

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE closing Festival of the year is at hand, and this day fortnight we shall be in a position to announce to our readers the result of the efforts made by our Bro. the Lord Mayor, Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., and the Board of Stewards that supports him, in aid of the Funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, now in the eighty-fourth year of its existence. Under these circumstances we feel it our duty, in accordance with our annual custom, to set forth in terms that are clear, if brief, the claims which the younger of the Masonic Schools has upon the Craft, and the reasons why, in our opinion, we have the right to hope that the Festival at Brighton, on Wednesday, 28th inst., will be unprecedentedly fruitful of good to this noble Charity. In doing this we shall be under the necessity of travelling over much old ground; indeed, it is more than probable we shall experience considerable difficulty in laying before our readers anything that can be considered in the light of a novelty. What the School is now, it was last year and the year before, and will be next year. Yet, at the risk of being thought tautologous—not in words, so much as in ideas—as between one Festival and another, we must pursue the course that has been followed on all previous occasions, at the same time, availing ourselves, to the best of our ability, of such slight changes as time, place, and circumstances may suggest.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that Bro. Binckes, who is as eager in making fresh experiments as ever was the most enthusiastic alchemist of ages long gone by in his search after the elixir vitæ, resolved on seeing how it would fare with the Boys' School Festival, if—far be it from us to speak “disrespectably”—he packed up the Marquis of Londonderry, K.P., Prov. G.M. Durham, the Chairman of the day, and his Board of Stewards, and took them by train all the way to Brighton, where in the building known as the Royal Pavilion, they might dine and subscribe to their hearts' content. “Our Hercules,” unlike those who are only wise after the event, is generally pretty accurate in forming an estimate of the probabilities of success, and his experiment of celebrating an anniversary of “Our Boys” in a hall by the sea resulted in the collection of a most acceptable sum of money, a sum which, though by no means the largest that has rewarded his efforts, was large enough to cover a year's expenditure and a little over. This seems to have been considered sufficiently satisfactory to justify him in carrying the Lord Mayor and his Board of Stewards to the same locality, and we can only say here, that we trust the result of 1881 will be more than repeated on the 28th instant.

As we have said before, the chair will be taken by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, Bro. Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart., who is Grand Junior Warden of England, a Past Grand Steward, and W. Master of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1. The last occasion on which the chair at one of our Festivals was similarly filled was in 1875, when Bro. Lord Mayor Stone signalled his appointment by the Prince of Wales to the office of Grand Junior Warden by presiding at the Festival of the Girls' School. Of course, when a London brother takes the chair, there is always one slight drawback; he has no Province especially interested in making his chairmanship a more than ordinarily brilliant success, to back him, while every chairman may count for certain on the liberal support of the Metropolitan District,

On this, as on the last occasion, however, we may take it for granted that Sussex will exert herself with more than her wonted zeal, so that Lord Mayor Ellis, unlike Lord Mayor Stone, will have, as it were, a Province specially committed to the task of making the anniversary at which he presides something more than an ordinary celebration. We may state further, that the Board of Stewards, of which Bro. Captain Wordsworth, Trustee and Vice-Patron of the Institution, is the President, already numbers over 250 members, and there is ample time in the course of the next ten days, in which to enlist the sympathy and services of other brethren. However, even with the Board as now constituted, and putting down the average amount per list at £50, there is no harm looking for a total of at least £12,500. Let us hope, for the sake of the School, the Chairman, the Stewards, and Bro. Binckes, that this amount will be largely exceeded.

Turn we now to the claims of the School itself, not only on the good wishes, but also upon the liberal support of the Craft. The amount of good it does is incalculable, in which respect it differs nothing from the other Institutions. It does, however, differ from them in certain particulars. For example, it has but a very small amount of invested funds—not more, at all events, than would suffice to keep it going at its present standard for more than a year and a half, while the other Institutions are, in this respect, very much better circumstanced. Then the claims upon its resources are overwhelmingly numerous as compared with its sister Institution, the Girls' School. The latter was able to elect all its candidates in April last, while the Boys' School list of candidates was out of all proportion to the number of vacancies. Then there is a Preparatory School in contemplation, and as soon as a given sum has been gathered together, the building will be commenced. This, of course, means the incurrence of additional annual liabilities, and will necessitate an increased annual subscription list. There are now considerably over two hundred pupils in the School, and this number will be largely increased when the Preparatory School is well on its way. These circumstances combined—the small amount of invested moneys, the disproportion of candidates to vacancies, and the intended, and we may add, necessary, Preparatory School—make it a point of honour with the Craft that the Festival of the present should turn out a “big” success.

We have now run cursorily through the most pressing necessities which it is our duty to take into consideration in respect of the approaching Festival of the 28th instant. One other point remains to be noted. Bro. Binckes this year attains his majority as Secretary to the Boys' School. His zeal is beyond question, and so likewise is the success which has invariably resulted from his zealous efforts. When he first entered upon his official duties a subscription list on these occasions of £2,000 was looked upon with a feeling akin to astonishment, and was made the subject of infinite congratulation among members of the Craft. Now the £2,000 has been displaced for many years past by lists ranging from £10,000 to £14,000, while the stock that was sold in order to erect the new School buildings has been more than replaced. Thus Bro. Binckes has the right to expect that the Festival which is celebrated in the year of his majority as Secretary should turn out to be an exceptionally productive one. Two objects will thus be satisfied. The School will be benefited, and honour will be worthily bestowed on one of the most honourable members of the English Craft. May our just anticipations be more than realised!

THE JURISDICTION QUESTION.

THE *Freemasons' Repository* for last month contains an article written for its pages by Bro. Robert Ramsey, Orillia, Ontario, entitled "The 'English' Lodges in Montreal," in which that brother declares that the time is at hand, if it is not actually arrived, when it will be the duty of the Grand Lodge of Quebec to vindicate its dignity, and "take some action in the premises. What that action will be every Mason knows." He goes on to say, "Once the Grand Lodge of Quebec declares that these Lodges shall no longer work within her territorial jurisdiction without her consent, and that they must renounce the allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, the *Rubicon will be crossed*, and they will either have to yield or find themselves comparatively isolated, as it stands to reason that those Grand Bodies that have welcomed the Grand Lodge of Quebec into their sisterhood will uphold her position and maintain her rights. The result would be, the brethren of St. Paul, St. George, and St. Lawrence would, in all probability, find the doors of the majority of Lodges closed against them; they would find themselves excluded from the Chapters in their own Province, and we hardly think the Scottish Rite of Canada would venture to receive clandestine Masons within the precincts of its subordinate bodies and its Supreme Grand Council." It is, of course, very kind of Bro. Ramsey to say that "these 'English' Lodges have, from the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in 1869, been treated with leniency and courtesy by that Supreme Masonic Body during all that period," and no great harm is done if he describes their existence as "this 'anomaly' in a jurisdiction that has from its formation declared 'the doctrines of exclusive Grand Lodge Sovereignty.'" We say no great harm is done if he describes them thus, or as a *parallelopipedon* or *plesiosaurus*. What is desirable, however, is, that Bro. Ramsey should support his statements by something tangible in the shape of argument, and in this respect we are very far from being able to congratulate him. Granted that "the Grand Secretary of England, Right Worshipful Bro. Col. Shadwell Clarke, apparently thinks that time will heal the trouble, so that they will gradually float into the arms of the Grand Lodge of Quebec." This certainly proves that our Grand Secretary possesses, what no one has yet denied, sound common sense, but it does not prove there is an immediate necessity for disturbing the existing state of affairs as between "these 'English' Lodges in Montreal" and the daughter Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Quebec any more now in 1882 than in 1880, 1875, 1870, or, in short, in any other of the dozen or so years during which the Grand Lodge of Quebec has had a separate and independent existence. It may be that "the *Freemason*, of London, England, is evidently of the same opinion," and if it pleases Brother Ramsey, we are prepared to accept the qualification he has appended to the second proposition, "though it attempts, in a prevaricating manner, to argue that Brother Graham, the erudite Grand Master of Quebec, was mistaken, when he pointed out to his Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of England upheld the doctrine of Exclusive Grand Lodge Sovereignty; although he *proved* it from the Constitution of that Supreme Body." We are of the same mind as the *Freemason*, and, though we cannot call to mind in what respect our London contemporary has shown anything like "prevarication" in its statements, we, like it, are of opinion that even "the erudite G.M. of Quebec was mistaken," and that he was successful in "*proving*" nothing out of our Constitutions which in the least justifies the position he has taken up. But even the acceptance of this second proposition, with its appended qualification, will not suffice to change a mere statement into a sound argument. Bro. Hughan, too, had no doubt pointed out "that these Lodges must necessarily in time change their allegiance," but this is not the same thing as arguing that the necessity for such a change taking place, or rather being forced upon these Lodges, is proved beyond question. On the contrary, while suggesting "that *all* subordinate Lodges would do well to join it, and heartily and invitedly 'fall into line,' according to the prayer of our good Brother Dr. Graham, the esteemed and learned Grand Master of that energetic body"—that is, the Grand Lodge of Quebec—he is careful to add the qualification. "Of course, if they wish to continue under their parent Grand Lodge, *well let them. Why not?* They have the Masonic right so to do,

and" in continuation, "any way, so far as we can judge, it is a question of time." Again, in describing what he considers to be "the only fair basis on which new Grand Lodges can be established, *either in our Colonies, or elsewhere*," Bro. Hughan lays down the following conditions—see his communication to the London *Freemason* of 6th May last—namely:—

- "1. A majority of the Lodges and members must agree to the formation of a Grand Lodge in their state, province, territory, or country.
- "2. The minority objecting to be entitled to the privileges they enjoyed previously.
- "3. On formation of the new Grand Lodge, no new warrants to be granted by any other Grand Lodge.
- "4. Recognition by other Grand Lodges to be subject to these conditions.
- "5. The new Grand Lodge only to be Sovereign, when all the subordinate lodges have joined; *then to have exclusive jurisdiction.*"

It is impossible there can be any doubt as to the meaning of Bro. Hughan in the foregoing five conditions, and with these to guide him we trust Bro. Ramsey will see his way clear to settling the difference between Bro. Hughan's suggestion that "any way, so far as we can judge, it is but a question of time" when "the 'English' Lodges in Montreal" may see fit to change their allegiance—which, by the way, is not quite the same thing as "that these Lodges *must necessarily* in time change their allegiance—and the clear and absolute statement that, if any Lodges are desirous of retaining their old allegiance, when "*in our colonies or elsewhere*" a new Grand Lodge is set up, "they have the Masonic right so to do." Bro. Ramsey has quoted a suggestion of Bro. Hughan's as being favourable to his own views, and gives that suggestion all the force of a clear and irrefutable proposition. The least we have the right to expect from him is that, in forming his estimate of Bro. Hughan's opinion, he will be guided by the latter's statement as to what is legal in preference to his suggestion as to what, in certain circumstances, and at some time or another, more or less remote, may be thought expedient.

The real case stands thus: Bro. Ramsey and those who are of his opinion argue, or rather assert, that where a majority of Lodges in a British Colony agree among themselves to throw off their allegiance to the mother Grand Lodge and set up one of their own, the minority is under the necessity of following their example. The majority has the right to change its allegiance, the minority has the right to remain loyal to the Grand Lodge which created it. They ignore utterly the fact that, in a matter of this kind *freedom* is of the very essence of *Freemasonry*. This is exactly one of those instances in which a phrase that has latterly become familiar in the English political world becomes applicable—"Force is no remedy." It may be expedient, it may be desirable that all Masonic Lodges situated within the territorial limits of Quebec should acknowledge the sovereign independence of its Grand Lodge. But so long as there are Lodges constituted by England—and all the three Lodges in question were warranted, as has been before remarked elsewhere, years before the Quebec Grand Lodge was dreamt of—we say, so long as any Lodges so constituted prefer remaining under English rule to placing themselves under that of the new Grand Lodge, so long, to put it in Bro. Hughan's "emphatic way, "they have the Masonic right so to do?" Again, these three Lodges were in existence before Canada separated herself Masonically from England, and when the latter recognised the former, it made it a condition, among others, of that recognition, that such Lodges as were desirous of retaining their allegiance to it should have the right to do so. Canada accepted the condition, and for the quarter of a century that has since elapsed the three Lodges have remained true to their old love. And it will take a score or two of "erudite Dr. Grahams" to convince us that what Canada did gracefully, and without sacrifice either of her dignity or her independence, Quebec cannot do in like manner and without any such sacrifice. There is yet another reason, which ought to have some weight with Bro. Ramsey and those of his way of thinking. It is not, perhaps, a difficult matter to isolate—that is, send to Coventry—a few individuals, but it will hardly be possible to isolate three whole Lodges, two of which have R.A. Chapters attached to them; and even "the erudite Grand Master of Quebec" must have too much sense and too high an opinion of his Canadian brother Masons to suppose that Canada will

prove disloyal to the arrangements she made with England when her independence was recognised by the Grand Lodge of the latter. If, as every one seems to think, the union of these three Lodges with the Grand Lodge of Quebec is only a question of time, what possible advantage can result from seeking to precipitate the inevitable?

As with the majority of the articles on this subject which we have been privileged to read in our American contemporaries, Bro. Ramsey's paper contains several suggestions and assertions, but nothing whatever in the shape of an argument. Thus, "these 'English' Lodges have . . . been treated with leniency and courtesy" by the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which is nothing more than the members of one Masonic body have a right to expect from those of another. They are an "anomaly," in which respect they must resemble an oyster, which "has a beard without a chin, and you take it out to tuck it in." The members of the "English" Montreal Lodges have chins as well as beards no doubt, but that Bro. Ramsey may have his way, they must be "taken out" of the fold of the G. Lodge of England before they can be "tucked in" to that of the G. Lodge of Quebec. Then "they stand aloof from their natural guardian and defy her wishes." Though there is "no cause" for it, there is an "estrangement on the part of our English brethren," and this "really places the matter in a worse light." They persistently refuse "to accept the olive branch of peace extended to them by their brethren of Quebec with whom they constantly associate in the other Masonic Bodies." "Clemency has been tried with them to the utmost extent." They work in the jurisdiction of Quebec, "not only contrary to her wishes, but in direct defiance of her Constitution." "Since 1869" they have "studiously avoided every effort at reconciliation, peace, and unity." These, we presume, are what Bro. Ramsey regards as "arguments:" we look upon them as so many "statements," without foundation in the case of most of them, and with a very questionable one in that of the remainder. A brother who had Bro. Ramsey's article before him, and knew nothing whatever of the real facts, would not unnaturally come to the conclusion that the English Montreal Lodges, or rather their members, were the very reverse of reputable, though even he admits they are "socially" and "financially" as good as many who belong to the Grand Lodge of Quebec. But what are the real facts? For a triune "anomaly," they are at least respectable as far as age goes, St. Paul's, No. 375, having been warranted in 1824, St. George's, No. 440, in 1836, and St. Lawrence, No. 640, in 1854. They are, therefore, respectively forty-five, thirty-three, and fifteen years older than the Grand Lodge of Quebec. When Canada separated itself from England, and set up a Grand Lodge of its own, they elected to remain under the banner of England, as—to use Bro. Hughan's emphatic expression—they had the Masonic right so to do. What is more, the exercise of this undoubted "Masonic right" was made one of the conditions precedent of England's recognition of Canada and, as such, was accepted by the latter. To go one step further, in 1875 England offered to recognise Quebec on the same condition. But the part is more ambitious and less well versed in the true principles of Freemasonry than the whole, and what, a quarter of a century ago, Canada did loyally and at once, Quebec, though an offshoot of Canada, and morally—we might almost venture to say legally—bound to observe the obligations that Grand Lodge contracted at its recognition by England, declines to do. Thus the three English Lodges in Montreal are not claiming to exercise any new rights or privileges beyond what they have enjoyed during the whole period of their existence. They do not "stand aloof from their guardian and defy her wishes" because Quebec is not "their natural guardian." They have not persistently refused "to accept the olive branch of peace." They claim to continue under the banner of England, at the same time they are ready to live in peace and amity with their brethren of the Quebec Lodges, and we have Bro. Ramsey's own testimony to the fact that they "gladly meet them in the Royal Arch Chapter, the Preceptory, and other Masonic organisations"—why he should go out of the way to particularise "the Royal Arch Chapter," when the two elder Lodges have Chapters attached to them, we know not. They do not need the consent of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, a body which had no existence till fifteen years after the youngest of them was constituted, to exercise their Masonic functions. They will only renounce their allegiance to England

and join Quebec, when they are minded so to do. They cannot "scornfully reject every overture of peace," for the best of all reasons, that they have never been engaged in any war, nor, for the same reason can they, "since 1869, have studiously avoided every effort at reconciliation, peace, and amity." "Reconciliation" means a return to a state of friendship from a state of discord, and where there never has been "a state of discord" there cannot possibly be anything like a "reconciliation." The right thing for Bro. Graham to do is, to leave matters to take their proper course. Doubtless, the much-wished consummation will come in time, but, we repeat, this is clearly a case in which "force is no remedy." We are convinced that any attempt to excommunicate these Lodges would have no other result than to postpone indefinitely, if not to destroy absolutely, whatever chance there may be of their union with Quebec.

FREEMASONRY IN RHODE ISLAND.

THE Ninety-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island was held in Masons' Hall, Providence, on the 15th May, under the presidency of M.W. Bro. Thomas Vincent, Grand Master. Most of the Grand Officers were present, together with Past Grand Masters Johnson, Ballou, Doyle, Van Slyck, and Freeman, and the representatives of a majority of the Lodges in the jurisdiction. The Grand Master's address, which is given in full in the *Freemasons' Repository*, contains little that is of interest to the outside Craft beyond the announcement that, though the number of members is not so great as it was the year previous, yet, in Bro. Vincent's opinion, Freemasonry had gained in strength what it had lost through mere numerical decrease. Much work had been accomplished during the year, and the Lodges, generally speaking, were in a highly flourishing condition. Six brethren are noted as having died within the year, two of whom had been members of the Craft for somewhere about fifty-seven years, while a third was initiated in February 1851, and, therefore, had been a Mason for over thirty years. All these had attained to a ripe old age, the youngest being seventy-seven years, and the oldest eighty-seven years of age. The annual accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were submitted and passed, and 200 dollars were appropriated to the use of the Committees. Bro. George M. Carpenter jun., who had been recently elected a judge of the Supreme Court of the State, and had acceptably filled the office of Deputy Grand Master during the past year, having declined re-election, Bro. Lyman Klapp was chosen in his stead, the Grand Officers for the year being as follow, namely:—Bros. Thomas Vincent Grand Master, Lyman Klapp Deputy Grand Master, James M. Davis Senior Grand Warden, Robert S. Franklin Junior Grand Warden, Clinton D. Sellew Grand Treasurer, Edwin Baker Grand Secretary, Rev. Henry W. Rugg Grand Chaplain, Benjamin A. Reynolds Senior Grand Deacon, William H. Perry Junior Grand Deacon, Forrest A. Peck Senior Grand Steward, Edward F. Anthony Junior Grand Steward, Dexter B. Potter Grand Marshal, Fayette B. Bennett Grand Sword Bearer, John Potter Grand Pursuivant, Stillman White Grand Lecturer, William R. Greene Grand Musical Director, Ebenezer B. White Grand Tyler. There appear to be thirty-five Lodges in the jurisdiction, subdivided into five districts, having each seven Lodges, the membership being in round figures some 3,750 brethren.

UNION CHAPTER, ROSE CROIX.

A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 23rd May, at the Masonic Hall, Church-street, Georgetown, British Guiana. Ill. Bro. Joseph Klien 31 M.W. Sov. There were also present Ill. Bros. Captain Portlock Dadson 32, Colonel R. W. Imlach 30, Lt.-Colonel Daly 30; E. Bros. Dalton, Van Eeden, McGowan, and Bro. M. Bugle, of the Albion Chapter, Eastbourne. Bro. D. C. Cameron P.M. was duly perfected in the 18th degree, and Ill. Bro. Captain W. Portlock Dadson 32 was elected as M.W. Sovereign for the ensuing year.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—In general debility, mental depression, and nervous irritability there is no medicine which operates so like a charm as these famous Pills. A disordered stomach and a torpid liver are fertile sources of gloomy thoughts and dismal forebodings. These Pills elevate the spirits, and, in fact, make the patient sensible of a most delightful revolution in his whole system. They may be commended most unreservedly as the very best family medicine in existence. Though so powerfully efficacious, they are singularly mild in their operation, and may be given with perfect confidence to delicate women and young children. They contain no mercury, or any other noxious substance, and cannot do harm. Delicate females and all persons of sedentary habits will find these Pills a blessing.

PROVINCIAL G.L. OF NORTHS AND HUNTS.

THE annual Provincial Grand Lodge meeting was held, under the banner of the Lodge of Merit 466, at Stamford, on the 8th inst. There was a good attendance of the brethren, upwards of 100 being present, amongst them the following:—Provincial Grand Officers: Bro. Butler Wilkins P.M. 360 D.P.G.M., who presided in the absence of the P.G.M., His Grace the Duke of Manchester (who was unable to be present through being detained longer than was expected in Canada); Bros. Jno. Marson P.P.G.A.D.C., acting as D.P.G.M., Jas. Terry S.G.W., Rev. H. G. Hodgson 607 J.G.W., Rev. W. E. Hall 737 Chaplain, Rev. T. C. Beasley 1764 Assistant Chaplain, Jno. Slinn P.M. 737 Registrar, F. G. Buckle (P.M. 442 Secretary, W. Dixey 442 S.G.D., Jno. Bingley W.M. 360 J.G.D., J. C. Lound 442 Supt. Wks., R. H. Griffin P.M. 442 D.C., George Ellard P.M. 360 Assistant D.C., F. J. Sheppard W.M. 445 Registrar, Jos. Ackroyd 737 Organist, J. T. Roseblade W.M. 607 Standard Bearer.

Of the Merit Lodge, No. 466, Stamford—Herbert Hart W.M., M. W. Packer S.W., J. Bentham J.W., J. M. Heward P.M. P.G.S.W. Treas., T. Hare Secretary, J. Beddeson S.D., J. Etchells J.D., J. C. Royce I.G., E. I. Orford P.M., Hy. Norton P.M., Thos. Booth P.M., Wm. Oldham P.M., Wm. Ward P.M., J. C. Duncombe P.M., Henry Knott P.M., Chas. Roberts, J. H. Howard, Thos. Hart, S. C. Clark, F. Dickenson, J. T. Duncan, F. L. Gooch, W. H. Watson, A. J. Moyes, Jos. Clifton, J. H. Blackham.

Of the Pomfret Lodge, No. 360, Northampton:—Bros. J. Bingley W.M., G. Ellard I.P.M., John J. Hart J.W., B. Wilkins Treasurer, J. Sadler J.D., E. Haynes and J. U. Stanton Stewards, M. A. Boémé P.M., H. W. Parker P.M., H. J. Atkins, E. Roberts, A. Cockerill, R. McClure.

Of the Socrates Lodge, No. 373, Huntingdon:—Bros. Wm. Wade W.M., John Marson P.M., W. H. Smith P.M. P.P.G.R., Geo. Hawley P.M. Prov. G.R., J. Wood-Ingram, Jas. G. Hanken.

Of the St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442, Peterborough:—Bros. J. C. Lound W.M., H. Pank I.P.M., J. W. Kirby S.W., Stephen H. Bamber S.D., Thomas W. Harrison I.G., F. G. Buckle P.M., R. H. Griffin P.M., W. Dixey Secretary, J. T. Smith, Edward Crisp, R. Payling, E. Harrison, S. Willett, G. C. Caster, J. B. Tebbutt, H. J. Todd, Henry M. Pentney.

Of the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 445, Towcester:—Bros. F. J. Sheppard W.M., H. H. Packer J.W., Jas. Terry P.M. Prov. G.S.W., Rev. W. A. Howes P.M. P.P.G.C., T. M. Percival P.M. P.P.G.J.D., H. M. Crowley P.M., George Willcox-Smith, W. B. Newton, Edward Snedker, R. McClure.

Of the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 455, Kettering:—Bros. W. Hanger P.M. P.P.G.S.B., J. W. Parker.

Of the Chicheley Lodge, No. 607, Thrapston:—Bros. J. T. Roseblade W.M., Rev. F. G. Hodgson P.M. P.P.G.S.W., Rev. Roscoe Hawthorne P.M. P.P.G.C., G. Wadsley.

Of the Wentworth Lodge, No. 737, Wellingborough:—Bros. L. C. Knight W.M., Jno. Slinn I.P.M., Rev. W. E. Hall P.P.G.C., J. Ackroyd P.P.G.C.

Of the Eleanor Cross Lodge, No. 1764, Northampton:—Bros. Henry Brown W.M., H. J. Atkins I.P.M. P.P.G.J.D., Rev. A. H. Cole-Hamilton Prov. G.C., Richard Croft, J. C. Franklin.

Of the De-la-pré Lodge, No. 1911, Northampton:—Bros. Rev. T. C. Beasley S.W. Prov. G.C., Rev. A. H. Cole-Hamilton Chaplain Prov. A.G.C. Visitors:—Newbould (Dobie), Geo. Edwards, Caswell, &c., &c.

The Board of Benevolence met at the George Hotel, at twelve o'clock, when £21 was voted to the Widows' Fund, and £10 10s to the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and £10 10s to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Two sums were also voted to brethren in the Province. The Charity Organisation Committee met immediately after, when, among other business, an addition was made to the Bye-laws to facilitate the better working of the scheme.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. Butler Wilkins, at 1.30, when after some routine business, the D.G.M. spoke of the great loss the Province had sustained by the death of Bro. Richard Howes, who had for some years occupied the post of Prov. Grand Treasurer in such a manner as to place the funds of the Province on a permanent basis, and to gain the esteem and respect of all with whom he became connected. A resolution expressive of the sorrow of the brethren and of sympathy with Mrs. Howes was unanimously passed, and ordered to be placed on the minutes of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and a copy thereof to be sent to Mrs. Howes. Bro. J. U. Stanton P.M. 360 was proposed Prov. Grand Treasurer in the room of Brother Howes, and was unanimously elected. The other Provincial Grand Officers were then duly invested as follows:—J. M. Heward P.M. 466 S.G.W., H. Brown W.M. 1764 J.G.W., Rev. T. C. Beasley 1764 Chaplain, A. H. Cole-Hamilton 1911 Assistant Chaplain, J. C. Lound W.M. 442 Registrar, F. G. Buckle P.M. 442 Secretary, W. Bushell Parke 445 S.G.D., Luke Cartright Knight W.M. 737 J.G.D., James G. Hawkin 373 Supt. of Works, R. H. Griffin P.M. 442 Director of Ceremonies, Geo. Ellard P.M. 360 Assistant Director of Ceremonies, H. Howard Parker 445 Sword Bearer, J. J. Hart S.W. 360 Grand Pursuivant, Jas. Etchells 466 Organist, M. W. Packer S.W. 446 Standard Bearer, T. Cook 442 Tyler, A. Cockerill 360, S. Willett 442, Robert McClure 445, W. H. Watson 466, Richard Croft 1764, Rev. A. H. Cole-Hamilton 1911 Stewards.

The banquet was served in an excellent manner by Bro. Moyes, host of the George Hotel, the banquet room being very prettily decorated, and every arrangement made for the comfort of the brethren, about seventy of whom sat down, at three o'clock. The D.P.G.M. gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly and enthusiastically honoured by the brethren. Bro. J. J. Hart W.M. 466, in proposing the Prov. G.M. the Duke of Manchester and the D.P.G.M. Bro. Butler Wilkins, expressed the regret they felt at not having His Grace amongst them, and spoke in very eulogistic terms at the good fortune they had to have so excellent and untiring a Deputy to take

his place in the absence of the Prov. G.M. The D.G.P.M., in responding, gave a good account not only of the progress in the Province as regards numbers, but also as to the excellent manner in which the work was done in every case, probably never better in the history of the Province. Bro. M. W. Packer S.W. 466 proposed the Grand Officers of the Province Past and Present, which was responded to by Bro. J. M. Heward P.G.S.W. and Bro. J. U. Stanton, the newly-elected Treasurer. Bro. H. J. Atkins P.M. 1764 proposed the Masonic Charities, in a very appropriate manner, and the toast was responded to by Bro. J. Terry P.G.D.C. Herts., Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution, in his usual effective manner, thanking the brethren of Norths and Hunts for the liberal manner in which they had always supported the Institution with which he was more immediately connected. Bro. E. I. Orford gave the Visiting Brethren, expressing the pleasure it always gave the brethren of 466 to entertain Visitors. Bro. S. Newbould (from Australia) and Bro. Caswell responded. The D.P.G.M. gave the W.M. and Brethren of the various Lodges in the Province, which was very ably responded to by Bro. Herbert Hart W.M. 466, who, in the course of his remarks, took the opportunity of thanking the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the kindness he had always shown to those brethren in the Province who sought his advice, and also thanked the brethren for attending in such a goodly number to support the D.P.G.M. and the Brethren of 466. Bro. H. Pank (P.M. 442) gave "The Ladies" in a very appropriate manner, to which Bro. J. T. Roseblade (W.M. 607) responded in a happy style. "The Tyler's Toast" concluded the toast list. The harmony of the evening was considerably enhanced by Bros. Atkins, Ingram, Oldham, Hart, Packer, Blackham, Heward, Roseblade, Clifton, Terry, G. Willcox-Smith, H. M. Crowley, and others, Bros. Etchells and Croft rendering good service in accompanying.

The Brethren of 466 are to be congratulated, not only on the large number that attended, (Stamford being far from convenient for the majority of the brethren in the Province), but also upon the excellent arrangements made for the comfort and convenience of the brethren. The Lodge-room had been recently re-decorated and presented a very nice appearance.

A small party remained until Friday, and availed themselves of the opportunity (under the guidance of the W.M.) of paying a visit to Burghley House, with which we need hardly add they were very much pleased and interested.

The Provincial Grand Lodge meeting for next year is arranged to take place under the banner of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442, at Peterborough.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW MASONIC LODGE AT WELLINGTON.

THE consecration of the Fidelity and Sincerity Lodge, No. 1966, for which a Grand Lodge Warrant was granted at the last Grand Lodge of England, took place at the Town Hall, Wellington, on Tuesday, in the presence of a large gathering of brethren of Somerset and neighbouring Provinces, numbering in all about 100. The Town Hall, was beautifully decorated for the occasion; and the Lodge furniture, which is of a very handsome description, was greatly admired. The brethren assembled at one o'clock in the ante-room of the hall, and, forming procession, headed by Bro. T. W. Hardwick P.G. Director of Ceremonies as M.C., entered the hall, when Prov. Grand Lodge was at once formed with Bro. Else D.P.G.M. Somerset, J.D. of England, in the chair, Bros. C. W. Radway P.G.S.W. and A. G. Hayman as Wardens, G. Anderson as Chap., and J. C. Hunt P.G.S. as Secretary. The Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the Consecrating Officer, Bro. R. C. Else, addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting, and the petition and warrant for the consecration of the Lodge were read. Prior to the consecration an oration upon the duties of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masonry was delivered by Bro. the Rev. G. R. Anderson P.G. Chaplain, and the ceremony of consecration according to the ancient form was proceeded with. During the ceremony special anthems and other suitable Masonic music were effectively rendered, under the conductorship of Bro. Nosworthy P.P.G.O. After the consecration, the brethren sang the National Anthem, and the ceremony of installing Bro. the Rev. Prebendary Knowling, M.A., as the first W.M. of the new Lodge, was proceeded with. Bro. R. C. Else was the installing Officer. Afterwards Brother the Rev. F. W. Raban (Past Provincial Grand Pursuivant Cambridgeshire) was invested as S.W., and Brother F. T. Elworthy J.W. 261 as J.W., Colonel A. W. Adair P.P.G.M. Somerset took the collar of I.P.M., Bro. Pratt P.M. 22 171 382 was appointed Secretary, Lieutenant G. Knowling, R.N., was installed as Senior Deacon, Bro. Crowe as Junior Deacon, and Bro. Haudford as I.G. Several gentlemen were put up as candidates for initiation, and many more as joining members of the Lodge, which already shows signs of vigorous vitality. The brethren subsequently dined at the Squirrel Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. the Rev. G. Knowling W.M., supported by Bros. Else and Adair. The company numbered sixty-seven. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, after which the W.M. gave a most exquisite discourse on the duty of Freemasons generally, calling the attention of his Officers to aid him in the promotion of good feeling in the Province generally, and the Lodge of Fidelity and Sincerity in particular.

The Macdonald Lodge of Mark Masters will hold its installation meeting this day (Saturday), at the Guildhall Tavern, when Bro. Nathaniel J. F. Basnett will be installed as the Master for the current year. There are two candidates for advancement, and a notice of motion is also on the paper that the future meetings of the Lodge be held at the Hall of Grand Mark Lodge in Red Lion-square.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

BRO. RAYNHAM STEWART'S MOTION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Though perhaps at an early period before the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, I should feel obliged if you would now, and at other convenient opportunities during the interval, call the attention of the supporters of Brother Stewart's motion—i.e., The contribution by the Board of General Purposes of another £800 per annum to the Benevolent Institution; as the vast increase in the number of Lodges since the grant of the first £800 per annum entails a similar increase in number of votes required to be given to Lodges for that consideration, and for which no additional value is received,—and beg of them to prove their sincerity by mustering strongly on that occasion to support it, in order that the same tactics which were employed in March last, to nullify this same proposition—which had been unanimously carried at the previous Quarterly Communication in December 1881—by the non-confirmation of that portion of the minutes which related to this extra grant, on the plea, by the brother who opposed it, that he was not aware what was the amount of the net income of Grand Lodge, while at the same time that brother held office as a member of the Finance Committee, which committee had sent in its yearly statement, duly audited, and which statement had been taken as read but a few minutes before the opposition to Bro. Stewart's motion was proclaimed. Still more; these accounts had been read by the Grand Secretary, and confirmed, and at the moment they lay on his table. I cannot help expressing my astonishment when I discover that the Worshipful Brother who proposed to reduce the amount by one-half—and “who professed his willingness always to do what he could for the Charities,”—with others holding high positions in the Craft, and who supported the amendment, that their names are nowhere to be found in the books issued by the three Institutions containing the list of donors and annual subscribers; so that unless there be a mistake, which is doubtful, their names are conspicuous by absence. In fact, all they have contributed towards the Institutions is the quarterages, which, by law, are deducted from their subscriptions. Now I do not wish to detract for one moment from the undoubted merits of these worthy brethren, but I do think that opposition would come with better taste if it emanated from some one who had indeed shown his appreciation of the Institutions. I am quite in accord with the writer of the letter headed “LITTLE HELP,” which appeared in your columns, when he recommends that those who sign their names to the circulars recommending candidates should show their earnestness by putting their hands into their own pockets, instead of taking credit to themselves for supporting their friends or protégés, by extracting moneys from the pockets of other people. No doubt it is very clever, and often effectual, but it is not Masonry;—it is not acting on the square.

Yours fraternally,

OLIM, 474.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I beg to thank you for your very fair remarks in reference to my share in the business of the last Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge. You are perfectly correct in your presumed explanation of what I “meant” in the notice of motion which the President of the Board of Masters rejected; and I am quite sure that it was well understood in other quarters, notwithstanding the interpretation put upon the use by me of the word “District.” But the discussion of the question, whether or not the Lodges within ten miles of Freemasons' Hall, London, “shall continue to be Lodges in the London District,” as expressed in the Book of Constitutions, is only deferred for three months, as you may rest assured I shall submit such a notice of motion for next Grand Lodge as shall unmistakably express what is really desired.

Yours truly and fraternally,

JAMES STEVENS, P.M. P.Z.

Clapham, 15th June 1882.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGES FOR LONDON.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I think no reasonable exception can be taken to Bro. James Stevens's motion that Grand Lodge should respectfully suggest to His Royal Highness the Grand Master the desirability of erecting four superior bodies which, by whatever name they may be designated, shall possess the privileges of a Provincial Grand Lodge, and look more immediately after the well-being of the Craft in the sections they preside over than it is possible for Grand Lodge with its multifarious duties and responsibilities to do. That the Lodges in the London district have increased amazingly in numbers during the last quarter of a century is beyond question, and it is this amazing increase, necessitating as it does a great amount of supervision, which, in my opinion, justifies his very reasonable suggestion. I am surprised, however, that so clear-sighted a man as Bro. Stevens

should rest his motion on the comparative exclusion of London brethren from Grand and Provincial Grand Lodge honours. Though, as I have frequently heard Bro. Binckes declare, Grand Stewards are not exactly Grand Officers, being, to use his homely simile, “Neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red herring,” it is nevertheless the fact that all the red apron Lodges belong to the Metropolitan district, and a Provincial brother who aspires to this honour must first be received as a joining member of one of these Lodges. Then what I will term the permanent officials of Grand Lodge—Grand Treasurer, Grand Registrar, Grand Secretary, President of the Board of General Purposes, and Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Assist. Secretary—are almost of necessity Metropolitan rather than Provincial, and I think it will be very generally allowed that of those Grand Officers who are appointed year by year by the Grand Master, a very fair proportion are Metropolitan. Take the Grand Officers for the present year, of whom, offhand, I can mention three who are decidedly Metropolitan, namely, the Lord Mayor (Grand Junior Warden and W.M. of No. 1), Bro. Horace Jones (Grand Superintendent of Works), who is City Architect, and Bro. Littell (Assistant Grand Pursuivant), who is a Past Master of the Dalhousie Lodge, No. 860, and the Alliance Lodge No. 1827. Here we have nine out of some five or six and twenty Grand Officers, who are certainly Metropolitan, while some of them enjoy Provincial honours likewise. Then as to Provincial honours, no London brother who aspires to them need feel himself excluded. Middlesex is a Province, and so are Kent, Surrey, Essex, and Herts, and all a man has to do in order to place himself in position qualifying him for Provincial Grand Office is, to get himself elected a member of a Lodge in one of those Provinces. It is not even necessary he should reside in the Province, non-residence involving nothing more than the payment of an additional fee. While, therefore, I heartily approve of Bro. Stevens's proposition, I think he has acted unwisely in basing its necessity on so unsubstantial a reason. The real need lies in the fact that the three hundred and odd Lodges in the Metropolitan district require more looking after than they can possibly get under existing circumstances. I trust Bro. Stevens will take this hint, even from one who is so inexperienced as,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

PETER.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I cannot pretend to offer any opinion on the very delicate question as to where the prerogative of the Grand Master ends, and the powers of Grand Lodge begin, but it strikes me that Bro. Stevens, by his resolution, suggesting that the G. Master should sub-divide the Metropolitan area, to be governed, each district, by what will virtually be a Provincial Grand Lodge, is, unintentionally no doubt, doing his best to foster that absurd love of tinsel which is already far too wide-spread in the Craft. We are constantly being told that the great beauty of Freemasonry is its simplicity, and its perfect innocency of all outward show. But for a brother to figure in Lodge with a whole regiment of jewels on his breast may perhaps be very awe-inspiring, but it certainly does not carry the idea of simplicity and absence of show. There are, probably, hundreds of London brethren who hold Grand and Provincial Grand Lodge honours; and if Bro. Stevens's suggestion should be acted upon by Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master should graciously give effect to it, we shall have such an array of gorgeously-bedizened brethren as will frighten out of their wits the quieter members of the Craft. If more rulers are wanted for the metropolis, by all means let us have them, nor is our Grand Master the man to check the legitimate aspirations of worthy Craftsmen for appointment to positions of honour. We all know, however, that he strongly objects to fuss and show, and we may reasonably infer from his disposition in this particular that, from the tinsel point of view, he would rather restrict than increase the number of office-holders. Besides, where is the honour in being appointed a Provincial Grand Officer when, by reason of their being so largely increased in number, they are made so cheap? Artemus Ward's famous regiment of volunteers was composed entirely of commanding officers, and it looks very much as if the Craft will not be contented with their lot until every man jack of them is a full-fledged Grand Officer.

Yours truly,

X. Y. Z.

“HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.”

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me, through your columns, to thank “A READER” for his very fair and impartial criticism of my letter on this subject, and you, Sir, for your exhaustive article on the same; but I beg of you both to understand that I recur to the subject, not with the intention of presuming to lay down a hard and fast line, but as a basis for more experienced heads than my own to suggest a remedy for what I consider a very fair question for argument. In the hurry of writing my former letter I unintentionally left out Life, Annual, and Occasional Subscribers, who have every right to be classified with Life Governors, and I hereby apologise for the omission.

I am perfectly aware that monetary advantages alone are no criterion of merit and ability, but when one sees brethren promoted to the highest rank attainable who have the means, and in almost every case the ability, but who do not use the former,—or at all events whose names are absent from the books issued by the three different Institutions, assupporting the fundamental principle of Freemasonry,—over the heads of others possessed of both the qualifications before-mentioned, who have laboured in and nobly supported Freemasonry in all its branches, and who have been in harness fifteen, twenty, twenty-five and thirty years—I might say even more—one cannot but think that a remedy might be found for such apparent neglect.

I would instance the selection of three very worthy brethren from one Lodge alone, and that Lodge of but recent formation, to the exclusion of others equally honourable and of a standing whose years can be counted from ten to twenty, and more—instead of three. Another stage of "A READER'S" sentiments I must beg to differ from; viz., that Freemasonry and its Institutions are entirely distinct from one another. I contend that they are as much a part of Freemasonry as the schools and almshouses are of every parish or village. You might as well say that the children educated, and the poor maintained there, are not part and parcel of the parish. In the first phase of Freemasonry the E.A. is strictly enjoined to relieve, if it be in his power, the distress of any person, more especially a Freemason, and no better way can be found than by liberally educating the children, and succouring the unforeseen distress of members of the Order if they be found worthy. Now, Dear Bro. Editor, as to your critique on the subject. I am quite of your opinion that if a hard and fast rule, on the terms mentioned in my former letter, were laid down, it would be open to the objections stated by you, but if a little discrimination were used, it would entirely prevent money being the sole or even the principal qualification for the purple. I feel quite certain that you could name many wearers of the crimson and purple who, with ample means, have given nothing in support of the Charities. "Charity" does not consist wholly of almsgiving, and the kind word and friendly attention of the well-to-do to the poor is often of greater value, and more permanent advantage, than alms ostentatiously given for the sake of notoriety. Still, when a Brother is known to have means, and, despite his oft-repeated statement that he is at all times willing to aid the Institutions, he does nothing, I maintain his Charity is of the lip and not of the heart. He is not a fit and proper person to be pitchforked over the heads of others who have contributed years of time and considerable brainwork—to say nothing of more substantial gifts—in support of the cause which they have really at heart, and which has been evidenced by their actions. Dear Sir, from your article on this subject I expected another critique on this matter, or I would have sent you this communication in time for last week. Again thanking "A READER" and yourself for our remarks, and trusting that now the ball has been set rolling some one more qualified will kindly take up the question.

I remain, yours fraternally,

"609."

AN IMPOSTOR.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—On two occasions lately I have been called on by a person describing himself as a member of the Naval Lodge, No. 24, Warrington, State of Florida. His story is, that he was steward of the ship *Orondatus*, and was wrecked on a voyage to England, losing everything. His name he gives as W. Solter. On writing to the Secretary of the Naval Lodge, I received a reply, that "no such name as W. Solter appears upon our records, neither do any of our members recollect such a man."

I am, yours fraternally,

T. B. WHITEHEAD.

York, 12th June 1882.

According to the *Masonic Advocate*, the new Masonic Hall of North-Eastern Lodge, No. 210, at Fremont, Indianapolis, was dedicated, in accordance with Masonic usage, on the third day of May, by Martin H. Rice P.G.M. The hall is located in the second story of a new brick block; it is conveniently arranged, well furnished, and will afford pleasant and ample quarters for this thriving Lodge for many years to come. Invitations had been extended to surrounding Lodges, and a large number of visiting brethren were present. The time appointed for the dedication to take place was two o'clock p.m. Just before that hour the train from the south brought Angola Lodge, No. 236, numbering some thirty members, who were received at the depot by North Eastern Lodge, No. 210, with a band of music, and escorted to the new Hall. The ceremonies were performed in the presence of Masons and their families, the hall being filled to its utmost capacity. The Grand Master was well supported by the Officers of North Eastern Lodge as Grand Officers. The singing by a local choir added much to the beauty and impressiveness of the ceremonies. At the conclusion of the dedication the Lodges were formed in procession and marched to one of the churches, where the public had been invited to listen to a Masonic address by the officiating Grand Master. The church was filled beyond its seating capacity, and the address was listened to with the closest attention. An invitation was here extended to all Master Masons and their ladies to repair to the Hilton House, as the guests of North-Eastern Lodge, where all were supplied with supper. The liberality and fraternal feeling exhibited by the members of North-Eastern Lodge on this occasion added much to the pleasure and enjoyment of all who participated in it.

CITY OF LONDON ORCHESTRAL UNION.

THIS popular association, which was established in June 1867, gave its Second Grand Evening Concert of the Season 1882, at the Albion Hall, London Wall, on Wednesday last, on which occasion the members celebrated their Fifteenth Anniversary. As is usual at these concerts, much care was exercised in the selection of pieces. The principal items in the First Part were the Overture, "Le Dieu et la Bayadère," Auber, which was played by the orchestra in capital style; a new Schottische, "Prince Charlie," arranged by Bro. G. T. H. Seddon, the conductor, on Scotch and North Country Melodies, met with great approval, and was redemanded. In the Second Part, the Grand Selection, "I Lombardi," Verdi, with solos for Flute, Piccolo, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn, Cornet, and Euphonium, by Messrs. Toussaint, C. Ludbrook, Shuckard, Hunter, Johnson, Pringuer, and Oxenham, was much admired, while the ability of the respective soloists was fully recognised. The Solo Clarinet, "Introduction, Air, and Variations," Mohr, by Mr. Geo. Hunter, may be described as the gem of the evening. The vocal portion of the entertainment was supported by Mr. Berthold March, who gave the descriptive song, "Hybrias the Cretan," with much power. This gentleman also contributed a Scena—"Solitude"—accompanied by the full orchestra, it being the first time the work was submitted to an English audience. Miss Bessie Webber, a careful and painstaking artiste, sang Piusotti's "Heaven and Earth," the ballad by Barri, "Love Knots," "La Serenata," a canzone by Braga, in which she was assisted by Mr. H. Baynton, who played the violin obligato. This lady's best effort, however, was the way in which she rendered Cowen's popular ballad, "The Old and the Young Marie." It was sung, exquisitely, and the audience were enthusiastic in their plaudits. A feature of the evening was the presentation to Brother G. T. H. Seddon of a testimonial, in recognition of the completion of his fifteenth year of service as conductor of the City of London Orchestral Society. Mr. Toussaint, on behalf of the members of the orchestra, made the presentation, and in a humorous and witty speech made happy reference to the zeal Bro. Seddon displayed, and to the constant attention he had paid to his duties. Bro. Seddon feelingly acknowledged the compliment, and assured the members his energy should not be relaxed so long as his health permitted a continuance of his labours.

ROYAL ARK MARINERS.

CONSECRATION OF A LODGE AT SHERNESS-ON-SEA.

THE brethren of Adam's Mark Lodge, No. 6, met on the 31st ult., in their Lodge-room, Victoria-buildings, for the purpose of consecrating a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, to be attached to their Lodge. The following brethren were in attendance:—A. Spears P.P.G.S.W. P.G.J.D., J. Bagshaw P.P.G.A. Sec., Spiro Zennet, E. J. Penney P.P.G.J.W., W. T. Carpenter P.P.G. Swd. Bearer, M. J. Sullivan P.P.G.M. of C., C. T. Green P.P.G. Organist, R. J. L. Brown P.P.G.A.M. of C., R. A. Platten P.G. Std. B., and J. Akhurst Tyler.

The brethren were honoured with the presence of the R.W. Bro. the Rev. T. Robinson Prov. G.M.M.M. of Kent, and W. Bro. G. J. Podevin D.P.G.M.M.M. of Kent, who had come to be elevated to the degree of Royal Ark Masons in this, the oldest Mark Lodge in the Province. W. Bro. D. M. Dewar P.N., Assistant Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, was the Consecrating Officer, assisted by Bros. Poore P.N., and W. Watson W.C.N. 237. Lodge having been opened, with Bro. Poore as W.C.N., twelve brethren were elevated to the degree of Royal Ark Mariners in a very impressive manner.

Bro. D. M. Dewar P.N. then took the chair, and calling upon the Secretary pro tem to read the Warrant from the Grand Lodge, proceeded to consecrate the Lodge according to ancient form, in a manner which elicited the admiration of all the brethren.

A Board of enthroned W.C.N.'s was afterwards formed, when Worshipful Brother D. M. Dewar P.N. placed Bros. the Rev. T. Robinson and G. J. Podevin on the throne of N., and Bro. A. Spears as the W.C.N. of the Lodge of Royal Ark Masons, No. 6. The following Officers were then appointed and invested:—W. Bro. W. Watson W.C.N. 237 I.P.N., J. Bagshaw J., Spiro Zennett S., W. T. Carpenter Treasurer, M. J. Sullivan S.D., E. J. Penney Scribe, G. T. Green J.D., R. H. Platten G., J. Akhurst W., and J. E. Brown M.C.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, hearty vote of thanks were given to the R.W. Bro. the Rev. T. Robinson Prov. G.M.M.M. of Kent, and W. Bro. G. J. Podevin D. Prov. G.M.M.M. of Kent, for the honour they had conferred on the Lodge through being elevated in it; also to Bros. Dewar and Poore for coming from London to consecrate the Lodge; they were also made honorary members. A vote of thanks was also accorded to Bro. Spiro Zennett for his generosity in presenting the Officer's jewels and collars and the working tools of the Lodge, and the benefits he had conferred in thus bringing a long wished for attachment to Lodge No. 6.

The Lodge was then closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the Britannia Hotel to a dinner, which was provided by Mrs. Green in her well-known excellent style, after which a pleasant evening was spent; the brethren separated about eight o'clock, several of them having to leave for London.

The formal presentation of a gold chain of office for the use of the Mayors of Margate took place on Thursday. The chain weighs 25 oz., and consists of about a dozen shields and links bearing the names and years of office of all the Mayors since the incorporation in 1857. Mr. George Sansell, a native of Margate, presented the chain, which was made from gold obtained from his own mines in Sandhurst, Victoria.

AVOUCHMENT.

AMONG the various duties incumbent on Masons there is none of more importance, or that requires a greater degree of caution than that of avouching for those who may apply for admission as visitors into a Lodge. One of the landmarks of Masonry is defined as consisting of the "obligations, modes of recognition and the legend of the third degree;" so that the principle involved in avouching for admission is covered by a Landmark of the Fraternity, which should demand the exercise of extreme caution at all times. It is a custom coequal in its practice with the age of the Fraternity, which has by wise regulation and forethought been adopted for protection against the impositions of the fraudulent; and the secret modes of recognition are the only tests that are relied upon with safety.

In view of the importance of the subject, the question arises as to whom this authority should be delegated, to secure the results necessary to place the Institution beyond the pale of impostors. It is an error to suppose that any member of a Lodge has the liberty of examination at any time or place, and not in the presence of witnesses, and, on the strength of that examination, to introduce a Brother for visitation as properly avouched for. The reason for this is obvious, from the fact that the Worshipful Master at his installation assumed certain obligations in this particular, agreeing that no visitor should be received into his Lodge without due examination, and producing proper vouchers of having been initiated in a regular Lodge. No examination, therefore, for the purpose of visitation should be made without his consent, or approval. For this reason alone, if for no other, he should know by whom the Brother has been examined. It is his duty, and it cannot be left at the discretion of any and every member, who shall see fit to assume it, for it is not every one who is competent to perform such a duty. As none but the secret tests can be relied upon, it is indispensably necessary that those tests be applied by one who is thoroughly competent; and who is the best judge of competency? the Worshipful Master, who has bound himself not to admit any but those who are duly qualified, and who is selected (or ought to be) on account of his ability and wisdom to preside, or some young Brother who, by his excess of zeal and lack of the esoteric principles of the Institution which enter into the ritual, and are essential to its existence, might be easily imposed upon; or, perhaps, some more aged Brother that never had the gumption to qualify himself for an examination away from home.

Any one familiar with the workings of the Institution, will readily see that both these specimens are among the members of most any Lodge; and that for safety it would be highly improper to rely on any examination they might be able to make.—*Loomis's Masonic Journal.*

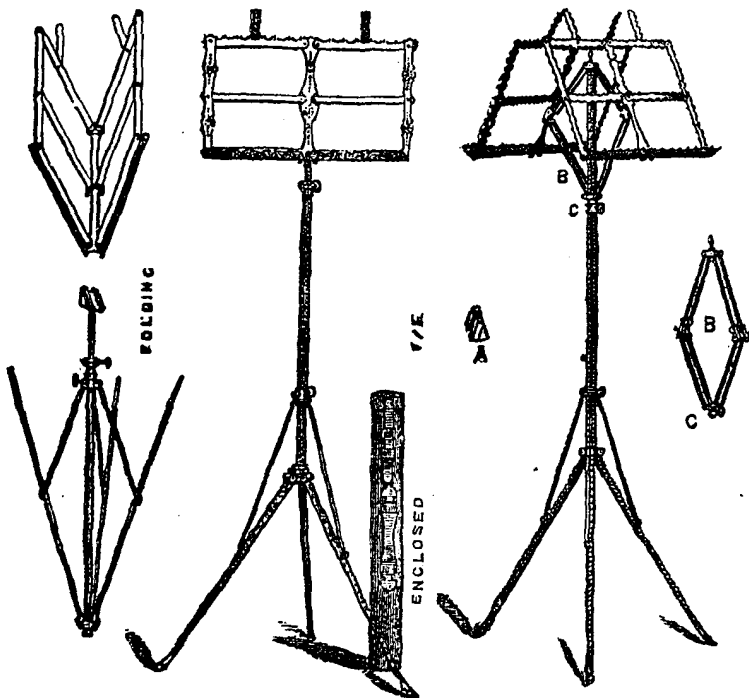
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DRURY LANE.—GERMAN OPERA. This evening, DIE MEISTER-
SINGER. On Tuesday, TRISTAN UND ISOLDE. On Wednesday, TANN-
HAUSER. On Thursday, TRISTAN UND ISOLDE. On Friday, FIDELIO.

LYCEUM.—At 8, ROMEO AND JULIET.

ADELPHI.—At 7.15, MY TURN NEXT. At 8, TAKEN FROM LIFE. On
Saturday, at 2.30, THE DOUBLE ROSE.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, A SIMPLE SWEEP. At 8, THE ROMANY RYE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 8, ON AN ISLAND. At 8.30, LONDON AS-
SURANCE. This day, at 2.30, MONEY.

HAYMARKET.—At 8, ODETTE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.50, THE MARBLE ARCH. At 8.40, THE
COLONEL.

STRAND.—At 7.30, TWO TO ONE. At 8.10, THE MASCOTTE.

SAVOY.—At 8, MOCK TURTLES. At 8.40, PATIENCE. This day (Sat-
urday), at 2.30, also.

AVENUE.—At 7.30, SIMPSON AND DELILAH. At 8.15, MANTEAUX
NOIRS. This day, at 2, also.

GAIETY.—FRENCH PLAYS, This evening, at 8.30, LA DAME AUX
CAMELIAS. On Monday, L'AVENTURIERE. This afternoon, ADRI-
ENNE LECOUVREUR.

TOOL'S.—At 7.30, DEAF AS A POST. AFTER DARKNESS—DAWN.
At 9, THE VILLAINOUS SQUIRE AND THE VILLAGE ROSE. RO-
BERT MACAIRE.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 8, MEDUSA. At 8.30, THE SQUIRE.

CRITERION.—At 8, CUPID IN CAMP. At 8.45, FOURTEEN DAYS.

COURT.—At 8, MY LITTLE GIRL. At 8.45, THE PARVENU.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.45, BABIL AND BIJOU.

COMEDY.—At 7.15, THE FAST COACH. At 8, BOCCACCIO.

GLOBE.—At 8, FIRST IN THE FIELD. At 8.45, FAR FROM THE MAD-
DING CROWD.

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, BOARDING SCHOOL. At 8.45, LONG AGO. At
9.30, SINDBAD.

OLYMPIC.—At 8, LOCKED OUT. At 8.30, MOTHS.

STANDARD.—At 7.30, HUMANITY; or, A PASSAGE IN THE LIFE OF
GRACE DARLING. A ROYAL MARRIAGE.

SURREY.—At 7.30, I'VE EATEN MY FRIEND. At 8.15, QUEEN'S EVI-
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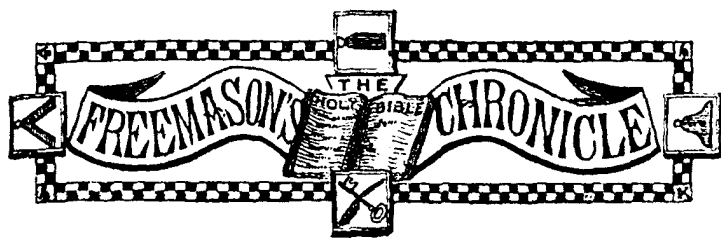
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—:O:—

LANDPORT CHAPTER, No. 1776.

THE Consecration of this Chapter of Royal Arch Masons took place on Monday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall, Commercial-road, Landport, and passed off very successfully, the arrangements being satisfactory, and the attendance numerous and representative. The ceremony of consecration, which was commenced at half-past four o'clock, was performed in a very impressive manner by M.E. Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand Superintendent, who installed the Principals Designate:—Comps. Edwin Groves Z., Cornelius George Adames H., and Thomas Good J. The Officers appointed were Comps. William A. Marshallsay Scribe E., Thomas H. Williams Scribe N., George Drake P.S., Edward Naylor 1st A.S., Alfred H. Hancox Treas., William Miles Organist, George A. Green P.Z. acting I.P.Z., Ed. S. Main P.Z. M.C., William Maybour and Alfred Grant Stewards. The following Companions signed the attendance book:—Comps. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. Grand Supt., W. Hickman Prov. Grand H., J. W. Lamb Prov. Grand J., M. E. Frost P.G. Treasurer, C. W. Jellicoe P.G. Scribe N., George J. Tilling Z. 359 P.G. 1st A.S., George Pack J. 173 P.G. 2nd A.S., Geo. Pearman P.G.O., R. Barnes P.Z. P.G.S.B. George R. Strick P.G.D.G., E. Goldsmith A.S. 309, G. P. Arnold J. 1428 P.P.G.P.S., John Wilson P.Z. 903, A. Cudlipp P.Z. 487, John Wallingford P.Z. 903 P.P.G.P.S., G. Gunnell A.S. 342, G. Mason 342, E. S. Main P.Z. 983, Rev. Dr. White Z. 309, R. W. Downing Treas. 903 P.P.G.O., Rev. J. N. Palmer Z. 675, T. J. Hooper 309, J. G. Mason P.J. 103 South Africa, J. E. Buck Scribe N. 342, W. Spearing 342, W. E. Williams 342, T. P. Palsgrave J. 487, R. W. Beale 487, G. N. Nelder 1428, G. F. Lancaster Z. 1428 P.P.G.P.S., Alfred J. Miller P.Z. 130 and 359 P.P.G.S.N., Francis Z. 804 P.P.G. 1st A.S., H. W. Townsend P.Z. 1428, G. Backler A.S. 1428, J. Gieve 487, J. Ridd Hayman J. 257, George Rake P.Z. 487, R. J. Rastrick H. 487, Thomas Page 342, C. B. Whitcomb P.Z. 903 P.P.G.D.C., W. Tuohy P.Z. 257 P.P.A.S., George Bond P.Z. 487 P.P.G.S.B., J. W. Willmott Z. 342 P.P.G.S.B., E. Groves H. 309 P.P.G.D.C., C. G. Adames J. 309, A. H. Hancox 903, W. A. Marshallsay 1428, T. H. Williams 309, George Drake 342, J. G. Niven 342, G. A. Green P.Z. 309 P.P.G.P.S. J. Foster 342, C. F. Brown 342, W. P. Winter 342, E. Naylor 487, W. Maybour 1428, Jos. Exell and W. Biggs P.G. Janitors, &c. Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from Grand Scribe E. Comp. Colonel Shadwell Clerke, Prov. Scribe E. Comp. J. E. Le Feuvre, Comps. W. D. King and T. King, and others. At the conclusion of the ceremony, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to M.E. Comp. Beach for attending and officiating. At the banquet (which was satisfactorily served by the staff of the club) the following toasts were given:—"The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry," "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., Grand Z.," "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Grand Pro Z., the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom Grand H., and the Right Hon. the Lord de Tabley J., and the Officers of Grand Chapter," "The Grand Superintendent of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, W. W. B. Beach, Esq., M.P.," "The Grand Officers of the Provincial Chapter Past and Present," "The Principals of the Landport Chapter, No. 1776," "The Representatives of the Neighbouring Chapters," "The Officers of the Landport Chapter," "The Visitors."

The founders of the Chapter were Edwin Groves P.M. Past Prov. G.D.C. 903 P. Prov. G.D.C. Chapter 309 H., Cornelius G. Adames P.M. 1776 309 J., Thomas Good P.M. 1834 342, Thomas H. Williams W.M. 1776 342, George Drake S.D. 1776 342, William A. Marshallsay 1776 1428 Steward, William Miles Organist 1776 342 Organist, James M. Foster Secretary 1776 341, William Maybour 1776 1428 Steward, Edwin Izod 1776 309, Edward S. Main P.M. P.P.G.N. 903 P.Z. 342 903, Geo. A. Green P.M. 309 P.P.G.A.S. P.Z. 309, Thomas P. Hall P.M. 804, Edward Naylor S.D. 928 487, Alfred H. Hancox I.G. 1776 903, William P. Winter 1776 342, Charles T. Brown Steward 1776 342, James G. Niven Treasurer 1776 342, Alfred Grant 1776 903.—*Portsmouth Times*.

PROSPERITY CHAPTER, No. 65.

THE installation meeting of this Chapter was held on Thursday, 8th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C. Bros. G. T. Brown M.E.Z., W. Chicken H., C. Daniel J., J. H. Goodwin Treas., C. E. Ferry acting S.E., J. H. Hawkins P.S., E. B. Haynes 1st A.S., J. Roberts acting S.N., C. T. Speight Janitor; Comps. Cornwall, Marshall, &c. Visitors—Comps. W. Stephens P.Z. P.G.S.W. Middlesex, J. R. Gallant M.E.Z. 813, H. J. Gabb H. 813, R. James 175, R. J. Vincent 1329, J. W. Avery P.Z. 73, H. Carman A.S. 548. At the opening of the Chapter regret was expressed at the absence of Comp. Goodall S.E., through illness; Comp. Martin S.N. was likewise absent (away on business in China). After the confirmation of the minutes of the last convocation, a ballot was taken for Comp. Charles Walker, of the Rose of Denmark, which proved unanimous in his favour. Bro. G. Simondus 65, and Bro. Surgeant 1790 (both balloted

for previously), being present, were exalted by the M.E.Z., who was ably assisted by his Officers. A conclave of Principals was then formed, and Companion Brown M.E.Z. installed Companion W. Chicken in the chair of Z., Comp. C. Daniel as H., and Comp. J. H. Hawkins as J.; the Officers being invested as follow:—Comp. Goodall S.E., Martin S.N., Haynes P.S., Goodwin Treasurer, Ferry 1st A.S., Roberts 2nd A.S., Speight Janitor. The Chapter being closed, the Companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. The usual Loyal and Royal Arch toasts followed. A very handsome P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. Brown, who was highly complimented for the manner in which he had worked the installation ceremony.

JOPPA CHAPTER, No. 188.

A CONVOCATION of the above Chapter was held on the 12th inst., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, in lieu of the regular meeting, which usually takes place on 31st May. The chair was occupied by W. H. Gulliford M.E.Z., H. P. Isaac H., I. P. Cohen P.Z. J., J. Lazarus P.Z. Treas., M. J. Emanuel P.Z. S.E., A. Henochsberg P.S., Brooks 1st Assist.; P.Z.'s S. M. Lazarus, L. Lazarus, W. J. Littaur, H. M. Levy; Companions Smith, G. Ellis, Dewsnap, J. S. Lyon, W. G. Jennings, Lavy, Meiter, Hobinstock, M. Silver. Visitors—J. Saber, 153, Kimberly, A. Abrahams and J. Faulkner late 188. Chapter was opened and the minutes of last Convocation were confirmed. The election for Principals and Officers then took place. Comp. H. Isaac was elected Z.; Comps. I. P. Cohen H., A. Henochsberg J., M. J. Emanuel P.Z. S.E., Dewsnap S.N., J. Lazarus P.Z. Treasurer, Brooks P.S., Goddard Janitor. Comp. L. Lazarus P.Z., in eloquent terms, proposed that a sum of two guineas be given from the funds of the Chapter for the purpose of presenting the retiring M.E.Z., Comp. Gulliford, with a P.Z.'s jewel, this sum to form a nucleus for a testimonial that should be worthy of his acceptance, and in testimony of the able manner in which he has discharged every duty required of him, likewise to mark the esteem he is held in. This was seconded by Comp. W. J. Littaur, and carried unanimously. The testimonial fund was afterwards liberally subscribed to by the Companions. Bro. J. Saber J.W. 1582, Lodge of Israel, Liverpool, was proposed for exaltation at the next meeting, and Chapter was closed until November. The Companions sat down to a sumptuous and *recherché* banquet and dessert, provided by Comp. Jennings, and superintended by Comp. M. Silver. The M.E.Z., in eloquent terms, proposed the usual and R.A. toasts. Comp. L. Lazarus I.P.Z., said he felt it a source of great pleasure to propose the health of the Z., who in every respect showed he was worthy of their regard. Comp. Gulliford had achieved the summit of his ambition, and the manner in which the vote of the Companions was carried, to present him with a remembrance of his occupation of the chair, and his able presidency, showed that the chair had been worthily filled. The M.E.Z., in reply, thanked Comp. Lazarus for his kind expressions. He felt the more particularly gratified at the manner in which the toast had been received. He could but heartily and sincerely thank them for their support. He hoped before leaving the chair to have another opportunity of showing them what the working of the Joppa Chapter was. The M.E.Z. then proposed the health of the Visitors—there were but three present—one from Kimberly, and two late of this Chapter. He hoped to see them yet again as Visitors. Companions Faulkner, Abrahams and Saber severally responded. The toast of the P.Z.'s was next given. The success of the Chapter was dependent on those who had occupied the chair, and who, by their experience, conduce to its prosperity by advice and assistance. They had the Father of the Chapter present, Comp. S. Lazarus; the M.E.Z. would call on Comp. Littaur to respond. After a reply from Comp. Littaur, the M.E.Z. proposed the toast of the two Principals; he would speak of them as the M.E.Z. and H. elect. The former Companion hitherto had shown perfection in his working. The J. likewise had done his duty, and this fully evidenced that he merited further honours. He would call on the Companions to drink the toast heartily and sincerely. After this compliment had been acknowledged, the M.E.Z. proposed the toast of the Treasurer and S.E. The former Companion had left, but they had the latter present. Those who have filled the chair know what the duties are, and how well these Officers perform them. Several other toasts followed, and the Janitor, in due course, closed the proceedings. Comps. Meiter and Abrahams contributed to the enjoyment of the evening by some capital songs.

A special Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held last Saturday, under the presidency of Colonel Creaton, Grand Treasurer. The meeting was called in accordance with a resolution of the General Committee to consider three notices of motion. Unfortunately, there have been periodical fits of illness among the children in the School, and inquiries having been set on foot, it was found that the drainage of the Institution was not all that could be desired. Experts were called in, who made examinations, which resulted in a report for recommendation that certain alterations should be forthwith carried out. This matter had to be laid before a special Court before sanction could be given to carry out the necessary works. These will cost £1,300, and a motion having been submitted by Bro. Frank Richardson, the subject was referred back to the House Committee, who were authorised to effect the improvements at a cost not exceeding £1,300. Bro. Dr. Hope, of Curzon-street, who was lately one of the House Committee of the Institu-

tion, was appointed to the post of Honorary Physician to the School, and probably no better man could have been chosen for the office, as, in addition to being Senior Physician to the Belgrave Hospital for Children, his position as one of the House Committee for two or three years at the Girls' School has given him a complete insight into the working of the Institution.

The Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution met on Wednesday last, under the presidency of Col. Creaton G. Treasurer, when there were also present Bros. A. H. Tattershall, J. H. Leggott, Frederick Adlard, J. R. Gallant, Julius Quitmann, T. W. C. Bush, W. H. Goodall, Edgar Bowyer, Raynham W. Stewart, Charles Jno. Perceval, Wm. Clarke, W. J. Murlis, Wm. Stephens, James Brett, George Bolton, George L. Moore, J. A. Farnfield, R. P. Tate, John M. Stedwell, H. Cox, Jas. Moore, Thomas Cubitt, E. C. Massey. The minutes of last meeting having been confirmed, the Committee of Management was completed by the election of ten members to represent the subscribers, and the whole Committee, including those nominated by the Grand Master and those elected by Grand Lodge, now stands as follows:—Bros. Woodford, Clarke, Giraud, Hogg, Phillips, Burney, Peirce, Nettleship, Brett, Kench, Berry, Bush, Cottebrune, Goodall, McPherson, Moore, Murlis, Tate, Tattershall, Willing jun., Adlard, Bulmer, Dilley, Goode, Hale, Hilton, Quitmann, Stean, Stephens, and Stewart. The Secretary reported that Bro. Creaton's motion in Grand Lodge for a grant of £70 to provide coals during the winter months for the inmates of the Institution at Croydon had been carried. He also reported that the death of one annuitant had occurred since last election, and that the annuity thus disengaged would be granted to Bro. Gregory, the next candidate entitled to receive it. A letter addressed to Brother Terry, the Secretary, from Brother R. R. Davis, giving an account of the origin and present position of the John Hervey Memorial Fund, was read, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. The result of the opposition by the Institution to the Bills of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, and other Companies for local lines, now before Parliament, was presented in a report drawn up by Bro. Raynham Stewart, and the same being considered satisfactory, the thanks of the meeting were tendered, upon motion, to Bro. Stewart for his successful conduct of the opposition. A tender by Mr. Griggs for alterations to the building at Croydon, rendered necessary by the destructive effects of the recent gales, at a cost of £165 10s, was ordered to stand over, and it was agreed that the House Committee should invite tenders from three other firms, and that it be remitted to them to accept the tender they considered most advantageous, and at once proceed to have the works carried out. Bros. Hale, Tattershall, Stephens, Bulmer, and Murlis were elected to serve on the Finance Committee; and Bros. Stewart, Farnfield, Perceval, Cubitt, and Bowyer on the House Committee. Ten petitions were considered, of which only one was rejected; and consequently seven Freemasons and two widows were added to the list of candidates eligible at next election. The annual summer entertainment at the Institution to the inmates was authorised, and cheques for various accounts payable were signed by the chairman.

A resolution of condolence with the family of our late Bro. General Garibaldi was this week moved in the Court of Common Council of the City of London by Bro. Sir John Bennett, and was unanimously agreed to. Our late Bro. Garibaldi had had the freedom of the City of London conferred upon him, so that the compliment was an appropriate one, and will doubtless be appreciated.

The Duke of Connaught, K.G., has undertaken to preside at the fifty-fifth anniversary of the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, on the 24th inst. The Duchess of Connaught will distribute the prizes, and there will be a déjeuner afterwards. Amongst the Stewards are Brothers Alderman Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott P.G.W., H. B. Marshall C.C., and John Derby Allcroft.

MASONRY AND RELIGION.

FROM THE VOICE OF MASONRY.

BY an article on "Masonry and the Bible," in the April number of the VOICE, I endeavoured to show the relationship which the Word and the Craft bear to each other, and the views therein expressed are incidental to and intimately connected with the consideration of the present theme. It is not at all improbable that the relationship of Masonry to religion is but imperfectly understood by the profane world, and also by many of the Craft. I have sometimes been pained to hear—and I presume others have also heard—Masons declare that Masonry was "good enough a religion for them," that "if a man lived according to its teachings he need not trouble himself about religion or church affairs." The Mason who has studied Masonic philosophy knows this to be erroneous and mischievous in its results, as tending to prejudice Christian men against an Order which never, even passively, arrays itself against or seeks to usurp or exercise the functions and character of Religion. The brother who holds or utters such views may be a zealous Mason, and may be a strictly moral man, but his zeal is greater than his knowledge, and his professions can only result in injury to the Institution which he attempts to magnify.

It is, in fact, an ignorant perversion of Masonic teachings, which, if even tacitly tolerated as Masonic doctrine, would drive from among us all conscientious Christians.

The perfect ideal of Masonic character is never attained by even the highest type of morality. Masonry teaches that no man should ever enter upon any great or important undertaking without first invoking the blessing of Deity. It is not the purpose of this paper to inquire into or discuss the question as to how far a man must be religious in order to be eligible or qualified to pray, but it is clearly evident that he must have faith in God, as a prerequisite to praying, and it is logically presumable that if he has faith in God it is through the teachings of the Bible, and hence that he is a Christian. The religious teachings of Masonry are as definite as they can be made without placing the Craft on a higher and more distinctive plane, and making it what it is not, and never was intended to be, a strictly religious organisation; a character which it seeks to avoid. It imposes on its members no peculiar religious creed or test further than faith in God, and personal responsibility to His laws, and herein lies the great bulwark of its strength, whereby it unites in its fraternal embrace men of every country, who meet its requirements. But while it grants liberal latitude as to creed, it does not encourage the idea that a Mason needs no creed, no religious belief, or that Masonry is in any respect a substitute for Religion. It does, however, place in his hand the book of divine revelation, which contains the fundamental truths on which Religion is based, and he cannot accord to that book the respect and veneration which Masonry demands at his hands without being governed by its teachings in forming his religious views.

There is a vast difference between the mission of Masonry and that of the Church, a marked difference in their philosophies, as acting upon and affecting the human family. Religion claims to be *regenerative*. The Church professes to regenerate man through the power of Revealed Religion, to radically change his habits and actions, and to sustain and uphold him in his revolutionised and Christianised moral and spiritual manhood. Its inceptive and developed principle of action may be expressed in the single word, *regeneration*. It is, in its propagandism, active and aggressive. It goes out into all the highways and byways, and by invitation and argument seeks to win all classes of men to its fold. Its primary and fundamental object is to win and prepare souls for eternity, and a celestial inheritance beyond the grave, and the morality which it enjoins is necessarily a concomitant effect connected with the first great object. Masonry, on the contrary, differing in all these characteristics, makes no claim and entertains no idea of regenerating degenerate man. It seeks not to propagate its system by solicitation, or open invitation to all men.

It employs no direct instruments or agencies to induce men to enter its portals. Calmly and quietly it awaits the advances of those who seek to penetrate its mysteries, and subjects them to rigid inquiry and crucial test as to moral fitness and character, before proceeding even to vote upon their eligibility for admission. Masonry does not assume to regenerate or change man's nature. It seeks by every means to avoid the necessity of such an effort, knowing that it could only result disastrously. It admits, or means to admit nothing but good, sound, moral material. It aims to make good men better, but never to make bad men good. That it succeeds grandly in its aims none can deny. There can be no practical limit to human and moral improvement, and the advantages and opportunities of moral development are strengthened and increased by association and co-operation. To the young man who enters the Masonic family these advantages are of inestimable value. He is brought not only under the influences of salutary laws, which restrain the natural tendencies toward immorality, and the formation or indulgence of mischievous habits, but by daily contact and association with men of high moral character he gradually and unconsciously assimilates with their habits and thoughts, and thus develops those nobler qualities of his nature which fit him for the esteem of man, and usefulness to society. But he is never taught that this is the acme of Masonry. If he has studied its philosophy and comprehended its symbolism he has learned that "it is not all of life to live," even though that life be morally faultless, but in the sublime symbolism of the third degree he must have learned that which implies a future state of existence, and of preparation in this life for that eventful period.

Masonry is ever the handmaid of Religion, the monitor of the necessity of religious life and conduct, but never assumes to offer itself as a substitute for Religion. While these statements are undeniable facts, it is also true, paradoxical as it may seem, that the bitterest, most malignant opposition to Masonry, amounting, were it possible, to persecution, is found in some so-called Christian Churches. But

when we reflect that these churches have, on account of difference in petty doctrinal points, persecuted one another even to attempted physical extermination, we cease to wonder that Masonry should become the objective point of their malignity, and it is, perhaps, fortunate for Religion that such an object exists, on which they may train their quaker guns, and discharge their blank broadsides, as, were it not so, they would be forced to find victims or subjects of persecution among their own ranks. Masonry is not only invulnerable to these puerile attacks, but, secure in her armour of eternal truth, can calmly pray, "FATHER, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

The true relations of Religion and Masonry may be symbolised by two rivers having a common parent fountain, and flowing in courses nearly parallel to each other. The first, a broad, deep and tranquil stream, whose waters are clear and pure, a great highway free to all countries, and to every people, bearing on its placid current the vessels of every denomination, sect and creed, freighted with cargoes of precious souls, bound to the port of the Eternal Kingdom. It is, perhaps, unfortunate that all cannot be subject to the same general laws of navigation, that rivalry and strife should exist, that collisions should occur, and that emissaries should cajole or drive the passengers of one vessel to embark on another, bearing a different denominational flag, but it is in no sense the fault of the stream that this should occur. Nor yet is it through any superiority of water or channel that these rival contentions are never suffered to exist on the sister stream. The waters of the first are an invigorating alternative, strengthening the spiritual nature, and qualifying it for eternal life; of the other, a stimulative moral tonic, acting upon the heart, quickening the impulses of charity, and developing the highest, noblest aspirations of the soul, in the Brotherhood of man, and the perfection of human character in this life.

On the rippling current of the second, but one flag is ever seen, its only motto being the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. A stream bordered by groves of ever verdant foliage, resplendent with the brilliant hues of blooming flowers, and fragrant with their delicious aroma, among whose branches birds of bright plumage flit to and fro, in the happy freedom of their natures, their merry chirpings and gleesome songs pealing forth in happy strains, and borne on the gentle breezes from side to side of the rippling stream. A stream whose channel flows and meanders through the valleys and deserts of human life, yet ever bordered by trees, foliage, and flowers, flowing on and on, until, sweeping beneath the ever verdant acacia, it passes into and merges with the dark waters of the sea of eternity.

How beautifully do the teachings of Masonry blend with those of Religion in subduing the passions of men, and in elevating their thoughts and aspirations from the lower levels of sensual desires, sordid pursuits and earthly hopes, to the more sublime aspirations for exalted character, moral rectitude, and hopes of a bright immortality beyond the grave, above the mists and shadows of human life, that ever hover, like a dark pall, along our pathway! And how strong, how sustaining, is that confidence and hope, springing ever from a consciousness of rectitude, and of trusting, cheerful obedience to the Divine law. Dangers may menace, misfortunes may gather, malice may threaten and assail, and calumny may secretly hurl her venomous barb, but the just and upright Mason neither fears nor heeds them. Clad in the armour of Truth and Virtue, he moves, invulnerable to all their attacks; yet the true Christian has greater and still stronger panoply, for he can look beyond and above all the cares and trials that confront him here; hopeful, strong and strengthening in a future life of perfect happiness, in "that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

TITLES NOT MASONIC.

"HER MAJESTY, the Queen," and "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master," are leading topics in English Masonic journals. While we admire the loyalty of British subjects to their Sovereigns, such expressions grate harshly on the ears of those who have been taught that as Masons we "meet on the level." Titles, except as conferred in a legitimate Masonic way, are of no value to Masons in this country, where men and women are measured by standard of the nobility of worth and not of blood. One is based on real merit, the other has a fictitious value, bred in ignorance and superstition, and born in abject slavery to an established custom of the world that has come down to us from the dark ages, when might made right and violence was the rule. It may be a matter of education, and probably is, that we prefer democracy rather than royalty, but Masonic government is democratic, and the Prince of Wales holds the title of Grand Master, not by inheritance, but by the free sufferance of the Craft over which he presides as their chief Officer. When he steps inside of a Masonic Lodge he leaves all rank and title outside the door, and is hailed by the endearing title of brother. As Grand Master he is entitled to all the honours due to his rank as an Officer of the Craft, but here the distinction should end. He must answer to that Lodge for his conduct as a Mason, and be measured by the same standard that applies to every one who has crossed its threshold.

Masons are taught to be loyal to the government of the country in which they live, and no more trusty subjects can be found anywhere, but as Bro. Rob Morris would say:—

The King must leave his diadem outside the Tyler's door,
The Mason finds his true respect upon the checkered floor.

Masonic journals, like Masonic Lodges, should exclude all titles that exalt one Mason above another, except such titles as have been conferred in a Masonic way. The Prince of Wales is not "His Royal Highness" in a Masonic Lodge, and his name should appear in Masonic journals with the prefix showing his rank as a Mason, and

nothing more. Who ever heard of "His Royal Highness," King Solomon, and yet this use of the title would be no more absurd than the practice of these Masonic journals in thus speaking of the present Grand Master of England.

[Our worthy contemporary, the *Masonic Advocate* of Indianapolis, gives expression to the above opinion on the subject of "Titles" being "not Masonic." It admires the loyalty of the British subjects towards their Sovereign and her family, but it questions the propriety of speaking in Lodge of "Her Majesty the Queen," and "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master," on the ground that "such expressions grate harshly on the ears of those who have been taught that, as Masons, we 'meet on the level!' Titles, except as conferred in a legitimate Masonic way, are of no value to Masons in this country where men and women are measured by standard of the nobility of worth and not of blood." We admit this looks pretty at first sight, but what are we unfortunate English Masons to do when, as loyal subjects, we toast our sovereign in Lodge? Are we to designate her as Mrs. Victoria Alexandrina Guelph, or Mrs. Victoria? Even "mistress" is a title, so perhaps we ought to speak of her as plain Victoria Guelph, according to taste. Then H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, does our contemporary wish us to designate him as "Bro. Wales," or "Bro. Albert Guelph." There is, perhaps, no country in the world where titles attract more attention than America. Your thoroughbred American, for all his republicanism, will devote a lifetime to running after a man who has a handle to his name. Yet Englishmen, forsooth, must drop the titles of "Queen" and "Prince of Wales," because they are not conferred by Masonry. There is no sense of servile adulation in an English brother when he toasts or refers to Her Majesty as the Queen, for the simplest of all reasons that she is the Sovereign of the United Kingdom. There is nothing in describing her eldest son, the Prince of Wales as such, because that is exactly what he is, not Bro. Wales or Bro. Guelph. We would suggest that when our brilliant contemporary wants something to write about, it should select a subject it is competent to deal with.—Ed. F.C.]

Bro. Boord, M.P., is announced to take the chair at the annual dinner of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum for Children.

Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor will preside at the twelfth annual meeting of the Cabdrivers' Benevolent Association at the Guildhall on Friday evening, the 30th instant.

The session of 1881-82 of the Royal Institute of British Architects was brought to a close on Tuesday, the 6th inst., by the presentation, by the President (Bro. Horace Jones, Grand Superintendent of Works), of the Royal Gold Medal, the gift of Her Majesty the Queen, the recipient being Baron von Ferstel, of Vienna. It is annually awarded to some eminent architect or man of science engaged in aiding and promoting the study and practice of architecture, and every alternate year it is given to a foreigner. Baron von Ferstel was unable to be present, but the Austro-Hungarian Embassy deputed Baron Wacken to receive the medal.

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

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SATURDAY, 17th JUNE.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal G. Junct., at 8. (Inst.)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 1897—Citadel, Railway Hotel, Harrow

MONDAY, 19th JUNE.

- Prov. Grand Lodge Berks and Bucks, Foresters' Hall, Reading
 45—Strong Man, George Hotel, Australian Avenue, Barbican, at 7 (Instruc.)
 174—Sincerity, Three Nuns Hotel, Aldgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
 1159—Marquis of Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In)
 1506—White Horse of Kent, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 7. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C. at 8 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
 1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
 M.M. 224—Menatschin, Criterion, Piccadilly
 K.T. 131—Holy Sanctuary, 33 Golden-square, W
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesen
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 331—Phoenix Public Room, Truro
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
 424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
 466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton
 622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield.
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
 1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
 1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover.
 1238—Gooch, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
 R.A. 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
 R.A. 482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth
 R.A. 778—St. Augustine, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 M.M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne

TUESDAY, 20th JUNE.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, 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.)
 890—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Powall-road, Dalston at 8. (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, D. of Cambridge, 316 Bridge-rd., Battersea Park, at 8 (In.)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge, S.W.
 1448—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st., rd., at 8 (In.)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst.)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
 R.A. 11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 238—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 M.M. 244—Trinity College, 13 Mandeville-place, W.
 R.C.—Oxford and Cambridge, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden Square
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 462—Frederick of Unity, Freemason's Hall, 105 High Street, Croydon
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 980—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Watling-street, Cardiff.
 1006—Tregullow, Masonic Room, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
 1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
 1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6 (Instruction)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich.
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool
 1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton.
 R.A. 419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.
 R.A. 829—High Cross, Bull Inn, Dartford.

WEDNESDAY, 21st JUNE.

- Summer Entertainment to the "Old Folks," R.M.B.I. Asylum, Croydon
 Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C., at 6.
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 223—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
 538—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst.)
 700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich
 720—Paumure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)

- 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1289—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Goat and Star, Swallow Street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Gleagall Road, Cubitt Town
 1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst.)
 1540—Chruccer, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
 1604—Wanderers, Black Horse, York Street, S.W., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1731—Cholmeley, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill
 1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 M.M. Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)
 R.C.—St. Andrew, Cafe Royal, Regent Street, W.
 R.C. 44—Bard of Avon, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden Square
 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance
 179—Antiquity Royal Hotel, Wigan.
 200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton
 246—Royal Union, Freemasons Hall, Cheltenham.
 325—St. John's Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 342—Royal Sussex, Freemasons' Hall, 79 Commercial Road, Landport
 392—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 865—Dalhousie, Town Hall, Hounslow
 874—Holmesdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull.
 1638—Brownrigg, Swan Hotel, Kingston on Thames

THURSDAY, 22nd JUNE.

- House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 211—St. Michael's, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 8 (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 751—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 858—South Middlesex, Beaufort House, North End, Fulham
 902—Burgoyne, Cock Tavern, St. Martin's-court, Ludgate-hill, at 6.30 (Inst)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shorditch, at 8 (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Keruington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1614—Covent Garden, Constitution, Bedford-street, W.C., at 7.45 (Instruction)
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury Place, at 8. (Inst.)
 M.M. 118—Northumberland, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street
 51—Angel, Three Cups, Colchester
 78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire
 100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor, Great Yarmouth
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
 286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
 348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1580—Crabbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1628—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 R.A. 216—Sacred Delta, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 431—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields
 R.A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

FRIDAY, 23rd JUNE.

- House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.)
 60—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruc.)
 569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road, E.O.
 766—William Preston, Jacob's Well, George-st., Manchester-sq., at 8 (Inst.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, (Inst.)
 R.A. 1159—Marquis of Dalhousie, 33 Golden-square, W.
 R.A. 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall, N.
 453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 630—Sefton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.C. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 24th JUNE.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal G. Junct., at 8. (Inst.)
 1297—West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
 1361—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 R.A. 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire will be held at the Corn Exchange, Sleaford, on Thursday next, the 22nd instant. Bro. W. H. Smyth, J.P., Provincial Grand Master, will preside, and will be supported by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Major Edmund Locock, J.P.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, No. 382.—On Wednesday, 14th inst., at the Chequers' Hotel, Uxbridge, Bros. Cotton W.M., Taplin S.W., Rowles J.W., Brooks S.D., Gray J.D., Phillips I.G. and Tyler. After the usual formalities the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Brooks candidate. The Lodge was advanced to the second, and Bro. Gray was interrogated and entrusted. Lodge was advanced to the third degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Gray candidate. Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when Bro. Taplin was unanimously elected to fill the chair at the next meeting, Wednesday, the 21st inst.

United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 507.—A meeting was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, 9th inst. Lodge was opened by Bro. H. Goodwin W.M., supported by Bros. J. Bate S.W., H. M. Williams J.W., R. Poore S.D., J. B. Sarjeant J.D., C. H. Phillips I.G., John S. Terry P.M. Secretary, James Stevens P.M. Hon. Preceptor, J. Letchford, F. Thurston P.M., G. W. Knight and others. After proof of proficiency by candidate, Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was efficiently rehearsed. The Charge in the second degree was recited by Bro. Bate, and the second section was worked. Lodge was closed to the first degree. Bro. Bate was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Preceptor stated his intention to devote the evening of the 23rd inst. to the delivery of the lectures on the tracing board in both the first and second degrees; and, having been elected as W.M. for the fifth Friday, the 30th inst., undertook to work the ceremony of installation of W.M. on that occasion. Lodge was then closed in due form.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—The first meeting of the new session was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Friday, when the election of Officers for the ensuing year and other business was transacted.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Met on Tuesday, 13th instant, at Brother Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Smyth W.M., Catling S.W., Edwards J.W., Corble S.D., Christian J.D., Hammond I.G., F. Carr Secretary, Wallington P.M. Preceptor; also Bros. Wardell, A. Clark, Jones, Brasted, Loring, Bunker, Darnell. The Lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Brother A. Clark offered himself as a candidate for passing, and was interrogated, entrusted, and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Christian gave the Lecture on the Tracing Board. The W.M. worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was opened in the third, and closed to the first degree, when Brother Catling was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was then closed and adjourned.

Earl Spencer Lodge of Instruction, No. 1420.—The last meeting for the present session of this Lodge of Instruction was held at the Swan Hotel, Battersea Bridge, S.W., on Wednesday last, the 14th instant, when Bro. James Stevens P.M. P.Z., on the invitation of the Lodge, delivered his interesting lecture, explanatory of the Rituals and Ceremonies of the First Degree. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, who listened with great attention to the lecturer, whom they encouraged by frequent expressions of approval. At the close of the lecture a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Stevens, accompanied by an invite to repeat his instructive address on the occasion of the reopening of the winter session. Bro. Stevens, in returning thanks, accepted the invite, at the same time stating his continued willingness to deliver the lecture in any other Lodge, or Lodge of Instruction, which might desire to hear it.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1511.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Queen's Hotel, York, on Monday, 12th inst. In the absence of the W.M. Bro. Geo. Simpson, who was detained in Derby by the illness of a member of his family, Lodge was opened by Bro. T. B. Whytehead P.M., who was supported by Bros. C. G. Padel P.M., J. T. Seller P.M., Geo. Balmford P.M. and Treasurer, J. Kay S.W., M. Millington J.W., T. Humphries Assistant Secretary, and a number of other brethren and visitors. Business commenced with the initiation of Mr. J. A. Waters, which was performed by the acting W.M., who afterwards left the chair, which was assumed by Bro. C. G. Padel Past Master, who proceeded to raise to the third degree Bro. S. J. Dalton. Bro. T. B. Whytehead read a letter received from Bro. Goodall, a member of the Lodge, from Jamestown, Dakota, United States, conveying hearty good wishes to the brethren, and describing his mode of life on the prairies. Bro. Whytehead then alluded to the sudden demise of the learned brother and Masonic bibliographer, Robert F. Bower, at Keokuk, and reminded the brethren that at their Lodge meeting a medal had been received from Bro. Bower for the Lodge collection, and moved, "That the members of the Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, York, England, desire to express their sincere condolence with the Grand Lodge of Iowa in the loss sustained by them in the death of that worthy and highly distinguished brother, Robert F. Bower, of Keokuk." This was seconded by Bro. J. T. Seller P.M., and carried. Bro. Balmford P.M. presented to the Lodge library a copy of "Kenning's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry," and Bro. Whytehead presented a framed engraving of Mrs. Aldworth, the female Freemason, as well as a large series of reports of Grand Lodges, files of *Canadian Craftsman*, and other miscellaneous works on Masonry.

Votes of thanks were accorded for these gifts. The Lodge was then closed, and a couple of hours were spent in social converse, the usual toasts being duly honoured.

Tredegar Lodge of Instruction, No. 1625.—A meeting was held on Monday, 12th inst., at the Royal Hotel, Mile End-road. Present—Bros. Maud W.M., A. Jones S.W., Hubbert J.W., D. Moss Preceptor, B. Stewart Secretary, Hammond S.D., Peterken J.D., Oxley I.G.; P.M. Kendall. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. C. Kendall answered the usual questions leading to the second degree, and was duly entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. C. Kendall candidate. Bro. Stewart worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. A. Jones was unanimously elected W.M. for the next Lodge meeting. Bro. Moss, in feeling terms, proposed that a letter of condolence be written to Bro. T. J. Barnes, on the heavy loss he has sustained by the death of his wife. This was seconded by Bro. Hubbert, and carried unanimously. Lodge was closed in due form.

Gallery Lodge, No. 1928.—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday afternoon, 10th June, at the Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton, Bro. Henry Massey W.M. presiding, and the other chairs were respectively filled by Bros. Henry Bussey and Minstrel, J. Allen P.M. the acting P.M., Duckworth Treasurer, and B. Cooke Secretary. There was a good attendance of members, and the Visitors were Bros. Reed, Williams, and H. Thompson. There was an ample quantity of work to be got through, consisting of two raisings, two passings, and two initiations. The whole of the business was disposed of in a manner which reflected the highest credit upon the W.M., and the whole of his Officers, and there can be little doubt, from the desire manifested by all, that in future the reputation of the Lodge will be fully maintained. This Lodge is formed exclusively of members of the press, and considering the short time that has elapsed since it was consecrated, it has made great strides, proving that it has met a want for such a Lodge, long since required. It would be invidious to particularise either of the ceremonies, as all was well done; and as to the feeling which should exist amongst Masonic brethren, there was nothing left to be desired. In the course of the evening Bro. Cooke, Secretary, read a reply received to an address of condolence directed by the last Lodge to be sent to the Marquis of Hartington on the occasion of the murder of his brother, Lord Frederick Cavendish, thanking them for the kindly terms in which they had addressed him during his domestic affliction. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a bountiful and substantial repast. At its conclusion, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, as was the health of the W.M., very ably and forcibly proposed by Bro. J. Allen P.M. The W.M.'s reply was much to the point; he alluded to the important fact, that although the Lodge had then only just been ushered into existence, it had kept true Masonry steadily in view, and made very liberal contributions towards one of the charitable Institutions. The newly-initiated brethren were next brought under notice in highly complimentary terms by the W.M., who alluded to their several antecedents, and found that at all times they exercised those distinguishing qualities which fitted them for admission into the Order of Freemasonry. Bros. Gale and Peacock, in acknowledging the toast, expressed their gratification in being received into the ranks of Freemasonry, and their determination to become worthy members of the Order. "The Visitors" was the next toast, and the W.M., in proposing it, gave them all a hearty welcome, on the part of the Lodge, alluding individually to the period during which he had known them, and the merits they respectively possessed. Bros. Reed, Williams, and Thompson severally returned thanks. Some other toasts were given and songs sung, Bros. Reed and Whitefoot presiding at the pianoforte. Taken altogether, it was a most agreeable gathering, and throughout was carried on in the true spirit of Freemasonry.

Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949.—The first regular meeting was held on Tuesday evening, 13th inst., at Bro. Monk's, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton. Bro. G. W. Knight officiated as W.M., and was supported by Bros. Hy. Baldwin S.W., George Millen J.W., E. A. Francis Preceptor, C. H. Phillips Treasurer, Hy. M. Williams Secretary, Walter Millen S.D., R. Poore J.D., J. Perry I.G., F. Baxter, John A. Danks, E. A. Albert, C. J. Axford, R. R. Johnstone, and others. Lodge was duly opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the inauguration meeting on the 6th inst. read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed by the W.M. and Officers, Bro. Albert being the candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second and third, and closed to the first degree. The following brethren were elected honorary members of the Lodge:—Bros. H. Lovegrove W.M. 1949, &c., Thos. Poore P.M. and P.Z., John S. Terry P.M. 507, E. A. Francis 1658. Bro. Monk was unanimously elected a member. Bro. Hy. Baldwin having been elected W.M. for the ensuing week, the Lodge was closed in due form.

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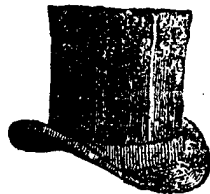


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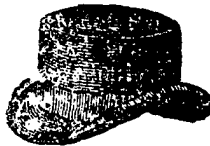
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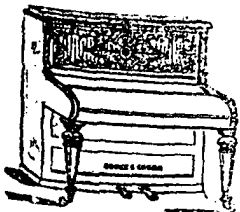
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