

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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PROPOSED CONVENTION.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE AND THE SCOTCH SYMBOLICAL GRAND LODGE.

(Continued from page 130.)

IN further consideration of its views, our worthy contemporary *Le Monde Maçonnique* continues in the following strain.

Is it not the case that our Grand Orient took the initiative in abolishing the Grand Mastership, an office which still exists in all the other countries of the world? Has it not, as a means of conciliating the supporters and opponents of the High Grades, and with a view to putting an end to the struggle which for years has divided French Masonry into two hostile camps, has it not, we ask, granted to the so-called superior Bodies the right to be represented in its general assemblies? Has it not, during the last fifty years, strenuously upheld the rights of the Jewish brethren in Germany, and those of the Negro and Mulatto Craftsmen in America, thus creating for itself, by this determined appeal to justice, a host of implacable enemies? Is it not the case that, single-handed against all the other Masonic powers in the world, it has dared to affirm the absolute freedom of man's conscience—an affirmation which has resulted in the excommunication of our Grand Orient by the whole of Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry? All this is forgotten, and much else that we might refer to, such as the struggle against Prince Murat, or the campaign against recognition by the State, both which proved to demonstration how jealous were the brethren of the Grand Orient of their independence, and how deeply they were animated by the spirit of toleration, without which Freemasonry would not exist. Yet, in spite of all this, there are people who pretend to believe that the Grand Orient is a retrograde and anti-Masonic body. Worse still, there are those who charitably propose to infuse new blood in it, by bestowing upon it an entirely new Constitution, endowed with every imaginable good quality. Admitting for the moment that this Constitution, which it is desired to force on the Grand Orient as a condition *sine qua non* of the fusion, should turn out to be unobjectionable in its effects, and realising on the instant all the hopes and aspirations of those who love justice, in that case, how perfect soever may be the new Constitution framed by the project of Convention, we do not hesitate to say, and we trust the Assembly will proclaim it aloud, that such Convention is impossible of acceptance, inasmuch as, in its most essential feature, so far from being progressive in its character, it will throw us back, and that, too, to a very considerable extent, as compared with the Constitution actually in force.

That the Constitution we live under at present is imperfect is a question that admits of no doubt, and it is equally recognised that those who have assisted in working it from 1865 till the present time have been no more than ignorant and incapable brethren. Meanwhile, however, this Constitution, notwithstanding its many defects, has at least one recommendation, which alone will suffice to wipe out the blots which people are pleased to attribute to it; it is capable of revision, and that, not only at remote intervals as those which preceded it, but constantly, whenever the majority of the Lodges have brought themselves to recognise the necessity for further modifica-

tions. During the last eleven years the General Assemblies of the Grand Orient have largely availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded them, as is evidenced by the fact that of the forty-four articles contained in the Constitutions of 1865, no less than twenty-five have been modified, amended, or replaced by others. Would such a result be possible with a Constitution which provides not for any revision, and the essential features of which will have been settled in a definite manner? How will it fare with the treaty of Union between the Symbolical Grand Lodge and the Grand Orient, if the latter should rashly put its hand to the work that is submitted to the ratification, pure and simple, of the approaching Convention? Who will have the right to tear up this contract, seeing that the two contracting parties will have ceased to exist? Thus, for the rest of all time, the French brethren will be condemned to admire the profound wisdom of their settled Constitution!

Such a course as has just been indicated would be quite out of the question, and the Assembly should never associate itself with proceedings so reactionary. The Constitution of 1865, which showed a great advance on that of 1854, allowed a revision to be made only at the end of nine years, and it necessitated a concatenation of circumstances that could hardly be anticipated—such, for instance, as the refusal of General Mellinet to accept re-election, the difficulty of enlisting on the spur of the moment another Grand Master, &c., &c.—in order to afford the party of progressists the opportunity of demanding in 1870 and obtaining the reunion of a constituent Assembly, which put an end among other things to the clause fixing revision at periods of time too far removed and by means of a special meeting.

The Constituent assembly which it is expected will be held with a certain amount of illegality on the 16th of September next, might insert in the new Constitution a clause providing for periodical revision in the future; but is it likely the Scotch Symbolical Grand Lodge, which is one of the contracting parties, will be prepared to ratify a convention, the essential basis of which may be modified or destroyed at any moment? It cannot shut its eyes to the fact that it will always be found in a minority in the Assemblies, and it is only natural that, as it attaches certain conditions to its re-union with the Grand Orient, it should require those conditions to be scrupulously observed.

In a report on this question to the Symbolical Grand Lodge, Bro. Grumain-Cornille says distinctly: "I am desirous of pointing out that the actual proposition, even when it has been adopted by the Symbolical Grand Lodge, and ratified by the approaching Convention, is nothing more than a preliminary step, which in no way binds the contracting parties. Everything remains subject to the vote of the entire constituent body, to which shall be entrusted the Constitution of Symbolical French Masonry, once again restored to its sovereign jurisdiction. If, then, which is most unlikely, the representatives of the Symbolical Grand Lodge should find themselves in the Constituent Assembly in the face of a majority hostile to the principles of liberty as formulated in the project of Convention, it would still be in their power to reject, in its entirety, the new organic law as proposed, and, in a formal declaration explanatory of its reasons, to cancel the signature of the Symbolical Grand Lodge, with a view to maintaining its present independence, and so reserve an asylum for its liberty."

This language is clear, and sufficiently indicates that the Symbolical Grand Lodge is too much attached to its prin-

ciples not to insist on formal guarantees in making a treaty such as is proposed. And, in a matter of this kind, what other guarantee can possibly be had than a Constitution which is unchangeable, albeit such a guarantee is in truth of but little account, seeing that, with the most perfect good faith on both sides, one may adopt to-day certain ideas and principles which to-morrow will appear so much more intolerable that it would be difficult, or even impossible, to amend them? Here then is a difficulty, the solution of which is evidently not simple, but on which the project of convention throws no light. Either the Grand Orient loses its power to modify its Constitution when and as it pleases, or the Symbolical Grand Lodge, content with its present victory, admits the right of revision, and is prepared to run the risk of seeing its principles at some future time replaced by others diametrically opposed to them. In such a case, which is by no means an improbable one, there will remain open to the malcontent Lodges no other resource than the final one of separating themselves from the jurisdiction, as they have separated from the Scotch system, and setting up a separate jurisdiction of their own. Yet when a case of fusion is on the carpet, it would be ridiculous to establish a position, which could only be put an end to by a schism. Whatever happens, it will be the duty of the General Assembly of the Grand Orient, before ratifying the proposal, to insist on the insertion of a clause under which the right of revising it will be included among the fundamental bases of the new Constitution.

THE DULL SEASON.

WHEN the swallows homeward fly" we suppose that we shall hear the sound of the gavel calling the brethren in from all points of the compass, and they will come trooping back from their holiday trips with visages bronzed by the country sun rays, and with bodies and minds strung up with renewed vigour for the work of the coming session. With those whose misfortune it has been to have no holiday, this stagnation in Masonic circles, and the deprivation of those little amenities which go far to sweeten life, has become almost intolerable. To spin away for a couple of days on a visit to some Provincial Grand Lodge, and there to fraternise with brethren whom one has not seen for years; to hie away with a glad some and happy group to a summer pic-nic; or to drop in at one of the cosy little Lodges of Instruction, which we are happy to see abounding on every hand, is the most that any man having Masonry at heart can hope to indulge in for the next month at least. However, we suppose that, like all mundane affairs, rest is as essential in Masonry as in any other condition of existence; and were it not for these breaks in the "annual round" perhaps even the most assiduous and enthusiastic Craftsman would grow to look upon his labours as monotonous. "All work and no play," has its moral and physical effect, alike in making "Jack a dull boy" or the student heavy-eyed; and thus, just as when the school-boy throws aside his books, and flings his cap high into the air in joyous exultation over the arrival of the holidays, so do most men—and especially those who work hardest with head and brain—hail with singularly happy complacency the time when they can lock up the desk, be it for ever so short a period, and indulge in a respite from the ordinary duties and worries of life. By and bye our brethren will be home returning, like doves to their cotes, wherein there will be renewed those loving and fraternal associations which have been broken by a short and pleasant spell. Then will be recounted the agreeable scenes witnessed and enjoyed on the holiday tours; the visits to country Lodges—for there is nothing more common than for our hearty and hospitable Provincial brethren to hold a special *réunion* at a time when they know there are numbers of Visitors about, and who would be glad of a fraternal hour or two away from home, and all those topics which go to make up the sum of friendly conversation. Friends will compare notes, illustrated by panoramic mental sketches of the scenery through which they have passed, the old friendships that have been renewed, and the new ones that have been gained; they will relate how little minor annoyances and disappointments were overcome, and generally "how things in general" were managed. At home, and in the midst of all this stillness to which we allude, we can only

ponder upon the extensive area over which the brethren are just now scattered, and the various pleasantries in which they are respectively participating. Some are fitting round the coasts in white-winged yachts, dancing over summer waves, and inhaling the life-giving ozone of the breezes off the sea. They will tell us of the varying beauties of the foreshore, ever changing from one picture of quiet grandeur to another, of spanking breezes and "slanting" craft which take the lead in the regattas that now delight the dwellers by the sea; of deep line fishing and the hauls which may well make the inland disciple of Izaak Walton sigh with envy; of the saunterings upon the esplanade and pier, where bands play softly, and music mingles its sweet cadences with the ripple of the sea. Others have been far away upon the moors, and will return with cheeks as russet as the heather over which they have trampled, gun in hand, and with trusty spaniels and retrievers at their heels. What tales they will have to tell, and tactics of manœuvres "under cover," while blazing away amongst the speckled grouse, just as our brave fellows "out East" are peppering the deluded followers of Arabi! The idea is suggested by an expression which burst forth the other day from a burly brother who at almost his first shot brought down a brace of "brown beauties," and who only wished our "jolly red coats" could in like manner pop off the rebels "two at a time?" How they will account the heavy trudges over moor and heath land, the merry tales told along the way, the visions of sport, and the realisation of health-giving exercise and hilarity, of kilted attendants, and bonny Highland whisky! All these things have been recounted before, but they come fresh every year, dressed up in new fashion, and with a flavour of novelty in them quite mellow and refreshing. Others, again, have been by the lakes and streams, amidst the "finny friends" of whom our correspondent, the "non-sporting Brother," spoke so eloquently in a recent article in our columns; and it will be whether the "red soldier," the "palmer," or the "blue dun" has proved the most seductive in bewitching the silvery trout and other denizens of our streams into their creels. Down by the sea-side, at aristocratic Brighton or Scarborough, at more refined Eastbourne, Bournemouth or Ilfracombe, in shady beautiful Clovelly, and such like haunts of loveliness, never invaded by the noise of boisterous mirth; there are our brethren, with thousands more, enjoying their well-earned repose—too short a span, alas! they think—from the wear and tear, the hurry and bustle of business, and the ordinary routine of duty. We shall welcome them all home in a week or two, with many a hand-shake of congratulation upon their improved appearance and spirits, and shall all go forward again together along the paths of our favourite research. 'Tis little we have to say as yet in prospect of the coming session for the simple reason that as the knife grinder in the story, so aptly and so frequently alluded to by some of our Masonic orators, "we have no story to tell." But this we know, that when the brethren come back and enter once more upon their allotted tasks, the square men will drop into their square holes with all the steadiness and regularity of veterans, for the whole of the Masonic machinery will revolve as smoothly and as gaily as ever. Already the evenings are "drawing in" apace, and we shall have autumn and winter upon us almost before we are aware of their approach. The most must be made of the few remaining weeks—or days!—of a dull season, if we have not already gone upon our holiday escapades, for in a trice we shall be glad of cosy fires in our grates, the closed curtains, and the gladdening society of friends. Then from their hidden recesses will come forth the emblems and insignia which have been so carefully laid aside by considerate Tylers; the lights will reappear, and the brethren will again repair to their respective homes—for where can the word home be so thoroughly and perfectly find exemplification as within the precincts of our Masonic Lodges. To finish these simple platitudes, which in the absence of more stirring themes we are content to present as a sort of side-dish to our readers, we can only repeat, in pleasant recollection of the evenings we have spent together, "happy may we meet again." One thing is certain: the same joyous faces, the same impulses of hearty good fellowship and fraternal greeting, will soon again adorn the haunts of "ye mystic tie," when, with heart and hand our friends and neighbours will cheer the winter evenings, and dissipate for another year the solitude which inevitably accompanies the dull season through which we have happily so nearly passed.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

WE extract the following from the "Proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," copy of which has just been forwarded to us:—

A Special Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was held in the town of Peabody, the 21st of April A.D. 1882, for the purpose of performing the funeral rites over the remains of R.W. Bro. William Sutton Past Senior Grand Warden.

Bro. Samuel Crooker Lawrence	...	Grand Master
Edwin Wright	...	Deputy Grand Master
William Babson	...	Senior Grand Warden
Henry G. Fay	...	Junior Grand Warden
Sereno D. Nickerson	...	Recording Grand Secretary
Albert H. Sweetser	...	D.D.G. Master, Dist. No. 5
Rev. Fielder Israel	...	Grand Chaplain
Frederick D. Ely	...	Grand Marshal
John L. Stevenson	...	Grand Sword Bearer
Henry J. Parker	...	Grand Tyler

Amongst the other brethren present were—

Bros. William D. Coolidge P.G.M., William Parkman P.G.M., Chas. C. Dame P.G.M., Perceval L. Everett P.G.M., Charles Levi Woodbury D.P.G.M., William H. Chessman P.G.W., Henry J. Mills Master William Sutton Lodge, A. T. Stocker S.W., George Parsons J.W., Harmon Hall Member, Henry A. Brown P.M. Star King Lodge, Benj. Dean Past G.W.

At fifteen minutes past eleven o'clock a.m. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, at the residence of our deceased Brother, in that part of his library called the "Masonic Room," where he had passed so many happy hours, surrounded by the portraits of brethren whom he so dearly loved, and by the interesting and suggestive souvenirs of his sixty years of Masonic life.

The M.W. Grand Master announced the purpose of the Communication. He gave a rapid sketch of the chief incidents in the history of our Brother, especially those connected with his Masonic career. He described in appropriate and graceful terms the debt we owe him for firmness and fidelity in time of obloquy and persecution, for aid and support in time of poverty and need. His kindly, modest, and affectionate devotion to the Craft in all its branches, and to all the brethren with whom he came in contact, was set forth in language which happily expressed the thoughts and recollections of those present. The Grand Master summed up this brief but feeling tribute to the memory of our departed Brother by reading the following Sacred Roll, to be placed on perpetual record:—

R.W. BROTHER WILLIAM SUTTON,

Past Senior Grand Warden of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

BORN IN SALEM, MASS., 26TH JULY 1800.

His life was one of busy and varied usefulness,—in every sphere full of honour, frankness, and truth. A patriotic citizen, a gallant soldier, a sincere friend, and a devoted Mason, to whose unselfish labours the Craft is largely indebted.

DIED IN PEABODY, MASS., 18TH APRIL 1882.

He has left behind him the record of a well-spent life, rendered beautiful by genial manners, generous friendliness, and active good works, and his brethren rendered grateful homage to the memory of one who served Masonry so faithfully and so well.

The Grand Officers took their stations around the body, in an adjoining room, which was fragrant with the many floral tributes offered by numerous civil, military, and Masonic organisations with which our friend had been connected. His pastor, the Rev. John William Hudson, conducted a fitting service in the hall above, after which the family and near relatives joined the Masonic circle, and the appropriate portions of our ritual were recited by the Grand Master and the Grand Chaplain, the responses being rendered most beautifully and effectively by the Temple Quartette.

The Grand Chaplain, Rev. Fielder Israel, then delivered the following parting words of affection, sympathy, and sorrow:—

Dear Brethren and Friends,—I will protract these services of commemoration and fraternal love but a moment longer, to repeat the Scripture: "This man, after he had served his generation, by the grace of God, fell on sleep." This is Bro. Sutton's best eulogy. His life of more than fourscore years was spent in doing good. He had a genius for benevolence. Kindness was the law of his life. He was absorbed and controlled by it. In him it was a principle and passion.

He lived for others, and pleased not himself. He was a true Mason, "made on the good old plan of truth, obedience, and love." He was exalted to the sublimest degrees because of the fidelity of his conduct and the fulness of his charity.

He was concerned in everything pertaining to human welfare. The best interests of society always found in him an advocate and a supporter. Master and model to the Craft, he studied its principles, understood its purposes, and practised its virtues. He was a cordial, confiding, generous brother, full of love "that believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things." He went in and out among his brethren like one who serveth." In him and by him the ancient word was fulfilled: "A man shall be a hiding-place from the wind, a covert from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, and as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land."

To-day, dear brethren, we have come to fill his grave with our love, to plant the verdure of an everlasting spring upon his new-made sepulchre and then to go our way, to our duty and destiny, full of immortal hope; so living

— "that Death, come when he may, shall find
Us busily engaged in something which
Shall cast a blessing on the world, rebound
With one to our own breast, and tend to give
To man some benefit, to God some praise."

At the conclusion of this most touching and impressive service, which brought tears to the eyes of many besides the near relatives, the Grand Officers and the family of the deceased took carriages, and proceeded to the family tomb in Harmony Grove Cemetery. After a brief prayer and benediction by the Grand Chaplain, the mortal remains of our venerated brother were safely deposited in the silent tomb, and, with their hearts filled with sweet remembrance of his virtues, the brethren returned to the place of opening, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form at ten minutes past one o'clock p.m.

Messrs. SPOONER & CO.'S ANNUAL EXCURSION.

THE annual excursion of the employés of Messrs. Spooner and Co. and Bro. J. E. Fells (Worshipful Master of the Confidence Lodge, No. 193), wine coopers and bottle merchants, of Laurence Pountney-lane, and Tooley-street, took place recently, Ightham, Kent, being again selected as the scene of the day's festivities. The weather was all that could be desired, and with an excellent programme before them, the men, numbering nearly 150 in all, assembled in high spirits at the Elephant and Castle station at 9.20 a.m., whence they proceeded to Wrotham, the journey down being enlivened with harmony and song. A pleasant walk over the Kentish hillside was enjoyed, the country now appearing in its summer luxuriance, and the hops, in full growth, adding much to the attractiveness of the landscape. On reaching Ightham, the party made at once for the George and Dragon Hotel, where "mine host," Mr. W. Mist, had made ample preparation for their comfort; a substantial luncheon being laid ready for the visitors, whose appetites had been sharpened by a brisk walk after the railway journey. Luncheon having been discussed, the party adjourned, some to inspect the grand old church of St. Peter, in which are some beautiful monuments of the Selby family, one of which is to the memory of Dame Dorothy Selby, who is believed to have discovered to her husband the Gunpowder Plot, and many memorial brasses to the Moultons and others. There is also a handsome window in the north aisle, facing the east, dedicated to the memory of Demetrius Grevis James, J.P., and of Mary his wife, placed there by "their affectionate children." The Mote also was visited, and other places of interest inspected, whilst the main body of the company repaired to Mr. Mist's field, where a number of athletic and other sports were well contested. At two o'clock dinner was served in a spacious marquee in rear of the hotel, and which had been decorated in such a manner as fairly to entitle it to the appellation applied, of the "little floral hall." Bro. J. E. Fells, the acting partner of the firm, presided, supported by Mr. H. Grose, Mr. A. C. Hartley, Bro. Morris 193, Bro. Diplock, Mr. J. J. Candlish, of Seaham Harbour (son of one of the Prov. Grand Officers of Durham), Mr. Provost, and representatives of several wine firms in the City. The arrangements made by Mr. Mist elicited expressions of unqualified satisfaction, and at the conclusion of an excellent dinner the customary loyal toasts were honoured, followed by Success and Prosperity to the Firm of Messrs. Spooner and Co., coupled with the name of Mr. H. Grose, who referred in felicitous terms to the steady growth of the business that day represented, and its increasing importance in the City of London. He alluded in flattering terms to the excellent management of Bro. J. E. Fells, and expressed the hope that the good understanding subsisting between the various departments of the firm might long continue. Bro. J. E. Fells, in a few happily chosen sentences, responded, extending to all a cordial welcome, and expressing the pleasure it afforded him of meeting them all once more under such very agreeable auspices. This was the twelfth anniversary of their "outing," and seven of these pleasant days had been spent at Ightham, which was their favourite resort. He then spoke of his twenty-six years' connection with the firm, and added a few words of encouragement and advice, especially to the younger members, exhorting them to emulation in all they saw was good and likely to conduce to their happiness and success in life. He bade a hearty welcome to the Visitors, whose health was cordially acknowledged by Bro. W. W. Hughes, of the Victoria Wine Company. Several other toasts were honoured, and later in the evening tea was enjoyed; and the cool of the evening pleasantly wiled away with singing and a variety of out-door amusements, until the time for the departure of the train for home, when all assembled and returned to town highly satisfied and delighted with the agreeable and admirably-arranged treat which had been provided for them.

Obituary.

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BRO. W. W. WOODROW.

THIS week the painful task of recording the death of Bro. Woodrow, Royal Arthur Lodge, 1360, unfortunately devolves upon us. He was, indeed, a worthy working Mason, and therefore an honourable man, and, as such, adorned the Order in the faithful discharge of all the relative duties of life. For upwards of twenty-five years he filled the arduous and responsible position of assistant cashier at Nine Elms Railway Station, Vauxhall, in connection with the London and South Western Company, during which long period, by the assiduity he manifested in discharging the duties of his office, and the frank, genial, and amicable manner of his daily converse, "won golden opinions" from all those with whom he came in contact. Our brother was a guest at the Sphinx Lodge 1329 on the 15th ult., when he was in the enjoyment of health and strength. On his return homeward from that Lodge, however, he caught cold, of which, at first, no particular notice was taken, it being regarded as but of a transitory nature. Quinsy, however, afterwards exhibited itself, and ultimately dropsy supervened, the result being that speedy dissolution ensued. Thus, peacefully and resignedly, passed away from among us, in the prime of life, at the age of forty-four, surrounded by sorrowing relatives and dear friends, the soul of one who has entered into rest; the mortal has put on immortality, and the corruptible in corruption. As a matter of course, inasmuch as Bro. Woodrow was well known in South London, the suddenness of his death caused a gloom among the residents generally, and it was resolved that an expression of respect should be manifested at his burial. On Wednesday, the 16th inst., his remains were interred at Woking Necropolis, in the presence of an unusually large number of brethren, associates, and friends, the Directors of the South Western Railway Company providing a special train for the occasion. In addition to being a member of our Craft, deceased was a Forester and Volunteer. His life had been an active and useful one. "He had not lived for himself, neither did he die for himself"—

"For the actions of the just,
Smell sweet, and blossom in the dust."

As regards the Volunteer element, the Fifth Surrey Rifles, to which deceased had belonged for several years, were represented by a squad and firing party, whose presence lent a martial and imposing effect to the mournful cortège. Lieutenant Hyde Edwards, and Sergeants Hunt, Warwick, and Nesmyth, and Sergeant Instructor Fisher represented the brother officers and non-commissioned officers of the deceased, whilst among his old associates, with whom he had been united for so many years in unbroken harmony and goodwill, in his official capacity at Nine Elms, were Mr. H. B. Terrill (cashier), Mr. Charles Hagreen (chief accountant), Mr. Richard East, Messrs. Page, Grimsdick, Hornsby, Dobby, Gaiger, Anbler, Ponton, Lambert, Nicholls, G. Dunne, H. Dunne, Wells, Penny, Borwell, Burton, Ransford, Lewis, Jackson, Venables, Doig, Turner, Cousens, Parsons, Hyde, A. W. Wall, Chittenden (senior and junior), Bennett (London and South Western Railway Friendly Society), and Coward. The City receiving offices were represented by Messrs. Fletcher, Mortlock, and Hicks, and, in addition, Mr. Pain, from the Southampton Dock Company. Mr. Glover, Station Master at Woking, and Mr. Reider, of Brookwood, were also present, and last, though by no means least, were Bros. H. Forbes, Lodge 1329, Fletcher Royal Savoy Lodge 1744, and A. Hall 1329. Owing to the fact that no ostentatious display was deemed advisable, and also that many brethren are away from home at this season of the year, the cortège was not so numerous as it would otherwise have been. There were, however, many Masous present whose names we could not ascertain. To the above brethren the task devolved of depositing sprigs of acacia on the coffin, which was placed on a catafalque, preceded by a firing party of the Fifth Surrey Rifles, the pall-bearers being non-commissioned officers of that corps. Following these were the mourners, headed by the bereaved widow—for whom evident sympathy was felt—and a long retinue of friends. On the pall being removed, choice wreaths and emblems wrought in flowers mingled with the acacia on the coffin, which was literally covered there-

with. The exceedingly impressive and appropriate service for the dead being ended, three volleys were fired over the grave, and thus ended a solemn ceremony, which will be long remembered by those who were present. We are aware of the fact that a man cannot be a good Mason without being a good man. That is an impossibility, but as regards Bro. Woodrow, his religious principles shone forth in all his actions. Without parade, honour, or ostentation, he was a "living stone" in the earthly temple, and is now within the portals of that unseen temple to which every Mason is directing his eye of faith, and the steps of his daily pilgrimage.

BRO. OCTAVIUS DEAN.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Octavius Dean, P.M. Humphry Chetham Lodge, 645, Manchester, which took place on 14th August 1882. For some time past Bro. Dean had been suffering from a complication of disorders, which prevented his taking that amount of interest in the Craft he had done in previous years, but his purse was always at the disposal of the Steward who desired his donation. He was respected and beloved by the members of his Lodge, and is sincerely regretted by its Past Masters.

BROTHER WILLIAM PLATT.

This worthy Craftsman, a well known member of several Metropolitan Lodges and Chapters, died on Friday, the 18th inst., at Walham Green, and was interred at Brompton Cemetery on the 24th, in the presence of his sorrowing family and a number of Brethren and Companions of the Lodges and Chapters to which he was attached. The "last sad tribute of respect" was paid to our deceased brother in usual significant manner observed amongst Freemasons.

THE OATH OF OFFICE.

BEFORE being installed as Worshipful Master of a Lodge, a brother elected to that position is required to take a solemn obligation to support and maintain the constitutions, laws and general regulations of the Grand Lodge under which it holds its charter; also the by-laws of the Lodge over which he is elected to preside, and that he will discharge all the duties pertaining to his official position to the best of his ability. The other Officers are also required to join with him in this obligation, so far as pertains to their respective positions. The engagements thus entered into on their part would seem to be sufficiently strong and binding to secure good government in every Masonic Lodge, and strict obedience to Masonic law. The line of duty is plain, and of all men Masons should be the most reliable in the performance of it. We believe they are, and as a rule no code of laws are more faithfully executed than those enacted for the government of Masonic Lodges.

How unfortunate it is that there can be no rule without its exception. Even in Masonry obligations sometimes are not strong enough to control some men. There is occasionally a W.M. who will permit his Lodge to violate a regulation of the Grand Lodge. This is sometimes done through ignorance, which is scarcely less excusable than a wilful violation, for he whose duty it is to execute laws should make it his business to know them. He should always have a copy of the regulations in the Lodge-room for reference, and require all actions to be in accordance with them. Unless he does this he is not discharging the duties of his office to the best of his ability. He disregards his oath of office, and shows himself to be unworthy of the high honour conferred upon him in his election.

In all Masonic bodies in this State, in the several departments of Masonry, a similar obligation is administered to the presiding Officer and his associates in office before their installation, and hence all that we have said applies with equal force to them. It was not the purpose of this article to present individual instances of violations of official obligations, although quite a number of them have come to our knowledge during the term of Officers now presiding. They may have occurred through ignorance (a very poor excuse), and we hope, by calling attention to the fact, that their repetition may be avoided. We would suggest, too, that we are not the proper party to whom complaints should be made. Make them to the proper Grand Officer who has authority to investigate offences, and place on trial any one charged with violating his official obligations. —Masonic Advocate.

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

MASONRY AND ITS RELATIONS TO THE OUTER WORLD.

THE following Oration was delivered at the late Sesqui-Centennial Celebration of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, by Bro. Hon. Henry M. Hoyt, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:—

An organisation which can project itself before a discerning public, confidently, modestly, and effectively, as the Masonic Lodges of Pennsylvania have this day done, will ever bear every question of its right to exist, and will safely challenge an analysis of its "reasons for being." This well-ordered display of external power, without blazonry or frivolous trappings, may well lead the student of social science to explore those abiding and essential principles of human nature upon which Masonry in its esoteric philosophy is grounded. No fraternity of such proud, self-respecting citizens as have to-day counter-marched upon the streets of this great city could be incorporated, and hold its integrity for generations, if its underlying polity was conceived in any wide or serious departure from the laws of God or of humanity. It were absurd to assume that its motive began and terminated in mere pageants or street parades, consciously strong, dignified and imposing as this one has been. For one hundred and fifty years, at least, this particular guild has gone on with its functions, overseeing and ordering an organism which has to-day, not for the first time, made an exhibit of its power outside the Lodge-room, and this Grand Lodge is only one among many, and you thousands are only part of other tens of thousands. Does any suppose that all this pre-arranged order and adjusted co-operation is the outgrowth of whim, or curiosity or intrigue, and launched upon the public for mere vulgar display? Here is a vast gathering of sedate, judicious, and well-to-do citizens. They come from all callings in life. I hazard little in saying, that seated along these aisles are the foremost of the men who are making modern life what it is, in all its best phases and tendencies. They are not fanatics, nor are they conspirators. They pretend to no inspiration. They affect no supernatural mission. They are simply a body of plain, practical men, intent upon a plain common purpose. Their ministrations lie about the home and threshold of every Brother—nay, of every fellow-being. Fraternity with them is not limited to those who sit in the Lodge-room. They take up the first awful question addressed to the first wrongdoer. "Where is thy brother?" They put it to every exclusive, oppressive, and corrupting person or community. They propose to reverse the melancholy philosophy of the Italian, who thought "that no man in God's wide earth was willing or able to help any other man." They propose to gather up all the glorious examples of their predecessors, and the ennobling tradition of the family of man, and as best they can, illuminated by the best light of natural reason, and in gathered strength and widened experience, fulfil the new and heightened demands of human fellowship. They invade no ecclesiastical domain. They usurp the functions of no sectary or church, or their ministers ordained under other and higher credentials, whose exhortations are to be enforced under higher sanctions. They have no political dilemmas, except the equality of men as children of a common Father, and no theological dogmas, except only the daily prayer and precept that "we may practise out of the Lodge, the principles of religion and morality we are taught within it."

Think you, Brethren, that with your great and extended membership, with your compacted unity, your generous enthusiasm, your indoctrination in right morals, that your influence and impress can be confined within the jurisdiction of the Tylers of your Lodge-rooms? The force generated within the dead walls will be borne out by living men in beneficent streams, well typified by the stream of living men which has flowed through these streets to-day. The "principles of religion and morality" we are taught within the Lodge are not complicated riddles beyond the comprehension and solution of the plainest member.

Under the government of a Supreme Being we find ourselves mortals here, with multiplied rights and duties to each other. The natural man may apprehend and observe these rights and duties. 500 years B.C., Socrates formulated the conclusion upon which the process and the expectation of final success is predicated.

Man has, no doubt, strong self-preserving, self-asserting, and self-advancing instincts, which, if left without counter-action, would lead to isolation, or mutual hostility and ultimate extermination; but these instincts, of isolated individualism are met by stronger instincts of sympathy, love and fellowship, in the ascendancy of which the true humanity of man, as distinguished from tigerhood and spiderhood, consists. The function of reason is the recognition and the realisation of truth. Truth recognised in speculation is science; truth realised in action is a moral life and a well ordered society.

Without insisting upon the antiquity of Freemasonry, I am insisting upon the antiquity of the reasons underlying it, and the identity of its doctrines and its methods with right humanity. There have come streaming down the central ideas of rightness and the maxims of justice which have saved us. In the prehistoric mists of the race, in the earliest types which blind Homer sang, anterior to the first Olympiad, amid the jealousies and struggles and even barbarities of the Grecian chieftains and kings of men before the walls of Troy, we come upon the full apprehension and exercise of the same essential qualities of manhood, whose definition has neither been lost nor essentially enlarged. From that day to this it has continuously included honesty, courage, love of country, loyalty to persons, faithfulness to convictions, respect, fidelity, and love for woman, whether maiden or wife, cherished with tenderness "from the bloom to the ripening of the grape." Among the soundest of ideas got from all this past we may reckon the power of opinion and persuasion as opposed to force; the sense of responsibility in governing men; the hatred of tyranny and all unlimited power; the recon-

ciliation and harmony between the spirit of freedom on the one hand, the spirit of order and reverence on the other, and a practical belief in right as relative and in duty as reciprocal, and that the rights of human nature are unitary.

This body of doctrine which you hold—directed and adapted to no special calling, no sect, no clique, but to all men, energised by organisation, and more or less perfectly developed in the daily life of a picked body of men—selected citizens—must overflow the confines of Masonic temples. These temples become the depositories of moral capital, out of which all drafts made by charity, morality, religion, and even death, may be honoured at sight. They are the enacted law of the Abimael Rezon—logically grown out of a reasonable legend and supported by a cultus and a ritual which can offend neither the conscience nor the common sense. Therein the helplessness of the individual is supplemented by the power of fellowship. Hopeless would be our condition if we struggled each for himself through the mazes and perplexities of life. In the whirl and attrition of the awful machinery in motion all about us, in the successes and disasters, in the hopes and woes, in the gladness and bitterness which hedge us round about, the individual is an inconsequential unit. Organisation and fellowship rescue him from the unequal conflicts in which single-handed he would go down before the Craft and evil combined against him. They are the scaffolding from which the complete harmonious social structure can be raised.

"God loves from whole to parts, but human soul
Must rise from individual to the whole;
Self-love but serves the virtuous mind to wake,
As the small pebble stirs the peaceful lake.
The centre moved, a circle straight succeeds;
Another still, and still another spreads;
Friend, parent, neighbour, first it will embrace,
His country next, and next all human race."

For my part, I fully believe that mankind will finally triumph over the destiny which now seems so grievously to encompass them. They have well held their own. Step by step humanity has climbed nearer the heavens whence we came. Not alone by the maxims current with Agamemnon and Achilles, Socrates and Marcus Aurelius—not, perhaps, unaided from the Empyrean heights, whence Prometheus snatched the sacred fire, and not without enduring some of the tortures with which that vicarious sufferer for his race endured, chained to the rocks of Mount Caucasus—not without the pregnant formula of the Apostle of the Gentiles: "Now abideth faith, hope and charity, these three—but the greatest of these is charity"—not without the external and Divine help of Him who, eighteen centuries ago, spoke the Sermon on the Mount and taught us "the Lord's Prayer."

The chivalry and art and democracy with which the Olympian games glorified the Hellenic race ought not to be anachronism to us. Our contentions are in the arena of ethics and morals. Rewards for victory and achievements now, no less precious than the wreath from the sacred olive tree in Olympia awaits successful competitors. They are for those who can "best work in the best degree." Our beatitudes terminate not upon the individual, but upon the family, the State and the race. We shall yet reap the harvest. "And it shall come to pass in that day I will hear, saith the Lord, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth, and the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil, and they shall hear Jezral."

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall. The three chairs were occupied by Bros. Joshua Nunn, James Brett, and the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford; there was a very large attendance of Grand Officers and other brethren, for the season of the year. The Board of Masters was first held, and the paper of business for Grand Lodge of 6th September was submitted. The Lodge of Benevolence first confirmed grants to the amount of £240 recommended at the July meeting. There were twenty-five cases on the new list. The Lodge sat nearly four hours, in the course of which the brethren deferred two cases, and dismissed one. The remainder were relieved to a total sum of £735, which was composed of one £150, one £100, two £50, one £40, four £30, five £25, two £20, one £15, four £10, and one £5.

A Special Grand Lodge of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will be held on Monday evening next, at seven, at the Masonic Hall, Albion-place, Southampton, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., for the purpose of giving a welcome to those members of the British Association who are Masons, as well as to other visitors to Southampton, on the business of the Association, who are members of the Order. The same kindly Masonic feelings was, it will be remembered, exhibited last year by the Yorkshire brethren when the British Association held its meeting at York.

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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:—

THE EVENING NEWS ON THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I invariably look out for the Masonic column of the *Evening News*. It contains mostly some interesting items of news, and, generally speaking, the views it expresses are sound. But a paragraph I have just read about the additional grant to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and other matters has completely staggered me. The writer first of all points out that the anxiety that is felt as to the confirmation of this further grant is needless. But has he already forgotten that Bro. Raynham Stewart's motion was brought forward in the first instance last December, and though it was passed unanimously, and amid loud applause, yet in March, an eminent Brother, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of one of the home counties, a Past Grand Deacon, and a member of the Board of General Purposes, moved the non-confirmation of so much of the December minutes as related to the said motion, and the motion was carried, a Committee of Inquiry into the funds at the disposal of the Board of General Purposes being appointed with a view to ascertaining if Grand Lodge could afford the additional outlay? In June, Bro. Stewart's motion was again submitted, and, it having been shown that the Board had a surplus income of £4,000 per annum, was carried by a small majority, a counter-proposition to give £400 having been first negatived. Now, what happened in March with reference to the December minutes, may—I hope it will not, for the sake of Grand Lodge consistency—happen in September with reference to the June minutes, especially as the attendance at the last Communication, when the rival motions were discussed, was a small one, and the majority for Bro. Stewart's motion only about fifteen. Hence, I think, it is very natural that the supporters of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution should bestir themselves, and that its Secretary should second their efforts.

As to the latter part of the paragraph, so far as I can understand it, it strikes me as being written in a tone which, to say the least, is the reverse of Masonic. The writer says there is this in favour of the Benevolent Institution, "That the recipients of its bounty did not come into Masonry at a time when it was thought there was something to be got out of Masonry. They joined Masonry, it is true; and, what is as true, they never did anything for Masonry besides belonging to it and working up in it, and the support of the Charities was never part of their practice. Still, they were Masons, and they fell into bad circumstances, and the doctrines of Freemasonry have been carried into effect by placing them on the annuitants' list." But he goes on to say, "With the other Institutions there is a difference. The children who are admitted are the children of younger Masons, who, there is no room left to doubt, in a large proportion had an eye to the future when they joined the ranks, and the great majority of whom never contributed a halfpenny to either of the Institutions. Very few men join Masonry late in life, and so there is no suspicion that the annuitants of the Benevolent Institution saw in the not far distant future an annuity of £40, when they went through the ceremonies of initiation, passing, and raising."

Now, these assertions are far too sweeping in their character. There is reason to believe that many join the Craft for what they can make out of it, but such brethren are the exception, not the rule. Moreover, to my knowledge, very many men of mature age join the Fraternity, and if they, or any of them, have an eye to the main chance, why may they not just as well regard an annuity of £40 as "in the not far distant future," as the election of one of their children to the Boys' or Girls' School? A man of fifty may argue with much reason that to lay out a few pounds per annum for ten years to secure a life annuity of £40, if circumstances should go hard with him, is by no means a bad investment, just as a younger man with a quiver full of olive branches growing up around him may think it profitable to join our ranks in order that when the time comes he may get one or two of them maintained and educated at the expense of the Schools. It unfortunately happens that there is much truth in what the writer to whom I am referring says with so much apparent unction; a glance at the lists of candidates will show this; but, as I have before suggested, his accusation is directed against the whole of the Craft, instead of against an unworthy minority. Lastly, I submit it would be in better taste to make a charge of this sweeping description in the columns of one of the Masonic papers, not in those of an evening contemporary which furnishes only once a week a modest dose of Masonic news.

Fraternally yours,

"Q."

[We quote the paragraph referred to in the above letter in full in another part of our columns.—ED. F.C.]

IS MASONRY REALLY FLOURISHING?

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I quite agree with what you said in your recent article bearing the above title, especially when you remark of the increasing number of applicants for relief from the

Fund of Benevolence that "Apart from all other considerations, this is one of the ill effects of a too ready admission of candidates into Freemasonry, of men who fall into arrear, at first with their subscriptions, then lapse altogether into a state of apathy and discontent, and finally fall into the ranks of those who have to ask for charity." It is also unfortunately true that, owing to the number of young Lodges which are springing up in all directions, they find it imperative to beat up for recruits, "in order to keep up the balance in the hands of the Treasurer," though, as you are pleased to add, "in some Lodges we could mention, in spite of an average share of admissions the balance sheet tells a woeful tale of laxity on the part of the members, and a hopeless state of arrears, so far as contributions are concerned." These are great evils and seriously affect the fair fame of Freemasonry. But they are not irremediable. If Lodges will only follow the advice of our late worthy Bro. John Hervey and be cautious in their reception of candidates, they will very soon put an end to the admission of comparatively pauper members, or those whose only care in joining Masonry is to make out of it as much profit as possible. Leaving the Colonial out of the reckoning, there are quite 1300 Lodges in England, and these are fairly well distributed throughout the country. Let greater care be exercised in issuing fresh warrants, which can be absolutely wanted only in very rare cases. Then, and by strictly following Bro. Hervey's advice, we shall hear but little of joining Masonry for profit and living upon its Charity.

I remain,

Faithfully yours,

M.M.

London, 23rd August 1882.

Commenting on this subject, the conductor of the Masonic column in the *Evening News* writes as follows:—

The FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE has started a subject of great importance to the Craft, and which it is a pity has not been taken up in print before this. In a leading article last Saturday week the whole matter is succinctly, yet thoroughly, gone into whether Masonry is really flourishing. Admitting the large increase in numbers within the last ten years, it is suggested that numerical strength is not an unmixed good. The unsatisfactory condition of some Lodges is attributed to the large number of their members and the lack of discrimination which some brethren exhibit in introducing gentlemen into the Order. One of the consequences of this is, that many of the newly-introduced have a strong desire to achieve honours in Masonry; and as they cannot do so for several years in their own Lodges, because of the large number, they petition for new Lodges. The writer of the article in question believes that if the progress of Freemasonry had gone on to the present time in the same ratio as it assumed for the seven or eight years prior to 1880 the consequence must have been to cause such a degeneracy of the Craft as would have shorn it of much of its influence and importance. What the writer says also of the ambition of brethren to get honours is perfectly true. Those who seek honours only in Masonry are not the true Masons, but rather those who love it for its own sake, and strive to carry out its principles in practice. There is no doubt that the reason the calls on the Fund of Benevolence are so numerous is that men are admitted into the Order whose position in life never warranted the expenditure of the initiation fee. As mentioned above, the subject is one of great importance, and it is highly satisfactory to know that but few warrants for new Lodges are being granted at the present time by the Grand Master. The granting of warrants does not appear to be fully understood. In former years very few warrants were granted. For instance, in 1849 there were but 8, in 1850 there were 12, in 1851 11, in 1852 11, in 1853 13, in 1854 11, in 1855 15, in 1856 23, in 1857 34, in 1858 32, in 1859 30, in 1860 36, in 1861 45, in 1862 34, in 1863 45, in 1864 48, in 1865 36, in 1866 48, in 1867 59, in 1868 37, in 1869 50, in 1870 46, in 1871 41, in 1872 35, in 1873 55, in 1874 43, in 1875 66, in 1876 68, in 1877 73, in 1878 66, in 1879 54, in 1880 38, and in 1881 56. The increase has really occurred between 1860 and the present time, and not between the Prince of Wales's Grand Mastership in 1875 and the present time, as some have erroneously supposed.

BRO. WILLING'S CHOIR.—The prospectus of this new musical association has just been issued, and from it we gather that, in view of the dissolution of the Sacred Harmonic Society, some members of the chorus determined to resolve themselves into the above Association, under the presidency of the Earl of Lathom and an influential committee, with Bro. Willing (sub-conductor of the late society) as conductor. A series of four subscription concerts is announced to take place in St. James's Hall, at the first of which, on 12th December, will be produced, for the first time in London, Niels Gade's cantata "Psyche" (written for the Birmingham Festival) in conjunction with Handel's "Acis and Galatea." The Princess of Wales has accepted the dedication of "Psyche," and it is expected that Her Royal Highness will be present at this performance. At the remaining concerts, Mendelssohn's "Elijah," Handel's "Messiah," and a Miscellaneous Concert, including a new work, will be given. The orchestra, entirely professional, complete in every department, with Messrs. Carrodus, Doyle, Howell, White, &c., as principals, will together with the chorus (including many of the most efficient members of the late Sacred Harmonic Society) number about 250 performers. The principal vocalists announced include Mesdames Marie Roze, Anna Williams, Mary Davies, Orridge, Rosse, and Patey; Messrs. Edward Lloyd, Vernon Rigby, Joseph Maas, Frederic King, C. Henry, and Lewis Thomas. Exeter Hall has been secured for rehearsals, which will be shortly resumed.

BRO. JAMES STEVENS'S PROPOSED MOTION.

BRO. James Stevens has favoured us with the accompanying memorandum, from which it will be seen that the Pro Grand Master has ruled against his proposed motion on the subject of subdividing the Metropolitan District into Sectional Grand Lodges, possessing the same powers and privileges as those enjoyed by our Provincial Grand Lodges, on the ground that such motion seriously infringes on the prerogative of the Grand Master. Brother Stevens's idea is, as our readers are well aware, that the London brethren are worse off by comparison with those residing in the Provinces, by reason of the fact that Provincial Grand honours are closed against them, and that, considering their numbers and influence, but, above all things, the vast increase in their numerical strength which has been made during the last five-and-twenty years, the apportionment of Grand Lodge honours which is accorded them is less than they are entitled to. We are inclined to think Bro. Stevens has acted injudiciously in pressing forward this motion. We do not question his statement that the London brethren would be mightily pleased if his motion were carried. There are those who think themselves happy when they can tack on to their names sundry initial letters signifying that they are Past Grand Blunderbusses or Past Provincial Grand Directors of the Sun and Moon, with the Milky Way thrown in by way of regulating the centre of gravity. Our own opinion is, that we have already enough of Grand and Provincial Grand titles. Still, legitimate ambition is admirable in its way, and we cannot venture to blame those who feel they will be so much the happier if they can write "Post Meridiem" or "Ante Meridiem" after their names.

Seriously, we hold it to be a most unwise thing on Bro. Stevens's part to question the ruling of the authorities, and especially of one so thoroughly conversant with Craft jurisprudence as the Pro Grand Master. Doubtless, no harm would have resulted either to the prerogative of the Grand Master or the welfare of the London brethren, had the Pro Grand Master ruled that the notice of motion might stand, with a view to the question being discussed in Grand Lodge. Still the laws, both written and unwritten, must be observed, especially by Masons, and as it is, undoubtedly, the prerogative of the Grand Master to nominate representatives of himself in such Provinces and Districts as he may think proper, we suggest, with all deference to Bro. Stevens, that he will benefit the Craft and himself more by letting matters rest as they are, than by taking further steps to promulgate his latest nostrum for the edification and amelioration of the Craft in England.

We append the document received, which reads as follows:—

Extract from a letter received, 24th August, from Grand Secretary.

"The proposed Notice of Motion, &c., was submitted to the Board of Masters at their meeting last evening, when the following communication from the Earl of Carnarvon, &c., was read:—

"Bro. James Stevens's Notice of Motion, dated 25th July 1882, has been duly laid before me by the Grand Secretary, and having carefully considered its purport, I am clearly of opinion that the Motion is one which cannot be placed on the Agenda Paper for Grand Lodge, inasmuch as it might lead to interference with, and encroachment on, the undoubted prerogative of the Grand Master, and with his freedom of action in the performance of the important duties of his high Office as set forth in the Constitutions of the Order,"—and consequently the Chairman of the Board of Masters ruled the Notice of Motion could not be received, &c.

In response to the invitation of the Committee of the R.M.I. for Boys, for designs for the proposed Preparatory School, no less than seventeen sets of plans were submitted, to the following three of which were awarded the premiums offered, of £35, £25, and £15 respectively, namely: 1st premium to Messrs. Dunk and Geden, motto "Venite et ædificemus"; 2nd premium Mr. Thomas Kissack, motto, "Esprit de Corps"; 3rd premium Mr. Robert Griggs, motto, "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty."

FAIR TRADERS, Registered.—J. E. SHAND & CO. Wine Merchants, 2 Albert Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W., hereby Give Further Public Notice that in May 1879, they Adopted and REGISTERED the words "FAIR TRADERS" as their Trade Title, and as an addition to their original Trade Mark of 1869.—*Vide* advertisement in "The Times" and "The Standard" of that date, also of October 1881.

THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—PROMENADE CONCERTS.

HER MAJESTY'S.—At 8, UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. This day, at 2. (Last night).

DRURY LANE.—At 8, PLUCK.

ADELPHI.—At 7.15, FAMILIES SUPPLIED. At 7.45, DRINK.

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.30, A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT. At 8, THE ROMANY RYE.

VAUDEVILLE.—At 8, MONEY.

OLYMPIC.—At 8, FUN ON THE BRISTOL.

SAVOY.—At 8, MOCK TURTLES. At 8.30, PATIENCE. This day (Saturday), at 2.30, also.

AVENUE.—At 7.30, SIMPSON AND DELILAH. At 8.15, MANTEAUX NOIRS.

GAIETY.—At 7.40, HIS ONLY COAT. At 8.15, ALADDIN.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.45, BABEL AND BIJOU.

SURREY.—At 7.30, INJURED INNOCENCE. At 8, REAL LIFE.

STANDARD.—At 7.30, THE WAGES OF SIN.

IMPERIAL.—Every day, at 2.30 to 5.30, and 7.30 to 9.30, THE AMERICAN MIDGETS.

MOHAWK MINSTRELS, Agricultural Hall.—Every evening, at 8.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—Messrs MASKELYNE AND COOKE. Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 8 and 8.

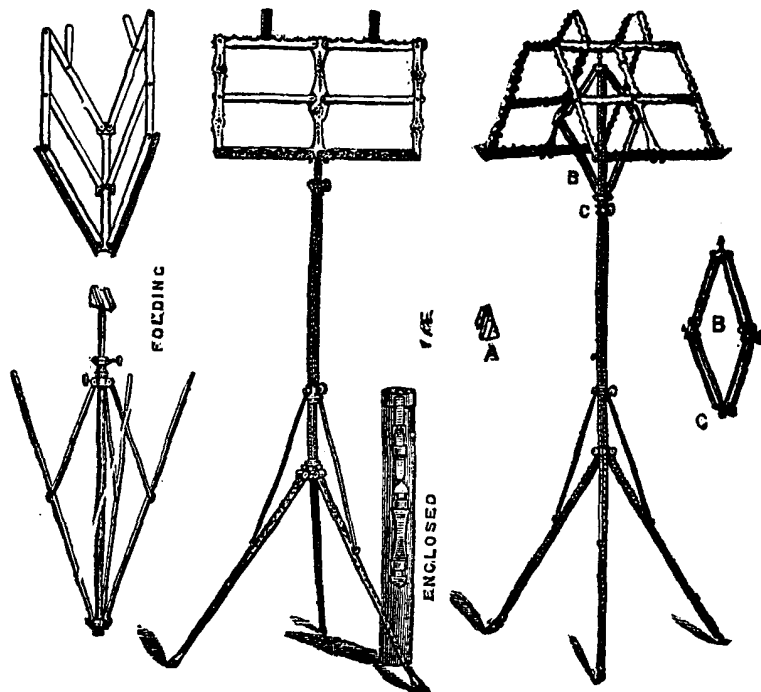
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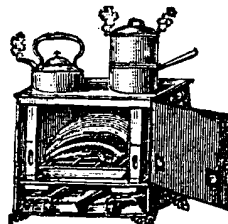
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** Ladies, and "Lewises"—being minors—similarly qualified, and all Vice-Presidents, will receive FOUR Votes for every Five Guineas so contributed.

Contributors of less than Five Guineas, to the "SPECIAL FUND," will be entitled to Votes as under ordinary conditions.

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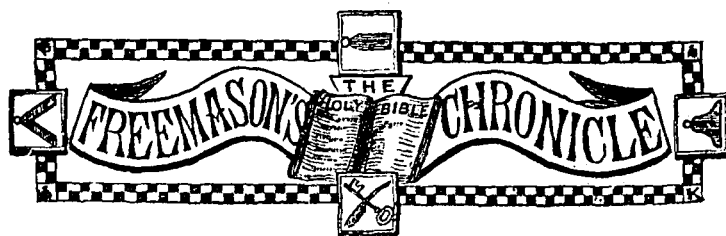
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23 GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH WALES, (WESTERN DIVISION.)

(Continued from page 130.)

LAST week we carried our report of the meeting of this Prov. Grand Lodge to the point at which the Committee were earnestly pressing on the notice of the brethren the necessity there was for supporting the candidature of their protégé, the boy Geoffrey Stuart Jones, who, if he does not secure a place at the election in October will have his name removed from the list on the ground of age.

They would, of course, be under the necessity, in order to obtain the end in view, of contracting obligations which would have to be fulfilled at some future election, and this fact would make it apparent that they will have to exhibit the greatest care in adopting new candidates. However, as the voting power of the Province increases, so would their ability to secure for poorer brethren or children of deceased or indigent members a share in the benefits of the Institutions. It followed, therefore, as a corollary, that their power to command this share for them must depend on the amount of support given to the Charity by the Province. Having said this much by way of preface, we continue our narration of the proceedings from the point at which we closed in our last Saturday's issue.

The Report in question was adopted unanimously, and Brother J. Beavan Phillips P. Prov. S.G.W. was re-elected Charity Commissioner for the year ensuing, and W. Bro. Aaron Stone P.M. 671 Assistant Charity Commissioner for the same period. In the absence of Bro. J. Beavan Phillips this compliment was acknowledged by Bro. Stone, who pledged himself and his colleague to renewed efforts for the welfare of the Province. The Prov. Grand Master next formally presented Bro. Edwin Thomas with the Charity jewel, and referred to the energy that brother had displayed—under especially trying circumstances. He congratulated Bro. Thomas on his happy recovery from what at one time was thought to be a most serious and disastrous accident. He trusted he might have health and strength for many years to continue the work he carried on so efficiently. After Bro. Thomas had expressed his acknowledgments, the communication from Grand Secretary as to whether any increase should be made in the quarterages paid to Grand Lodge was discussed; again, however, this met with no support, and we should imagine that by this time Bro. Clabon must see the desirability of withdrawing his proposition for an increase in the payments. In view of the re-arrangement of the Book of Constitutions now pending, Colonel Philipps deemed it advisable that the consideration of any change in the Bye-laws of Prov. Grand Lodge should still further be postponed. Shortly after this the brethren formed in procession, and proceeded to St. Mary's Church, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by Bro. the Rev. J. B. Wrenford. The service was conducted by the Prov. G. Chaplains, the Revs. James Lewis and J. Parkin Morgan, the former brother preaching a most eloquent sermon. At the conclusion a collection was made, and the amount thus realised was devoted to the local charities. The procession was then reformed, and the members re-entered the Masonic Hall, and the other business of the day was completed. The banquet was served at the Castle Hotel; ample accommodation had been provided for those who, according to request, had intimated they should be present. These amounted to between sixty and seventy; but when the guests began to take their seats, it was found that between 110 and 120 desired to refresh the inner man. This necessarily created some confusion, but mine host Bland exerted himself, successfully—we think—under the trying circumstances in which he found himself placed. On the removal of the cloth the Prov. Grand Master gave the Loyal toast the Queen and the Craft, which was done full justice to, the brethren joining in the National Anthem. In speaking to the toast of the M.W. the Grand Master, Col. Lloyd-Philipps remarked that the toast list had been necessarily curtailed on account of the demands that had already been made upon their time; moreover, many of the brethren would speedily have to take their departure. With the toast he would associate the names of the Grand Officers. Bro. T. J. White proposed the next toast. This was an easy and pleasing duty. He felt assured all the brethren of the Province appreciated the energy Col. Lloyd-Philipps displayed for their welfare. In reply Col. Philipps thanked one and all most heartily. He had now been their Provincial Grand Master for over nine years. He had visited in that time, the whole of the nine Lodges which constituted the Province. They had assembled that day for the second time at Haverfordwest, and he anticipated a second peregrination of the Lodges in the Province, if his health permitted, that would be equally pleasant. He might tell them that, as an old adjutant, he knew what was required to make a subaltern of service, and by the same rule he thought he knew the qualities that were requisite to make a good Master of a Lodge. The Prov. Grand Master then alluded to the request that had been made to him on the occasion of their last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Neyland, when he was invited to preside at one of the Annual Festivals of our Great Institutions. He gave the proposition serious consideration, and, in consenting, he was actuated but by one motive, that was to sustain the honour of the Western Division of South Wales. He was proud to acknowledge the support his Province had vouchsafed him, and heartily complimented the members on what they had done. He was also much gratified at what had been done in Prov. Grand Lodge that day on behalf of their afflicted brother of St. David's Lodge. He had already referred to the regret which the D.P.G.M. felt at being compelled to be absent, and announced that in addition to the letter he had read, he had just received a telegram from Lord Kensington, wishing them an agreeable meeting. The Visitors was the next toast; all those present received a hearty welcome. Bro. the Rev. C. W. Lukis and others acknowledged the compliment. Bro. Lukis stated that he was a temporary sojourner at Haverfordwest, and was much gratified at having presented himself at their meeting, where he had enjoyed himself immensely. Bro. Morgan also addressed the brethren. He had had the pleasure of attending the meeting last year at Neyland, and had agreeable recollections of having then spent a most enjoyable time. He, in some small degree, felt he had assisted in inducing Colonel Lloyd-Philipps to undertake the duties of Chairman at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and he thought the result was eminently satisfactory to all concerned.

During the last seven years and a half, a period during which what was being done in Freemasonry had come more directly under his notice, he found that the brethren of the Western Division of South Wales had subscribed a total sum of £608 14s to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; to the sister Institution, the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, they had given about £536, while in the seven years he was referring to the Benevolent Institution had benefited to the tune of £335 10s. In February last, however, when the Provincial Grand Master presided at the Festival of the youngest of our Institutions, he was right loyally supported, and the nine Lodges of the Province subscribed between them, in round figures, £350. It was most gratifying to know the interests of the Central Institutions were so well looked after, and on behalf of Bro. Buickes—who had looked forward with pleasurable anticipations to meeting the brethren that day, but who unfortunately was confined to his bed through severe illness—he thanked the brethren for their vote to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The other toasts that received attention were the Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, Colonel Philipps making happy allusion to their duties, and the relative value attached to the several collars. He especially referred to the Stewards, and remarked that in appointing them he was actuated by a desire to have opportunity for still more closely watching their career. After a reply from Brother Russell S.W., the W.M.'s of the other Lodges in the Province were complimented, and special thanks were tendered the brethren of the Cambrian Lodge for the exertions they had made in carrying out the arrangements of the day. "The Masonic Charities," and the zeal of Bro. Edwin Thomas on their behalf, was a theme which was eloquently dwelt upon, and after suitable response had been made, the proceedings were formally closed.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

A MEETING of the Grand Council was held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, the 12th August, when there were present Bros. Charles F. Matier D.G.M., Samuel Rawson G. Treas., D. M. Dewar G. Sec., H. Martin Green G.S.D., A. M. Broadley P.G.M. Tunis and Malta, Alfred Williams, Rev. A. W. Hall, C. H. Driver, R. Berridge, T. Cubitt, W. Roebuck, J. L. Mather, Thomas Poore, F. W. Driver, F. W. Ramsay, M.D., John Ramsey, R. L. Loveland, J. Moon, J. E. Anderson, Geo. Mickley, M. Mildred, John Smith, T. O. Harding, G. Lambert, H. C. Lambert, and many other brethren.

The Grand Council was opened by the D.G.M. in ancient form. The minutes of last Grand Council were read, confirmed and signed.

The following report was then read by the Grand Secretary:— Since the constitution of this Grand Council it is gratifying to be able to report that satisfactory progress has been made. The subordinate Councils are as follows:—

The Metropolitan Council	T.I.	London
The Escuria Council	"	Havant
The Matier Council	"	Manchester
The Ebor Council	"	York
The Portal Council	No. 1	Liverpool
The St. Cyprian of Carthage Council	" 2	Tunis
The St. John and St. Paul Council	" 3	Malta
The St. George	" 4	Wigan
The Great Orme	" 5	Llandudno
The Excelsior	" 6	Calcutta

There are also Councils at Bolton, Rochdale, and Hull, from which no returns have been received. The number of registered members is 290, of which 100 belong to the Metropolitan Council. In that Council the work has been carried on most energetically, and the various ceremonies performed in the most correct and creditable manner.

The Holy Order of High Priest being so beautiful and so reverential, it is recommended that it should be conferred only on Installed Principals of the Royal Arch Degree, and only once a year, on the occasion of the installation ceremony, or some other suitable day. Considerable expense has been necessarily incurred in the Constitution of the Grand Council for printing Warrants, Certificates, Circulars, and in providing Books and other requisites, but the receipts have been nearly sufficient to meet the outlay.

The Grand Master has much pleasure in re-appointing Bro. C. F. Matier as his Deputy, to whom many thanks are due for his able and energetic services whenever required.

It was resolved, that the report now read be received, adopted and entered on the minutes, and that the recommendation with reference to conferring the Holy Order of High Priest be added to the Constitutions of Grand Council.

The D.P.M. then by command of the Grand Master appointed and invested the following Grand Officers:—

Bro. Alfred Williams	...	G. Senior Warden
Capt. C. Hunter	...	G. Junior Warden
Samuel Rawson (elected)	...	G. Treasurer
D. M. Dewar	...	G. Secretary
Rev. W. C. Lukis	...	G. Chaplain
R. Roy	...	G. Senior Deacon
J. G. Smith	...	G. Junior Deacon
George Lambert	...	G. D. of C.
J. L. Campbell	...	G. Inner Guard
Thomas Poore	...	G. Stewards
J. Parnell	...	
Henry George	...	

The Grand Council was then closed in ancient form and with solemn prayer.

The annual meeting and festival of the Metropolitan Council, was afterwards held, with a very numerous attendance.

BRO. JAMES MILNOR, GRAND MASTER OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PENNSYLVANIA has had few Grand Masters whose lives were of more varied interest than that of Bro. James Milnor, and the Grand Lodge honoured him above his Brethren by electing him to fill the Oriental Chair for eight successive terms. First elected Grand Master in 1805, he served continuously in the Grand East until 1813, a period longer than that of any Grand Master, since the Grand Lodge ceased to be Provincial, and became independent, in 1786. Bro. Milnor's ability as a man, and zeal as a Freemason, entitle his memory to be held in perpetual respect, and in order that our readers may judge of his high character, Masonic services, and varied achievements, we spread this brief and interesting biographical sketch before them.

Bro. Milnor came of honoured parentage. His father was the friend of both Washington and Franklin, and a Quaker and patriot. During the Revolutionary era, he drove a chaise with an ingenious false bottom, in which he conveyed intelligence, and furnished supplies to the patriot army, and was often suspected therefore, but never detected. His conduct gave great offence to "the heads of meeting," and he was "read out" by the Friends; but a few years prior to his death he became reunited to them, and died in the Society's connection at the age of seventy-three.

Bro. James Milnor was born, raised, and spent the first half of his life in the city of Philadelphia. 20th June 1773 was the date of his birth, and 8th April 1845 that of his death. He received his education at a grammar school in his native city, and afterwards in the University of Pennsylvania, which, however, owing to his father's straitened circumstances, he was compelled to leave before receiving his degree. He then commenced the study of law, at the age of sixteen, with Mr. Howell, an eminent Quaker Attorney of Philadelphia. That gentleman dying during the yellow fever scourge of 1793, he completed his studies with Mr. Rawle, and was admitted to the bar in 1794, before he had attained the age of twenty-one years.

The Masonic career of Bro. Milnor began in August 1725, when he was made a Mason in Lodge No. 31, Norristown. In a diary, which he kept for many years, the following record appears of several leading incidents in his Masonic life:—"I was elected Master of Lodge No. 31 while I resided at Norristown; but since my return to Philadelphia I have been a member of No. 3. and am now Treasurer of the latter." "On St. John's day, 27th December 1798, I was elected Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge; and on St. John's Day 1790, was unanimously re-elected to the same office." In 1801 he was elected W.M. of Lodge No. 3, of Philadelphia. In 1805 he was elected R.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and was re-elected for seven successive terms, filling the station with great credit to himself and honour to the Fraternity. His annual addresses were replete with sound Masonic views. On St. John Baptist's Day, 24th June 1811, as Grand Master, he dedicated the first Masonic Hall erected on Chestnut-street. Thirty-one Lodges and seven hundred and fifty brethren were present; and after the dedication services, a procession of the Craft was made, proceeding to St. John's Lutheran Church, on Race-street, where Grand Master Milnor pronounced a graceful and eloquent oration. At its conclusion, his legal friend, Thomas Bradford jun., playfully remarked to him, "Why, Right Worshipful, you were cut out for a parson." Three years later this prediction was fulfilled.

Bro. Milnor at this period took an active interest in municipal and national affairs. He was a member for a number of years of the Resolute Fire Company, served as a member of both branches of City Councils, and was elected a President of Select Council. Like his father, he was a Friend, and like him, also, he was "read out of meeting." The cause of this was his marrying a lady who was an Episcopalian, and being joined in marriage to her by a clergyman who received therefore a wedding fee. The record of his disownment still exists, and is so curious that we reproduce it:—

"At a monthly meeting of Friends of Philadelphia, held 29th. of 11th month 1799, the following testimony was agreed to, and a copy directed to be given to the party, namely:—

"James Milnor, of this city, attorney-at-law, who had a birthright among us, the people called Quakers, disregarding the order of our discipline, has accomplished his marriage with the assistance of a hireling minister, to a woman not professing with us; and in his dress and address deviating from that plainness and moderation consistent with our religious profession; for which deviations he hath been treated with, but without the desired effect. We, therefore, no longer consider him a member of our religious society; nevertheless we desire he may become duly sensible of his errors, and seek to be restored."

A Committee even waited on him to "treat" with him, but he wouldn't treat, and this ended his career as a Friend.

An anecdote of his relation to Bro. Stephen Girard well illustrates the character of both these brethren. Bro. Milnor represented, professionally, a claim against Bro. Girard, which the latter stoutly contested, but at last agreed to submit to arbitration. The result was in favour of Bro. Milnor's client; and when Bro. Girard handed the former a check for the amount awarded, he observed: "You have proved yourself, sir, a lawyer who will never desert a client. If I had not an attorney whom I very much respect, you should be my man."

The political career of Bro. Milnor was no less distinguished than his legal one. In the year 1800 he was elected a member of Common Council, and in 1805 a member of Select Council, in which body he served for five years, and during one year as President. In 1810 he was elected to Congress as a member of the House of Representatives from the city of Philadelphia, where he served with distinction for three years. On his departure for Washington, in 1811, he was accompanied by a number of his political friends as far as the Blue Bell

Tavern, on the Chester-road, where they paid him the compliment of a public dinner. One memorable event in his congressional career was the receiving a challenge to fight a duel from Bro. Henry Clay, for words spoken in debate. Bro. Milnor had the courage to decline the challenge in a manly written reply; and years afterwards, when the latter was a Doctor of Divinity, he was invited by Bro. Clay to dine with him; and ever afterwards each cherished for the other the greatest respect.

In the year 1810 Bro. Milnor became impressed with deep religious views, which resulted in his resigning his practice at the bar, and his high political honours, and entering the high Episcopal ministry. He was ordained a deacon by Bishop White in 1814, and in 1815 a presbyter, in St. James' Church, Philadelphia. In 1816 he accepted a call to the rectorship of St. George's Church, New York, which he continued to hold for twenty-nine years, until his death in 1845.

After declining a re-election as Grand Master of Pennsylvania, Bro. Milnor, when ordained a clergyman, was elected Grand Chaplain of the body he had so long ornamented as Grand Master; and he had a beautiful and costly Past Grand Master's jewel voted him by the Grand Lodge, as a token of their fraternal regard.

Bro. Milnor had the honour of having a son, the Rev. William H. Milnor, D.D., who served with distinction as Grand Master of New York in the year 1851; and the latter related the following anecdote of his father during the era of anti-Masonry.

A brother clergyman from the country called to consult him as to the propriety of his withdrawing from the Fraternity. Bro. Milnor inquired if he desired to renounce Freemasonry. He replied, "No, I love Masonry too well." "Then, do as I do," was the rejoinder, "put down your foot firmly, and say, 'I am a Mason, and proud of it,' and if any ask you what Masonry consists in, tell them, 'Love to God and good will to man.'" The brother followed his advice, and continued in the Fraternity, and preserved the esteem of his parishioners.

Upon Bro. Milnor's death, Lodge No. 3 of Philadelphia, of which he was a Past Master and member for so many years, adopted a glowing tribute to his lofty character as a Freemason, a citizen and a divine.

Such was the career of Grand Master Milnor. Pennsylvania has reason to be proud of his long and distinguished services rendered to the Grand Lodge, and of his entire Masonic life, the leading incidents of which we take pleasure in thus spreading before our readers.—*Keystone.*

We are glad to be in a position to state that Bro. Binckes, who is compelled to absent himself from his duties through illness, is somewhat better, and we sincerely trust that he will be shortly in a position to resume his labours on behalf of "Our Boys."

The Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight (Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P.) has appointed Tuesday next, the 29th inst., for the constitution of the Hundred of Bosmere Lodge, No. 1958, at the Masonic Hall, Havant, and the installation of the Master designate, Bro. H. Martin Green P.M. The ceremony will begin at 3.30 p.m., and will be succeeded by a dinner at the Town Hall, Havant, at 5.30.

Some brethren who are strong supporters of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution feel a great anxiety with respect to a grant of £800 made by Grand Lodge at its last meeting, and in order to secure a confirmation of this grant, are soliciting the members of Grand Lodge to be in their places to support the confirmation next Wednesday week. At the last meeting of the Committee of the Institution, on the 9th instant, the Secretary also reminded the brethren that the grant would come up for confirmation on the 6th of September, and asked the Committee to attend to support it. The anxiety that is felt about this grant is really needless. Grand Lodge does not begrudge the £800, Grand Lodge can afford it, and Grand Lodge is always pleased when it can do anything which will further the ends of Masonry. The confirmation of the grant is a foregone conclusion. The £800 is a very small sum to Grand Lodge, and the Benevolent Institution, to which it is granted, has this to be said in its favour, that the recipients of its bounty did not come into Masonry at a time when it was thought there was something to be got out of Masonry. They joined Masonry, it is true; and what is as true, they never did anything for Masonry besides belonging to it, and working up in it, and the support of the Charities was never part of their practice. Still they were Masons, and they fell into bad circumstances, and the doctrines of Freemasonry have been carried into effect by placing them on the annuitants' list. With the other Institutions there is a difference. The children who are admitted are the children of younger Masons, who, there is no room left for doubt, in a large proportion had an eye to the future when they joined the ranks, and the great majority of whom never contributed a halfpenny to either of the Institutions. Very few men join Masonry late in life, and so there is no suspicion that the annuitants of the Benevolent Institution saw in the not far distant future an annuity of £40 when they went through the ceremonies of initiation, passing, and raising.—*Evening News.*

"The Fern World," by Mr. Francis George Heath, author of "Autumnal Leaves," has just reached its seventh Edition.

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.

—:0:—

SATURDAY, 26th AUGUST.

- 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Counts, Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal G. Junct., at 8. (Inst.)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney (Instruction)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Rottoms, Eastwood.
 1482—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
 R.A. 178—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan.

MONDAY, 28th AUGUST.

- Special Prov. Grand Lodge Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Masonic Hall, Albion-place, Southampton
 45—Strong Man, George Hotel, Australian Avenue, Barbican, at 7 (Instruc.)
 174—Sincerity, Three Nuns Hotel, Aldgate, at 7. (Instruction)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In.)
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1608—Kilburn, 48 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 7. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C. at 8 (Inst.)
 1625—Trafalgar, 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.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead. (Instruction)
 61—Probita, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 82—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 148—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
 264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley
 302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebdon Bridge
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 408—Three Graces, Private Rooms, Haworth
 467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham
 613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1177—Tenby, Royal Assembly Rooms, Tenby, Pembroke
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford
 1575—Clive, Corbet Arms, Market Drayton
 R.A. 448—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax

TUESDAY, 29th AUGUST.

- 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 255—Harmony, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey
 551—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
 380—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1367—Royal Arthur, D. of Cambridge, 316 Bridge-rd., Battersea Park, at 8 (In.)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1446—Mount Edgecumbe, 19 Fernway-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)
 126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
 310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
 448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 779—Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton
 1566—Ellington, Town Hall, Maidenhead
 R.A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester

WEDNESDAY, 30th AUGUST.

- 228—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
 538—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst.)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 867—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 898—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar
 1283—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Goat and Star, Swallow Street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 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.)
 1604—Wanderers, Black Horse, York Street, S.W., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1791—Creaton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 125—Prince Edwin, White Hart Hotel, Hythe, Kent
 128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury, Lancashire
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
 274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
 290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
 387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
 750—Friendship, Freemason's Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton
 872—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1033—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
 1095—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)

- 1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow
 1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
 1281—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
 1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slithwaite
 R.A. 86—Lebanon, Masonic Hall, Prescott
 M.M. 178—Wiltshire Keystone, Town Hall, Devizes
 K.T.—Alpass, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester
 R.C.—Philips, Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster

THURSDAY, 31st AUGUST.

- House Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Croydon, at 3
 General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Virivian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Cock Tavern, St. Martin's-court, Ludgate-hill, at 8.30 (Inst.)
 1158—Southern Star, Phea-ant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shoreditch, at 8 (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 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. (Instru-ction)
 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.)
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
 215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
 432—Abbey, Newdegate Arms, Nuneaton
 807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
 971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
 1514—Thornhill, Ma onic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
 1530—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebdon Bridge
 R.A. 337—Confidence, Commercial Inn, Uppermill

FRIDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instru-ct.)
 766—William Preston, Jacob's Well, George-st., Manchester-sq., at 8 (Inst.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge (Instruction)
 834—Raneagh, 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)
 1154—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1815—Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8.30
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, (Inst.)
 R.A. 1459—Ezra, 90 Ball's Pond-road, N
 44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
 219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 453—Chirwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
 83—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 839—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield.
 1333—Atheletan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.
 1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1523—Fort Masonic Hall, Newquay, Cornwall.
 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
 1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
 1648—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 1664—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Gosforth.
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, at 6.30

SATURDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (In-truction)
 1278—Burdett Counts, Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal G. Junct., at 8. (Inst.)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 1273—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent
 1458—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester
 R.A. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge

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NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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HIGH CROSS LODGE, No. 754.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge took place on Wednesday, at the Seven Sisters' Tavern, Page Green, Tottenham. Lodge was opened at four o'clock by the W.M. Bro. James Garrod, who was supported by his Officers and the following Past Masters:—Bros. W. Dance (Treasurer), T. Cunningham (Secretary), J. Wells, H. Stephens, Thos. Jones, J. Linzell, H. Clements, G. Burford, G. Townsend. After the minutes of last meeting had been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. James Barnes, who was proposed as a candidate for initiation by Bro. Dance P.M. and seconded by Brother Maller P.M. The result was in favour of the candidate. The report of the Audit Committee was read and adopted, and then the event of the day was brought on. Bro. Clements P.M. introduced Bro. William Martin Tegg the W.M. elect, and Bro. Garrod carried out the ceremony in a most praiseworthy way. On the readmission of the brethren below the rank of Installed Master, Bro. Tegg was saluted and the following were invested as Officers for the ensuing year. Bros. E. J. Lewis S.W., Geo. Rowe J.W., W. Dance P.M. Treasurer, J. Linzell P.M. Secretary, A. G. Fidler S.D., W. S. Cooper J.D., H. Burkin I.G., W. J. Meek M.C., Thos. Jones P.M. Wine Steward, J. L. Lorn Assistant Wine Steward, J. Very Tyler. Bro. Tegg was soon called upon to prove his capacity for office; Mr. Barnes, the candidate for initiation named above, presented himself, and the ceremony of initiation was ably performed by the W.M. Routine work followed. A notice of motion was given by Brother Maller affecting the welfare of the Lodge. This will be considered at the next meeting. Reference to the death of Bro. Smart was next made; he had left a widow and large family unprovided for. Bro. P.M. Maller solicited the co-operation of the brethren in order that one of the six orphan children should be provided for at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The W.M. endorsed Bro. P.M. Maller's remarks as to the esteem in which their late Brother Smart was held by the members, and he felt that by a little exertion the necessary support to carry the election of the lad might be secured. Brother Stephens P.M. stated that he had been requested to bring under the notice of the Lodge the impoverished condition of a late member. The fortunes of this brother through illness and other causes, were at very low ebb; he had a family dependent on him, and on their behalf he (Bro. Stephens) brought the case forward. Some discussion followed, as to the merits of the applicant, and reference was made to previous appeals for assistance. Brother Dance P.M. and Treasurer said there was a substantial balance in favour of the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge, and to bring the discussion to an issue he would propose that a sum of £3 be voted. This was seconded by Bro. Garrod I.P.M., and unanimously agreed to. Hearty good wishes were tendered, and the Lodge was closed. A most elegant banquet was supplied by Bro. Oldy, who always exerts himself to promote the comfort of this Lodge. When the cloth had been cleared, the W.M. gave his attention to the toasts, and full honour was done them. Bro. James Garrod proposed the health of the W.M. Bro. Tegg appeared before them in that capacity for the first time that evening. However, he had performed his duties most efficiently; the way he addressed his Officers was eminently satisfactory, and the ceremony of initiation which followed left nothing to be desired. Bro. Tegg had passed through the several offices in the Lodge, and it was anticipated he would perform the duties of the chair in an efficient way. He (Bro. Garrod) had great pleasure in calling on the brethren to honour the toast. After the ever popular duet—"All's Well," by Bros. Stephens and Barford, came the reply of the W.M. He was much gratified at what had been said of him by Bro. Garrod. He had looked forward to the time when he might achieve his present position, and would continue to do his best for the welfare of the Lodge. The health of the Initiates was next brought under notice, and after a song by Bro. Mackney, whose energy is as unflagging as we remember it—well, we will not say how many years ago, came the reply of Bro. Barnes, who hoped he might become a good and an old member amongst them. He was much gratified at what he had seen that evening. The Installing Master was the next toast brought before the meeting. Bro. Garrod had ably sustained the dignity of the Lodge, and well deserved the jewel which the W.M. had now the privilege of placing on his breast. At this stage of the proceedings Bro. R. W. Heney favoured with a musical sketch—The Italian Opera. Herein Bro. Heney's wonderful vocal powers were afforded full scope for development, while his artistic mastery of the pianoforte was heartily applauded. In reply to the toast Brother Garrod remarked that the past year had been a most pleasant one. He had had the honour to initiate several candidates, who he looked upon as likely to prove a credit to the Order. He trusted Bro. Tegg might have an equally successful time of it, and heartily thanked the brethren for the jewel, and for the way in which they had complimented him. The Visitors, of whom there were upwards of twenty present, received a hearty welcome, and Bros. Driscoll, Longhurst, Mackney, Brinjes, and Lovering acknowledged the compliment. In speaking to the toast of the Masonic Charities, the W.M. stated he had received a letter from Bro. F. Binckes, regretting his inability to be present. Time was getting short, and with the permission of the brethren, he would associate with the toast the name of Bro. Morgan, as representing the Masonic Press, and doubtless Brother Morgan would offer a few remarks in reference to the Institutions. Brother Morgan, after thanking the Worshipful Master for acknowledging the services rendered by the Press, regretted the absence of the official representatives of the Institutions. Brothers Terry and Hedger were away recruiting themselves. Bro. Binckes—who for the present he might designate the official in charge—was seriously indisposed, and he (Bro. Morgan) feared they could scarcely hope to see "our Hercules" up to his standard point for a time at least. He had

seen Bro. Binckes a few days back, and was gratified at being able to state that he found him better than on a visit he had made a week earlier. With respect to the Institutions, the results for the year might be taken as satisfactory. The first Festival, that of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, presided over by Colonel Lloyd-Philipps, Prov. Grand Master South Wales (Western Division), realised about £12,500; His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught did duty for the Girls' School, and was supported by a very large body of Stewards, the amount raised being somewhere about £13,250. The Lord Mayor of London presided at the Festival of the Boys' School, the last of those held, and the result achieved might be considered satisfactory—nearly £12,000 being the outcome of the Stewards' exertions. Bro. Morgan then complimented the brethren of the High Cross Lodge on their zeal in behalf of the Institutions, and felt they might rely on the assistance of Bro. Binckes and the other Secretaries in carrying the election of the lad Smart. He thanked the W.M. for his promised services as Steward for the Girls' School, and felt the interests of their candidate would be well looked after by the Senior Warden Bro. E. J. Lewis, who would act in a similar capacity at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in 1883. The remaining toasts comprised the P.M.'s, the Officers, &c. It was a late hour before the Tyler gave the signal for departure. The following brethren were present as Visitors:—James Hammett 861, C. C. Pearce 1237, P. H. Willson 861, J. Driscoll 30, Hyde Pullen P.G.S.B., J. H. Brinjes 309, E. W. Mackney 134, George Collier 1237, H. A. Bird 1567, W. W. Morgan Sec. 211, C. F. Smith Prince Leopold, T. F. Lee 862, R. Leaman W.M. 1707, R. W. Heney 144, J. Longhurst 133, J. E. Pinder 1707, J. H. Thompson 1471, R. George 1524, T. Wigglesworth 15, W. B. Lovering 1579, G. Perry P.M. 1110, R. Matthison 1237, Thomas Perry 869, &c.

United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 507.—

The meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall, on Friday, 18th inst., was well attended. Amongst those present were Bros. J. Bate W.M., H. M. Williams S.W., C. H. Phillips J.W., R. Poore S.D., F. Thurston J.D., G. W. Knight I.G., J. Stevens P.M. Preceptor, E. A. Francis (Preceptor 1949), G. Hubbard, C. Sims, W. J. Newland 1922, J. Belgrave, J. S. Eidmans, H. Bigg, &c. Bro. Bate having opened the Lodge in the several degrees, very ably rehearsed the ceremony of raising, assisted by Bro. Francis as candidate, who delivered the charge of the degree, and closed down. Lodge was called off for entry drill, in which all present took part, and called on. The Preceptor appointed Bro. Thurston as W.M. on the occasion of next meeting and all other Officers were retained. Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—A meet-

ing was held on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at Bro. Smyth's, the Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. T. Clark W.M., Jones S.W., Marsh J.W., F. Carr Secretary, Robinson S.D., Smyth I.G. Lodge was formally opened, and minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was then advanced, and Bro. Robinson offered himself as a candidate for the third degree. The usual questions were satisfactorily answered, and the candidate received the test of merit. The W.M. opened the Lodge in the third degree and ably rehearsed the ceremony. Bro. Carr (Secretary) gave the traditional history. The W.M. next worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees, and Bro. Jones was appointed to preside at the next meeting.

On 22nd inst. Bros. Jones W.M., Marsh S.W., Robinson J.W., F. Carr Secretary, Smyth S.D., T. Clark J.D., Banker I.G.; P.M. Bro. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. A. J. Clark, Catling, Christian, Baker, Steel, Finch, Allen, Edwards, Morgan. After preliminaries the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Edwards candidate. Lodge was called off, and afterwards resumed its Masonic duties. Bro. Jones vacated the chair, which was taken by the Preceptor, who opened the Lodge in the second and third degrees. On resuming in the second degree, Bro. Wallington rehearsed the ceremony of installation, placing Bro. Jones into the chair of K.S. Bro. Jones went through the form of investing Officers, Bro. Wallington gave the addresses to Master Wardens and brethren, and was complimented and thanked by all present. Bro. Steele, of the Chapter Lodge, No. 1365 was elected a member. Bro. Carr, the energetic Secretary of this Lodge of Instruction, will preside on Tuesday next. Before the Lodge closed Bro. P.M. Wallington rose; he stated that a desire had been expressed by several of the members that Bro. W. W. Morgan should be invited to deliver one of his lectures at this Lodge of Instruction. He had a lively recollection of the visit paid them by Bro. James Stevens, when he gave his lecture on the Masonic Rituals of the First Degree. The brethren had derived great benefit and instruction from Bro. Stevens's visit; he (Bro. Wallington) had not hitherto had an opportunity of listening to Bro. Morgan, but he was informed the lectures he gave were of an instructive and entertaining character. He would avail himself of the opportunity offered by Bro. Morgan's visit to request him to attend on that day fortnight for the purpose, provided his other engagements permitted. Bro. Morgan in response thanked Bro. Wallington, and stated he would attend on the evening mentioned, viz., the 5th of September. Lodge was then closed, and adjourned till Tuesday next.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—This

Lodge of Instruction, which meets at the Westbourne, Craven-road, Paddington, under the Preceptorship of Bro. G. Read P.M. 511, will hold special meetings, to inaugurate the season, as follows:—28th of August, under the presidency of Bro. J. Collings Preceptor of the Ranelagh Lodge of Instruction, when the ceremony of passing will be rehearsed. 4th September.—Bro. G. Davis P.M. 167, Preceptor

of the Earl of Carnarvon, Lodge of Instruction, No. 1642, in the chair Ceremony of raising. 11th September.—Bro. Balia P.M. 753 Preceptor of the Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction. First and second tracing boards. Each evening, at 8 p.m. On 18th Sept. Bro. J. Terry P.P.J.G.W. Herts P.M. 228, &c., will rehearse the ceremonies of consecration and installation, commencing at 7 p.m. On this occasion the brethren will appear in Craft clothing. At the conclusion of the evening's work a supper will take place.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—The regular weekly meeting was held on Monday, at the Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., when there were present Bros. Matthews W.M., Weedon S.W., Woolf J.W., C. K. Kiltick Treasurer, R. P. Forge Secretary, Galer S.D., Gribbell J.D., Jones I.G., A. W. Fenner P.M. acting Preceptor; also Bros. Haslip, Gilham, Woodman, Detriez, Hall, McMillan, and W. W. Morgan. After the Lodge had been formally opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the W.M. announced his intention to rehearse the ceremony of the second degree. Bro. Seelig offered himself as candidate, and passed the formal examination. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Matthews conducted the ceremony in a very satisfactory way. The ceremony of the first degree was afterwards rehearsed, Bro. McMillan candidate. Bro. A. W. Fenner, P.M. Upton Lodge, will rehearse the ceremony of installation, at this Lodge of Instruction, on Monday next. The brethren assemble at eight o'clock.

Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening last, at Bro. George Monk's, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, when Bro. Richard Poore as W.M. was supported by a goodly number of brethren. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary, and duly confirmed. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed by the W.M. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising most efficiently conducted by the W.M. Lodge being closed in third and second degrees, the W.M. for the ensuing week was elected. Other formal business being disposed of, hearty good wishes were tendered by the brethren, and the Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

We note signs of activity in our Lodges of Instruction. The members of the Percy, No. 198, will resume their weekly meetings on Saturday next, the 2nd September, at their old quarters, the Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, N. The members of the New Concord, No. 813, will reassemble after the summer recess on Wednesday, the 13th proximo. This Lodge of Instruction is also held at the Jolly Farmers' Tavern.

The Directors of the London and North Western Railway announce important alterations in the charges for conveyance of small parcels by passenger train, which will come into operation from 1st September next. By these arrangements the Company will carry not exceeding a 1lb. weight parcel any distance not exceeding 50 miles 4d; and to any distance within their system, 6d. 2lbs, any distance, 6d. 3lbs, to 50 miles, 6d, above that distance, 8d. 4lbs, not exceeding 50 miles, 6d; any distance 9d. 5lbs, not exceeding 50 miles, 6d; 100 miles 9d; above 10d. 6lbs, not exceeding 50 miles, 6d; 100 miles, 10d; above 100 miles, 1s. 7lbs, 30 miles, 6d; 50 miles, 8d; 100 miles, 10d; 200 miles, 1s; 400 miles, 1s 3d; above 400 miles, 1s 6d. 10lbs, 30 miles, 6d; 50 miles, 8d; 100 miles, 1s; 200 miles, 1s 3d; 400 miles, 1s 6d; and over 400 miles, 2s. 14lbs, 30 miles, 6d; 50 miles, 8d; 100 miles, 1s; 200 miles, 1s 6d; 300 miles, 1s 9d; 400 miles, 2s; above 400 miles 2s 6d. 15lbs, 30 miles, 6d; 50 miles, 8d; 100 miles, 1s; 200 miles, 1s 6d; 400 miles, 2s 0d; above 400 miles, 2s 6d. 16lbs, 30 miles, 6d; 50 miles, 8d; 100 miles, 1s; 200 miles, 1s 6d; 400 miles, 2s. 18lbs, 30 miles, 6d; 200 miles, 1s 6d. Above 24lbs at proportionate rates. In all cases fractions of a penny to be charged as a penny. The Revised Scale will apply to the London and North Western system locally, as well as to the whole of the Lines in Great Britain and Ireland with which through booking arrangements exist. Light, Frail, and Bulky Packages.—Packages of a light, frail nature, or such as are bulky in proportion to their weight, such as Paper Boxes, containing Artificial Flowers, Paper Bonnet or Hat Boxes, Hat Boxes in Crates, Straw Bonnets, Packages of Lace, Pasteboard Boxes of Light Millinery or Feathers, Cases of Stuffed Birds or Animals, Driving Whips, Parcels of Mouldings, Picture Frames, Light Furniture, Violins in Cases, Barometers, Thermometers, Small Birds (alive), in Cases or Cages, Bottles of Medicine, and Parcels containing Brittle Articles, such as Glass or China, are charged 50 per cent. increase upon the ordinary Parcels Rate at Company's risk, and 25 per cent. more than the ordinary Parcels Rate at Owners' Risk. Van Parcels Traffic from and to London.—Van Parcels are conveyed from and to London by one slow train daily, at one-half the above rates. Such consignments must be marked "Per Van Train." No less charge will be made for a Van Parcel than the lowest charge for an ordinary parcel of 10lbs. in weight. Light, frail, and bulky packages will be charged 50 per cent. in addition at "Company's Risk," and 25 per cent. at "Owner's Risk." No Van Train on Sundays. All Parcels intended to be forwarded as Van Parcels at the reduced rate of charge must be legibly marked "Van Parcels Train," or they will be sent by the ordinary Passenger Trains at the usual rate of charge for Parcels. Further particulars may be had of the General Manager at the Euston Station, London.

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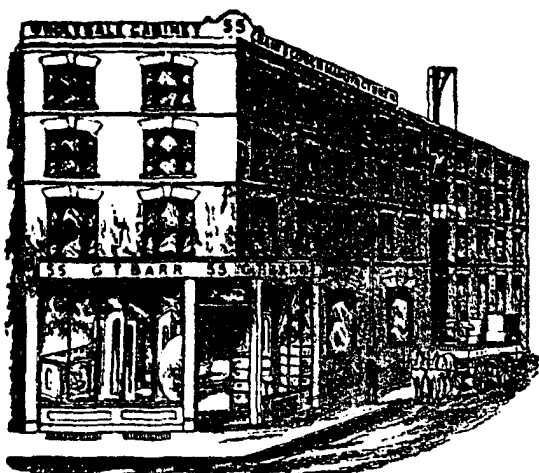
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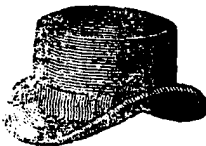
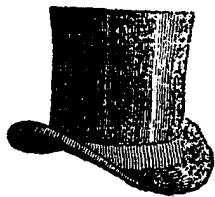
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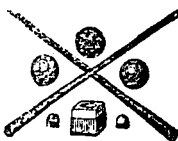
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