbottom to prove not only "that the Master builder of the Pyramid had been instructed in deep mysteries," but also to explain "why Masonry and Geometry were in early days synonymous terms, and why the art of building was held peculiarly sacred by the Egyptian hierarchs." Hence our worthy Brother holds that no F.C. Freemason should regard "the agreement between a geometrically-determined building and the universe itself as a matter of coincidence only."

He next takes into consideration the King's Chamber and the ante-chamber leading to it. The floor length of the latter is "116·26

inches, 103·033 of which are of granite. Now the area of a square with 103·033 for its side length is equal to the area of a circle which has 116·26 for its diameter." Then the length of the King's Chamber is given as "412·132," which, "as the side of a square, represents an area equal to that of a circle with a radius of 232·52—the Great Pyramid's height in cubits," while "412·132 as the diameter represents also a circle equal in area to a square, having for its side lengths 365·242—the Great Pyramid's base lines in cubits." The chamber itself is describable as an "oblong square," and contains a coffer, chest, or sarcophagus, also "remarkable for its geometric properties and its earth commensurability; and more particularly for the double solution therein given of the problem of the 'duplication of the cube.'" Thus, as to "its exterior measures," the "whole cubical contents are double those of the interior, and the solid volume equals its capacity, while the solid contents of its sides are double those of the bottom." It also "sets forth the mean density of the earth as 5·70—a scientific fact, ridiculed when first announced, but now confirmed by independent scientific observation." Its capacity measure is 71,250 inches, equal to that of our old and now disused "chaldron," the fourth "or 'quarter' of which is still our standard measure for corn." It equals also in capacity "the Ark of the Covenant and the brazen lavers of King Solomon's Temple," from which Bro. Rowbottom deduces the lesson that "all the works of wise and rightly instructed Masons are in harmony with the Universe." The form, too, of the whole building, which is that of a perfect pentagon with its five sides and five points, is also held to be suggestive.

The next point on which the author lays stress is that this Pyramid is "on the centre." Thus, "on its line of longitude there is a greater extent of land surface than on any other line of longitude. . . . On its parallel of latitude there is also a greater extent of land surface than on any other. By equal surface projection, it is in the centre of the habitable land surface of the globe, while politically and commercially it stands in the central land of Egypt, the birthplace of the nations, and the earliest home of civilisation." But still more extraordinary is it that the "now accepted Great Pyramid date of 2170 B.C." is, according to Mr. Richard A. Proctor, the "beginning of exact astronomy," which that gentleman determines "by calculating the period at which the Southern Pole would be central with regard to the old Southern Constellations." It was, too, "in this year of the foundation of the Great Pyramid that at midnight of the Autumnal Equinox, when a Draconis was on the meridian below the Pole, that Alcyone, the central star of the Pleiades group"—which in all ages "have been regarded as peculiarly connected with the fates of men"—"and, according to the Rev. Hugh Macmillan, who gives as his authority M. Mädler, of Dorpat, the centre of the whole Universe, was on the meridian above the Pole, and therefore in that year also coincident with the Vernal Equinox. Thus we have the year 2·70 B.C. specially marked by astronomical phenomena, which would not repeat themselves until 25,827 years had run their course." And as the ancients associated the beginning of the year with these Pleiades, and dated it from the Vernal Equinox, the origin of the custom must have dated from the time "when the Spring Equinox was coincident with the noon-culmination of the seven stars—that is, when the sun and the seven stars were on the meridian at the same moment;" and "such was the noon-day of the Spring Equinox in the year of the building of the Pyramid—when the centre of the Earth; the sun, the centre of our solar system; and Alcyone, the reputed centre of the Universe, were on a line." This important fact "was ascertained by the architect of the Pyramid by reference to the heavens at midnight of the Autumnal Equinox," or, as the author, quoting Professor Piazzi Smith, puts it in a note, "by observing the anti-sun, or the point of the heavens opposite the sun at midnight. Wherefore, his time of the year for making his observations of those Taurus stars (the Pleiades), which the sun is amongst in the spring, is evidently in the autumn."

We have now sufficiently described the views of the author on the subject of his interesting, yet abstruse, lecture. We wish we could have found space for carrying it further, and pointing out more clearly his parallelisms as they affect our Ritual. Our readers, however, do not need that we should be more explicit, and had we pursued our sketch to the end, we should have deprived them of the opportunity of discovering for themselves points of interest to which they were entire strangers. For ourselves, we can only repeat what we have stated at the outset, that the Lecture is well worth carefully studying by those who are versed in Masonic Symbolism. We trust Bro. Rowbottom will find a sufficient number of appreciative readers to justify his further pursuit of other abstruse questions, for the unravelling of, or attempt to unravel which, he seems to possess a most commendable aptitude.

It is with great pleasure we beg to announce that, at an emergency meeting, recently held, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire, the sum of Five Hundred Guineas was voted out of the Benevolent Fund of the Province towards the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. As the sum of one hundred and fifty guineas had previously been voted from the General Fund towards the same purpose, the Province of West Lancashire has evidently determined on making the presidency of its respected and popular Chief a grand success. A total of six hundred and fifty guineas out of Prov. Grand Lodge Funds looks like a "big thing," in aid of the Earl of Lathom's powerful advocacy of the cause of "Our Boys," on Thursday next.

NORTH AFRICA.

THE closing meetings of the various English Masonic bodies in the Regency of Tunis have taken place with much success, and all work is now virtually suspended till the early part of October. The last meeting of the "Ancient Carthage" Lodge was held on the 9th June. The W.M. Dr. Perini D.G.S.W. presided, and there was a large attendance of members and visitors. The Masons of Malta were represented by W. Bros. W. Read P.M. 407 D.G. Reg. and C. Thompson W.M. and Z. 387 I.C. At this meeting the Baron Constantine D'Ortes was initiated, and Bro. Danmas passed to the F.C. degree. The Permanent Committee reported a balance of nearly £100 in hand, that about £20 had been dispensed in charity, and that the disbursements for refreshment during the year were nil. The present number of active members is seventy-four, divided as to nationality as follows, viz.:—English 14, French 26, Italian 25, Greek 1, German 1, Portuguese 1, and Tunisian 6. The distribution as to Creed is also given, viz., Roman Catholics 37, Protestants 7, Israelites 28, Greek Church 1, and Muhamedan 1. The utmost harmony prevails in the Lodge, which will soon enter on its fourth year of existence. On Friday, the 11th inst., the installation meeting of the "William Kingston" Lodge, at the Goletta, took place. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Barker D.G.S.D. and his Officers, at 7 p.m., assisted by a full attendance of members. A handsome banner, bearing the heraldic emblems of Ancient Carthage, was unfurled for the first time. At the request of the W.M., Bro. W. Read P.D.G.R. assumed the gavel and installed Bro. Broadley P.M. and Z. 1717 P.D.D.G.M. in the chair of K.S., being assisted by W. Bros. T. F. Reade P.D.D.G.M. Egypt, Dr Perini W.M. 1717, and Barker P.M. 1835. The usual salutes having been given, complimentary speeches were made by the above-named brethren, as well as by Bro. Soniller S.W. 1717. The W.M., with appropriate remarks, invested the following Officers, viz.:—Bros. Barker I.P.M., Carletto S.W., Engerer J.W., Darazzano Treasurer, Ayra Secretary, Villareale D. of C., Attard S.D., Vaux J.D., D'Amico I.G., and Pegano Tyler. A very satisfactory report having been received from the Audit Committee, the brethren and visitors adjourned to the refreshment room, where the installation banquet took place. On the following evening the Masonic Hall at Tunis was the scene of the installation meeting of the Kingston Mark Lodge, No. 222. W. Bro. Pentecost opened his Lodge at 6.30 p.m., there being a satisfactory attendance of Officers and members, including the P.G.M. W. Bro. Read P.M. 107, W.M. 262, and P.G.S.W., and W. Bro. Thompson W.M. 387 (I.C. Craft and Mark) represented the English and Irish Mark Masters of Malta, and Bro. Vaux the St. Louis Lodge, No. 254, at Goletta. A ballot for two candidates resulted satisfactorily, and the P.G.M. advanced Bro. Chevalier to the degree of M.M.M. The ceremony completed, Bro. Broadley addressed the members as to the progress of the Lodge in particular, and the Mark Degree in general, since the consecration of the former two years previously. There were now seventy active Mark Masters in Tunis, and he trusted that under the incoming W.M. this prosperity would continue and increase. Bro. Perini was then duly presented in the East, and installed in the chair of A. He then invested the following Officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. Pentecost I.P.M., Soniller S.W., Le Gallais J.W., Clement M.O., Bokobsa S.O., Sessing J.O., Barsotti Treasurer, Audry Sec., Chaigne S.D., Carriglio J.D., Pollinelly D. of C., Chevalier R.M., Captain Johnston Organist, A. Casato I.G., and Eymon Tyler. A very hearty salute was accorded to the P.G.M., who had himself advanced to the Mark Degree upwards of sixty brethren in this Lodge alone. Bros. Read and Thompson addressed the brethren on the merits of the degree, and the latter observed that the Grand Chapter of Ireland would be proud of such working as he had witnessed in Tunis. The charitable collection having been made, the Lodge was formally adjourned till October, and the brethren repaired to an hotel, where their annual banquet was enjoyed, alike by members and visitors, the P.G.M. occupying the presidential chair.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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BUCKINGHAM LODGE, No. 591.

THE Annual Festival was held on 16th inst., at the George Hotel, Aylesbury. Present:—Bros. T. W. Robinson W.M., L. Ponton S.W., R. B. Bateman J.W., T. Horwood P.M. Treas., J. Williams P.M. Sec., H. Jowett S.D., J. D. Coates J.D., J. Lawson P.M. D.C., S. K. Page Steward, G. Stratton I.G., T. Cheshire Tyler. Past Masters, Bros. Rev. O. J. Grace P.P.G. Chaplain, S. G. Payne. Visitors:—Rev. J. Studholme Browning P. Grand Chaplain, Dep. P.G.M. Berks and Bucks, Henry Willis W.M. 948, Major Kim P.M. 591. Bro. T. W. Robinson, who has filled the office during the past year, was re-installed into the chair. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Rev. J. S. Browning. The Officers, as above, were invested, and addressed by the Installing Master, who performed the ceremony with his usual ability and precision. There was no business of any importance to be transacted, as this Lodge generally arranges that nothing beyond the ceremony of Installation shall be performed on the day of the Annual Festival, thus giving brethren who live at a distance (of whom there is a large proportion) time to stay to the banquet, and leave for their homes by the last train. The Lodge adjourned to refreshment in the banquetting room, where the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. A very enjoyable evening was spent, enlivened by glees, songs, and recitations from various members of the Lodge.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE, No. 1158.

THE installation meeting of this well established Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Present:—Bros. R. S. Smith W.M., R. Harris S.W., A. Stewart J.W., A. Wright P.M. Treasurer, T. H. Pulsford P.M. Secretary, R. Fortune S.D., Holloway J.D., C. H. Wilkes I.G., Austin D.C.; Past Masters Walter, R. Clark, J. Wright, H. Potter, Macdonald, Wise, and a numerous attendance of brethren and visitors. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. J. Anstey (late 1158) was elected a joining member, and Bro. Greenham was raised to the third degree. During the ceremony a hymn was chanted, Bro. Stacey P.P.G.R. Books and Bucks accompanying on the harmonium. The W.M. gave, very impressively, the traditional history. A Board of Installed Masters was opened, and Bro. R. Harris S.W. and W.M. elect was presented, and in the presence of eighteen Worshipful Masters and Past Masters was duly installed into the chair by the retiring W.M. in a manner that well merited the encomiums passed at the conclusion by the brethren and visitors. The addresses were listened to with great attention, and were fully appreciated by all present. On the readmission of the brethren, the customary salutations were given, and the W.M. invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. R. S. Smith I.P.M., Stewart S.W., Fortune J.W., A. Wright P.M. Treasurer, T. H. Pulsford P.M. Secretary (for the eleventh time), Holloway S.D., Wilks J.D., Block I.G., Austin W.S., Edis D.C., Millard Organist, Stead Tyler. The W.M. showed his qualifications for office by the appropriate manner in which he invested his Officers and the applause given on their investiture, showed the Wor. Master had made a happy selection. A ballot having been previously taken for the admission of Mr. T. Spearing, the newly installed W.M. initiated that gentleman into the Order. The report of the Audit Committee was read; it showed the Lodge was in a flourishing state. The Benevolent Fund attached to the Lodge showed a balance of £60 3s 3d. Bro. Wise P.M. stated that Bro. W. H. Sharman, who is a Steward for the Boys' School, has on his list nearly £90, this being his second Stewardship. The Lodge was closed until September, and the brethren, eighty-eight in number, sat down to a very sumptuous banquet and dessert, provided by Bro. Roberts, and superintended by Bro. Yardley, the wines and viands being of first-rate quality. Grace having been said, Bro. Smith said it was the first time he was privileged to occupy the chair as I.P.M., and to propose the health of the Worshipful Master. Those who knew Bro. Harris respected him; he is an old member of the Lodge, and, indeed, had been longer associated with the brethren than he (Bro. Smith). He trusted he might be spared to conduct the duties of the Lodge, and at the conclusion of his year of office the members might say they had elected one they were proud of. The W.M., in reply, thanked Bro. Smith for his kind expressions; he hoped to realise all that worthy brother had given him credit for. It would be a pleasure to him to follow so good an example. After a song from Bro. Barnes, the W.M. proposed the toast of the initiate, who had been introduced by a very old P.M., Bro. Wright; the members were pleased to see him. Bro. Spearing suitably acknowledged this compliment. The toast of the Visitors was next on the list; they were a numerous body, but the members were pleased to see them all. Bro. Walter P.M. here sang very artistically "Simon the Cellarer." Bro. Probyn, No. 11, responded on behalf of the Visitors; he thanked the W.M. for his hospitality; he as well as every other visitor was fully impressed with the working of the Lodge. The W.M. then proposed the health of the I.P.M., remarking how pleased and gratified the brethren were with him; while they had such brethren at the head of affairs, the Lodge must prosper. He had with great pleasure to place on Bro. Smith's breast a jewel; the inscription engraved on it expressed that it should be accepted as a token of the gratitude of the Lodge, a feeling which was reciprocated by each member. Bro. Smith, in thanking the W.M. for his kind expressions, and the brethren for the enthusiastic reception the toast had met with, said he hoped to see many of the members present in time occupy the chair of the Lodge. He felt it a great pleasure, and had worked hard to attain the position of W.M. During his year of office he must say he had felt satisfied; he was now doubly so. While wearing the jewel, he should feel it his bounden duty to do all he could to promote the interests of the members of the Southern Star Lodge. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the P.M.'s; there were nine present—Bros. Pulsford and Wise were both good Preceptors, and had enabled the Lodge to reach its present standard of working. The other P.M.'s were good and worthy brethren, and he hoped to see all of them among them for many years. Bro. Bertolli here sang, and then Bro. Pulsford responded; the P.M.'s were always ready and willing to perform any duties required of them. However, it was a very rare instance in their Lodge when a W.M. did not install his successor. This could only be done by hard work, and he hoped to see the W.M. follow the example of his predecessors. Bro. Wise P.M., in an excellent speech, followed. The Worshipful Master then proposed the toast of the Treasurer and Secretary. These brethren were not only P.M.'s of the Lodge, but it was to them in a great measure the success of the Lodge was to be ascribed. After Bro. Barnes had favoured the company with a song, Bro. Wright acknowledged the compliment, and then the W.M. proposed the toast of the Officers, which having been responded to, the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated after passing a very enjoyable evening. Amongst the Visitors were Bros. C. Glenister 720, G. Morley 1417, L. B. Bower 1310, W. Bray W.M. 1153, J. P. Day 1327, Whaley 172, G. Stacey P.P.G.R. Books and Bucks, J. Wallace 1687, C. N. Harvey P.M. 795, Farwig P.M. 180, Wigglesworth P.M. 975, P. Parsons P.M. 719, Tomkins 1714, J. Phillips 11, H. Probyn 11, Collings 1535, Reimant 1538, Alexander 619, Robins 25, Souchy 1801, Symes 554, A. Eldridge 1535, J. Cross 1644, H. Keeble P.M. 73, 1275, 1559, &c., and H. M. Levy P.M. 183. The Lodge of Instruction attached to this Lodge meets every Thursday evening at Bro. Block's, Crown Tavern, Blackfriars-road, at 8. Bros. T. H. Pulsford and Wise are the Preceptors.

MALLING ABBEY LODGE, No. 1063.

THE annual meeting for the installation of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, was held at the Bear Hotel, West Malling, Kent, on Wednesday the 16th inst. There was a good attendance of the brethren and visitors, including the following:—Bros. E. T. Luck, F. J. C. May, E. B. Smith, W. Page, A. Spencer, B. S. Wilmot, G. Langridge, R. Clout, H. Garrod, J. A. Thornhill, J. Hodgson, W. Monckton, F. Spencer, J. S. Ancomb, G. Friend F. Cheal, A. E. Anderson, B. Norton, N. Paddon, T. Crowe, J. E. Meredith, W. Jude, D. W. Langton, W. S. Monckton, W. B. Langridge, A. M. Dorman, R. B. Stedman, J. Shrubsole, J. Tillyer, and R. Pointer. The Lodge was opened in the usual form by Bro. E. T. Luck W.M., who afterwards vacated the chair, which was then occupied by the installing Master, Bro. B. Sidney Wilmot P.M. P.G.R. Bro. Francis J. C. May, the W.M. elect, who had been unanimously elected to fill that office at the previous meeting of the Lodge, was then presented by Bro. A. Spencer P.M. P.G.S., and was duly installed by Bro. Wilmot, who rendered the ceremony in his usual effective and impressive manner. The newly installed Master then invested the I.P.M., and subsequently his Officers as follow:—Bros. Rev. J. H. Timins, Chaplain, Hon. R. Nevill Treasurer, W. Page Secretary, T. Crowe S.W., J. E. Meredith J.W., G. Friend S.D., W. Jude J.D., W. B. Langridge I.G., D. W. Langton D.C., W. S. Monckton S., and R. Pointer Tyler. The several officers were duly installed by Brother Wilmot, who also gave the Charges to the Master, Wardens, and Brethren. A vote of thanks to Bro. Luck I.P.M., for the able manner in which he had presided during the past year, was proposed by Bro. A. L. Spencer, and carried unanimously. The W.M. (Bro. May) thereupon addressed a few words to Bro. Luck, and on behalf of the Lodge presented him with a Past Master's jewel, which had been previously and unanimously voted to him by the brethren in recognition of his services. After transacting business of the usual formal nature, the Lodge was closed. Subsequently the brethren sat down to a banquet of a *recherché* character, presided over by the newly installed Worshipful Master Bro. Francis J. C. May, the duties of vice-chairman being ably discharged by Bro. T. Crowe S.W., who was supported by the junior officers. Dinner being concluded, and dessert placed on the table, The Chairman gave in succession the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, all of which were received with the customary honours. Bro. Page then gave "the health of the W.M." as a brother who was highly esteemed among the brethren, and who having worked his way through the various offices step by step to the top, was in every way worthy of the honour conferred on him—the highest honour the Lodge had in its power to bestow—as a brother under whose guidance and command Malling Abbey Lodge must necessarily prosper. The Chairman, on rising to respond, met with an enthusiastic reception. He heartily thanked Bro. Page for the kind way in which he had submitted his name to the brethren, and as heartily thanked the brethren for the kind manner in which they had received it. He felt that he really did not deserve half the kind words Bro. Page had been pleased to say in respect to him, yet he was assured the brethren would believe him when he said it was his full determination to endeavour to perform the duties of the office to the best of his ability. He quite understood the responsibility of the duties he had undertaken, and were it not that he knew he might rely on receiving from the brethren of the Lodge the same expression of good feeling and indulgence during his year of office as he had always experienced from them hitherto, he would have hesitated before accepting the high honour conferred upon him, feeling himself quite inadequate to succeed the many and more illustrious brethren, who had preceded him, brethren who, from their social position and attainments, had added so much lustre and prestige to Malling Abbey Lodge. He assured the brethren he would do his best to carry out the Masonic duties pertaining to the office in such a manner that at the end of the year none might regret the proceedings of that day. The W.M. then craved the attention of the brethren for a few moments, that he might, before he sat down, perform the very pleasing duty thrust upon him by the brethren and the high office to which they had elected him. It was to him, personally, a very pleasurable duty, and his only regret was that he felt he was not able to make the presentation on their behalf with that eloquence which the occasion required. Then addressing Bro. Page, the W.M. said:—It has long been felt by the brethren of Malling Abbey Lodge that the time has arrived when the many and valuable services you have, in many ways, rendered to the Lodge, and the high esteem in which you are so justly held by the brethren, should be marked in a substantial manner. I have, therefore, very great pleasure, Bro. Page, in offering for your acceptance the silver salver, which I now present to you in the name of the brethren of Malling Abbey Lodge. Allow me to supplement what I have already said by stating that owing to the short length of time which we who were deputed to make the necessary arrangements for this presentation to-day had at our disposal, it was necessary to some extent to anticipate the amount of the subscriptions. It will be very gratifying to you to learn that our anticipations were far exceeded, and we are therefore able to present to you this silver sugar basin and after, and beg you will accept it as a present of the brethren of Malling Abbey Lodge to Mrs. Page. We trust you will regard these gifts, not for their intrinsic value, but as a mark of the brotherly love, and high esteem of the brethren of Malling Abbey Lodge. Brethren, I therefore now ask you to drink the health of Bro. Page, wishing him many years of health and happiness. The salver bore the following inscription: Malling Abbey Lodge, No. 1063. Presented to Bro. W. Page P.M. P.P.G.J.W., in grateful recognition of his many years valued services as Honorary Secretary, 16th June 1880. The toast was given and received with the customary honours. Bro. Page, who on rising to respond, was greeted most enthusiastically, thanked the brethren in his usual eloquent style, for the handsome present just made him, stating that he could not thank them as he could wish, the gift having come before him so unexpectedly that he was quite taken aback by this kind expression of good fellowship by the brethren. Bro. A. Spencer

then proposed the health of the I.P.M., Bro. Luck, in an effective speech, which was suitably acknowledged by Bro. E. B. Smith, in the absence of Bro. Luck. The W.M. explained to the brethren the peculiar circumstances which had compelled Bro. Luck to retire, and offered an apology for his absence in accordance with his promise to Bro. Luck. The W.M. next gave the health of the installing Master Bro. Wilmot, in a brief speech personally thanking him for his kindness in coming so far to perform those duties, and referred to the impressive way in which he had given the ritual of the ceremony, and the effect it had on the Worshipful Master, which must have been evident to the brethren generally. The toast was drunk as a bumper, with the usual honours. Bro. Wilmot suitably acknowledged the compliment, and stated it was a great pleasure to him to come to Malling Abbey Lodge as installing Master, and that he would always readily respond to their call for a like purpose in the future. The W.M. then gave in succession, The Visiting Brethren, the Past Masters of Malling Abbey Lodge, the Wardens, and the Junior Officers, all of which were duly honoured and responded to. The Tyler's toast was then given, and this concluded one of the happiest and most successful of the meetings of Malling Abbey Lodge. We are desired to express the sincere thanks of the brethren to Bro. R. Clout P.M. 72, 507, 1063, the acting member of the Dinner Committee, for the admirable manner in which he had evidently understood and provided for the comfort and happiness of the brethren on this occasion. The banquet was served in splendid style by Mr. H. De Cartoret, the manager of the Mitre Hotel, Maidstone.

Vitruvian Lodge of Instruction, No. 87.—Met at the White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, on the 24th June. Bros. Skirving W.M., Appleton S.W., Witts J.W., De Solla S.D., Jolly J.D., Field I.G., Bond Hon. Sec.; also Bros. Ball, Lambourne, Taylor, Sambell, Rumbold, Isaac, Stuart, Whiting. Lodge having been opened and the minutes of last meeting confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed. Bro. Stuart worked the ceremony of passing, which will be rehearsed on the last Thursday in every month. Bro. Appleton having been elected W.M. for next Thursday, Lodge was closed.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—At the Feathers Hotel, Ealing, on Thursday, 17th inst., present:—Bros. Henry E. Tucker Preceptor W.M., A. Jones S.W., E. C. Porter J.W., J. Clarke S.D., Millsom J.D., J. M. Mitchell I.G.; Past Masters Bros. C. Andrews, W. Gardiner, C. K. Woodey; Bros. E. J. Acworth, Meadows, C. O. Walter, H. Stephens, &c. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. C. O. Walter candidate. At the request of the W.M., Bro. Acworth delivered the charge. Bro. Andrews P.M., with the assistance of the W.M. and brethren, worked the first and second sections of the first lecture. Bro. C. O. Walter was unanimously elected a member. Bro. A. Jones was elected W.M. for Thursday, the 24th inst. The sum of 20s was voted from the Lodge funds to a distressed brother who sought assistance; this amount was considerably increased by the brethren present. Lodge was closed in due form.

HANDEL FESTIVAL.

THE triennial celebration of this Festival, held, as usual, at the Crystal Palace, has passed off most successfully, under the able conductorship of Bro. Sir Michael Costa P.G.W. P.G.O., Bro. C. E. Willing P.G.O. presiding at the great organ with his wonted ability. The number of those who took part as vocalists in the celebration was about 4,500, and the hearty applause bestowed by the audience which each day thronged to the Palace for the purpose of hearing the works of the great Master, fully testified to the excellence of the performances. Indeed, the gathering on Friday last, which is conventionally described as a Rehearsal, but which virtually converts a three into a four days' Festival, gave evidence that the Handel Celebration of 1880 would be at least equal, if not superior, to those which had preceded it. Once only had Sir Michael Costa to intervene and stay momentarily the even tenour of the practice, and though many of the numbers were of considerable difficulty, the chorus sang with the precision of veteran choristers. On Tuesday, the first day of the Festival proper, was given the "Messiah," with the solos and choruses of which sublime Oratorio our readers are so familiar that it is unnecessary we should say more than that the whole performance went admirably, while Mesdames Albani and Patey, Messrs. Barton McGuckin, Maas, Santley, and Foli, to whom the solo parts were severally allotted, evoked well-merited applause by their efforts to interpret worthily the beautiful music of the great composer. The programme on Wednesday included a long and varied selection from Handel's works, among them being the Dead March in "Samson," Chorus—"Blest be the Man"—from "Joseph and his Brethren," and No. 1 of twelve Concertos for Orchestra, written in 1739. Among the other numbers were "Let the Bright Seraphim," by Madame Adeline Patti, with trumpet obligato by Mr. T. Harper; "O, had I Jubal's Lyre," by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, "Lord, to Thee" (Madame Trebelli), "Love Sounds the Alarm" (Mr. Vernon Rigby), "Sound an Alarm" (Mr. Edward Lloyd), and "O, Ruddier than the Cherry," splendidly given by Mr. Santley. Yesterday was devoted to the performance of Handel's other great work, "Israel in Egypt," the soloists being Mesdames Lemmens-Sherrington and Patey, Miss Anna Williams, and Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Bridson and E. King. Of the part played by Bros. Sir Michael Costa and C. E. Willing it is needless to say anything. Our readers know too well what they are capable of doing, and their achievements on this occasion were quite equal to any which have gone before.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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THE ANTIQUITY OF LAYING CORNER-STONES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have seldom read a paper so interesting, or so ably put together, as that of Bro. C. Woodbury, on the "Antiquity of Laying Corner-Stones," which has appeared in your Journal during the past two weeks, and I would suggest that, Bro. Woodbury's permission having first been obtained, some competent brother should be invited to edit and illustrate it with further notes taken from the best authors on Egyptian, Ninevite, and Babylonish antiquities. The most important point in Bro. Woodbury's article, and that which must prove of greatest interest to the present society of Freemasons is the evidence he has collected of the high honour in which the architects, or, as we should call them now, the Freemasons were held by Egyptian monarchs, and the leading part which many of these latter played in designing and superintending the erection of important buildings. With this evidence before us, we can afford to laugh at those who sneer at the antiquity of Freemasonry, as being an antiquity that dates as it were from yesterday only. The Freemasons of to-day are, in a figurative sense, legitimately descended from the Architects of the Middle Ages, as these in their turn trace back a connection, through Rome and Greece, with the architects of Egypt and the East generally. It is true we no longer take an active part in the erection or planning of edifices, but the implements of the Mason's art have the same symbolic meaning now as they had in the very earliest ages.

I hope some one will act on my suggestion, and that before long we shall have Bro. Woodbury's valuable paper carefully annotated and published.

Fraternally yours,

ARCHAICUS.

London, 22nd June 1880.

"DROPPED" WORDS AND LETTERS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I was much amused on reading the letter of your correspondent "A P.Z." on the subject of "Dropped" words and letters. I confess I was amazed when I came to the words he referred to, and could only account for the editorial statement, "we are always sympathetic and never personal" by suggesting to myself the idea that the Editor considered he was "personal" only when he mentioned the name of the person he was writing about. He leaves nothing unsaid in order to make it apparent to his readers whom he is attacking, but he is "never personal," because, forsooth, he never mentions the person's name. Thus, in the case of the recent Girls' School House Committee election, all who took an interest in it knew perfectly well there were only two lists proposed—one of the old Committee by Bro. Case for re-election, and one by Bro. Constable, who proposed the new men. Does the Editor of your contemporary imagine he was not personal, because he did not mention the latter's name when he referred to that brother as being animated by "personal pique," as heading a movement, "influenced by a desire for a petty revenge for a previous defeat," as associated with "a very Jesuitical proceeding in itself?" Was there nothing personal in telling the brother who proposed the new list and who was known to every one, that he and his friends "had much better remain in their own insignificance?" Was there no personality in asking who the brother was who proposed the new men, and what he could have done that he claimed to have a moral or Masonic right thus to attempt to dictate to the enlightened constituency of Life Governors of the Girls' School, when every one knew it was Bro. Constable who proposed the list, and no one else? And when a fortnight since the same editor spoke of the "spleen, perversity, and impudence of others," was not this a direct personal attack on Bro. Constable, whose name was before the public as one of those "others?" If I address myself to my constituents, either by word of mouth at a public meeting, or in editorial paragraphs in a newspaper, and apply all the harsh terms I can think of to a man of whose personal identity there cannot be the slightest shadow of a doubt, though I never once mention his name, I am quite as personal as if I did. I cannot understand a man of education and presumably well posted in the usages of society being so ignorant as to be unable to distinguish between personal and non-personality. Every one knows, and has known for weeks past, that it was Bro. Constable who proposed the election of the new Committee, and it is all nonsense—I may use a stronger word—to deny the personality of the bitter invective leveled at the head of the proposer, merely because his name was never mentioned.

It may seem undignified to offer advice to one on whom all sensible advice seems thrown away, but I would suggest to the editor of your contemporary that editorial utterances are all the better when, like a jury's verdict or a judge's decision, they are unaccompanied by reasons or explanations.

Yours faithfully,

NEPO.

London, 14th June 1880.

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CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM,
THURSDAY, 1st JULY 1880.

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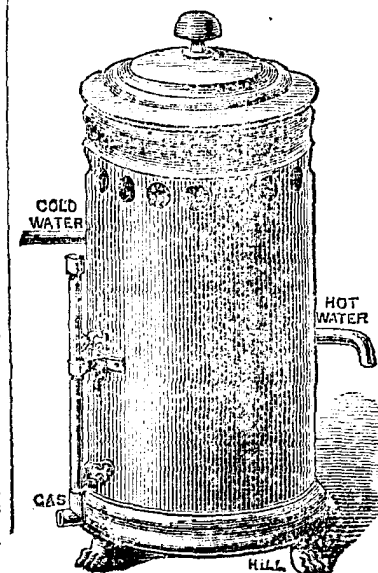
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THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS of the Province of Middlesex and Surrey will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on Tuesday, 29th June 1880, when all Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, together with the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Acting Wardens of Lodges in the Province, are hereby summoned to attend, and all Mark Master Masons are invited to be present.

The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at Four o'clock.
The Era Mark Lodge, No. 176, will be opened at Three o'clock, for Advancement of Brethren.

Brethren to appear in full Masonic Costume of the Mark Degree, and Provincial Grand Officers in the clothing of their respective rank.

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

WM. G. BRIGHTEN, P.M. P.Z., &c.,

4 Bishopsgate-street-without, E.C.
16th June 1880.

Provincial Grand Mark Secretary.

Banquet at Six o'clock. Tickets One Guinea each, including Wine.

Brethren intending to be present should notify their intention to the Provincial Grand Secretary on or before Friday, the 25th June.

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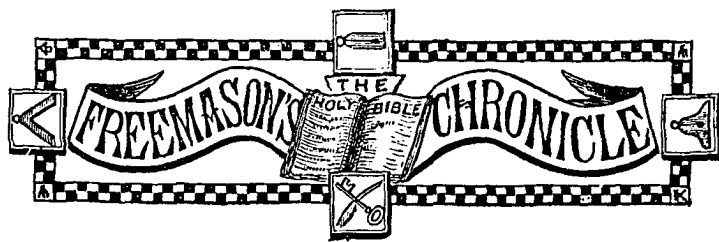
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ANNUAL VISIT OF STEWARDS TO THE R.M.B.I.

ON Wednesday, 16th inst., those brethren who served as Stewards for the recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution paid their customary visit to Croydon, where they experienced a hearty reception at the hands of Bro. Terry, the indefatigable Secretary, and from Bro. Norris the Warden, and Miss Norris. Despite the continuous downpour of rain, several ladies graced the meeting with their presence. Luncheon was served in the Hall, those brethren who arrived first making way for the successive arrivals, until the whole of the guests had been accommodated. Those active members of the House Committee Bros. Raynham W. Stewart and Thomas Cubitt occupied the chair and vice chair respectively, their duties proving very arduous on account of the fresh arrivals of guests. The usual Loyal toasts were given from the chair, and heartfully received, Bro. Stewart remarking upon the honour the ladies had done them by their presence. The toast of success to the Benevolent Institution, coupled with the name of Bro. J. Terry, was most enthusiastically received. Bro. Terry, in thanking the ladies and the brethren for wishing the Institution success in such a hearty manner, could not but express his cordial thanks to the Stewards of the last Festival, to whose exertions were due the great success of a list amounting to £12,280. This had enabled the Committee to elect fifteen additional annuitants. Bro. Terry reviewed the progress of the Institution, showing how that seven years ago they were enabled to spend but £3,800, they now had charges

upon them amounting to £11,360. For this large increase, he had to thank the Stewards, who by their kind labour had thus contributed to the extension of the benefits of the Institution. Concluding with a hearty expression of thanks to the ladies for attending there that day, and for the kind interest taken by them in the Institution in being enrolled as Vice Patrons, Bro. Terry said, no doubt the ladies often wondered what Freemasonry was, and what there was in it to keep their husbands four or five hours at their Lodge. Those present could find an answer when they reflected that in this and the two sister Institutions £12,000, was annually expended to clothe, educate, and support, 750 Boys, Girls, and aged Freemasons and their widows. After luncheon the Visitors dispersed to make the acquaintance of the aged inmates, who one and all see no cheerful, contented, and happy, and evidently hold Bro. Norris in the highest esteem. We could not but feel that had each of the Stewards known the value of the annuity and home, his advocacy of the Institution would have been still more powerful at the Festival in February last, and the amount realised considerably larger. Among the various features of the visit was the kindly manner in which a subscription was started by a few of the brethren and ladies to purchase a pianoforte, so that the inmates who possess musical ability may be enabled to relieve the monotony of their neighbours by musical performances during the long evenings. We were pleased to find the old ladies were busying themselves in furnishing articles for the approaching Bazaar in aid of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund, and we are informed that a stall will be devoted to exhibits of the handywork of the inmates, of the Home at Croydon.

Nor does this exhaust the abilities of the inmates, for we had the pleasure of seeing a capital model, the work of widow Bonorandi, which is very skilfully done. In visiting the old ladies the guests discovered one who requested them to read a piece of poetry she had composed upon the Home, which as it displays some ability we have much pleasure in re-producing for our readers.

Within this calm retreat,
Raised by Masonic love,
We aged pilgrims come
To rest our weary feet.

With joyful steps we come,
From toil and care set free,
To our Masonic home,
And nearer still to Thee.

Nearer to Thee, my God,
Great Architect Divine!
Oh! teach us so to live
That we may all be Thine.

I love the noble Craft,
A woman though I be,
Its steadfast faith in God,
Its boundless charity.

Come then, Masonic friends,
And join your prayers to mine,
That God the Craft will bless
In every age and clime.

For they the footpath keep—
The path our Master trod,
They soothe our orphans' cares,
And teach the way to God.

And by their sacred bond,
Their noble actions, too,
They show, while here they dwell,
What other men should do.

CHARLOTTE GAMAU.

Having spent a happy afternoon, the company gradually dispersed, with but one regret,—that no ray of sunshine had warned the scene, yet carrying with them the gratifying feeling so well expressed in our lectures, that they had assisted those who had borne the heat and burden of the day, and had thus rendered the close of their days happy and comfortable.

The following ladies and brethren were present:—Raynham W. Stewart, Thomas Cubitt, H. W. Linton, S. Godden and Mrs. Godden, Edgar Bowyer, A. H. Tattershall, C. A. Cottebrune, H. W. Ruff, A. McDowall, and Miss McDowall, G. H. Hunter, J. B. Poole, H. A. Moore, J. Quittmann, T. B. Hawkins, M. S. Larham, E. Farwig, R. Percy, J. Osborne, T. Briggs, E. M. Barry, E. M. Osborn, C. H. Webb, Miss Rugg, A. M. Hunter, A. J. Manning, J. Salmou, C. W. Sellar, L. Hirsh, G. H. Stephens, E. Walter, E. C. Woodward, S. A. Allen, J. W. Simmonds, T. W. C. Bush, Mrs. H. W. Moore, E. F. Storr and J. Storr, Mrs. Parsons, Miss Parsons, Samuel Poynter, Miss Poynter, J. M. Denney, C. Buckhurst, Miss E. Buckhurst, E. Hopwood and Mrs. Hopwood, H. J. Strong, M.D., Hon. Surgeon to the Institution, J. Newton, J. R. Gallant and Mrs. Gallant, C. W. Fox and Mrs. Fox, T. Hallett, H. A. Lovett, W. J. Miller, H. C. Lambert, S. H. Parkhouse and Mrs. Parkhouse, W. Hinks and Mrs. Hinks, J. K. Coleman, J. Kench, H. S. Francis, &c., &c.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Middlesex and Surrey will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on Tuesday next, the 29th instant. The Prov. Grand Lodge will be opened at 4 p.m., and it is expected that Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.M.M., will preside, and will be numerously supported by his Grand Officers past and present, and the principal Officers and members of the various Lodges entitled to be present. We may add that the Era Mark Lodge, No. 176, will be opened at 3 p.m. for the purpose of advancing brethren to the degree of Mark Master Mason.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution met on Tuesday last at Freemasons' Hall, to receive the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to consider the office duties and emoluments of Collector. Colonel Creton presided, and the other brethren present were James Brett, W. Hale, R. H. Giraud, C. A. Cottebrune, J. M. Case, C. J. Percival, John Henry Leggett, Henry Cox, Thomas Cabitt, F. Adlard, G. Bolton, Henry G. Warren, John Bulmer, John G. Stevens, J. Newton, Charles Atkins, A. H. Tattershall, Charles Lacey, John L. Mather, John Constable, Charles Daniel, William Clarke, J. A. Farnfield, Julius Quitmann, James Kench, Colonel H. E. Somerville Burney, Louis Stean, W. Hilton, E. J. Barron, W. F. C. Montrie, Charles Frederick Hogard, Edgar Bowyer, Captain N. G. Philips, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, C. G. Dilley, and James Terry Secretary. After considerable discussion the resolutions, of which the following is a summary, were agreed to:—That a collector be appointed; that he be a Master Mason, that his age at the time of election be not less than 25, or over 45 years; that his duties be to collect all annual subscriptions as well as the donations remaining unpaid on the Stewards' lists after the settling day; that he report himself at the office every morning at ten o'clock and sign his name, and be in attendance on Tuesdays and Fridays from eleven a.m. till two p.m.; that he keep the alphabetical register of subscribers and donors, whether of Lodges or individuals; that he attend the office upon all other occasions to render assistance when required by the Secretary; that he give security for £500 in some approved guarantee society, the premium to be paid by the Institution; that he be paid a commission of five per cent. upon all sums actually received by him, but not any upon amounts paid into the office, and for which receipts are given by the Secretary; that the address of the collector be at the office of the Institution; that the Secretary be empowered to advertise in the daily papers, inviting candidates for the office whose qualifications must be in accordance with the foregoing recommendations; that he be not permitted to hold any other office for which he receives remuneration; and that his accounts be made up once a week, and the monies received by him paid into the bankers every Friday.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

THE General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls held their monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday. There were present Bros. Colonel John Creton Grand Treasurer (in the chair), Colonel James Peters, S. G. Foxall, Griffiths Smith, H. A. Dubois, C. A. Cottebrune, Captain J. Wordsworth, H. Massey, Arthur E. Gladwell, F. Walters, T. F. Peacock, Andrew Middlemass, John Mason, E. Letchworth, and F. R. W. Hedges Secretary. Bro. Griffiths Smith gave notice of motion for next meeting for raising the salary of the drawing mistress from £30 to £40 a year. In consequence of a sum of 100 guineas being presented to the Institution by the Prudent Brethren Lodge and Chapter, to commemorate the memory of the late John Boyd and his services to the Institution, the brethren, on the motion of Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, seconded by Bro. Colonel Peters, established an annual prize of the value of three guineas, to be competed for by the pupils. Ten candidates were placed on the list for election in October, for which there are fifty-four candidates and seventeen vacancies. The Chairman was authorised to sign a cheque for £6000 for the purchase of Lyncombe House, which will be transferred to the trustees next Monday. Authority was given to insure Lyncombe House for £4000. It was stated by the Chairman that this house would probably be ready to receive the twenty-five additional children in October. The Committee then adjourned.

On Tuesday next, the 29th instant, a new Lodge bearing the style and title of the Claremont Lodge, No. 1861, will be added to the roll of Lodges in the Province of Surrey. The place selected for the consecration is the School Room, Park-road, Esher, and the ceremony will be performed by General Brownrigg, C.B., Prov. Grand Master Surrey, who will be assisted by his Deputy, the Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., Prov. Grand Secretary. The Officers of the new Lodge are:—Bro. T. J. Duff-Filer, W.M., Bro. Frederick A. Massey, S.D., Bro. J. D. Kirkham, D.C., Bro. G. C. Trewby, I.G., Bro. A. Mead, J.D., Bro. Jos. Mainwaring, S.D., Bro. C. T. Speight, Tyler. The ceremony will take place at 1.30 p.m. The place being a private one, the Station is a quiet one.

A fête in aid of the Royal Naval Asylum for the poor seamen who are disabled, and who are unable to support their families, will be held at the Alexandra Palace, on Thursday, the 2nd of July, at 7.30 p.m. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Sheriffs will attend in state. A very fine programme is announced.

We have just had transmitted to us the pleasing intelligence that Bro. John Constable, Temple (Mark) Lodge, No. 173, has been elected an honorary member of the Spes

Bona Mark Lodge, No. 253, Port Elizabeth, in recognition of the many and valuable services he rendered, during the time of his visit to South Africa, in organising this new and prosperous Mark Lodge. We congratulate Bro. Constable on having received so sincere and well-merited a compliment.

We understand that a marriage has been arranged, and will shortly take place, between Bro. Lord Brooke, M.P., eldest son of the Earl of Warwick, and Miss Frances Evelyn Maynard, grand daughter of the last Viscount Maynard and step-daughter of the Earl of Rosslyn M.W.P.G. Master Mason of Scotland.

The installation meeting of the Evening Star Lodge, No. 1719, was held on Tuesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, at the usual hour; but we regret to say our representative was prevented through indisposition from attending. We are in a position, however, to state that there was a very full attendance of Officers, Members, and Visitors, and that everything passed off in a manner worthy of so interesting an occasion. Bro. A. J. Duff-Filer P.G.S.B. P.M. occupied the chair in the absence of Bro. Aird, the retiring W.M., and after Bro. Herbert T. Bailey had been raised to the degree of M.M., effect was given to the resolution of the Committee appointed to report on the best mode of recognising the services rendered by Bro. Magnus Ohren, Secretary to the Lodge, on his appointment as G.A.D. of C., and Bro. Ohren was invested with the clothing of his office in Grand Lodge by the acting W.M. Bro. Duff-Filer. The presentation having been suitably and most feelingly acknowledged, and a splendid P.M.'s jewel having been voted to Bro. Aird, who unfortunately was not present to receive it, Bro. Duff-Filer vacated the chair in favour of Bro. J. Walter Sugg P.M., who thereupon proceeded to instal Bro. William Sugg in the chair of K.S. This was very ably done, and the following brethren were then appointed to office for the ensuing year:—Bros. T. A. Greene S.W., James Glaisher J.W., Aird I.P.M., A. J. Duff-Filer P.M. Sec., Magnus Ohren S.D., J. Walter Sugg J.D., T. N. Kirkham D.C., G. C. Trewby I.G., A. Mead and Jos. Mainwaring Stewards, C. T. Speight Tyler. The customary banquet followed.

On Thursday, the Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by their two sons, and attended by their respective suites, formally opened a new recreation ground for the poor of Whitechapel. His Royal Highness had expressed a wish that the visit should be unattended by any demonstration, and the wish was respected; so that beyond a guard of honour of Tower Hamlets Volunteers and their band, and the band of the Whitechapel workhouse school, as well as groups of children from the various schools in the neighbourhood, to the number in all of 3000, all of whom were assembled on the ground itself, there was no indication of the visit of Royalty to this East End neighbourhood. The ceremony was of the briefest and simplest, and, in spite of the comparative privacy of the visit, their Royal Highnesses, both in going and returning, were heartily cheered by the crowds assembled.

The Annual Distribution of Prizes to the Pupils of the Girls' School, will take place on this day (Saturday) at 1.30 p.m. The ceremony will be held in the presence of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Sheriffs. The prizes will be given to the pupils who have been successful in the various competitions during the year. The prizes are:—A gold medal, a silver medal, and a bronze medal. The prizes will be given to the pupils who have been successful in the various competitions during the year. The prizes are:—A gold medal, a silver medal, and a bronze medal. The prizes will be given to the pupils who have been successful in the various competitions during the year.

The Duke of Connaught, accompanied by his Duchess and the Duke and Duchess of Teck, formally opened, in the name of Her Majesty, the Royal Albert Dock of the Katherine's Dock Company, on Thursday. The ceremony was interesting, and passed off exceedingly well.

MUSIC—ITS PLACE AND INFLUENCE.

From the FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

It is a matter of congratulation that Masonry includes within its broad sweep almost every branch of learning, and that it specially recognizes and commends the liberal arts and sciences. The exceedingly practical nature of Masonry is not to be gainsaid, for its great watchwords are love, sympathy and mutual helpfulness among Brethren, and its true character is not made manifest unless diligent attention is given to the discharge of the duties thus signified; but beyond these lines, it calls attention to various fields of mental investigation, and ever seeks to stimulate the thought of its followers to an intense activity. In the enforcement of the lessons of the second degree, the attention of the Craftsman is particularly directed to themes of far reaching import, and he is bidden to apply himself so far as possible to a study of the great questions of science and philosophy, that in this way he may enlarge life on its superior side and attain highest blessedness. In the same line of illustration, the advantages which attach to the liberal arts are pointed out, and the candidate is urged to recognize the wide scope of the Institution into which he has been admitted.

Music is one of the arts thus brought to the notice of the Fellow Craft Mason. It is defined in the ritual as "the art of forming concords," and as the art which gives "grace to numbers and harmony to mind." It is commended as worthy to be associated with astronomy, mathematics, literature, and other potential helps that furnish supplies to the nobler nature of man. That music is deserving of such recognition is made evident when we consider its character and influence, and the important place which it has always held among the most enlightened nations of earth. The sentiment of music seems to be an instinct of the human soul—one of God's royal gifts, intended to minister alike to man's æsthetic and moral culture, and to promote his true happiness. Its place, therefore, is in the front rank of the liberal arts, for it exercises an influence of almost universal power—an influence that is as delightful as it is instructive and helpful to the children of earth. This has been the general testimony of the great leaders of thought in all ages. In classic days, Plato said, "If you would know whether a State is well governed, you must look into the condition of its music." Martin Luther, stern iconoclast that he was, declared of music, "It is the only art that can calm the agitation of the human soul. It is one of the most magnificent presents God has given to man." Napoleon the First said, "Of all the liberal arts, music has the most potential influence over the passions, and is the one art to which the teacher and the legislator ought to give the greatest attention." Addison spoke of music as being "almost all we have of heaven on earth;" and Shakespeare made an appreciation of music to be in some sense a criterion of virtue, declaring that "he who hath no music in himself, and is not moved by concord of sweet sounds, is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils." Similar testimony may be gathered from all lands and ages, so confirming what is almost a self-evident proposition, that music is one of the most potent forces to affect the feelings and affections of men—to mould the character and guide the conduct of life, besides affording a sweet ministry of joy, peace, and pure delight to appreciative souls.

It is interesting to note the history of an art so generally eulogized as a means of power and blessing to men. We do not know where or when music had its beginnings. Doubtless it has been evolved from a lower to a superior state. Like all other arts, it has passed through various periods of growth, change, development. It is probable that the human voice was not as richly gifted and trained in the first ages as now, nor was there any such variety of musical instruments in use. The monotone sounds of the voice, the beating upon a rude kind of a drum, or the sighing of the wind as it swept over the strings tightly drawn from one support to another, may have been the rudimental endeavours at musical expression. But progress was quickly made, and Egypt in its best days was distinguished for the variety and grandeur of its music. In the time of the Pharaohs, there were choirs of trained singers in Egypt, while a number of instruments of a most elaborate character were used in the discoursing of sweet sounds. In some excavations recently made on the banks of the Nile, an ancient tomb was uncovered, wherein was found a sculptured representation of a harp some seven feet in height, having twenty-one strings, thus showing that the ancient Egyptians were privileged to hear musical sounds extending through a much wider range than what is afforded by the modern instrument. The cithara was one of the musical instruments made use of by this ancient people, and hundreds of trained performers with thousands of skilful vocalists united in the producing of harmonious sounds on the occasions of the great Festivals. In the time of Pythagoras, traditionally associated with Masonry, great attention was given to music, and the school of this eminent philosopher was intended to teach the "music of the spheres"—that all things in the outward universe move in harmony, and have their due relation to the science of numbers. Pythagoras had a noble, beautiful idea of celestial harmony, which he unfolded to his disciples, to whom he commended astronomy and music as the most excellent of all the arts and sciences. When Egyptian civilisation was at its culminating point, then music was most exalted, and its influence was most marked among the people. The same may be said in regard to both Greece and Rome, though it does not appear that either of these nations advanced as far as Egypt in musical knowledge, or were so thoroughly moved and captivated by the art.

The ancient Hebrews obtained their knowledge of music during the time they served the Pharaohs. They were versed in the hearts of the Egyptians when they crossed the Red Sea and entered upon their long journey to Palestine. Thus even in the wilderness we find the people chanting the hymns of praise, obtaining both a patriotic and a religious inspiration from those musical exercises in which they engaged. Thus Miriam led in that song of triumph which commemorated the deliverance of her people, chanting the words which Moses had written

for the occasion. Coming down to the days of Israel's greatness, when Solomon lived and ruled, and built the Temple, we find Hebrew music of a most excellent and varied character. The one hundred and fiftieth Psalm shows how numerous were the instruments made use of in rendering music at that time, whilst the ceremonies connected with the dedication of the Temple, and the worship therein carried on, make it evident that music held a high place of regard, and was considered an important adjunct to both patriotism and piety.

Such is the art which has been preserved and handed down to us as a blessed ministry of social, mental and moral benefit. It is an art which we shall appreciate more and more as we give it recognition, and bring its power into use. Masonry puts the stamp of its approval upon music. It commends not only in word, but provides for this art a place in the rendering of its ritual and the enforcement of its lessons, as it likewise invokes its aid on social and public occasions. Music is the ally and interpreter of Masonry as it is of true religion. May its influence always be appreciated in both of these departments.

ANCIENT AND PRIMITIVE RITE OF MASONRY.
(MEMPHIS AND MIZRAIM.)

THE consecration of a Mystic Temple for the Province of Middlesex was performed with the public ceremonies of the Rite, at 77½ Bishopsgate-street within, on Tuesday evening, 15th inst., two of the Grand Officers attending specially for the purpose. The principal duties devolved upon the M. Ill. Sov. Grand Master Bro. John Yarker 33, who performed the ceremonial of purification by fire, whilst that by water was performed by the V. Ill. Bro. A. D. Loewenstark 33. Able assistance was rendered by Ill. Bros. James Hall 32, W. Stephens 30, Young 30, the last named presiding at the organ. The beautiful and effective ceremony having been completed and the Temple proclaimed duly consecrated in A. and P. form, Ill. Bro. Jas. Hill as P.M.W. proceeded to instal and invest the Officers of the Rose of Sharon Chapter, No. 6, and the ceremonial being well enunciated and the paraphernalia of the Chapter most complete, the effect was generally admitted to be extremely grand and imposing. The following is the list of Officers:—Ill. Bro. and Sir Kt. Hy. Meyer 32 M.W., Jas. Hill 32 I.P.M.W., W. J. Meek 31 Kt. S.W., B. Meyer 31 Kt. J.W., Hy. Stephens 30 Kt. Orator, Ed. Hamson 30 Kt. Treasurer, A. P. Little 30 Kt. Conductor, W. Beasley 30 Kt. Archevist, R. Marshall 30 Captain of Guard, T. Sims 30 Guard of Tower, G. C. Young 30 Organist, J. J. Marsh 30 Sentinel. Before closing, the ceremonial agapæ was observed, and the Temple proceedings were brought to a close amidst general congratulations at the successful issue of this the first consecration of a Temple for the Province of Middlesex. The banquet, which was of the most *recherché* character was served in the Throne Room of Crosby Hall (the Ancient City Palace of Richard III.), and after the usual routine toasts, in returning thanks for that of the Sov. Sanctuary, the M. Ill. G.M. Bro. John Yarker 33 expressed his great gratification at the excellent progress which the Rose of Sharon Chapter No. 6 had made in so short a time, and his general satisfaction at the completeness and order of the whole arrangements. He assured the members present that nothing should be wanting on his part to assist them both by counsel and active support. In conclusion, he invited the members of the Rite to study it thoroughly, so as to be able to answer and silence all cavillers; assured them that there was a very sufficient why to be given for every wherefore, or he would not himself have been a member, and claiming that what the best Masonic critics were now only beginning to admit the A. and P. rite had exhaustively considered and settled to their own satisfaction at least some generations back. And this referred particularly to the question of Egyptian Archaeology. Ill. Bro. A. D. Loewenstark 33, responding to the toast of the Grand Officers, said that he saw no reason why the Rite should not have a great future before it, as the universality of its ceremonies enabled it to admit to the high grades of Masonry brethren of all religious creeds, and expressed his satisfaction at thus becoming a participator in them. Ill. Bro. James Hill responded to the toast of the Officers, and expressed their determination to make their Chapter, Senate and Council, an efficient working body. Bro. Scard responded to the toast of the Visitors, and expressed their admiration of the beautiful ritual and the general arrangement of the ceremonial.

TRURO CATHEDRAL.—At the last meeting of the Flowey Lodge of Freemasons, on the motion of Br. Emma H. and P.P. and P.P. G.D.C. Suffolk, the sum of five guineas was voted towards the Masonic memorial in the Cathedral, and at the Twardreath Chapter of Royal Arch Masons a further sum of ten guineas, on the motion of the same brother, was unanimously voted for the same good object. The sums have already been forwarded to two Earl of Mount Edgumbe, Prov. Grand Master, and it is hoped that the Lodges in the province will hasten to follow so good an example.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The Grand Secret.—With the variable temperature of this country, ill health will creep in unless the blood from time to time be purified and noxious matters be expelled from the body. In this the public may be its own physician. Holloway's Pills may be purchased at a trifling cost; instructions for taking them will be furnished with the Pills, and a little attention, with few instructions, will enable persons to keep themselves in health under very trying circumstances. These Pills act as alteratives, tonics, and aperients. Holloway's medicine should be ready for instant administration when the slightest symptom gives warning of approaching indisposition.

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 JUNE.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1541—Alexandra Palace
1621—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1776—Orpheus Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
615—St. John and St. Paul, Pier Hotel, Erit
1162—Harncliffe, Rose and Crow Hotel, Penistone
1461—Francis Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst

MONDAY, 28th JUNE.

- 45—Strong Man, New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, at 9 (Instruction)
58—London Masonic Club, Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, at 6
171—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W. at 8 (Instruction)
512—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Dootford, at 9 (Instruction)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 9 (Instruction)
1206—St. John of Warrington, Gun Hotel, High-street, Warrington, at 8 (Instruction)
1125—Hedge Park, The Westbourne, Cranford, Paddington, at 9 (Instruction)
445—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, at 8 (Inst.)
149—Voyagers of Union, Pembury Tavern, Rochester, at 7.30 (Inst.)
1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 7.30 (Inst.)
1692—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8 (Inst.)
1695—Frederick Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Ruppelt road, at 8 (Inst.)
1693—Kingsland, Cannonbury Tavern, Cannonbury, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1695—New Finbury Park, Plimsoll Arms, St. Thomas Road, at 8 (Instruction)
K.T.—Oxford and Cambridge, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden Square

- 48—Industry, 31 Denmark-street, Gateshead. (Instruction)
62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
148—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
820—Jilly of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
1177—Tenby, Royal Assembly Rooms, Tenby, Pembroke
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8 (Instruction)

TUESDAY, 29th JUNE.

- Bazaar and Fancy Fair, at Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., in aid of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund. Opening Ceremony, under the presidency of the Earl of Lathom, at 1 p.m.
P.G. Mark Lodge of Middlesex and Surrey, Greyhound, Hampton Court, 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—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1041—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8
1446—Mount Edgecumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1471—Islington, Moorgate Station Restaurant, at 7 (Instruction)
1507—Metropolitan, Moorgate Station Restaurant, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (Inst.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st., rd., at 8 (Inst.)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
1861—Claremont, School Room, Park-road, Esher, at 1.30 p.m. (Consecration)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
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
1358—Torrey, Town Hall, Paignton
1566—Ellington, Bell Hotel, Maidenhead
R. A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
M.M. 176—Era, Greyhound, Hampton Court, at 3 (Emergency)
K. T.—Plains of Tabor, Swan Hotel, Colne, Lancashire

WEDNESDAY, 30th JUNE.

- Bazaar and Fancy Fair, at Freemasons' Tavern, W.C. Open from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
223—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (Inst.)
539—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
720—Paumotu, Bulham Hotel, Bulham, at 7 (Instruction)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Bardett-road, E. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
863—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
1298—Finbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate, at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
430—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Austerbury (Inst.)
998—Sons of Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
1093—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
1095—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)
1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
1283—Reburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull (Inst.)
R.A. 226—Bercolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
R. C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester
K. T.—Alpess, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

THURSDAY, 1st JULY.

- Bazaar and Fancy Fair, at Freemasons' Tavern, W.C. Open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
4—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
15—Kent, Chaucers, Marsh-street, Wallingford, at 7 (Instruction)
27—Egyptian Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
97—Vivian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
211—St. Michael, Moorgate Station Restaurant, Moorgate Street, at 8 (Inst.)
155—Salisbury, Fidelity Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., W. at 8 (Inst.)
712—Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham (Emergency)
751—High Cross, Church and Hall, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (Instruction)
1997—Tipton, King and Queen, Victoria Road, at 8 (Instruction)
1288—Finbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
145—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston
1539—Surrey Masonic Hall, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.

- 1611—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James-street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (Inst.)
R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 1471—North London, Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Inst.)

- 21—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire
249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
266—Naphthali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Black'urn
289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
291—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks
295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield
300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.
445—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
637—Portland Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent.
792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bulbring-lane, Great Grimsby.
913—Pattison, Lord Raglan Tavern, Plumstead.
974—Pentaplat, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Eiland
1282—Aucholme, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire
1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Tonsham, Devonshire
1301—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Hor castle, Lincolnshire
1360—Royal Arthur, Village Club, Lectura Hall, Wimbeldon
1367—Beaminster Manor, White Hart Hotel, Beaminster
1384—Vigil, Alford's Chambers, Widnes
1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich
1544—Re Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms Hotel, Padliham, near Burnley
1545—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley
1591—Cedewain, Public Rooms, Newtown, Montgomeryshire
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1790—Old England, Masonic Hall, New Thornton Heath
1807—Loyal Wye, Bulth, Breconshire
R.A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield
R.A. 758—Bridgewater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
R.A. 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
M.M. 53—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

FRIDAY, 2nd JULY.

- Bazaar and Fancy Fair, at Freemasons' Tavern, W.C. Open from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.
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)
768—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Tn. George-st., Edgware-rd., 8 (Inst.)
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge (Inst.)
902—Burgorne, 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—Finbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Cannonbury, at 8 (Inst.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Gough-borne-rd. N. Kensington, at 8.0 (Inst.)
R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)
Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8.30

- 44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Totmorden.
242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
308—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
375—Lambton, Lambton Arms, Chester-le-street, Durham
442—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
530—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon.
83—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
1387—Chorlton, Masonic Room, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
1528—Fort, Red Lion Hotel, Newquay, Cornwall.
1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
1648—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.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, at 6.30

SATURDAY, 3rd JULY.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
1213—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent
1453—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester
R.A. 309—Affability, Station House Hotel, Bottoms, Stansfield

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its annual banquet, at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules Tavern, on Thursday evening, 17th June, at 7.30. Bro. Chapman W.M. 27 in the chair; there were also present:—Bros. Webb, Grammer, Phillips, Da Silva, King, Daniel, Haynes, and several others. The banquet, which was splendidly served by Bro. Maidwell, passed off with the usual enthusiasm. The customary toasts were duly honoured, but mingled with expressions of regret at the unavoidable absence of Bro. Norden (the Secretary.) Excellent vocal effusions were contributed by Bros. Maidwell, Grammer, Town, E. H. Norden, &c. The meeting separated thoroughly pleased and in perfect harmony.

Doric Lodge of Instruction No. 933.—At the usual meeting of this Lodge on the 11th inst., at Bro. Clayton's, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, Bro. W. McDonald occupied the chair, and was supported by Bros. J. Magrath S.W., Richardson J.W., Seymour-Clarke S.D., Spencer J.D., Grounds I.G., W. Musto P.M. Secretary, I. P. Cohen P.M., Levy, Mills, Stephens, West, James, Gamble, &c. A lodge was opened in due form, and Bro. Levy was subjected to an examination preparatory to passing. Lodge was advanced, and the ceremony of passing was capitally rendered, Bro. Levy candidate. The W.M. then worked the first, second, third, and fourth sections of his lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed down, and Bro. Magrath S.W. (S.W. 1305) was elected to the chair for the 18th inst., and led off was passed. It is pleasing to record how well Bro. McDonnell acquitted himself, that brother has for a long time been a regular attendant at this Lodge, always obliging by undertaking the more humble offices of the Lodge.

ABBEY LODGE, No. 1184, BATTLE.

IT is over twelve years since that, in the presence of Lord Pelham, the then Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, and a brilliant assemblage of brethren, this flourishing Lodge was consecrated in the Great Hall of Battle Abbey. The warrant, signed by Earl de Grey and Ripon, as Deputy Grand Master of English Freemasons—the late Earl of Zetland being at the time Grand Master—is dated 10th July 1867, and Bros. Benjamin Thorpe was the first W.M.; John Albion Thorpe the first S.W.; and William Lamborn the first J.W. The other brethren named on the warrant as founders were Bros. Walter Hore, F. W. Ticehurst, Edward Kenward, and George Till. Of these and the other brethren present at the consecration ceremony, some are scattered in distant lands, while but few remain amongst us. Of these may be mentioned Bros. B. H. Thorpe, Lamborn, and C. W. Duke. The Liberal Member for Hastings, Bro. T. Brassey, M.P., became a joining member of the Lodge in 1868, and has kept his name on the roll ever since. Bro. Walter Hoare, the first Treasurer, was compelled to resign on account of ill health, and was succeeded in that office by Bro. Wells, who still holds that responsible position. The first regular meeting was held at No. 6 High-street, Battle, and the Lodge continued to assemble there till it was removed to the Masonic rooms, forming part of the block of buildings known as the Drill Hall. Owing to the difficulty experienced by the Hastings brethren in attending the meetings of the Lodge, application was successfully made in 1876 to the Directors of the South Eastern Railway Company to allow the 8.55 p.m. down train to call at Battle on Lodge nights, while at a later date the Company decided that the last down train should stop at Battle every evening. On the roll of Past Masters are Bros. W. Lamborn, B. H. Thorpe, C. W. Duke, H. G. F. Wells, C. R. Chandler, and C. D. Jones, the first of whom has twice occupied the chair, with great credit; and among these brethren will be found some of the best working Masons in Sussex. Twelve months ago the Provincial Grand Master, Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart. M.P., and the Provincial Officers honoured the Lodge with their presence on the occasion of the installation of Bro. William Lamborn as W.M. for the second time. On Thursday Bro. E. R. Clarke was installed as W.M. Bro. Clarke was initiated in 1875, appointed I.G. in 1877, J.W. in 1878, and S.W. in 1879. In 1877 Bro. Womersley, in the name of Bro. Clarke, who was absent through ill-health, presented a handsomely bound volume of the Sacred Law to the Lodge. Thus the antecedents of the new W.M. are most satisfactory.

At the meeting on Thursday, the 17th inst., after usual routine business had been disposed of, Bro. W. Lamborn, the outgoing W.M. very ably installed his successor, and placed that brother in the chair of K.S. with the customary ceremonial. Bro. E. R. Clarke then invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year, namely, Bros. W. Lamborn P.P.G.P. I.P.M., B. Sargent S.W., A. D. Womersley J.W., H. G. F. Wells P.M. Treasurer, C. W. Duke P.M. P.P.G.L.D. Sec., C. R. Chandler P.M. P.G.S. D.C., J. Fisher S.D., B. Tree J.D., W. H. Hewitt I.G., J. Fielding Org., and F. Jesson Tyler. Among those present were, in addition to the above, the W.M. and the I.P.M. of the Derwent Lodge, No. 40; Bros. J. G. Horsey W.M., of the Sackville Lodge, No. 1619, East Grinstead; F. Sladden, P.M. of the Prince Edwin Lodge, Hythe; Jas. H. Contes P.M. of the Williamson Lodge, No. 949, and P.P.G.P. Durham; Captain Hennah I.W. 40; with T. Harwood, F. G. Phillips, F. Forss, Dr. Ashenden P.M., F. J. Parsons, C. J. Lewis, R. E. Wilson, H. J. Emerson, Joseph, R. J. Reed, W. H. Russell, Crossthwaite, all of Derwent No. 40; F. J. Mann, No. 1842, St. Leonards; C. D. Jones P.M., E. H. Langley, J. A. Middlemass, B. H. Thorpe P.M., J. B. D'Ardenne, W. Freeman, Armstrong, and Till.

The Lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, served at the George Hotel, Battle, great credit being due to the host, Mr. Riley, for the efficient manner in which he catered for the wants of the brethren. Full justice having been done to the dinner, the W.M. proposed the customary Loyal and Masonic toasts, and full honour having been done to these, Brother C. D. Jones proposed the health of the W.M., than whom no one was more worthy of the honour that day conferred upon him. Bro. Clarke returned thanks, and assured the brethren he would endeavour to give every satisfaction. He hoped that during his year of office they would inaugurate a system by which every member of the Abbey Lodge would in time become a Life Governor of one of the Masonic Charities. He was pleased to note the other day that out of eleven candidates sent up from the Masonic Boys' School, ten passed, and most of them took high honours. The toast of the Visitors, proposed by Bro. Wells, was acknowledged by the W.M. of the Derwent Lodge, who said he always had great pleasure in visiting the Abbey Lodge, and paid a high compliment to its Past Masters. He had never seen better working than Bro. Lamborn's that day. Bro. Reed, of the same Lodge, was also called upon to respond, and, in the course of his remarks, recommended the brethren of the Lodge to join the Provincial Charity Association. The W.M., in proposing the health of the Past Masters, referred to the great interest taken by those brethren in the Lodge, and said they had been as willing to accept the minor offices after they had passed the chair as before. Bro. Thorpe, whose name was coupled with the toast, regretted the absence, from unavoidable circumstances, of Bro. Lamborn I.P.M. He (Brother Thorpe) as an humble member and one of the founders, was pleased to note the prosperity of the Lodge. They had been mainly instigated to open it by an uncle of his, who was at the time a Mason of forty years' standing and Prov. Grand Treas. of Kent. In the opinion of his uncle Past Masters should not stand idly by, but should be at all times ready to assist in any position. There was not now the same necessity for the Past Masters to act, but they were still there when wanted. He congratulated Bro. Clarke on attaining his present high position in his mother Lodge. Bro. C. W. Duke, in response to loud calls, having also replied, the health of the Treasurer was duly honoured, as were also the other toasts on the list,—the Officers of the Lodge, the Masonic Charities, and the Stewards. The Tyler's toast brought a most pleasant gathering to its close.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—Met on Tuesday, 22nd June, at Bro. Bond's, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-buildings, W.C. Bros. Trigg W.M., Caton S.W., Kitchingman J.W., John Soper Secretary, Stroud S.D., Linscott J.D., Pelikan I.G., P.M. Bro. Ringemann Preceptor; also Bros. Hallam sen., Hallam jun., Watts, Abell, Dickens, Snodin and Evans. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Evans candidate. The first section was worked by Bro. Pelikan, the second by Bro. Abell, and the third by Bro. Hallam sen. A vote of thanks was passed to the W.M. for his able working, this being the first time of his occupying the chair in this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Caton was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Domestic Lodge of Instruction, No. 177.—A meeting was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, S.E., on Tuesday, 22nd June. Present—Bros. Boys W.M., Thorpe S.W., Bate J.W., Larham Preceptor, T. E. Walker Secretary, Seale S.D., Power J.D., Hart I.G.; also Bros. Taylor, Clark jun., Holdstock, Stevens, and other brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Holdstock candidate. Bro. Clark jun. gave proof of proficiency, was entrusted and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Clark being the candidate. The traditional history was fully given. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and adjourned till Tuesday next at half-past seven o'clock, when the ceremony of installation will be rehearsed, Bro. Preceptor Larham P.M. P.Z. &c. in the chair.

William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766.—Met on Friday, 18th June, at the Feathers, Upper George-street, W. Bros. George W. W.M., Cave S.W., Fribble I.W., Kennard Treas., Golden Secretary, Norington S.D., Reid J.D., Hayes Preceptor, Hall I.G., and several others. The first section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Hayes Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Lodge advanced to the second and third degrees; the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Hill candidate. Bro. Golden gave the traditional history. Lodge closed to first degree, and Bro. Cave was elected W.M. for next meeting. At the express wish of the brethren, Bro. S. Golden consented to rehearse the ceremony of installation on the fourth Friday in July. Lodge was closed in due form, in perfect harmony.

Calhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 830.—Met on Tuesday, 22nd June, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Parnall-road, Dalston. Bros. T. Clark W.M., Smith S.W., Carr J.W., J. Lorkin Secretary, Warble S.D., Fress J.D., Polak I.G., P.M. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Dallas, Chiswick, Dignam, Cutlin, G. Lorkin, Maples, &c. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Cutlin as candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second and third degrees. Bro. P.M. Wallington then rehearsed the ceremony of installation in a very able manner, officiating Bro. T. Clark in the chair of K.S. Bro. Clark invested the Officers. Bro. C. Lorkin worked the fourth section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. T. Maples Lodge 1260 was elected a member; Bro. J. Lorkin was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week.

Holmesdale Lodge, No. 874.—Met on 16th June, at Tunbridge Wells. Bros. Wilfred Haughton Hodgkins W.M., John Burton S.W., J. E. Ranking J.W., W. S. Elers P.M. Treas., J. Fred Bates Secretary, E. Dunkley S.D., W. J. Biggs J.D., C. Graham D.C., A. D. Beeching Steward, G. Farrer I.G., Geo. Strange Tyler; P.M.'s A. J. Boorman Organist, Gustavus Beckley, W. B. Bacon; also Bros. H. Hoare Royal Savoy 1744. Lodge opened in due form with solemn prayer, minutes of the last Lodge read, confirmed and signed. Bros. Arzyle, Bishop and Simpson were severally raised to the degree of M.M. Lodge resumed, and Bros. Winton and Manser were passed. Lodge closed in due form with solemn prayer.

Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101.—A meeting was held on Wednesday, 9th June, at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present—Bros. J. Early Danks P.G.S.W. nominate Berks and Bucks W.M., Edward Margrett P.M. acting I.P.M., W. Ferguson S.W., E. J. Blackwell J.W., J. T. Stransom Treasurer, W. P. Ivey P.M. Secretary, Richard Dowsett S.D., J. H. Hawkes D.C., R. C. Prickett Steward, T. Newman I.G., W. Hemmings Tyler; Past Masters Hurley, Welch, Members—Bros. Bailey, Wort, Pulley W.M. 1436, Collins, Ravenscroft, W. J. Browne and Weatherhead. The Lodge was opened, minutes of last regular Lodge and Lodge of Emergency were read and confirmed. The W.M. initiated Mr. Alfred Mace, who was elected at the Lodge of Emergency on the 1st inst. The ceremony was performed with the W.M.'s usual correctness, and the impressiveness with which he delivered the beautiful charge considerably enhanced the effect. The acting P.M. Bro. Margrett, proposed a candidate for initiation, who was seconded by Bro. Pulley W.M. 1436. The W.M. announced that, accompanied by his esteemed and venerable Secretary, he attended the Grand Lodge of England, a visit which he very much enjoyed, and he hoped to attend again; the beautiful ceremony in opening Grand Lodge fully confirmed him in his alteration of the ritual in opening Grey Friars Lodge; he also thanked the members and their friends for their attendance and uniform kindness since his occupation of the chair. The Secretary called attention to the alteration of date and place of Festival of the R.M.I. for Boys; he also wished again to express his gratitude to the members for the handsome testimonial he had received, and especially thank those who voluntarily acted as a Committee for making arrangements, viz.: the W.M. Bro. J. Early Danks, the I.P.M. Bro. W. G. Fanagan, the S.W. Bro. W. Ferguson, the Treasurer Bro. Stransom, the I.G. Bro. Newman, the Senior Steward Bro. W. W. Ridley, the Member of Permanent Committee Bro. W. Bailey. The labours of the evening and of the session being ended, Lodge was closed according to ancient form.

Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349.—Held at Bro. J. Pavitt's Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, E. The usual meeting was held as above on the 22nd inst. The evening being devoted to the working of Sections, Bro. B. Cundick P.M. occupied the chair and was supported in the S.W. chair by Bro. W. Minto P.M. Preceptor, better arrangements than which could not make have been, both brethren being *facile principes* in Section working. The J.W.'s chair was filled by the worthy host Bro. J. Pavitt, whom we were glad to see greatly improved in health. There was also a fair attendance of brethren. Lodge having been opened, the sections of the 1st lecture were ably worked. These afforded an opportunity for several young brethren to work sections for the first time. After spending a pleasant and highly instructive evening, Lodge was closed and adjourned until the 29th inst., when we trust Bro. J. Addreus, W.M. 1227, will be well supported.

Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1445.—Held at Bro. Stevenson's, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, on Monday, 21st June. Bros. Myers P.M. Preceptor, Goddard W.M., McDonald S.W., Partridge J.W., Seymour-Clarke Secretary; also Bros. Robson, Kimbell, and others. Lodge having been opened in due form and the minutes read, Bro. Kimbell was asked the questions and entrusted, when the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by the W.M., in an able manner, Bro. Kimbell acting as candidate. The Lodge was closed and adjourned to Monday, 28th, when the three ceremonies will be rehearsed by the Officers of the mother Lodge; brethren are cordially invited to attend. A vote was passed authorising the Secretary to subscribe to the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE for the use of the Lodge.

King's Cross Lodge of Instruction, No. 1732.—The regular meeting was held on the 20th instant, at Bro. Devine's, Blue Posts, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square. Present:—Bros. Burgess W.M., B. Kauffman S.W., J. J. Smith J.W., Devine Treasurer, L. Solomon Secretary, L. Jacobs S.D., F. Silvester J.D., Kent I.G.; Bros. H. M. Levy, A. Bingham, Holmes, Gough, W. A. Rolls, J. Hemming, Koester, J. C. Smith, &c. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. L. Solomon candidate. The ceremony of passing was also rehearsed, Bro. Rolls candidate. Both ceremonies were perfectly rendered. The fourth section of the first lecture was worked by Bro. Hemming, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Holmes 1608, and Brunton 158 (Dublin), were unanimously elected members. Bro. B. Kauffman was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was then closed.

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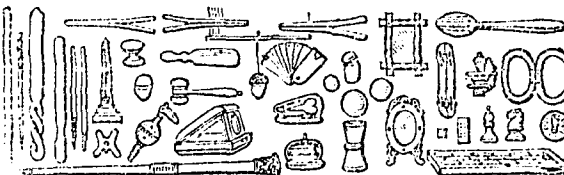
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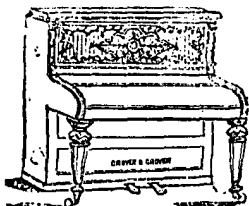
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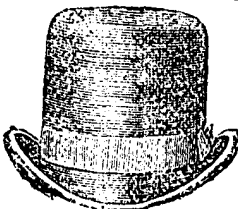
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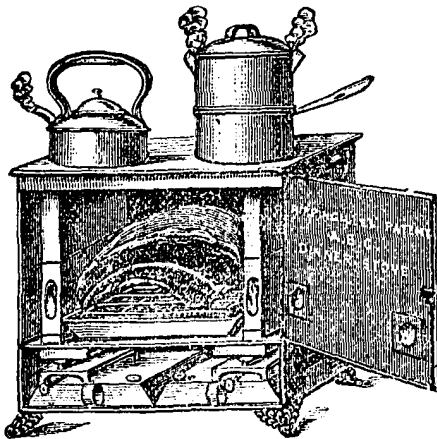
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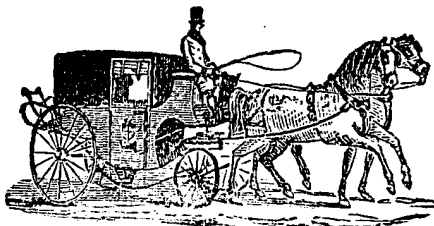
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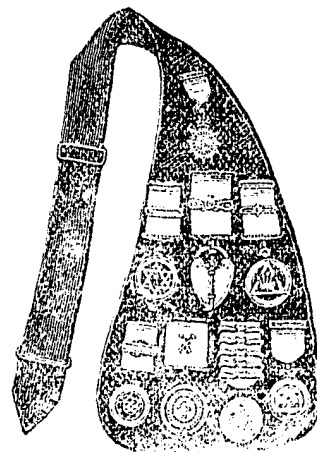
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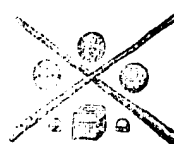
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